

THE Freemason.

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VOL. 7, No. 261.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 1874.

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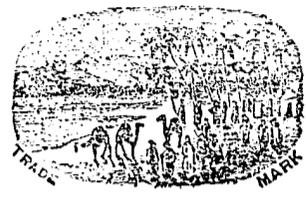
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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

BOLTON.—*Anchor and Hope Lodge* (No. 37).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, 2nd March, in Freemasons' Hall, Church Institute, Bolton. There were present Bros. William Slater, W.M.; James Walker, S.W.; W. Horrocks, J.W.; E. Ainsworth, Sec.; R. K. Freeman, S.D.; James Brown, J.D.; Samuel Crowther, I.G.; G. P. Brockbank, P. Prov. G. Deacon; Reuben Mitchell, P. Prov. G. Sword Bearer; J. H. Winder, P. Prov. G. Pursuivant; John Robinson; Samuel Isherwood; R. W. Knowles; James Pilkington; and James Newton, P.M.'s; Walter Pennington, W.M. 678; and F. Ainsworth. The lodge being opened, the minutes were confirmed, and the W.M. practised his officers by opening up to the third degree and closing down to the first. A committee was appointed to co-operate with the other lodges in the town, with the view of suitably entertaining the meeting of Prov. G. Lodge, which it is understood will shortly be held in Bolton. A brother was proposed as a joining member, and the lodge was then closed.

IPSWICH.—*British Union Lodge* (No. 114).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Ipswich, on Wednesday, the 26th Feb., when there was a large muster of the brethren present. The St. John's Festival and the Installation Banquet which had been postponed from December till now, in consequence of a death in the family of the W.M., was celebrated on this occasion. Amongst those present were—Bros. Peter de Lande Long, W.M.; J. B. Monckton, Town Clerk of London, P.G.D. of England; C. F. Long, P.M., P.G.D.C.; Rev. R. N. Sanderson, P.P.G.C., Chaplain of the Lodge; W. Bobby, P.S.G.W.; C. Schulen, P.P.G.D.C.; Emra Holmes, P.G. Reg., P.P.G.A.D.C., M.C.; P. Cornell, P.P.G.S.D.; A. J. Barber, P.G.O.; Clement Cobbold, Chief Secretary of Legation, Lisbon, Knight of the Brazilian Order of the Rose, 33° of Brazil; A. D. George, S.W.; J. J. Burton, J.W.; Rev. A. G. Moore, J.D.; Rev. J. B. Tweed, I.G.; G. Turner, H. Millor, S.D.; and others. Visiting Brethren—G. Cresswell, W.M. Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 959; A. Gamman, P.G.S.B., W.M. of the Perfect Friendship Lodge; and Stephen Burdett King, P.P.G.S.D., Secretary of the Perfect Friendship Lodge. The lodge having opened in due form, and the necessary business transacted, a candidate was proposed for initiation, and the lodge was afterwards closed in ancient form and with solemn prayer. A very elegant banquet was spread in the adjoining dining hall, to which the brethren adjourned, and we need hardly add, ample justice was done to the viands. At the conclusion, grace having been said by Bro. Sanderson, the W.M. rose, and in brief but loyal terms, proposed "The Queen and the Craft," which was given with all due honour. Bro. Miller singing the solo of the National Anthem, and the brethren joining in with characteristic fervour. In proposing "The Grand Master, the Marquess of Ripon," the W.M. remarked that the brethren in the provinces had little idea of the vast amount of work the Grand

Master had to perform, or how well he performed it. As a London Mason he could tell them how ably Lord Ripon filled his high office. The toast was drunk with due honour. The next toast was "P.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and the rest of the Grand Officers Past and Present." Bro. Minckton, Past Grand Deacon of England responded in admirable and well chosen language, and in a clear ringing voice it was a pleasure to listen to. Two or three members of Grand Lodge had been expected that evening, but the W.M. announced that the Grand Secretary, Bro. Hervey was prevented by indisposition, and Bro. Whichcord, Grand Assistant Director of Ceremonies, who was also invited, had been unable to honour them. Much regret was expressed at the absence of the amiable and talented Grand Secretary, to whom the brethren would have liked to have shown hospitality. The W.M. stated, however, that during his year of office, Bro. Hervey would certainly make it his duty to visit the British Union, which announcement was received with applause. In proposing the health of "The R.W. Prov. Grand Master," the W.M. announced that he had received a letter from Lord Waveney, regretting his inability to attend, in consequence of a prior engagement that evening. His Lordship would have been cordially welcomed had he come amongst the brethren of the British of which lodge he is a member, and we are sure that we express the sentiments of the brethren when we hope that we may be able ere long to record a visit from the gallant and popular Provincial Grand Master. Next came the "The W.D.P.G.M. and the Provincial Officers." Bro. Bobby, S.G.W. of Suffolk responded to the toast with his usual eloquence, and afterwards proposed, "The Masonic Charities" in a strain of power which evidently told on the brethren. The W.M. and Bro. Bobby both expressed their deep regret and at the very serious illness of the Rev. E. J. Lockwood, the D.P.G.M., which prevented his being present amongst them that evening, and much sympathy was expressed with the venerable and greatly esteemed brother in his great affliction. The name of Bro. A. Gamman, W.M. of 225, "was coupled with the toast of the Visitors" and Bro. G. Cresswell, W.M. of 959; and S. B. King also responded. Bro. Clement Cobbold proposed the "Worshipful Master" in happy terms, and the toast was drunk with great cordiality. Bro. Long responded in few sensible and modest words. Bro. Sanderson responded to the "Officers of the Lodge" and took occasion to remark "that the British Union held confessedly the foremost place in Suffolk, and he believed the success and present proud position of the Lodge was due to the fact that the brethren had never accepted candidates as members of the lodge who they would not like to see occupy the position of Worshipful Master." Other toasts followed, and the evening was enlivened with songs and recitations from Bros. Turner, H. Miller, A. Gamman, A. D. George, Emra Holmes, and Rev. R. N. Sanderson, Bro. A. G. Barber, P.G.O. presiding with his usual ability at the piano. Owing to the inclemency of the weather several country members were prevented coming. Viscount Mahon, M.P., was also expected, but was unable to come at the last; but in spite of many disappointments, a most enjoyable evening was spent, and the brethren were loth to separate.

FILEY.—*Royal Lodge* (No. 643).—The above lodge held its usual installation meeting on the 9th of February, at Foord's Hotel, Filey, when there was a good attendance of the brethren and also of visitors from other lodges. After two initiations and the usual business of the lodge had been concluded, Bro. R. Simpson, J.W., was introduced, and was duly installed by Bro. Fletcher, P.M., Old Globe, 200, who kindly officiated in the absence of Bro. W. Hawkes, P.M., the respected Treasurer of the lodge, who is so well qualified efficiently to perform this interesting ceremony. The newly installed W.M. then proceeded to invest his officers as follows:—Bros. S. Rimmington, S.W.; W. Hawkes, P.M. Treas.; H. A. Darby, Sec.; C. Reynolds, S.D.; J. MacFaden, J.D.; J. Cowton, I.G.; Rev. N. Blane, P.M., and P.P.G.C. Chaplain. After the closing of the

lodge the brethren adjourned to a bounteous and well-served banquet, provided by Bro. Kilby, of Foord's Hotel. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given from the chair, also several toasts, songs, and recitations by various brethren. On the health of the newly installed W.M. being drank with due honour, the worthy brother made a very feeling and appropriate reply thereto, and some excellent speeches were delivered by Bros. Blane, the esteemed Chaplain, Taylor, Old Globe, 200, Armitage P.M., P.P.G.W., Fletcher, P.M. 200, and other brethren. It is worthy of remark that the newly installed W.M., is one of four brothers all of whom are outlying members of the lodges, and residing some miles distance from Filey, and four jollier fellows, or more true-hearted Masons it would be difficult to find in a long day's march.

WILLIAM PRESTON LODGE (No. 766).—An emergency meeting of this excellent lodge was held on Thursday evening, the 26th ultimo, at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, when three hours were fully occupied in getting through the business for which the meeting was convened. There were present Bros. W. W. Worrell, W.M.; A. Brawn, S.W.; J. Pringle, J.W.; G. J. Kain, P.M., Secretary; W. M. Newton, S.D.; G. Cragg, J.D.; G. Newman, P.M.; R. H. Whiteman, P.M.; B. Abbott, P.M.; E. Kidman, H. F. Partridge, C. Cutmore, F. Ince, P. Steinmann, S. Wilkinson, W. E. Newton, J. F. Honey, S. J. Emley, and the following visitors, Bros. G. W. West, 1287; H. Garrod, P.M., 749; G. W. Lay, 569; J. H. Broomhall, 569; and J. C. Dousing, 108. The W.M.'s character as a good workman was amply tested on this occasion, for the work upon the summons embraced the whole of the three ceremonies, which were performed with great ability and impressiveness by Bro. Worrell. In the first place Bro. Honey was raised to the to the sublime degree of M.M.; then Bros. Stephen John Emley, and Francis Ince were passed to the degree of F.C., and finally five initiates, viz., Mr. James Alfred Keen, Mr. James French, Mr. Henry Reissmann, Mr. George John Paull, and Mr. Robert Lyon were initiated into the mysteries and privileges of the first degree. The working of the W.M. was, as we have already said, excellent, and we must add that he is fortunate in his officers, who all performed their allotted share in the ruling and working of the lodge with great ability. The work was very accurately measured also, being, by the skill and assiduity displayed, completed in exactly the space—from five till eight—allotted to it. The work being concluded, the lodge was closed, and the members and their visitors sat down to an excellent supper in one of the commodious rooms adjoining that in which the lodge was held. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed by the W.M., and received the hearty welcome of the brethren present. Bro. Worrell being about to represent this lodge as a Steward at the forthcoming Festival for the Boys' School on the 11th inst, an excellent custom for the benefit of the charities, adopted in this lodge, was continued on this occasion. The custom is this, volunteers are invited to contribute half-guinea shares in a fund of twenty guineas, which is added to the list of the brother who is to represent the lodge, and this fund is divided into four £5 5s. life governorships which are ballotted for by the subscribers. We mention this with pleasure, as we think that on learning how successfully it works in the William Preston Lodge, many brethren, belonging to other lodges, may club together in whatever shares they please for the same object. On the occasion of which we are now writing, Bro. Newman, one of the energetic P.M.'s of the lodge, announced that there were still five half-guinea shares to be subscribed, and in less than five minutes the amount was completed. In proposing the health of the W.M. Bro. Newman said that Bro. Worrell was one of the William Preston's own children, and it gave them all great pleasure to reflect that it was a brother initiated in the lodge who now occupied the chair. They had five initiations present that evening, and to them he would say that five years ago Bro. Worrell occupied the same position. It was quite possible for them to follow on the same road. The

more they knew of Bro. Worrell the more perfectly were they satisfied with all he did. He was having a very favourable year of office, and it was not at all unlikely that the William Preston Lodge would complete its mission as far as its numbers were concerned (it is limited to fifty members) before he vacated the chair. In conclusion Bro. Newman wished the W.M. a happy and prosperous Stewardship to the Boys' School. In reply the W.M. thanked Bro. Newman and the brethren present for the kind manner in which his health had been proposed and drunk, and for the kindness and good feeling which was being extended to him on all sides during his year of office. He trusted that when he retired from the chair he would be able to reflect that he had done his duty to the best of his ability. Bro. Newman had alluded to the number of initiates present, and he would add that for some time past such a thing as the full number of initiates had not been known in that lodge. He might say, for the information of the initiates, that, without a dispensation from Grand Lodge, that was the greatest number that could be initiated upon one occasion. He had not a personal knowledge of all of the initiates, but he was very much pleased with the attention they had paid to the ceremonies that evening; he trusted that they would continue the work as well as they commenced it, and he hoped that some at least of them would in due time rise to be W.M.'s of the William Preston Lodge. He concluded by proposing "The Health of the Initiates." This toast having been responded to by the Initiates, the W.M. rose and proposed "The Health of the Visitors" in doing which he remarked that they were always honoured by several; and he was happy to say that when their visitors had been once, they often came again, the sentiment "I have been there and still would go" which prompted their visitors the William Preston Lodge to be as a great compliment, because it proved that their brethren were gratified by a visit to the William Preston Lodge. The health of the Past Masters and that of the officers were also proposed by Bro. Worrell, in doing which he acknowledged the obligation the Master was always under to those who had preceded him in the chair. He believed that Masons had no conception of the amount of assistance rendered by the Past Masters until they had been through the chair. As regards the officers he said that however good a Master a lodge might possess the work could not be properly executed unless the efforts of the Master were heartily and efficiently seconded by his officers. He was happy to say that he was assisted by an excellent staff of officers, who knew their duties and had the interest of the lodge at heart. The Past Masters and officers having returned thanks the brethren separated after a remarkably satisfactory evening, memorable alike for excellent working in the lodge, and for the very pleasant social gathering which followed it.

KENNINGTON LODGE (No. 1381).—A meeting of this lodge was held at the Surrey Club House on Tuesday last. The officers of this lodge for the year are—Bros. Koch, W.M.; Everett, S.W.; Gardner, J.W.; Hunt, S.D.; Painter, J.D.; Reeve, I.G.; Webb, W.S.; Page, P.M. Treasurer; and Stuart, P.M., Secretary; all of whom were present with the exception of Bro. Hunt. The minutes of the previous meeting having been passed, Bros. Moore, Farr, and Catchpool were raised to the sublime degree of M.M. and Bros. Phillpott, Walls, and Byfield passed as P.C. There were five gentlemen on the business paper to be initiated, but only one attended, viz., Mr. Bates, who was duly admitted a member of the Craft. The whole of the proceedings were carried out with considerable ability, the W.M. having the assistance of Bro. Pulsford, P.M.; and Bro. Mann, P.M. The W.M. then gave notice of motion that at the next meeting he should bring forward a scheme for the establishment of a benevolent fund in connection with the lodge, which he said was a thing greatly to be desired. There being no other business the lodge was duly closed. The banquet which followed was held in the commodious room adjoining the Club House and was of a *recherché* description. The usual Loyal

and Craft toasts were given by the W.M. and responded to with great fire and spirit by the brethren assembled. "The Health of the Past Masters" present at the banquet, namely, Bros. Pulsford, Page, Mann, Pope, and Stuart, was well received, and responded to by Bro. Mann for the whole. The "Visitors" toast was proposed, duly acknowledged and replied to by Bro. Myers. Between the toasts the lodge was enlivened by the harmony of Bros. T. C. Walls, Phillpott, Webb, Gardner, and the tenor singing of the first named brother in the popular ballads "Tom Bowling" and "Love's Request" appearing to give great satisfaction to the lodge. The Tyler's toast completed the proceedings, which were thoroughly successful.

LEICESTER.—Commercial Lodge (No. 1391). The second Masonic ball in connection with this enterprising and prosperous lodge was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Halford-street, on Monday evening, the 23rd ult. in aid of the Masonic Institution for Girls, under the most distinguished patronage. There was a numerous attendance of the brethren, and the various insignia of the different degrees, from the humble Fellow Craft to the exalted Rose Croix, contrasted with the rich dresses of the ladies, presented a gay and brilliant effect. Among those present were Bros. J. Halford, W.M.; J. B. Hall, I.P.M.; A. Palmer, W.M. 279; F. J. Baines, W.M. 523; C. Stretton, P.M., P.P.G.W.; W. Weare, W.M., Fowke Lodge; J. M. McAllister, W.M. elect, Fowke Lodge; J. Thorpe, J.W. 523; L. L. Attwood, S. Tebbutt, B. Moore, G. Brown, J. G. Crofts, Dr. Meadows, C. Wilkinson, O. Law, J. S. Tomlin, W. R. Tomlin, J. Hunter, J. W. Quin, — Roberts, and others. The ladies present were Mrs. Wilkinson, Mrs. J. S. Tomlin, Mrs. Weare, Mrs. Moore, Mrs. Tebbutt, Mrs. Law, Miss Hewlings, Miss Hunter, Miss E. Hunter, Miss Weare, Miss Attwood, Miss Chamberlain, Misses Church, Miss Wade, Miss Winks, Miss Healey, &c. Dancing commenced at nine o'clock, to the stirring strains of Bro. H. Nicholson's celebrated uad rille band, and the enjoyment of the guests was promoted in a very high degree by the affability and brotherly courtesey of Bro. Halford, W.M., and Bro. J. B. Hall, I.P.M. The arrangements for the refreshment department were equal to the requirements, and fancy of the most fastidious taste, and reflected great credit on the care and forethought of the Stewards, and Mr. Fox deserved the especial thanks for the abundance, and excellence of the wines and other dainties supplied on the occasion.

Royal Arch.

LIVERPOOL.—Everton Chapter (No. 823).—The companions of this chapter were summoned to attend its duties at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, on Tuesday, the 24th ult., when there was a very large and successful meeting. The chief items of business were the installation of Principals and investiture of officers. The following is a complete list of those present:—Comps. Samuel Haynes, Z.; Thomas Ashmore, P.Z.; A. C. Mott, P.Z.; Jesse Banning, H.; Joseph Holland, J.; J. Goodman, E.; T. Houlding, P.S.; T. Bloomfield; T. Tuft, J.W.; Cave-Browne-Cave, T. H. Carefull, W. Boulton, W. J. Lunt, P.Z. 243; G. T. H. Lyall, J. Hamer, P.Z.; S. Millikin, J. Hamer, W. H. Cooper, J. W. Newman, W. Cottrell, A. Stother, and W. H. Thompson. The visitors present were Comps. H. Burrows, 673; Joseph Wood, Treas. 249; W. Shortis, H. 1024; J. T. Callow, H. 673; T. Jones, 241; J. Lunt, P.Z. 1086, and Z. 241; J. Pemberton, P.Z. 1094; H. Nelson, Z. 673; C. H. Hill, H. 241; R. W. Holt, 220; J. Parsons, H. 203; S. J. MacGeorge, P.Z. 241; and C. Leedham, P.Z. 220. The chapter was duly and solemnly opened at five o'clock, Comp. Captain Mott, acting as Z.; Comp. Jesse Banning, as H.; and Comp. J. Holland, J. The minutes of the previous chapter were read and confirmed, and five candidates and one joining member were balloted for. All below the rank of P.Z., then retired, and Comp. Samuel Haynes, M.E.Z., then took the throne, Comp. Ashmore P.Z., acting as H., and Comp. Mott, P.Z., as J., and proceeded to instal Comp.

Jesse Banning, as First Principal. Comp. Ashmore installed Comp. Holland, as H.; and Comp. Mott, installed Comp. W. J. Lunt, P.Z., as J. The work of installation was performed with an efficiency scarcely ever excelled in this division. The newly installed Principals were then saluted in the usual form, and the M.E.Z., subsequently invested the following as his officers:—Comps. Shaw, S.E.; Ballard, S.N.; Boulton, P.S.; T. Ashmore, P.Z., Treas.; Peter Ball, was re-elected and invested as Janitor. The accounts of the retiring Treasurer (Comp. Shaw) were read and passed, and a vote of thanks to him was ordered to be recorded on the minutes for the very flourishing state in which he had left the funds of the Chapter. The M.E.Z. then in a very complimentary speech, presented a beautiful P.Z. jewel to Comp. Haynes, I.P.Z., who acknowledged the gift in a neat speech. He thanked the companions of the chapter for the very handsome present, and hoped they might have broods of P.Z.'s, superior to all that had gone before. Wishing even increased prosperity to the chapter, and again thanking the companions for their present, Comp. Haynes concluded in a very happy manner. The P.S. then appointed Comp. Millikin, as Senior A.S., and Comp. Careful, as Junior A.S. Three brethren were proposed for installation, and after hearty good wishes had been given from several chapters, the business was brought to a close. The companions at once proceeded to a most substantial banquet, and after the cloth had been drawn, Comp. Jesse Banning, M.E.Z., in proposing "The Queen" spoke as follows:—Companions, We have the happiness to reside in a country where law is supreme and loyalty is deeply rooted in the hearts of the people, but companions, we have the additional privilege of membership in a society wherein reverence for those principles is inculcated in an eminent degree. It is therefore unnecessary for me to expatiate on the many excellent qualities, social and domestic virtues of the object of my toast, all I need to do is to ask you to unite with me in drinking to "The Health, long life and continued happiness of Her Majesty the Queen." The usual Masonic toasts were afterwards proposed, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

THE WHITTINGTON CHAPTER (No. 862) held a convocation at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Friday, February 27th. Present, Comps. J. Weaver, M.E.Z.; J. Brett as H.; W. Q. H. James, J.W.; F. Smith, N.; — Bingsan, P.S.; G. Pritchard, 1st A.S.; W. A. Tinney, 2nd A.S.; and F. Pritchard. Visitor, Companion E.S.Q., M.E.Z. Joppa Chapter. The chapter was opened in solemn form. Letters of apology were read from the candidates for exaltation for their non-attendance; the bye-laws were submitted, approved, and resolved that they be printed in the form of a book. Proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously, that the exaltation fee be raised after the next convocation in May. The chapter was then closed in solemn form, and the Companions adjourned to the banquet-room, where a very pleasant evening was spent.

Mark Masonry.

ISWICH.—Albert Victor Mark Lodge.—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, 23rd ult., for the purpose of advancing several brethren, when there were present. Bros. Rev. R. N. Sanderson, P.M.M., P.G. Chap. of England; C. T. Townsend, P.M.M., P.G.D.; Emra Holmes, P.M.M., Grand Inspector of Works; E. J. Robertson, W.M.; G. Cresswell, S.W.; E. Dorling; J. Townsend, J.W.; W. Cuckow; Chincock; J. A. Pettit; W. T. Westgate; Bennett, &c., &c. The lodge having been opened in due form, Bro. Robertson resigned the gavel into the hands of Bro. Sanderson, and the ballot having been taken for Bros. Frederick William Garnham, and Thomas Osmond, of the Prince of Wales Lodge; and Walter G. Walford and William Randell, of 433, they were duly elected, obligated, and advanced in the honourable degree of Mark Master Mason. After other propositions had been received, the lodge was closed and the brethren retired for refreshment. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given from the chair, Bro. Sanderson responding to that of "the Grand Officers." In the course of a few

well chosen and sensible remarks, he observed that the appointment of Grand Officers was not in the hands of a clique, that merit alone was considered, and that he could not but remark upon the admirable manner in which the affairs of Grand Mark Lodge were conducted. The health of the W.M., Bro. Dorling, the newly advanced brethren, and others, were all given, and responded to with great cordiality. Several contributed to the harmony of the evening, and the brethren separated at a late hour.

Scotland.

GLASGOW.—*Union and Crown Lodge* (No. 103), met on Monday, February 23, Bro. A. M. Wright, R.W.M., presiding, J. Martin, S.M.; J. Muir, S.W.; J. Thomas, J.W.; J. Gilles, P.M. Sec.; J. Cochran, T. Minnie, S.D.; and a large attendance of members and visitors. The work consisted of one initiation and a passing, both ceremonies being performed by the R.W.M., in a way that is seldom surpassed. The lodge having been called to refreshment, the Master, in proposing "The Provincial Grand Lodge," said that though every lodge in the province always heartily responded to that sentiment, still it had peculiar claims on the Lodge Union and Crown, for she had the honour of having two of their P.M.'s as Prov. Grand Officers, neither could he forget the kindness of Bro. F. A. Barrow, at their festival last week. Bro. Gilles a P.M. of the lodge, and P.G.S.B., in reply, spoke of the harmony subsisting not only in the Prov. G.L. itself, but also between it and the daughter lodges, he also gave some interesting particulars relative to P.G.L. Benevolent Fund, stating they had now £400 at interest, and yet at the meeting last week they had passed grants to five deserving cases, in each instance voting more than double the amount that was formerly considered the maximum grant. The S.W. gave "The Visiting Brethren." The Lodge Union had always maintained a name for welcoming visitors, he was pleased to see so many there to night, he welcomed them all, but would particularly name Bro. G. Weston, R.W.M. of 73; and Bro. G. W. Wheeler. Bro. Weston gracefully acknowledged the compliment, as well as the kind services of their Master in working the 2nd degree for him at his last lodge meeting. He would be glad to see the officers and brethren at 73. Bro. Wheeler also replied, and proposed "Prosperity to the Union and Crown Lodge," this had a list of illustrious P.M.'s the glory of whom he was sure would be equalled if not eclipsed by their present Master. Bro. Wright, on behalf of himself and the lodge, thanked Bro. Wheeler for his flattering remarks, and would endeavour to earn the praise now given. He then gave the final toast of the evening.

GLASGOW.—*Athol Lodge* (No. 413) met on Thursday, February 24th, Bro. J. Wallace, R.W.M., in the chair. There was a good attendance of members and visitors. Three brethren were passed to the second degree, the work being excellently performed by Bro. John Miller, I.P.M. Arrangements were then made for holding the annual festival on the 27th prox.

GLASGOW.—*Cathedral Chapter* (No. 67) met on the 24th February, at 22, Struthers-street. There was only a small attendance of the members, but the work was well performed by Comps. Duthie, Taylor, and Pearce.

EDINBURGH.—*Lodge Caledonian* (No. 392).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held within their own lodge room, in the Freemasons' Hall, George-street, Edinburgh, on the evening of Thursday, 25th February, 1874. Bro. Donald Swanson, R.W. Master, occupied the chair, and the Wardens in their places, Bro. C. I. Paton acting as Secretary. The minutes of the meeting were deferred being read in consequence of the Secretary's absence, until the next regular monthly meeting. The lodge having been opened, a petition was read by the acting Secretary, signed and recommended in regular order from Mr. W. Wells, merchant, Glasgow, craving to be received a member of the ancient Order. The ballot having been taken and found unanimous, the first degree was then conferred on Mr. Wells. Amongst the Past

Masters present were Bro. T. H. Douglas, Chalmers, I. Paton, and W. Wotherspoon. The visitors were Bro. J. Macpherson, No. 8, and Bro. J. Ford, R.W.M. 506. The R.W.M. asked in the east, west, and south if there were any further business, saying that as he intended visiting the Lodge St. Clair ball, he would not call the Lodge to refreshment that evening. The brethren agreeing to this, and there being no further business, the lodge was closed in due and ample form. The regular meetings of this lodge are held on the second and fourth Thursdays of the months of January, February, March, April, September, October, November, and December, and emergencies when required.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. J. BOWES P.M., P.Z., PROV. G. REG., &c., OF WARRINGTON.

Bro. Bowes has long been known as an active working Mason in both West Lancashire and the more northern province of Cumberland and Westmoreland, and for the past dozen years he has held the office of Hon. Sec. of the Lodge of Lights, No. 48. Some months since Bro. Bowes addressed a circular (which we published at the time) to the members, referring to his long services, and seeking official relief. The brethren reluctantly complied with his request, and the lodge voted him a handsome jewel as a small acknowledgement of its obligations. This, however, was not deemed a sufficient recognition by many, and it was determined to supplement it with an address and purse of gold. The matter was taken up warmly by the W.M. of No. 148, Bro. John Harding, and Bro. D. W. Finney, P.M., etc., and on Tuesday, 3rd inst., those two brethren, representing the subscribers, made the presentation. The address, which is artistically inscribed on vellum, richly illuminated, and handsomely framed, was read, at the request of the W.M., by Bro. Finney, and ran as follows:—

"To Bro. John Bowes, P.M., P.Z., &c., Warrington.

"Dear Sir and Brother,

"On behalf of a number of brethren of our ancient and noble Craft, resident in Warrington, and the neighbourhood, we beg your acceptance of this purse of fifty sovereigns, as a slight mark of their appreciation of your great Masonic worth.

"Your services, freely rendered, to Freemasonry in this part of the province of West Lancashire, have been greatly appreciated and have tended in no small degree to raise its character and tone among us.

"Several brethren from distant provinces have likewise expressed the pleasure they felt in being allowed to subscribe to this testimonial.

Trusting that T.G.A.O.T.U. may abundantly bless both you and yours,

"We are dear sir, and brother, on behalf of the subscribers, yours very fraternally,

"JOHN HARDING, W.M. 148.

"D. W. FINNEY, P.M. 148."

Bro. Finney then said: Bro. Bowes—Bro. Harding and myself have been deputed by a number of brethren resident in Warrington and the neighbourhood to wait upon you, and to ask your acceptance of a purse of fifty sovereigns, together with this address, as a slight mark of their appreciation of your great Masonic worth. As to the purse, I can only wish it had contained £500 instead of £50. As to the address, I am sure you will at least greatly admire the taste displayed in its artistic and exquisite design. Personally, I regard it as a great compliment to be associated with our excellent W.M., Bro. Harding, in the presentation of this little memento of our regard for you as Freemason, and when I say I entertain for both you and also your family a sincere and affectionate regard, I feel I speak not only my own and Bro. Harding's sentiments, but at the same time express the feelings of those brethren with whom you have been Masonically associated for the last 12 or 13 years. I have myself known you a good many years, and have entertained for you the same high feeling of respect and regard. When you look upon that beautiful picture, for it is really a beautiful work of art, it will remind you

of your many Masonic friends, among the first and foremost of whom you may very truly reckon Bro. John Harding, the W.M. of 148. It was not my intention at first to have said more than these few words, but I feel I cannot refrain from reverting briefly to your history as a Mason, and perhaps the reflection may not be altogether out of place. For more than eleven years you held the office of Hon. Sec. to the Lodge of Lights, 148, a lodge which stands high in the province of West Lancashire and deservedly so, and I am bold to affirm that to you in no small degree is due its prosperity and efficiency; indeed this is invariably acknowledged by the Craft in Warrington. Your services, too, to the Gilbert Greenall Lodge, 1250, must not be forgotten. When that lodge was founded some five or six years ago, and named at your suggestion after the worthy and distinguished Bro. Greenall, P.S.G.W. of England, you became its first Acting Master, acting for Bro. Greenall in his unavoidable absence. Those services were freely given, and I venture to think they were performed in a manner such as reflected honour upon yourself and credit to the lodge. You were likewise one of the founders and are now the senior member of the Chapter of Elias Ashmole, in connection with the Lodge of Lights, and very great praise must be awarded to you for the able manner you filled all the offices of the Chapter. As Installing Master your services have frequently been called into requisition, not only in our own lodges, but also in those of other provinces, and in that capacity there are found very few to equal and fewer still to excel you. I cannot forget, too, that you have held high office in Prov. Grand Chapter, as well as in Prov. Grand Lodge, and in each and in all the various offices you have been called upon to fill you have invariably acquitted yourself in such a manner as to bring down upon yourself the highest possible credit. In fine your efforts to promote the good of Freemasonry in general, and of the Craft in Warrington in particular, have tended greatly to raise its character and tone among us, and I cordially endorse every word contained in that beautiful address which I have just read to you. I might say much more, but as Bro. Harding will have something to say, I shall conclude by expressing, in the words of the address, a wish that the G.A.O.T.U. may abundantly bless both Mrs. Bowes and yourself, and that you may live many many years to enjoy the affection and esteem of your brethren in Freemasonry I now invite the W.M. to address you.

Bro. John Harding said:—Dear Bro. Bowes, it is at all times a pleasing task to do honour to those whom we esteem, and especially so when that esteem is largely shared by others, and as the pleasure is increased so also is the difficulty one feels when called upon to be the exponent of the sentiments of others. I could have wished the duty of presenting this testimonial had fallen into more able hands than my own, but I yield to no brother in my high estimation of your character and the many valuable services you have rendered to Masonry in general and to my lodge in particular. It is well known that that you have sacrificed much time and laboured most assiduously for a long time in the furtherance of Masonry, and it is hoped you will continue your valuable services. To mark their sense of your high merits as a Mason, a friend and neighbour, the brethren have generously subscribed this testimonial. I will only add that I cordially endorse all that Bro. Finney has so well said, and that I experience extreme pleasure in conducting this well deserved presentation. That the Most High may abundantly bless you and yours is the fervent desire of every subscriber to this testimonial.

Bro. Bowes said, W.M. and Bro. Past Master Finney. My tongue will fail to express in adequate terms my heartfelt gratitude for this proof of the fraternal regard of my brethren. It has been my privilege to be an active officer of No. 148 for a long time. Indeed I have been accustomed for years to regard the lodge as a home in which I could always calculate upon a warm and hearty reception as a brother. For a long time, too, most of my hours of recreation have been spent in and about its concerns. In

fact the interests of the Craft have been my constant study, but then, brethren, whenever success crowned our united endeavours, I have felt amply rewarded. Brethren, I have ever regarded Freemasonry as the most ennobling institution devised by man, its grand design being to expand the mind, enlighten the understanding, and to improve all who study its precepts. Such being my view of the principles of our Order, I have always experienced much pleasure in working the various ceremonies and lending assistance to those of my brethren who needed it. Again allow me to repeat, brethren, that I am painfully conscious that any words I can command will very imperfectly indicate the depth and extent of my feelings of gratitude to the subscribers to this splendid testimonial, and to you, W.M., and Bro. Finney, my thanks are in an especial manner due, believe me, I shall never forget the many kindnesses and marks of affectionate regard I have received at your hands. Brethren, in time to come I shall refer with honest pride to the proceedings of this evening, and rejoice to think that any services which I have been able to render in promoting the genuine tenets and principles of our Order have meet with the approval of brethren whose opinions I very highly value. May every blessing be yours, dear brethren, and may our noble Order be ever adorned by every moral and social virtue!

Multum in Parvo, or Masonic Notes and Queries.

THE MASONIC CHARITIES.

I hope that the admirable leaders in the *Freemason*, and the appreciative letter from the indefatigable Bro. Frederick Binckes, Secretary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, will be the means of directing attention to the lamentable fact that so few support our charities compared with the number who attend our Festivals.

Bro. Coates's letter is much to the point, and is illustrative of what the Masters of lodges could do if they felt inclined, so as to supplement the lodges' donations with the smaller subscriptions of the members, many of whom would gladly give 5 or 10 shillings annually when they could not well afford the minimum sum to obtain a vote. Several such brethren refuse to aid the charities now, because the money produces no voting power, but if the Masters of lodges collect such amounts, and have them placed in the name of the lodges to which the subscribers belong, we think, many a good total might be made by such means. I feel certain that no Mason acts according to his obligations, who, having the means, refuses to aid our noble charities.

To make known our wants Masonically, where can a better medium be obtained than the *Freemason*, and surely much of the success of late attending our annual Festivals must be attributed to the greater interest being taken in all that concerns the welfare of the Craft, to secure which, both the *Freemason* and the *Masonic Magazine* have played an important part, and the admirable works issued by the veteran Masonic publisher, Bro. Spencer, have also done much to increase our love and respect for our ancient Fraternity.

I fail to see a single justifiable reason for not advertising the claims of the charities in the columns of the *Freemason*. If the proprietor was making money by the publication, we might think he should afford the requisite space freely, but when we know the paper is carried on at a large weekly loss financially, and yet Bro. Kenning is one of the largest contributors to our Masonic Charities, added to which the *Freemason* is always open to the brethren for any specially distressing case, and aid is denied to none who are worthy, and have not the means to pay, we heartily support the capital articles by the Editor respecting the subject of advertising, because we believe that as a rule, those who read and support the *Freemason*, are the most earnest workers on behalf of the institutions in question.

I believe, in conclusion, that if Bro. Watson, the W.M. of 1386, Lincoln, would place his admirable pamphlet on the Masonic Charities in the

hands of the secretaries of the three great Institutions, (Boys', Girls', and Benevolent) and they would arrange to have sufficient printed to supply every W.M. and Secretary of a lodge in England with the copies, as also the Principals of Chapters, Preceptors of Preceptories, &c., an increased support would be the result, for it is the best of its kind ever issued.

W. J. HUGHAN.

MASONIC RELICS (page 120.)

I beg to be allowed space for a few remarks on a letter which appeared in the *Freemason* of 21st February, headed "Masonic Relics," and signed G.W.W. It relates to a question not only interesting but important to all Freemasons, the Masonic standing of the Ancient Lodge of Melrose Saint John, and the rights of that lodge to grant charters to new lodges in Scotland. The antiquity of the Melrose Lodge is unquestionable. Its origin is referred to the year A.D. 1136, some years before the formation of the Kilwinning Lodge, Mother Kilwinning, by far the oldest lodge in connection with the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and of which all the lodges that combined to form as it were daughter lodges. When the Grand Lodge of Scotland was constituted in 1736, the Melrose Lodge did not take part in what was done, nor did the Kilwinning Lodge place itself in connection with the Grand Lodge, and under its jurisdiction for a good many years but at last it did so, whilst the Melrose Lodge still declined to do so, and has maintained its independence to the present time, notwithstanding attempts made to induce it to join the Grand Lodge. This, however, I humbly submit, makes nothing against the Masonic standing of the Melrose Lodge. That standing was unquestionable before the Grand Lodge of Scotland was constituted, and must therefore remain unquestionable. It was open to any lodge in Scotland to join in constituting the Grand Lodge or not, without prejudice to Masonic standing. The Grand Lodge has no claim to authority but what is derived from the lodges uniting to form it. Its authority is unquestionable over them and over the new lodges to which it has granted charters, but the Melrose Lodge remains unaffected, and possesses every right which it possessed two hundred years since. That a certain number of the lodges of any country join in constituting a Grand Lodge, in no way affects lodges which decline to take part with them, and gives the Grand Lodge which they form no authority over the whole country, nor any rights to refuse recognition of the lodge or lodges maintaining their original independence. It never was objected against the Kilwinning Lodge that it was slow to join the Grand Lodge of Scotland; it was gladly received when its consent was given and the Grand Lodge thereby received a great increase of strength. So it would have been if the Melrose Lodge had joined the Grand Lodge and so would it be if it were to give in its adherence now. There is no lodge in Scotland so prosperous in every way as the Melrose Lodge, none which has so much property, or does so much for charitable purposes; none of which the character is more irreproachable; none which has been better worked. Its working is the very same with that of the other Scottish Lodges, but is more perfect than the most of them. Brethren from England and from foreign countries, of whom many visit Melrose every year, find pleasure in attending its meetings. Many members of Scottish Lodges attend them when they have opportunity, and I have myself known the Right Worshipful Master of a Scottish Lodge, holding under the Grand Lodge, to enter a meeting of the Melrose Lodge, glad to do so, and cordially welcomed. Members of English and foreign lodges, without hesitation, seek to be received as members of the Melrose Lodge, when they come to reside at Melrose or its vicinity, and many members of Scottish Lodges have also done so. Members of the Melrose Lodge, changing their place of abode, have always been readily affiliated in other Scottish Lodges, as they are, without hesitation, in the Lodges of England, America, and other countries. All this tends to show that the Melrose Lodge is a fully recognised Masonic Body, and to make it appear strange that its rights to grant charters to new lodges should be called in ques-

tion, or that the formation of a lodge with such a charter in Glasgow should have provoked such violent opposition as it has from the Provincial Grand Lodge of that district of Scotland. The case is totally different from that of a lodge withdrawing itself from the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and attempting to establish a rival authority; but it seems to have been treated as if it were the same.

Your correspondent, G. W. W., makes three assertions, which he says are easily susceptible of proof by printed documents. I do not know that documents become more authoritative by being printed; but letting this pass, I will briefly examine the "three assertions" on which G. W. W. rests his case. The first is that the lodge of which Bro. S. signed himself the R.W.M. was "an unrecognised body." It was the Glasgow Lodge bearing the designation of the Melrose St. John's Lodge No. 1. The words in which G. W. W. makes his assertion are calculated to mislead the unwary reader; but it is evident that that "unrecognised" means only *unrecognised by the Grand Lodge of Scotland*. This may be enough for G. W. W. to infer the conclusion that the lodge is in a full and proper sense unrecognised; but it will not be enough for those who consider the facts already stated or the general recognition of the Melrose Lodge by Freemasons throughout the world, of its recognition by the Grand Lodge of Scotland itself in the attempts made to bring about a union, and of its existence from a date long prior to the constitution of the Grand Lodge. The question is left untouched of the rights of the Melrose Lodge to grant a charter to a lodge in Glasgow, and if this is conceded, as I think it must be, the Glasgow Lodge having that charter is as much a recognised body as any lodge holding of the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

G.W.W.'s second assertion is that the Provincial Grand Lodge has issued circulars cautioning the brethren against having anything to do with them (the Melrose St. John's Lodge of Glasgow). Perfectly true, but nothing to the purpose. It remains for G.W.W. to show that the Provincial Grand Lodge did not assume an authority to which it had no rightful claim; and subversive of Masonic rights and liberty, a question to which the answer may be found from consideration of the facts which I have brought under your attention.

The third assertion is "that the Melrose St. John's Lodge had by advertisement invited visitors to come to their lodge." And what if they did? If holding a charter from a body having full right to grant it, and enjoying the most perfect Masonic recognition, they even ventured to set at nought the usurped authority of the Provincial Grand Lodge, they are surely not deserving of censure, far less of expulsion from the Masonic Brotherhood. But expulsion from the Brotherhood is impossible, it is only expulsion from lodges holding of the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

It is, perhaps, not desirable that there should be more than one supreme Masonic jurisdiction in one country. But there are cases of this kind in Germany and elsewhere, and there is no conflict, no attempt to suppress or expel. These cases have all arisen, I believe, from peculiar circumstances in past history, as this case in Scotland has. It might be better for the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and its zealous supporters to aim at bringing about a union by brotherly means, than crushing the Melrose Lodge by the force of a more high-sounding name and of greater numbers.

AN ENGLISH, FRENCH, AND SCOTTISH MASON.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—With the weather cold and the wind keen what is to be done to keep the human body healthy, to protect the weak, to renovate the diseased? The reply is, "supplant the suppressed action of the skin, through an alterative like these pills, by a freer action of the liver, bowels, and kidneys. This will preserve the delicate internal structures from congestion and irritation and carry off these noxious matters ordinarily transmitted through the integuments. A course so natural must commend itself, and must elicit the unqualified approbation of all who think and understand how nature invariably aids a digestive organ, by accomplishing its unperformed functions through increased activity elsewhere.—ADVT.

MASONS MARKS, (pages 750 and 751.)

The Freemason of 22nd November, 1873, having come to hand at a time when I was too busy to read it, was necessarily laid aside, and then I unfortunately forgot it till it fell into my hands to-day, when I perused it. Although so long a time has elapsed since its publication, I cannot but take notice of some statements in Bro. Hughan's letter concerning Masons' Marks which appear to me very extraordinary. Bro. Hughan professes himself quite ignorant that all Masonic Marks consist of an odd number of points. It is difficult for me to imagine how any Freemason having received the degree can be in any doubt on this point, and ignorance of the well-known and long-established rule concerning it can only be accounted for by strange forgetfulness. I have, in the course of my life, seen the mark degree conferred on some thousands of Freemasons, and they have all been instructed that Masonic Marks ought to have an odd number of points. The words of ritual are very express and decisive as to this. "The Craftsmen are allowed to select any mark not previously fixed on by another in the same lodge. It consists of three, five, seven, nine, or eleven points, joined together so as to form any figure they please, except that of an equilateral triangle." The last words of this quotation affords an answer also to the remarks of the brother who heads his letter "The Double Triangle," and I beg leave to recall them to his attention. As the Double Triangle consists of two equilateral triangles, it cannot be considered a Masonic Mark. In connection with this I may mention that in a case brought before the Grand Lodge of Scotland by some brethren of the Royal Arch, who disputed the rights of a Craft Lodge to work the mark degree, the Grand Lodge after much discussion, and being guided very much by the opinion of Bro. A. Kerr, R.W.M., No. 8, S.C., one of the most skillful Freemasons in Scotland, and by the arguments and proofs which he adduced in support of it, decided that the mark is a mere adjunct of the Fellow Craft.

Although some Masons may have made their marks with an even number of points, this is no proof that they were right in doing so, and it has been very far from common. I would be much surprised by any Mark Mason doing so, or at its being sanctioned by any lodge.

I am aware of what is called the Blind Mark, but no Freemason has been instructed in this for the last hundred years. The words of the ritual already quoted are at least one hundred years old, and have during that period been universally employed in the working of the Mark Degree in Scotland.

CHALMERS I. PATON.

Masonic Tidings.

The Most Honourable the Marquess of Ripon, M. W. Grand Master of Freemasons, has appointed the Right Honourable the Earl of Zetland Provincial Grand Master of the North and East Ridings of Yorkshire. The installation of his lordship, which was appointed to take place on the 25th inst., has been postponed in consequence of the death of his lordship's son, and we understand that the ceremony will now take place in York under the auspices of the York Lodge, at Easter. The installation (which will in all probability be performed by the Marquess of Ripon) will take place at the ancient Guildhall, which along with the state apartments at the Mansion House has been kindly placed at the disposal of the Provincial Grand Lodge by the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor. After the ceremony of installation, the brethren will walk in procession to the Cathedral, where, by the kind permission of the Dean and Chapter, a special service will be held, after which a collection will be made on behalf of one of the local charities. The meeting will be one of great importance to the Craft, and it is expected that a large number of distinguished Masons from this and other provinces will be present on the occasion.

The Keystone Lodge of Mark Master Masons, No. 168, will be consecrated in the Masonic Rooms, Royal Pavilion, Brighton, on Saturday, March 28th, 1874. Bro. Sir John Cordy Burrows, J.P., P.M. 811, P.P.G.W. Sussex, as the Worshipful Master Designate; Bro. W. R. Wood, P.M. 65, 315, 811, P.G. Steward, P.G.S.W. Sussex, Senior Warden Designate; and Bro. John Nathan Stoner, P.M. 56, Junior Warden Designate. Bro. F. Binckes, P.G. Mark Warden, G. Mark Secretary, has been deputed by the M.W.G.M. to perform the ceremony; assisted by Present and Past Grand Officers. The officers of the new lodge will then be nominated and invested. The regular meetings of the lodge will be held in the months of February, April, October, and December. At the close of the business (about five o'clock), the consecration and installation banquet will take place.

The Metropolitan Mark Lodge of Instruction, under the sanction of the Kent Lodge of Mark Masters, will meet at the Coach and Horses Hotel, 323, and 324, Strand, on Monday, 9th March, 1874. The lodge will be opened at 8 o'clock. Supper at 9.

A meeting of the members of the Mark Benevolent Association will be held at the Coach and Horses, 323, Strand, on Monday, 9th March, 1874, at half past seven o'clock, for the purpose of declaring a ballot.

Bro. Captain William Frederick Portlock Dadson, Citizen and Turner, is a candidate for the office of Mace-bearer to the Corporation of the City of London.

NEW ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY PAPER.—A new high class illustrated weekly newspaper is announced for first appearance this day (Saturday). The title is *The Pictorial World*. The list of artists and contributors comprises many well-known names; and as the paper will be published at a popular price—three pence—a large circulation is anticipated for it by its projectors.

ANONYMOUS MUNIFICENCE.—Among the donations and subscriptions acknowledged this week by the London charities are nine sums of £1,000 each, in addition to ten sums of similar amount announced last week.—*London Mirror*.

ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS.—A council was held on Wednesday, at 33, Golden-square, when nine companions, being Royal Arch Masons, were exalted in this interesting degree.

CONSECRATION OF THE PECKHAM LODGE No. 1475.

Some time since a number of brethren, members of the Peckham Lodge, No. 879, a majority of whom appear to have resided in Bermondsey and its vicinity, overruled the wishes of the remainder of the brethren, and removed the lodge to Bermondsey. That portion of its members who had been outnumbered were in sufficient force to petition for a new warrant, which the M.W.G. Master, on condition of their adopting the name of the Peckham Lodge, and promising not to remove the lodge from Peckham without his express permission, was pleased to grant, and on Tuesday, the 17th ult., Bro. Wentworth Little, Prov. G. Sec. Middlesex, &c., &c., consecrated the lodge in the presence of a large and influential gathering of brethren at the Victory Tavern, Trafalgar-road, Old Kent-road. The musical arrangements were under the management of Bro. Seymour Smith, assisted by Bros. Dawson and Carter. To say aught of Bro. Little's performance of the beautiful and solemn ceremony, can convey no adequate description of the impression that great master of our ritual and ceremonies made on his hearers; he is so well known and deservedly respected, that his presence is always cordially greeted by every member of the fraternity.

The lodge being duly dedicated, Bro. W. J. Warren, P.M. 879, took the chair, and installed Bro. Alfred Henry Watkins, the first Master, in a manner that bodes well for the efficiency of the active members of the new lodge. Bro. Watkins then invested Bro. John Thomas Dalby, S.W.; Walter Charles Canton, J.W. W. G. Warren, Treasurer; Walter E. Gompertz,

P.M. 866, Secretary; E. J. Cane, S.D.; George Duck, J.D.; Thomas Stephens, 869, I. Guard. Bro. Warren then delivered the three addresses in a manner that called forth a general expression of approval and delight. A vote of thanks to Bro. Little for his kind services, and the honorary membership of the lodge, which Bro. Little acknowledged in his usual pleasant and courteous manner, terminated the business of the day. Several propositions for initiating and joining were received, and the lodge closed. The brethren adjourned to banquet, which was laid by mine host, Bro. Rigglesworth, in a most *recherché* manner, and served *à la Russe*. Here the W.M., Bro. Watkins, at once convinced the brethren of his fitness for the honour they had done him. His knowledge of the duties in the lodge they had had abundant proofs of in the lodge of instruction, where he has been a constant attendant, and as president at the festive board, by his quiet, gentlemanly, and courteous manner and the original well-timed, and very excellent remarks in proposing the several toasts, won for him the most hearty and cordial expressions of pleasure and gratification. Bro. Little in responding to the toast of the "Consecrating Master" enlarged on the practical duties of the Masons, in the practice of the characteristic Masonic virtues. The usual loyal and complimentary toasts having been given and responded to, interspersed with some capital singing and music, the brethren broke up highly delighted with the whole proceedings. We may mention (*en-passant*) that the lodge has purchased the beautiful furniture, originally manufactured by Bro. George Kenning for the Golden Rule Lodge. Amongst the brethren present were, besides the officers and members—Bros. Allsopp, P.M. 879; D. Rose, P.M. 879; J. H. Tyler, P.M. 879; G. Fox, P.M. 73; W. E. Francis, P.M. 857; Henry W. Gompertz, 1364; G. Botton, P.M. 147; A. G. Hayward, P.M. 179; H. Bickerstaff, P.M. 700; C. Dilley, W.M. 147; C. Hills, W.M. 13; S. J. Harry, 72; J. W. Jackson, 975; R. S. Suggett, 25; F. Stephens, 869; and others.

MASONIC BIBLIOGRAPHY.

I regret exceedingly not being able to throw any light on the subject mentioned by Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, M.A.; in his interesting communication of the 28th ult., not having either heard of, or seen the Rosicrucian work "*Gylpeum Veritatis*". I will again look the matter up, and report progress if any discovery is made.

Our able Bro. Woodford would do good service if he furnished the readers of *The Freemason* with a list of all the Rosicrucian works and date of issue, which have been seen by him, or traced in his researches either in Dr. Kloss's works, or any other of the German authors, with which he is so familiar. We hardly like to ask so much, knowing the many claims in our Reverend Brother's time, but his abilities as a linguist peculiarly fit him for such a labour of love.

W. J. HUGHAN.

It is not too much to say that the introduction of Pepsine into the list of modern therapeutic agents by Dr. Corvisart created a very veritable revolution in the pathology of dyspepsia, and all diseases of the digestive organs. Whereas no complaint was so common as a chronic indigestion, perhaps the most painful martyrdom to which any one can be subjected, this should now be positively unknown, for as the disease is due to a lack of gastric juice, a dose of Pepsine, which contains the active digestive principle of the gastric juice of the stomach, restores the equilibrium, and effects a cure. Fortunately, too, for its popularity, the preparations of Pepsine, for which we have to thank Messrs Morson and Sons, of Southampton-row, are of the most elegant character, enabling it to be administered with the most extreme accuracy, and also in very palatable forms.

NOTICE.

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

Vol. I., bound in cloth	4s. 6d.
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The Editor will pay careful attention to all MSS. entrusted to him, but cannot undertake to return them unless accompanied by postage stamps.

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.

Answers to Correspondents.

A. F. H.—We cannot give you the information.

G. E. S.—The answer is plain. By our Constitutions a Mason is obliged by his tenure to obey the moral law, and if he rightly understands the art he will never be a stupid Atheist, nor an irreligious Christian.

Let Glasgow flourish. Received with many thanks, but declined. Our able correspondent will see that such religious controversy is not wanted in the pages of *The Freemason*. Our motto is "Defence, not Defiance." "Popery and Freemasonry" received, crowded out this week.

The following Communications stand over—

Masonic Festival in Glasgow. Consecration of the Marquess of Ripon Chapter. Consecration of a R.A. Chapter at Shettleston.

Bro. Gee's Communication about Italian Freemasonry will appear next week.

REMITTANCES RECEIVED.

Royal Albert Library, per Thomas Adcock, Montreal, P.O.O., 12s.; H. A. Berger, Jamieson, Victoria, £2 4s.; A. S. Killin, St. Martin's, New Brunswick, 12s.; M. Rogers, M.D., St. Martin's, New Brunswick, 12s.; J. R. Norton, Grahamstown, the Cape, 10s.; T. Holliday, Grahamstown, the Cape, 10s.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 1874

FREEMASONRY AND THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.

In our respected contemporary, *The Manchester Guardian*, of February 20th, appears the subjoined letter from a Catholic Defender under this heading, and to which our notice has been called by a correspondent. We think it better to allow the champion of his religious body to speak for himself, and then to append a few remarks and comments of our own. The subject is a very important one, and is evidently widening so much, that, the sooner the matter is carefully considered and decided in all its bearings, the better for both sides in the controversy. We therefore beg our readers careful attention to the following exposé of the Roman Catholic views on the subject:—

"FREEMASONRY AND THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.
To the Editor of the *Manchester Guardian*.

"Sir,—You begin your leader to-day with the statement that 'it has been always difficult to understand the motive of the hatred borne by the Roman Catholic Church in modern times to the brotherhood of Freemasons.' I ask for some space in your journal to try to solve this difficulty, but would first suggest that the use of the word 'hostility' or 'opposition' would have been more appropriate in the passage that I have referred to than 'hatred,' which you used.

"The first of the two suggestions, which you put in the form of quotations, is that which I consider to be the true one, namely, 'the ho-

tility engendered by antithetical principles.' No two sets of principles, objects, or modes of operation can be possibly more opposed than those of the Continental Freemasonry and those of the Catholic Church. Whilst I claim the use of the word 'hostility' or 'opposition' as that of describing the attitude of the Church, I think I may accept your word 'hatred' as describing that of the brotherhood towards the Church.

"To return, however, to the causes of this hostility, opposition, or hatred. I think that a reference to the latest formal condemnation of the brotherhood by the Holy See will sufficiently show these causes or motives. They are contained in the allocation of Pius IX., delivered on September 26, 1865. By citing the decrees of those of his predecessors who had previously censured the brotherhood, he renews and adopts against them those faults and errors which they had already pointed out. He discards that pretext of mere benevolence under which these associations wish to pass, and rests his condemnation—1. On what he describes as 'the wicked designs which are debated in their secret meetings.' 2. On their holding all religious doctrine as indifferent, and framing or professing a kind of religion which is merely the residuum after the rejection of all doctrine which any of their members may choose to reject. 3. On what he calls 'the terrible oath,' that is taken by those who are initiated, and the "frightful or atrocious penalties to which they voluntarily subject themselves if they should violate that oath." And then, 4, quoting the words of our Lord, St. John iii. 20—"For every one that doth evil hateth the light,"—he further infers that an association which thus greatly fears the light of day must be impious and wicked. Next, in virtue of his office as chief bishop of the church, he condemns the association for these reasons, as it had been condemned before; that is, for teaching what is contrary to divinely revealed truth, as hostile to Christianity, to the peace of the Church, and dangerous to the safety of kingdoms. Finally, he invites the thoughtless or unguarded who have been incautiously drawn into these associations to separate themselves from them, and warns and cautions unthinking persons and youths lest they be drawn into these associations or brotherhoods by the semblance of harmlessness which they profess externally, or by the pretext that he was indifferent to them or that he approved of them if he were silent in their condemnation.

"This appears to me to be a very clear accounting for the motive which you say it is always difficult to understand. The motive is here clearly assigned in an official and public document, that is little more than eight years old. It appeared at the time in many newspapers, and it would seem that all that is wanted in order to satisfy anyone is to know whether the reasons assigned are or are not well founded. I am confident that all reasonable men would approve the condemnation of such principles. Now, you yourself admit some of these imputations; for instance, those to which the Pope applies the words of our Lord, namely, the terrible oath and the frightful penalties; for you admit that every Freemason is well known to be bound by solemn and fearful obligations to keep the secret of his Order. I find this solemn and fearful obligation described thus by one author:—"The candidate then swears that rather than betray the secret he consents to have his head cut off, his heart and entrails torn out, and his ashes cast before the wind. I believe it is pretty well known that the Freemasonry of the Continent has existed in its present form only from about the beginning of the last century. Its principles were speedily condemned, between 1730 and 1749, by Pope Clement XII.; and I feel sure that if these principles be justly assigned you would join in condemnation of them, as, admitting your own words, supposing Freemasonry to be a system of morality veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols, that may be traced back to the institutions of Pythagoras or some other Pagan fountain, you cannot be surprised that the chief bishop of the Christian Church should raise his voice against this Pagan innovation.

"I am, &c.

"LAW. CANON TOOLE.

"February 17, 1874."

We have no fault "in initio," to find with the manner and matter of the writer. Unlike many of his co-religionists, and especially some Pastors which we have seen, the writer of the above letter can argue the matter, even from a Roman Catholic point of view, without being abusive of his opponents, without forgetting the common courtesies of social life, and without descending to meaningless vituperation.

The writer bases his explanation of the "antagonism," undoubtedly, as he asserts, existing between the Roman Catholic Church and Freemasons, not only "ex necessitate rei" as he puts it, owing, to their utterly opposed views, and aims, and teaching, but also on the late allocation of Pope Pius IX., founded as, that, allocation no doubt is, on previous "deliverances" of Roman Catholic Pontiffs.

We may note "en passant," that, he by no means reasserts Mr. Cuffe's absurd proposition, that, every Roman Catholic who is a Freemason, ceases to be a Roman Catholic, *ipso facto*, a statement which, if true, would be very hard indeed, because affecting the position of numbers of devout Roman Catholics, but we believe Mr. Cuffe is entirely unwarranted in making such an assertion at all, and only betrays his own ignorance of the canon law of his own Church on the one hand, and his utter indifference to the rights of the Roman Catholic laity on the other.

But the correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* gives us certain "heads or "notes" of the objectionable features of Freemasonry, which as he mentions are referred to in express words by the last Papal rescript.

So we will take them in order:—

1. The first is, "the wicked designs which are debated in their secret meetings." What these wicked designs are, is not stated, but the truth is, they are as mythical as were certain theories or assertions of that respectable and useful assistant of our population returns "Mrs. Harris."

It seems very amusing to us in England, peaceable, loyal, friendly, genial, Freemasons, as we really are, (despite all our little frailties), to hear of "wicked designs" in our secret meetings.

Perhaps one of the strongest arguments against Papal Infallibility comes from the fact of the extraordinary fallibility and gullibility of those who drew up and published such ridiculous asseverations.

If there be anywhere any "wicked designs" planned in a Masonic lodge, which we greatly doubt, certainly we in this country must laugh heartily at such a description by the Roman Pontiff of our very harmless meetings, and of the views of our excellent brethren, who, as a general rule, are the most loyal of citizens, and never require the "surveillance" of the police.

2. The second head of wrong is "their holding all religious doctrines as indifferent and framing or professing a kind of religion which is merely the residuum after the rejection of all doctrines which any of their members may choose to reject."

when he returned and resumed the Lodge, the Board duly proceeded to the consideration of the said matters, and summoned before them the several parties.

The W. Master, Brother Hackwell, delivered up the Warrant and Minute Book of the Lodge.

The complaining Brethren, the W. Master and others, were severally heard at considerable length, and the Board bestowed great trouble and pains to ascertain the state of feeling amongst the Members, and it is with deep regret that the Board feels itself imperatively called upon in the interests of the Craft to report that the antagonistic feelings prevailing amongst the Members of the British Oak Lodge, No. 831, are such that it appears quite certain that the continued existence and assembling of the Lodge cannot possibly be attended with favourable results either to its own welfare or that of the Craft. Under these circumstances the Board, unwillingly but unanimously, recommend that the Lodge be erased and the Warrant declared forfeited.

The Board consider they should not close this Report without stating, for the information of Grand Lodge, that complaints of a very grave character were heard before them from members of this same British Oak Lodge, No. 831, on August 26th, 1873, when, although the Warrant was returned to the W. Master, he and the Brethren were severely reprimanded by the President, and were then informed by him that the Members of the Board had grave doubts as to whether they ought not then to suspend the Lodge, and earnestly cautioned them as to the future.

(Signed) JOHN A. RUCKER,
Vice-President.

Freemason's Hall, London, W.C.,
17th February, 1874.

Bro. A. E. J. McIntyre, Q.C., Grand Registrar, said: It had been resolved by himself and the other members of Grand Lodge that this case should be asked to be adjudicated upon by the Craft of England. It was a case which had not happened for a great many years that such a resolution had been recommended by the Board of General Purposes. The members of Freemasonry were always careful whenever submission had been made by a lodge, where the Master and Wardens were to be censured it was known that they would have an opportunity of explaining their conduct to Grand Lodge. It had always been the custom of Grand Lodge to give them that benefit. He therefore begged to move "that Lodge 831, should be summoned for the next Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge to shew cause why they should not be erased."

Bro. F. Roxburgh, Q.C., seconded the motion, which was put and carried.

Bro. McIntyre—and I beg also to move that until the next Quarterly Communication the suspension of the lodge be continued.

This was also seconded by Bro. Roxburgh, and carried unanimously.

To the Report of the Board of General Purposes was subjoined a statement of the Grand Lodge Accounts at the last meeting of the Finance Committee, held on Friday, the 13th day of February instant, shewing a balance in the hands of the Grand Treasurer of £4,905 11s. 6d; and in the hands of the Grand Secretary, for Petty Cash, £75; and for Servants' Wages, £90 17s.

There being no further business before the Grand Lodge it was then formally closed.

KILMARNOCK.—TORCH LIGHT PROCESSION.—On Friday, Feb. 20, the members of St. Clement Lodge of Masons had a torch light procession. The lodge, preceded by an instrumental band, went through the principal streets to Riccarton, and thence returned to the lodge room in the town. A large crowd followed the novel spectacle.

A Grand Ball will be given by the Domestic lodge (Bro. F. Kent, C.C., W.M.) in aid of the Masonic Charities, on Thursday, April 9th. Full particulars will be duly advertised.

THE RED CROSS OF CONSTANTINE.

ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE GENERAL GRAND CONCLAVE.

On Monday the annual assembly of the General Grand Conclave of the Masonic and Military Order of the Red Cross of Constantine was held at the Regent Masonic Hall, Regent-street. At six o'clock the armed Knights were drawn up in two lines, and shortly afterwards a procession was formed, and Sir Frederick M. Williams, Bart., M.P., entered the room, passing under an arch of steel, whilst Sir Knight Parker played a solemn march on the organ; and, in the absence of the Earl of Bective, the Most Eminent Grand Viceroy, took his seat on the throne. Sir Knight Colonel Burdett, officiated as the Most Eminent Viceroy.

The grand conclave having been opened in Imperial form, Sir Knt. W.R. Woodman, Grand Recorder, read the following report of the Executive Committee for the past year.

"The Executive Committee have much gratification in submitting their Tenth Annual Report, and in congratulating the members of the General Grand Conclave upon the continued progress and prosperity of the Order in all parts of the globe. During the past year twenty-four Conclaves have been established, making a total of 115, chartered by the Grand Imperial Council of England since the revival in 1865. By the organization of independent Grand Councils in the States of Pennsylvania, New York, and Illinois, 30 Conclaves have been removed from the roll; and the Committee have also recently received official notification that a fourth Grand Council was duly organized on the 22nd Dec., 1873, for the conjoined States of Massachusetts and Rhode Island; that Sir Knight Nathaniel G. Tucker was elected Grand Sovereign, and Sir Knight George E. Boyden, Grand Recorder. The post of Representative of the new Grand Council has been very cautiously tendered to Sir Knight Robert Wentworth Little, Grand Treasurer of the Order in the British Empire; but inasmuch as that Officer is already Representative for Pennsylvania, he desires to decline the intended honour, and has recommended that the name of Sir Knight Thomas William White, Grand Assistant Treasurer, be forwarded for the approval of the Grand Sovereign of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, as the Representative of the sister Grand Council in England. In thus holding out the right hand of knightly fellowship to our American fratres, the Committee feel that they simply reflect the sentiments which will actuate every British Knight when he hears the announcement of the spread of the Order in America; still, it is but right to add that, while acknowledging the perfect right of the American Grand Councils to restrict the Red Cross Order to Knights Templar within their own several independent jurisdictions, the Executive Committee, in view of the original Statute of the Order, which recognizes every *Christian Master Mason* as eligible for admission, cannot allow Conclaves duly formed in the United States, in strict accordance with that ancient regulation, and holding charters from England, to be stigmatized as 'spurious' and 'clandestine' because they do not insist upon the Templar qualification, but admit Master Masons professing a belief in the Christian faith. The Committee cherish the hope that the Conclaves referred to—viz., Chicago Conclave, No. 81, and St. George's Conclave, No. 82, Boston, will be regularly recognised by the Grand Councils of their respective States, and be formally admitted under their jurisdiction; after which, as a matter of course, those Conclaves will be bound to conform to the rules adopted by the Supreme Bodies of the Red Cross Order in Illinois and Massachusetts.

"Turning to Great Britain, it is very pleasing to be enabled to note that a large proportion of the Conclaves chartered last year are located in the 'old country;' of these, England counts nine, Scotland one, and Wales no less than four.

"Great credit is especially due to Sir Knights Captain F. G. Irwin, Captain G. Turner, and W. Williams, Intendants General, for the great energy which they have evinced in promoting the spread of the Order in their respective divisions; and the Committee have every reason to believe that in Sir Knight C. G. C. Christie, the recently appointed Intendant General for Midlothian and adjacent counties, the Grand Council has secured the services of an officer who will display equal ability and zeal in the important Scottish Division entrusted to his care; and they feel convinced that he will be worthily supported by the Scottish Knights, whose attachment and fidelity to the ancient landmarks of the Order, have ever been conspicuously exemplified during their connection with the Grand Council of England.

"The Committee beg to report that, in pursuance of the resolution, adopted by the General Grand Conclave in March last, a special Grand Conclave was convened at Leicester, by direction of the Grand Sovereign, on the 21st of October, at which Sir Frederick Martin Williams, Bart., M.P., who has held the office of Grand Viceroy since 1866, was nominated as Grand Sovereign in succession to the Earl of Bective, M.P., whose term of office expires at this meeting, in accordance with the Statutes (No. 5.) As the minutes of the moveable Grand Conclave will be duly published, the Committee need only add that the arrangements made for the reception of the Grand Council and Senate by the Leicester Knights, under their esteemed Intendant General, Sir Knight W. Kelly, and the M.P.S. of the Byzantine Conclave, No. 44, Sir Knight S. S. Partridge, K.G.C., were so admirable as to merit and elicit the warmest thanks of the presiding Officer, Colonel Burdett, G.S.G., and the Illustrious Knights who accompanied him.

"The Committee regret to state that the Order in India, and particularly in Bombay, has suffered a severe loss by the return to Europe of Sir Knight J. Percy Leith, Chief Intendant General, whose assiduous labours in the cause are so well known; consequently, little progress can be recorded in the East; they trust, however, that Sir Knight Leith will continue to give the benefit of his assistance to the Order at home.

"A Charter for the Diamond Fields, South Africa, has been issued to Sir Knight R. W. H. Giddy, Treasurer General of the Colony, who entered the Bective Conclave, No. 2A, during his stay in England. An application for a Provincial Grand Conclave has been received from New Zealand, where the Order is rapidly extending, under Sir Knight Dr. Bulmer's sway, and the Committee will recommend the Grand Sovereign to comply with the request of the applicants.

"The Accounts of the Grand Treasurer were audited on the 14th October, and showed balances on the General Account of £33 5s; the G. H. Almoner's Fund of £84 17s. 2d.; and the Suspense Fund, of £19 1s., making a total of £137 3s. 2d.

"Three donations have been granted from the Almoner's Fund—viz., ten guineas each, to the Royal Masonic Institutions for Boys and Girls, and ten pounds to the Fund, raised for the benefit of the widow of the late V. E. Sir Knight Rev. N. Haycroft, D.D., G. Standard Bearer, whose decease was recorded with regret in the last report of the Committee.

"February 25th, 1874."

The reading of this report gave the highest satisfaction, and it was unanimously adopted.

Sir Knt. Little said the next business before the Conclave was to elect a Grand Sovereign, in the place of the Earl of Bective, whose period of office had expired.

Sir Knt. Colonel Burdett said: he rose with pleasure to propose that Sir Frederick M. Williams, Bart., M.P., their present Most

Eminent Viceroy, should be elected Grand Sovereign for three years, in the place of the Earl of Bective whose period of office had expired: and from what he knew of Sir Frederick M. Williams, he was sure that he would feel gratified in coming amongst them when he could spare time from his other duties, to enable him to do so. He felt assured that he would do the utmost in his power to promote the interests of every member present, and the order in general.

Sir Knt. Lavender seconded the motion which was put and unanimously carried, amidst cheering.

Sir Knt. Colonel Burdett said: he had great pleasure in communicating officially to Sir Frederick Williams that he had been unanimously elected Grand Sovereign for the next three years.

The Grand Sovereign said he most cordially thanked the Sir Knts. for his election, although he could not hope to discharge the duties in the same able manner as had been done by the Earl of Bective, but he could assure them that nothing should be wanting on his part to promote the prosperity of the order. He did not know whether he should be able to preside at all their meetings, and as he lived nearly 300 miles off, if he was occasionally absent, he must ask for their indulgence, (cheers).

The Acting Grand Marshal then required all the Sir Knts. who were not members of the order of St. John to retire, which having been done, the ceremony of enthronement was proceeded with. The Grand High Chancellor then administered the oath of fidelity.

His Eminence the Acting Grand Viceroy (Col. Burdett), then invested the Grand Sovereign with the crimson robe of state. The Grand High Prelate then handed to him the sceptre, and the Grand Chamberlain presented him with the sword of state.

The Grand Council and other officers then advanced to the altar, and severally vowed faithfully to discharge the duties of their respective offices, and the Grand Heralds proclaimed the Grand Sovereign by his style and titles.

The whole body of Knights then formed into line, and marched past the Sovereign's throne, with banners displayed and swords drawn saluting as they passed; and while this was taking place, Sir Knt. Parker, the Grand Organist played a march on the organ. The Grand High Prelate then pronounced the blessing, and with an anthem the ceremony of enthronement was brought to a close.

Sir Knt. Little then rose and said: that in accordance with the notice he had given in October last, he had great pleasure in moving that a vote of thanks should be given to their late illustrious Sovereign, the Earl of Bective, for the services he had rendered to the Order for the last seven years in promoting its welfare. At the revival of it a few years ago, had not the Earl of Bective and Sir Frederick Williams then rallied round them, they should not have arrived at their present prosperity, and without their vigorous help they never could have come to that state of perfection which they now enjoyed. He regretted that they were about to lose the services of the Earl of Bective, but at the same time they had elevated another old worker in the cause, and one who took an early interest in the Order. He moved that a vote of thanks be engrossed on vellum, and presented to the Earl of Bective.

Sir Knt. Colonel Burdett said, he had great pleasure in seconding the proposition made by Sir Knt. Little. They all knew

what the Earl of Bective had done for the Order, for he was always most anxious to assist it in every way in his power, and although he had retired from the head of it, yet, when it lay in his power he would again come amongst them. He had therefore great pleasure in seconding the proposition.

The Grand Sovereign said: he could fully endorse all that had fallen from the proposer and seconder of the motion, for he was sure that no one had taken a greater interest in promoting the prosperity of the Order than the Earl of Bective, and he was also sure that his Lordship would continue to do so.

The motion was then put and unanimously agreed to.

The Conclave was then closed in imperial form and with solemn prayer.

THE BANQUET.

The Grand Sovereign, Officers and Knights, then adjourned to the refectory, where a bountiful repast was provided.

At its conclusion grace was sung by the professional singers, and afterwards "God, Save the Queen." The solo parts by Miss L'Estrange, accompanied by Sir Knt. Parker on the piano-forte.

The Grand Sovereign then rose and said, that the next toast he had to propose he was sure would be received with a hearty welcome, as it was the health of "Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family." It was true that the Prince of Wales was not a member of their order, but still he always felt a deep interest in all that concerned the welfare of Freemasonry. It was therefore with great pleasure that he proposed the health of "Their Royal Highnesses, the Prince and Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family."

The toast was most enthusiastically responded to.

Sir Knt. Col. Burdett said: he was allowed to propose a toast, which he was confident would be received with enthusiasm in that assembly, although he could hardly do so in appropriate terms. However, he would not trespass on their time, and the toast he had to propose was, "the health of the Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign, Sir Frederick M. Williams, Bart, M.P." (Loud and continued applause). He was perfectly aware when he rose to propose the toast, that it would be received in an enthusiastic manner, and he felt sure that they would never regret the day or the hour when they elected him as their Grand Sovereign. (Renewed cheering). They were aware that as he was a member of Parliament, there were considerable calls upon his time, and they knew how he had discharged his duties, in a manner which perfectly satisfied his Constituents; but now in addition he would be called upon to perform additional duties to the Constituents he had then around him. Sir Fred. M. Williams was not only a friend of the Order, but for a considerable time he had held a high position under the Earl of Bective, their late Grand Sovereign, and he felt sure they would never regret the still higher position in which they had placed him. He gave them the health of Sir Frederick M. Williams, their Illustrious Sovereign, and with a good fire.

The toast was enthusiastically responded to.

Bro. Elmore then sang "Thou art so near and yet so far," in his best style, and for which he received loud and continued applause.

The Grand Sovereign said: he had to thank Colonel Burdett for the manner in which he had proposed his health, and the

Sir Knights for having so kindly responded to it, and he must say, that he was extremely proud of the high position in which they had placed him. He had always felt a great interest in the Order, and he sincerely hoped that the Order might still continue to prosper. Colonel Burdett had been pleased to speak of him in very gratifying terms in conjunction with his predecessors, but he was not sure that he deserved all he had said of him. All he could say, was, that he took a deep interest in Freemasonry, and he felt that he had been most fortunate in obtaining such a high position in the Craft. He had received their confidence in the past, and he hoped and trusted that he should deserve it in the future. Before he sat down he had briefly to propose a toast, which he was sure would be most cordially received by all, and the nature of the toast itself, would render it unnecessary for him to make a long speech, as it was the "Health of the Past Grand Sovereign, the Earl of Bective," and he had no doubt that such a toast would be received in the way it deserved. He had left them, but he would often be amongst them, as he took the same interest in the Order as he had always done, and he concluded by proposing his health.

The toast was drunk most cordially. Song, Miss L'Estrange, "I love my love."

The Grand Sovereign said: the next toast he had to propose, was the health of one known to them all. When he mentioned the name of the Eminent Viceroy, Colonel Burdett, (loud cheers) he knew the mention of that name would be received with hearty cheering. From the position which Colonel Burdett occupied in Freemasonry, he was known to them all, and in appointing him to be his Viceroy, he should have the assistance of a very valuable friend, and therefore he had great pleasure in proposing the health of Colonel Burdett. (Cheers).

Song, Sir Knt. Parker, "The Red Cross." Words by Sir Knt. Little.

Sir Knt. Col. Burdett said: he believed a man must have nerves of steel adequately to reply to a toast which had been proposed and responded to with such cordiality; and as he did not possess such excessively strong feelings, he could hardly express his thanks for the toast which the Illustrious Sovereign had just proposed. It had given him great pleasure to be present that evening, if he could be of any benefit to the Order, but he felt a greater pleasure in accepting the office which had been conferred upon him that evening by their Illustrious Sovereign, and he hoped that it would be acceptable to every member of the Order. He felt indebted to the members of the order for the position he then occupied. It had been said that there was no locality at present without its lodges, but he would say, that no locality would be perfect without its Red Cross Conclave. Having alluded to circumstances which kept some members of the Craft from them, and the extension of this Order in India, America, and Canada. He thanked them for the kind manner in which the toast had been received, and expressed his desire to use every exertion to promote not only the prosperity of this Order, but every other connected with the Craft.

The Grand Sovereign then gave "The past and present members of the Grand Council," and coupled with it the names of Sir Knight Little. (Loud cheering). He would venture to say, that there was not a lodge or province in the kingdom, where the name of Sir Knt. Little was not known,

for there was no brother in the Kingdom who had rendered more assistance to Freemasonry than Brother Little. He believed that through his untiring exertions, this order had been restored, and he therefore had great pleasure in proposing the past and present members of the Grand Council. (Enthusiastic cheering).

Sir Knt. Little, in responding, said he should adopt the salutary rule which had been laid down by making as brief a speech as he could in responding to the toast which had been coupled with his name, and on behalf of those who had borne the heat and burden of the day. This Order had been but recently revived, but they put their shoulders to the wheel, and they saw the state of prosperity to which it had now arrived. They must excuse him if he was a little egotistical when he said he might congratulate himself upon the position at which it had now arrived. From the mustard seed had come the enormous results they had heard from Sir Knt. Woodman, for 116 conclaves had been established in about eight years, which was an event that spoke volumes for the Order and Masonry in general. He was satisfied that the more they rallied round the Red Cross Order the more they would find that it embodied and carried out all those precepts which were taught in Freemasonry. It was to him (Sir Knt. Little) a great pleasure to congratulate Sir Frederick Williams on that day becoming the Sovereign of the order, and he was satisfied that the more that he saw of the order the more he would appreciate the high position in which he was placed. The order had extended to India, America, Canada, and wherever the English language was spoken, and he trusted to see it further extended and multiplied in every part of the world until time should be no more. (Cheers.)

The Grand Sovereign gave "The Illustrious Intendants General of the Order," coupling with the toast the name of Sir Knight Percy Leith.

Song, Bro. Elmore, "As I'd nothing else to do."

Sir Knt. Percy Leith said: he rose with particular gratification to return thanks for coupling his name with the Intendants General of the order, and he felt flattered that his name should have been so coupled when he saw so many distinguished members of the order who knew more about it than he did. He had seen how it was carried out in England, and he hoped to do better when he returned to India.

The Grand Sovereign proposed "The Very Eminent Grand Preceptor and the rest of the Grand Senate."

Sir Knight White returned thanks, and said although there had been a general shift he hoped that in a short time they should shake down and all would go on in a satisfactory manner.

"The Sovereigns and Viceroys of the several Conclaves" for which Sir Knight Moss returned thanks.

The Grand Sovereign gave "The Board of Stewards and Prosperity to the Order," for which Sir Knight Woodman responded.

The Sentinel's toast brought the proceedings to a close, which throughout had been marked with unanimity and the utmost cordiality and harmony.

The Thames Valley Lodge, No. 1450, was consecrated at the Ship Hotel, Shepperton, on Saturday, the 28th instant, at half-past 3 o'clock, p.m., precisely, by the Provincial Grand Secretary, assisted by W. Bro. T. W. White, G. Steward of England as D.C.

FREEMASONRY IN NORTH WALES.

CONSECRATION OF A LODGE AT MOLD.

(From our Special Reporter in Liverpool.)

Within the last few years Freemasonry has progressed in a remarkable degree in the Principality, and nowhere more than in the combined province of North Wales and Shropshire, governed by Bro. Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart., M.P., the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master. This vitality was clearly evinced on Thursday, the 26th ult., by a very large and most influential gathering at the County Hall, Mold, when and where the consecration took place of the "Sir Watkin" Lodge, No. 1,477—named after the popular head of the province—will supply a want hitherto felt in the prosperous assize town of Mold. Up to this time there has been no lodge in the place, and as about 20 brethren of influence have already enrolled themselves under the "Sir Watkin" banner there is every reason to anticipate that it will be highly successful as well as a great convenience to those to whom Masonry is not a mere name, but a bond of true brotherhood. The announcement that the consecration proceedings would be graced by the presence of Bro. Sir Watkin W. Wynn was in itself sufficient to guarantee a large attendance, and, therefore, it was no matter for wonder that brethren attended from nearly every part of the extensive province, taxing the capacity of the hall in which the ceremony took place to its utmost. The weather from early morning was about as unpleasant as a strong wind, incessant rain, and cutting cold could make it, but even with this to detract from the pleasure of the "out" at Mold, there was a strong contingent of brethren from distant places—even from Birkenhead "the city of the (very distant) future." The imposing array of the brethren was thus not only a satisfactory feature of the day's proceedings to the brethren who had had all the hard work of organisation, but a worthy honour to the lodge which bore the honoured household name of "Sir Watkin," whose zeal for Masonry is so well known and greatly valued. It is worthy of note that, during the last few years consecrations have taken place at Wrexham, Bala, Carnarvon, and other places in the Principality, but in none of these places has any lodge been opened with greater éclat than that which formed the centre of attraction on this occasion, at which were present representatives from the provinces of West Lancashire, Cheshire, Herefordshire, South Wales, &c. Amongst the most distinguished of the brethren present were Bros. Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart., M.P., P.G.M.; Dr. J. W. J. Goldsborough, P.P.G.S.W.; W. H. Spaul, P.G. Secretary; John Peters, P.G.S.D.; George Broadbridge, P.P.G.D.C., West Lancashire; and J. B. Boucher, P.G.O. Amongst the visitors were Bros. D. Thomas, P.M. 721; Edward Friend, P.P.J.G.D. Cheshire; T. P. Platt, P.P.S.G.W. Cheshire; Charles Dutton, P.S.G.W., Cheshire; W. Taylor, 425; John Hannah, J. W. 721; Leigh Howell, 425; Thomas L. Cottingham, 425; Thomas Knowles, 721; J. M. Radcliffe, P.M. 605; Edward Jones, J.D., 605; M. M'Nerney, J.W. 605; John Hughes, 1580; E. E. Sellar, 721; William Wasley, 721; J. C. Davis, 721; W. H. Warner, P.M. 120, P.P.G.W. Herefordshire; J. N. Davis, 721; Ellis Davies, W.M. 605; John Dennis, W.M. 721; J. S. Lloyd, J.W. 597; W. Scott, P.M. 102; D. C. Jones, 721; J. C. Denton, 425; Dr. S. Spratley, S.G.D. Cheshire; Francis Smith, P.M., 201; John Williams, 421; R. W. Worrall, P.M., 721; J. S. Gerrard, P.P.J.D. Cheshire; Edward Mellon, P.M., 597; J. S. Pierce, S.W. 597; David W. Davies, 721; J. Sydney Dawell, P.M. 108; George Boydell, 425; W. Price, 1126; Thomas M. Lockwood, J.D. 425; J. B. Mackenzie, 1182 and 349; J. S. Pye, 425; F. W. Best, P.M. 704; R. J. Sisson, W.M. 1143, Denbigh; T. Sleight, J.W. 1143; W. D. Holbrook, 1120; George Tibbitts, P.M. 721; James Knox, I.G. 425; John M'Hattie, J.W. 425; E. Sutton, Jones, J.S. 1143. Amongst the members of the new lodge present were Bros. J. S. Salmon, P.M. 425,

W.M. designate; A. J. Brereton, John E. Birch, C. J. Trevor, — Roper, T. Shimmin, D. Edwards, Rowland Morgan, S. Beresford, Algerdon Potts, John Williams, William Jones, J. D. Rowlands, R. Roberts, John Lear, A. F. Jones, J. L. Williams, A. J. Barrett, and Albert G. Smith.

The brethren assembled in the anteroom shortly after three o'clock, and, having clothed, entered the lodge, held in the grand jury room, when the craft lodge was duly and solemnly opened in the three degrees by Bro. R. W. Worrall, P.M. 721; Bro. D. Thomas, P.M. 721, acting as S.W.; and Bro. J. Dennis, W.M. 721, acting as J.W., the brethren of the new lodge being ranged in proper order, the Provincial Grand Lodge of North Wales and Shropshire, the most distinguished representatives being Bro. Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart., M.P., R.W.P.G.M., entered the lodge room, and when the P.G.M. had taken his seat on the throne the usual honours were given. Bro. George Broadbridge, P.P.G.D.C., West Lancashire, acted as M.C. at the reception, as well as during the whole of the ceremony, and the manner in which he fulfilled his duties elicited general admiration.

The R.W.P.G.M. then opened the Provincial Grand Lodge, Bro. C. Dutton, P.S.G.W., Cheshire, acting as S.G.W.; Bro. E. Friend, P.P.J.G.D., Cheshire, acting as J.G.W.; and Bro. J. P. Platt, P.P.S.G.W., acting as P.G. Pursuivant.

Bro. Sir W. W. Wynn, P.G.M., as presiding officer, addressed the brethren, and said they were met together to consecrate that lodge at Mold. He had a strong hope that, from the manner in which it had been inaugurated, and the spirit displayed by all the brethren, it would prove an honour to Masonry and a great good to the order generally. After Bro. Spaul, P.G. Sec. for the province of North Wales and Shropshire, had read the petition and warrant of constitution of the new lodge, Bro. Dr. J. W. J. Goldsborough, P.P.G.S.W., proceeded to consecrate the lodge in solemn form, according to the approved ritual. The R.W.P.G.M., as presiding officer, then inquired of the brethren if they approved of the officers named in the warrant, and this having been signified unanimously, a solemn piece of music was sung. The consecration ceremony was then proceeded with in a most effective manner, Bro. Dr. Spratley, P.G.S.D., Cheshire, bearing the corn; Bro. Sisson, W.M. 1143, carrying the wine; Bro. G. Broadbridge, P.P.G.D.C., W.L., the oil; and Bro. the Rev. D. Edwards, senior curate of Mold, the censor. The musical portion of the ceremony was rendered with impressive effect by Bro. Halliday, 721 (presiding also as organist); Bro. Conway, 425; Bro. J. Knowles, 721; and Bro. T. J. Hughes, 216 (Liverpool). Himmell's anthem, "Incline thine ear," was given with splendid effect by the musical brethren, Bro. T. J. Hughes' solo being especially noticeable.

The position of installing master was then taken by Bro. J. P. Platt, P.P.S.G.W., Cheshire, and he proceeded to induct Bro. J. Salmon into the chair of the W.M., with all the ceremonial peculiar to the occasion. After a board of installed masters had been held, and the brethren generally had saluted in the several degrees, the following officers were invested for the ensuing year:—Bros. A. J. Brereton, S.W.; J. Corbett, J.W.; Rev. D. Edwards, chaplain; R. W. Lewis, treasurer; J. Beresford, secretary; A. Potts, S.D.; J. Williams, J.D., and J. E. Birch, I.G. Bro. J. Williams was unanimously elected tyler of the lodge. After the investiture of the officers, the newly-installed W.M. proposed a vote of thanks to Bro. Sir Watkin W. Wynn, P.G.M., for his great kindness in attending the consecration that day. The motion, which was seconded by the S.W., was carried by acclamation. The R.W.P.G.M., in acknowledging the compliment, expressed a hearty desire for the prosperity of Lodge 1477.—Votes of thanks were also cordially passed to Bro. Dr. Goldsborough (consecrating officer) and Bro. Platt, (installing master), who were elected honorary members of the new lodge.

(To be continued in our next.)

Now this, though very fine writing, is simply in truth, an utter absurdity. Freemasons do not hold all religious doctrines as indifferent, neither do they frame a useless kind of religion, which merely is the "residuum," after all religious doctrines are rejected, which any of the members "may choose to reject." Freemasonry has taken up, as it appears to us—a very simple, and a very consistent position.

It is a great philanthropic sodality, based on the one great truth of the acceptance of the one Universal Father and Creator of mankind.

Were Freemasons, as in times of old, to limit their reception of members to those professing Christianity, they must shut out at once all who are not Christians.

But keeping before their memory ever the fact startling in itself, that, Jewish and Tyrian Masons (who were idolators), worked together at the building of the Temple, Freemasonry since the beginning of the century, has undoubtedly been, universal and cosmopolitan, embracing in her wide fold all who acknowledge the one great Creator, Benefactor, and Preserver of all men.

This view is not palatable to many, and we do not deny that the Roman Catholic Church, has a right, to say to the members of their church, "such a view is opposed to the teaching of the Roman Catholic Church, and if you uphold it, you must leave us." But what the Church of Rome has no right to do, is, to anathematize all who are Freemasons, and then refuse, simply on the "obiter dictum" of some foolish person like Mr. Cuffe, to bury a devout Roman Catholic who happens to be a Freemason. Indeed, in our opinion, if the Roman Church were enlightened, which she won't be, and tolerant, which she never is, she would leave the Freemasons alone, and allow them to go on their way, without "let or hindrance," intent as they truly are alone on their kindly labours of peace and goodwill.

The Masonic Body everywhere repudiates, with indignation, the name of "Infidels," and "Illuminés," and "Socialists," all views and teaching most contrary to their "formulæ" of simple moral duty and obedience, but they will never surrender their great characteristic "toleration," which leads them ever to avoid the narrow limits of national differences, and even the "arena" of religious contentions, and to regard all men as brethren of the dust.

Indifferent to religion they certainly are not, and never have been, and never will be, but most opposed they always will be found, to the intolerance of sectarianism, and the virulence of controversy, and resolute in their protest against, and their resistance to unholy "anathemas," and debasing persecution.

The next point of objection is what the Roman Catholic champion calls the "terrible oath," and the "frightful or atrocious penalties," which belong to the "Masonic profession of membership," and "rules of association."

Upon this point as the writer of the Allocution, knows evidently very little, we mean to say less, as we are of opinion that we, as Freemasons, are perfectly competent to manage our

own affairs, and practice our own ceremonies, and that we neither require, nor do we need any opinion on the subject from the unenlightened outer world. Another point is our "Secrecy," and the popular fallacy that, because our proceedings are "secret" they must therefore be *ipso facto* bad.

We need hardly point out the illogical argument thus made use of, to demonstrate that the result of the Papal assertion is simply a case of "non sequitive."

Time was, for instance, in the history of Christianity, when the "disciplina arcani" was "secret." Was it therefore, in consequence, bad?

Time was, when the "mensa mystica" was zealously guarded against the eyes and even the knowledge of the profane. Was it therefore necessarily wrong? Secrecy may as a rule be objectionable as regards the association of persons for some unknown end. Secrecy may be objected to by the state, especially if the state has reason to believe that such secrecy is a veil for seditious practices or treasonable councils. But the laws of this country allow expressly the Masonic body to meet together, though they are in one respect a secret order, and we contend that we have nothing to do with any other law-giver, and we utterly repudiate the right of a spiritual authority, above all, to interfere with our undoubted right as English citizens.

As, therefore, theoretically the argument is bad, practically the secrecy of Freemasonry is alike harmless and defensible. The last point contains a sweeping accusation indeed, which, if true, ought to settle the question, now and for ever.

Freemasonry is said to teach what is contrary to divinely revealed truth; to be "hostile to Christianity," and "to the peace of the Church" and "dangerous to the safety of kingdoms."

We have already pointed out how utterly unfounded is the charge that Freemasonry and Freemasons are "indifferent" to "religion" and certainly they teach nothing "contrary to divinely revealed truth," nor are they ever "hostile to Christianity," or "to the peace of the Church."

It is undoubtedly true, as we have previously stated, that, whether rightly or wrongly Freemasonry does endorse and embrace a wide platform on which its members can act together.

But though to some it may seem to be "without religion," and to others even to antagonize the received dogmas of Christianity, yet it is by no means the intention or the consequence of the attitude which, as Freemasons, we take as regards the great truths of Christian doctrine and discipleship.

All that we do, (we may be wrong in doing so, but we are inclined to think we are right), all that we do or say is, we do not concern ourselves with denominational differences and special controversies.

Indeed, were we to do so, our utility and our existence must soon cease! We therefore are friendly to all, hostile to none, glad to aid all in common works of good will and sympathy, not interfering with other people's consciences or acting as the inquisition of old; but we leave every

one of our members to stand or fall to his own Maker and Judge.

We do not indeed allow the open atheist or the avowed libertine to be welcomed into our Order, but beyond this our interference ceases—and tolerating others, we ask only for toleration ourselves.

As regards the ridiculous charge that Freemasonry is "dangerous to the safety of kingdoms," in England the assertion is too absurd to need refutation, as no more orderly, peaceable, or loyal body of men exists anywhere, we make bold to say, than our "brethren in Freemasonry."

That in some foreign countries, Freemasonry and political societies may have banded together, we do not deny, but we in Great Britain have always openly regretted, and as openly repudiated any such alliance.

One more charge is made against us, namely, that our "morality," such as it is, "may be traced back to the institutions of Pythagoras or some other Pagan fountain."

A more mistaken theory never was propounded.

Our Masonic Morality is built up solely and simply on the "divine law," delivered on Mount Sinai, and still as binding now as when it was first miraculously given to Moses and though it may "be veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols," it is both simple and truthful, because based upon the inspired Word of God. Surely then the time has arrived when any unworthy jealousy or unwise persecution of Freemasons should come to an end.

We live in an age of great toleration and greater cultivation, and without laying too much stress upon the latter, we would say this, that in most cases the feelings of the age in which we live are right, as the product alike of the individual, and the aggregate conviction. Even the able defender of his church, who claims for his infallible Pontiff a right to condemn Freemasonry, must feel, we think, that the days of anathemas interdicts, and excommunications are over; that the Sword of St. Dominic is sheathed for ever, that the fires of the Inquisition can be kindled no more.

No, thank God, with all our faults, we in this free, and happy England, at any rate, having rejected the intolerance of the part, and the "odium, theologicum" of controversy, are only anxious, nay resolved, to stand fast in the golden liberty of peace and toleration, of charity and consideration, of fraternal sympathy, and fraternal goodwill, as the members one and all of the great family of the human race.

We do not quarrel with those who earnestly contend for the faith they prize, the denomination which they love. All honour to the faithful and true of all religious bodies, but, we do ask once for all, that, we as Freemasons may be left alone by those who have no province to interfere with our proceedings, or to anathematise our principles, left alone to enjoy our undoubted right as peaceable and loyal English citizens, left alone to proclaim to others in all of genuine gentleness and love, our unchanged and unchanging principles, as Freemasons, of "Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth."

THE MASONIC CHARITIES.

By a misprint "Walker" was substituted for "Watson" in our first leader the week before last, for which we apologise to Bro. Henry Watson. Bro. Binckes' able letter which appeared in our last impression, does not touch the main point we were anxious to impress upon our readers, upon himself and his brother Secretaries.

What we were desirous to call attention to, was the systematic advertisement by the charities themselves of their annual meetings, their committee meetings, their festivals, their elections, and the results of their elections.

We have casual advertisements, it is true now, and then, probably, of all the three charities, but no general rule or regular system of advertisement. If one charity does advertise this time, another charity does not, and if one result is announced by one institution, another is not by another, and so vice versa.

Hence the Craft as a body are practically in ignorance of the current business, of these our most interesting representatives, and they suffer exceedingly.

For it is one thing for the "Stewards" of the festival to advertise the festival, and it is quite good one for the Charities to advertise their own and proper proceedings! If there were no advertisements at all, though we might doubt the policy, we should have no "casus querimonie" but as the charities do advertise, all we ask is, that, whatever they do for non-Masonic papers, we may fairly receive a few "crumbs" as a brother "Freemason."

A large portion of the Craft never sees the *Times* or other London papers, and though it is true that on the principle of the largest circulation, probably, the *Times* is the paper for such advertisement, yet Bro. Binckes and his brother Secretaries should remember, that, the object of advertising at all is not to announce the fact to the non-Masonic public, but to obtain regular and liberal support from our own Order. Bro. J. H. Coates's letter in our last issue is entirely to the point, and he has put, in his own way, what we have before contended, that, what is wanted is more systematic support, be it large or little, from every lodge. At this moment a few zealous brethren and a few active lodges support practically, our great charities.

We think Bro. Coates's suggestion is a very good one for lodge subscriptions of small sums, which will enable them to benefit the charities and to obtain a perpetual vote or votes for the W.M., or some other officer of the lodge.

We thank Bro. Binckes once more, for his friendly and fraternal letter, and trust, that, every success may attend his praiseworthy efforts, on behalf of that excellent institution, of which he is the valued Secretary, while we shall hope in due time to chronicle an equally successful result for the efforts of Bro. R. W. Little, as Secretary for the Girls' School.

WEEKLY SUMMARY.

Her Majesty has returned to Windsor Castle, after a short visit in London of two days last week, and having holden a drawing-room on Thursday last at Buckingham Palace.

Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales are expected to pass through Dover for London, on their return journey from Russia, on Thursday next, the 5th.

According to the latest arrangements, the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh will leave St. Petersburg on the morning of the 28th ult. on their journey to England, and arrive at Berlin at midday on the 2d inst. They will remain there until Tuesday evening, when they will leave for Cologne in company with the Duke and Duchess of Flanders, and will arrive at that city on Wednesday morning. In the afternoon the Royal party will leave Cologne for Brussels, and arrive there about 9 in the evening. Their Royal Highnesses will remain at the Belgian capital the whole of Thursday and up to the afternoon of the following day, when they will leave for Ostend, cross the Straits in the Royal yacht *Alberta*, and disembark at Gravesend. The arrival at Gravesend is fixed for 9 o'clock in the morning of the 7th of March, and the Duke and Duchess will proceed direct to Waterloo station, and thence to Windsor. The Royal couple are expected to arrive at Windsor about 1 o'clock, and their Royal Highnesses will be received on the platform by members of the Royal Family and the Mayor and Corporation of the borough. Their Royal Highnesses will be escorted through the town to the Castle by a detachment of Life Guards, and a guard of honour formed by a detachment of Foot Guards will also be present. The *cortège* will proceed from the station through the town, and enter the Castle by the gateway facing the Long Walk. The Queen will receive the Royal couple on their arrival at the Castle, and the visit is expected to extend until the 12th. Their Royal Highnesses will then take up their residence at Buckingham Palace, where they will receive the various congratulatory addresses and remain until the close of the London season. Her Majesty the Queen will accompany their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh on their public entry into London on the 12th proximo. The route will be from the Great Western Railway Station along London-street, Grand Junction-road, Edgware-road, Oxford-street, Regent-street, and Waterloo-place, to Buckingham Palace. On or about the 7th of October, their Royal Highnesses will take up their residence at Clarence House, the alterations of which are being rapidly pushed forward, and which will by that time be ready for their reception. On the 14th of next month a grand performance will be given at the Albert Hall, when Her Majesty the Queen, the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, and several other members of the Royal Family are expected to be present. A magnificent service of gold plate is about to be presented to the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh. It is for twenty-four persons, and includes a centre-piece, four candelabra, to hold twenty-two candles, a pair of claret-pitchers, a pair of sugar-vases, two large oval and four round fruit stands, twelve figured salt-cellars, and a loving cup; but its most striking feature is a large epergne, bearing the following inscription on its hexagonal plateau:—"Presented to H.I.H. the Grand Duchess Marie Alexandrovna of Russia, on her marriage with Captain his Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, R.N., K.G., by the officers of the Royal Navy and Royal Marines."

While driving to the deanery at Oxford on Thursday afternoon, Prince Leopold's horse fell in turning a sharp corner leading into Oriel-street, but his Royal Highness received no injury beyond a severe shaking. It is expected that on Saturday evening, March 7, after the arrival of the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh at Windsor Castle, all the members of the Royal family who may be in England will assemble at a private dinner party with Her Majesty. On the following Monday a grand State banquet will be given by Her Majesty in St. George's Hall, in honour of the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, at which there will be about 150 guests. Her Majesty's private band and the band of one of the regiments of Guards will, it is expected, be present and play during the banquet. During the stay of the Duke and Duchess there will be great festivities at the Castle. The Great Western

and the London and South-Western Railway Companies will run special trains to and from Windsor on Saturday, and there will probably be a large influx of visitors on the occasion. Great and loyal preparations are being made at Gravesend for the reception of the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh on the 7th March, 120 young ladies, all very good-looking, have been selected to act as flower-strewers, and are going through a preparatory drill.

H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge presided at a numerous meeting of the Governors of King's College last week with great ability and tact, and a resolution was passed to submit the questions in dispute between the House Committee and St. John's Hospital to the arbitration of two persons. It is said that those eminent statesmen, Lord Selborne and Lord Hatherley, (both by the way Wykehamists,) are to be arbitrators. Let us hope that their arbitration will result in the continuance of the present system of good and skilful nursing.

The appointments to the new ministry are nearly complete. It is understood that the Duke of Abercorn returns to Ireland, Col. Wilson Patten is to be raised to the peerage. Sir Henry Barkly, Governor of the Cape, and Sir John P. Grant, late Governor of Jamaica, have been appointed Grand Cross of the Order of St. M. and St. G.; the Marquis of Normanby Governor of Queensland; Sir Alfred Stephen, late Chief Justice of New South Wales; Sir James M'Culloch, formerly First Minister of Victoria; Mr. John O'Shanassay, also formerly First Minister of Victoria; and Mr. John Scott, late Governor of British Guiana, have been appointed Knights Commanders; and Mr. George Berkerly, Governor of the West African Settlements; Major Robert M. Mundy, Governor of British Honduras; Mr. W. W. Cairns, Governor of Trinidad; Mr. Henry T. Irving, Governor of the Leeward Islands; and Mr. W. H. Rennie, Governor of St. Vincent, have been appointed Companions of the Order.

Mr. E. Herslet, Librarian and Keeper of State Papers at the Foreign-office, Mr. J. Milton, Accountant-General of the Army, and Mr. Reginald Earle Welby, Principal Financial Clerk in the Treasury, have been appointed Civil C.C.'s

Mr. Crum-Ewing, late, M.P. for Paisley, is to be Lord-Lieutenant of Dumbartonshire.

It is understood that Mr. Cardwell, will not surrender the name by which he has been so long and honourably known in the House of Commons, but will sit in the House of Peers under the title of Viscount Cardwell of Ellerbeck.

Mr. Cross has appointed Mr. Kynvett, as his private Secretary at the Home office.

The Castro trial is over, and the great impostor and imposture are at last unmasked and condemned. The sympathy of the English people for the matter had been generally we think, misunderstood. A great amount of it certainly arose from that love of fair play, and English good feeling to the troubled and friendless and persecuted and wronged, so creditable to our nation. Now that it is clear that their sympathy and kindness have been utterly misplaced, all feel, that not only ought Mr. Orton to be punished, but that it is a great pity he can't get a little more. From first to last, chicanery, imposture, fraud, and lying have marked the progress of the case, but at last the stern voice of justice has been heard and our lenient but effective law, and the borrowed plumage of the "Jay" is gone to return no more. All will rejoice at the vindication of Lady Radcliffe's honour, and all will approve of and applaud the Lord Chief Justice's well-merited castigation of Dr. Kenealy. The prisoner is very comfortably in Newgate, and will have time, in fourteen years' of penal servitude, to remember his shamelessness, his villany and his crime. Never was there such a trial in the annals of our country, and let us hope that we may never see such another. What it has cost the country no one knows.

Last Thursday London was startled by Baron Reuter's telegram from Cape Coast Castle, which anticipated the official message, but which for once proved to be wrong. On Friday we were all reassured by the following official telegrams from Sir Garnet Wolseley:—

“ COOMASSIE, Feb. 5.

“ Reached this place yesterday after five days' hard fighting. Troops behaved admirably.

“ Officers killed.—Captain Buckle, R.E., Captain [O'Neil or Nicol, Hants Militia, Lieutenant] Eyre, 19th Foot. All other casualties under 300.

“ The King has left the town, but is close by, and says he will pay me a visit to-day to sign the Treaty of Peace.

“ I hope to commence my march to the Coast to-morrow. All wounded doing well. Health generally good. Despatches follow by special fast steamer.

“ G. H. PARKIN, Captain and Senior Officer.

“ Present brought to Gibraltar by the transport E. Martin, No. 14.”

* Words in brackets not clear.

The following telegram was received at the Admiralty this morning :—

“ HEAD QUARTERS, COOMASSIE, Feb. 5.

“ (From Commodore Hewett, V.C.)

“ The army under Sir Garnet Wolseley entered Coomassie yesterday after five days' hard fighting. Casualties of the force about 300 killed and wounded. In the Naval Brigade seven officers wounded, two men killed and thirty-six wounded.

“ Treaty expected to be signed to-day.

“ (Signed) G. H. PARKIN, Captain and Senior Officer, Cape Coast.

“ Sent by the E. Martin transport, to Gibraltar.”

The next accounts will be most interesting.

We fear that the recent accounts seem to confirm the report of Dr. Livingstone's death, but we suspend our belief, still hoping perhaps against hope.

Abroad there is not much to report. General Moriones has failed, and we should think by this time is in a “ pretty considerable fix.” We shall never be surprised to hear of another Carlist victory and the fall of Bilbao.

We have to announce the deaths of Lady Houghton, the amiable wife of Lord Houghton ; of the Dowager Duchess of Argyle, of the Duchess of Buckingham, and of the Countess of Northesk Chandos, of Lord Massey, of Lieutenant-General Garstin, R.A., of Lieutenant-Col. Adams, Royal Military College, of Lieut. Colonel H. Johnson, of Major Fife, of Captain A. L. Buckle, R.E., of Vice-Admiral Sir Andrew S. H. Greene, of Frank Munyer, R.N., Knight of the Legion of Honour and Medjidie, of Thomas Norris Hearn, retired Commander R.N., of the Rev. Thomas Binney, LL.D., Minister of the Weigh House Chapel for upwards of forty years. We have also to announce with regret the death, off Cape Coast Castle, of Capt. William Harris Blake, R.N., of H.M.S. Druid, and late in command of the Naval Brigade on the march to Coomassie. Mr. Shirley Brooks, the editor of *Punch*, died in his fifty-ninth year on Monday last. He was originally intended for the legal profession, and passed a distinguished examination with that view, but having a preference for literature, he devoted himself to journalism and play-writing with so much success as to determine him to adhere to the literary profession. He was the author of several novels, including “ Aspen Court,” “ The Gordian Knot,” “ The Silver Cord,” and “ Sooner or Later.” He contributed political articles to the *Illustrated London News*, and had lately written a weekly column in that journal, headed “ Notes by the Way.”

WINES AND SPIRITS (Foreign) on which Duty was paid in London by some of the principal Firms during the past year.

WINES (Foreign)		SPIRITS (Foreign)	
	Gallons		Gallons
W & A Gilbey	800,609	W. & A. Gilbey	306,504
Dingwall, Portal & Co.	142,949	Twiss & Browning	186,553
F. W. Cosens	133,474	Daniel Taylor & Sons	177,500
Cunliffe & Co	124,513	Tower and Lawson	151,924
R. Hooper & Sons	115,887	Dingwall, Portal & Co.	131,560
Davy & Co	101,933	R. Hooper & Sons	99,139
Daniel Taylor & Sons	98,750	Gallraith, Grant & Co.	78,954
G. A. Haig & Co	86,038	E. S. Pick & Co.	66,448
Dent, Urwick & Co	84,574	R. Barnett & Son	66,448
J. Allnutt, jun. & Co	84,218	Damm & Valentin	54,250
P. Domecq & Co	84,063	Osmond & Co	53,410
Brooks & Oldham	79,296	J. Allnutt, jun. & Co	44,139
R. Christie & Welch	76,492	Hills & Underwood	44,705
Max Greger & Co	73,237	Fulcher & Robinson	43,886
Wolf & Stern	71,044	Biscuit, Dubouche & Co	43,383

Besides the preceding there were upwards of 2000 Firms who paid Duty on Wines and Spirits in less quantities than those above mentioned.—“ Wine Trade Review,” 15th January, 1874.

Original Correspondence

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of, the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish in a spirit of fair play to all to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—ED.]

THE PRESENT POSITION OF OUR MASONIC CHARITIES.

To the Editor of *The Freemason*.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In my former letter I purposely contented myself with little more than an allusion to anything practical in the shape of an answer to the question in your leading article, “ How can we make the support of our great charities more regular, in our Order ? ” intending to devote a second letter to its consideration.

I have been to a great extent anticipated by Bro. James H. Coates, W.M. 949, Sunderland, whose letter in your last number contains many excellent suggestions. Let me, however, before dealing with these, or offering others, disabuse Bro. Coates of a misapprehension he seems to share, in common with you, that a considerable sum is annually spent by our Institution in advertising in non-Masonic journals.

A reference to our accounts, about to be circulated, will show that the entire amount expended in the past year in advertising by this Institution scarcely exceeded £35, and of this a great portion was necessitated by special requirements, which could only be met by a resort to non-Masonic publications.

The lack of continuous annual subscriptions is severely felt, and in this direction there is much to be accomplished. But how ? The officials of our institutions cannot possibly get at the whole of the individual members of the Order. What they can, they do, and that is by placing themselves in communication with the Provincial Grand Secretaries, the W. Masters and Secretaries of lodges, and so endeavouring to avail themselves of the valuable assistance which our sectional organisation would seem so well calculated to afford. These communications, however, fail in effect, because, unhappily, it is too often the custom to disregard or ignore printed appeals. In how many lodges are read the circulars soliciting the services of brethren as Stewards at the Anniversary Festivals, or those with statistics and information on which are based the calls for special assistance, compiled as these are with care and no inconsiderable labour.

I see no remedy for this, and other similar instances which might be adduced, but the adoption by every lodge of the practice which obtains in some, with best results, that of appointing a “ Charity Steward,” whose duty shall be to bring permanently before the lodge—home to each member of it—every question bearing upon, or connected with, the charitable institutions of the Order. For the trouble thus thrown upon such officers—in my opinion—on the principle that “ the labourer is worthy of his hire,” they should receive remuneration.

I quite agree with Bro. Coates that there are a large number of our brethren who cannot afford to contribute even a guinea annually to the funds of the institutions, but who would be perfectly willing to assist them with such smaller sums as they could justifiably spare, and these the “ Charity Stewards ” would sedulously cultivate.

He would further see that an offertory, in some shape or other, took place on each night of meeting, and from this source alone—were the practice universal—in a manner unfelt by anyone, a substantial revenue in aid would accrue.

From the funds of the Lodge there ought to be a regular annual contribution, strictly enforced, as a means of support, on which reliance could always be placed. I ventured to state, at a recent meeting of the Lodge of Tranquility, that in my opinion every lodge ought to contribute in each year from its funds not less than five guineas to each of the Masonic institutions, and so favourably was this received, that in the report in your paper, it may be seen that notice of motion to that effect was given immediately.

The “ Masonic Charitable Associations,” happily multiplying, are doing an immense amount

of service, by bringing in as members, many who not caring to contribute largely in one sum, are perfectly willing to do so by easy instalments, and through the medium of these associations there must necessarily be a very considerable diffusion of information with reference to our Institutions.

The means by which similar good may be accomplished are numberless, but they will be only partially adopted until every Mason is brought to the recognition of a duty positively incumbent upon him in supporting our institutions, so long as he is in a position to do so, to an extent commensurate with his ability. This duty his O.B. imposes upon him ; to exceed that ability, or in any way to do anything detrimental to the interests of himself or his family, no one could wish or desire.

There is one subject which has often pressed itself upon my attention, and which I to have alluded in private, and that is the singular absence of any addition to our funds in the shape of legacies. It is rarely that a day passes without seeing in the public prints a long list of bequests to charitable institutions under the will of some wealthy philanthropist. In such list the names of the Masonic Institutions are conspicuous by their absence. Why ? For this reason, as we are told. They are class institutions, and ought to look for support to the members of the Order to which they are attached. But Freemasons themselves do not bequeath any portion of their gifts to institutions in the welfare of which they took in life an active interest. How many noble and wealthy members of the Order, from their position in which they derived prestige and influence, have passed away, and in the distribution of their riches, while remembering certain of the general charities of the country, have altogether overlooked or forgotten those institutions, which they ever regarded as their own ?

The question of Masonic charity and how best to foster it is absolutely inexhaustible. For the present, however, I forbear, but sincerely trust that now that the subject has again been ventilated, will not be allowed to drop, but that many earnest workers will give their attention to it with a view to derive the most efficacious means of enlisting the sympathies of the many thousands who are proud of being ranged under our banners, but who have, hitherto been extremely remiss in the discharge of this first and most bounden duty.

I am, Dear Sir and Brother, your's faithfully and fraternally,

FREDERICK BINCKES.

Secy., Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, Freemasons' Hall, London.
3rd March, 1874.

To the Editor of *The Freemason*.

Dear Sir and Brother,

The suggestive remarks on the above subject, by Bro. Jas. H. Coates, in your last issue, cannot fail to engage the serious attention of all who are interested in promoting the prosperity of the Masonic Charities. There can be but one opinion as to the necessity of more energetic exertion in the noble cause. The vast increase in the number of lodges, and consequently of members, naturally involves a greater percentage of applicants for relief. Year by year candidates for either institution augment, and for the great majority of applications there is scarcely a chance. It is to be lamented that the institutions should be so limited in the operations, and the question is: what can legitimately be adopted to place the charities in a position to enable them to keep pace with the ever-increasing demand for their power. Bro. Coates' suggestion for the managers of the different charities to devise some organization by which small sums might be collected, may possibly be tolerably effective, provided, as he very properly observes, the countenance and support of the higher powers could be obtained, failing which, success, I am sure is very doubtful. We have sufficient experience in this matter ; propositions emanating from the rank and file—be they ever so beneficial—may sometimes be seconded by the enthusiastic few, but receive scant and

apathetic support from the general Masonic body. Take the associations formed for the purpose of securing life governorships to subscribers by payment of the small sum of one shilling per week. Most of them are languishing for want of co-operation, some, it is true, are prosperous, but that is owing to the steady industry and activity of the managers, for if the collecting of the weekly subscriptions was left to the members, total collapse would speedily result.

We may safely take it for granted that every brother would be glad to contribute to the extent of his power towards the institutions, and the question to determine is, how can these small amounts be effectively and inexpensively collected. I do not know whether what I am about to suggest is practicable, but to mention it can do harm, namely, that the Grand Lodge should enact a regulation to make it imperative for every subscribing member to pay, besides his lodge dues, an additional five shillings for and towards the charities, the same to be optional to life Governors and life and annual subscribers, I am sure no member of any lodge would object to so trifling an extra charge. I would also suggest that the notices for the festivals should be distributed at least a couple of months prior to the event, to allow ample time for intending Stewards to visit lodges and chapters, to enable them to secure subscriptions.

I heartily join Bro. Coates in his demand "Will some distinguished brother take the lead?" An authoritative appeal to the brethren cannot fail to succeed. I have never found unwillingness on the part of any individual member to support the charities, and with rare exceptions have I ever asked in vain. Some weeks ago I visited a lodge where an appeal to support the private Benevolent Fund was at once responded to by subscriptions amounting to £26 5s. Therefore we may conclude that were opportunity given, the claims of the charities made conspicuous, and kindred measures adopted, brethren might display their glittering jewels and participate in the joys of the banquetting table, and yet assist in making Masonry, pure and simple, a living reality.

Like many others, Bro. Coates has some idea that love of display and a good appetite are incompatible with a sympathetic heart and benevolent spirit. Those who observe know well the contrary to be the case. Bro. Coates's letter will have done good service, if it only provokes discussion upon this important question.

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

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,

The following extract may be interesting to some of your readers. It is taken from an article in "Macmillan's Magazine" for February, 1870, on the "Constitution," promulgated by Pius IX at the beginning of the twenty-first Œcumenical Council. Speaking of the Bulla Coenae, the writer (Emanuel Deutsch) says;—
"Then came Clement XIV, who abrogated it, and then—exactly a hundred years later—Pius IX, who renewed it in the shape now before us. We can but briefly glance at the rest of the edict, which embodies what obsolete "extra" cases it has been deemed proper thus solemnly to revive, referring such of our readers as are eager for some details to Mansi, Phillips, Hefele, Le Bret, Hausmann, Raumer, and the acts and histories of the Church generally. . . . Cursed are, further, all Freemasons and Carbonari. It was at the Council of Avignon, in 1325, that all secret societies were first condemned. But Freemasons, as such, of whose existence Clement XII. had heard a rumour," were especially anathematized by him in a Bull. And the Inquisitors received strict orders to look after the orthodoxy of the supposed brethren. Benedict XIV renewed this "Constitution," giving six reasons for so doing, and its last Papal confirmation dates 1846, and is signed Pius IX."

The date of the latest allocution against secret societies (Freemasons, Fenians, &c.) is, I believe, Sept. 25, 1865.

It appears then that Father Cuffe, in refusing to bury a deceased Freemason, was justified by the laws of his church. However much, therefore, we deplore the continued hostility of the Roman Catholic Hierarchy to a society founded on the great principles of brotherly love, relief and truth—objects which the Church itself professes to aim at—we must not too hastily, ourselves failing for a moment in that Christian charity which thinketh no evil, condemn as unwarrantable the conduct of a priest, who is bound to obey his ecclesiastical superiors. His practice is simply in accordance with the preaching of the Roman Catholic Church. We can only confess with regret, that, to apply the concluding words of the article above referred to, "they are both signs of the times as singular as they are humiliating."

Yours faithfully and fraternally,
H. C. L.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.
For the Week ending Friday, March 13, 1874.

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

Saturday, March 7.

- General Committee, Boys' School at 4.
- Lodge 142, St. Thomas's, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon street.
- Chap. 975, Rose of Denmark, Star and Garter, Kew-bridge.
- Knight Templar Preceptory, 127, Bard of Avon, Hampton Court.
- Manchester Lodge of Instruction (179), Yorkshire Grey, 77, London-street, Fitzroy-square, at 8; Bro. H. Ash, Preceptor.
- 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, March 9.

- Lodge 5, St. George's and Corner Stone, Freemasons' Hall.
- " 29, St. Alban's, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-st.
- " 59, Royal Naval, Freemasons' Hall.
- " 90, St. John's, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-st.
- " 136, Good Report, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-st.
- " 193, Confidence, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-st.
- " 222, St. Andrew's, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-st.
- " 879, Southwark, Southwark-park Tavern, Southwark-park.
- " 1366, Highgate, Gatehouse Hotel, Highgate.
- Chap. 22, Mount Zion, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-st.
- Mark Benevolent Association, Coach and Horses, Strand, at 8.
- 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, March 10.

- odge 46, Old Union, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-st.
- " 96, Burlington, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-st.
- " 166, Union, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-st.
- " 180, St. James's Union, Freemasons' Hall.
- " 198, Percy, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
- " 211, St. Michael's, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-st.
- " 228, United Strength, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Gate.
- " 235, Nine Muses.
- " 548, Wellington, White Swan Tavern, Deptford.
- " 917, Cosmopolitan, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-st.
- " 933, Doric, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-st.
- Chap. 185, Jerusalem, Freemasons' Hall.
- " 857, St. Mark's, Freemasons' Hall.
- Yarborough Lodge of Instruction, Green Dragon Stepney, at 8; Bro. Barnes, P.M., Preceptor.
- Domatic 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.

Wednesday, March 11.

- 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. Crawley, 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, March 11.

- Anniversary Festival Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, (See advertisement.)
- Committee Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, at 3.
- Lodge 11, Enoch, Freemasons' Hall.
- " 13, Union Waterloo, Masonic Hall, William-st. Woolwich.
- " 87, Vitruvian, White Hart, College-st, Lambeth.
- " 147, Justice, White Swan, High-st, Deptford.
- " 238, Pilgrim, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
- " 749, Belgrave, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-st.
- " 781, Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, Limehouse.
- " 820, Lily of Richmond, Greyhound Hotel, Richmond.
- " 1017, Montefiore, Freemasons' Hall.
- " 1260, Hervey, Swan Hotel, Walham-green.
- " 1306, St. John of Wapping, Gun Tavern, High-st., Wapping.

- Chap. 1260, Hervey, Britannia Hotel, Walham-green.
- 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, March 12.

- Lodge 19, Royal Athelstan, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
- " 91, Regularity, Freemasons' Hall.
- " 206, Friendship, Ship and Turtle Tavern, Leadenhall-street.
- " 263, Bank of England, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
- " 534, Polish National, Freemasons' Hall.
- " 657, Canonbury, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-st.
- " 860, Dalhousie, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-st.
- " 1076, Capper, Marine Hotel, Victoria Dock.
- " 1288, Finsbury Park, Finsbury-park Tavern, Seven Sister'-road, N.
- " 1321, Emblematic, Tulse-hill Hotel, Tulse-hill.
- Chap. 72, Royal Jubilee, Horns Tavern, Kennington.
- " 554, Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
- " 619, Beadon, Masons' Hall, Masons'-avenue.
- Finsbury Lodge of Instruction, Jolly Anglers' Tavern, Bath-street, City-road; Bro. Stean, Preceptor.
- United Mariners' Lodge of Instruction, Three Cranes, Mile-end-road, at 8; Bro. T. J. Barnes, Preceptor.
- Whittington Lodge of Instruction (862), Crown Tavern, Holborn, at 8; Bro. Lewis Alexander, P.M. 188, Preceptor.
- Doric Chapter of Instruction, Three Cranes Tavern, Mile-end-road, at 8; Comp. T. J. Barnes, Preceptor.
- Ebury Lodge of Instruction, Bro. Palmer's, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank.
- Highgate Lodge of Instruction (1366), Bull and Gate, Kentish-town, at 8; Bro. J. N. Frost, Preceptor.

Friday, March 13.

- Lodge 33, Britannic, Freemasons' Hall.
- " 134, Caledonian, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
- " 157, Bedford, Freemasons' Hall.
- " 177, Domatic, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-st.
- Emulation Lodge of Improvement, Freemasons' Hall, at 7.
- Union Club of Instruction, Windsor Castle, Victoria Station, at 8 p.m.; H. Ash, P.M., Instructor.
- 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. Muggerridge, 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 Coult 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 WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE,
For the Week ending Saturday, March 14, 1874.

Monday, March 9.

Lodge 314, Peace and Unity, Militia Mess Room, Preston.

" 477, Mersey, 55, Argyle-street, Birkenhead, at 6.

" 1021, Hartington, Masonic Hall, Barrow-in-Furness.

" 1398, Baldwin, Castle, Dalton-in-Furness.

Chap. 148, Elias Ashmole, Chapter-rooms, Warrington, at 6.30.

Tuesday, March 10.

Lodge 241, Merchants, Masonic Temple, Liverpool, at 5.

" 1250, Gilbert Greenall, Masonic Rooms, Warrington.

Chap. 537, Zion, 9, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

" 613, Bidson, Masonic Hall, Southport, at 7.

Downshire Lodge of Instruction (594), 90, Duke-street, Liverpool, at 7.

Wednesday, March 11.

Lodge 281, Fortitude, Athenaeum, Lancaster.

" 1052, Callender, Public Hall, Rusholme.

" 1094, Temple, Masonic Temple, Liverpool, at 6.

" 1356, De Grey and Ripon, 140, North Hill-street, Toxteth-park, Liverpool, at 6.

Chap. 673, St. John's, 90, Duke-street, Liverpool, at 8.

Neptune Lodge of Instruction (1264), Masonic Temple, Liverpool, at 7.

Thursday, March 12.

Lodge 216, Harmonic, Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool, at 5.

" 333, Royal Preston, Victoria Garrison Hotel, Fulwood, near Preston.

" 786, Croxteth United Service, Masonic Temple, Liverpool, at 6.

" 1035, Prince of Wales, Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, at 6.

" 1213, Bridgewater, Cross Keys Hotel, Patricroft, near Manchester.

Chap. 220, Harmony, Garston Hotel, Garston, near Liverpool, at 5.

Mariners' Lodge of Instruction (249), Masonic Temple, Liverpool, at 8.

Duke of Edinburgh Lodge of Instruction (1182), 150, Park-lane, Toxteth-park, Liverpool, at 7.

Friday, March 13.

Lodge 1289, Rock, Rock Ferry Hotel, Rock Ferry, at 6.

Chap. 249, Mariners', Masonic Temple, Liverpool, at 6.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW.
For the week ending Saturday, March 14, 1874.
All the Meetings take place at 8 o'clock.

Monday, March 9.

Lodge 102, St. Mark, 213, Buchanan-st.

" 209, Star, 12, Trongate.

" 362, St. Clair, 25, Robertson-st.

Tuesday, March 10.

Lodge 413, Athole, 213, Buchanan-st.

" 419, Neptune, 35, St. James-st.

" 410, Glasgow, 22, Struthers-st.

Chap. 69, St. Andrew, 170, Buchanan-st.

Wednesday, March 11.

Lodge 178, Scotia, 170, Buchanan-st.

" 333, St. George, 213, Buchanan-st.

Chap. 113, Partick, St. Mary's Hall, Partick.

Thursday, March 12.

Chap. 50, Glasgow, 213, Buchanan-st.

Friday, March 13.

Chap. 144, St. Rollox, Garngad-road.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH.
For the Week ending Saturday, March 14, 1874.

Monday, March 9.

Lodge 148, St. Stephen, Masonic Hall, Writers'-court, High-st.

Tuesday, March 10.

Lodge 1, Mary's Chapel, Waterloo Hotel, Waterloo-place, at 8.

" 151, Defensive Band, Masonic Hall, Blackfriars, at 8.

Chap. 40, Naval and Military, Freemasons' Hall, George-street, at 8.

Wednesday, March 11.

Lodge 2, Canongate Kilwinning, St. John's Chapel, St. John's-st.

Chap. 1, Edinburgh, Freemasons' Hall, George-street, at 8.

Chapter General Knights Templars, Freemasons' Hall, George-st.

Thursday, March 12.

Lodge 8, Journeymen, Masonic Hall, Blackfriars, at 8.

Friday, March 13.

Chap. 56, Canongate Kilwinning, St. John's Chapel, St. John-st

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Burdett, Col. F., Prov. G.M., Middx.

Costa, Sir Michael, 33, P.G.O.

Dobie, A., P.P.G.M., Surrey.

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"Earl Russell communicated to the College of Physicians that he had received a despatch from her Majesty's Consul at Manilla, to the effect that Cholera had been raging fearfully, and that the ONLY remedy of any service was CHLORODYNE."—See *Lancet*, Dec. 1. 1864.

From W. VESALIUS PETTIGREW, M.D., Hon. F.R.C.S., England,

Formerly Lecturer on Anatomy and Physiology at St. George's School of Medicine.

"I have no hesitation in stating, after a fair trial of Chlorodyne, that I have never met with any medicine so efficacious as an Anti-Spasmodic and Sedative. I have tried it in Consumption, Asthma, Diarrhoea, and other diseases, and am most perfectly satisfied with the results."

From Dr. THOMAS SANDIFORD, Passage West, Cork.

"I will thank you to send me a further supply of Chlorodyne. It was the most efficacious remedy I ever used, affording relief in violent attacks of Spasms within a minute after being taken. One patient in particular, who has suffered for years with periodical attacks of Spasms of a most painful nature, and unable to obtain relief from other remedies, such as opium, &c., finds nothing so prompt and efficacious as Chlorodyne."

From Jno. E. GOULSTONE, M.D., late Principal Surgeon to the Steamship Great Eastern.

"I can confidently state Chlorodyne is an admirable Sedative and Anti-Spasmodic, having used it in Neuralgia, Hysteria, Asthma, and Consumption, with remarkably favourable results. It relieved a fit of Asthma in four minutes, where the patient had suffered eleven years in a most distressing manner, no previous remedy having had so immediate and beneficial an effect."

From Dr. B. J. BOULTON and Co., Horncastle.

"We have made pretty extensive use of Chlorodyne in our practice lately, and look upon it as an excellent direct Sedative and Anti-Spasmodic. It seems to allay pain and irritation in whatever organ, and from whatever cause. It induces a feeling of comfort and quietude not obtainable by any other remedy, and it seems to possess this great advantage over all other sedatives, that it leaves no unpleasant after effects."

J. C. BAKER, Esq., M.D., Bideford.

"It is, without doubt, the most valuable and certain Anodyne we have."

CAUTION.—BEWARE OF PIRACY AND IMITATIONS.

CAUTION.—Vice-Chancellor Sir W. PAGE WOOD stated that Dr. J. COLLIS BROWNE was undoubtedly the Inventor of CHLORODYNE; that the story of the Defendant, Freeman, was deliberately untrue, which, he regretted to say, had been sworn to.—See "Times," 13th July, 1864.

Sold in Bottles at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., each. None is genuine without the words "Dr. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE" on the Government Stamp. Overwhelming Medical Testimony accompanies each Bottle.

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UNITED GRAND LODGE.

The Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge of England was held on Wednesday evening at Freemason's Hall, when there was a very large attendance of brethren, and a great array of Provincial Grand Masters and Past Grand officers. The M.W.G. Master, the Marquess of Ripon, presided, having Lord Balfour of Burleigh in the S.W. chair, and Captain Platt in the J.W. Bro. Gibbs, Dist. G. Master of Bombay, acted as Deputy G.M.; and Bro. Bagshaw, Prov. G.M., Essex, as P.G.M. Among the other notabilities in Freemasonry present we observed the following brethren:—Bros. D. Hamilton, Earl of Shrewsbury, Sir Albert W. Woods, (Garter); Colonel Burdett; F. Roxburgh, Q.C.; Æ. J. M'Intyre; J. M. Clabon; Rev. R. J. Simpson; Rev. A. B. Fraser; Rev. C. J. Martyn; S. Rawson; Dr. Hogg; J. B. Monckton; T. Fenn; S. Tomkins; H. J. P. Dumas; Jas. Brett; J. Smith; J. Boyd; Brackstone Baker; J. R. Stebbing; E. S. Snell; T. Adams; W. Ough; J. Coutts; Raynham W. Stewart; Wilhelm Ganz; R. J. Spiers; T. Bradford; Hyde Pullen; Joshua Nunn; John Savage; F. Binckes, and Rev. Sir J. Warren Hayes, &c.

Grand Lodge having been formally opened, Grand Secretary read the following letter from the President of the Board of General Purposes:—

"42, Sussex-gardens, March 4th, 1874.

"Dear Grand Secretary,—Will you express to Grand Lodge my regret at not being able to attend in my place to-morrow, and explain that it is due to serious and long-protracted illness.

"Yours truly,

"HORACE LLOYD,

President of the Board of General Purposes."

I am sure, my Lord, said Grand Secretary, every member of Grand Lodge will hear that letter read with very great regret. (Hear, hear.) Grand Secretary, by command of the M.W.G.M., then read the regulations for the government of Grand Lodge, as is usual at the March Quarterly Communication; and afterwards read the minutes of last Quarterly Communication, which were put and carried unanimously.

The next business was the election of the M.W.G.M. for the year, whereupon—

Bro. Standish Grove Grady rose and said: M.W.G.M. and brethren, the Grand Secretary has just read to you the nomination of Grand Master which I had the honour of making at the last Quarterly Communication of this Grand Lodge in December, and I now rise with feelings of very sincere pleasure and gratification to ask you to lay the keystone upon that nomination by re-electing the Most Hon. The Marquess of Ripon, Grand Master of our Order, for the ensuing year. (Applause). When I had the honour of making the nomination it was with the unanimous approval of this Grand Lodge as I am confident it is of every member of the Craft of whose wishes, feelings and sentiments, that approval will be the faithful echo. During the period the Marquess of Ripon has done us the honour to fill the throne of our Order, the increase of its members, and the extent of its influence have been unprecedented in former years, and its success has been marked by one continuous series of prosperity and unanimity. If it were necessary in such an assembly as I have the honour of addressing to adduce proofs of that observation, they are to be found in the facts in which I have formerly alluded as well as in the fidelity and loyalty of the Craft to its Sovereign, and in its adherence and devotion to those grand principles on which our Order is founded. I cannot but regard the present and future prospects of the Craft and its unparalleled prosperity with the utmost satisfaction; and I cannot avoid associating with that prosperity the honoured and distinguished nobleman whom we have the good fortune and happiness to have to preside over our Institution, of whose wisdom the whole country has had an opportunity of judging, whose mind is enriched by the highest culture, whose actions are guided by those Masonic principles upon which our Order is based, and who is the embodiment of those principles, of those precepts and of those prac-

tices of our Order who serve him with the allegiance of loyal subjects.

In re-electing the Most Hon. the Marquess of Ripon as Grand Master of our Order, we assure him in the most emphatic manner of the high estimation in which we regard his acceptance of that office, the assiduous attention which he has devoted to the interests of the Craft, and the administration of our affairs amidst his other numerous engagements, the dignity and courtesy with which he treats every member of the Craft, and the firmness, ability, and impartiality with which he has discharged the duties of his exalted station and office. Brethren, I ask you unanimously and with acclamation to re-elect the Most Hon. the Marquess of Ripon, Grand Master of our Order for the ensuing year. (Great applause.)

Bro. Long seconded the motion, and was sure the proposition would be received with hearty unanimity. He also trusted that his Lordship would long continue to preside over Grand Lodge.

The motion was put and carried unanimously and his Lordship was saluted in due form by Grand Lodge.

The M.W.G.M., who on rising was received with hearty cheers, said: Brethren, I beg now to return you my warmest thanks for the great honour which you have just been pleased again to confer upon me. I hope that I need not tell you how highly I appreciate that honour conferred once more with complete unanimity by this great assembly of Masons as thoroughly and completely representing the Craft throughout the country. I assure you, all those of you who are here present, and those whom you represent alike, of the deep sense of gratitude by which I am animated at this renewed proof of your confidence, and I am very happy to be able once more to congratulate you upon the prosperous condition of the Craft at the present time. The Worshipful Brother who proposed my re-election in terms so much too kind and flattering, spoke of that great prosperity and of the truly Masonic Harmony which runs throughout the Craft in every part of the country. Brethren, that is true; but it is not to me as your Grand Master that that happy condition of things is due. I inherited that great heritage of prosperity and harmony from one who during the year that has passed away has been removed from amongst us, from one who had laid the foundation of that prosperity and harmony by a quarter of a century of untiring labour and by continued action, with the one desire to promote the prosperity and harmony of the Craft by every means in his power. When you succeed to such an inheritance, and have to rule a great community in quiet and peaceful times the task is easy. Little credit, therefore, on that score is due to me; but it is indeed a proud thing to be called, to stand at the head of a body of men who, while in the midst of such great prosperity and with ever-increasing numbers, are able to boast—as boast we can in these days of Masonry—that there has not been during the past twelvemonth a single cloud for one moment to over-shadow the perfect brilliancy of our Masonic Harmony. (Hear, hear.) That is a thing of which we may justly be proud, because it shows that we have been acting in the true spirit of this ancient Craft, and that we have been animated by those great principles which we ought ever to remember, and which, be it recollected, we ought to remember even more constantly and more unsparingly when we have to meet not the trials—the purifying trials as they often are—of adversity, but when we have to meet the trials, which are no less great, which attend upon all communities in times of peculiar prosperity.

I trust that we shall always bear in mind the duties that that prosperity casts upon us, that we shall always recollect that the strength of the Order does not lie in the number of its lodges or in the increasing roll of its members; but that it lies in the spirit by which those members are animated, and which lives and breathes in those lodges. (Hear, hear.) It is because I hope that those principles are deep-written in the hearts of all that I do esteem it a great hon-

our once more to be called to preside over you. (Cheers.)

The next business on the paper, is the election of a Grand Treasurer.

Bro. Pearce (33): M.W.G.M. and Brethren, it is my great pleasure to have to propose to you the re-election of our brother Samuel Tomkins as the Grand Treasurer for the ensuing year. I am perfectly prepared, brethren, to hear some indication of great approval when the name of that brother is mentioned. His great fitness and his ability to serve in that position, coupled with, I may say, the large brotherly virtues that he possesses, must be a great recommendation to you all. If I were to go over those many virtues, I should only be travelling in the well-trodden path that many brethren have done before me; and, therefore, I would only say that I shall content myself—because I know it would be most consonant with the feelings of that brother I have mentioned that this proposition should be made in as modest a way as possible, but more modest than I think it really deserves—by proposing, Most Worshipful Grand Master, that our brother Samuel Tomkins be re-elected Grand Treasurer. (Cheers.)

Bro. Grunning (4): I beg most cordially to second the proposition. It is scarcely easy for us to give an adequate proof of our confidence in him; but a renewed expression of it is the best we can give.

Carried unanimously.

The M.W.G.M. in informing Grand Treasurer of the brethren's choice expressed his own hearty concurrence in the choice they had made.

Bro. S. Tomkins: M.W.G.M. and brethren, I assure you it is with very great pleasure that I receive this renewed testimony of your kind feelings of regard. It has been a very great pleasure and a great honour for me to fill the office of Grand Treasurer for so many years; I may say the longer I hold it the more pleasure I have in holding it. Especially it is a great honour to be connected with the Craft in such times, as our Grand Master has said, of pre-eminent prosperity. Long, brethren, and Worshipful Master, may that prosperity continue. I have nothing more to say, but I heartily thank you for your kindness in re-electing me (applause).

The Report of the Lodge of Benevolence for the last Quarter, in which are recommendations for the following grants, was then brought up.

The widow of a brother of the Alexandra Lodge, No. 993, Levenshulme £50.

A brother of the Royal Union Lodge, No. 382, Uxbridge £50.

A brother of the Portsmouth Lodge, No. 487, Portsmouth £50.

Bro. J. M. Clabon, President of the Board of Benevolence, in bringing up the report, said: before I proceed to move the recommendations to Grand Lodge, I would beg to remind Grand Lodge that the Board of Benevolence are spending much less than the income they have, that there is a considerable surplus accumulating every year; but the time is coming, I hope, when that surplus will not be invested in dry consols, but will be spent in doing good. (Bro. Clabon then moved, and Bro. Joshua Nunn, Senior Vice-President, seconded, the above three grants, which were carried unanimously; in the third case, on the Motion of Bro. Clabon, seconded by Bro. John Savage, the money to be entrusted to Bro. Clabon to be given as required.)

Bro. John A. Rucker, Vice-President of the Board of General Purposes, brought up the following report:—

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

To the United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England.

The Board of General Purposes have to report that memorials or complaints having been received from Br. Hemming and others, of the British Oak Lodge, No. 831, Mile-end, in which, amongst other things it was alleged and charged, acknowledged by the W. Master to be true, that and on a regular Lodge night, the W. Master of his own motion called the Lodge off and left the room with his officers, remaining away five hours;