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VOL. 7, No. 301.]

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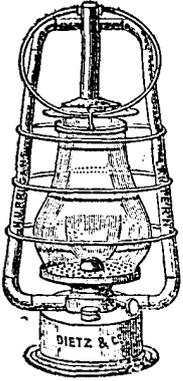
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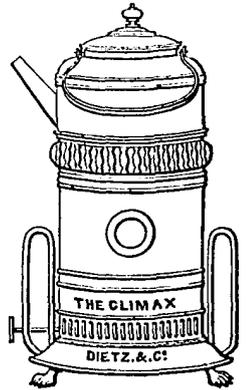
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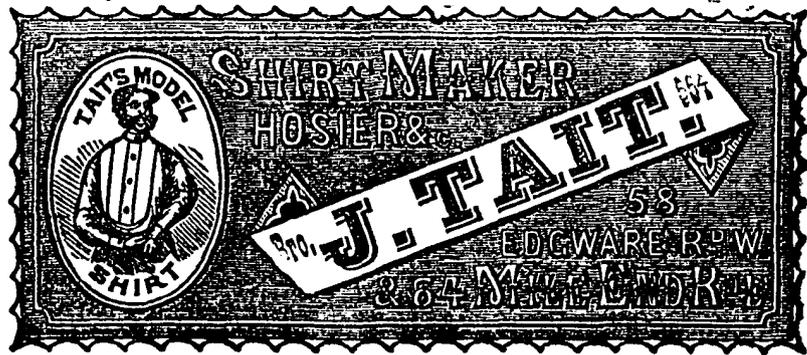
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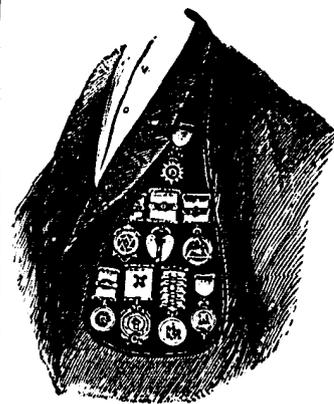


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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS

*Craft Masonry.*

EGYPTIAN LODGE (No. 27).—The election meeting of this old lodge was held on the 3rd inst., at Anderton's Hotel. Bro. Charles Atkins, W.M., presided, and besides having a full lodge of lay members, was supported by most of his officers, and Past Masters Poole, Harrison, Buss, D. Jacobs, C. B. Payne, Hoare, Libbis and Shepherd. Bros. Mountstephen, Grammer and Murch, were passed to the second degree, and Messrs. Topp and Walbrook, were initiated. On the time arriving for the election of the W.M. for the ensuing year, Bro. Lamble, S.W., was chosen for that office. Bro. H. G. Buss, P.M., was unanimously elected Treasurer, amidst great cheering, and Bro. Potter was elected T. Bro. Buss was presented with a massive gold P.M. jewel, with which he was decorated by the W.M., for his great services to the lodge as its Master in 1850, and for twenty-three years as its Secretary. Bro. Buss having acknowledged the gift with great heartiness, the W.M. announced that he was going to stand as Steward for the Egyptian Lodge at the next festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and the lodge voted the sum of £20 to be put on his list. Several members of the lodge had already placed their names on it. The auditors were then elected, and a Past Master's jewel was voted to Bro. C. Atkins, to be presented him on his leaving the chair of the lodge. The brethren afterwards partook of one of Bro. Clemow's capital banquets, which was superintended by Bro. George Smith, and on the removal of the cloth, honoured the customary toasts. Bro. Buss's name was coupled with the toast of "The Masonic Charities," and in replying he gave an admirably designed brief sketch of the history of each of the Institutions from the time they were founded, of what their work had been, and showed from figures how large a return they furnished for the support which the lodges extended to them. Bro. Lamble responded for "The W.M. elect," and promised his best endeavours to maintain the efficiency of the lodge, both by his own working and his selection of his assistant officers. The evening was enlivened by some excellent singing, in which Bro. David Jacobs bore a conspicuous part.

BATH.—Royal Cumberland Lodge (No. 41).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Bath, on Thursday, December 3rd, at 7.30 p.m. The chair of W.M. was occupied by Bro. Major J. W. Preston, and that of I.P.M. by Bro. R. Carey. There were also present Bros. J. Clark, S.W.; W. H. Brown, J.W.; T. Wilton, D.C.; Ashley, Treasurer; Denham (acting as Secretary); Falkner, S.D.; F. Wilkinson (acting as J.D.); Gunnier (acting as I.G.); Broome, Tyler; about 20 members of the lodge, and Bro. Dr. Hopkins, P.P. G.S.W. for Warwickshire, P.M., P.Z., &c., as a visitor. The lodge having been opened, the

circular convening the meeting was read, and also the minutes of the previous meeting, which were confirmed. Bros. Hunt and Merlis were examined as to their proficiency, and then desired to retire for preparation. In their absence, the lodge was opened in the Second Degree. On their admission they were passed to the rank of F.C. by the W.M., at whose request the charge was given by Bro. Dr. Hopkins. The lodge was then closed in the second degree. As the candidates who had been just passed, had not, on their initiation, heard the Lecture on the Tracing Board of the First Degree, the visiting brother was requested to give it, with which he of course complied. On inquiry being made by the W.M. as to any other business to be brought before the lodge, by permission, the visiting brother referred to the last important publication of his friend, Bro. Hughan, entitled, "Memorials of the Masonic Union of A.D. 1813, &c.," the result of which was a resolution that a copy should be purchased for the lodge. Bro. Carey, I.P.M., proposed a gentleman for initiation, and Bro. Dr. Hopkins as a joining member, both to be balloted for at the next meeting. The lodge was closed, in perfect harmony, at 9.30.

LODGE OF JOPPA (No. 188).—The annual meeting of this lodge for the election of W.M. was held on Monday evening at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, Bro. Obed Roberts, W.M., presiding. The lodge was well attended, and Bros. Hickman, S.W.; A. Dodson, J.W.; L. Anerham, Treasurer; E. P. Albert, P.M., Secretary; L. Lazarus, S.D.; Miller, J.D.; E. P. Van Noorden, Organist; and Bros. Berkowitz, L. Alexander; I. Abrahams, M. Alexander, and H. M. Levy, P.M.'s, were in their places. After the formal business of opening the lodge and reading and confirming the minutes had been performed, Bro. Isaac was passed to the Second Degree. Bros. J. Levi, Botibol, and A. Moore, were raised to the Third Degree. One brother, a member of the Grand Orient, Bro. Hennington, was elected a joining member. There were three candidates for initiation, and two of these, Messrs. E. I. Samuels, and G. Botibol were initiated into the Order by Bro. H. M. Levy, P.M.; by the kind permission of the W.M.; and one, Mr. I. Botibol, by the W.M. himself. When the brethren had elected a W.M. for the ensuing year, their choice was found to have fallen on Bro. Hickman, S.W., who was unanimously elected to fill the chair. Bro. L. Anerham, was re-elected Treasurer of the lodge, and Bro. Woodstock, T. Trustees were afterwards elected for the Benevolent Fund of the Joppa Lodge, and after the names of three candidates for initiation had been given in, the sum of Five Guineas from the lodge funds was voted towards a testimonial to Bro. Roberts, in acknowledgment of his services to the lodge during his year of office, the individual brethren at the same time liberally contributing to the object. A Committee was appointed for the purpose of carrying it out, after which the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment. Although this was not a banquet, the customary Masonic toasts followed the partaking of it, and in responding for that of the "Benevolent Fund," Bro. L. Alexander, P.M., informed the brethren that Bro. T. Abrahams, P.M., had qualified himself as a V.P., and the newly-initiated had severally contributed to it. After the initiates had responded to the toast proposed in their honour, Bro. L. Alexander gave the toast of "The W.M.," which was received with great enthusiasm. Bro. Roberts acknowledged the compliment, and proposed "The W.M. Elect," who, he informed the brethren, was in every way qualified to perform the duties of the chair. Bro. Hickman replied, in a style which fully confirmed the wisdom of the brethren's choice. Bros. Swallow, W.M. 382, and Scott, responded for the visitors, and Bro. I. Abrahams for the P.M.'s. The Wardens, Treasurer, and Secretary were also remembered, and the W.M. then said he had a toast perhaps a little out of the ordinary routine to give, but he should nevertheless give it. That toast was "The Health of Bro. Jennings," who, as manager of the Albion, had always ably and kindly attended to the creature comforts of the brethren, assisted

by Bro. Keeping. Bro. Jennings thanked the W.M. and brethren for their consideration, and the brethren soon after separated.

OXFORD.—Apollo University Lodge (No. 357).—At the regular monthly meeting of this lodge, held on Nov. 24th, the following brethren were present:—Bros. F. P. Morrel, W.M.; Col. the Hon. W. E. Sackville West, S.W.; R. I. Williamson, J.W.; Bird, P.M., Treas.; Pickard, P.M.; Frankland Hood, S.D.; C. J. S. Spedding, J.D.; Leadham, Hunter Blair, Stewards; Butler, I.G. Bros. Eversley, Berrington, Hill, G. Campbell, Bodley, Macnamara, R. H. Collins and others. Bros. Hill, Harter, and Macnamara were passed to the second degree. The following gentlemen were balloted for successfully, and were subsequently duly initiated in Freemasonry by the W.M.:—Messrs. Duns-ton, Sandeman, Bingley, Harding, G. Harterly, Weatherly and Broadbent. The next business was the election of the W.M. for the ensuing year. The choice of the brethren fell on the Rev. H. Adair Pickard, P. Prov. S.G.W., who has twice before filled the chair of the Apollo Lodge. Bro. Bird, P.M., was re-elected to the office of Treasurer. After a vote of £10 each to the Benevolent Institution and the Girls' School had been passed, on the motion of the Treasurer, the lodge was closed in ancient form. A meeting of this lodge was held for the purpose of instruction on Friday, Nov. 27th. The following brethren filled the various offices:—Bros. H. S. Butler, W.M.; H. Adair Pickard, I.P.M.; Gordon Campbell, S.W.; J. E. C. Bodley, J.W.; Paget, Sec.; R. C. E. Cust, S.D.; W. P. Eversley, J.D.; Glencross, I.G. The ceremony of initiation was ably worked by the W.M., and at its conclusion the lodge was opened and closed in the higher degrees. Bro. G. Campbell was appointed W.M. for the next meeting and chose as his officers: Bros. Bodley, S.W.; Paget, J.W.; Eversley, S.D.; Glencross, J.D.; Cust, I.G. The lodge was then closed in due form. An emergency meeting of the lodge was held on Dec. 1st. for raisings only. The following officers were present:—Bros. F. Parker Morrell, W.M.; R. I. Williamson, S.W.; W. P. Eversley, J.W.; H. G. Barron, S.D.; I. S. Leadham, S.D.; H. S. Butler, I.G. Eleven brethren having duly answered the questions in the second degree were raised to the sublime degree of a M.M. The ceremony was a most impressive one, and a sight was afforded to the brethren which is rarely seen in any lodge, of eleven candidates being raised on the same evening. The names of the candidates were Bros. Allenby, Berrington, Barker, Combe, Elcum, Hedges, Knollys, Meredith, Rust, Trelfry, and Vane. After two gentlemen had been proposed for initiation, the lodge was closed in due form.

SPHINX LODGE (No. 1329).—On Saturday, November 21st, the usual anniversary and installation meeting of the Sphinx Lodge was held at the Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge, when Bro. J. H. Vockins, one of the founders, was installed as Master. These anniversary meetings have always been highly prized by the brethren, and on this occasion nearly forty, exclusive of visitors, sat down to the banquet. This satisfaction, indeed, seems sometimes to have been too highly prized, for during the past incumbency curious discussions arose whether, according to a debated bye-law, they were not compelled to hold two anniversary meetings in the course of a year. Now some time since the Sphinx having migrated from her old castle haunts at Camberwell, has been so well groomed and cared for in her new quarters, that, growing fat and sleek like a civilized animal, was thought to be quite reclaimed. Still, as is maintained by philosophers, old habits stick fast, and what is bred in the bone there remains, so in consequence of this old sybylline (bye)-law, she fell back to ancient habit and propounded a new riddle.

"How shall I twice a day on earth  
 Have a festal day of mirth?"

Far and wide did the poor animal roam, posing the passers-by with her conundrum, a greater part of whom wisely declined the dilemma. At last she met her pre-destined Iacosta, who replied—

"When twice a year comes April day,  
 Without doubt thou'lt have thy way!"

The poor animal, horrified at having her riddle so quaintly unriddled fell, after the manner of Sphinxes, into a phrensy, and it was even feared London Bridge might be the scene of another Sphingian catastrophe. Brethren differed as to the seat of the malady and its treatment, and Sphinxlike riddled again.

"O tell me where is phrensy bred,  
When begot, and nourished,  
Or in the heart, or in the head."

Never since the time of the Big Endians and the Little Endians was there such a divergence. No Iacosta now appeared, and all councils broke up leaving the poor Sphinx gasping.

(Exeunt dan santes omnes).

Scene, an old castle on the weald of Cawter; shepherds and Shepherdesses in the distance.

A doctor, celebrated in such cases, was then called in, under whose very soothing drafts and healing words she soon threw off her malady, and trotted forth whole and sound. The talented restorer was Dr. the W. Grand Secretary, and he honoured the lodge on this occasion by his presence, being also a honorary member, to assure himself of her happy recovery. The evening had commenced by the installation of Bro. J. Hadland Vockins as W.M., the ceremony having been impressively performed by Bro. Bedolfe, the retiring incumbent. On assuming his position Bro. Vockins proceeded to initiate three gentlemen, Messrs. T. C. Reynolds, Marden, and Gwimple, the former a Lewis, being son of the respected Treasurer. The brethren then adjourned to the dining-room, which was very pleasingly decorated in festal style, and where the banquet was served à la Russe, the excellency and variety of the viands and the quality of the wines reflecting great credit on the worthy host and Bro. Spencer. The W.M. was supported on his right by the W. Bro. Hervey, G. Sec., and the visitors, amongst whom Bros. Wells, Wingham, Hyde, Larham, Green, Oliver, &c. On the left the P.M.'s of the lodge, Bros. Bedolfe, Clark, and Nairne, &c. In face were the newly appointed officers, Bro. Sugden, and Abbott-Dunbar; Treas. and Sec., Reynolds and Andrews; Junior officers, Bros. Lyon, Bryant, Martin, Ricks, Mansell, Barsdorf, &c. On the cloth being removed, the usual toasts were drunk, the Prince of Wales being highly prized. The W. Bro. Hervey responded for the Grand Officers, and in one of those neat and kindly speeches which at all times characterise him, and stated the pleasure he felt in again visiting a lodge which, when in an infant state, he assisted to consecrate, but now developed into the numerous and influential association he now saw. The health of Bro. Vockins, W.M. was then proposed, who, in return, expressed his thanks for the high position he that day held, and the honourable "assistance" by which he was surrounded, and called upon those around him to assist earnestly in the endeavour, by liberal donations on this festive occasion, to alleviate the trials of the orphan and widow. A liberal collection was then made. On the health of the I.M.P. being drunk, a renunciation of the Big-and-little-Indian dispute was publicly made—

"As if to show with how small pain  
Masonic sores are healed again;  
Although by woeful truth we find  
They often leave a scar behind."

The "Health of the Visitors" was responded to by Bros. Wells and Wingham. Bros. Clark and Nairne also responded suitably to the manner in which the lodge expressed its satisfaction at the services of those brothers. Harmony prevailed, songs were sung, and merrily passed the hour. The Sphinx again took to her old work of riddling, when the motto of the lodge, "What is Man?" being propounded, Bro. Barsdorf produced the following:—

WHAT IS MAN?

Meus ignis, tubulus corpus, mihi atque,  
fumus,

Herba panis, clavus fata, suprema cinis.  
"Though at my simile many may joke,  
Man is but a pipe; this life but smoke."  
Of lordly man how humbling is the type—  
A fleeting shadow—a tobacco-pipe!  
His mind the fire, his frame the tube of clay;  
His breath the smoke, so idly puffed away.

His food the herb that fills the hollow bowl;  
Death is the stopper—ashes end the whole.

Another and another passed, when a brother from the East produced an inscription supposed to have been "marked" on the foundation-stone of King Solomon's temple—

"Is ab illo æs ago  
Fortibus in aro."

All tried, but failed; even the School Board gave in, when the same expert, Bro. Barsdorf, sent in this atrocity:—

"I say, Bill O'er's a go!—  
Forty boys in a ro!"

The lodge was convulsed, and was only prevented from executing summary justice by the fear of preventing the immediate recognition of the "Mark" by the Grand Lodge. Thus happily passed the evening; and when at length the Tyler's toast reminded the good brethren of the claims of their domestic hearths, they retired (save a few who remained to toast one saint more), conscious of having enjoyed, under happy circumstances, that pleasure which disinterested friendship can alone afford.

MARQUIS OF RIPON LODGE (No. 1489).—A meeting of this new lodge, which has made great progress since its establishment six months ago, was held yesterday week, in the hall of the Metropolitan Societies' Asylum, Balls Pond-road. There was a capital attendance of officers and lay members, who were presided over by Bro. W. Stephens, W.M. Bro. James Brett, P.G.P., was P.M., and there were the following visitors present:—Bros. Fredk. Smith, P.M. 177; Miles, P.M. 1365; Watkinson, 813; Cohu, 192; Kew, P.M. 179; Eredk. Dalton, 1364; Poulton, 192; Lee, 975; Parkhouse, 1364; W. D. Badkin, 1445; Stiles, 1507; Thompson, 160; Massey, (Freemason) P.M. 619. The work of the evening consisted of raising Bros. S. J. Parker and W. Gray, passing Bro. F. A. Hawthorn, and initiating Messrs. Fredericks and Mayers. The brethren were informed by Bro. James Brett, that the Whittington Lodge (No. 862) had presented the collar jewels to the Marquis of Ripon Lodge, wishing then a long career of prosperity. Upon the motion of the W.M., a vote of thanks was passed and ordered to be recorded on the minutes, and forwarded to the Whittington Lodge for the handsome present. The W.M. proposed, and Bro. Miller, P.M., Organist, seconded the gift of one guinea as a Christmas box to the attendants at the asylum where the lodge met. This was carried unanimously, and Bro. Starkey, of Lodge No. 132, Scotch Constitution, was elected a joining member. There being no further business before the lodge, the brethren closed down, and took the train to London, where they banqueted at Bro. Hart's refreshment-room, at the Broad-street Terminus. In giving the toasts on the removal of the cloth, the W.M. remarked that since they last met in that room a great change had come over the spirit of their dream. The nobleman whose name was given to this lodge was no longer Grand Master, but they had the Prince of Wales in his stead. Anyone who knew H.R.H. as a Freemason knew full well that this was likely to promote the interests of the Order. The toast of "The Earl of Carnarvon, as Pro-Grand Master, &c.," was next proposed, and the W.M. in giving it, said that within the last two days they had heard from his lordship's lips what he intended to do for Freemasonry. They knew what he had done already, and had every reason to believe that he would continue to act in a similar way. They were also much pleased to hear that Lord Skelmersdale had been appointed Deputy Grand Master, as he had made his mark in Freemasonry both in and out of his province. Bro. James Brett, P.G.P., responded, and repeated the sentiments of the W.M. with respect to the Pro-Grand Master and the Deputy Grand Master. The rest of the Grand Officers were all well known to the brethren, and what they had done was one of the household words of Freemasonry. As to the change which had occurred in the Grand Mastership, if the Order had lost one good Mason it had certainly found another, who would do honour to the Craft, and he thought that, with such men as the Prince of

Wales Lord Carnarvon, and Lord Skelmersdale, if they were not capable of carrying on the business of Freemasonry now they would never have an opportunity of doing so. Bro. Brett afterwards proposed "The W.M., and referred to the great advance the lodge had made during his Mastership. He spoke of him as an excellent working Mason and an indefatigable brother, not only in this lodge and the Clapton Lodge, but as attending the different boards connected with the administration of the Craft's affairs at Freemasons' Hall. At the banquet-table also he was an excellent president, and it was his pleasure and delight to entertain his guests. The W.M., in reply, thanked Bro. Brett, and assured the brethren that what he had been in the past he would be in the future, and he was pleased that anything he had done met with the approbation of the brethren. The toast of "The Initiates" followed, and both of those brethren returned thanks. The toast of "The Visitors" was acknowledged by Bro. F. Smith, P.M. 862, Bro. Walford, P.M. responded for "The Treasurer," and Bro. W. Jones, P.M. 445, P.P.G.D.C. Norths and Hunts, for "The Secretary. All the officers responded individually to the toast drunk to them, and the J.W. solicited subscriptions to the list he was carrying up as Steward for the Girls' School, which already amounted to a considerable amount. The W.M. said he had also on his list a large sum, the first five names contributing Fifty Guineas, (cheers). The brethren shortly after separated, having spent a delightful evening.

#### INSTRUCTION.

PECKHAM LODGE OF INSTRUCTION (held at the Maismore Arms, Peckham Park-road, under the warrant of the Peckham Lodge), No. 1475, 26th Nov., 1874. Many brethren, both at home and abroad, will read with unfeigned pleasure the agreeable news that the Anniversary Meeting of this Lodge of Instruction was a complete success. With the slightest deviation from the appointed hour, all was ready, and the brethren having satisfactorily discussed the various enjoyables provided by the new host, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been given and duly responded to, the W.M. of the Peckham Lodge, Bro. Watkins (who presided as chairman) rose, and in that urbane manner so peculiarly his own, informed the brethren that since their last meeting, a decided improvement had taken place in the management of the proceedings of the lodge, owing to which, he believed, might be attributed the average increase of attendance. Furthermore, that with all their difficulties the noble charities had not been forgotten; in fact, brethren, it is with lively feelings of gratification I announce to you that the sum of fifty guineas has been subscribed during the past year. (Loud Applause.) The W.M. then addressed himself to the Preceptor of the Lodge, P.M. Rose, Mount Lebanon, No. 73. The brethren have much to thank you for. Without your kind generous services, this lodge must, I fear, have received a severe check. The brethren appreciating the ability you have shown in steering our barque through the shoals of adversity, and as it were, guiding us into this haven of success, have desired me to present to you this gold chain, as a slight token of their esteem, and fraternal regard. Bro. Rose, who was visibly affected, said: W.M. and brethren, this token of esteem and recognition of my services as Preceptor of this lodge is highly gratifying to me, not so much for the beauty of the unalloyed and glittering metal presented; it proves beyond a doubt that I have been successful in gaining the affections of the brethren of this lodge, without which, it would be nearly impossible to impart that knowledge of our beautiful ceremonies, which is so essentially requisite for those who aspire to the honour of the chair. W.M. and brethren: I thank you much for your kindness, and with a striving humbleness of mind I pray that the G.A.O.T.U. will long continue to give me health and strength to promulgate the genuine tenets of our noble Order in this Lodge of Instruction. Some good Masonic songs and recitations added to the harmony of the evening, the brethren who sang being accompanied on the pianoforte by Bro. Pritchett.

## Scotland.

## GLASGOW.

**LODGE GLASGOW KILWINNING (No. 4).**—The members of this lodge met on Wednesday, 2nd inst., in their Hall, at 170, Buchanan-street. The R.W.M., Bro. A. B. Thorburn, presided, and amongst visiting brethren were Bro. J. B. Macnair, R.W.M. Lodge Union, 332; and Bro. John Wallace, R.W.M. Lodge Athole, 413. The business of the evening was the election and installation of office-bearers, the following being those appointed for the ensuing year:—R.W.M. A. B. Thorburn; D.M., R. B. Prout; S.M. T. G. Jamieson; S.W., W. S. Henderson; J.W., George Holms; Treasurer, J. D. Dixon; Secretary, John Currie; P.G.S.; Johnstone; S.D., J. Mills; J.D., J. Carmichael; S.S., W. Callock; J.S., J. Bowring; Chaplain, C. Smith; Architect, J. B. Orr; M. of C., W. Grossett; Jeweller, W. Gourlay; B.B., A. Rowan; I.G., John Barclay; S.B., Henry Forsyth.

**LODGE ST. MUNGO (No. 27)** met in St. Marks' Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, on Thursday evening, 3rd inst. The R.W.M., Bro. Dugald Butler, presided, and the lodge being opened on the E.A. degree, three candidates, duly vouched for, were initiated into the mysteries of that degree by Bro. Alex. Bain, P.M. Lodge Union and Crown, 103. There was no other business before the meeting, which was accordingly thereafter closed in due and ancient form.

**LODGE CALEDONIAN RAILWAY (No. 354).**—At the usual bi-monthly meeting of this lodge, held in St. Mark's Hall, Buchanan-street, on the 2nd inst., there was a large attendance of members and visiting brethren; the business being the installation of the office-bearers elected for the ensuing year. The R.W.M., Bro. James Shaw, presided, with whom, on the dais, were Bros. A. Arrick Smith, P.M.; D. Buchanan, D.M.; Wm. H. Caldwell, S.M.; A. McTaggart, P.G. Sec.; John Fraser, P.M. 87; A. Bain, 103; and John Wallace, R.W.M. 413. The lodge having been opened on the F. A. degree, the ceremonies during installation were proceeded with, the work being performed in an impressive manner by Bro. McTaggart, assisted by Bro. Fraser. The following is the list of office-bearers as re-arranged:—James Shaw, R.W.M.; D. Buchanan, D.M.; W. H. Caldwell, S.M.; John Stafford, S.W.; A. B. Ferguson, J.W.; A. Carmichael, Treas.; William R. Dunn, Sec.; Jno. Harley, S.D.; D. Leitch, J.D.; Colin McKenzie, Jeweller; Jas. Houston, D.D.; Colin More, D. of C.; Jas. Douglas, Banner Bearer; John Dorman, Chief Steward; J. Rowat, I.G.; John Burton Hardie, O.G. At the conclusion of the installation, the R.W.M. expressed the gratification it gave him to be again elected to that position, which was one he esteemed very highly, and he thanked Bros. McTaggart and Fraser very heartily for coming forward and giving them such valuable support and assistance that evening. Bro. McTaggart, on behalf of both, briefly replied. For himself, nothing gave him greater pleasure than to be at the post of duty when he was wanted, and if he could be of any service again they had only to call upon him and he would be ready (applause). Thereafter, the brethren adjourned to refreshment, when "Prosperity to Lodge 354" was proposed by Bro. Bain, who expressed himself much pleased with what he had seen of the appearance and working of the lodge that night. The R.W.M., in replying, stated that he took credit to himself for the fact that during his past twelve months of office there had not been a single matter of disagreement come up in the lodge, while any little shortcomings he might have exhibited, he would do his utmost to put right in the future. He felt certain that he should be supported in the work by the office-bearers that night installed, and that all would go on harmoniously. They held a good name, a foremost position in the province, and they ought to make it their study to keep it up (applause). Amongst the remaining toasts were "Visiting Brethren," coupled with the name of Bro. McLellan, of Lodge St. George, Helensburgh (503), who replied; "The Musical Talent Present," acknowledged by Bro. John Good, &c. We have but to add that the pro-

ceedings at refreshment were much enlivened by the excellent singing of Bros. Good, James Houston, and James Perston.

**LODGE COMMERCIAL (No. 360).**—The regular meeting of this most prosperous lodge was held on Friday, 4th inst., Bro. John Monro, R.W.M., in the chair, supported by Bros. J. Brodó, P.M.; D. Lamb, D.M.; J. M. Olliver, S.W.; Jas. Craig, J.W. The lodge was opened, and the minutes of last meeting read and confirmed. The Treasurer, Bro. Wm. Finlay, rose, and said it gave him much pleasure to be able to inform the brethren that Lodge Commercial was in a most flourishing financial position; that, after paying for the fitting up of their new lodge-room in the most comfortable and Masonic style, there was still a good round sum in hand. Several matters were discussed in connection with the lodge and Freemasonry in general, and propositions made, which were held over until next meeting. The office of Substitute Master being vacant, it was proposed by Bro. J. Brodó, P.M., and seconded by Bro. D. Lamb, D.M., that Bro. J. E. Spiers be appointed to this office, which was duly carried. There being no further business, the lodge was closed in due and ancient form.

**LODGE CLYDE (No. 408).**—The annual election and installation of office-bearers in this lodge took place on Friday evening, 4th inst., in the hall at 170, Buchanan-street. Bro. Duncan Downie, the retiring W.M., occupied the chair at the opening of the proceedings, in the E. A. degree, and two candidates duly approved, received that degree at his hands. The election of office-bearers was then proceeded with, at the close of which Bro. William Harper was with due form installed as R.W.M. by Bro. Thos. Halkett, P.G.S.D., assisted by Bros. A. Bain, P.M. 103; J. B. Macnair, R.W.M. 332; and J. Downie, P.M. 401. Bro. Halkett having delivered a very excellent charge to the new R.W.M., and the latter having suitably replied, the other office-bearers were then duly installed, as follows:—J. S. Black, S.M.; J. McInnes, S.W.; Wm. Bilsland, J.W.; R. Bowie, Sec.; J. Stewart, Treas.; R. W. Merriam, S.D.; W. S. Williamson, J.D.; A. Strathearn, Chaplain; D. S. Mitchell, P.G.S.; J. McCall, S.S.; H. Kelly, J.S.; J. Harkness, B.B.; J. Archer, S.B.; J. Marton, Jeweller; J. Blackstock, Architect; R. Wallace, I.G.; D. Ramsay, O.G. The lodge having been called from labour to refreshment, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured. That of "The Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow," having been coupled with the name of Bro. Halkett, the latter replied. It gave him great pleasure, he said, to acknowledge a toast which not only been so heartily pledged by them that evening, but which was similarly received in every lodge in the province. This showed he thought at least that the Prov. Grand Lodge was giving much satisfaction in the province. It was the oldest P.G.L. in Scotland, he might state, having been erected soon after Grand Lodge of Scotland itself. The speaker then referred to the Benevolent Fund, connected with the P.G.L., by means of which they had been able to do a vast amount of good. During last year they had disbursed in private over £150. At the same time they had been able to invest the sum of £450, and they expected shortly to be able to raise their charity to a position it had never before known. Referring in conclusion to the benefit which had occurred from the annual visitation, by the P.G.L. of the various lodges within the province, Bro. Halkett said he could now affirm that there was not one of the latter which was not now working in truly Masonic manner. Amongst other toasts which followed were "Visiting Brethren," acknowledged by Bros. Bain, 103; and McKirdy, 332; "The Senior and Junior Wardens," by P.M., Bro. Downie, acknowledged by the S.W., &c. Thereafter the lodge was recalled to labour, and closed in due form.

**LODGE ST. ANDREW (No. 465).**—An unusually large meeting (fully 150 brethren having signed the Tyler's book) of this lodge was held on Thursday, 3rd inst., in their Hall, at 69, Garngad-road, the business being the election and installation of office-bearers for the ensuing year. The R.W.M., Bro. David Reid, presided, and the brethren appointed to office were duly

installed by Bro. William Phillips, R.W.M. Clydesdale (556) as follows.—David Reid, R.W.M.; James Gray, D.M.; James McLeish, S.W.; James Clark, J.W.; Geo. B. Davidson, J.W.; Robert Donaldson, Treasurer; William Campbell, Secretary; Rev. Wm. E. Bradshaw, Chaplain; James Morton, S.P.; Alexander McCallum, J.D.; Joseph Bradburn, Jeweller; Dugald McPherson, Architect; John Anderson, Director of Ceremonies; Robert Charlton, Bible Bearer; Joseph Coldwell, Standard Bearer; Charles McDonald, Sword Bearer; Thomas Turnbull, Director of Music; John McDonald, P.G.S.; Alexander Cleland, S.S.; Andrew Knight, J.S.; Robert Maxwell, I.G. Peter Johnstone, Tyler.

**GLASGOW CHAPTER (No. 50)**—This now prosperous chapter held an emergency meeting in their Hall, 213 Buchanan-street, on Friday the 4th inst., when the R.A. degrees were conferred on the following brethren, some of whom were about to leave the kingdom: Messrs. David Hay, John McGregor, D.R. McLachlan, and Robt. Barclay Shaw, all members of Lodge St. John, No. 3, and Bro. John Davidson, of the Lodge Athole 413. Bro. John Miller wrought the Mark degree in a very lucid and impressive manner. The Exct. degree was given by Bro. Jas. Duthie, assisted by Bro. J. O. Park. The R.A.C. was opened with Comp. Miller the 1st Principal of the Chapter, as Z. Comp. J. O. Park, (acting) H., and Comp. J. Duthie (acting) J. Comps. Wheeler, Brownlie, and McKenzie, as Sojourners. The work on this degree was performed by Comp. Duthie, Comp. McKenzie assisting as 1st Soj. As soon as the work was done, the S.E. read the minute he had prepared of the meeting; which was confirmed, and the chapter was then closed in ancient form.

**CAMPBELTOWN.**—The brethren of the Campbeltown St. John's Lodge, No. 14, met on Monday night 30th ult., (Eve of St. Andrew), and elected office-bearers for the ensuing year. Chas. MacTaggart, Esq., banker, was elected R.W.M.; Messrs. Robt. Alexander, P.M.; Robert Jamieson, S.W.; John Wardrope, J.W.; Thos. Cochran, Treasurer; A. Campbell, Secretary; Wm. Rae, Chaplain; A. Galbraith, S.D.; Arch. Keith, J.D.; John Ralston, Tyler.

**INVERARY.**—Lodge St. John's (No. 70).—At the annual meeting on Monday, 30th ult., the following office-bearers were appointed:—Q. M. Wright, R.W.M.; J. Rose, D.M.; N. Lemon, S.M.; J. Campbell, S.W.; D. Stewart, J.W.; A. M. Ross, Secretary and Treasurer; D. Sutherland, S.S.; Wm. Marchmont, J.S.; A. Guthrie, S.D.; Alex. McDonald, J.D.; Alex. Guthrie, P.M.; Robert McFarlane, Chaplain.

**DREGHORN.**—CONSECRATION OF A NEW LODGE.—The consecration of the St. Matthew (Kilwinning) Dreghorn Lodge, No. 549, and installation of the office-bearers took place at the Crown Hotel, Dreghorn, on Monday, 30th ult. The Provincial Grand Lodge was opened in ancient form by Bro. Colonel Mure, M.P., the R.W.M. of Mother Kilwinning, and Provincial Grand Master of Ayrshire, and in the presence of Bros. R. W. Cochran Patrick, of Woodside, S.P.G.M.; Roger Montgomerie, M.P., P.M. of Mother Kilwinning; W. Ralston Patrick of Trearne, D.M. of Mother Kilwinning; Rev. A. Inglis, Prov. G. Chaplain; Rev. Mr. Sime, Past P.G.C.; R. Wylie, P.G.S.; John Whinton, P.G.T.; John Mackay, R.W.M. of St. John's (Kilwinning), Kilmarnock, Acting P.G.S.W. and W. D. M'Jannet, R.W.M. of Irvine St. Andrew's, Acting Provincial Grand Junior Warden; Hugh Shaw, Past Master of the St. Marnock, Kilmarnock; and A. Turnbull, P.M. of St. Andrew's, Kilmarnock. Deputations were also present from several lodges, numbering in all about five hundred brethren. The new lodge has already a very large membership. The interesting ceremony of consecration was performed by the Provincial Grand Master assisted by the Provincial Grand Chaplain, and other provincial office-bearers—the choir, during the solemn services, singing several pieces of sacred music, and accompanied with the harmonium. The presentation of Bro. J. Nisbet, R.W.M. of the Lodge St. Matthew (Kilwinning), Dreghorn, for the benefit of installation, was made by Bro. R. W. Cochran Patrick, and after a full Board

of Installed Masters had been constituted, the Master received the chair degree. The following were subsequently named and invested in their respective offices:—D. Connel, D.M.; N. Gillies, S.M.; P. Strachan, S.W.; D. Reid, J.W.; A. Heron, Sec.; S. Stewart, Treas.; T. Colquhoun, S.D.; J. Aitken, J.D.; A. Lindsay, S.S.; J. Lindsay, J.S.; R. M'Mutrie, I.G.; and J. Armour, Tyler. At the close of the installation ceremonies, the Provincial Grand Master delivered an eloquent address on the nature and principles of the Order, paid a passing tribute to the memory of the many distinguished brethren who had been removed from amongst the Craft since he (Colonel Mure) was last in lodge assembled, and alluded to the bright future that was before the Order, with the Prince of Wales at the head of the Craft in England. His address was replete with sound advice, and listened to with marked attention by all the brethren present. The Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed in ample form. The brethren afterwards had a torch-light procession, accompanied with an instrumental band, creating no little stir and excitement in the village.

### Royal Arch.

**HIGHBRIDGE.**—*Vals of Jehosaphat Chapter* (No. 291).—The quarterly convocation of this chapter was held on Friday, the 27th inst., at the Masonic-room, Highbridge, at 2 o'clock, when there were present:—Comps. R. C. Else, Z.; F. R. Prideaux, H.; J. B. Marwood, J.; J. Burnett, E.; R. Salisbury, W.; F. Cornwall, P.S.; Lieut. Gen. Mumbree, P.Z.; R. Heriman, P.Z.; W. H. Davies, Z 1,222; T. Thwait, P.Z.; and a number of other companions of the chapter. The business upon the agenda paper was transacted, and Bro. W. M. Forty of the Rural Philanthropic Lodge, duly exalted. The Principals for the ensuing year were then installed in ancient and proper form, viz., Comps. F. R. Prideaux, Z.; J. B. Marwood, H.; J. Burnett, J.; the ceremonies of exaltation and installation being performed by the M.E.Z. and P. Z., Comp. R. C. Else, in the most impressive, solemn, and effective manner. The companions afterwards partook of a banquet at the hotel, presided over by the M.E.Z., Comp. F. R. Prideaux, and separated in great harmony, the only mar to their enjoyment being the absence, through severe illness, of their beloved companion, Capt. H. Bridges, P.Z.

### Red Cross of Constantine.

One of the most successful gatherings of the members of this Order, held of late years in the metropolis took place on Monday the 30th ult. at the Regent Masonic Hall, Air-street, Regent-street, upon which occasion (St. Andrew's Day), the Premier Bective, (No. 2A), St. Andrew's (No. 15), and Bard of Avon (No. 99) Conclaves met together, represented amongst others by the following Knights, Colonel Burdett, G. Viceroy; John Hervey, P.G.H.C.; R. Wentworth Little, G. Treas.; W. H. Hubbard, P.G. Treas.; H. C. Levander, M.A., G.H.C.; R. W. Stewart, G.H.A.; J. G. Marsh, P.G.A.; Angelo I. Lewis, G.C.; T. Cubitt, G.O.; T. W. White, G.P.; W. Roebuck, G. Prefect; Rev. J. M. Vaughan, M.A., G.S.P.; Rev. P. H. E. Brette, D.D., G.A. Rec.; H. A. Dubois, G.S.A.; G. Kenning, G.I. of R.; Lieut.-Colonel J. Peters, G.S.B.; T. Burdett Yeoman, G.A.M.; J. T. Moss, G.U.; S. Rosenthal, Int. Gen.; Rev. P. M. Holden, F. Binckes, Int. Gen.; D. M. Dewar, Int. Gen.; W. Jones, P. Sov. 15; G. A. Ibbetson, M.P.S. 2.; Charles Horsley, Int. Gen. 2A.; F. W. H. Ramsay, M.D. P. Sov. V. 99; Rev. A. Bruce Frazer, 99; C. Duke, 2A.; A. Moore, P. Sov.; T. Massa, W. Chillingworth, 15; W. Smale, 15; G. Lambert, P. Sov. 15; C. Sanders, M.D., 15; T. Kelly, 2A.; W. Hyde Pullen, P. Sov. V. 2A.; T. Kingston, P. Sov.; Rev. A. Hall, J. E. Symons, &c.

The Conclaves having been opened, and the several minutes read, the following brethren were duly constituted and installed Knights of the Order, viz.:—

For the Premier Conclave of England, Bros.

William Winn, P.M. 657; J. Adams, Acton, Lodge—; Robert Gresley Hall, Lodge 1347; and Horatio H. Shirley, M.A., ex-High Sheriff of Monaghan, Lodge 1491.

For the Bective Conclave (No. 2A.)—Bro. Edward J. Southwell, Lodge 1293.

For the St. Andrew's Conclave (No. 15)—Bros. George Taylor and Henry Baron Taylor, Lodge 192.

For the Bard of Avon Conclave (No. 92)—Bros Sir Charles T. Bright, T. E. Webb, M.D.; Vincent Ambler, M.D.; Charles H. Driver, and Charles Grillion, Lodge 778.

St. Andrew's Conclave elected Sir Knights W. Roebuck, M.P.S.; D. M. Dewar, V.; and R. Kenyon, P. Sov., Treasurer.

Sir Knight Hyde Pullen was enthroned as M.P.S. of the Bective Conclave; C. Horsley was inducted as V.; the rest of the officers being Sir Knights W. Stephens, F. Kelly, C. Duke, R. W. Little, E. Roberts, J. H. Tyler, W. W. Tyler, and G. Moren.

Propositions having been made, the united conclaves were closed, and the Knights adjourned to the banquet, under the presidency of Colonel Burdett, who was supported by Sir Knights Hyde Pullen as M.P.S. 2A.; S. Rosenthal, as M.P.S. 15; Hervey, Levander, Little, Lewis, and about forty Knights already named.

During the evening, between the usual toasts, several songs were exquisitely sung by Madame Thaddeus Wells and Miss Julia Barnett, accompanied by Mrs. Jenkins on the pianoforte, and the entire proceedings gave great satisfaction to all present.

**PLANTAGENET CONCLAVE** (No. 2).—This conclave met at the Regent Masonic Hall, on the 23rd ult., to consider proposals for its future place of meeting, when it was resolved to hold the conclave at the above premises for the future. Sir Knt. G. A. Ibbetson, M.P.S., presided, and was supported by Sir Knts. C. Hammerton, V.; J. Lewis Thomas, G.A. P. Sov. as S.G.; H. Dicketts, Treasurer; T. W. White, Recorder; R. Wentworth Little; J. G. Marsh, P.G.A.; E. S. Norris, J. Boyd, P.M. P. Sov.; T. Last, T. P. Parker, and C. J. Hogard, G. Herald. Two brethren were proposed for installation, and the conclave having been closed, a very agreeable evening was spent under the sceptre of the M.P.S., Sir Knight G. A. Ibbetson. The customary toasts were given and received with great cordiality, and the fratres separated, well pleased with their first meeting under the roof of Sir Knt. D. Nicols.

**LIVERPOOL.**—*Walton Conclave* (No. 97).—The recent visit of the Grand Council to Liverpool and the holding of Grand Conclave there, has already borne fruit, inasmuch as No. 97 was obliged to summon a conclave of emergency on Friday, 27th Nov., to instal some brethren as knights of this order. The conclave was opened in Imperial form by Em. Sir Knight Jesse Banning, M.P.S.; Em. Sir Knight J. C. Lunt, P.S. as V.; Sir Knight W. Quayle, S.G.; Sir Knight G. E. Hanmer, J.G.; Sir Knight Rev. C. R. Hyde, L.L.D. H.P.; Sir Knight Hayner, Rec.; Sir Knight N. Turner, P.; and others. The M.P.S. then explained to the conclave the reasons for summoning an emergency meeting so soon after their assembly, only a fortnight previously, and the ballot proving clear, Bros. James Hetherington, 310, and Thos. Howell, 1356, were admitted into the mysteries of this degree, and were duly dubbed and installed Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine. The Historical Lecture was most eloquently delivered by the Rev. Dr. Hyde, H.P., and the M.P.S. then called upon Sir Knight N. Turner to deliver the Oration, which he did in a faultless manner. Great credit was given to each of them for the promptitude in which they had respectively mastered their duties, because they were only appointed to office on the last assembly and had had but short notice of the emergency. The conclave was then closed and the knights adjourned to the refectory, where the newly-installed knights worthily won their "spurs" by the happily chosen yet simple and brief responses to the toast of the evening. We understand that possibly yet another emergency may have to be called, still leaving plenty of work for the next regular assembly.

### ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The Right Hon the Lord Mayor (Bro. David H. Stone), P.M. No. 1, and Past Grand Steward, has consented to preside at the 87th anniversary of this institution, which will be held on the 12th of May next.

### NOTES ON LITERATURE, SCIENCE AND ART.

(COLLECTED FROM VARIOUS SOURCES).  
BY BRO. GEORGE MARKHAM TWEDDELL.

For the purpose of protecting Westminster Abbey from fire, a large tank, capable of holding 6,000 gallons of water, has been placed in one of the towers of the edifice, at a cost of upwards of £2,000. The new works have been tested and found efficient.

By the recent death of Thomas Miller, English literature has lost one of its purest and ablest contributors. In his truthful delineations of rustic life and scenery, he has been unsurpassed, from the days of William Shakspeare's truly pastoral contemporary, William Browne, whom Selden, and Drayton, and Wither, and Ben Jonson could not love more than the poetical Nottinghamshire basket-maker did, to the Howitts and Charlotte Phillips. The soul of Theocritus, or of Vigil, did we, (like our ancient brother Pythagoras) believe in the transmigration of souls, might have taken up its temporary abode in his body. His earlier writings, though needing pruning, as those of most beginners do, are full of the fragrance of the woods and fields, and his later productions show a mastery in the high art of reproducing literary landscapes for readers in populous cities pent. At a time when we seem to be making mere material progress, and women are less esteemed for their own sakes than for the worldly wealth they possess, or which too often possesses them, when even the high teachings of Speculative Masonry are considered unnecessary by certain superficial thinkers, we cannot sufficiently appreciate the work of writers like Thomas Miller, who help to keep alive in our hearts a true love of nature, and it is a disgrace to all who have had to do with the granting of pensions, that one who had done so much for our glorious English literature should have been allowed to live and die in poverty. Surely so rich a country as England could well have spared a paltry pension of £100 a year for one whose numerous and elevating writings had so well merited it.

**SPARKLING WINES FROM SAUMUR.**—An interesting article has just appeared in the *Medical Times and Gazette* on Sparkling Wines. In consequence of the recent rise in the price of Champagnes it appears that attention has been directed to the district of Saumur, in the north-western portion of France. Dr. Druitt, the author of the article in question, remarks;—"Both in society and in medical practice the use of Sparkling Wine is largely on the increase. Nothing is so exhilarating with so small a quantity of alcohol in it," and adds that the wines of Saumur, "although perfectly familiar in London, have hitherto been decorated with other names than their own," and that "every year 4,000,000 bottles of wine from Saumur are sent to this country, where it has been ticketed with any name the purchaser chooses to give it." He concludes the article with the following advice:—"It surely is foolish to give 4s. or 5s. for a second-rate Champagne, when a wine which is either the same identically, or rather one better than the second-rate brands of Champagne, may be had for less money." One firm, the Messrs. W. & A. Gilbey, of London, are introducing these wines through the medium of their Agents in every town, under what Dr. Druitt, calls "the modest and true appellation of Sparkling Wines of Saumur."—*Morning Post, December 2nd. 1874.*

The upper current of society presents no certain criterion by which we can judge in what direction the undercurrent flows.—MACAULAY.

## Masonic Tidings.

We learn that his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales will, this afternoon, take the Thirty-third Degree of Freemasonry, and be formally installed as Patron of the Ancient and Accepted Rite. The ceremony will take place at Golden-square, and the members of the Thirty-third Degree only will necessarily be present.

**MANSION HOUSE FESTIVITIES.**—Bro. Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress propose entertaining a large circle of friends in the old English style on Christmas Eve: New Year's Eve will be celebrated by a juvenile ball, for which nearly 1,500 invitations are to be issued. Novelties of a varied character will be introduced for the amusement of the youthful guests. The members and a large number of the inhabitants of the Ward of Bassishaw will be entertained at dinner on St. Thomas's Day.

**A TESTIMONIAL,** consisting of a massive silver salver, beautifully engraved with musical emblems, and a shield taking the form of a lyre, on which was a suitable inscription, has been presented to Bro. Charles Coote (Coote and Tinney's band) by a number of gentlemen with whom he has been professionally connected for many years.

**SERIOUS ACCIDENT TO A LADY.**—The *Leeds Mercury* reports that a serious accident happened to Miss Barclay, the Earl of Zetland's aunt, on Monday morning. She was riding a spirited horse to witness the "throw off" of the hounds, but had scarcely left the lawn in front of her residence—St. Nicholas, Richmond, Yorkshire—when the animal reared and fell backwards to the ground. A couple of attendants at once ran to the rescue of their mistress, and the horse (which had fallen upon her) was removed. Miss Barclay was then conveyed to her bed-room, and Dr. Carter was sent for. It was found that her collar bone was broken, and that she had sustained other slight bruises. Last evening Miss Barclay was going on favourably.

## ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The committee of this Institution met on Wednesday afternoon at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. Benj. Head in the chair. The other brethren present were Joseph Smith, Griffiths Smith, John G. Stevens, Major J. Creaton, J. Newton, William Stephens, James Brett, Richd. Spencer, Raynham W. Stewart, John Bellerby, C. F. Hogard, H. M. Levy, J. E. Saunders, John Constable, H. Massey (*Freemason*), and James Terry, (Secretary). The Secretary reported that the brother who was an annuitant and had been a trustee of one of the funds, who refused to sign the transfer of his trusteeship, had at length done so, and there would be no further difficulty on that head. He also reported that Messrs. Cutbush, the florists, had made a present to the Asylum at Croydon of some rose trees. The report of the House Committee was read, and application was made by a widow of a late annuitant for half her husband's annuity. This application was granted, and petitions were received from seven candidates, six of whom were accepted. Permission was granted for the use of the hall of the asylum for an entertainment to be given to the inmates at the commencement of the year; and the committee then adjourned.

We are all a kind of chameleons, taking our hue—the hue of our moral character—from those who are about us.—LOCKE.

**HOLLOWAYS' PILLS.**—Health and Vigour.—To the most regular livers occasional disturbances of digestion will occur, which may be corrected at once by these famous pills, the alterative and tonic powers of which cannot be too highly extolled. A dose now and then will prove salutary to every one, though a continued course must be taken by the confirmed invalid. It is wonderful how the appetite and the digestion improve in proportion as the pills exert their wholesome influence over the animal economy. They augment muscular strength and mental vivacity, and give to the constitutionally weak power never before experienced, and never expected in their debilitated frames. To many invalids this medicine has vouchsafed a career of usefulness and prosperity.—ADVT.

## Obituary.

## DEATH OF THE PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER OF NORFOLK.

We regret to announce the death of Bro. Benj. Bond Cabbell, the Provincial Grand Master of Norfolk. The melancholy event occurred on Wednesday last. Bro. Cabbell held the office of Prov. G.M. for many years. He died at the advanced age of 94.

## MASONIC FUNERAL IN GLASGOW.

The remains of Bro. A. McPherson, late P.G.S., Lodge Clyde (408) were interred in the Southern Necropolis, on Sunday 29th ult. The procession having reached the burying ground at about 1.45 P.M., the brethren opened up in line and saluted the remains of their deceased brother as they were borne to the house appointed for all living on the shoulders of the different Wardens who were present. The last rites by the grave side were performed by Bro. Mitchell, D.M. (408), and at the words "dust shall mingle with the dust" each brother dropped a sprig of evergreen into the grave, and the remaining ceremonial was completed with due observance of the ancient landmarks of the Order. Before leaving the ground Bro. Mitchell dismissed those assembled with a blessing. There were present, we may state, about thirty Office Bearers and brethren from Lodge Clyde, and deputations from Lodges Union and Crown (103); Scotia (178); Thistle (87); Thistle and Rose (73); Athole (413); Clydesdale (556); Star (219); and St. John's Operative, Rutherglen (347.)

## BRO. ANDREW BEVERIDGE.

The funeral of Bro. Andrew Beveridge, D.P. G.M. of the Scottish Constitution, and P.M. of the St. Andrew's Lodge, the late Provincial Treasurer, which took place recently, was one of the largest ever seen in Auckland. Apart from the very general esteem in which the deceased gentleman was held, the fact that his obsequies were honoured by the impressive ceremonial observed at Masonic funerals, contributed to heighten the public interest on the present occasion. It is worthy of remembrance that, on the occasion of the last Masonic funeral—that of Bro. Frere—the deceased gentleman, whose remains were similarly honoured yesterday, led the service himself in a singularly impressive manner. The brethren of the two Masonic Lodges on the Thames—Lodge of Light, I.C., and Sir Walter Scott, S.C.—came up from Grahamstown, forty miles from here, by the "Golden Crown," arriving in Auckland at 11.30 a.m. The two lodges numbered nearly 100 brethren, and were attended by the following office-bearers:—

Sir Walter Scott; William McCullough, R.W.M.; A. Dewar, P.M.; A. Brodie, P.M.; E. H. Power, P.M.; M. H. Airy, S.M.; John Frater, D.M.; William Lowe, S.W.; William Carpenter, J.W.; J. Cassidy, S.D.; J. Watson J.D.; T. Dunlop, I.G.; T. Randon, Tyler; J. M. Cowell, Bible-bearer; Rev. J. Hill, Chaplain. Stewards: Messrs. Kneebone, Plumridge, Beech, Swanson, Fotheringham, and Turtle. Lodge of Light:—Bros. S. Young, W.M.; — Davis, P.M.; Wildman, P.M.; Mitchell, P.M.; Lipsey, P.M.; Clymo, P.M.; Garrett, S.W.; Hynes, J.W.; Hosbrough, Bible-bearer; Blott, S.D.; Mills, J.D.; Bro. D. Drake, S.S.; Mills, J.S.

The following ceremonial was observed: Brethren of St. Andrew's, 418, S.C., and of Thames Lodges, assembled at the lodge-room, Star Hotel; brethren of lodges under English and Irish Constitutions, at the lodge-room, Masonic Hotel; at a quarter before two o'clock.

The brethren having assembled, the R.W.M. opened the Lodge in the Third Degree. After the object of the meeting had been stated, the Chaplain, or Master, began the Service as follows:—

Service in the Lodge Room.

I.—If a man die, shall he live again?

Response.—The dust shall return to the earth as it was, and the spirit to God, who gave it.

II.—When he dieth, shall he carry anything away with him?

Response.—He brought nothing into the world, and it is certain he can carry nothing out.

III.—The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.

Response.—God is our God for ever. He will be our guide and support through the dark valley of the shadow of death.

Grand Honours.

Prayer by the Chaplain.

On the arrival of the Scotch brethren at the Masonic Hotel they were met by the lodges assembled there and having, and, having formed a procession in the following order—

Prince of Wales Lodge, E.C.

Lodge of Light, I.C.

Ara Lodge, I.C.

Royal Arch Chapter, I.C.

Sir Walter Scott's Lodge, S.C.

St. Andrew's Lodge, S.C.

proceeded to the railway station, whence they were conveyed by special train to Newmarket, where they awaited the arrival of the funeral cortege from Remuera, when the procession reformed and preceded the hearse to the burial ground of the Scottish Church, there being upwards of two hundred masons present, Bros. Goldsmith, Wildman, and Jenkins acting as Directors of Ceremonies, under the direction of Bro. Malcolm Nicol, Worshipful Master of the St. Andrew's Lodge.

The brethren were all in full regalia, except the English Lodge, who had no opportunity of obtaining a dispensation, and carried the various Masonic emblems to which mourning bows were attached. Amongst the long train of mourners were his honour the Superintendent and the members of the Provincial Executive; and the legal, clerical, medical, and mercantile professions were all well represented. At various points along the road knots of people were assembled to witness the procession, and the blinds of most of the houses along the route were drawn down out of respect to the deceased. The procession itself was upwards of a mile in length, extending from the Captain Cook Hotel to the top of the Kyber Pass Road. On reaching the cemetery gates the Masonic advanced body opened out to let the hearse pass through, and then reversed their order of marching, so as to let the oldest lodges take the order of precedence. The coffin was carried to the grave by six members of the St. Andrew's Lodge, to which the deceased brother had belonged, and the following Past Masters acted as pall-bearers:—Bros. Stephenson, Brock, Anderson, Brodie, Power and Dewar. At this time there must have been from one thousand to fifteen hundred persons assembled in the vicinity of the grave, and outside the cemetery walls. The coffin being placed in position the funeral service of the Presbyterian Church was read in a solemn and impressive manner by Bro. the Rev. David Bruce, and on its termination, the coffin being lowered, Bro. the Rev. P. Hill, standing at the foot of the grave, went through the following Masonic Service:—

May we be true and faithful, live and die in love, for the memory of the just is blessed.

Response.—So mote it be.

The Lord bless us and keep us—the Lord make his face to shine upon us—the Lord lift upon us the light of His countenance, and give us peace.

Response.—So mote it be.

All.—Glory be to God in the highest, on earth peace, good will toward men.

Prayer by the Chaplain.

The brethren then passed round the grave and dropped each a sprig of acacia into it; the lambskin apron of the deceased Mason was also cast into the grave. The Masonic service being concluded, the brethren returned in reversed order, and closed the lodge.

## NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

The "Freemason" of May 10th and 17th, 1873, (numbers 218 and 219) being out of print, the publisher will be glad to receive copies from brethren who may have them. Stamps will be sent on receipt.

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## Answers to Correspondents.

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.

All Communications should be sent to 109, Fleet Street.

ERRATUM.—In Bro. Gallico's letter, page 705, Nov. 28th, for "Epphursi muove," read "Eppur si muove."

SILVANUS URBAN.—The quotation you refer to was, by the printer's error, wrongly spelt. Bro. Gallico's copy has it "Eppur si muove" (yet it moves).

J. C. J. (MARYSVILLE).—The order you sent we could only realise the amount of sevenpence upon, leaving you still in debt one shilling and elevenpence.

33°—Declined with thanks. Subject not suitable for discussion.

Testimonial to Bro. Rev. M.A. Holden. Reports of Lodges 1460, Halliford; 10, Dalkeith; 12, Greenock; 68, Port Glasgow; 175, Greenock; 216, Dunfermline; 351, Bridge of Allan; Chapter 394, Southampton; Mark Lodge 63, Southampton; Prov. Grand Lodge of Down.

## The Freemason,

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1874.

## THE ABUSE OF THE MASONIC PRESS.

Great as is the use of the Masonic Press, we do not deny that there may be an abuse of it. Indeed, in things Masonic, publication often becomes a grave question, both of duty and discretion. In previous times there was practically no Masonic Press; and, in consequence, little publication. But now, with the Masonic Press open, and abounding in Germany and the United States, and in England, it is just possible, we think, that we may be publishing a little too much. We confess, for instance, that we always deprecate public discussions of the ritual. Any discussion on that point should, we venture to think, be confined to the lodge; and we have often read with pain and misgivings some of the modern disquisitions on the minutiae of our ritual, which seemed to us sadly out of place in the public columns of a weekly journal and monthly magazine. We in this country are very much, happily, behind other countries in the freedom with which we deal with such subjects, especially our good brethren in Germany. We think that, with the best intentions in the world, they go somewhat too far in their unlimited liberty of discussion; but then we must bear in mind that the ritual in Germany does not bear the same relation to Masonic work and

lodge proceedings as it does with us in England.

In America, a very great freedom of discussion on all matters Masonic exists; but we have noted lately several remarks from high Masonic officials in the United States which seem to denote a little uneasiness, lest they are publishing too much. We think, therefore, that we are consulting the best interests of the English fraternity when we say to-day that, D.V., in 1875, we shall be still more guarded in admitting any discussion of ritual matters. There are plenty of other subjects on which Masons can write, and can write well; and we feel sure that, while we are the last persons in the world to yield one iota of the liberty of the Masonic Press, either to prejudice or perversity, we feel bound to respect the scruples of Worthy Masons, and to remove, if possible, the objections of some who now deprecate deeply such controversies in our Masonic press as pregnant with evil to the Order. Another abuse of the Masonic press is personality. The FREEMASON has ever been free from such a blot, but it is a matter which requires the greatest supervision and stringency, or otherwise personalities will creep in, do what we will to keep them out. There are some brethren whose whole zeal for Freemasonry seems to consist in attacking some other brother. There are Masonic firebrands as well as ecclesiastical firebrands, or firebrands, like Mrs. Proudie, of famous memory, there are Masonic Ishmaelites who, like one of old have everybody's hand against them, whilst their hand is against everyone else. Then all who conduct the press know, what difficulties we have to contend with as regards sensitive brethren, touchy brethren, hasty brethren, hot-headed brethren. Some are always ready to take offence, some are never tired of incriminating an opponent. And wherever such personality is encouraged or permitted, sooner or later that journal must fall, simply from its own absurd repudiation of the life-principle of Freemasonry, brotherly forbearance and regard. We say nothing here of the tendency unfortunately existing in some little minds, to make the Masonic press a medium for personal animosity or for unbrotherly slander. We had a very untoward specimen of this "animus" a short time ago, most unfortunately, and by a "fortuitous concurrence of atoms" to use Lord Palmerston's famous dictum, which has been to us a very salutary warning. We trust that as our worthy publisher has always sought to give his paper the highest status in Masonic literature, that, when a new year dawns upon us all, the FREEMASON may be as ever distinguished by its careful avoidance of all topics or correspondence likely to give the slightest pain to any brother, or to bring discredit on the great principles of our Order. We do not think it needful to pursue the subject further to-day. Of the use of the Masonic press, great and abiding, we feel sure, just as we admit fairly its possible abuse. But of this one thing we are convinced, that while the FREEMASON never seeks to flatter any one, or to become the organ of anybody but the entire Craft, its one great principle of action will ever be to prevent, if possible, any abuse of its happy liberty, and to be foremost in advocating and upholding subordination to Masonic authority, the prerogative of the Grand Master,

the privileges of the Grand Lodge, and the rights, the honour, and the well-being of all ranks and conditions of Freemasonry.

## GRAND LODGE.

We congratulate the Order sincerely on the events and results of the last Quarterly Communication. Everything has taken place as the most devoted Craftsman could wish. Our Royal Brother has been nominated with acclamation as our Grand Master for the next year and most interesting will be the next Quarterly Communication and the Yearly Festival in 1875. Every fervent wish of loyalty and goodwill will go with our august Grand Master and the true old Craft he has been called to rule over. We equally felicitate the brotherhood on the appointment and installation of the Pro. Grand Master. His nomination was received, as it was sure to be, with the hearty assent and sympathy of a crowded Grand Lodge. We wish also to express our admiration at the Pro. Grand Master's excellent and admirable speech—excellent and admirable alike in substance and in tone. We augur much for the thoroughly Masonic discharge of his high duties, not only from his past career, but from his own most fitting and eloquent statement alike of his true position and his constitutional responsibilities as Pro Grand Master. We can quite enter into the satisfaction which greeted the Pro Grand Master's most truly Masonic address. The appointment of Lord Skelmersdale to the Deputy Grand Mastership will be hailed, not only by our Lancashire brethren, but by the Craft at large, with the utmost feelings of gratification and rejoicing. No one is more popular as a Mason or more efficient as a Prov. G.M.; and no one, we believe, has more thoroughly the interests of the Craft at heart than our distinguished brother, the new Deputy Grand Master. We also are glad, we confess, to note that our excellent and able Bro. Clabon has withdrawn his motion of appropriation of the surplus of the Fund of Benevolence. No one disputes Bro. Clabon's praiseworthy motives; but conflicting opinions will arise as to the propriety of such a motion just now. It is, we think, with many other brethren, as he freely admitted, a little premature, as though our material prosperity be great, the claims on our funds are many, and we notice that the surplus of 1873 is considerably less than the surplus of 1872. We think that our Pro Grand Master showed the very greatest tact and his complete knowledge of the duties of the chair, in stopping the flow of our good Bro. Binckes's eloquence. We venture to opine that in such a discussion, from his official position, Bro. Binckes is a little out of place, as many of our brethren would feel that, as Secretary to the Boys' School, he was somewhat of an interested party, in all good faith, in the consideration of such a motion. What our Bro. Binckes's opinions on the subject are we do not know, and if he likes to favour the Craft with them in our columns we shall be most happy to afford him the means of doing so. But when the matter is decided, it must be, we venture to think, by the general feeling of Grand Lodge based on the report of so distinguished a brother as Bro. Clabon alone

IS THE POPE A FREEMASON?

We have received a letter from Constantinople of date professedly Nov. 25th last past, which we print, "verbatim et literatim," in another column. We are much obliged to our Constantinopolitan correspondent for forwarding a photograph of the Pope, with a Masonic sash, &c. But two questions inevitably arise, which require, in our opinion, a clear answer.

I.—What is the name of the photographer at Constantinople by whom this carte de visite has been issued. His name on the card sent is completely erased.

II.—Whence did he obtain the photograph? Is it original or made to order? Our correspondent tells us he has had it ten years.

We observe that the motto now runs, "Ex communicavi meos fratres meâ culpâ," words unlikely we think, to be used by the Pope, but they can be construed. The previous motto, excommunicate, &c., was almost untranslatable. We presume that this photograph is identical with or taken from the alleged "Soussingear" photogram, but we confess that at present we do not attach much value to it, in the controversy.

Original Correspondence.

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

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In our Book of Constitutions, page 18 is as follows:—

1. "Every brother regularly elected and installed as Master of a lodge under the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of England, who has executed that office for one year, shall, so long as he continues a subscribing member of any lodge, rank as Past Master, and be a member of the Grand Lodge. Subscription as a member of any lodge is sufficient to preserve his rank and rights as a Past Master; but having for twelve months ceased to subscribe to any lodge, he shall no longer continue a member of the Grand Lodge; nor can he regain that privilege until again installed Master of a lodge."

The oldest P.M. of a country lodge ceased being a subscribing member to any lodge for two years, when he again became a subscribing member to his lodge. I shall be glad to know if he can still rank as the senior P.M. of the lodge? As I read the above paragraph, the only privilege he loses is that "he shall no longer continue a member of the Grand Lodge." What think you?

Very fraternally yours,  
M. S.

To the Editor of The Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I am induced to submit the following question for your consideration; as your valuable journal is now becoming familiar to the Craft in these colonies, your opinion would be useful for future guidance. Whether such a case has actually occurred or not, we need not stay to enquire, but we will suppose, viz.: A lodge at its regular meeting in August elects a brother as W.M. for the ensuing year; at the regular meeting in September, the minutes of the previous meeting (including the election of Master) are read and confirmed, but the installation cannot be proceeded with, the brother, so elected being absent. The lodge acting under advice from superior authority at once take the necessary steps to alter their bye-laws, so as to make the election of W.M. next year fall a month later, or (they say) the present election will be invalid, as the

W.M. not being installed to-night, will not have filled the office twelve months, which is necessary to constitute him as P.M. Is this reasoning correct? I think not. I argue that from the moment his election was confirmed, such brother is, *de facto*, the W.M. of the lodge, from which time he dates his term of office, notwithstanding he is not present for installation. Clause 1. "Of the Masters and Wardens of Lodges" provides "that no Master elect shall assume the Master's chair until he shall have been regularly installed, though he may in the interim rule the lodge;" this evidently means, he may act as W.M. in ruling the lodge, and generally transact its business, previous to installation, although not having assumed the chair he cannot make, pass, or raise. Therefore the date of installation cannot invalidate the date of election, and consequently it is not necessary to alter the bye-laws on that account.

But the question arises; Does it affect the qualification of his Wardens? I think not, as the appointment of these officers is the prerogative of the W.M., it is not for the lodge to question when he appointed them, if after they are invested they serve to the satisfaction of the W.M., the qualification is sufficiently legal. Again, it is suggested that the aforesaid W.M. is not empowered by the constitution to open and close the lodge. I need not further intrude my opinion on the matter, but would respectfully request for the benefit of myself and several of the Craft, that you will kindly give us yours.

I remain, yours fraternally,  
W.H.

Dunedin, New Zealand,  
Sept. 28, 1874.

BRO. WIGGINTON AND THE VERNON BIBLE.

Dear Bro. Kenning.

As my main object in calling attention to the Vernon Bible, was to bring the matter before the Vernon Lodge, I shall be happy to hear from Bro. Wigginton, or the W.M. of the Vernon Lodge, 560, on the subject.

I am, yours most fraternally,  
A. F. A. WOODFORD.  
10, Upper Porchester-st., Hyde Park Square,  
London, W.C., December 7th 1874.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,

I have with some surprise read your letter headed "Masonic Bibliography," in the *Freemason* of Nov. 28th.

The bible you therein describe belonged to the "Vernon" Lodge, No. 819, Dudley, and the MS. note signed "E. P." is in my handwriting.

The lodge was removed to Stourport some years ago, its present No. 590.

I have called the attention of the Stourport brethren to the letter, and it is for them to explain how the bible left their possession. It was bought for lodge use in 1856, on the removal of the lodge from Bromsgrove; its original name was the "Clive" Lodge.

Yours fraternally,  
EDWIN POOLE, P.M. 819.

THE ORDER OF THE TEMPLE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Some time ago you published in your paper the Memorial of the Knights Templar in the province of Lancashire to the Great Prior, praying a revision of the statutes of the Order, on certain points on which great dissatisfaction is widely felt. That memorial was open to objection on certain points of form (which it is not necessary here to refer to further), and has since, as I have been informed, met its fate, whether on that ground or for more substantial reasons I know not. The Province of Worcestershire has adopted a form of memorial (of which I send you a copy herewith), which I ask you to publish in your next issue, for the information of those Priors and Preceptories, the members of which like ourselves feel the need of a revision of the statutes on the points therein referred to. I am firmly convinced that it is not by the isolated efforts of one or two Priors and Preceptories here and there that the desired alterations

in the present statutes can be expected or hoped for, but only by the wide and united action of all who think as we do and know and feel the injury to the Order and the dissatisfaction which prevails consequent on the present state of things. It cannot reasonably be expected that Grand Conclave will be moved to take this revision into consideration and do what is necessary in it at the instance of a few Sir Knts., whom they may imagine to be a few discontented disturbers, (such as may be found in most large bodies of men) whose opinions are not shared in by any large or important section. But on the other hand if it is made patent to the High powers that the dissatisfaction is not confined to one or two Priors, but is generally diffused over the whole body, and that the evils complained of are strongly and widely felt and growing more and more pressing and serious in their effects, on the prosperity of the Order, it may be hoped that our representations may be considered and relief be granted. Let then every Priory and Preceptory, at the earliest opportunity, take this state of things into consideration, and join in urging upon Grand Conclave (whether by a memorial in this form or in any other which may better represent their views), attention to their representations and consideration to their complaints.

Yours fraternally,  
J. C. J. L.

Nov. 27th, 1874.  
To H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G., &c., &c.  
&c., the Most Eminent Grand Master of the Order of The Temple, in Council.  
The memorial of the Province of Worcestershire of the said Order,  
Sheweth,

1. That the Memorialists have had experience of the progress of the Order in the Provinces and of its causes of success and depression, and are enabled to judge of the effect which recent legislation has had and will have upon all branches of the Institution outside the Metropolitan boundaries of the Convent General and the Great Priory. They view with much regret many of the alterations contained in the new Statutes, believing that the changes will not tend to the advantage of the Order, are contrary to its traditions and distasteful to a large proportion of its Members.

2. That they believe the Order to be essentially "Masonic," and they object to the elimination of that prefix as tending to the destruction of the only reason which the Order has ever had, or ever can have, for its modern existence. An attempt was made in Scotland, in 1844, to effect a separation from its Masonic foundation; but as a consequence the Order became nearly extinguished, and at its revival, in 1856, the injudicious step had to be retraced.

3. That they believe the association of the title of the Order of Malta with the Masonic Order of the Temple arose from a confusion of names, and that no Masonic Maltese Order has, or ever had, existence as a fact; a view which was affirmed by the late Grand Conclave of England in 1853, from which year, until 1862, the Masonic Order of the Temple alone had existence. That by the new Statutes the Orders are declared to be "United," and the Jewels of the present Temple Order comprise the "Union"; yet the Maltese Order is made a separate encumbrance and separate insignia are inconsistently entailed, notwithstanding the combination referred to.

4. That these and other changes effected by the new Statutes are prejudicial to the extension and popularity of the Order; but none is producing a more insidious effect than the enactment that "no status analogous to that heretofore designated as Past Rank shall be recognized, nor allowed, nor any insignia thereof borne." That as the appointments to office are made during pleasure there is no inducement (if such appointments are not frequently changed) to any other Sir Knights than those in office, to attend Provincial Meetings, and as a necessary consequence their interest is much decreased and will become still less. It is already found that they are disinclined to pay fees of office, and to expend time and incur the cost of journeys in the fulfilment of duties from which they ultimately retire with no recognition of the services they have performed; the Provincial Priors are thus not only

deprived of their main sources of revenue, but are seriously suffering from the abated interest of Members of the Order, and will probably become abeyant if not extinct.

5. That a depression will fall upon the Preceptories from want of encouragement of their Members; that they will feel no interest in supporting the Provincial Great Pories, and will become isolated and stagnant institutions of an Order which has hitherto flourished principally from the opportunities of advancement which the former system offered with encouraging liberality.

Your Memorialists therefore pray:

1. That a revision may be made of the Statutes of the Order and that the Masonic title of the Order may be restored.

2. That the Order may become (as in 1853) the Masonic Order of the Temple only; or that, if the Union is to be preserved in name, it may be also preserved in fact, and all enactments and insignia relating separately to the Order of Malta be repealed.

3. That the privileges and insignia of Past Rank heretofore enjoyed may be restored.

#### IS THE POPE A FREEMASON?

To the Editor of the *Freemason*.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In the two last numbers of the *Freemason* the question is asked, "Is the Pope a Freemason?" I enclose a photo of him in Masonic clothing, which I have had in my possession over 10 years. Bro. General Mott, an American gentleman, told me a few days ago, on his word of honour, that he knew for a fact that the Pope was admitted into the Order when a priest, in a lodge in Philadelphia, and afterwards joined a lodge in Palermo. I do not vouch for the truth, but enclose the photo, which you will take care of for,

Yours fraternally,

GEO. LAURIE.

Constantinople, Nov. 25, 1874.

#### MASONIC BIBLIOGRAPHY.

Three curious Papal Bulls have come into my possession, relative to the creation of some Military Knights of St. Peter. The little book is printed at Rome, 1541. I shall be glad if some brother can give any information as to this Order. The first Bull is issued in 1520, by Pope Leo X., for the erection of a College of Military Knights of St. Peter at Rome. In this Bull the names of the original knights are given. The second Bull is one of Pope Clement VII., confirming the previous Bull. Its date is 1526. The third Bull is one of Pope Paul III., re-confirming the previous two Bulls. Its date is 1535.

A. F. A. WOODFORD.

I see in the latest catalogue issued by the eminent bookseller and bibliographer, Bernard Quaritch, that some curious works and MSS. are for sale; and I think our good friend, Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, would do well to call in to Mr. Quaritch's premises, in Piccadilly, and examine them, especially the under-mentioned:—

4. *Chronicles of Englonde*—small folio English M.S. on vellum. Written about 1420. Printed by Caxton 1480.

29\* "Metrical Chronicle of England. Rolled Manuscript." Circa 1490. Original chronicle compiled about 1430.

164. "Caxton (William). The Chronicles of England. [Emprynted by me, William Caxton, in the Abbey of Westminstre, by London. Fynysshed and accomplysshed the vii day of Octobre, 1482, and in the xxii. yere of the regne of Kyng Edward the Fourth.] Excessively rare, £120.—1482."

It appears only seven other copies are known—all imperfect.

No. 166 is also another edition of the "Chronicles," circa 1480.

It would be well to compare "Halliwell's" and "Cooke's" MSS. with these *Chronicles*; and I do not doubt but that Mr. Quaritch would consent to Bro. Woodford scanning the contents of these valuable MSS. and works.

W. J. HUGHAN.

#### SCIENCE GOSSIP CONVERSAZIONE.

The fifth annual conversazione of the Ipswich Science Gossip Society was held in the Public Hall on Wednesday. As usual, at this popular gathering, the attendance was large, and the votaries both of science and gossip have every cause to thank the Committee for providing such a pleasant reunion once a year. Among the company we noticed the Mayor (Dr. Chevallier), J. P. Cobbold, Esq., M.P., and most of the principal townspeople. The arrangements on the whole were good, though the string band was purchased dearly at the cost of the refreshments which in previous years were supplied to the company. We trust that whatever becomes of the music on another occasion, the tea and coffee will not be omitted.

In a town like Ipswich it is difficult, of course, continually to provide fresh scientific novelties, and many of the objects and processes exhibited had been seen before. The microscopes, polariscopes, spectroscopes, electric and galvanic batteries, attracted the customary attention, but do not require special notice. Mr. Ford Goddard, who has always something interesting and new, showed the mode of extracting madder dyes, sulphur, &c., from waste products formerly thrown away as gas liquor. At the other end of the hall, Mr. J. Wiggin, the public analyst, explained how to get rid of gas companies altogether, namely, by buying Muller's gasoline, storing it in a miniature gasometer, and sending it into the pipes just as we require it. The price of the apparatus is £25, and Mr. Wiggin says that the gas will not cost more than 2s. per 1000.

Mr. Garrett, of Tyler-street, Stoke, exhibited a lapidary's lathe in motion, on which he cut fossils and other stones. A potter's wheel, worked by Mr. Balaam, of Rope-walk, was an object of great interest throughout the evening, the skill with which the artificer turned the plastic clay into pottery of every shape being greatly admired.

Bro. Emra Holmes exhibited three cases of Masonic jewels and clothing, which proved very attractive to the ladies—who looked as if they would have liked to be initiated on the spot. Some of the jewels, which Bro. Holmes had collected from many of the leading Masons in Ipswich, were of great antiquity and very curious. The Tyler's Jewel of the British Union Lodge, of massive silver, with a figure of a Tyler in the costume of George the First, we believe, in high relief upon it, and surmounted with the figure of the Pelican feeding its young (what do our Rose Croix brethren think of this?) and with a silver trowel pendant, was specially remarked.

Bro. G. S. Findley kindly lent some 8 or 10 interesting jewels; to what degrees they appertained we could not always discover.

One old Templar Jewel had the letters H.M. upon it, evidently an allusion to a connection with the Rose Croix, or Royal Order, or both. Another old one had the Brazen Serpent upon it (no doubt the 25th degree of the A. and A. Rite). A third, an oval jewel, had a heart in flames pierced with daggers, and the legend "memento mori," with a skull and cross bones on the obverse. We do not know what degree this is.

Another jewel consisted of a hammer and chisel, richly chased, suspended from a partly-coloured ribbon, and which, we fancy, must have some connection with the Mark Degree. Bro. Pitcher also lent a fine old gold jewel of the Ancient Baldwin Camp of Knights Templar, at Bristol, which has four fleur-de-lis between the four arms of the Cross, pointing to a French origin without doubt.

Bro. Geo. Cresswell, 18°, lent a case of Masonic miniature jewels. Bro. Schulen, P.M., lent the old British Union Lodge jewel, a sort of quasi-chivalric five-pointed star, with a coffin and acacia branch upon it, together with an old silver circular jewel with Masonic symbols cut out upon it.

Bro. George Turner contributed a very old silver medal, with a figure resembling a man upon it, but which, when examined closely, was found to be made up of Masonic symbols, together with the Perfect Friendship Lodge private jewel. Another star, evidently imitated originally

from the badge of the Chivalric Orders, with two hands clasping each other in the centre of it. These private lodge jewels are, of course, illegal, and brethren have no more right to wear them at lodge meetings any more than those of the High Degrees. Indeed, it is doubtful whether, under the articles of union, certain of those Orders, notably: The Templar, Rose Croix, and K.H. 30°, all of which were given them in 1813, might not claim recognition, and their insignia be worn in Grand Lodge, the statutes to the contrary, notwithstanding. Bro. Holmes himself exhibited a gold Prior of Malta jewel, and 31 degree, and the clothing and jewel of a Provincial Grand Registrar of Suffolk, all from the manufactory of Bro. George Kenning.

Bro. Kenning also very kindly sent down a case of jewels and Masonic Regalia, which were very much admired.

The *Suffolk Chronicle* spoke in terms of great praise of the workmanship and skill displayed in the manufacture of these articles and the *Suffolk Mercury* remarks as follows:—

"A very handsome case of Masonic jewels and regalia was exhibited by Bro. George Kenning, of London, Liverpool, and Glasgow, the leading manufacturer of each article in this country. The case contained the collar and gauntlets of a Grand Deacon of England, a marvel of gold embroidery laid on garter blue silk; the collar and apron of the 18th degree, S.P. Rose Croix. crimson and gold; the baldric of a Knight K.H. 30 degrees, besides the costly silver and gold jewels appertaining to various High Degrees in Masonry."

A beautiful M.W.S. gold jewel, manufactured by Bro. Kenning, and presented to the Rev. R. N. Saunderson, 30°, by the Victoria Chapter, Rose Croix, was also shown, amidst a large number of other jewels.

A collapsible lifeboat, invented by the Rev. G. L. Berthon, Vicar of Rumsey, Hants, was lucidly explained by Mr. George, while close by was Mr. Wood, of Harwich, ready in case the lifeboat sprung a leak to stop it effectually with Wood's patent leak stopper. The nuts, boughs of beech, and other relics of antiquity dug up from the Orwell forest were arranged in a case, looking as if they had been under water 12 months instead of 10,000 years. The Rev. Dr. Acland, of Colchester, who was at Iceland during the recent celebration of 100 years of Danish rule, contributed some valuable Icelandic books, &c. A new system of printing in *fac-simile* without ink, was also shown at work. In a suitable ante-room were exhibited a number of lime-light representations of some of Sir Edwin Landseer's works which had a fair share of visitors. Messrs. W. Ladd and Co., of London, exhibited a number of scientific instruments of various kinds, including one of Trotman's patent governors for steam engines.

Messrs. Cowell exhibited a ruling machine at work, while Mr. Piper printed the musical programme on a treadle "Cropper." Mr. Ayres, of the postal telegraph, had a new sounding instrument at each end of the hall, messages being sent from one to the other during the evening. Mr. Vick, of London-road, displayed a superb collection of photographs, and among the other articles and processes exhibited were—illustrations of water power; the manufacture of Prussian blue from "spent oxide," working model of the great Geysir, galvanometer with thermo-pile (by Messrs. Ladd and Co.), the Syren, the great Domesday Book of Ipswich, Bacon's "Chronicles of the Courts of Ipswich," the great court trumpet, anciently used for summoning the court (by the kind permission of the Mayor, B. Chevallier, Esq.), specimens of permanent photographs, lent by the Woodbury-type Company; porbeagle and other sharks recently caught off Suffolk coast; photographic group of the Queen and Royal Family, by Mr. M. P. Parker, of Brook-street; collections of geological specimens—flint and bronze implements, coins and medals, dried ferns and plants, Japanese "egg shell," mud from deep sea soundings, diatoms from the mud of the Orwell, &c.

Twice in the course of the evening Mr. J. E. Taylor, F.G.S., gave a lecture on the "Forest Bed" recently discovered in the River Orwell, which was listened to with great interest. Mr.

John J. Plummer, M.A., astronomer to Colonel Tomline, also gave lecturettes on the "Cometary System," which were highly appreciated.

The Committee of Management were Mr. W. Vick (Chairman), London-road; Dr. Drummond (Hon. Treasurer), Silent-street; Mr. H. Miller, jun. (Hon. Secretary), Old Butter-market; Mr. W. Budden, St. Clement's; Mr. B. Edwards, Carr-street; Mr. D. F. Goddard, Lower Brook-street; Mr. A. Harwood, Belstead Hall; Mr. F. W. Mason, Stoke Hill; Mr. E. Packard, jun., Bramford; Mr. H. Powles, Norwich-road; and Mr. J. E. Taylor, the Museum.

DEDICATION OF A NEW MASONIC HALL AT DERBY.

On Thursday, 26th November, the consecration and dedication of the Derbyshire Masonic Hall, situated in Gower-street, Derby, was performed by the Most Noble and Right Worshipful Brother, the Marquis of Hartington, M.P., Provincial Grand Master of Derbyshire, assisted by Bros. H. C. Okeover, D.P.G.M., and G. J. W. of England, C. R. Colville, P.P.D.G.M., the Rev. A. A. Bagshawe, M.A., P.G.S.W., and P.P.G. Chaplain, and a numerous body of present and past grand officers.

The banqueting-room, on the ground-floor, is 45 by 30ft., in front of which are committee and retiring rooms, and at the back kitchens and Tyler's residence. The entrance hall is paved with encaustic tiles masonically designed. A handsome stone staircase leads to the upper hall, which the Masons of Derby and Derbyshire may well be proud of. It was much admired by all. The size is 38ft. by 30ft., and 20ft. high. The ceiling is partly circular, divided into enriched bays, and ventilated by perforated ornaments all round the cornices, and ribs which spring from Corinthian pilasters. At the end is an ornamental niche for the organ or throne. The exterior is of Hollington or red Mansfield stone, very neatly executed, and we may say the entire building reflects credit upon all parties connected in its erection. Mr. G. H. Sheffield, of Derby, is the architect, and Mr. George Woodiwiss the builder. The cost of the work, exclusive of land, will be about £2,600.

There was a very large attendance of members of the Craft, some 200 being present, including visitors from other provinces. The brethren assembled in the lower room of the hall at one o'clock, and then proceeded to the lodge room in procession. The procession was headed by the visiting brethren from other provinces, then the members of Craft lodges in the province (juniors first), and then the past and present officers and members of the Provincial Grand Lodge. The ceremony, a most solemn and impressive one, was then proceeded with, Bro. the Rev. M. H. Middleton, Provincial Grand Chaplain, offering up the consecration prayer. At the conclusion, the P.G.M. declared the hall duly consecrated and dedicated, according to ancient form, and after an oration from the Past Provincial Grand Chaplain on Masonry, the anthem commencing "The Glorious Majesty of the Lord our God be upon us" was sung. Bro. G. Allen presided at the organ.

The P.G.M. then held his annual Provincial Grand Lodge. The minutes of the last Grand Lodge were read and confirmed, and the Worshipful Masters of the Craft Lodges presented their annual written reports. The reports of the Masonic Hall Committee, and the Charity Committee, were also presented. Bro. T. Cox, P.P.G.S.W., was re-elected Treasurer. The Provincial Grand Master then proceeded to appoint and invest his Provincial Grand Officers as follows:—

- W. Jessop ..... Prov. G.S.W..
- F. Iliffe ..... Prov. G.J.W.
- Rev. J. W. Maltby ..... Prov. G.Chaplain.
- Barrowby ..... Prov. G.R.
- T. Cox ..... Prov. G.T.
- W. H. Marsden ..... Prov. G.S.
- F. Turner ..... Prov. G.S.D.
- Parkin ..... Prov. G.J.D.
- H. Burn ..... Prov. G.S. of W.
- W. Dawson ..... Prov. G.D. of C.

- Warner..... Prov.G.A.D. of C.
- Slack ..... Prov. G.Org.
- Loverock ..... Prov. G.S.B.
- W. J. Gothard ..... Prov.G. Purst.
- J. Taylor ..... Prov. G. Std. B.
- T. Slinn ..... Prov. G. Tyler.

The following brethren were appointed Prov. Grand Stewards:—Tyrian Lodge, W. C. Watson, and S. J. Robinson; Arboretum Lodge, J. Baldock and W. Knight; Hartington Lodge; W. Heathcote and T. Gadsby.

Amongst those present were Bros. the Marquis of Hartington, M.P., H. C. Okeover, C. R. Colville, Rev. A. A. Bagshawe, J. Smith, R. Darwin, F. Binckes (Secretary Boys' School, London), J. Crossley, Capt. Arkwright, M.P., Sir John Alleyne, Fitzherbert Wright, Thos. Cox, W. H. Marsden,—Calder, J. L. Gibbons, J. Allen, G. Staley, J. Pymm, H. Carson, W. C. Watson; F. J. Robinson, T. Merry, J. Bowmer, T. Horsley, S. Foulds, W. M. Hewitt, S. Rowbottom, G. Graham, J. Barrowby, J. T. Wright, E. Grindwill, J. Taylor, W. Smith, F. Turner, C. Adams, J. Pegg, F. Campion, W. Naylor, W. Garrard, J. Kinder, C. Parkins, R. Eastwood, T. Roe, jun.,—Warner, J. Worsnop, F. Hogg, S. Stone, T. R. Gee, W. H. Burton,—Farnsworth, H. Turner, T. Hall, R. Waite, G. H. Sheffield, Rev. W. J. M. Ellison, Rev. M. H. Middleton, and between one and two hundred visitors.

The banquet was held at four o'clock in the afternoon, at the St. James's Hall. Bro. the Marquis of Hartington, M.P., presided, and over 100 brethren sat down to dinner. Miss Golz, manageress of the St. James's Hotel, provided an admirable repast.

On the removal of the cloth, and after the hall had been closely tyled, the following toasts were to be proposed and responded to:—"The Queen and The Craft"; "the M.W.G.M. of England, Bro. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family"; "The R.W.G.D.M. of England, Bro. the Earl of Carnarvon, and the G.Officers present and past"; "the R.W. the Prov. G.M. of Derbyshire, Bro. the Marquis of Hartington"; "the R.W. the D.P.G.M. of Derbyshire, Bro. Okeover"; "The R.W. the P.D.P.G.M. of Derbyshire, Bro. Colville"; "The Officers of the P.G. Lodge of Derbyshire, present and past"; "Success to the Derbyshire Masonic Hall"; "The Trustees of the Masonic Hall"; "The Architect, Bro. Sheffield, P.P.G.S. of W., and Bro. G. Woodiwiss, the Builder"; "The Visiting Brethren"; "The W.M.'s of the Derby Lodges"; "The W.M.'s of the other Lodges in the Province."

PRESCOT MASONIC HALL.

The first annual meeting of the Prescott Masonic Hall Company, Limited, was held a few days ago at the King's Arms Hotel, Prescott, near Liverpool. Bro. J. T. Hall, of Prescott Hall, Chairman of the Company, presided, and there were also present, Bros. Dennett, Fogg, J. Fowler, sen.; W. Tyrer, J. Kitchen, J. Fowler, jun.; R. D. Simpson. Bro. John Vaughan, the Secretary, read the report for the past year, from which it appeared that the progress of the Company had been most satisfactory since its formation. It was registered in December last, and the object it had in view being generally approved, a large number of the shares were speedily taken up. The primary object of the company was to provide improved accommodation for the Masonic brethren meeting in Prescott, where the old Lodge of Loyalty (86), the Royal Arch Chapter, and Encampment of Knight Templars include many members not only from amongst the residents of Prescott, but from Liverpool, Widnes, St. Helens, and other places in the surrounding neighbourhood. A piece of land was purchased in Derby-street, and on this a handsome new building is fast approaching completion by the contractor, Mr. J. Preston, of Wigan. The principal portion of the ground floor front will be let to Parr's Banking Company, St. Helens, for the establishment of a branch of their bank in Prescott, and in addition to providing excellent and ample accommodation for the Masonic gatherings, the company have consented to erect a handsome subscription billiard room on a portion of their surplus land at the back of the hall,

the tender for the erection of which has also been let to Mr. Preston. Owing to this extension of their original scheme, the directors recommended that the capital of the company should be increased from £1200 to £2000 by the issue of additional shares, and this was unanimously agreed to. The retiring directors were Bros. J. F. Hall, T. Dennett, and S. Morris. Bros. Hall and Dennett were unanimously re-elected, but Dr. Morris being unable to attend in consequence of his professional duties, Bro. John Kitchen, of St. Helens, was elected in his stead. The report of the directors was unanimously adopted, and after the transaction of some formal business the proceedings closed with the usual compliment to the chairman.

MASONIC CONCERT IN LIVERPOOL.

On Saturday evening last the first of a series of five subscription concerts was given in the large banqueting hall of the New Masonic Hall, Liverpool, the special object of which is to assist in raising funds for the erection of an organ in the lodge room of the new building. The Liverpool Masonic Hall is acknowledged to be one of the best and most convenient in the provinces, and the effort to supply an instrument so useful and necessary in Masonic ceremonials is one which ought to be crowned with the most complete success. These concerts have been organised with the view of supplying the all-important instrument; and although the first of the series was not so well attended as could have been desired, no doubt in consequence of the shocking weather, there is good reason to hope that those which are to follow will be exceedingly successful. The artistes were Mrs. Billinie Porter (who proved herself a thoroughly efficient vocalist), Mrs. Skeaf (who secured more than one encore), Miss Frances Armstrong (a rising young vocalist), Bro. H. C. Harrison (whose tenor voice did full justice to his two songs), Bro. T. J. Hughes (who never fails to delight, as he did on this occasion), and Bro. T. Armstrong, (whose fine, telling voice was heard to great advantage in one of "Jack" Hatton's songs). The concert was one of the most interesting which we have heard for a long time. Bro. J. Skeaf, P.G.O., presided as accompanist at the new grand pianoforte, supplied by Messrs. Kirkman and Sons, London, and a first hearing of the instrument satisfied everyone. The accompaniments were played with the greatest taste, and Bro. Skeaf also added to the interest of the concert by playing with the finest effect his own fantasias, "The Fisherman" and "The Chimes." All the artistes generously gave their services. The refreshments for the "green-room" were most kindly provided by Bro. W. Vines, P.M. 1299.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND.

The annual meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge was held at Hinckley, on Wednesday, the 25th ult., under the auspices of the Knights of Malta Lodge, No. 50.

The lodge was held in St. George's Hall, a newly erected and very convenient building for the purpose, and which had been most tastefully decorated with banners and appropriate mottos, under the supervision of Bro. T. Tippetts, the W.M., and the brethren of No. 50.

The Craft Lodge having been opened in the three degrees, the R.W. Prov. G. Master, the Right Hon. the Earl Ferrers, and his officers entered and were received with the customary honours.

Prior to the opening of the Provincial Grand Lodge the R.W.P.G.M. took the chair of the Craft Lodge, and very efficiently performed the ceremony of installing Bro. Tippetts, who had been re-elected to the office of W.M. for a second year.

Provincial Grand Lodge was then opened in due form and the Roll of Lodges was called, every lodge in the province being represented except the Vale of Catmos, No. 1265, Oakham.

Amongst those present, in addition to the

R.W. Prov. G.M., were the following Prov. G. Officers, viz., Bros. Sir H. St. John Halford, Bart., D. Prov. G.M.; G. Toller, jun., Prov. S.G.W.; Wm. B. Smith, Prov. G. Treas.; S. S. Partridge, Prov. G., Sec. J. B. Hall, Prov. G.D.C.; R. Boughton-Smith, Prov. G.A.D.C.; W. T. Rowlett, Prov. G. Org.; George Clifton, M.D., Prov. G. Purs.; M. H. Lewin, Prov. G.S.B.; Wm. Crow and W. S. Allen, Prov. G. Stewards and C. Bembridge, Prov. G. Tyler, together with a large number of Past Provincial Grand Officers and W.M.'s, Wardens and members of the various lodges in the province. The visitors' list included Bros. H. Sanderson, P.M. 925, P.P.G. Purst., Warwickshire; Hugh Deane, 340; H. Slingsby, P.M. 432; W. Hammond, Sec. 432; J. Tickle, J.W. 1196; H. Hitchman and J. Barber, 455; G. Smith, 884; and J. H. Page, S.W. and W.M. elect; F. C. Boates, J.W.; the Rev. B. Mayou, Chaplain, and a large number of members of the Athelstan Lodge, Atherstone, No. 1333, of which Bro. Tippetts, the W.M. of No. 50, is a P.M.

The minutes of the previous annual general communication and of a special meeting held in August last were read and confirmed.

The Prov. G. Secretary read the report of the Committee of General Purposes, containing a detailed account of the proceedings of the committee with reference to the votes for the Masonic Charities, and an appeal to the brethren for increased exertions on behalf of those institutions and concluding with a review of the principal Masonic events within the province during the past year, in which special allusion was made to the interesting proceedings connected with the laying of the memorial stone of the new municipal buildings in Leicester with Masonic honours.

The accounts of the Prov. G. Treasurer, showing the province to be in a remarkably good financial position, were received and adopted.

It was resolved that the Boys' School be the charity to be supported by the province for the ensuing year, and that Bro. Robert Waite, P.M., who had represented the province as Steward for the Girls' School last year, be nominated as Steward at the next Festival of the Boys' School.

The reports from the W.M.'s of lodges were read, and a summary of the returns was submitted, the latter showing a slight decrease in the number of subscribing members compared with that of last year.

The election of Prov. G. Treasurer then took place, and Bro. William Beaumont Smith, P.M., was unanimously re-elected to the office, which he has held for several years, and the duties of which he has discharged with credit to himself, and advantage to the province.

The R.W. Prov. G.M. appointed the following brethren as his officers:—

- S. Love, 779 ..... Prov. S.G.W.
- R. Waite, 1391 ..... Prov. J.G.W.
- Rev. J. H. Smith, 279 ..... Prov. G. Chaplain.
- W. B. Smith, 523 ..... Prov. G. Treasurer.
- T. G. Tippetts, 50 ..... Prov. G. Registrar.
- S.S. Partridge, 523 ..... Prov. G. Secretary.
- J. M. McAllister, 279 ..... Prov. G. S.D.
- W. Hardy, Jr., 1265 ..... Prov. G. J.D.
- R. Bindley, 50 ..... Prov. G. Sup. W.
- J. B. Hall, 1391 ..... Prov. G. D. of C.
- C. S. Preston, 50 ..... Prov. G. Sw. B.
- T. A. Wykes, 523 ..... Prov. G. Org.
- C. E. Stretton, 279 ..... Prov. A. Purst.
- T. Worthington, 50 ..... Prov. G. Steward.
- G. W. Statham, 279 ..... Prov. G. Steward.
- A. Sargeant, 523 ..... Prov. G. Steward.
- R. Dalgleish, 779 ..... Prov. G. Steward.
- G. T. Willan, 1130 ..... Prov. G. Steward.
- A. A. Barlow, 1265 ..... Prov. G. Steward.
- C. Bunbridge ..... Prov. G. Tyler.
- T. Dunn ..... Prov. G. Tyler.

A letter was read from the Past Prov. G.M., Bro. W. Kelly, F.R. Hist. S., regretting that for the first time during his 36 years' connection with the Craft, he was compelled to be absent from the meeting of Prov. G. Lodge, which had been fixed for a day on which the pressure of other important engagements rendered it impossible for him to attend; Bro. Kelly made

special allusion in his letter to the efficient and indefatigable services of Bro. T. A. Wykes, as acting Provincial Grand Secretary, in making the arrangements for the special meeting of Prov. G. Lodge in August last, during the absence of Bro. S. S. Partridge, the Prov. G. Secretary, on the Continent; and trusted that those services would meet with the hearty recognition of Prov. G. Lodge.

Bro. H. Deane, P.P.J.G.W., proposed that a cordial vote of thanks should be given to Bro. Wykes for the admirable and efficient manner in which he had discharged the duties of Acting Provincial Grand Secretary on the occasion above referred to. The motion was seconded by Bro. F. J. Baines, P.P.G. Purst., supported by Bro. Partridge, and carried unanimously.

The D. Prov. G.M. proposed a vote of thanks to the W.M. and brethren of the Knights of Malta Lodge for the very hearty and enthusiastic reception they had given the members of Prov. G. Lodge, and for the great trouble bestowed in beautifying and decorating the room, and preparing it for their use. Bro. Toller said that, on entering the lodge, he was quite taken by surprise at the admirable arrangements which had been made by the Hinckley brethren for the accommodation of Prov. Grand Lodge. He begged to compliment the W.M. and members of No. 50, on their highly successful efforts, and seconded the motion, which was put and carried, and afterwards suitably responded to by Bro. Tippetts, W.M.

Apologies for unavoidable absence having been read from several brethren, the Prov. G. Lodge was closed in due form.

After closing the Craft Lodge, the brethren adjourned to the banquet, which was served by Mr. Trickett, of the George Hotel, in an excellent manner.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The General Committee of this School met on Saturday last at Freemasons' Hall, when the chair was taken by Bro. John Symonds, V.P.

There were also in attendance Bros. Major Creaton, W. Winn, H. Browse, Benjamin Head, S. Rawson, H. Dubosc, S. Rosenthal, A. H. Tattershall, Hyde Pullen, F. Adlard, Capt. N. G. Phillips, D. M. Dewar, R. W. Little, Jesse Turner, Thomas W. White, J. G. Chancellor, C. J. Palmer, E. M. Haigh, John Read, A. D. and M. D. Loewenstark, W. F. C. Montrie, C. W. Jones, W. H. Saunders, Geo. Kelly, E. W. Hubbuck, H. Massey (Freemason), and F. Binckes, Secretary.

The Province of Warwick having applied, through its Charity Committee, for the sanction of this Institution to a scheme for employing the Tylers in the province to collect subscriptions on behalf of the Boys' School at a small commission, which scheme had received the approval of the Provincial Grand Master, Lord Leigh, the matter was thoroughly discussed, Bros. Major Creaton, Saunders, Binckes, A. D. Loewenstark, Adlard, Rawson, Turner, and Rosenthal, taking part in the debate. The motion granting permission as requested was afterwards put to the meeting and carried.

Bro. A. H. Tattershall then brought forward the motion, of which he had given notice, and which appeared in our impression of the 28th ult.:

"That all proxies shall be forwarded direct from the office to the parties to whom they belong—i.e., to those who are registered in the office books, except in those cases where the Secretary is authorised to deal with them otherwise; but in such cases where authorities are given, they must be renewed previous to every election."

Bro. Tattershall fully explained his reason for making this motion, and said that from his experience as a Scrutineer at the elections, he felt convinced that many votes were polled by the proxies of dead subscribers being used.

The motion was seconded, and after Bro. S. Rosenthal had offered it, Bro. Binckes read several letters he had received from provinces condemning the proposition, which the writers

thought would be detrimental to the interests of the Institution.

Bros. Winn, Turner, Adlard, Loewenstark and others, took part in the discussion which followed, and the brethren ultimately rejected the motion.

The minutes of the House Committee, which were read for information, led to a very long and careful deliberation of the matters referred to in them.

Bro. Binckes read the extract which related to this school, from the will of Mr. George Wake-ling, of Chelmsford, under which "the Masonic Boys' and Girls' School" take one third of the residue of the testator's personal estate. Bro. Binckes also stated that the matter of Bro. Cluff's bequest had been laid before Bro. J. M. Clabon, and that brother would draw up a report upon it to be laid before the Committee in January. He was unable to attend the present meeting, but if he had attended it he would have advised that the bequest should be accepted, and the trusts of the will carried out.

Five petitions were then considered, and four out of the five candidates were passed as suitable to be placed on the list for election; and the Committee, having sat nearly two hours and a half, adjourned after passing a cordial vote of thanks to the chairman.

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