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M.W. Grand Master of England;

SIR ROBERT MICHAEL SHAW-STEWART BART.,

M.W. the Grand Master Mason of Scotland;

AND THE GRANDMASTERS OF MANY FOREIGN LODGES.

London: Bro. GEORGE KENNING, 198, Fleet Street, E.C.

1875.

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

IPSWICH.—*British Union Lodge* (No. 114.)—On Thursday, the 17th ult., the annual meeting for the installation of the Worshipful Master and festival of St. John was held. Present, Bros. the Rev. E. J. Lockwood, D.P.G.M.; P. de Lande Long, W.M.; C. Schulen, P.P.G.D.C.; Emra Holmes, P.P.G. Registrar, M.C.; J. Harris, P.M., P.P.G.S.D.; W. Spalding, Secretary, P.M.; R. Barton, LL.D., P.P.G.M. Western India; A. D. George, S.W.; J. J. Burton, J.W., P.P.G.D.C., Camb.; Rev. A. W. G. Moore, S.D.; H. Miller, J.D.; J. Casley; Geo. Turner, P.P.G.D.C.; H. Clark; P. Cornell, P.P.G.S.D., and others. Visiting brethren; Rev. — Morse, P.P.G.S.W., Cambridge; J. B. Perrott, P.P.G.S.W., South Wales; N. Tracy, P.P.G.S.W., W.M., Perfect Friendship Lodge, and others. The lodge having been opened in due and solemn form, and the minutes confirmed, Bro. Lockwood duly installed Bro. A. D. George, the W.M. elect, into the chair of King Solomon, the ceremony being characterised by that degree of solemnity and impressiveness which the reverend brother knows so well how to impart to the proceedings. The M.C. having proclaimed the W.M. in ancient form, the newly-installed Master proceeded to invest his officers as follows:—Bros. Peter de Lande Long, I.P.M.; J. J. Burton, S.W.; Rev. A. W. G. Moore, J.W.; H. Miller, S.D.; Rev. J. B. Tweed, J.D.; A. Allen, I.G.; G. Spalding, Tyler; C. Schulen, Treasurer; W. Spalding, Secretary. One or two of the brethren being unfortunately absent they were invested by proxy. Bro. Dr. Barton proposed that a Past Master's jewel be presented to Bro. Long for his able conduct in the chair. Bro. Emra Holmes cordially seconded the motion, testifying to the unvarying courtesy which Bro. Long had shown whilst holding that position, and the zeal and assiduity which he had exhibited as Master of the lodge. The motion was carried by acclamation at the suggestion of Bro. Lockwood. Bro. Long thanked the brethren very warmly for their kindness, which he appreciated all the more because he knew it was not the custom of the lodge to present the Master with a jewel. Whatever future honours might await him in Masonry, he should value the jewel of the British Union Lodge more than anything else. The current business being disposed of, the brethren retired to the banquet, which was served in Bro. G. Spalding's best style. The table was decorated with choice flowers, the champagne was splendid; both were the gift of the W.M. Ample justice having been done to the viands, and the cloth being removed, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given from the chair. Some conversation ensued as to the course to be taken with reference to the attendance of brethren at the forthcoming installation of the Prince of Wales as Grand Master. It was suggested that the proposition which had recently appeared in the FREEMASON, that the Albert Hall should be secured for the installation, was the only feasible one for allowing such brethren as were entitled to attend an opportunity of seeing the Prince. A brother remarked that there were 1400 actual Masters, double that number of Wardens, of course, and probably about 4000 Past Masters, all of whom had a seat in Grand Lodge. He thought that if tickets at guinea or half a guinea were issued to such as were eligible to attend, a handsome sum might be realised for the charities, as probably between 8000 and 10,000 had a right to be present and no doubt half that number would gladly pay the amount in order to attend. It appears there is some difficulty about the renters of the Albert Hall, but surely it is not insurmountable, and from the opinions generally expressed on this and other occasions it may fairly be assumed that any scheme tending to limit the attendance unjustly, or which fails to provide adequate accommodation for the Masters of the Craft, will meet with universal disapprobation. Bro. Dr. Barton proposed "The Immediate Past Master" in eulogistic terms and in an admirable speech expatiated upon his many excellencies of head and heart, and alluding to the Craft generally he said that it behoved brethren to be very careful nowadays for their characters were soon known all over the world. What with steam and the electric telegraph the world was brought very close together. What he thought might be considered one of the coincidences of life so frequently occurring and which illustrated what he said was the fact that his immediate predecessor, Bro.

Durance Cartwright, Prov. Grand Master of Western India, was uncle of their present Master, Bro. Durance George, of whom he had great hopes. Bro. Long briefly and modestly responded to the toast and made a pleasant speech revealing nothing as to what was contemplated by the Board of General Purposes, (of which our popular brother is Vice-President) in the installation of His Royal Highness. The I.P.M. proposed the W.M., who suitably responded. In proposing the D.P.G.M. from the chair Bro. George took occasion to dilate upon the admirable way in which he filled that office and thanked our venerable brother for the impressive way in which he had conducted the installation. Bro. Morse in responding to the toast of the visitors, made a most excellent speech. Alluding to some remarks made by Dr. Barton earlier in the evening, showing the vast antiquity of Masonry as evidenced in the caves of Elephanta, which have a lion at the entrance with a drawn sword, are due east and west, are formed like a lodge, and have three seats, east, south, and west, &c., Bro. Morse said he had been struck with the evidences of Masonry in Lincoln Cathedral many years ago. In a certain part seen from the tower and in their right position are three gurgoyles, making the signs of the three degrees. There they have spouted out water for centuries upon centuries and there they have been making the signs of Freemasons, and some would have us believe Masonry was a thing of yesterday. Bro. Emra Holmes, by permission of the W.M., assumed the gavel, and called upon the brethren to rise and drink to the memory of their deceased Bro. King, a frequent visitor at the lodge, who had been suddenly called from among them, called from labour to refreshment, and who he hoped was awaiting them in the Grand Lodge above. Bro. King had just been installed W.M. of the St. Luke's Lodge, when he died, and he believed, as Bro. Sanderson had said solemnly over his grave, that such was his love for Masonry and so prepared was he, that had he been asked how he would be taken, he would have wished no other death than this. The toast was drunk in solemn silence. But for the passing sadness by this allusion to our much esteemed and deeply lamented brother, a very agreeable evening was spent, and the brethren were loath indeed to part. Bros. Clark and Turner contributed very much to the harmony of the evening by giving some capital songs.

WHITTINGTON LODGE (No. 862).—A meeting of the Whittington Lodge was held on Monday evening, at Anderson's Hotel, Bro. Alfred Rhodes Haley, W.M., presided, and initiated M. Guiseppe Oberti. Bro. James Weaver, P.M., passed Bros. Beldan, Webb, May, Brown, Hum and Williams, and the brethren afterwards banqueted together. Thirty-seven sat down, and among them were several visitors, the principal being Lieut.-Col. James Peters, 29th North Middlesex Rifles, W.M. Thames Valley Lodge, No. 1460; and William Stephens, W.M. Marquis of Ripon Lodge, No. 1489. It will be remembered that three weeks ago the Whittington Lodge presented the Marquis of Ripon Lodge with the collar jewels of the officers, the presentation being made in the latter lodge by Bro. James Brett, P.G.P. In returning thanks for the visitors to the toasts proposed in their honour on Monday evening, Bro. William Stephens took the opportunity thus afforded him of thanking also the Whittington Lodge for their handsome gift, which he hoped the brethren of the Marquis of Ripon Lodge would always value as much as they did now. He esteemed the possession of a jewel which had belonged to the Whittington Lodge as one of the greatest points gained towards the success of his own lodge, and he could not but remark that the generous gift exhibited the true principles of Freemasonry. He trusted that he should hand over the jewel to his successor in the chair to continue the good work of Freemasonry already begun, and he concluded by expressing his truest fraternal regards to the brethren before him, and offering to them the most cordial invitation during his year of office to visit him at his lodge. Lieut. Col. Peters also acknowledged the toast of "The Visitors," and expressed his gratification at the hearty reception which he had experienced that evening, and at meeting the brother who a short time ago had consecrated the Thames Valley Lodge, of which he was Master. Bro. Jones replied for the Past Masters. Among the officers who replied to the toast drunk to them, was Bro. Walker, J.W., who announced the fact of his Stewardship for the Aged Freemasons' Festival on the 27th of January, and pleaded the cause of that Institution very powerfully. Bro. Moore, I.G., acknowledging the difficulty there was to say anything new in answer to these toasts, which were proposed and responded to in almost the same words from day to day, said he looked upon the post to which he had attained as one of high honour, for to the I.G. was entrusted the important duty of keeping out all intruders to the lodge. Looked upon by many as almost a formal office, it was to him of great moment, for while it prepared him for the more onerous duties of the Master's chair, which he hoped ultimately to reach, it should warn brethren to keep out all such would-be intruders to their hearts as pride and self-conceit. When the Treasurer and Secretary responded to the toast which was specially dedicated to them, Bro. Little read some lines he had written, founded on 1 John, ii: 19, on a late great withdrawal from the Order, which, however, we refrain from giving, on account of their not being yet finally revised. The brethren, after enjoying several good musical performances, adjourned to the third Monday in January.

HAMPTON.—*Lebanon Lodge* (No. 1326).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, December 17th, at the Red Lion Hotel, Lion Square, Hampton. Bro. Frederick Walters, P.G.P. Middlesex, P.M., Sec., opened the lodge. There were present during the afternoon and evening Bros. W. Hammond, P.G. Steward, Middlesex, P.M. 201, P.M. 1512, W.M.; H. A. Dubois, P.G.A.D.C., Middlesex, W.M. 1413, S.W.; J. W. Jackson, J.W.; J. Gilbert, S.D.; E. Hopwood, P.M.; J. T. Moss, P.G. Reg., Middlesex, P.M.; G. S. Stretton; C. W.

Stretton; W. B. Shackleton; C. Home; W. Warhurst; J. Howe; H. Tozer; and many others. Amongst the visitors we noticed Bros. W. Smeed, P.P.G. J.W. Middlesex, P.M. 246; Rev. P. M. Holden, Chaplain, 907; &c., &c. The veteran Secretary, in a slow, impressive, and solemn manner, raised Bros. W. Warhurst and C. Howe to the third degree; passed Bro. J. Howe to the second degree. Bro. H. A. Dubois, P.G.A.D.C., Middlesex, W.M. 1423, S.W., took the chair, and in an able, painstaking, and correct style initiated Mr. Charles Lucop into the mysteries and the privileges of ancient Freemasonry. Bro. W. Hammond, P.G. Steward, Middlesex, P.M. 201, W.M. 1512, W.M., closed the lodge. Refreshment followed labour. The usual toasts were given and responded to. Songs and recitations passed away an agreeable reunion. The brethren separated, wishing each other a right merry Christmas and a happy new year.

STOCKWELL LODGE (No. 1339).—A meeting of this lodge took place on Thursday, the 17th ult., at the Tulse Hill Hotel. Present:—Bros. Keenik, W.M.; Pain, S.W.; W. H. Benham, J.W.; Bennett, S.D.; Bowyer, J.D.; Loe, I.G.; Francis, Sec.; Knibbs; T. Harris; W. Harris; Hinxman; Pillinger, D.C.; Sidwell, Dea, and H. Hart. The lodge being prevented from meeting at the usual place Herne Hill, the W.M. called a meeting at the above place. The business was to elect the W.M., Treasurer, and Tyler, and to elect Bro. Hart, of the Rose of Denmark, as a joining member. The S.W., Bro. Pain, having generously given way to the J.W., Bro. Benham, J.W., was unanimously elected W.M. Bro. Hammerton, P.M., was also unanimously elected Treasurer; and Bro. Parkinson, Tyler. The ballot was also unanimous in the election of Bro. Hart as joining member. A jewel having been voted to the outgoing Master, the lodge was then closed.

HAMPTON COURT.—*Era Lodge* (No. 1423).—The election meeting of this young, prosperous, and flourishing lodge, was held on Saturday, December 12th, at the King's Arms Hotel, Hampton Court. There were present, during the afternoon and evening, Bros. H. A. Dubois, P.G.A.D.C. Middlesex, W.M.; J. W. Baldwin, S.W.; J. Baxter-Langley, J.W.; Rev. P. M. Holden, Chaplain; T. J. Sabine, P.G.S.B. Middlesex, P.M., Treasurer; F. Walters, P.G.P. Middlesex, P.M., Secretary; J. S. Sweasey, S.D.; J. Wolff, J.D.; E. W. Devereux, I.G.; T. H. Miller, P.M. Organist; A. F. Loos, M.C.; B. Wright, W.S.; W. A. Simmons, C.S.; J. T. Moss, P.G. Reg. Middlesex, P.M.; E. H. Thiellay, W. Munday, Underhill, Pearson, Hobly, and many others. Amongst a large number of visitors, we noticed Bros. W. Hammond, P.G. Steward Middlesex, P.M. 201, W.M. 1326, W.M. 1512; Peacock, 21, and others. In an able, correct, and impressive manner, Messrs. F. d'Henreux, W. Chartres, Davis, and Moore, were introduced separately and initiated in the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry. The elections, which were unanimous, decided that Bros. J. W. Baldwin, S.W., should be W.M.; T. J. Sabine, Treasurer, and J. Gilbert, P.G. Tyler Middlesex, Tyler, the last two-named being re-elected. J. Faulkner added his name to the list of Stewards for Girls' School, 1875. The usual ten-guinea Past Master's jewel was agreed to be presented from the lodge funds to the W.M. Several gentlemen were proposed for initiation. It was decided to have an emergency meeting in January, so as to clear off all the work, leaving nothing but the installation to do at the February meeting. All business being ended, the lodge was closed. Refreshment followed labour.

CHATHAM.—*Brownrigg Lodge* (No. 1424).—St. John's Day, which is the annual installation day in this lodge, falling last year on Sunday, the installation of a new W.M. of the lodge was performed the day following, and the brethren assembled on Monday in large numbers to witness the ceremony in the lecture hall of the Soldiers' Institute, Chatham. The lodge was established only two years ago, and during the time which has followed the consecration it has secured the membership of between 70 and 80 brethren. Its prosperity is further evidenced by the accumulation of a fund amounting already to £27, established for the purpose of supporting the Masonic institutions, by a portion of every initiation fee being set apart for the attainment of this object. In addition to this, all the heavy expenses incurred in the establishment of the lodge have been defrayed, two Past Master's jewels have been purchased, and jewels commemorating the foundation have been presented to each founder. It is also in contemplation to present another jewel, to be called a commemoration jewel, to each member of the lodge who was such at its consecration. Already the lodge has strongly supported the Masonic institutions, and this object is the principal one at which the moving spirits of the lodge lay out for themselves in the future. It was therefore under very favourable circumstances that the installation of the lodge's third Master was celebrated on Monday, and the style in which it was performed was very creditable to the Lodge of Instruction, which meets every week in connection with the parent lodge. The W.M., Bro. J. A. Bates, Master Gunner, R.A., took the chair at the hour announced for the meeting of the brethren, and, after the usual preliminaries, installed his successor, Bro. John Jervis, S.W., Staff-sergeant, paymaster's clerk, as W.M. for the year ensuing. On the completion of the ceremony the following brethren received the appointments of officers of the lodge:—Bros. Simmons, S.W.; McCoy, J.W.; Cottrell, J.D.; Ramsden, I.G.; Johnson, D.C.; Pickering, Steward; Crane, Steward; Husband, Organist; Thompson, Treasurer; and Magee, Secretary. A vote of thanks was unanimously passed to Past Master Bates for the accomplished style in which he had performed the installation, and a further vote of thanks was given to the Provincial Grand Officers and W.M.'s of lodges in the Province of Kent, for honouring the lodge with their presence. Bro. Spencer, Provincial Grand Secretary, acknowledged the compliment, The W.M.

then presented to Bros. S. Cole, P.M., and J. A. Bates, P.M., handsome and massive P.M.'s jewels, in recognition of the services which they had rendered to the lodge during their respective Masterships. Bros. Cole and Bates having expressed their gratification at receiving such a mark of approval of their efforts, lodge was duly closed, and the brethren adjourned to a banquet, provided by Bro. Willis, of the Sun Hotel, Chatham. In addition to the members of lodge who were present in lodge and who partook of banquet were the following visitors:—Edwards, 1257; Morley, 1257; Strip, 749; J. Phillips, 1205; R. Harvey, 1175; W. Gamon, 20; G. White; C. A. Lyon Campbell, 1174; Tovell, 184; E. Towman, 168; F. Binckes, G. Steward Secretary, Masonic Boys' School; T. Wyles, 1050; S. A. Bastridge, 84; T. W. Newton, W.M. 1050; Hewitt, 184, W.M. elect; Evans, 20; Knowlton; H. Clark; A. Spencer, Prov. G. Sec.; W. Carlin, 715; McCoy, 700; McKen, 184; Eastley, 184; Barnes, 20; H. Massey, *Freemason*, 619; Burfield, P.M. 20; Owen J. Carter, 20; and Edwards, 20, W.M. The banquet was thoroughly enjoyed by the brethren, and when it had been done full justice to the W.M., after grace, proposed the toasts. The toast of "The Pro Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and the Grand Officers," was responded to by Bro. Binckes, who was specially selected by the W.M. for that duty. In doing so, Bro. Binckes first acknowledged the great kindness with which he had always been received in the Province of Kent, but said it was a heavy task to impose on him to call on him to respond for such a distinguished galaxy of brethren as the Grand Officers. Of the Pro Grand Master it must be said that he stood so near the throne that any mention of him must be approached with delicacy; but he (Bro. Binckes) had been able to estimate his high qualities and great abilities from a long acquaintance with his lordship as Deputy Grand Master, and as Provincial Grand Master of Somerset, in which positions he had proved over and over again his eminent qualifications for any office. The while the Marquis of Ripon was in America, Lord Carnarvon performed his duties to the entire satisfaction of the Craft; and the unqualified applause which his appointment as Pro Grand Master to the Prince of Wales elicited in Grand Lodge, showed how much he was esteemed. Of the Deputy Grand Master, Lord Skelmersdale, although he was young in years and in connection with the Craft, he could also speak most favourably as a member of a lodge in London to which he (Bro. Binckes) belonged, and as Grand Master of one of the largest provinces in England, West Lancashire, he had ably discharged his duties. As to the other Grand Officers, it was high praise to give them to say that they had been closely identified with that practical charity upon which the Order was erected; and it could not but always be to him a great honour to have his name connected with the toast of the Grand Officers. In all the annals of Freemasonry, it was never at a more important period of its history than at present. It had to mourn the loss of a very good, able, kind, and efficient chief, in the secession of the Marquis of Ripon from the headship of the Order. It had sustained by this secession not only a great loss, but a heavy blow. But while lamenting over the loss, and suffering from the blow, they need have no discouragement with reference to the principles of the Craft, which were immutable, unalterable, indestructible in themselves, and maintained the vitality of Freemasonry. It did not matter who might be at its head from time to time—as Masons they must continue to place their principles properly before the world, and they need not fret over the loss of a chief, however great. But as the darkest hour of midnight rendered the dawning of morning the brighter, it had been the lot of Freemasons to secure the heir to the throne of England as their Grand Master, and while they had to lament the loss of the Marquis of Ripon, they had to congratulate themselves on services of the Prince of Wales in his place. After expressing his regret at the loss of the Duke of Leinster, whose Grand Mastership of 61 years duration was unequalled in the annals of Freemasonry, Bro. Binckes pointed out to the brethren, how, as military men and Masons, they should "close up," and stick shoulder to shoulder, and show to the world that no matter what might be their occasional Masonic losses, they were so thoroughly imbued with the principles of Freemasonry that they could bear a loss without injury, however severe it might be. The outcome of it all was that Masons must do all they possibly could to spread the principles of the Craft, and to show that the aged, the widows and orphans, had their heartiest sympathy; Bro. Spencer, Prov. G. Sec., replied for "Lord Holmesdale and the Provincial Grand Officers," and laid before the brethren the principles of the Provincial Grand Lodge Charity Committee, urging them all to support it and to carry any cases they had to it, instead of trying by their individual efforts to secure an election. In the latter case they might fail in their object, but if they entrusted the charge to the committee, it was sure to succeed. Bro. Newton, W.M. Gundulph, 1050, responded for the W.Ms. of provincial lodges, and Bro. Kole in a flattering speech proposed the W.M., who in reply, said he should endeavour to follow the footsteps of his predecessors in carrying out the duties of the chair, and in encouraging the members to support Masonic institutions. Bro. Bate, responding to a special toast in his honour, said the compliment was greatly enhanced by the cordiality with which it had been received. He had considered it the highest honour to be elevated to the post of W.M. of the Lodge and he was pleased that his performance of his duties had met with approval. He had no pretence to aught but zeal for the good and welfare of their time-honoured institutions, to which he felt proud to belong, and whose basis was to serve God and honour the Queen. He returned his best thanks to the brethren who had supported him during the year, for he could not but remember that it was a numerous attendance of officers and brethren that clothed the ceremonies with importance. Bro. Carter replied for "The

Visitors," and Bro. Binckes was again called on to answer for "The Charities." He said he had not thought he would be called upon a second time to speak, and he never felt in his life before such a thorough inability as he then had to respond to the old prosaic toast, after listening to songs which in addition to being good, were well sung, and had given pleasure and delight to all who had heard them. They were all enjoying a most agreeable evening, and this old skeleton, being brought on the table, rather marred their pleasure; but after all said and done, it might be wise in their extremest mirth to be serious a moment or two. Now with reference to the Charities he would say *place aux dames*, and he would first speak of the Girls' School. It deserved all the assistance that could be given to it. Since it was established in 1788, 1100 or 1200 children had been educated there, and he had heard it said that not a single one of all those girls had gone astray. He might say that he was a hard practical man, and such a statement as this which he had heard would tend to shew that Freemasons' children were made of different clay to others. But he was not an optimist, and did not go in for perfection in any rank or walk of life. We were all tainted with original sin, and all we could do in the education of the young, was to strive to bring them up in the right path, to give them the best possible education, to instil into their minds the best and purest sentiments, a regard for the highest morality and a knowledge of religion. Paul might plant and Apollos water, but it rested with a higher power to give the increase. All that the managers of the schools could do was to do their best. Passing on to the Boys' School, it had been established since 1798, and 1300 boys had been educated there of his own knowledge, and to his great regret there were some few instances of boys not turning out all that could be desired, and showing themselves "sons of Adam." But, appealing to his hearers, which of them, he would ask, had not gone astray. He might again say he was not an optimist, and did not go in for perfection. He did not like perfection, he did not care for a man who said he was perfection. They all tried to do their best; but, in a world like ours, it was utterly impossible to be perfect. He did not believe in any man who said he did not know what it was to succumb to human temptation and human weakness. Let him not, however, be misunderstood, for all that he desired to see was support given from every rank, class, and branch of Freemasons to the institutions, and something done to enable those who were charged with the conduct of them to benefit the objects committed to their care, and with respect to the schools to enable them to provide good education to fit them for the future career, and to try to imbue them with and instil into their minds the best and highest principles they possibly could. Having done that, they had done their duty; if they did not do that, they had fallen very short of their duty. Referring to a portion of the ceremony of initiation, he said the brethren ought to follow up their profession by a practical application of what they stated, which was the true test of charity. Out of 40,000 or 50,000 Masons, the two schools supporting 176 boys and 150 girls were contributed to by only about 5,000 brethren. He thought a mere trifle should be given by all initiates, which would enable the institutions to do far more than they did at present. The widow's mite was as valuable as the rich man's contribution, and he asked them all to do something. As military men, they were able to spread the principles of Freemasonry all over the world. They were in fact missionaries. They were here to-day and did not know where they might be to-morrow; but the best wishes of the brethren would go with them, and it was hoped that prosperity and success, as well as happiness, might go with them. Wherever they went they might extend Freemasonry, and he hoped they would do so to the utmost of their ability. The remainder of the toasts were afterwards given, and the brethren shortly afterwards separated. Some excellent singing enlivened the evening.

Royal Arch.

HAMPTON.—*Lebanon Chapter* (No. 1326).—On Thursday, December 17th, at the Red Lion Hotel, Lion-square, Hampton, an emergency meeting of the chapter was held. There were present Comps. J. T. Moss, M.E.Z.; F. Walters, P.Z., S.E., as 11; W. Hammond, J.; H. A. Dubois (J. 73) Treasurer; E. Hopwood, S.N.; Rev. P. M. Holden, Chaplain; and many others. The visitors were Comps. W. Smeed, P.Z. 946; Wyer, 619; and others. Although the weather was so inclement, yet a candidate did attend. Bro. John Wallis, 1326, was duly exalted into Royal Arch Freemasonry. The ceremony was beautifully rendered and impressively done. All the business being ended, the chapter was closed. Refreshment followed labour. In consequence of the members of the lodge and chapter assembling at the same festive board, an agreeable evening was well spent. After a few hours of social enjoyment, the brethren separated, those belonging to the Great City returning to town, after wishing each other all the compliments of the approaching season.

BATH.—*Royal Cumberland Chapter* (No. 41).—In compliance with summons the companions met at the Masonic Hall, on Tuesday, Dec. 15th, and the chapter was opened by the Principals, Excellent Comp. Keene, Z.; Jelley, 11; J. W. Parfitt, J.; in the presence of Past Principals Moultrie, Mann, Geo. Parfitt, and Mitchell, of No. 41; Reeves, P.Z. 379; and Dr. Hopkins, P.Z. 328, 587, and 710. This being done, among the companions admitted were Thompson, E.; Cury, N.; Hill acting as P.S.; Brown, Howse, all of 41; and Phillips, 379. The Treasurer's report was read and received. A ballot was taken for the Principals, which resulted in the election of Comps.

Jelley, Z.; J. W. Parfitt, H.; Thompson, J. A ballot was also taken for the other officers, by which Comps. Carey was appointed E.; Hill, N.; Hearn, P.S.; Moultrie, P.Z., Treasurer; who were then invested. Comps. Graham and Brown were chosen as Assistant Sojourners, and Gazzard Janitor. A ballot was taken for Dr. Hopkins as a joining member, which was unanimous in his favour. Equally unanimous was a ballot for Bros. Bennett and Brown, as candidates for exaltation, but the latter was unavoidably prevented from attending on this occasion. The former was introduced, properly prepared, and exalted by the M.E.Z., assisted by Comp. Geo. Parfitt, P.Z., and in the explanation of the signs by Dr. Hopkins, P.Z. On the proposition of Comp. G. Parfitt, seconded by Comp. Hill, a vote of thanks was passed to the Treasurer for the excellent manner in which he kept the accounts. On the proposition of Comp. Carey, seconded by the Treasurer, it was ordered that a letter of condolence should be sent to the relatives of Comp. Carter, the deceased curator of the Masonic Hall. Bro. Davis having been proposed and seconded for exaltation, the business of the evening was concluded, and the chapter was closed at 7 p.m.

Mark Masonry.

ST. JOHN'S (TIME IMMEMORIAL) LODGE, BOLTON.—The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Commercial Hotel, Bolton, on Thursday, 17th December. Amongst the brethren present were Bros. James Newton, P. Prov. G. Mark Inspector of Works, W.M.; John Alcock, S.W.; Jas. Horrocks, J.W.; Thos. Entwisle, P. Prov. G. Mark Master; G. P. Brockbank, Past Grand Mark Warden; Robt. Whittaker, P. Prov. G. Mark Dir. of Cers.; Thos. Morris, P. Prov. G. Mark Sword Bearer; Wm. Horner, P.M.; and others. The lodge was duly opened and the minutes of the previous meeting confirmed, and the W.M. elect, Bro. John Alcock, was installed in the chair of A. by Bro. Thos. Entwisle, P. Prov. G. Mark Master, and the following officers were appointed and invested, viz:—James Horrocks, S.W.; John Harwood, J.W.; Robt. Glaister, M.O.; Thos. Holmes, S.O.; Jas. Allen, J.O.; G. P. Brockbank, Treasurer; Thos. Entwisle, Reg. of Marks; Thos. Morris, Secretary; Robt. Pickup, Conductor; Henry Tattersall, S.D.; Henry Greenwood, J.D.; Samuel Barrett, Inner Guard; Chas. Walker, Tyler. All business being concluded, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment.

Knights Templar.

PRESCOT.—*William de la More Encampment*.—A conclave of this preceptory, stationed at Prescott, in the Province of Lancashire, was held at the New Court House, Prescott, near Liverpool, on Thursday, the 16th December, when there were a good number of the Knights of exalted Order. The list of those present included the names of Sir Knights J. W. J. Fowler, P.E.P.; J. K. Smith, Constable; Reginald Young, Marshal; R. Brown, Chaplain; T. Ashmore, Registrar; J. Wood, Treasurer; H. Nelson, Sub-Marshal; J. W. Ballard, First Herald; P. H. Whittaker, Thomson, W. Tyrer, with Sir Knights T. Berry, Past G.S.B. of England, and P.E.C., Jacques de Molay; and H. Burrows, Alpass Preceptory. After the encampment had been opened in ancient form, six candidates were balloted for, and there being three in attendance, they were subsequently installed Knights of the Order. Sir Knight Dr. Joseph Kellett Smith was installed M.E. Preceptor for the ensuing year; the ceremony being performed by Sir Knight J. W. J. Fowler, P.E.P., assisted by Sir Knight T. Berry, Past G.S.B. of England. The following officers were subsequently appointed:—Sir Knights Reginald Young, Constable; T. Ashmore, Marshal; R. Brown, Chaplain; H. Nelson, Registrar; J. Wood, Treasurer; J. W. Ballard, Sub-Marshal; Thompson, C. of Guard; and W. Tyrer, Almoner. At the close of the business, the assembled Knights sat down to a most sumptuous banquet at the King's Arms Hotel, provided by Mrs. Lloyd, the hostess. Soups, viands, and wines were of the very best quality, and the serving gave the most ample satisfaction. The after-portion of the day's proceedings was most enjoyable, and was a pleasant sequel to the afternoon's business.

Ancient and Accepted Rite.

IPSWICH.—*Victoria Chapter Rose Croix*.—The annual meeting of this chapter was held at the Masonic Hall, Ipswich, on Monday, 14th ult., present, Ill. Bro. the Rev. T. G. Beaumont, 30°, M.W.S.; the Rev. R. N. Sanderson, 30°, and Emma Holmes, 31°; M.E. Bros. M. T. Westgate, P.M.W.S.; and C. T. Townsend, P.M.W.S., Recorder; and the following Sovereign Princes, Dr. Mills, 1st General; Geo. Cresswell, W. Cuckow, and others. Visitor, Ill. Bro. C. J. Banister, 30°. The minutes of last chapter having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for M.W.S. for the ensuing year, when Ill. Bro. Emma Holmes was duly elected to that high office. Bro. Cuckow was re-elected Treasurer. Ill. Bro. Banister said, that having been in London to attend the Supreme Council meeting on Saturday, when H.R.H. the Prince of Wales was installed as a 33°, and Grand Patron of the Ancient and Accepted Rite, he had taken the opportunity of coming on to Ipswich, to attend this chapter, having heard that the work was very well done here, and he regretted very much to find that there was no business. He hoped, on the next occasion he visited them, he might be more fortunate. Bro. Holmes said that it would give both himself and the brethren very much pleasure if Bro. Banister would visit them at the next regular meeting, and install him into the chair of M.W.S. He looked upon Bro. Banister as his godfather in Masonry, at least, in the high

degrees; as it was at his hands he received the Rose Croix Degree in Newcastle-on-Tyne, and, he believed, the Templar Degree some years ago. Bro. Banister stated that it would give him very great pleasure to instal Bro. Emra Holmes, but he thought, as a matter of courtesy, their new Deputy Inspector General, the Rev. A. Bruce Fraser, 32^o, whose jurisdiction extended over Oxford, Cambridge and Suffolk, should be first asked, and if he declined, then he should be extremely pleased to come. The current business of the evening having been disposed of, the brethren retired to the banquetting-room, where the usual substantial repast was spread. The regular toasts having been given, and the new chiefs of the Order, the Prince of Wales and the Earl of Carnarvon having been duly honoured, the brethren passed a pleasant evening together, and separated at a reasonable hour.

Red Cross of Constantine.

BRISTOL.—The annual meeting of the Wm. De Irwin Conclave, and the Munbee (Military) Conclave, No. 101, was held at the head quarters of the 2nd Gloster Volunteer Engineer Corps, on Saturday, the 12th inst. The Sir Knights assembled at 3 p.m. Ill. and Eminent Sir Knt. F. G. Irwin, Intendant General of Bristol, occupied the throne. The muster roll being called, the following Sir Knights answered, viz.: W. Hodges, V.E.; J. T. Hallam, S.G.; W. Munro, J.G.; J. M. Hunt, H.P.; E. E. Honey, Prefect; M. Ansaldo, S.B.; W. H. Lane, O.; A. G. Williams, W. Benham, E. Ware, T. Brooke, W. Kirby, J. Collins, W. Richards, B. Gay, No. 17; W. A. Scott, M.P.S.; Major Plant, V.E.; and Capt. Ward, No. 101. The Sir Knights under the command of the S.G. and J.G., then formed an "Arch of Steel," and received the Chief Intendant General of Bristol, Gloster, and Somerset, Major General Gore, B. Munbee, and his Aid-de-camp. The general having ascended the throne, the minutes of the two conclaves were read, when the M.P.S. said the first business was to instal Bros. D. J. Dutton and J. Naish, as Knights of the Munbee Conclave. At the conclusion of the ceremony all those Knights below the grade of Viceroy were asked to retire, and a College of Viceroys was opened; all below the Sovereign Degree retired. A Senate of Sovereigns was formed, and Sir Knts. W. Hodges and Major Plant, were duly enthroned Sovereigns of their respective conclaves. The Senate being dissolved and a college reopened, Sir Knts. J. T. Hallam, and Capt. Ward, were placed in the chair as V.E. of the two conclaves, the whole of the ceremonies being performed with the usual ability, which M. General Gore, B. Munbee, displays on such occasions. Sir Knt. W. Hodges ascended the throne, and appointed the following officers of No. 17 for the ensuing year, viz.: Sir Knts. W. Munro, J.G.; J. M. Hunt, J.G.; G. Tonkin, H.P.; B. Gay, Recorder; A. G. Williams, 1st Lieutenant; W. Benham, 2nd Lieutenant; W. Richards, Prefect; M. Ansaldo, S.B.; T. Brooke, H.; J. Cole, S. The conclaves were now closed, and the Sir Knights retired to the Grand Hotel, where a sumptuous banquet had been prepared, to which about thirty sat down, presided over by Major General Gore B. Munbee, supported on his right by Capt. F. G. Irwin, J. T. Hallam, and others; on his left by M. A. Scott, P.S., of No. 101; W. H. Davies, of Weston Super Mare; and others. The usual toasts were given and responded to. The visiting Sir Knights having to retire by an early train, were now compelled to leave. Ill. Sir Knt. Capt. F. G. Irwin, took the chair, and said he was pleased with that day's proceedings, also with the progress of the Red Cross in Bristol; it had succeeded far beyond his expectations; it was barely twelve months since it was first established here, and now the two conclaves number near fifty members; great praise was due to the members for the zeal and energy they had displayed during the past year, and he would compliment the officers of No. 17 for the efficient way in which they had performed their duties, and as a mark of his approbation for the great interest taken in the Order. In this province he had appointed the P.S. Sir Knt. G. F. Tuckey to be Deputy Intendant General of Bristol, with full powers to act as such; in regard to the Munbee Conclave, he would say, it being purely a military conclave, the members were not likely to be so large as that of the Sister Conclave; still, he was satisfied, from the zeal displayed by those Sir Knights belonging to it, they were determined to do what they had to do with fervency and zeal. He would always be pleased to confer honour where honour was due—that would be only upon those who worked for it. He was about to form a Provincial Grand Conclave, and no appointment to office in that conclave would be made but to those who, from the attention they displayed to the duties of their own conclave, showed they were deserving. He therefore had much pleasure in naming Eminent Sir Knt. M. A. Scott, P.S. of No. 101, as Provincial Grand Treasurer; and Sir Knt. J. T. Hallam, P.G. Recorder. As they were about to open another conclave, he would not appoint the other officers till after that event. He would also say it was his intention, at an early date, to summon a Sanctuary of K.H.S., and St. John, also a Council of Knights of Constantinople, and he felt certain it would meet with the like success of the Red Cross. The Sir Knights retired at an early hour, well satisfied with the day's proceedings.

Scotland.

LODGE THISTLE (No. 87).—The regular bi-monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the hall, No. 12, Tron-gate, on Tuesday evening, 15th ult. Bro. J. W. Burns, R.W.M., occupied the chair, and there were also present, Bros. C. K. Jenkins, D.M.; James Love, S.M.; James Booth, S.W.; William Wilson, J.W.; Thos. Paton, Treas.; D. McDougall, Sec.; and a goodly number of brethren. The minutes of last meeting having been read,

and some private matters in connection with the lodge discussed, applications for admittance to the Order were read from four candidates. One of these not being able to be present that evening, the other three were duly initiated into the mysteries of the Order, Bro. Thallon, P.M., Lodge St. Clair (362), officiating in an able manner. There being no further business the lodge was thereafter closed in due form.

LODGE STAR (No. 219) met in the hall at No. 12, Tron-gate, on Monday, 14th ult. The R.W.M., Bro. John Morgan, presided, and the lodge having been opened, he initiated five approved candidates for admission into the Order in a manner so masterly as to surprise experienced brethren who knew or were made aware of the fact that it was the first time he had so officiated. Thereafter the chair was occupied, pro tem, by P.M., Bro. Joseph Wilson, and the lodge having been raised to the Fellow-Craft degree, five were advanced to that degree by Bro. Muir, of the Union and Crown (103). Subsequently the lodge was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason; and it being a case of emergency, that degree was received by a candidate at the hands of Bro. G. W. Wheeler.

LODGE UNION (No. 332).—The forty-fourth anniversary festival of this lodge was held in the Assembly Rooms, Bath-street, on Christmas night, when there was a numerous attendance of the brethren of the lodge, together with their wives, sweethearts, and friends, as also visiting brethren from sister lodges. The R.W.M., Bro. J. B. Macnair, presided, supported on the platform by Bros. R. Mitchell, P.M.; Dempster, D.M.; Dobbie, S.M.; D. McKerdy, S.W.; A. Conochie, J.W.; A. Macnair S.D.; P. Wilson, J.D.; Laird, Treas.; McInnes, Sec., &c. After an excellent service of tea, the chairman said:—Ladies, Gentlemen, and Brethren, once more we have met to celebrate our annual re-union, and it is very cheering to see around me so many faces, known of old, and many strangers, but none the less welcome, brethren from sister lodges, and last, but not least, the wives and sweethearts. The old saying that "Christmas comes but once a year, and when it comes it brings good cheer," is amply borne out by our present meeting. It was considered by some that Christmas was a bad night to hold our annual gathering, but this I consider erroneous. It is customary in a great many families whose members are scattered hither and thither, that they meet once—Christmas Day—around the family board, and enjoy the society of each other that is denied them through the year. We are met here to-night, in a homely way, to enjoy the society of each other and to strengthen and cherish brotherly love. And what night could be better adapted to this purpose—a night associated with the birth of Christianity—a season when the ills and sufferings of those around us are met with kindly aid and advice—a time when our best feelings should be stirred up. And I think that from the elements of witchery and grace I see before me, that the fairies, mayhap, favour us with a visit during the night, and skip and dance and astonish even us poor mortals by their various gifts. I only hope that each and all will endeavour to enjoy themselves, and make those around them happy. It is not my intention to take up much of your time, the more that you will be anxious to enjoy the harmony that is in store. But, before sitting down, allow me to say a little about lodge matters. The Lodge Union is now in her 44th year, and let me tell you that she is not a maiden lady, having changed her name some years ago, and since that change of name she has gone on improving as she grows older, like good wine; and strange as it may seem, I have no doubt that the older she gets, she will give birth to many good and true Masons. Since I entered her house, some 6 years ago, I have found her a good, motherly body, and the family thought it meet that I should take charge of the household. I now have had charge of family matters for something like 3 years, and during that time many additions have been made to the number of our household, and I may state that we have been, and are a well regulated and harmonious family. We have our little family jars at times, but we, like good brethren, forget and forgive. It is strange we are all sons in our family, but, collectively, we make one sister, and her name is Union. She has many sisters in the province, and I have reason to know and appreciate their many sisterly qualities, their kind attendance from time to time, when advice was necessary, and in helping to wash and keep the house clean. Not a little of the success of our family arrangements is due to this timely, kind reciprocity between our own and sister lodges. And let me tell you we have succeeded wonderfully, and we have gathered gear, but in gathering gear we have not done so in a parsimonious way. We have had members of the family ill, and have been in a position to attend them in their distress, and assist them in their difficulties, and they had this in their own right of brotherhood. And during the last ten years we have made 350 Masons in the Union, and during that period we have made marked progress in financial matters, and have, at the present moment, a handsome balance in our favour. Also during the year named we have dispensed considerable sums towards benevolent objects, both directly to individuals and to the several benevolent funds connected with our Order. I hope the bump of benevolence in the Union Lodge will enlarge with her prosperity. Nay, I am confident it will. But I am afraid that I may tire you with family matters. I will not trespass much longer on your patience. Just allow me, before sitting down, to say one or two words, about some events in Masonic history that have occurred during the present year. First, the death of our much revered P.G. Master, Bro. the Earl of Dalhousie—a nobleman who worked earnestly and in a singularly able manner for the cause of Masonry—a brother respected not only for the position by birth, but, above all, for his strength of purpose and high mental gifts. He has gone from amongst us, but his memory will be cherished by every good Mason. Scotch Masonry has sustained a loss that cannot be easily replaced. Secondly, we have the

resignation by the Earl of Ripon of the Grand Mastership of England; and the cause is now sufficiently well known, and is to be regretted on the ground that he has sacrificed freedom of action in thought. The immediate result of his resignation has been that the patron of Scotch Masonry, the Prince of Wales, has accepted the Grand Mastership of England—a position which we have no doubt he will fill creditably to himself and to the Order. We have had changes in our own Grand Lodge. The Earl of Rosslyn has retired, after a term of services that forwarded and put new life into the internal working of the Grand Lodge, and he has been succeeded by a nobleman whom we have no doubt will do honour to the high position he has been elected to. I am afraid I tire you. I will now pull up, as the coachman said to himself when he saw a "public;" but, before getting off the "dickey," allow me to thank you for the attention you have shown during the stage, and I trust we will have a pleasant evening's entertainment together. Ladies, gentlemen, and brethren, I wish you a merry Christmas and a happy New Year. Thereafter a vocal concert programme was entered upon, in which the lion's share of the work—and rightly, therefore, of the honours—fell upon Bro. James Houston (354), a comique of the genuine type, who has worked his way up to a proud position in his profession. Later in the evening, Bro. R. Mitchell delivered a brief and seasonable address. He was there, he said, in place of the Rev. Robert Thomson; but, with all deference, their reverend brother had not a greater love for Freemasonry than their humble servant, whose sons, he might tell them, were becoming his brothers, so that he should shortly be able almost to hold a lodge in his own family! The proceedings, as usual, concluded with an assembly, which was kept up with spirit till an advanced hour.

LODGE CALEDONIAN RAILWAY (No. 354).—This lodge met on Wednesday, 16th ult., in St. Mark's Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, the R.W.M., Bro. James Shaw, presiding. After the reading of the minutes of last meeting, it was proposed by Bro. Dougall, seconded by Bro. Harley, and agreed to, that there be a committee meeting called for 23rd ult., to make arrangements for the annual festival of the lodge. Three candidates were then passed from the E. A. degree to that of Fellow Craft, and three raised to the degree of Master Masons, the work in each case being efficiently wrought by Bro. G. C. H. McNaught, P.M. Lodge Shamrock and Thistle (275). Thereafter a pleasant evening was spent in harmony, in the course of which the toast of the "Visiting Brethren" was given by the chairman, coupled with the name of Bro. McNaught, who replied, giving in turn "Success to Lodge 354," which the R.W.M. suitably acknowledged.

LODGE COMMERCIAL (No. 360). The regular meeting of this lodge was held in their Hall at No. 30 Hope-street, on Friday 18th inst. There was a very numerous attendance, both of members and visiting brethren. The lodge was opened by the R.W.M., Bro. John Munro, who was supported by Bros. John Davidson, P.M.; D. Lamb, D.M.; J. M. Olliver, S.W.; and J. Peters, acting J.W.; and the other office-bearers in their respective places. The minutes of last meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. J. E. Spiers, who at the last meeting had been nominated and approved of for the office of S.M., was duly installed into the same by the R.W.M. The lodge was then raised to the degree of Fellow Craft, when Bro. McWilliam received that degree at the hands of the R.W.M., whose admirable performance of the work called forth warmest expressions of commendation from brethren assembled, those from other lodges more especially. There being no further business in this degree, the lodge was reduced to that of Entered Apprentice, after which Bro. David Lamb brought forward in due form a motion for an alteration in the rate of initiation and affiliation fees at present subsisting in the lodge. In so doing he said:—If there be one thing which we the Freemasons of Scotland ought to feel more proud of than another, it should be, I think, the fact that our country was chosen as the home of the Craft upon its first introduction among the nations of the West, and that at a period very shortly subsequent to its removal from the East. How it came here, or why Scotland should have been chosen as its great resting place, it behoves us not presently to relate. Those of you who are familiar with the history of the Craft know how that from Scotland went forth brethren into almost all the then known world, and, having settled in its most remote corners, applied for and obtained leave to hold and constitute lodges of their own, binding themselves to acknowledge the Lodge of Scotland as their Great Superior, and its chief for the time being their one and common head. How, further, when a sufficiency of lodges had been established, liberty was granted them, in their respective countries, to constitute Grand Lodges of their own, and that, too, granted by the management of the Craft in Scotland. As our rites had been taught them at home, so were they practised by them abroad; and I make bold to say that there are few Masons who are not able to say that they were initiated into our degrees, and admitted to a participation in our privileges, under what all the broad world knows is the Scottish Ancient and Accepted Rite (Applause). England, Ireland, France, India, America—all use, with differences so slight as hardly to be noticeable, the rites practised by our forefathers when they instructed their initiates in their secret sessions in the towns and villages of our native land. Have we not reason to feel proud as to the pre-eminence of our usages and our ceremonies? Surely, surely! Ought we not to be grateful to the country which fostered and sheltered these? Surely, yes! Are we proud? Are we grateful? I am! Is there a man among you who is not? (Applause). But, brethren, it sometimes happens that the directions for carrying out a law, or, to apply it to our own case, a ritual, and the actual performance of the ceremony are two things altogether distinct and different. The rites which it is our privilege to use are in themselves, solemn and beautiful, but how often have we

seen their beauty marred and their solemnity turned into almost the ridiculous through their being administered by those destitute of the true spirit of Freemasonry, and who, it may be, cannot speak even a single sentence grammatically (hear, hear). These are among the reasons why the Freemasonry of Scotland has fallen into such disrepute, why for some time it has been at such a low ebb, and why a Scotch Mason is sometimes treated with distrust and suspicion, nay even with contempt, by his brethren and Fellow Craftsmen in sister countries. And is this much to be wondered at when I tell you that I have been in a lodge (not very far distant), where I saw a batch of candidates receive what its members were pleased to call their three degrees in something little over an hour!—and that, too, amidst the most boisterous hilarity and to the seeming great amusement of those present. (Hear, hear). That such scenes as these are rare I sincerely trust; but, were I to ask as to their being so, I fear me as to the answer. That we have brethren amongst us well qualified to administer our degrees and lodges where the true spirit of Masonry—that spirit of love and brotherly kindness and charity, is fostered and taught as it ought to be, I am well aware; but why such brethren and such lodges should be few, I really do not know. Why they are, I believe I can in some measure tell you. *Freemasonry is too cheap*; at all events, the Freemasonry of Scotland is too cheap. Now, I say this guardedly and advisedly. I have given the subject my very careful consideration, and this is the conclusion which I have conscientiously arrived at. I am sure you will all agree with me when I say that it is not politic to place precious privileges within the reach of those who will not only use but abuse them. What we want is a number of gentlemen who will not allow the interests of the Craft to suffer. To attain to this, they must be men of sterling principle, and endowed with an abundance of firmness and good common sense. Far be it from me to seek to exclude from a participation in our privileges those among the humbler classes of society; but, surely if these privileges are worth having, they are worth paying for. How it can raise the status of the Craft, has, I believe, been for some considerable time one of the great aims of the Grand Lodge. Now, I am but a young man, and, comparatively, a younger Mason; still, I am at liberty to give utterance to my opinion. I believe, Sir, we can materially assist in furthering this end by raising our fees. To those in whose case curiosity is the only motive which impels them to seek admission into our Order, money may be an object of the first importance, and the cheaper that curiosity can be satisfied, the better for them; but to those who are actuated by a sincere desire to become members of the oldest and most honourable fraternity in the world, for the sake of that honour and the privileges it may confer, money will, I am certain, be only a secondary consideration. In most cases, what we pay most for is most valued; what we can pick up for a trifle, is often triflingly thought of. Let the Commercial act up to that example which she has always shown. *Some time ago our fees were raised*, and I have to ask how it fared with our exchequer? Raise them again: I have little fear as to the result. I am sure no member would recommend for initiation among us any gentleman who would grudge an extra guinea. And then there never was, I believe, a period in the history of the lodge when it could better afford to try such an experiment. We have a few hundred pounds at our bankers, and though I should little like to see that touched, still, if needs must, we could fall back upon it without, I trust, doing ourselves any very material injury. And suppose that we did suffer from a diminution of the number of our candidates, what we lacked in quantity—and this with deference to those already members—we would gain in quality. Sir, I am proud of being a member of the Lodge Commercial, to say nothing of the pleasure I have in being its Deputy Master; and I hope the time will soon come, if it be not now, when she shall stand second to none in broad Scotland. I have, therefore, much pleasure in moving “That, on and after the 1st of February, 1875, the fees of the Lodge Commercial shall be, for initiation, £4 4s., and for the affiliation of a Master Mason, £1 1s.; and I resume my seat, thanking you for your attention, and without the slightest concern as to the ultimate fate of my motion. At the close of Bro. Lamb's remarks, there was much applause, which was again and again renewed when Bros. Davidson and Brode, both Past Masters of the lodge, successively expressed their determination to do what in them lay to uphold and maintain the honourable position always held in the province by No. 360. In accordance with the bye-laws of Grand Lodge, Bro. Lamb's motion was held over in the meantime. Bro. Thos. Laird, of St. John's Operative Lodge, Rutherglen (347), was then affiliated a member of 360, Bro. Brode officiating. Thereafter, on the motion of the R.W.M., a cordial vote of thanks was passed to P.M. Bro. John Davidson for services done to the lodge; and it was agreed that the same be recorded in the minute-book. There was no further business before the brethren. In ordinary course, the next meeting of the lodge would have been held on 1st proximo, but that being New Year's Day, it was agreed to hold it over until the Friday following, 8th instant.

LODGE ST. VINCENT (No. 553).—A highly successful harmony meeting of this young and most thriving lodge was held in their temporary hall at 162, Kent Road, on Thursday, the 17th ult. The R.W.M., Bro. Robert McDougall occupied the chair, supported by Bros. Malcolm Stork, D.M.; John Walker, S.M.; and other office-bearers; while among visiting brethren were Bros. John Baird, P.G.S.W.; Kinghorn, P.G.J.W.; John Imrie, R.W.M., 86; Wm. Phillips, R.W.M., 556; C. H. McNaught, P.M., 275; Julius Brode, P.M., 360; Alexander McDougall, P.M., 419; Wm. Taylor, No. 1, (St. Mary's Chapel, Edinburgh); Fitzroy, 333, St. George; Dr. Russell, D.M., 556, (Clydesdale); G. B. McNaught, S.W., 556; &c., &c. The lodge met an hour previous to enter-

ing upon harmony, for the dispatch of business, when one candidate for admission into the Order was initiated, and two visiting brothers duly affiliated members of No. 553. Thereafter a very large gathering sat down to an excellent entertainment, the preparation and serving of which reflected all credit upon the powers in purveyorship of Bro. Pulteney, Chief Steward of the lodge. This having been so far disposed of the chairman proposed in succession “The Queen and the Craft;” “The Prince of Wales, a patron of Scottish Masonry;” “The Princess of Wales, Duchess of Edinburgh, and other members of the Royal Family;” and the “Three Grand Lodges,” all of which were duly and Masonically honoured. The Chairman next gave “The Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow,” but for whom their own lodge would not have been that day in existence, and with the toast he begged to couple the name of Bro. John Baird, P.M. of Lodge 3½, S.W. of P.G.L., and whom he thought at no distant day they should see occupying a much higher position. Bro. Baird, in briefly acknowledging the compliment, referred to the gratifying progress made of late years by the Provincial Grand Lodge, more particularly in the acquisition of funds for charitable purposes. They had now upwards of £400 invested, and it was no uncommon thing for them to give a relief sum of £5, or even more than that. Moreover, they hoped that in the course of a very few years their means would have increased to the extent of enabling them to establish a permanent fund to aid the necessities of members requiring it. Bro. Baird then referred to the annual visitations made by the P.G.L. throughout the province, and counselled 553 to have their house in order against the time the visitors should come, and show by their good condition the necessity there had been for a lodge such as theirs being established in the locality. Before sitting down he begged to propose “The Continued Prosperity of Lodge St. Vincent.” The chairman, in replying, said that the toast came very well indeed off the hands of Bro. Baird, who had from the outset been exerting himself on their behalf both inside the lodge and out of it. He trusted their brother had found that his efforts had not been thrown away, but rather that their success was in some measure a recompense to him for the trouble he had been at. In concluding, the chairman said he might state that during the few weeks they had been in existence they had made no less a number than fifty Masons. This, he should think, augured well for the future, and also argued that the P.G. Lodge had done rightly in granting them a charter. The toast of “The Visiting Brethren” followed, coupled in the first place with the name of Bro. Wm. Taylor, of Lodge No. 1 (St. Mary's Chapel, Edinburgh), who briefly replied, but acknowledged also by representatives of Lodges No. 3½ (St. John's); No. 4 (Glasgow Kilwinning); No. 27 (St. Mungo); No. 86 (Navigation, Troon); No. 87 (Thistle); and several others. Thereafter, Bro. A. McDougall, P.M. 419, proposed the health and prosperity of the R.W.M. of No. 553, which was pledged with much cordiality. The chairman, in replying, stated that he could not but say that he appreciated the toast the more in coming from his late Master in Lodge Neptune, No. 419. He had always taken great pleasure in his connection with that lodge, than which not even No. 553 held a higher place in his affections. One or two other toasts were given subsequently, the proceedings throughout having been agreeably varied by an occasional song or recitation from brethren more qualified in this way to entertain the meeting. We have but to repeat that the occasion was altogether a distinct success.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER, GLASGOW (No. 50), held their monthly meeting on Thursday, 10th ult., when the following three brethren received the Mark, Ext., and R.A. degrees:—James Baikie, builder; Daniel Leeds, wright and builder; and Robert Morrison, master plasterer; all Master Masons of Lodge Athole, No. 413. The Mark degree was given by Comp. John Miller, the recently installed 1st P.Z., in a most elaborate, instructive, and finished style; no part of the beautiful ceremony being either omitted or slurred over. The Excellent and Royal Arch degrees were conferred by Comp. Jas. Duthie in his well-known careful manner, and Comp. McKenzie, as 1st S., seems to be still studying his part and perfecting minor details, indeed the whole work of this Chapter is admirable.

HELENSBURGH.

ST. GEORGE'S LODGE (No. 503).—The annual supper of the Helensburgh St. George's Lodge (No. 503) Freemasons took place last Monday evening in the Queen's Hotel, Helensburgh. About forty of the brethren sat down to partake of the sumptuous repast provided by “Mine Host” of the Queen's (Mr. Williamson), and which was served up in his very best style. The duties of the chair were ably discharged by Bro. Dr. Gibb, P.M., whilst Bro. Waters, D.P.M., officiated as Croupier. The following deputations were present: St. John's Kilwinning (No. 18), Dumbarton, Bro. Councillor Barr, R.W.M., and Bro. McArthur, No. 117, Glasgow, Bros. Wallace and Wylie; and St. John's (No. 173) Largs, Bro. A. Barclay. Supper having been partaken of, the chairman read letters of apology for absence from the following brethren, viz., Archibald Orr Ewing, Esq. M.P. for Dumbartonshire; Alex. Smollett, Esq., Cameron House, P.G.M.; Sheriff Steele, Dumbarton, Provost Bennett, Dumbarton, William Paterson, and John Babie, Dumbarton, and Captain Manners, Helensburgh. The following is a copy of Bro. Orr Ewing's, Bro. Smollett's, and Sheriff Steele's letters, which explain themselves:

Ballikrain Castle, Killearn, N.B.,
11th Dec. 1874.

Dear Sir and Brother, Unless the snow is so far gone as to permit me to drive over on Monday night, I will not be able to be with the members of the St. George Lodge on Monday night, as I must be at home that night. Yours fraternally,

ARCHD. ORR EWING.

Cameron House, Alexandria, N.B.,
11th Dec., 1874.

Dear Sir and Brother, I regret extremely that it will not be in my power to have the pleasure of accepting the invitation which your Right Worshipful Master and the brethren of Lodge St. George, No. 503, have done me the favour to send me to their annual supper, on Monday next, 14th ult.

I am sorry to say that I have been confined to the house for upwards of a fortnight by a severe and obstinate attack of cold and sciatica, from which I am suffering very great pain and annoyance; and I feel satisfied, from the little improvement I have undergone during the last two or three days, that it will be quite out of my power to think of being able to go about sooner than the middle of next week, if even then. In these circumstances, I have no alternative than to return the ticket so kindly forwarded to me. I remain, yours truly and fraternally,

A. SMOLLETT.

Westonlee, Dumbarton, 8th Dec. 1874.

Dear Sir and Brother, I have had the pleasure of receiving your invitation to be present at the meeting of your Lodge on Monday the 14th ult., but regret that my engagements will prevent me from availing myself of your kindness. Yours fraternally,

W. C. STEELE.

In proceeding to the business of the evening,

The Chairman gave the “Three Grand Lodges of Scotland, England, and Ireland.” This toast required no recommendation on his part amongst brethren of the Craft. He only wished the morality of the world was carried out more in consonance with the teachings of Masonry, when there would undoubtedly be a happier and better state of things in existence. (Cheers.)

The Chairman then gave in succession the usual loyal toasts. In proposing “The Queen” he said that for a great many generations in succession there had not been a Queen on the British Throne to equal Victoria. Whether they regarded her as Queen or mother, she always set an example worthy of being imitated either by her subjects or her family (cheers), and discharged her duties to the satisfaction of the country. (Loud cheers.) In regard to the Prince of Wales, he had no doubt that with such an example as that of his mother, he had learned to outlive the sins of his youth, whatever they may have been, and that they would find in him a good and righteous monarch. (Cheers.)

The Chairman then gave the “Army, Navy, and Auxiliary Forces.” He would not recall any of the historic deeds of the Army—they were well known; neither would he repeat the feats of valour performed by the Navy—they were of world-wide fame. (Hear, hear.) But in regard to the Volunteers, it was a section of the service with which he was proud to have an intimate connection for some time past. It was a pleasant relief after a day's labour to turn out to drill, which besides producing a bracing and manly effect, helped to train them in a practical manner that could not otherwise be attained. He hoped when the hour arrived, which he trusted would not be for a long time, when their services would be required, that they would be found ready and useful in the field of battle. (Applause.) He coupled the toast with the name of Bro. Sergeant Marsland, of the 1st D.V.R. (Loud cheers.)

Sergeant Marsland, in reply, thanked the company for the manner in which they had responded to the toast. The Army, he remarked, was always ready, and wherever they went always proved the Army in truth. The same might be said of the navy, as a more manly and kindlier hearted class of tars could be found nowhere than those who manned our British men-of-war. (Loud cheers.) In regard to the auxiliary forces, he did not quite agree with the sentiments of the chairman. The drill ground should not be looked upon as a place of recreation, but with feelings of pure patriotism. (Applause.) It should be looked upon as a place where they were being trained in a systematic manner to defend their hearths and homes. (Loud cheers.) He thanked them again for the enthusiastic manner in which they had drunk the toast.

The Croupier gave “The Craft the World over.” He remarked that as yet he was not a very old Mason, but, nevertheless, he had experienced the benefit of being connected with the Craft. The farther one goes from home the more this is experienced, as wherever they went they were sure to meet with brothers who were ready to treat them in a brotherly as well as a gentlemanly style. (Hear, hear.) Masonry was like the family circle. Although at times they might differ among themselves as to non-essentials, yet if the stranger ventured to interfere they were found to be one harmonious whole. (Applause.) The principles and teachings of the Craft he looked upon with great veneration, and held that, like the Masonic law, it was almost impossible for members to walk up to them in their integrity. (Hear, hear.) He begged to couple the toast with the name of Bro. Wallace, whose reputation as a Mason was wide-spread, and for whom he entertained the most cordial esteem. (Cheers.)

Bro. Wallace thanked them for coupling his name with this toast. He could not say he had been over all the world, but still he had great pleasure in responding. Freemasonry was fast finding its way over all the world, and although there was no doubt it contained some bad men, still its teachings were felt for good wherever it had found a home. (Applause.) When a brother required aid then and only then he found Freemasonry to be an institution. It was not like “water” spilt upon the ground, but was a tangible institution of which they could justly feel proud. (Laughter and cheers.)

Bro. Marsland then gave the “Visiting Brethren,” who were all at once good men and good Masons. (Hear, hear.) He was sure they were all glad to see them present, and would willingly join with him in drinking a bumper to their health. He coupled the toast with the name of Bro. Councillor Barr. (Applause.)

Bro. Barr in replying expressed on his own behalf and of those of his visitors the pleasure they had in being present. He hoped the principles of Masonry would spread and be more firmly established amongst them than they had yet been. It was too true that there was but too little of principles of Masonry even amongst Masons. (Hear, hear.) As had been hinted that night already, although slight differences did sometimes arise, these were caused more by a desire to show a superior wisdom than from a spirit of rivalry on the part of the brethren. (Applause.) He was sorry there was not a larger representation from No. 18, as no doubt there would have been but for unforeseen circumstances. He had been asked to apologize for P.G.S. Bro. Denny, who had expressed to him his regret at being detained from being present that evening. He hoped when their turn came in Dumbarton, they would be favoured with a large deputation of the brethren of 503, and concluded by wishing them long life and prosperity. (Loud cheers.)

Bro. Stevenson then gave the "Provincial Grand Lodge," for whom Bro. Barr also replied in appropriate terms.

The Chairman then gave the toast of the evening, "Prosperity to St. George's (No. 503)." He would have liked to have had something prepared to have spoken in connection with this toast, but owing to recent events he had unfortunately been prevented from carrying out that desire. It was now about four years since the idea of having a lodge of Freemasons was first mooted in Helensburgh. A meeting had been held in King-street Hall for the purpose of carrying out the suggestion, and although there were but few present, the lodge was then formed, and had progressed wonderfully. They had not had the great or the wealthy amongst them, but, nevertheless, they had got along very well. Their development at first was somewhat slow, but, more recently, the progress made was very marked. It was very creditable what had been done, but they should not rest content with that, but, adopting as their motto "Excelsior," they should go still forward to greater effort and more pronounced success. (Cheers.) They had in a great measure done away with the principal barrier to all progress, viz., debt; except, indeed, it was a national one (laughter and applause), and with their hands loosened in this respect, they were free to accomplish much. He had great pleasure in proposing prosperity to 503, "our noble selves"—(loud cheers)—coupled with the name of Bro. Marsland.

Bro. Marsland in reply referred to the harmonious feeling which was at present existing amongst the brethren of 503, and hoped that some of the older members who had almost seceded from the lodge would come back and grace the meetings with their presence. (Hear, hear, and applause.)

The other toasts were "The Press," by Bro. Marsland, reply by Mr. Wm. Thomson, *Dumbarton and Lennox Herald*; "The Chairman," and "The Croupier." "Happy to meet, sorry to part, and happy to meet again."

The harmony of the evening was added to very considerably by the singing of Bros. Ponds, Love, Galloway, Young, Ross, Pettit, Livingstone, and F. Barr; whilst Bros. Marsland and Robb gave recitations which were very much appreciated and loudly applauded. After a most harmonious evening, the company broke up after singing "Auld Lang Syne."

DALMUIR.

ST. JOHN'S LODGE (No. 403).—A special meeting of this lodge was held in the Lodge-room at Dalmuir on the 8th of December. The R.W.M., Bro. Wm. Ferguson, presided, supported by Bro. Robert Manson, S.W.; J. T. Johnston, J.W.; J. Barrie, Secretary; T. Scott, Treasurer; J. Crawford, S.D.; Wm. Gray, J.D.; T. Millar, I.G. The lodge was opened in due and proper form on the E. A. degree, and then raised to the F. C. degree, when three brethren were passed to the square degree of Fellow-Craft. The lodge was afterwards raised to the third degree, when two brethren were raised to the sublime degree of M.M. The ceremonies of passing and raising were performed by the R.W.M. in a beautiful and impressive manner. The lodge was then reduced to the E. A. degree, and closed in due form. The regular fortnightly meeting was held on Tuesday, 15th inst.; Bro. Wm. Ferguson, R.W.M., in the chair, supported by the whole of the office-bearers; a large number of the members being present, as also a deputation from Prince of Wales Lodge (No. 426), Renfrew, headed by Bro. Glen, R.W.M., and Bro. Sim, P.M., and Bro. M'Farlane, Morton, and others. The lodge having been duly opened, the minutes of last regular and emergency meetings were read and adopted. Applications were then read from two candidates for admission into the Order, and they having been favourably balloted for, were admitted and duly initiated into the first degree of Freemasonry by the R.W.M. The ceremony of installing the office-bearers of the lodge for the ensuing year then took place, viz.:—Bros. Wm. Ferguson, R.W.M.; I. T. Johnstone, D.M.; John Crawford, S.M.; Robert Manson, S.W.; James Barrie, J.W.; T. Scott, Treasurer; S. Leckie, Secretary; T. Millar, S.D.; Wm. Gray, J.D.; J. Stairs, B.B.; J. Muirhead, S.S.; D. McDonald, J.S.; Quintin Blanc, I.G.; and D. Campbell, Tyler. The three Masters were installed by Bro. Sim, P.M. of Prince of Wales Lodge (426), assisted by Bro. Glen, R.W.M. (426), in a most creditable manner. The newly-installed R.W.M. then installed the remaining officers, and Bro. Sim, P.M., was affiliated an honorary member for his valuable services to the lodge on several occasions. After the other general routine of business was gone through, the lodge was closed in due and ancient form. The brethren then adjourned to refreshment for a short time, when the usual loyal and patriotic toasts were given and responded to. "The Visiting Brethren" was given by the R.W.M., Bro. Ferguson. Bro. Glen, R.W.M. (426), suitably replied, re-

marking that it had given him much pleasure to be present at the installation of the office-bearers, and congratulating the R.W.M. and members of the lodge on the most efficient way in which the business was being conducted, and the prosperous state of the lodge. Bro. Sim proposed "The Newly Re-elected R.W.M." in flattering terms. Bro. Ferguson replied, thanking the members for the honour and confidence they placed in him in choosing him as their Master for another year. After a short time agreeably spent in song and sentiment, the brethren separated, "Happy to meet, sorry to part, and happy to meet again."

GOVAN.

LODGE GOVANDALE (No. 437).—The annual meeting of this lodge for the election of office-bearers was held in their hall, Portland buildings, Govan, on 16th inst. The attendance was large. The lodge being opened in due and ancient form, the election was proceeded with, when the following brethren were elected:—John M'Farlane, R.W.M.; A. Campbell, P.M.; John Miller, D.M.; J. Hutcheson, S.M.; Robt. Muir, S.W.; Geo. Wilson, J.W.; G. Maitland, Sec.; John Brown, Treas.; John Morrison, Chaplain; John Sutherland, S.D.; John Carrick, J.D.; John Miller, Architect (2); W. Sutherland, Jeweller; Robt. Allan, P.G.S.; Wm. Anderson, S.S.; Alex. Ferguson, J.S.; Carl J. Hedmond, B.B.; Alex. Buchan, S.B.; John Golder, Director of Ceremonies; Andrew Blair, Director of Music; James Moggie, I.G.; John M'Intyre, Tyler. After the principal work of the evening was over, it was suggested that a former proposition to build a Masonic Hall in connection with the lodge should be revived, and that a Benevolent Fund be got up for the benefit of members of the lodge. A very happy evening was afterwards spent.

RUTHERGLEN.

LODGE ST. JOHN'S OPERATIVE (No. 347).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held in Bro. Reid's hall, Rutherglen, on Tuesday, 15th inst. Three was a numerous attendance. The R.W.M., Bro. John Cunningham, presided, supported by office-bearers of the lodge, while amongst visiting brethren present were Bros. Dugald Butler, R.W.M. 27; R. M. Yuill, R.W.M. 275; William Phillips, R.W.M. 556; R. Mitchell, P.M. 332; J. B. McNaught, S.W. 556; John Howie, J.W. 556; Hugh Weir, J.D. 556; George Gray, 171; Thos. Gray, 171; J. Speirs, 117; Edward Cornely, 362; and others. The lodge having been duly opened on the E.A. degree, the chairman intimated that there were in waiting to receive in that degree three candidates, who were as follows, viz.: John Sconler, jeweller, Stonelaw House, Rutherglen (who is Provost of the burgh); J. W. Wallace, banker; and John R. Gray, manufacturer, Rutherglen. There being no objections, the candidates, properly prepared, were brought in and initiated into the mysteries of the first degree, the work being excellently performed by the R.W.M.

SLAMAMAN.

LODGE ST. JOHN'S (No. 484).—The brethren of this lodge met on Friday, the 18th ult., Bro. John A. Walkinshaw, Esq., R.W.M., in the chair. The lodge having been opened in due form, the following office-bearers were nominated for the ensuing year, viz.: Bros. John A. Walkinshaw, R.W.M.; Dr. James C. Nash, P.M.; Robert Hamilton, D.M.; William Burnett, S.M.; Henry Roy, S.W.; James Donnelly, J.W.; Rev. Robert S. Horne, Chaplain; Wm. Harley, Treasurer; James M. Watson, Secretary; James Forrester, S.D.; Robert Snedden, J.D.; John Wallace, B.B.; George Smith, S.S.; John Hunter, J.S.; Walter Easton, I.G.; James Baxter, Tyler.

Poetry.

NEW YEAR'S DAY, 1875.

WRITTEN FOR THE FREEMASON.

Time in its changing hours fleets away,
And here we hail another New Year's Day,
While fading years and moments one by one
Warn us how fast the sands of life have run.
It seems but yesterday that in trust and truth,
We wandered 'mid the flowery maze of youth;
Maturer hours have long since gone and past,
And here decrepid age confronts us all at last.
Yes, time indeed has sped in rapid flight,
Its brightest days have chang'd to darkening night,
Since that glad season of genial joyous spring,
To which our ageing memory yet will cling.
When all around was full of light and love,
And we had faith in man, as well as God above.
Alas, how many are wanting here to-day,
Who've played with us of life the same old play.
Who've watched its comedy too often close on fears
It's tragedy dissolve in bursting tears,
Who've lived to find that blessing or being blest,
Man never here can find a lasting rest.
Vain are all earth's gifts, vainer its painted dreams
Its glittering pageants and its golden gleams,
Its glowing hues of loveliness, all ere long
Are but a nurse's tale, the poet's song.
On New Year's Day we muse on ancient friends,
The hope which flattered, or the joy which ends,
The happy home, the pleasant hour of mirth
Which lights our plodding way on this dull earth,
And all the peace domestic joys can give
To all who with that life contented live.
Yes, as to-day we greet another year,
Fond memory recalls the far, the dear,
Some friends are wanting to us all to-day,
Some tender face has long since past away,
Some old companion is no more at our side,
Some household pet, our cherished hope and pride,

Some venerable form, some youthful glow,
Some maiden innocence, some brow of snow,
All have like shadows flitted from our scene,
Yet haunt in love the hours that have been.
Thus New Year's day has many a tender voice
For us, who at a New Year's dawn rejoice,
Telling of Time's unchanging claim and law,
Its sighs of tenderness, its ghosts of awe.
Another year is now within our ken,
Another year is given to mortal men,
May its true message control our hearts and ways,
Our hopes and strength—may its softening rays
Fall on us all, alike in lodge and home,
For all who are with us now, for all who roam.
May Time, which wounds us all, yet heal our hearts,
As in courageous truth we play our parts,
May our good Craft speed on its prosperous way,
To all Freemasons a happy New Year's Day.
A. F. A. W.

THE FREEMASONS' AND THE ROMAN CATHOLIC UNION.

AN, "Lanigan's Ball."

I.

Oh, Laura Machree, oh, what are we coming to,
The World, I think, will be soon upside down,
One half doesn't know where the other half's running to,
And there's neither respect now for Altir or Crown.
The Pope is in Gaol, and debarred of his liberty,
He is bed'ad far worse than an Ox in his Stall,
To doubt it you must doubt his infallibility,
And that's proved beyond doubt by our Cardinal Paul.

II.

If we just look abroad we see kingdoms and potentates,
Disappear from the scene like an electric spark,
And poor Pius' sons throughout all the German states,
Are hunted like sheep by that heathen Bismarck.
But they're praying devoutly he may soon find a place
In a warmer spot than his baronial hall.
And he's on the high road, for sure he's a Freemason,
And consigned to perdition by Cardinal Paul.

III.

We foolishly thought we'd escape the commotion,
That's troubling the big ones all over the earth,
That at last we were safe in this gem of the Ocean,
That true patriots prize as the land of their birth.
But och wirasthrew, sure a frightful disaster,
Is doomed on our down-trodden country to fall,
The Freemasons' are going to instal as Grand Master,
The Viceroy, to insult our dear Cardinal Paul.

IV.

But let him beware ere he stirs up the fury,
Of the "Catholic Union," who are bound to a Man,
Their vengeance to wreak, without trial or jury,
On all the curs'd Masons now under their ban.
So they warn him now if he ever intended,
To dare take such a step, he'd the order recall,
And to do it at once, while there's yet time to mend it,
Or look out for squalls from our Cardinal Paul.

V.

The heads of "the Union" are all men of quality,
And rale patriots they can count by the score.
And they've Mac, who's elected for next year's Mayor
altly—
A position he gracefully filled once before.
As he's a Good Templar, in the Vartry he'll smother
His feelings (he don't touch the hard stuff at all).
In that case no more we'll hear of his grandmother,
But his praises he'll lavish on Cardinal Paul.

VI.

Tut what will Mac do if he's asked to the Castle,
And invited to sup with the Grand Master there?
Of course he'll refuse the Sescenagh's vassal,
And treat with contempt both himself and his fare.
Should this brave Gallowglass, who with pride tells the
story,
How his ancestors revelled in Tara's Ould Hall,
E'er stoop to the stranger and thus drive the glory
Of that chivalric race—and vet. Cardinal Paul?

VII.

But enough of their vapouring bombast and vaunting,
If we to our principles only are true.
They'll find that the poor wretched flag they are flaunting
Shall never o'ershadrow the Old Royal Blue.
Then acquit ye like men ere the foe has bereft us,
Of that freedom once purchased 'mid fire and ball,
Or sleep till we've lost all our forefathers' left us,
And find our necks 'neath the heel of this Cardinal Paul.
October, 1874. R. S. B.

[We publish this amusing little "squib," received from a correspondent in Ireland; but, as a general rule, we do not deal in "Masonic Crackers." We are always willing to pull one with a good-looking young lady.—Ed.]

NOTICE.

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

Vol. I., bound in cloth	4s. 6d.
Vol. II., ditto	7s. 6d.
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United States of America.

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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 198, Fleet Street.

W. K.'s letter too personal for our pages. The following communications stand over:—Reports of Craft Lodges, 35, 104, 359, E. C.; 541 S. C. Mark Lodge 9. Letter from Bro. G. R. II.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, JANUARY 2, 1875.

THE NEW YEAR.

When these lines meet the eyes of our many readers, a new year will have dawned upon them one and all, and very sincere are the wishes we offer that a happy New Year may be the lot of all our kind friends and patrons, as well as of our Cosmopolitan Craft. It is inevitable but that the close of an old year and the commencement of a new year suggest many reflections to the considerate and the well-disposed. The lapse of time is always a great wonder, if not a mystery, in some respects, to us all, and few there are who must not and do not experience some few passing emotions of awakened memory, or of sympathetic association. For the old year is often like a friend of our own whom we deposit all tenderly and gradually in the grave. Another portion of time, of our own little history, of our allotted probation, has passed away never to return, and we often, as we sing a requiem over the departed year, remember it either with an aching heart or a grateful memory. Thorns have mixed probably with its roses, trials with its joys, tears with its smiles, and cares with its peace, and very few there are who can realize the flight of any year, without some sensations of sorrow, some reminiscences of regret. For we ourselves have reached another milestone on our journey, and whether the road traversed be long or little, whether we are beginning or even ending our pilgrimage, we all must feel that to us this ceaseless onward passage of years is alike somewhat of a grave enigma, of a depressing fact. For we are no longer young, or fresh, or active, or strong. We may have outlived our contemporaries, and stand, as it were, but lonely watchers for a coming dawn, or we find a premature ending of all our hopes and plans, and longings, and endeavours. Hence, in our opinion, he is an unthinking or heartless person who despises the warning counsels of each departing old year, of each opening new year, who affects to consider such reflections distasteful or inopportune, and who considers that he can best evince his contempt for all such obsolete prejudices by treating this season as a time alone for idle revelry, or unwholesome dissipation. As Freemasons, the close of 1874 and the approach of 1875 have much alike of interest, both in memory, in association, and in anticipation. This time last year, the new year beheld a most happy, and contented, and prosperous Craft. All seemed to be well and to do well with our brotherhood. Favouring breezes impelled the good ship of Freemasonry over a tranquil ocean, and we seemed to have lighted on lasting and auspicious trade winds. The Grand Master was installed anew amid the applause and gratification of an united

and rejoicing brotherhood, and all appeared to point to happy progress and to constitutional government, under a most popular and prosperous regime. And so the year passed on, with much of material prosperity, and many tokens of a rapidly increasing fraternity. We had attacks, to be sure, but still on we went, heeding them not, and neither turning aside to the right hand or to the left. The Archbishop of Malines excommunicated all the Belgian brotherhood with a remarkable exercise of the excommunicating process, Archbishop Manning denounced the German Freemasons, the *Westminster Gazette* railed at us, "ore rotundo," and yet we did not mind them one and all, and found ourselves none the worse for the anathema or the allocution. We heard from far-off Brazil that, like Father Cuffe, the Brazilian Bishops would not bury the Freemasons, and put them under "Bell, Book, and Candle;" and we were edified by a letter of the benevolent Pontiff to his Episcopal suffragans in Brazil commending them, and politely telling us that we, as Freemasons, were "booked for something uncomfortable." But still we paid but little attention either to bellicose Bishops or vulgar and anonymous scribblers. Yet as those who have ever seen the Bay of Biscay know how treacherous is the calm of the "great ocean," so that, as the poet says of old: "Una est injusti cœrula forma maris," and too often the calm forbodes the squall; so our Masonic life was to receive a sudden check, an unexpected blow, almost unexpectedly, "in the dark." We were startled by hearing, at the Grand Lodge in September, that our chief, our valued brother, and active ruler, Lord Ripon, had resigned his office without any reasons being publicly alleged. And then came out the still more startling reason—that Lord Ripon had become a Roman Catholic, and that his astute and new advisers, disliking Freemasons, and hating Freemasonry, had thought the opportunity too good to be lost of striking a blow at the inculcated brotherhood. We are not going to-day to question Lord Ripon's sincerity, or even his right to abandon his former creed; and we feel that, as Freemasons, our duty and our principles compel us to treat such an act if with respectful regret and fraternal silence, yet with Masonic toleration; but this we may say. If the Roman Catholic authorities expected to gain anything by such a "coup de theatre," they alike equally miscalculated the effect it would produce either on English Freemasonry, or the English mind. Lord Ripon's resignation has produced no palpable effect whatever either on our Order or on the public; it has only served, in truth, to make the Order rally together more than ever, and to cause the public to feel still greater distrust respecting the present attitude and proceedings of the Roman Catholic Church. For what is before us after all? In the midst of a great struggle, in the midst of cruel calumnies, at a time when the bitterest and most unrelenting of our enemies was dealing blow after blow upon our peaceful and unoffending Order, unprovoked and uncalled-for, we find that our General-in-Chief has gone over to the enemy, bag and baggage, and that here we are just at the very opening of a long campaign, and that we have to look about us for a new commander. All that, as Freemasons, we could do, we had to do, and we did do. We closed upon our centre, we stood on the defensive, we have found another captain; and here we are, with renewed strength and eager courage; drums beating, colours flying, ready to go anywhere and do anything, under our august chief. So that, instead of weakening Freemasonry, this most mistaken policy of the Roman Catholic Church, this untoward secession of Lord Ripon's, have served, practically, alike to strengthen our position and to encourage our adherents. The hours of doubt, regret, dismay, fear, are over, and under our Royal Brother and Grand Master, the English Craft is prepared for any emergency, and is fearless of any opponent. Thus, then, 1874 is a year long to be remembered by English Freemasons, and we doubt not that 1875 will witness, by God's blessing, all of peaceful prosperity to our tried and maligned but useful and benevolent brotherhood. When Freemasons, in their "comitia curiata" in 1875, unanimously elect and exultingly install their Royal Grand Master, every sound of discord and of depression will be silenced in that glad acclaim which welcomes the grandson of an old Grand Master, the eldest son of our beloved Queen, the heir apparent to the

throne, as he fitly assumes the highest post in English Freemasonry. We feel certain that from what we know of his genial character, and his true Masonic spirit, the ability and straightforwardness which pervade all his public acts, that as Freemasons we shall find in him a most loyal brother, a most sincere friend, and a sound, and wise, and just, and constitutional ruler. May our anticipations be realized one and all, and may 1875 be a year of happiness and unity, and progress and contentment to all our English lodges, and to all our brethren everywhere. The Irish Grand Lodge has lost too, its old and faithful ruler, the Duke of Leinster, in 1874, and has unanimously elected that truly popular nobleman and able statesman the Duke of Abercorn as his successor. May all of good attend its choice, and our good brethren across the channel. All over the world, though the attacks on Freemasonry are many and bitter, with the close of 1874, yet Freemasonry is moving on, and will move on in 1875, and we feel sure that Freemasonry will continue to advance, despite all its unscrupulous adversaries, so long as it fights manfully under its good old banner, and asserts its own unflinching maxims of truth and right, of loyalty and order, of peace and toleration, of love and light.

Original Correspondence.

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

INSTALLATION OF GRAND MASTER.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

As an old P.M., permit me to express the pleasure I feel in our Royal Brother's accepting the Office of Grand Master; and as I am sure every brother whose privilege it is to attend the ceremony of installation will be there without fail, I, from experience, know the hall will be very inadequate to the requirements on that occasion. I would therefore suggest that Grand Lodge shall send a circular requesting every W.M. to fill in the names of every P.M. and Wardens of their respective lodges who intend witnessing this ceremony.

These circulars, with the number, having been returned, it becomes an easy matter for Grand Lodge to make the necessary arrangements.

I would further suggest the Albert Hall as a place which will be all that can be required. G.L., P.G.L., and G.S.L., will occupy the base, the W.M.'s to have the front seats in the next row with their P.M.'s immediately at back of them, the Wardens the next row above; and also that each brother shall be supplied with a ticket of admission which will at once indicate the door he is to enter at, and the seat he is to occupy; and this, I think, will prevent all matters of crowd and annoyance.

The musical arrangements are also complete.

With regard to the banquet, this can easily be arranged for by taking part of the annexe immediately adjoining the hall.

Yours truly and fraternally,
P.M., 186.

OUR MASONIC CHARITIES.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

As the time is drawing nigh when our brethren will be buckling on their armour, to fight the good fight on behalf of our charities, a word or two on the subject may not be inopportune. The subject appears to have engrossed the attention of many brethren, from the correspondence that has taken place from time to time in your valuable paper, and many suggestions have been put forward, some of which are too Utopian in their construction to be practically carried, and others falling short of any practical utility for their advancement. It is quite certain that our institutions will derive more or less benefit in proportion to the number of Stewards representing lodges on those occasions; the greater their number the greater the support derived from the various donors supporting the Steward by contributions to his list as well as the donations of the Stewards themselves. We will assume the first thing to do is to get as large a list of Stewards as you possibly can, the question is, how to get them. From my experience I have found the amount of the Stewards' fee to cover the incidental expenses of the festival to be a great bar to some brethren taking upon themselves the office. This fee is generally three or four guineas; if it could be reduced to a guinea and a half we should have many more brethren serving. I will endeavour to point out how this may be done. The Stewards' fee is generally fixed at the first meeting of the board, at which time the number comprises about 130 or 140 brethren.

An estimate is made as to the amount required to meet the incidental expenses, and a levy is made accordingly. Before the festival takes place this number may be increased to 200 or more, so that after the festival, when the settling day takes place, the brethren, from the additional number of Stewards' fees, find themselves in possession of a surplus, which they are sometimes puzzled to know what to do with, whereas if the matter had been left until a later period the fees would have been much less, and an inducement held out for brethren to take upon themselves the office on some future occasion. The brethren will under-

stand this when I say the incidental expenses are not more for a festival represented by 200 Stewards than one represented by 100.

From my experience in these matters there is always a surplus, sometimes a large one. After discharging the ordinary incidentals, the question arises at the final meeting how this is to be expended. The brethren do not like to receive part of it back. No, they have paid their money thinking it would be required, and dismiss such an idea from their mind. Then some one presses the claims of the Honorary Secretary and proposes a grant for his services, which is generally carried; other things are proposed and carried, and the Stewards, not many, attend the final meeting, and are very glad to get quit of it.

The Honorary Secretary to the Board of Stewards is invariably the Secretary of the Institution for which the festival is held, whose duty it is to do all in his power for the benefit and advancement of the Charity he represents; and his position as Secretary to the Board is an essential part of his duty. Besides, the Stewards exert themselves for the benefit of the Charity alone, and that certainly ought to have a prior claim to any available surplus.

In support of these remarks I have made, it is proved they are practical, and I am sure may be improved upon, by the method adopted by Bro. Little, the Secretary of the Girls' School at the festival in May last, when the Stewards' fee was fixed at two guineas. Those who required ladies' tickets paid for them, on that occasion. With an ordinary number of Stewards there was a surplus in hand, which the board voted to Bro. Little, who, I am told, respectfully declined to receive it, thereby acknowledging the principle I have laid down.

Our order is increasing wonderfully in numbers, and with that increase our casualties must necessarily keep pace, our institutions must, at no very distant period, be made to accommodate double their number, which can only be brought about by increased sympathy on the part of the Craft at large in response to those who serve the office of Stewards at our anniversary festivals, and thereby make themselves acquainted with the peculiar wants of each.

Trusting these few remarks, if not effective in themselves, may lead to a ventilation of the subject, so as in time to bring about the desired result,

I remain, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,
P.M.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Kindly permit the insertion of this in your next issue, to enable me to correct a statement made in a letter of mine which appeared in last week's Freemason. I stated in that letter that "I had not been supplied with any particulars by which I could show a return for the support I hope to receive when appealing (as Steward) to the brethren of my lodge on behalf of the Benevolent Institution." It was not my intention, when writing, that any of your numerous readers should presume I had not been supplied with the usual circulars by Bro. Terry, who has at all times been most willing to furnish information in any way connected with the noble charity he so well represents, and to whom I readily apologize for the mis-statement; and thanking you, Sir, for allowing me to further trespass on your space,

I am, yours fraternally,

HARRY J. MOXON.

229, New Kent Road.
London, Dec. 22, 1874.

SCOTTISH MASONIC BENEVOLENT FUND.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Sir and Brother,—

By accident referring to some back numbers of the Freemason I perceive that about a week before my scheme for a Masonic Benevolent Institution for Scotland was proposed in your columns, viz., Sept. 12th, in that issue there is a letter from a brother signed "Scoticus Masonicus." I know that editors receive names of writers of articles sometimes in secrecy. On considering said letter, and agreeing with nearly every word there written, I cannot help thinking that the said brother, whether living in London or in Scotland, might be of use to our undertaking, if he approves the scheme. Could you kindly, with his permission, give me his address or ask him to write to me, as I feel certain the more labourers we can get at the work the better.

I propose sending you an address for insertion early in January, as soon, in fact, as I can get in returns of our progress, and at the same time inserting it in all the Scottish papers, provincial or otherwise, so as to keep up the attention of the Craft.

I am, Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

GEO. R. HARRIOTT, 32, Prov. G.M.
Wigtown and Kirkeudbright.

No. 4, Howard Place, St. Andrew's,
Dec. 22nd, 1874.

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I venture to give my opinion on the subject recently ventilated in your columns, on the status of a demitted Past Master returning to his allegiance by rejoining a lodge. Whatever may be the spirit of the constitutions in the matter, their letter very plainly recites that a Past Master, who for twelve months has ceased to subscribe to any lodge, shall no longer continue a member of the Grand Lodge, nor can he regain that privilege until again installed Master of a lodge. By the law, he would, if made a Warden, become a member of the Grand Lodge, for the Wardens of every private lodge are members of Grand Lodge.

I venture to think that the spirit of the Constitutions is to punish, by a deprivation of rank, those who, having had

full experience as rulers of the Craft, forget the promise which they made at their initiation that they would ever observe the laws and regulations of the Order; one of which, as laid down in No. III of the ancient charges, is that "every brother ought to belong to some lodge;" and I venture further to think that it is but fair to those who work with uniformly steady and persevering constancy in the interests of Freemasonry, that they should not be in any way superseded by men who have for a time deserted their colours and given up the fight. Reading the Constitutions as I do, I venture to think that a demitted Past Master would, on regaining his privileges, rank below all Past Masters in his lodge who have attained the dignity of the chair during his secession from the Craft, and be treated in fact as though he had never before passed the chair.

BUSY BEE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

About six months ago I invited the brethren of my lodge to attend a funeral of a departed brother, and on that occasion, I, as W.M., took precedence, which was in accordance with the opinions of the P.M.'s present. This week I invited them again to another funeral, when it was ruled that the W.M. took rank in the procession after the youngest P.M.

Please inform me which is the correct opinion.

I enclose my card and remain,

Yours Fraternally,

ONE OF YOUR OLD SUBSCRIBERS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Would you, when convenient, oblige by inserting in your Notes and Queries the following, that they may be answered for the information of brethren generally, particularly Scottish brethren.

1st. Does the Charter of Constitution and erection of all lodges holding under the Grand Lodge of Scotland, empower and give them (the lodge) the right to work the Mark Degree?

2nd. If any lodge has not worked the Mark Degree, can it (the lodge) now do so, without any other other charter from the Grand Lodge of Scotland? See Scotch Constitutions, page 2, chap. 2, sec. 1, also page 46, chap. 2c, Sec. 1.

3rd. Is the Installed Master's Degree a new one, or how long since it was first conferred on duly elected W.M., under the S.C., and how can it be reconciled with the charges, &c., of a W.M.? See S.C. appendix, C. page 10, sec. 10, see Freemason of Nov. 28th, 1874, in a report of proceedings of Lodge Thistle, No. 87, S.C. page 761, 8th and 6 following lines, centre column.

5th. Would a Royal Arch Companion S.C., be admitted into a Royal Arch Chapter S.C., he not being a Mark Master and M.E.M.?

I am, Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

JOHN SMITH.
1257, E.C., 91, S.C.

MASONIC PORTRAITS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

As you invited expression of feeling on the above subject a week or so ago, in reply to the suggestion of a brother for some means (of which he suggests the above) of making the Freemason become more extensively circulated amongst the Craft, will you kindly allow me to suggest that there should appear weekly, on the front sheet of the Freemason, a portrait or carte-de-visite of some of our leading members of the Craft, slightly gummed on, so that it could be removed without being torn, and could then be mounted by your subscribers, or pasted in a scrap-book, by which means a feeling of greater interest might be awakened, and an incentive given to many to work themselves well up in the Craft, as well as a stimulus to become thoroughly acquainted with what Freemasonry is doing, not only in England but on the Continent.

I quite agree with your remarks, made on many occasions, that Masonic literature is not patronised or encouraged as it ought to be; and it is to be feared (and I say it with all due respect) that there are too many simply Masons by name, who, after once being raised to the sublime degree, seem to have no desire to make further progress either in the working of their lodge, or the acquisition of a general knowledge of what Freemasonry—so widely spread over the surface of the earth—is doing.

I am often much surprised at the number of brethren whom I meet to find that many have never heard of such a Masonic periodical as the Freemason, and others, knowing its existence, do not subscribe to it, and I could mention one town in which there are but about five thousand inhabitants, with a Masonic Lodge of about thirty members, and I am assured by the stationer that there is only one subscriber for the Freemason. Now, from what does this arise, seeing the Freemason is the only Masonic weekly organ we have in England? It seems to me there are but two answers—viz.: That the interest the Craft in general manifest for the cause of Freemasonry must be very limited indeed, or the Freemason is not sufficiently attractive to recommend itself thoroughly to the great brotherhood.

I feel confident with J. C., in yours of 19th inst., that the increase of circulation would amply repay the extra outlay.

I would suggest that when any great event in Masonry is taking place, such as dedications, installations, decess of any popular brother, or any important appointments, that a carte-de-visite should be given in the style suggested, with a full account of the proceedings, as far as

practicable, or, in the event of decess, an interesting account accompanying the portrait of any brother who shall have so far distinguished himself in Freemasonry as to be worthy of note.

If the above arrangements were carried out I believe I could induce many to become subscribers who do not care for the Freemason in its present style.

I trust this may lead to further correspondence on the subject, and I shall be pleased to know if this idea is approved of by your subscribers.

I am, Sir, yours truly and fraternally,

H. SMART, S.W. 996.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I am very much pleased to find from letters in this and last week's Freemason, that you contemplate some improvements. Will you permit one who has taken very considerable interest in the paper, from the issue of its first number, to suggest a few improvements, which would tend, I am certain, to swell very much indeed the number of your subscribers.

1st. Do not let advertisements interfere with paging, but let the page containing them serve as a cover, thus enabling your subscribers to bind their volumes. Lodges, Chapters, &c., would then have no excuse to urge for not taking in the paper as lodge property.

2nd. Encourage a system of notes and queries, admitting all that relates to, or is in any way connected with, the Order, requiring only that all letters should be written in a gentlemanly and fraternal spirit.

3rd. Establish a sort of Masonic exchange, all articles to be of a strictly Masonic character, and only articles that cannot readily be procured.

4th. Admit no letter or article abusing a Brother to your pages, show to your correspondents that if they forget the O.B. of the 3rd degree, you do not.

I consider the portraits and other Masonic sketches would be appreciated by the Craft, but do you not think they had better be given with your Monthly? The idea of issuing them as supplements is one that might enable them to be given more frequently, and at various prices.

Do you not think that were you in the Monthly to confine your articles to purely Masonic ones, your circulation would be improved? We have in England a large number of Monthlies, why try to compete with them? If matter fails fall back upon translations from French and German Masonic authors, or extract from American Masonic Magazines. I trust you will take the few remarks I have ventured to make in the spirit in which they were written—a sincere desire to increase the circulation of both our Masonic papers, in which I feel (as all lovers of the Order should) a deep interest. With the compliments of the season,

I am, dear Sir and Brother, fraternally yours,

F. G. IRWIN, P.M. P.Z. &c.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I am glad to see that the above subject is being ventilated, and hope that it will result in your taking it up. As you kindly invite opinions I take the liberty of suggesting one. Could you not give us photographs from life, such as are now being issued by the "Figaro Programme" with such great success? For they really are works of art, and should you issue such as those, the increase in circulation of the FREEMASON would soon recoup you for the trouble and outlay.

I am, fraternally yours,

M.M. 1239.

THE OFFICE OF GRAND MASTER.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

It appears to me that although the rule against the resignation by a Worshipful Master of his office, may be of time immemorial, it is still within his power to divest himself of the duties and privileges of his position, by ceasing to be a member of his lodge. In the Constitutions of 1756 and 1767 I find it stated that "On Nov. 25th, 1723, it was agreed that if a Master of a particular lodge is deposed, or demits, certain rules should be observed as to his successor. This right of demission (defined by Bro. Paton as "the act which in any other society would be called a resignation"), is clearly common to all Masons, and if a Master demits, or resigns membership of his lodge, he, ipso facto, renders himself incapable of discharging the duties of his office, for which event provision is made by our present Book of Constitutions, chapter "of the Masters and Wardens of lodges," section 6. Doubtless he cannot resign his office, and continue to be a member of his lodge, but however strongly the course I have pointed out is to be deprecated, as a violation of the obligation taken on assumption of the Master's chair, the power of demission which I attribute to every Mason, cannot, I think, be denied.

H. MARTIN GREEN.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

As an Irish Mason, I cannot be expected to know perfectly the working under the E.C., though I take a lively interest in all that concerns the Craft; and therefore carefully read the interesting letter of Bro. Warren and your leader on it in the Freemason of the 19th ult., and after weighing all his arguments, I have not been able to come to his conclusion. If the M.W.G.M. desired to resign early in the year, and that he could not do so, I understand Bro. Warren to say the D.G.M. would rule the Craft; but suppose he were to die, who then would rule? I think it would have been better if Bro. Warren had been able at first to have stated his views, but as things are, I cannot see any good to be gotten by opening of the question.

In the same number of the *Freemason* was an account of the consecration of the new Masonic Hall, Hobart Town, in which your correspondent states that there are Ionic pillars supporting an entablature in the E., and Corinthian pillars to the niche in the S. It appears to me that either your correspondent or the architect has made a great mistake, for that those should be quite the reverse. On looking to "Mackay's Lexicon," I find he gives the Ionic as in the S. Which is right?

Fraternally Yours,
P.G.C.

AN ANCIENT INSCRIPTION.

To the Editor of the *Freemason*.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In the impression of the *Freemason* of the 19th ult. there is an amusing account of the Sphinx Lodge, in which there is given an inscription "supposed" to have been found in the ruins of the temple. Will you allow me to give you another reading of the "inscription" which at this festive season may be acceptable.

Is ato me eris ago
Fortibus in aro,
Nobile themis forte trux,
Se votis in empeas an dux.

Translation.

I say Tommy, here's a go,
Forty 'busses in a row.
No, Billy, them is forty trucks,
See vot is in 'em, peas and ducks.

I am, Sir, yours very truly,
W. W. S.

London, Dec. 14th, 1874.

A CORRECTION.

To the Editor of the *Freemason*.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In your record of the ceremony of the installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as Patron of the A. and A. rite, you mention my attendance as that of T. H. Coombes. My correct name is Thomas Coombs, and I shall be obliged by your having the error set right.

Yours fraternally,
THOS. COOMBS, 33°.

INSTALLATION OF THE PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER OF NEW ZEALAND, S.C.

The ceremonial of the installation of Bro. John Hislop, Inspector of Schools, as the R.W.P.G.M. of the Masonic Province of New Zealand over the lodges holding of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, was performed in the Masonic Hall, Moray-place, Dunedin, on Wednesday evening, 9th October.

The Prov. G. Lodge was opened by the R.W.P., Bro. Vincent Pyke, assisted by Bros. P.M. James Mills, P.G.D.M.; P.M. G. H. Campbell, Lodge St. Clair, P.G.S.M.; J. Stables, R.W.M., Lodge Celtic, 477, P.G.S.W.; J. McLandress, D.M. 477, P.G.J.W. The following lodges were then admitted:—Bro. J. H. Harris, R.W.D.G.M. of the E.C., and officers and members of the G.D. Lodge of Otago and Southland; Lodge of Otago E.C.; Lodge of Dunedin, E.C.; Lodge of Port Chalmers, Marine, E.C.; Lodge Celtic, Dunedin, S.C.; Lodge St. Andrew, Dunedin, S.C.; Lodge Otago Kilwinning, S.C.; and Lodge Oamaru Kilwinning. Besides the R.W.M. of Lodge Cromwell Kilwinning, Bro. McKellar, there were brethren representing Lodge Sir Walter Scott, Thames, St. John's Lodge, Milton, and Clutha Lodge, Balclutha. Bro. P.M. Caldwell, recently appointed a Steward of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, was also received in due form.

The attendance was one of the largest seen in the colony, there being upwards of 350 brethren in the lodge-room.

The ceremony of installation was conducted by the R.W.P.G.M., Bro. Vincent Pyke, in his accustomed efficient and impressive style, ably assisted by Bro. J. Lanseigne, R.W.M. Otago Kilwinning, who acted as P.G.D.C.

The P.G.M., Bro. Hislop, having been duly installed into the chair of the P.G. Lodge, the following brethren, nominated by him, were installed into their respective offices:—Bros. J. Gore, S.P.G.M.; G. F. Reid, P.G.S.W.; W. H. Burton, P.G.J.W.; J. B. Park, P.G. Chaplain; S. G. H. Smith, P.G. Secretary.

The following elected officers were also installed, with the exception of Bro. E. B. Hammond, P.G. Bible Bearer, who, as stated by the R.W.P.G.M., was unable on account of sickness to be present:—Bros. A. R. Livingstone, P.G. Treasurer; F. Beissell, P.G.S.D.; H. M'Donald, P.G.J.D.; A. H. Burton, P.G. Jeweller; N. Y. A. Wales, P.G. Architect; J. M. Brown, P.G. Director of Ceremonies; S. Black, P.G. Marshal; John Ferguson, P.G. Director of Music; T. Moodie, P.G. Sword-Bearer; G. Smith, P.G. Tyler; and J. M'Landress, James M'Leod, W. Patrick, W. Irvine, Dr. Bakewell, P.G. Stewards.

The Prov. G. Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet-room.

The east was occupied by the P.G.M., supported on the right by Bros. P. M. Gore, T. James, and E. Nathan, and on the left by Bros. P.M.'s Lanseigne, R. Stout, and Burton. The west was occupied by P.M. Bro. G. F. Reid, P.G.S. Warden, and the south by P.M. Bro. G. H. Campbell, P.G.J. Warden.

The banquet-room was appropriately decorated with banners, &c.; and, as regards the supper, it is only necessary to say that it was got up in Bro. Hudson's best style, whose ability and courtesy as a caterer have often been put to the proof.

After the removal of the cloth, the customary loyal and Masonic toasts were given by the R.W.Prov.G.M., viz: "The Queen and Craft," "Bro. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales and Royal Family," "The three Grand Lodges—

England, Ireland, and Scotland," responded to by Bro. P.M. Caldwell, G.S.; "The District Grand Lodge of Otago and Southland," responded to by Bro. P.M. G. Greenfield, D.G.W.; "The Provincial Grand Lodge of Ireland," responded to by Bros. P.M. Hyman and Armstrong.

In the absence of the P. Prov. G.M., Bro. V. Pyke (who was obliged to leave on account of illness), Bro. P.M. Stout, in a very appropriate speech, proposed the health of the R.W.P.G.M., Bro. Hislop, and success to the P.G. Lodge.

Bro. Hislop, in thanking the brethren for the distinguished honour that had been conferred upon him, stated, in a few terse practical sentences, that they would have no reason to regret their choice. He expressed his determination to have every one of his officers in harness forthwith, and that none of them would have reason to say that he occupied the place of a sinecure. The "P.G. Officers" was given by Bro. P.M. Nathan, responded to by Bro. P.M. James Gore; "The Installing Officers," by Bro. P.G.M. Hislop, responded to by Bro. P.M. Lanseigne; "The Past P.G. Officers," by Bro. P.M.S. James, responded to by Bro. P.M. James Mills; "Sister and Daughter Lodges," by Bro. P.M. Gore, responded to by Bro. A. H. Barton, P.M., E.C., and Bro. H. Aitken, R.W.M., Oamaru, Kilwinning; "The Visitors," by Bro. R.W.M. Stables, Celtic, responded to by R.W.M. Bro. D. M'Kellar, Cromwell Kilwinning, who stated that he and others trusted soon to have the opportunity to be able to give the officers of the P.G. Lodge as hearty a welcome in the province as the visitors had met with that evening. "The Past Masters," by Bro. J. B. Park, responded to by Bro. P.M. Nathan.

Bro. P.M. James Mills then gave the time-honoured toasts of "Masons' Wives and Bairs," and the R.W.P.G.M. closed the meeting by the usual Masonic toast, "Poor and Distressed Brethren."

During the evening the meeting was enlivened by several appropriate songs, accompanied by Bro. Moss on the piano, who also presided over the music during the whole of this (to Masons) most interesting and impressive ceremonial.

CHESHIRE MASONIC EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION.

On Tuesday evening, 15th ult., an amateur dramatic performance was given in the Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, under the auspices of the brethren of the Mersey Lodge of Freemasons, (No. 477), in aid of the funds of the Cheshire Masonic Educational Institution. The comfortable, cozy theatre was crowded to its full extent, and therefore the result ought to be a very substantial addition to the funds of a very deserving institution. The performance began with the farce of "Turning the Tables," in which the principal characters were supported by Bro. W. J. Hammond, Messrs. Christie, Owen, T. Morris, Miss L. Phillips, Mrs. John Stinton, Miss A. Florence, (of the Birkenhead Theatre). The principal attraction of the evening's performances, however, was the representation of "Richard III," in which nearly the whole of the characters were played by brethren of the Mersey and other district lodges. Humpbacked Gloster was very ably and creditably represented by Bro. W. M. Asher, who displayed an amount of histrionic ability which was somewhat surprising in an amateur. Bro. R. Gracie played the King with much kingly dignity, and Mr. G. H. Pedder did much to make Richard the telling part, which it is essentially. Bro. Dixon was a good Stanley, and Miss C. Young, (Queen Elizabeth), Miss L. Phillips, (Lady Anne), and the other members of the company, played with no small success. It may be interesting to know that the institution, which has been established for some years, has for its object the education of the children of deceased Freemasons, who leave their families in destitute circumstances. Numerous children have been provided for, and much credit is due to the brethren of the locality for these yearly entertainments on behalf of the funds of this noble charity.

GRAND LODGE OF IRELAND.

A regular communication of Grand Lodge will be held on Thursday, the 7th of January, 1875, at eight o'clock, p.m., at Freemasons' Hall, Molesworth-street, Dublin, to transact the usual business; to consider the recommendation of the Board of General Purposes:—

"That £100 be voted towards the proposed memorial to the memory of the late Grand Master," and to receive the report from the Committee appointed to report as to the future salaries of the Officials in the Grand Secretary's Office.

The Grand Lodge will also meet on Monday, the 28th December (for St. John's Day), at twelve o'clock, noon, to install the Grand Officers, except the Grand Master and Grand Wardens, who will be installed at the special meeting convened for the 6th of January, and to receive the report of the Committee of Inspection as to the officers of the Dublin lodges for the year 1875.

The following is the order of proceedings to be observed on the occasion:—

On the arrival of His Grace, the Grand Master elect, the Deputy Grand Master and the Grand Officers will conduct him to the Small Lodge Room, where His Grace will be formally installed as Master of the Grand Master's Lodge.

The D.G.M. and the Grand Officers will then proceed to the Grand Lodge Room, and Grand Lodge will be opened in due form, the R.W. Robert William Shekleton, D.G.M., on the Throne.

The D.G.M. will then appoint a Deputation, consisting of the Past Deputy Grand Masters and four Provincial Grand Masters, who, together with the Grand Deacons, the Grand Director of Ceremonies, and the Grand Steward, will retire and introduce the G.M. elect, and conduct him to the Dais.

The Brethren will stand to Order while a prayer is offered by the R.W. the Grand Chaplain.

The D.G.M. will then request the G.M. elect to kneel and take the obligation of office.

The G.M. elect having been conducted to the right hand of the Throne, the D.G.M. will invest His Grace with the Insignia of his high office, and induct him into the Chair of the Grand Master.

The Grand Director of Ceremonies will then proclaim the Most Worshipful Grand Master who will be saluted according to ancient form.

An Installation Ode, written and composed specially for the occasion by the W. Grand Organist, will then be performed.

The G.M. will then appoint his Deputy, who will be invested and conducted to the Chair on the right of the M.W.G.M.; and on being proclaimed as such by the Grand Director of Ceremonies, will be saluted according to ancient form.

The M.W.G.M. will then proceed to install the Most Noble the Marquis of Headfort as Senior Grand Warden, and the Right Honorable Lord Dunboyne as Junior Grand Warden, who will be severally invested with the Insignia of their respective offices, and saluted according to ancient form.

The Grand Lodge will then be closed in ample form.

LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

The usual monthly meeting of the lodge of Benevolence was held on the 23rd ult., which was too late to be reported in our last impression, as, on account of Christmas Day, we had to go to press a day earlier than usual. The Senior Vice-President, Bro. Joshua Nunn, took the President's chair; Bro. James Brett, Junior Vice-President, the Senior Vice-President's; and Bro. C. A. Cotterbrum, P.G.P., the Junior Vice-President's.

There was a very long list of applications for relief, which occupied the attention of the brethren till a late hour. A large total amount was distributed, the majority of cases being assisted with sums of from £20 to £30.

Masonic Tidings.

The Lord Mayor of London has accepted an invitation to dine with the Mayor of Liverpool on the 4th of March. It is a curious coincidence that the two chief magistrates of the leading cities of the world are both members of the legal profession retired from practice.

Lord Dalhousie's cellar of wines was sold at Edinburgh on Saturday. Some of the lots realised £8 per dozen.

Among the unfortunate victims of the Railway disaster at Shipton, was Miss Margaret Laverick, housekeeper to the Earl of Carnarvon. Deceased left Ilhyclere Castle, Newbury, on Thursday, 24th, for Chesterfield, with the intention of spending Christmas with her friends.

The lease of the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, has been purchased by Bro. P. Ritter, the energetic caterer, Bro. Joseph Corbin remaining as Manager.

Bro. W. H. Van Barle has been appointed private Secretary to the Lord Privy Seal for the ensuing year.

Bro. Viscount Holmesdale has sent twenty brace of pheasants to the British Home for Incurables, of which Institution he is President.

The Union Waterloo Lodge of Instruction, No. 13, has, by permission of the W.M. of the Mother Lodge, been opened at the Earl of Chatham, Thomas-street, Woolwich. The lodge now meets every Friday evening at 8, under the preceptorship of Bro. C. G. Dille, P.M. 147, 1155. The Ceremonies of Consecration and Installation will be worked in the lodge by Bro. James Terry, P.G.D.C. Herts, P.M. 228, 1278, 1366, &c., on Friday the 15th of January next.

BRO. CONSTABLE'S DRAWING.—The time is rapidly approaching this eventful proceeding, hence we solicit brethren who have sold or purchased tickets, to send an early return to Bro. Constable, as well as to remit for the same, so that registration may be made in accordance with the terms specified on the ticket. We are glad to learn that Bro. Constable is finding favour and that his praiseworthy efforts are likely to be followed by many of our brethren on behalf of their Provincial Masonic and Charitable Institutions.

THE CITY DIARY.—This shilling diary, which is published at the office of the *City Press*, contains complete lists of the members of the Corporation, and of its officials, with the names and addresses of the City clergy and ministers of various denominations, the ward clerks, tax collectors, parish officers, ward clubs, and other City associations, with much information respecting the livery companies, the public business of the City, and other matters in which citizens generally are interested. The diary is interleaved with blotting paper, and is ruled for a week on each page.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—When winter checks, to a considerable extent, the natural exhalations of the skin, an alternative is required to transfer them entirely from the body through some other channel. Holloway's Pills can be confidently recommended as the easiest and surest and safest means of attaining this desirable end, without weakening the most delicate, or incommencing the most feeble. When, from frequent chills and impure air, the blood becomes foul and the secretion vitiated, these Pills present a ready and efficient means of cleansing the former and correcting the latter. By this salutary proceeding, disease is arrested at its outset, its pain and inconveniences averted, and the nervous structure saved from the depressing effects entailed upon them by an illness.—ADVT.

Obituary.

BRO. S. B. KING, W.M. 225.

Yesterday afternoon the mortal remains of the late Bro. Stephen Burdett King, who expired last week immediately after having been installed as Worshipful Master of St. Luke's Lodge, were interred in Ipswich Cemetery. The esteem in which deceased was held by the brethren of the Craft was testified by about sixty Freemasons—notwithstanding the very inclement weather—according a last tribute of respect by being present at the graveside. It is, we understand, more than twenty years since a dispensation was granted for a Masonic funeral in Ipswich. The brethren met at St. Luke's Lodge-room, Coach and Horses Hotel, at 1, and included the following:—Bros. W. F. Jobson, W. Daking, A. Barber, C. Hillyard, G. Spalding, J. Whitehead, T. Prentice, C. Byford, J. Turner, P. Whitehead, F. Grove, W. Murray, W. D. Skinner, J. Orton, J. Barker, W. Flory, C. Canham, C. W. Godball, J. Sheppard, and H. Meek, &c, of St. Luke's Lodge. Bros. A. Gammon, W. A. Smith, W. J. Jack, J. H. Staddon, N. Tracy, F. Pettit, G. A. Turner, J. G. Churchyard, B. W. Syer, A. E. Parker, H. Robertson, T. Hooper, W. G. Woods, F. Waller, H. Lott, A. Cannon, E. Hain, T. R. Elkington, &c., &c., of Perfect Friendship Lodge. Bros. the Rev. R. N. Sanderson, B. Dickson, G. Abbott, F. Crisp, F. Bennett, C. Cooke, and J. Trott, Prince of Wales' Lodge. Bros. E. Holmes, G. W. Brock, B. Spurling, W. Spalding, H. Miller, jun., and P. Cornell, &c., &c., of the British Union Lodge; and Bros. J. S. Ruffles, Doric; W. O. Ward, Star in the East; and T. Heard, 81, &c.

Amongst gentlemen present not members of the Craft but anxious to show their respect for deceased were Mr. Wm. Mason, Mr. J. W. Beart, Mr. — Beart, Mr. Jonathan Cooke, Mr. Jillings, Mr. J. A. Parker, Mr. B. B. Parker, Mr. Walter Canham, Mr. Charles Woods, Mr. T. P. Howe, Mr. W. R. Clarke, Mr. A. Ashford, Mr. W. T. Holmes, Mr. David Seagrave, and several other inhabitants of St. Clements.

From the lodge-room the members of the Craft marched in procession to the late residence of the deceased in Fore-street. Thence the funeral cortege started at about 2 o'clock, the route chosen being Upper Orwell-street, St. Margaret's-street, Woodbridge Road, and Christchurch-street. Hundreds of people had assembled in Fore-street and awaited the approach of the mournful procession at various points.

Arrived at the church in the Cemetery, the brethren formed a line on either side the pathway, and the coffin, preceded by Bro. the Rev. R. N. Sanderson, who officiated throughout, reading the sublime burial service, was borne into the building. The service was choral, and was very impressive, the hymns sung in the church being, "When our heads are bowed with woe," and "Jesus lives; no longer now can thy terrors, death, appal us." The deceased Mason was interred in the same grave as his wife, whom he followed to the tomb only a few months since. As the coffin (of polished oak) was being lowered into the grave the choir rendered Handel's "Saul" most feelingly. The reading of the burial service being ended, the officiating clergyman delivered a brief but impressive discourse. He spoke of the esteem in which their departed brother was held amongst them, and of the breach caused by his removal. He had, he said, died as he would have wished—honoured, surrounded by his brethren, his bodily suffering ere he passed away short, followed to the grave by those with whom he had been associated in life. He had suddenly been called to enter upon a change of scene; they hoped through Christ to a higher range of being, a more purified knowledge where the nets of his infirmity would be broken, and where he was now awaiting a happy re-union with those whom he had left behind—where all would know even as they were known. The corn had been cut and awaited the gathering in, the tree had been felled, and the stone quarried, ready for the great Master Architect to lay it in "the temple, not made with hands, eternal in the heavens." For themselves, the end of their late brother was a great lesson to prepare to meet God; its awful suddenness, a warning to them to be also ready. Let them speak, and think lovingly, tenderly, forgivingly, knowing they had need of forgiveness. Their brother who had gone from amongst them was gentle, kind, and good; it would be long ere the circle was filled up; they would long miss his ready instruction, his genial presence in innocent enjoyment. Oft had they met happily; now they met sorrowfully; but God grant that they might happily meet again. The address, during the delivery of which snow fell fast, was listened to most attentively; and at its conclusion the brethren took a last look into the grave, at the same time dropping upon the coffin a sprig of acacia, in conformity with the custom of the Craft. Processional order was then resumed, the brethren returning to the St. Luke's Lodge-room, when the lodge was closed, after Bro. the Rev. R. N. Sanderson had further addressed the members, during which he was completely overcome with emotion, having, as he said, known their late brother for 17 years, and esteemed him not only as a Mason but as a friend. The funeral arrangements were carried out by Bro. H. Luff, and Bro. W. A. Smith, very efficiently acted as director of the ceremonies.

The social circle of the late Bro. King has met with a severe loss in his sudden demise. He had been long regarded as the possessor of transcendent abilities far beyond the requirements of the trade he followed. Had he been educated for a profession no doubt he would have distinguished himself, such was the high order of his talents.

The late Bro. King was initiated into the Perfect Friendship Lodge in 1844, being proposed by Bro. W. Spalding. He immediately became an active worker in the Order, and was installed W.M. for the first time in 1851. Six years later he was again chosen for the office and in 1863 was

similarly honoured. In the St. Luke's Lodge he was initiated in 1865 becoming W.M. for the first time on the night of his death. He had passed all the principal offices in the Royal Sussex Chapter and was also Scribe in the St. Luke's Chapter and a Knight Templar.

BRO. EDWIN COLLINGWOOD.

On Tuesday morning, 15th ult., shortly after two o'clock, Bro. Edwin Collingwood died at his residence in Drake-street, Rochdale, after a short sickness, although his health seems to have gradually failed since the death of his wife, which occurred last March. He was for many years closely attached to Freemasonry. He was initiated into Freemasonry in Lodge of Hope, 54, August, 1849, and was installed W.M. of the above lodge in 1857, and discharged the duties of that office with honour to himself and credit to the lodge, and was a member of the same up to his death. Many years he attended the Charity Committees of this province on behalf of the lodge, in which he took great interest. He held several important offices in the town, the duties of which he discharged with zeal and fidelity. His death is deeply lamented by the brethren who knew him, particularly by the brethren of his lodge. He was interred in St. Clement's Churchyard on Friday morning last, and the following brethren, in order to pay the last tribute of respect to our departed brother, attended the funeral in white ties and gloves. Ut umbra corpus sequitur, sic virtutem gloria. Bros. C. M. Jones, Pro P.D.A.C.; Wm. Roberts, P.P.; R. Butterworth, A.P.; D. Mitchell, P.M.; James Midgley, P.M.; E. Hey, P.M.; John Leach, P.M.; Ralph Rawstron, P.M.; Jesse Ferth, P.M.; David Buckley, P.M.; Wm. Ashworth, P.M.; Wm. Davies, P.M.; John Ashworth, W.M.; Geo. Holmes; S. Casson; Wm. Kerr; A. Barker, S.W.; James Hartley; T. Parker; J. Ireland, S.W.; C. Smith; John Higgin, J.W.; E. Hill; H. Schofield; Geo. Green; J. Lawton; James Burnish, J.W.; John Greyson; E. Crosley; Wm. Davies.

BRO. CAPTAIN W. H. LEE.

A very large circle of friends, both in England and America, will learn with deep regret that Bro. Captain W. H. Lee, for many years the business manager of Bro. Sam Hague's Slave Troupe—located in Liverpool, at St. James's Hall, for upwards of four years—died at his residence in Fraser-street, Liverpool, on Tuesday, the 15th inst., after a very long illness. Our brother had been prostrated by that dire disease, consumption, but although he had long suffered from it, there was no immediate expectation of his dissolution until a very short time before his death. Bro. Lee was in active service in the American army during the whole of the civil war, and was in numerous engagements, holding the rank of captain during a great part of the time. At the close of the war he organized what was then and is now known as "The Slave Troupe of Minstrels," and, after owning it for some time, he sold his proprietary to Bro. Hague several years ago, and then assumed the post of business manager. This position he filled with the greatest satisfaction of the proprietor, and in a manner which won for him general admiration from the patrons of the troupe. Bro. Lee was well known and universally esteemed by many of the leading members of the Masonic fraternity in Liverpool and elsewhere, and his loss is sincerely regretted by these as well as many non-Masonic friends. His remains were interred on Monday afternoon last in Smithdown-lane Cemetery, many professional and Masonic friends being present to pay a last tribute of respect to his memory. Bro. Lee was only 33 years of age, and leaves a widow to mourn his loss. The funeral of our much respected brother took place on Monday week, when nearly every place of entertainment in Liverpool was represented. A band of 64 instrumentalists, selected from nearly all the local orchestras, played on the route to the cemetery, where there was a crowd of between 3,000 and 4,000 persons. The coffin was enveloped in the National Flag of America, and surmounted by splendid wreaths of flowers.

Reviews.

It has been said that the days of fairies are over, and that the tales of youth delight us no more. Our young people want and demand, it is also averred, with much of apparent confidence both of speech and of opinion, a more sensational if certainly less healthy, nay, less pure a literature. Well, we don't believe it! We doubt, that is to say, very greatly the "soft impeachment" of the taste and temper of the rising generation, and we venture even to think that the proclivities of youth are pretty much the same, "mutatis mutandis," as Friar Tuck said, with what they were in our bye-gone generation! For we ourselves can recall, even in these sobered days, an equal love of the marvellous, as great a yearning for the "weird" and the sensational, as are credited to this our "nova progenies." We believe therefore that fairy tales, that sympathy with the supernatural, will outlive all the prosaic utterances, and realistic teaching of incredulous philosophers and scientific moralists, the didactic essay, and the veiled utterances of doubt or scorn. The foundation of all good fairy tales is after all only belief in the unseen, in right, in truth, in honour, in justice, in faith, if veiled in allegory, if set forth in quaint imagery. It may be that these old-fashioned truisms of the fairy tale, jar somewhat on the complacent scepticism of many in this easy and self-sufficient semi-educated epoch, whose present seems to be "cram," and whose end appears to be self. Yet, who of us all does not recall the good fairy of the ancient legend, who always appeared at the right time, and in the proper place, rewarding innocence, upholding right, and utterly routing and casting down fraud and falsehood, treachery and hypocrisy, wicked tyranny, and sinful might, and therefore it is that King Pippin's adventures, by Roland

Quiz, appeal, as we think, to the best feelings and honest freshness of youth. We know a little lady for instance, who has been so delighted with Tim Pippin, that she quite believes both in his words and deeds, and will follow his wondrous adventures with intense anxiety and thrilling interest. We congratulate Roland Quiz on writing his work, which though it may graze, as has been said, as it were, on the "doubtful mountains," yet contains in it after all, the elements of moral truth and personal duty, if illustrated by fairy intervention, or marvellous acts. Like in all allegories, or parables, Roland Quiz seeks to set forth truth for the welfare of the young especially, in the history of Tim or King Pippin, and we prefer his clever description of supernatural wonders, to those deeds of horror, and those annals of crime, which seem so fashionable just now, and in which so many for their lasting harm, profess to find amusement and gratification. At this genial season, we recommend "Tim Pippin" to the perusal of all our youthful readers, the sons and daughters of Masons.

We have perused with pleasure the "History of the Lodge of Tranquility, No. 185," written by our Bro. John Constable, W.M., and with a preface by Bro. W. J. Hughan. We thank Bro. Constable for a very well planned and well executed work, and we trust that his reasonable example will be widely followed. For, as Bro. W. J. Hughan well knows, the documents of our lodges are still, as it were, a sealed book, alike to the Masonic Student and the Masonic historian. It is possible that we have not preserved such ancient minute-books in our English lodges as in Scotland, but we do not yet despair of finding English lodge minute-books like the Alnwick Lodge, pre 1717 and during the 17th century. The Lodge of Tranquility was originally formed under a warrant of the "Ancient" Grand Lodge, and the charter is signed by Lord Antrim, G.M., Laur. Dermott, D.G.M., Thomas Harper, S.G.W., Ja. Parry, J.G.W., and John McCormick, G.S. The history is marked by two somewhat remarkable features, the one is, that though in 1791, it was unanimously resolved that a "Jew should not be admitted as a brother on any pretence whatever in future," in 1849 the lodge was practically resuscitated by a swarm of Hebrew brethren from Joppa Lodge, many of them well known to Masons and Masonry. What a very remarkable commentary does this first fact supply against intolerant prejudices, and futile attempts to invalidate the true universality of Freemasonry. Another very notable point is the establishment of a Lodge Fund of Benevolence, which is now very flourishing indeed, and has been productive of much happy relief to destitute brethren and decayed members of the lodge. We congratulate Bro. Constable on his very interesting and readable volume, as a valuable contribution to Masonic Archaeology and Lodge History, and we trust that it will have every literary success. We quite agree with all Bro. Hughan so well says as to the desirability of such lodge histories; and we hope that we may witness before long a general overhauling of Lodge chests, MSS., and records.

Moses and Son, of clothing fame, have put out with the New Year, two very neat little diaries and almanacks for their customers and the public. Very convenient they are to lie on the table or the desk, the more so as dates are most important to all who have duties to perform or accounts to pay. And who has not? There are indeed a multitude of Diaries, Almanacks, and Remembrancers, with a closing and an opening year, all of them applicants for approval and patronage, so that we can safely say that no one need be without such a necessary daily companion and memento vitæ for 1875. For such diaries, in our opinion, are alike needful for the man of wealth, and for the man of business, for the student and for the philosopher, for the lecturer, and the litterateur, for the schoolboy and the clergyman, for the "Misses," and for the Mason, and we recommend these little convenient diaries to all who like the "multum in parvo," and seek neatness and utility combined.

NOTES ON LITERATURE, SCIENCE AND ART.

GLEANED FROM VARIOUS SOURCES.

Two useful publications, under the titles of the "Literary Mart" and the "Booksellers' Circular" have been forwarded to me. They promise fair to fill up a void which book-buyers have long felt. I am pleased to notice seven works on Freemasonry, offered for sale in their pages; showing that the dear old Craft continues to attract attention both in the ranks of the initiated and amongst the outer world who are not Freemasons.

On Saturday morning, Dec. 19th, Mr. Charles Rogers, better known under his assumed literary name of "Tom Treddehoyle," died at Barnsley, in the seventy-third year of his age. He edited the "Bainstall Fooks' Annual and Pogmoor Olmenac" from its commencement in 1837 to the present issue; and had done much, by his genuine humour, towards creating that taste for works in provincial dialects, and which, as was to be expected, has flooded us with much dirty water, not from Helicon. Nevertheless, with such writers in the Lancashire and Yorkshire dialects as Edwin Waugh, Ben. Brierley, Eccles of Leeds, and Florence Cleveland, all of whom have really something to say, independent of their peculiar modes of telling it; local provincial literature is likely to live in the North of England, and the student of their rich dialects to be able for all time to draw illustrations from their writings. Nor is it merely the abundance of provincial words that truly illustrates the dialect of a district, there is a peculiar mode of expression among those "to the manner born," which a stranger could never acquire, and which only some who really know the dialect can give expression to; but without which, all writings in dialects lose their charm. Though the most part of his life was spent in Barnsley, Mr. Rogers was born at Man-

chester, June 2nd, 1802; and at an early age removed to Wakefield, where he was educated in the Green Coat School, and he afterwards served his time in that town as apprentice to a house painter. He then began business on his own account, in Barnsley, and was so far successful as to be able to spend the latter years of his life in retirement. He had been for some years chairman of the Barnsley Board of Guardians, and took an active interest in the welfare of the poor. His genial manners, unflinching humour, and kind heart, endeared him to a large circle, differing widely from him in political opinions, (which were Conservative), and in religious views, (which were those of the Church of England.) Far beyond the district where the dialect is spoken in which he sent forth his Annual, has that humorous little sixpennyworth been anxiously looked for every year; and long after his body has mouldered into dust, will his genuine humour live in his writings, which contained nothing to raise a blush on the cheeks of his chastest readers.

Mr. J. Tom Burgess, whose well-known books on Old English Wild Flowers, Angling, the Last Battle of the Roses, &c., are deservedly popular, has now in the press a work of much research on Historic Warwickshire, its Legendary Lore, Traditionary Stories, and Romantic Episodes. As Mr. Burgess has for some years been resident at Leamington in Warwickshire, and made its natural history, antiquities, chronicles, and folk lore, his especial study, I have no doubt that he will present his readers with a rich intellectual repast.

GEORGE MARKHAM TWEDDELL.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, January 9, 1875.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

Saturday, January 2.

General Committee Boys' School, at 4.
Manchester Lodge of Instruction (179), Yorkshire Grey, 77, London-street, Fitzroy-square, at 8; Bro. H. Ash, Preceptor.
Lily Lodge of Instruction (820), Greyhound Hotel, Richmond, Surrey.

Star Lodge of Instruction (1275), Marquess of Granby, New Cross-road, at 7; Bro. C. G. Dilley, Preceptor.

Monday, January 4.

Lodge 12, Fortitude and Old Cumberland, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
" 25, Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall.
" 72, Royal Jubilee, Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street.
" 83, United Lodge of Prudence, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
" 144, St. Luke's, Mason's Hall, Basinghall-street.
" 188, Joppa, Mason's Hall, Mason's Avenue, Basinghall-street.

" 1319, Asaph, Freemasons' Hall.
Chap. 28, Old King's Arms, Freemasons' Hall.
Mark Lodge, 139, Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham.
Prince Leopold Lodge of Instruction (1445), Lord Stanley Tavern, Saundringham-road, Kingsland, at 7; Bro. T. Austin, Preceptor.

Strong Man Lodge of Instruction (45), Crown Tavern, Clerkenwell green, at 8; Bro. Beckett, Preceptor.

Sincerity Lodge of Instruction (174), Railway Tavern, Fenchurch-street Station, at 7.

Camden Lodge of Instruction (704), Adelaide Tavern, Haverstock-hill, at 8; Bro. T. A. Adams, Preceptor.

Eastern Star Lodge of Instruction (95), Royal Hotel, Mile-end-road, at 7.30; Bro. E. Gotheil, Preceptor.

British Oak Lodge of Instruction (813), Bank of Friendship Tavern, Mile-end, at 7 for 8.

St. James's Union Lodge of Instruction (180), Horse and Groom Tavern, Winsley-street (opposite the Pantheon), Oxford-street, at 8; Bro. J. R. Stacey, Preceptor.

Wellington Lodge of Instruction, White Swan Tavern, Deptford, at 8; Bro. C. G. Dilley, P.M. 1155, Preceptor.

West Kent Lodge of Improvement (1297), St. Saviour's College, Stansted-road, Forest-hill, at 7.30; Bro. H. W. Lindus, Preceptor.

Metropolitan Mark Lodge of Instruction, Coach and Horses Hotel, 323, Strand, at 8.

Tuesday, January 5.

Colonial Board, at 3.
Lodge 7, Royal York Lodge of Perseverance, Freemasons' Hall.

" 101, Temple, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.

" 172, Old Concord, Freemasons' Hall.

" 765, St. James's, Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge.

" 1298, Royal Standard, Marquess Tavern, Canonbury.

" 1381, Kennington, Surrey Tavern, Kennington Oval.

Mark Lodge 1, St. Mark's Mason's Hall, Mason's Avenue, Basinghall-street.

Yarborough Lodge of Instruction (554), Green Dragon Stepney, at 8; Bro. Barnes, P.M., Preceptor.

Domestic Lodge of Instruction, Palmerston Tavern, Grosvenor-park, Camberwell, at 8; Bro. Larham, Preceptor.

Faith Lodge of Instruction (141), Refreshment Rooms, Victoria-st., (opposite Westminster Palace Hotel), at 8 Bro. C. A. Cottebrune, Preceptor.

Prince Fredk. William Lodge of Instruction (753), Lord's Hotel, Lord's Cricket Ground, St. John's-wood, at 8; Bro. F. G. Baker, Preceptor.

Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction (860), King Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7.30; Bro. Crawley, Preceptor.

Prosperity Lodge of Instruction (65), Gladstone Tavern, Bishops-gate-st., Within, at 7.30; Bro. J. L. Mather, P.M. 65 and 1227, Preceptor.

St. Marylebone Lodge of Instruction (1305), British Stores Tavern, New-street, St. John's Wood, at 8; Bro. T. A. Adams, Preceptor.

Constitutional Lodge of Instruction (55), Wheatheaf Hotel, Hand-court, Holborn, at 7; Bro. J. R. Stacey, P.M. 180, Preceptor.

Percy Lodge of Instruction, Grapes Tavern, Little Windmill-street, W.

Pythagorean Lodge of Instruction (79), Prince of Orange, Greenwich, at 8; Bro. J. Robt. Nash, Preceptor.

Israel Lodge of Instruction, Rising Sun Tavern, Globe-road, at 7.30.

Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement (975), Jamaica Coffee House, St. Michael's Alley, Cornhill, at 6.30; Comp. Jas. Brett, Preceptor.

Wednesday, January 6.

Lodge 511, Zealand, Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street.

" 1412, La Iberia, Hill-road, St. John's Wood.

" 1491, Athenaeum, Camden-road, Holloway, N., at 5.30.

New Concord Lodge of Instruction, Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton, at 8.

Royal Union Lodge of Instruction, Horse and Groom Tavern, Winsley-street, Oxford-street, at 8; Bro. T. A. Adams, Preceptor.

Confidence Lodge of Instruction, White Hart Tavern, Abchurch-lane, at 7.30.

Peckham Lodge of Instruction, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham, at 8; Bro. David Rose, Preceptor.

Temperance in the East Lodge of Instruction, George the Fourth, Catherine-street, Poplar.

Stanhope Lodge of Instruction, Thicket Hotel, Anerley, at 7.30 p.m.; Bro. H. W. Lindus, Preceptor.

Finsbury Park Lodge of Instruction (1288), Finsbury Park Tavern, Seven Sisters'-road, N., at 8. Bro. P. Dickinson, Acting Preceptor.

United Strength Lodge of Instruction (228), the Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, Kentish-town, at 8; Bro. J. N. Frost, Preceptor.

Southwark Lodge of Instruction, (879), Southwark Park Tavern, Southwark Park, at 8; Bro. Charles William Kent, Preceptor.

Dalston Lodge of Instruction (975), Havelock Tavern, Albion-road, Dalston, at 8.

Thursday, January 7.

Lodge 192, Lion and Lamb, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.

" 227, Ionic, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.

" 231, St. Andrew's, Freemasons' Hall.

" 538, La Tolerance, Freemasons' Hall.

" 554, Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.

" 1445, Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tavern, Sandringham-road, Kingsland.

Fidelity Lodge of Instruction (3), Yorkshire Grey, London-st., Tottenham Court-road, at 8; Bro. T. A. Adams, Preceptor.

Finsbury Lodge of Instruction, Jolly Anglers' Tavern, Bath-street, City-road; Bro. Stean, Preceptor.

United Mariners' Lodge of Instruction, Three Cranes, Mile-end-road, at 8; Bro. T. J. Barnes, Preceptor.

Whittington Lodge of Instruction (862), Crown Tavern, Holborn, at 8; Bro. Lewis Alexander, P.M. 188, Preceptor.

Doric Chapter of Instruction, Three Cranes Tavern, Mile-end-road, at 8; Comp. T. J. Barnes, Preceptor.

Ebury Lodge of Instruction, Bro. Palmer's, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank.

Highgate Lodge of Instruction (1366), Bull and Gate, Kentish-town, at 8; Bro. J. N. Frost, Preceptor.

The Great City Lodge of Instruction (1426), 111, Cheapside, at 6.30.

High Cross Lodge of Instruction (754), Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.

Friday, January 8.

Lodge 134, Caledonian, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.

" 157, Bedford, Freemasons' Hall.

" 177, Domestic, Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street.

" 1420, Earl Spencer, Northcote Hotel, New Wandsworth.

Chap. 33, Britannic, Freemasons' Tavern.

Preceptory D., Mount Calvary, London Tavern, Bishops-gate-street.

Rose Croix Chap. Mount Calvary, 33, Golden-square.

St. George's Lodge of Instruction (140), Globe Tavern, Royal-hill, Greenwich.

Robert Burns Lodge of Instruction, Union Tavern, Air-st., Regent-st., at 8.

Belgrave Lodge of Instruction, (749), Lyceum Tavern, 354, Strand, at 8; Bro. Pulsford, Preceptor.

Panmure Lodge of Instruction (720), Balham Hotel, Balham, at 7.30.

Unions Emulation Lodge of Improvement for M.M.'s, Freemasons' Hall, at 7.

Temperance Lodge of Instruction, Victoria Tavern, Victoria-road, Deptford, at 8.

Clapton Lodge of Instruction (1365), White Hart, Clapton, at 7.30; Bro. James Brett, P.G.P., &c., Preceptor.

Royal Standard Lodge of Instruction (1298), the Castle Tavern, Holloway, at 8; Bro. W. F. Rogers, Preceptor.

Pythagorean Chapter of Instruction (79), Prince of Orange, Greenwich-road, at 8; Comp. W. West Smith, Preceptor.

Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, Portugal Hotel, Fleet-street, at 7; Bro. Stacey, P.M. 180, Preceptor.

Westbourne Lodge of Instruction (733), Horse and Groom, Winsley-street, Oxford-street, at 8.

United Pilgrims Lodge of Instruction, Antelope Tavern, Lorne-road, Brixton, at 7.

St. James's Lodge of Instruction, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-road, Bermondsey, at 8; Bro. Howes, P.M., Preceptor.

Duke of Edinburgh Lodge of Instruction, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar, at 7; Bro. D. S. Potts, Preceptor.

Doric Lodge of Instruction, Three Cranes Tavern, Mile-end-road, at 8.

Burgoyne Lodge of Instruction, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W., at 8; Bro. P. M. Wuest, Preceptor.

St. Luke's Lodge of Instruction (144), Rose Tavern, Fulham-road, S.W.

Chigwell Lodge of Instruction, Bald-faced Stag Hotel, Buckhurst-hill, at 8.

Burdett Courts Lodge of Instruction (1278), Approach Tavern, Approach-road, Victoria-park, at 8; Bro. Geo. W. Verry, Preceptor.

Stability Lodge of Instruction (217), Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street; Bro. H. Muggenidge, P.M., Preceptor.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, January 9, 1875.

Monday, January 4.

Lodge 113, Unanimity, Bull Hotel, Assembly Rooms, Preston.

" 1045, Stamford, Town Hall, Altrincham.

" 1051, Rowley, Masonic Rooms, Athenaeum, Lancaster.

" 1264, Neptune, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 6.

" 1380, Skelmersdale, Queen's Hotel, Waterloo, near Liverpool, at 6.

Chap. 605, De Tabley, Seacombe Hotel, Seacombe, at 6.

Everton Lodge of Instruction (823), Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7.30.

Tuesday, January 5.

Lodge 995, Furness, Masonic Temple, Ulverstone.

" 1476, Blackpool, Clifton Arms Hotel, Blackpool.

Chap. 203, St. John of Jerusalem, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 6.

Merchants' Lodge of Instruction (241), Masonic Hall Liverpool, at 6.

Downshire Lodge of Instruction (594), Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7.

Wednesday, January 6.

Lodge 673, St. John's, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 6.30.

" 730, Ellesmere, Royal Oak Hotel, Chorley.

" 1013, Royal Victoria, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 6.

" 1335, Lindsay, 20, King-street, Wigan.

" 1354, Marquis of Lorne, Masonic Rooms, Leigh.

Mark Lodge, 65, Masonic Hall, West Lancashire, Liverpool, at 6.

De Grey and Ripon Lodge of Instruction (1356), 80, North Hill-street, Liverpool, at 7.30.

Thursday, January 7.

Lodge 249, Mariners, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 6.

" 1473, Bootle, Molyneux Assembly Rooms, Bootle, near Liverpool, at 6.

Chap. 758, Bridgewater, Masonic Hall, Runcorn, at 6.

Friday, January 8.

Lodge 1289, Rock, Rock Ferry Hotel, Rock Ferry, near Birkenhead, at 7.

Chap. 249, Mariners, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 6.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND VICINITY.

For the week ending Saturday, January 9, 1875.

All the Meetings take place at 8 o'clock.

Monday, January 4.

Lodge 332, Union, 170, Buchanan-street.

Tuesday, January 5.

Lodge 35, St. John, 213, Buchanan-street.

" 73, Thistle and Rose, 170, Buchanan-street.

" 87, Thistle, 12, Trongate.

" 437, Govandale, Portland Bridge, Govan.

Wednesday, January 6.

Lodge 4, Glasgow Kilwinning, 170, Buchanan-street.

" 117, Partick St. Mary's, Partick.

" 128, St. John Shettleston, Shettleston.

" 354, Caledonian Railway, 213, Buchanan-street.

Thursday, January 7.

Lodge 27, St. Mungo, 213, Buchanan-street.

" 463, St. Andrew, Garmad-road.

" 553, St. Vincent, 162, Kent-road.

Friday, January 8.

Lodge 275, Shamrock and Thistle, 22, Struthers-street.

" 360, Commercial, 30, Hope-street.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, January 9, 1875.

Monday, January 4.

Lodge 429, St. Kentigern, Royal Hotel, Penicuik.

Tuesday, January 5.

Lodge 5, Canongate and Leith, 86, Constitution-street.

Thursday, January 7.

Lodge 97, St. James's Hall, Writers-court.

Friday, January 8.

Lodge 291, Celtic of E. and L., Ship Hotel, E. Register-st.