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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

ROCHDALE.—HOPE LODGE (No. 54).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, Feb. 10th, at the Spread Eagle Inn, Rochdale, and there was a moderate attendance of the brethren, the officers being Bros. Richard Simpson, W.M.; A. Barker, S.W.; J. Barnish, J.W.; Dan Mitchell, P.M., Secretary. The Treasurer being very ill, could not attend; R. Collingwood, S.D.; C. O'Doherty, J.D.; Bintliffe, I.G.; James Medgley, P.M., Tyler. The lodge was opened in due form and with solemn prayer at 5.30 p.m., and the minutes of the former lodges were read and confirmed. After which Mr. James Medcalf, a candidate for Freemasonry, was balloted for and approved. Mr. James Medcalf was then initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry by Bro. Dan Mitchell, P.M., assisted by T. B. Ashworth, P.M.; and Wm. Davies, P.M. The lodge was then opened in the second degree. Bros. Marshall and Thistlewhete being candidates for the third degree, were examined, and after having given proofs of their proficiency in the former degrees, were then entrusted and retired. The lodge was then opened in the third degree, and Bro. Thistlewhete was then admitted and duly raised by Wm. Davies, P.M.; Bro. Marshall was also admitted and duly raised by T. B. Ashworth, P.M. The lodge was then closed in the third degree. The lodge was closed in the second degree. Bro. Clegg, who had been prevented from attending earlier, now presented himself, and wished to be passed. He was then examined, and having given proofs of his proficiency in the former degree, was then entrusted and retired. The lodge was again opened in the second degree, and Bro. Clegg was then duly passed to the degree of Fellow-Craft. The lodge was then closed in the second degree. Bro. T. B. Ashworth's notice of motion was read—that the bye-laws of the lodge be amended in accordance with the bye-laws of the province, and carried unanimously. The lodge was then finally closed at 8.45 p.m., and the brethren adjourned to refreshment, which was amply provided by the host and hostess. After the cloth was removed, the brethren partook of the cup of cheerfulness, and the usual toasts were then given, amongst which our "Visiting Brother" was given, and well responded to. "The newly raised Brethren" was given and humorously replied to. "The newly passed Brother" was then given and briefly responded to. "The Initiate" was next given, and eloquently responded to. The usual closing toast was given, and the brethren departed in peace and good fellowship, after having spent a very pleasant evening.

FAITH LODGE (No. 141).—A numerous meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 23rd inst., at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street. The proceedings commenced at four o'clock in the afternoon precisely. There were present:—Bros. Kennet, W.M.; Waygood, S.W.; Davis, J.W.; Mallett, S.D.; Davis, acting J.D.; Dairy, I.G.; Themans, I.P.M.; Carter, P.M., Treasurer; Stuart, P.M., Secretary. The minutes having been read and confirmed, the W.M. proceeded to raise Bros. Bird, Crow, Oliver, Dyke, and Leavers to the sublime degree of Master Masons, and passed Bros. Pillbrow, Steng, Politzer, and Chambers to the second degree. The ballot having been taken for Mr. Isaacs and declared unanimous, that gentleman was duly initiated into the Craft. The three ceremonies were carried out by the W.M. and his officers with that amount of care and impressiveness which for years past has characterized the working of the Faith Lodge. Bro. Holland, 144, was unanimously elected as a joining member. Bro. Taylor, P.M., gave notice of motion that at the next meeting he should move that the initiation fee should be increased to ten guineas, and the joining fee to five guineas. Bro. Hopwood, P.M., said that he should have much pleasure in supporting the proposition when it came on for discussion, as he considered the lodge was quite large enough in point of numbers, there being nearly 120 members on the books, and that there was not sufficient room even to accommodate those brethren and their numerous visitors comfortably, and if there should be a still further addition to any great extent, it would be altogether impracticable to carry on the proceedings well, either in lodge or at the banquet table. The subject of the centenary jewel for the lodge was then fully con-

sidered, and Bros. Stuart and Hopwood were directed to see the Secretary of the Grand Lodge upon the matter, and report to the next meeting. A proposition having been taken for an initiation, the lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to an elegant banquet. Among the visitors were Bros. Levy, P.M. 188; Cooper, P.M. 733; Withall, J.W. 720; Robins, 25; Maynard, 177; Carter, 209; Dixon, 209; Pence, 275; Raalk, 917; Rowley, 917; Sharpless, 1346; Woodward, 1393; Rosenheim, 27, New York City. The toasts of "The Queen and the Craft," "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Grand Master, and Lord Carnarvon, the Pro Grand Master," were loyally and heartily received. The health of the initiate, Bro. Isaacs, followed, who briefly acknowledged it. The W.M. in giving the visitor's toast, stated that on behalf of the lodge he gave them a hearty welcome, and he, personally, was pleased at being able to dispense its hospitality to so numerous and distinguished a gathering of visiting brethren. Bro. Levy, P.M., in reply, expressed, on behalf of himself and colleagues, the great pleasure they had received from their visit to the Faith Lodge. The working was good; the charitable and benevolent principles of the lodge were excellent; and the hospitality and conviviality of the brethren unsurpassed; and in conclusion he hoped that desirable state of things would continue to be the characteristic of the Faith Lodge. Between the toasts, Bros. Rosenheim, Walls, Davis, Mallett, Bird and Levy contributed several instrumental, vocal, and dramatic effusions, which appeared to give the brethren great satisfaction. Bro. Themans, P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M.," which was warmly received. The W.M. having replied, gave "The Health of the Past Masters and Officers of the Lodge." Bro. Stuart, P.M., replied for the former, and Bro. Waygood for the latter. The Tyler's toast terminated the proceedings at a late hour.

DOMATIC LODGE (No. 177).—An exceedingly strong meeting of the brethren of this lodge was held at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street. The proceedings commenced at an early hour in the afternoon. The officers present were: Bros. Everett, W.M.; Wilson, S.W.; Willing, jun., J.W.; Palmer, S.D.; Seard, J.D.; Knott, I.G.; T. Goodfellow, D.C.; Kent, I.P.M.; Smith, P.M., Treasurer; Williams, Secretary; Spink, W.S. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M., assisted by his officers, raised Bros. Richards, Parker, Beale, and Sergeant, and passed Bros. Alley, Marriott, Turner, Herbage, and Gibson. Both ceremonies were excellently well carried out. Messrs. Plummer, Williams, and Robinson, were then initiated into the Craft by the W.M., in a most impressive manner. Bro. Orchard (201) was unanimously elected by ballot as a joining member. A motion of Bro. Foxcroft's, to give the votes of the lodge on behalf of Bro. Muggeridge, P.M., a candidate for the benefits of the Royal Aged Freemasons' Benevolent Institution, was then discussed, but at the request of Bro. Smith, P.M., who stated that the votes of the lodge had always been at the disposal of the W.M. for the time being, and he did not see why Bro. Everett should not have the same prerogative as his predecessors in the lodge, the motion was withdrawn. The W.M. then informed Bro. Foxcroft, and the brethren generally, that he should be at all times only too happy to entertain any suggestions as to the disposal of the lodge patronage, upon the matter being properly brought before him. The lodge having been duly closed, the brethren adjourned to the banquetting hall, where an excellent repast awaited them. There were upwards of 100 brethren present, and among the visitors were: Bros. Betts, W.M. 1351; Larham, J.W. 1216; Canvin, J.W. 209; Mead, S.D. 788; Higgins, J.D. 1381; Walls, 141, 1381, 1503, I.G.; W. A. Ellis, 1381, Organist; King, 1056. Upon the removal of the cloth, the W.M. gave the "Queen and Craft," which was duly honoured, and Bro. Walls contributed one verse of the "National Anthem." In proposing the next toast, that of "H.R.H. the M.W.G.M.," the W.M. expressed his opinion that it was a great day in the history of Freemasonry when the Prince accepted the office of G.M., and he believed that H.R.H. would be as active in the discharge of his Masonic duties as he had hitherto been in the fulfilling of the requirements of his social and public position. "God Bless the Prince of Wales" was then sung by Bro. Walls, accompanied by Bro. Ellis. The health of Bro. Lord Carnarvon, P.G.M., was warmly received. The initiates having been toasted, severally replied. The other Masonic toasts followed quickly, Bro. Betts, W.M. 1351, replied on the behalf of the visitors in an able speech. Bro. Kent, I.P.M., on being entrusted with the gavel, rose, and proposed the health of the W.M. in very complimentary terms, and expressed his personal appreciation of the excellent manner in which the whole of the duties of the day had been carried out by Bro. Everett, more especially when it was considered that it was his "maiden sitting." This toast was responded to by the brethren with excellent fire. The W.M. in reply, stated that he felt exceedingly gratified at the manner in which his health had been proposed and drank, which he believed was done with sincerity. He considered it to be a very great honour to occupy the chair in so old and powerful a lodge as the "Domestic," but he felt it to be a still higher distinction in filling it at the present time, when Freemasonry was attracting so much attention, by the recent admission into its ranks of two of our Royal Princes, and the forthcoming installation of their brother the Prince of Wales, and the impending installation of their M.W.G.M.'s Royal brother-in-law, the King of Greece, who would ultimately become Grand Master of that classic country. Such a succession of distinguished events in the history of the Craft had probably never occurred before, and the speaker stated that he should look back in future years with pride, at having filled the W.M.'s chair under such auspicious circumstances, in the year of grace 1875. The P.M.'s health was proposed, and re-

ceived with the customary honours, and amusingly responded to, on behalf of himself and colleagues, by Bro. Kent. The Treasurer's and Secretary's healths were drank, and heartily received by the brethren, and responded to at length by those efficient officers, Bros. Smith and Williams. Between the toasts the brethren were entertained by the vocal, instrumental, and dramatic efforts of Bros. Palmer, Walls, Foxcroft, Ellis, &c. The Tyler's toast terminated the proceedings.

JORDAN LODGE (201).—This noted old lodge held its installation meeting on Friday, the 15th ult. The following were the officers who took their respective positions in due time:—Bros. G. Whitley, W.M.; J. Hume, S.W.; P. Wagner, J.W.; R. T. Elsam, S.D., P.M. 889, P. Prov. G.D.C. Surrey; W. Palowkar, J.D.; R. C. Read, I.G.; R. Watts, Treasurer; F. B. Davage, I.P.M.; P. Robinson, P.M., D.C.; and H. M. Arliss, Secretary. This lodge is one of the few working on what is termed the East-end method, better known in modern days as Muggeridge's mode of working. This, however, has lapsed into a mixed method of late years, one noted old Mason having, a few years ago, broken the magic thread from his prepossession in favour of Stephen Barton Wilson's working, the more general term by which the West-end working is known. It was a time-honoured practice, too, with this lodge, indeed, from time immemorial, for the outgoing Master to instal his successor. This laudable practice, however, has also of late years been departed from; but in justice to the brother to whom reference has already been made, as an innovator, not till after he had passed the chair several years. On this occasion, that is, at the last meeting, one of the old school, Bro. R. Watts, P.M. and Treasurer, performed the duty of Installing Master, which, although not performed with that energy, fire, and fluency of by-gone days, at least reminded us of the past, when Bros. Patten, the late Secretary of the Girls' School, and the lamented J. R. Sheen, its ever faithful supporter, were the guiding spirits of the lodge. Bro. James Hume was duly installed into the chair of King Solomon, and the officers named above were all advanced one step nearer the goal of Masonic aspiration, the highest honour the lodge can confer, Bro. J. Sumner, taking the post of I.G. The Board of Past Masters, which was large on the occasion, consisted, with one or two exceptions, of those belonging to the lodge, numbering a dozen in all. Subsequently, at this meeting, an incident of a very pleasing character took place, as expressive of that kindly feeling engendered in the hearts of a body of men, knit together for over a quarter of a century by the bond of Freemasonry. It was the presentation to Bro. Edward Spooner (who had held the office of Secretary to the lodge, and had otherwise been engaged in its welfare for upwards of 28 years) of a very elegant testimonial, illuminated on vellum, and suitably framed, investing him with honorary membership, and expressing regret at his resignation, as well as great satisfaction with his long years of duty to the Craft and the lodge. It is easier, perhaps, to present it in its entirety, than to deprive it of one word of its full meaning. It is as follows:—

"Jordan Lodge, 201,
of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons.
To Bro. Edward Spooner,
P.M. and Secretary.

"It is with sincere regret that the members of this Lodge of Freemasons acknowledge the retirement from active duties of Bro. Edward Spooner, P.M. and Secretary, whose services for the past twenty-eight years have been generously and cheerfully devoted to the interests of the members and Freemasons in general; and, whilst expressing their deep regret, they cannot but record with feelings of intense satisfaction the unfailing punctuality in Bro. Edward Spooner's official performances, his aptness and willingness at all times in working the ceremonies of the lodge, and the kind assistance he was ever ready to render to those who were in need of it. Although his failing health may prevent his further active attention to these duties, it is their hearty wish that he may be preserved for many years to enjoy the love and brotherly attachment which will always be exhibited by the members of the Jordan Lodge, and it is unanimously resolved that his name be enrolled as an honorary member of the lodge, in consideration his past services.

"Henry M. Arliss, P.M. and Secretary.

"December 18th, 1874."

The testimonial was presented to Bro. Spooner by the newly-installed W.M., Bro. James Hume, who expressed himself much gratified at having so pleasing a duty to perform. Bro. Arliss, P.M., one of the oldest of Bro. Edward Spooner's colleagues, made several touching observations, which were heartily echoed by every member present, and a few words in acknowledgment from the recipient, whose remarks were somewhat checked by emotion, ended the presentation of a testimonial, simple in itself, but of no ordinary character, as far as the sentiment conveyed in it was concerned.

WINDSOR.—ETONIAN LODGE OF ST. JOHN (No. 209).—This lodge held its usual monthly meeting at the Masonic Hall on the 2nd inst., when the new W.M., Bro. J. O. Carter, presided, supported by Bros. Denne, S.W.; Canvin, J.W.; Pullin, P.M., Treasurer; Strange, P.M., Secretary; Hume, J.D.; Roberts, I.G.; Schiemann, D.C.; Pears, Steward; G. W. Dixon, I.P.M.; J. Wilson, P.M.; J. H. S. Reid, P.M.; Hiscock, Andrews, Whomes, Garrett, Woods, and others. Visitors:—Bros. Bingham, W.M. 771; Tolley, P.M. 771; Small, W.M. 1194; J. Chambers Roe, J.W. 780; Hollingsworth, and others. The V.W.D.P.G.M. of the province, Bro. the Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, also honoured the lodge with his presence. The lodge was opened with commendable punctuality at the time mentioned in the summons, and after confirming the minutes of the previous meeting, the W.M. raised Bro. Garrett to the third degree, passed Bro. Woods to the second, and initiated Mr. Henry Thomas Spindler, of Isle-

worth, and Mr. John Prince, of Staines. Bro. Tolley presided at the organ with his usual skill and ability. The manner in which he rendered Mendelssohn's "To Thee, O Lord, I yield my spirit," created an impression not easily forgotten. The W.M. invested the V.W.D.P.G.M. as Hon. Chaplain of the lodge, a pleasure the W.M. was deprived of on the previous—the installation—lodge meeting, as the reverend brother was unable to be present, owing to important duties connected with his sacred calling. After some routine business had been transacted, and a candidate for initiation proposed, the lodge closed in perfect harmony.

LEICESTER.—**ST. JOHN'S LODGE (No. 279).**—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Leicester, on Wednesday, February 3rd. Present:—Bros. J. W. Smith, W.M.; J. M. MacAllister, S.W.; G. W. Statham, J.W.; William Weare, P.M., Treasurer; Clement Edwin Stretton, Secretary; S. Cleaver, S.D.; S. Tebbutt, J.D.; Orlando Law, I.G.; George Toller, P. Prov. G.S.W. 279 and P.M. 523; Clement Stretton, P. Prov. G.W., P.M. 279; S. S. Partridge, Prov. G. Sec., W.M. 523; R. Waite, P.M.; M. H. Lewin, J.W. 1330; J. Farndale, C. Gudden, J. Jessop, J. Bird of 279; E. Mason, Sec. 1391; and others. The lodge was opened in due form and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The W.M. inaugurated his year of office by passing Bros. J. Farndale, J. Bird, and J. Jessop to the second degree. His very impressive and correct working evinced to the brethren his thorough understanding and appreciation of the true nature and design of Freemasonry. The usual routine business having been concluded, the brethren partook of refreshment, after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts followed in due order.

OXFORD.—**APOLLO UNIVERSITY LODGE (No. 357).**—The 56th anniversary festival of this lodge was held on Tuesday, 23rd inst., at 3.45, for the installation of the W.M. elect, Bro. the Rev. H. A. Pickard. There were ten candidates for initiation, who were all admitted to the mysteries of Freemasonry by the retiring W.M., Bro. F. P. Morrell, who thus brought to a close an eminently successful year of office. Bro. H. A. Pickard has been W.M. of the Apollo Lodge on two previous occasions, namely, in 1856 and 1857. The installation was performed by Bro. W. B. Beach, M.P., Prov. G.M. Hants and Isle of Wight, who had installed Bro. Pickard on two former occasions. Bro. Lord Skelmersdale, the Deputy G.M. of England, was also present. He filled the office of I.G. of the Apollo in Bro. Pickard's first year of Mastership. The other eminent Masons whom we noticed were Bros. Theodore M. Talbot, P.G.M. Western Division of South Wales; E. J. Morris, Deputy G.M. Western Division of South Wales; Colonel Adair, 33rd, P. Prov. G.M. Somerset; R. J. Spiers, D.P.G.M. of Oxfordshire; and Frederick Davison, Prov. G. S. W. of Middlesex. There were a great many Provincial Grand Officers present, and a large attendance of the Craft. The W.M., having been duly installed, proceeded to appoint the following officers, who were invested with the badges of their respective offices by Bro. Beach. Bros. F. P. Morrell, I.P.M.; H.R.H. Prince Leopold, S.W. (Bro. Williamson, P. G. Purst., was invested as Deputy S.W.); W. R. B. Fletcher, Prov. Grand Sec. Oxon, J.W.; C. J. S. Spedding, Prov. Grand Steward, S.D.; H. Paget, J.D.; Col. the Hon. W. E. Sackville West, Prov. Grand Supt. of Works, Secretary; J. E. C. Bodley, Junior Secretary; Bird, P.M., P. Prov. G.S.W., Treasurer; S. Campbell, I.G.; Lumsden, Glen-cross, Butter, and Davidson, M.C.'s; Eversley, Gandell, and others, Stewards; Norwood, Tyler. The lodge being closed in ample form, the brethren adjourned to a banquet, at which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

SALISBURY LODGE (No. 435).—A very pleasing addition to the usual routine of Masonic business took place at a meeting of the above lodge, held at the Café Royal, Regent-street, Feb. 16th, by the presentation of a very handsome and massive silver tea and coffee service to Bro. Stohwasser for his unremitting attention to the welfare of the lodge, as shown by the following copy of a circular sent to each member. "Dear Sir and Brother,—It is now twenty years since the Salisbury Lodge was removed from Enfield to London; and as some of the present members may not be aware of the eminent services rendered to the lodge by the Treasurer, Bro. Stohwasser, P.M., the present opportunity is thought a fitting one to explain that Bro. Stohwasser advanced the means wherewith to purchase the valuable furniture and jewels, from the W.M. and Officers of the lodge (then held at Enfield); his energy was however so great, and, in consequence thereof, the initiations and joining members increased so rapidly (and therewith the necessary funds), that in a short time he was repaid his handsome loan. Since then he has continued a much beloved and valued Treasurer. He has never allowed the lodge to get into debt; always found a sufficient surplus to assist in a handsome manner the various Masonic Charities; and invariably made it a rule to see that the banquet for the brethren was sumptuously provided. Bro. Stohwasser's subscriptions to Masonic and other charities are numerous, and his goodness of heart proverbial. It is therefore considered desirable to honour such a brother with some substantial token of regard as some slight acknowledgment of his aid and valuable services, given solely for the benefit of the lodge. The brethren having requested Bros. P.M. Rahles, Sachs, Rosenthal, and Hooper, Hon. Sec., to act for them in this matter, they herewith invite the previous and present brethren of the Salisbury Lodge to fill up the enclosed list of subscriptions, and return it to Bro. T. R. Sachs, 22, Hyde Park Place, London, W., who, having accepted the office of Treasurer to the Testimonial Fund, will duly acknowledge the same." The W.M., Bro. W. C. Phillips, officiated for the first time, and initiated three brethren in a most praiseworthy manner. Bro. Koester, P.M., assisting him by raising another brother. At the banquet the W.M. handed his gavel to Bro. John Rahles, P.M., who then, in a most telling speech,

presented the testimonial to the recipient. Bro. Stohwasser was evidently much gratified, but his feelings would not allow him to give utterance to what he wished to say, he therefore briefly returned his thanks. Bro. Rahles had a similar pleasing duty to perform some twenty years since, when Bro. Sachs, P.M., was President of the German Society of Benevolence. Bro. Sachs then got up a testimonial to Bros. Klaffenberger and Stohwasser for their unceasing endeavours, for many years, to alleviate the sufferings of poor Germans, which could not be done without great trouble and expense to themselves. The testimonials on that occasion consisted of a silver loving cup and salver each. The banquet for the Salisbury Lodge was excellent. Bro. W. Ganz, P.M. and G.O., adding much to the effect by his performance on the organ during the ceremony of raising, and afterwards on the pianoforte at the banquet. Bro. Stohwasser, jun., sang the Entered Apprentices' Song, and another pleasing melody, in capital style.

CARNARVON.—**SEGONTIUM LODGE (No. 606).**—The brethren of this ancient lodge, following the example of the Denbigh Lodge members, entertained Bro. Horatio Lloyd, the newly appointed judge of the Chester and North Wales County Courts, P.G.S.W. of the Province of Chester, at a banquet at Carnarvon, on Wednesday evening, the 17th inst. After the lodge had been duly opened in the handsome room which has been fitted up in the ancient Castle of Carnarvon for the purposes of the craft, the brethren and visitors adjourned to the Sportsman Hotel, where a large number sat down to a splendid banquet provided by Mr. Pugh. Bro. C. H. Rees, W.M., presided, the attendance including visitors from the Chester Independent Lodge (721), St. David's, Bangor (384), Port Madoc, and other lodges. After the loyal and Masonic toasts, the health of Bro. Lloyd was given, and responded to most enthusiastically. Our learned brother responded in an eloquent manner.

FILEY.—**ROYAL LODGE (No. 643).**—The annual meeting of this lodge was held at Foord's Hotel, on the 8th inst., for the purpose of installing Bro. Samuel Rimmington as W.M. The Installing Master, Bro. George Hardy, P.M. 250, P. Prov. G. S. D., performed the ceremony in the most able and impressive manner, and his ability was the theme of admiration to every member who had the privilege of listening to him. The ceremony having been performed, the newly-installed Master returned thanks for the honour conferred upon him, evidently showing the deep impression that the whole of the proceedings had made upon him, and promising to exert himself to the utmost in promoting the interests of the lodge, and of Masonry generally. He then proceeded to appoint and invest his officers for the ensuing year as follows: Bros. W. Budd, S.W.; R. Hopper, J.W.; W. G. Long, P.M., P. Prov. G. S. B., Treasurer; H. A. Darley, Secretary; J. Cocksworth, S.D.; F. Spink, J.D.; R. Mitford Taylor, P.M., Chaplain; C. Scrivener, P.M. and H. Nelson, Stewards; R. Dobson, P.M., P. Prov. G.S., D.C.; W. Fisher, P.M., P. Prov. G. S., I.G.; W. Jefferson, O.G. The above brethren having briefly returned thanks for their appointments, and the newly-installed Master having most impressively pointed out to them the several onerous duties which they would have to perform, the very interesting ceremony was brought to a close, and the brethren adjourned to a banquet, first-rate in quality and profuse in quantity. The chair was occupied by Bro. Rimmington, W.M., and the vice-chair by P.M. Bro. Fisher, each of them vying with the other in the promotion of harmony and good feeling amongst the brethren. After the cloth was drawn, "The Queen and the Craft" was given from the chair; next, "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales and the Royal Family," both of which toasts were most loyally and warmly received. "Lords Carnarvon, Skelmersdale, and Zetland, ruling Officers of the Craft," was the next toast, and which was much applauded. P.M. Bro. Long, P. Prov. G. S. B., gave "The Health of Bro. Bell, Deputy Prov. G.M.," which elicited a succession of hearty cheers from all present. "Bro. Hardy, P.M., P. Prov. G.S.D., the Installing Master," was given from the chair amid great applause, and that worthy Mason made a very telling and effective speech in reply. Bro. Hardy gave "The health of the Worshipful Master, and prosperity to the Royal Lodge," which was received with the greatest enthusiasm, and Bro. Rimmington returned thanks for himself and the members of the lodge in the most glowing terms. Many other toasts were drunk and responded to, not forgetting that of "Host Welborn and his wife, for the splendid banquet they had set before the brethren." The whole proceedings of this most truly enjoyable meeting were such as will not readily be forgotten by those who had the happiness of joining in them.

LIVERPOOL.—**EVERTON LODGE (No. 823).**—The usual monthly meeting of this prosperous lodge was held on Wednesday evening, the 19th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool. Bro. W. Cottrell, W.M., presided, and his official and other supporters were: Bros. T. Shaw, S.W.; W. Wilson, J.W.; W. J. Lunt, P.M. Treasurer; J. Houlding, Secretary; H. Ashmore, S.D.; J. Goodman, J.D.; J. Muir, Org.; S. Milikin, I.G.; J. S. Cuthbert, S.W.; H. Ball, Tyler; T. Ashmore, P.M.; H. M. Molyneux, P.M.; T. Bloomfield, E. H. Benedict, R. W. Gow, R. Warriner, J. Marsh, J. Hume, R. W. Oglesby, J. Beesley, J. W. C. Browne, Cave, J. Boyle, W. Nash, W. Maddock, S. Roxburgh, J. Holden, H. Hall, F. Tuft, F. Calloway, F. H. Careful, G. Graham, W. Jones, R. Leeson, C. Birchall, T. Chuton, W. Ashmore, J. White, W. H. Allen, J. W. Gatty, R. Thompson, J. Lawrence, D. Callon, W. R. Gilchrist, E. H. Bryson, W. G. Veale, W. Summers, E. Morgan, T. Griffiths, J. A. Murray, C. E. Kidd, A. Pennell, and W. H. Home. The list of visitors included the names of Bros. W. Savage, 241; R. Carter, 249; J. Long, 594; J. H. White, 594; J. McCarthy, J.W. 1393; J. Parsons, P.M. 203; A. Bergman, 48; T. L. Jones, 1393; H. Hurdle, 1393; J. R. Cave, 1094; A. Barnard, 246; R. Brown, 1356; M. Hart, Secretary 1502; T. Grayson, 249; G. H. Sharp, 249; and others. Five

candidates were initiated, and two passed to the degree of Fellow Craft by the W.M., in a singularly able and effective manner, the subordinate work being admirably performed by the officers of the lodge. After several sums had been voted in charity, the brethren adjourned to the lodge room in the old building, when, after supper, the usual loyal, Masonic, and other toasts were cordially given and heartily responded to. A very pleasant, brotherly evening was spent, music being again the leading feature of the Evertonians' social gathering.

BURGOYNE LODGE (No. 902).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Monday evening, 22nd inst., when Bro. Field was for the second time consecutively installed in the chair of K.S., to rule and govern the lodge for another year. The ceremony was impressively performed by the I.P.M., Bro. L. R. Rogers, who also gave the three accustomed addresses with emphatic ability. The lodge, however, did not restrict its working to the installation ceremony, Bro. Field, ever zealous in labour, contriving to find time to pass Bros. Benatar, Dunn, Lockwood, and Arnold, and to admit to the light Messrs. Yates and Maltby. The brethren also, on the motion of Bro. Rogers, I.P.M., seconded by Bro. Harvey, P.M., unanimously voted a sum of ten guineas from the lodge funds as a contribution to the list of Bro. Poynter, P.M. and Treasurer, on the ensuing occasion of his serving the office of Steward at the forthcoming festival of the Girls' School. The officers invested by the W.M. for the ensuing year are:—Bros. Rogers, I.P.M. and M.C.; Brooks, S.W.; Jefferys, J.W.; Poynter, Treas.; Taylor, Sec.; Byng, S.D.; Pocock, J.D.; Haig, Steward; Young, I.G.; and Grant, Tyler. The lodge having been closed, the brethren adjourned to a sumptuous banquet, to which sixty-three brethren sat down, and which was provided, with his usual taste and ability, by Bro. Clemow, the proprietor of the hotel. Due justice having been done to the substantial part of the repast, the W.M., who presided with his usual urbanity and cordiality, proposed the customary toasts, which were done due honour to, graceful allusion being made by the W.M. to the recent loss our Pro Grand Master has sustained, whose health, in consequence, was drunk in reverential silence. In proposing the health of the W.M., Bro. Rogers, I.P.M., alluded, in felicitous terms, to his well-deserved popularity, and the equal ability with which he filled the dual position "alow and aloft," whether with exact finish and rhetorical art performing the ritual, or with heartiness and warmth welcoming brethren to the social board. When, with a few more suitable remarks, Bro. Rogers affixed to the W.M.'s breast the very handsome jewel voted by the lodge, the vociferous applause of the brethren evinced how thoroughly he had given expression to their sentiments. The W.M. replied in very eloquent terms, and proposed the health of the Installing and I.P.M., which was done due justice to, and warmly and suitably acknowledged as was also "The Health of the Initiates." "The Health of the Visitors," who were unusually numerous, no less than twenty-five being present, was responded to by Bros. the Rev. P. M. Holden, M.A.; Headon, W.M. of the Great City Lodge; Stevens, P.M.; and Worrell, P.M.; both of the latter lodge, and another brother whose name we did not catch. The festive character of the proceedings of the "fourth degree" was considerably enhanced by the excellent songs and recitations interspersed throughout the evening, and rendered with marked ability by the brethren, particular commendation—quite, indeed, amounting to a display of wild enthusiasm seldom evinced in a Masons' assemblage, where the highest mark of applause consists of a very grave, decorous, and sober manifestation—was evoked by our reverend brother's recitation of Tennyson's well-known "Charge of the Light Brigade," and Morris's almost unknown Masonic poem, "We meet upon the Level and we part upon the Square." The former was given with a power and fire probably never before surpassed, eminent as have been the readers who have essayed this, perhaps, somewhat hackneyed, poem, a characteristic, however, which can never be applied to it when given by our reverend brother. With respect to the Masonic poem, suffice it to say that such was the exquisite beauty of its delivery that eyes unaccustomed to tears, and throats unused to throbbing, felt a suffusion and a convulsion seldom experienced in moments of convivial intercourse. Among the visitors present, (and we cannot pretend to enumerate all), in addition to those we have already referred to, we observed: Bro. Slyman, W.M. Prince Frederick William, 753, and Athenaeum, 1491; and Brocklesby, the esteemed Secretary of the latter lodge and P.M. London, 108; Marsh, P.M. Urban, 1196; Larham, P.M., and numerous others. The lodge broke up in good time and perfect harmony, after having spent a very delightful evening.

STOCKTON.—**LODGE OF PHILANTHROPY (No. 940).**—The celebration of the annual festival of the Lodge of Philanthropy (940) of the Ancient Order of Free and Accepted Masons took place on Thursday, February 18th, at the Freemasons' Hall, Wellington-street, Stockton. At two o'clock the brethren began to assemble, and shortly afterwards the lodge was opened. There was a large gathering of members and visitors. The chair was occupied by Bro. A. S. Fowler, the retiring W.M., who was supported by the following Past Masters:—J. H. Jackson, Thomas Walton, J. H. Mann, W. Best, J. Hutton, R. B. Hapley, W. J. Watson, W. Nelson, A. C. Knowles, J. Trotter, G. Ellis, J. Bowron, Thomas Bowron, C. Naish (W.M. Tees Lodge). The following brethren were present:—R. Ashton, G. E. Smirke, Robert Headlam, P. Pescod, M. V. Pearson, H. Cuthbert, B. S. Lockwood, J. Thorman, W. J. B. Caseley, W. W. Wilson, J. H. Nightscades, E. W. Dickinson, John Yeung, W. Simpson, Thomas Wilks, J. W. Moses, J. Bowman, A. Hey, D. Munro, C. Jordison, W. Lightfoot, J. Scarth, J. Ellis, T. Watson, J. Sharp, J. F. Craggs, J. Rose, S. T. Stephenson, R. S. Hopper, G. Hopper, J. Hill, J. Boothroyd, S. Gordon, C. Hoggett, T. Preston, J. Hall, G. E. Pybus, I. Alston, — Smith, W. P. Banning, G. D.

Leng, A. Mackinlay, and J. Fowler. Amongst the visitors were the following:—J. Foster, Restoration, 111; R. B. Harpley, Harbour of Refuge, 764; Wm. Mitford, Restoration, 111; C. Fairburn, S.W. 1337; S. W. Clarkson, 1337; J. Fairburn, W.M. 1337; J. C. Crosby, 1418; Dr. Fraser, Restoration, 111. After the ordinary business had been transacted, Bro. J. Usher was duly installed Worshipful Master of the lodge for the ensuing year. The ceremony was performed by Bro. A. S. Fowler, the I.P.M., in a manner exceedingly able, and that afforded the highest gratification to all present; indeed, it is not too much to say the ceremony was conducted in a manner so thoroughly efficient as to bid fair to call Bro. Fowler's services into frequent requisition. At the close of the ceremony the W.M. installed his officers as follows:—Thomas Bradley, S.W.; B. Smith, J.W.; J. Hunton, Treas.; I. H. Hart, Sec.; James Rose, S.D.; J. F. Craggs, J.D.; J. W. Moses, I.G.; E. Hoggett, Org.; and J. Scarth and R. Ashton, Stewards; and J. Trenholme, Tyler. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the dining hall, and sat down to an excellent repast, which was admirably well served, a number of the brethren volunteering to officiate in ministering to the requirements of the company, which they succeeded in doing to the great comfort and very great satisfaction of all present. After the removal of the cloth, the W.M. proposed the health of "The Queen and the Craft," followed by "The Prince of Wales, the M.W. G.M. of England," succeeded by that of "Bro. the Earl of Carnarvon, R.W. Pro G.M. of England." He next gave "The Health of the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master of England, and the Present and Past Grand Officers." Bro. Naish next gave "The Health of the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master of Durham, Bro. John Fawcett," and in doing so spoke of the many years he had served the Order so zealously and efficiently. Bro. J. F. Mann then gave "The Worshipful the Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Durham, and the Past and Present Grand Officers," and he paid a high and well-deserved compliment to the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Sir Hedworth Williamson, for the eminent business qualities which marked the discharge of his duties. Bro. A. C. Knowles responded in an excellent speech. Bro. J. A. Jackson next gave the toast of the "Visiting Brethren," which was responded to by Bros. J. Foster, J. Bowron, and C. Fairbairn. Bro. Bowron, in the course of his remarks, said he did not think any lodge in the country could surpass the "Lodge of Philanthropy" in the excellence of its working. Bro. A. C. Knowles then gave "The Health of the W.M.," whom he warmly congratulated upon the high position he had attained in the lodge, and he wished him a happy and prosperous year. The W.M. responded in a manner which showed how fully he appreciated the honour that had been conferred upon him, and he assured the brethren that his best exertions should be put forth to maintain the high character which the lodge had acquired. Bro. W. J. Watson then gave "The Health of the Immediate Past Master and Installing Master," Bro. A. S. Fowler, of whom he said during his year of office they had many most interesting and happy meetings, and he thoroughly agreed with Bro. Bowron in saying of the Lodge of Philanthropy that, taken altogether, no other lodge in England could surpass it, and it was but seldom they saw so high a degree of excellence in the performance of the installation ceremony, and they were, one and all, led to exclaim it was really the best they had ever seen. Bro. Fowler responded, and in doing so he remarked that the most cordial unanimity had existed in the lodge during the year, and it had been to him a most happy one, and he hoped his successor would have an equally agreeable and prosperous year. The lodge had advanced in a pecuniary sense very satisfactorily. There was a great and glorious prospect in view for the lodge, and he should be much disappointed if such did not come to pass. For some years the credit balance had been on the wrong side, but he believed that before many weeks were past, there would be a balance at the bank in their favour. Amongst the toasts that followed were "The W.M., Officers, and brethren of the Tees Lodge, No. 509," "The W.M., Officers, and brethren of the Lodge of Fraternity, No. 1418," "The Past Masters of the Lodge of Philanthropy," "the Officers of the lodge," "the Stewards," and "all Poor and Distressed Masons." During the evening some excellent recreation was given by Bros. G. S. Smirke, B. S. Lockwood, W. J. Watson, Thos. Preston, W. Mitford, J. Hall, J. H. Jackson, J. Boothroyd, and P. Pescod. Bro. Christopher Hoggett, the Organist of the lodge, presided at the pianoforte with marked efficiency. The proceedings were throughout of a harmonious and enjoyable character.

KESWICK.—GRETA LODGE (No. 1073).—The brethren of the above lodge met on Monday, 25th ult., in the new Lodge Room, Court Buildings, to assist in the installation of Lieutenant S. G. Fairtlough, Royal Artillery, as W.M. for the current year. Bro. Porter, P.M., P.G.S.W., of Wigton, acted as the Installing Master, and went through the ceremonial in the able manner which has gained him so high a name in the Craft, assisted by the retiring W.M., Daniel Crosthwaite, Bros. Wood, P.M., and Rutherford, P.M. Bro. Fairtlough, W.M., invested the following brethren as his officers:—Bros. P. Usher, S.W.; J. D. Wivell, J.W.; Rutherford, P.M.; Chaplain; J. Wales, Treasurer; D. Pape, S.D.; P. T. Freeman, J.D.; G. P. Abraham, Organist; Jonathan Scott, M.C.; W. Hodgson, I.G.; and C. Thompson, Tyler. The Rev. E. Rice, of Bridekirk, and Dr. Lewis, of Bassenthwaite, were the visiting brethren. On the business of the lodge closing, the brethren adjourned from labour to refreshment, and sat down at the George Hotel to a banquet, which for variety and style reflected much credit on Mrs. Easton. Bro. Fairtlough, W.M., presided, supported right and left by Bros. Porter, P.G.S.W.; Wood, P.G.O.; Crosthwaite, P.G.S.D.; Rutherford, P.G. Chap.; Rev. Rice, and many others. The remainder of the evening was devoted to loyal and Masonic toasts, varied with a selection of instru-

mental and vocal music, in which Bros. Usher, Abraham, Wood, and others participated.

ROCHDALE.—ST. CHAD LODGE (No. 1129).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, 17th inst., at the Roebuck Hotel, Rochdale. There was a good attendance of the brethren. The officers present were:—Bros. E. Wood Norris, W.M.; Joseph Ireland, S.W.; H. McCreith, J.W.; H. Turner, P.M., Secretary; J. Hadfield, P.M., Treasurer; Peter Lee, S.D.; J. Fletcher, J.D.; James Midgley, P.M., Tyler. The lodge was opened in due form and with solemn prayer at 6.45 p.m. The minutes of the former lodge were read and confirmed. Bro. T. Butterworth Collingwood was duly passed to the degree of F.C. in an effective manner by Bro. Richardson, P.M. After having voted several sums of money to the charities, the lodge was finally closed at 7.50 p.m., and the brethren adjourned to refreshment, which was sumptuously provided by Bro. C. M. Jones, P.M. The chair was taken by the W.M., who was well supported by the officers and brethren of the lodge. After the cloth was removed, the brethren partook of the cup of cheerfulness, and the W.M. proposed "The Health of the Queen." The usual toasts followed in due course, amongst which Bro. H. Turner, P.M., proposed "The Health of the newly-passed Brother," which was well responded to. "The Visiting Brethren" was next given, and also responded to. The W.M. gave the usual closing toast, and the brethren departed in peace and harmony, after having spent a very pleasant evening.

NEWTON ABBOT.—DEVON LODGE (No. 1138).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, on Tuesday, the 16th inst., Bro. W. R. King, W.M., in the chair, supported by Bros. H. G. Beachey, I.P.M.; P. D. Michelmore, P.M.; F. D. Bewes, P.M., and P. Prov. G.S.B.; B. Prowse, S.W.; J. S. Saunders, J.D.; J. Oliver, Secretary; W. Harris, S.D.; E. Huxtable, J.D. R. Crooke, I.G.; G. H. Hearder, Org.; F. J. Pratt, Steward; J. Williams, P. Symons, W. H. Banfill, H. Voysey, W. L. Pope, D.D. and P. Prov. G.C. Visitors:—Bros. W. Hooper, P.M. 444, P. Prov. G.R.; and H. Stooke, 1396. This was the first meeting after the installation, the new officers attended to their duties, and the lodge was most effectively and impressively worked. The minutes of last meeting were confirmed, and Bro. L. E. Bearne having proved his proficiency, withdrew. The lodge was then opened in the second degree, and Bro. L. E. Bearne passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. The explanation of the tracing board being given by Bro. P. D. Michelmore, P.M. The lodge was then resumed in the first degree, when, in accordance with notice, Bro. H. G. Beachey, I.P.M., asked the consent of the members to allow a chapter to be attached to the lodge, which was supported by Bros. P. D. Michelmore, P.M.; and W. L. Pope, D.D., P. Prov. G.C.; and most favourable received by the brethren, and unanimously carried. Two gentlemen were then proposed as candidates for the mysteries of ancient Freemasonry, and Bro. Beazley, P.M. of Lodge Concord, No. 113, was proposed as a joining member. This concluded the business of the meeting. The lodge was then closed according to ancient usage, and the established custom of the Order.

DOVER.—CORINTHIAN LODGE (No. 1208).—The installation of the W.M. of the Corinthian Lodge took place in the lodge-room at the Royal Hotel, Dover, on Monday, 15th inst., when the interesting ceremony was efficiently performed by Bro. G. Adamson, sen., P.M. 199, and 1208, and P. Prov. G.D.Cers. of Kent; Bro. J. O. Rees, P.M. 199, and P. Prov. G.P. of Kent; and Bro. A. Wilson, P.M. 199, and P. Prov. S.B. of Kent. After Bro. Smeeth was duly installed W.M. for the ensuing year, he invested his officers as follows:—Bros. W. B. Adamson, S.W.; H. M. Baker, J.W.; Papkiss, Treas.; G. Adamson, sen., P.M., Sec.; J. Holmes, S.D.; C. Glaydon, J.D.; G. Adamson, jun., I.G.; and J. Rose, Tyler. After the business of the lodge was over, the brethren retired for a short time, and in the meanwhile a splendid banquet was provided by mine host, Bro. G. Adamson, sen., when the viands and the wines were of an excellent quality. Amongst those present we noticed Bros. J. S. Eastes, Deputy Prov. Grand Master of Kent; J. Terry, Secretary to the Aged Freemasons' and Widows' Institute; from the Peace and Harmony Lodge, 109, Dover, Bros. J. Bordeaux, J.W.; I. Lester, J.D.; G. N. Chidwick, J. Canham, G. H. Smith, I.G.; and W. Bell; and from Perseverance Lodge, 155, Bro. D. Osment, P.M. and P. Prov. G.S.D.; and from the Temple Lodge, 558, Bros. J. Kennett, W.M. and P.G.S. of Kent; and J. Sherwood, P.M.; from the Invicta Lodge, 709, Ashford, Bros. Hughes-Hallet, W.M., and R. Elliott, P.M. and P.P.G.R. of Kent; from the Wellington Lodge, 784, Deal, Bros. J. E. Apps, W.M.; A. F. S. Bird, P.M.; W. M. Cavell, P.M. and P. Prov. G.S.D. of Kent; G. Moon, and S. Olds; Bro. B. R. Eastes, W.M. of Lord Warden Lodge, 1096, Walmer; from the St Augustine Lodge, 972, Canterbury, Bros. F. Walker, W.M.; and H. Miskin; from the St. Michael's Lodge, 1273, Sittingbourne, Bro. W. Wood, W.M.; from the Lodge Sandgate, 1436, Sandgate, Bros. C. Gosby, W.M.; and A. Keeler; from the Royal Military Lodge, 1449, Canterbury, Bro. H. Greenwood, W.M.; and from 1208, Bro. H. C. Fuher, P.M. and P. Prov. G.D.C. of Kent; Bro. S. Wiles, Immediate P.M., and several other brethren. After the cloth was cleared, the usual loyal, Masonic, and patriotic toasts were given. The W.M. then proposed "The Health of Bro. J. S. Eastes, D.P.G.M. of Kent," with a suitable speech, and Bro. J. S. Eastes responded in a very able manner, recommending the brethren to attend to their local charities. The W.M. next proposed "The Masonic Charities," coupled with the name of Bro. Terry, the Secretary of the Aged Freemasons' Institute, and the toast met with much applause. Bro. Terry, in response, complimented the lodge upon the amount they sent up last month. Several other complimentary toasts were given by the W.M. and duly responded to, and a very pleasant and enjoyable evening was spent.

MACDONALD LODGE (No. 1216).—This lodge met at the head-quarters of the First Surrey Rifles, at Camberwell, London, on Thursday, the 11th inst. The W.M., Bro. W. J. Messenger, was supported by the whole of his officers, viz.:—Bros. J. H. Hastie, S.W.; M. S. Larham, J.W.; Newington Bridges, I.P.M.; Capt. Styan, Treasurer; J. J. Curtis, Secretary; H. Hammond, S.D.; T. W. Carnell, J.D.; James Stevens, P.M. and D.C.; B. B. Joy, I.G.; F. H. Cozens, Organist; and Past Masters S. H. Wagstaff, and George Waterall. There were also present Bros. C. Golding, C. H. Nevill, A. Woodstock, W. C. Hale, J. W. Holland, T. S. Harper, H. Puckle, W. Gray, D. Clay, D. A. Ross, T. B. Stabley, F. Hutchins, A. Youngman, E. Goldring, W. A. Curnock, E. Eldridge, T. Fitzer, H. P. Jarman, and others. Visitors:—Bros. N. B. Headon, W.M.; T. Preston, D.C.; and T. Hamer, W.S. of the Great City Lodge, 1426; H. G. Wilkin, 1167; C. W. Farmer, 25; and J. F. Bullard, 174. The business of the evening consisted of raising Bros. Holland and Staley, and passing Bros. Goldring, Hutchings, and Curnock, and of confirming a motion of Bro. Styan's relating to the musical service in the lodge. As the accompaniment of each of our beautiful ceremonies, as well as the opening and closing of the lodge, by Masonic Musical Service is much thought of by the members of the Macdonald, and is thoroughly appreciated by its visitors, the confirmation of Capt. Styan's motion was unanimous. Bro. Cozens, the Organist of the lodge, most ably performed on the magnificent harmonium throughout the evening, and fully justified to all present the importance of his office. Propositions for initiation having been received, the lodge was closed in harmony. Supper was served from the canteen, under the direction of Bro. Sergeant-Major Kethro. Time pressing, the toasts were brought to a conclusion with that of "The Visitors," to which Bro. Headon, W.M. 1216, made a suitable reply, and the meeting terminated.

BUXTON.—LODGE OF ST. ANN (No. 1235).—On Thursday, February, 18, the brethren of the Phoenix Lodge of St. Ann held their anniversary at the Court House, Buxton. There was a good attendance of brethren of the lodge, and the visitors included Bros. W. H. Hopkins, P.M., 633; J. Comyn, P.M. Commercial, 401; W. Milligan, P.G.D.C., Derby, and P.M. Derwent Lodge 884; J. Barrowby, Peveril of the Peak, 654, and P.G.R. Derbyshire P.M.; J. T. Wright, S.W. 654; P. Bramwell, J.W. 654; Rev. J. Mathias, P.M. 620; G. Smedley, 633; W. Dronsfield, 240; J. D. Simpson, 654; J. L. King, 37; &c., &c. The following brethren of the lodge were present:—J. Taylor, W.M. and P.St.Br.; Rev. A. A. Bagshawe, P.P.G.S.W., P.P.G.C., I.P.M.; F. Turner, P.G.S.D., P.M.; R. R. Duke, P.M., P.P.D.C., W. Smith, S.W.; E. C. Milligan, J.W.; G. F. Barnard, Treas.; W. Boughen, Sec.; E. J. Sykes, S.D.; J. H. Lawson, J.D.; Philip Le Gros, I.G.; G. Marston, Org.; J. H. Waller, Std.Br.; A. Pyle, Tyler; also Bros. Sutton, G. Goodwin, C. C. Gwinnell, A. Barne, Joseph Martin, W. Shawe, J. C. Hyde, J. Heathcott, C. Adams. The W.M. elect, Bro. W. Smith, was duly installed in office, the ceremony being performed by Bros. Hopkins and W. Milligan in an able, solemn, and impressive manner, after which interesting ceremony, the W.M. invested the following officers; Bros. E. C. Milligan, S.W.; E. J. Sykes, J.W.; J. H. Lawson, S.D.; P. Le Gros, J.D.; Rev. Dr. A. J. Harrison, Chaplain; W. Boughen, Treasurer; A. Barnett, Sec.; W. Goodwin, I.G.; G. Marsden, Org.; Adams, D.C.; G. Goodwin and C. Gwinnell, Stewards; A. Pyle, Tyler. The lodge was then closed, and the companions of the Phoenix Chapter of St. Ann, and the members of the Phoenix Lodge of St. Ann, with their visitors, adjourned to the Old Hall Hotel, where a splendid banquet had been prepared for them in the large dining-room. The tables were beautifully laid out, and were ornamented and decorated with choice flowers from Chatsworth Gardens. The banquet was served under the superintendence of Bro. J. H. Lawson. The bill of fare, the attendance, and the excellent quality of the wines, proved that the Old Hall Hotel still does high credit to the name and fame it has inherited for centuries. After dinner the following toasts with the usual speeches, interspersed with songs and music, under the direction of Bro. Marsden, were given:—"The Queen and the Craft." "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G., M.W.G.M.; the Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family." "R.W. Pro.G.M. the Earl of Carnarvon; with the Officers past and present of Grand Lodge." "R.W.P.G.M. of Derbyshire, the Marquis of Hartington, M.P.; the R.W.D.P.G.M. Haughton Charles Okeover, Esq.; and the Provincial Grand Lodge Officers past and present." "The Charities." "The Principals of the Chapter past and present." "The Worshipful Master." "The Worshipful Board of Installing Masters." "The Immediate Past Master." "The Visitors." "The Officers of the Lodge and Chapter past and present." "The Tyler's Toast." Bro. Duke, in proposing the health of the Immediate Past Master, Bro. Josiah Taylor, congratulated him on his popularity with all the brethren, and presented him, in the name of the brethren of the Phoenix Lodge of St. Ann, with a very elegant Past Master's Jewel, having in addition to the usual bar a Phoenix in solid gold, tastefully designed by Bro. Bragg, of Birmingham, adding that every brother in the lodge had contributed to purchase that jewel. Bro. Taylor suitably replied. The whole proceedings were of a most satisfactory character, and the utmost good feeling and harmony prevailed.

STOCKWELL LODGE (No. 1339).—A meeting of the above lodge was held on Thursday, 18th inst., at the Tulse Hill Hotel, Tulse Hill. There were present: Bros. Klenck, W.M.; Pain, S.W.; Benham, J.W.; Bassett, S.D.; Bowyer, J.D.; Coe, I.G.; Hammerton, P.M., Treasurer; Frances, P.M., Secretary; Harris, J. Knibbs, R. J. Knibbs, Frank-lain, Hinckman, H. A. Hart, Grist, Pillingier, H. Hart. The visitors were: Bros. Taylor, S.W. 833; Middleton, 65;

Croshaw, 1348; J. W. Gray, 452; Laskey, P.M. 72; Boyton, 72; Spilling, P.M. 435; Miller, P.M. 766; Murch, 72; Gluckstien, P.M. 185; Brittlebank Carr, 72; Dodson, P.M. 72; Levey, 21. The lodge having been opened, and the minutes confirmed, ballots were taken for the following gentlemen to be initiated: Messrs. Fox, Clerke, and Glazier. The ballots being unanimous in their favour, they were duly initiated into the mysteries of the Order. Bro. Frankland was also passed, and Bro. Gray, of the Frederic Lodge, duly raised, the ceremony being ably performed. The W.M., having vacated the chair, it was taken by Bro. Frances, P.M. Bro. Benham, J.W., W.M. elect, was then presented for the benefit of installation, and having assented to the Ancient Charges, was duly installed into the chair of K.S., the ceremony being performed in an impressive manner. Bro. Benham invested his officers, giving to each the usual charge in the following order: Bros. Basnett, S.W.; Bowyer, J.W.; Coe, S.D.; Pillinger, J.D.; J. F. Harris, I.G. Bros. Hammerton, P.M., and Frances, P.M., were also severally invested as Treasurer and Secretary, with the acclaim of the brethren. The W.M. then presented the lodge, as is the usual custom in this lodge, with a handsome banner of his arms. Bro. Pillinger also presented the lodge with a handsome Tyler's jewel. Both presents were warmly received by the brethren. The W.M. then, in the name of the lodge, presented the retiring Master, Bro. Klenck, with a jewel, making a few appropriate remarks on the deserved honour he was conferring. Bro. Klenck returned his sincere thanks for the honour he had received. After the usual routine business, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet. The amount of business before the lodge having curtailed the time for the banquet, the remarks made at the giving and responding to the various toasts were of necessity brief, but the evening was heartily enjoyed by the brethren, and its pleasures greatly enhanced by the exquisite singing of some of Dibdin's famous songs by one of the initiates, Bro. G. E. J. Fox, and also the vocal contributions of one or two of the visitors.

ECCELES.—VICTORIA LODGE (No. 1345).—The fifth anniversary meeting of this flourishing lodge was held on Wednesday, the 17th inst., at the Cross Keys Hotel. There were a large number of members and visiting brethren present. The business of the lodge was to install Bro. Wm. Wright W.M. for the ensuing year, and investiture of officers. The ceremony was performed by Bro. Buxton, P.M., according to ancient custom, in an impressive manner, assisted by Bros. Gillman, Mountain, Brooks, and Barker, P.M.'s. The lodge was duly closed, when the brethren sat down to a banquet provided by Bro. Pearson, in every respect worthy of the occasion, and which fully sustained his reputation. Several most effective speeches were made in proposing and responding to the various toasts, and the meeting may be summed up as a great success; not the least pleasing part of the proceedings was the presentation of a handsome gold Past Master's jewel (from the establishment of Bro. G. Kenning), by Bro. Wright, P.M., to Bro. J. Brooks, I.P.M., on behalf of the brethren, in token of their appreciation of services rendered to the lodge. A most agreeable evening was enjoyed by all present.

HAMPTON COURT.—ERA LODGE (No. 1423).—At the King's Arms Hotel, Hampton Court, on Saturday, February 13th, the regular meeting of this prosperous lodge was held. Bro. H. A. Dubois, P.A.G.D.C. Middlesex, W.M., opened the lodge. There were present Bros. J. T. Moss, P.G.R. Middlesex, I.P.M.; J. W. Baldwin, S.W., and W.M. elect; J. B. Langley, J.W.; Rev. P. M. Holden, Chaplain; J. S. Swasey, S.D.; S. Wolff, J.D.; E. W. Devereux, I.G.; A. F. Loos, M.C.; W. A. Simmons, C.S.; B. Wright, W.S.; H. Faija, W. M. Matthews, A. Baldwin, J. Faulkner, J. Mason, F. O. Joyce, E. King, J. R. Moore, W. Chartres, A. J. Webley, J. Johnson, M. Underwood, and others. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and unanimously confirmed. The report of the Audit Committee was read, adopted, and ordered to be entered on the minutes. The ballot was taken for the admission of Bro. J. Mason, 309, and declared to be unanimous in favour of his being a joining member of the lodge. Bro. T. J. Sabine, P.G.S.B. Middlesex, P.M., Treasurer, took the chair for the purpose of doing the ceremony of installation. Bro. F. Walters, P.G.P. Middlesex, P.M., Secretary, presented Bro. J. W. Baldwin, S.W., and W.M. elect, for the benefit of installation. The Rev. P. M. Holden, Chaplain, in an impressive manner, read the charges to the W.M. elect. The ceremony of installation was ably rendered, and Bro. J. W. Baldwin installed as W.M. He appointed as his Officers: Bros. E. H. Thiellay, S.W.; J. B. Langley, J.W.; Rev. P. M. Holden, Chaplain; T. J. Sabine, P.M., Treasurer, P.G.S.B. Middlesex (re-invested third time); F. Walters, P.G.P. Middlesex, P.M., Secretary (re-invested third time); T. H. Miller, P.M., Organist (re-invested); E. W. Devereux, S.D.; S. Wolff, J.D.; A. F. Loos, I.G.; B. Wright, M.C.; W. A. Simmons, W.S.; W. M. Matthews, C.S.; H. A. Dubois, P.G.A.D.C. Middlesex, I.P.M.; J. Gilbert, P. G. Tyler Middlesex, Tyler. It was unanimously resolved that a twelve-guinea Past Master's jewel be presented from the lodge funds to Bro. H. A. Dubois, P.G.A.D.C. Middlesex, for his efficient services rendered to the lodge. The jewel was placed on his breast by Bro. T. J. Sabine, who, in an eloquent speech, expressed the kind feelings of the members towards him. Bro. Dubois, P.M., in a suitable speech, returned thanks. By the unanimous voice of the lodge it was resolved, on a motion made by T. J. Sabine, that from the lodge funds be given ten guineas to the Girls' School, ten guineas to the Boys' School, and ten pounds to the Female Annuity Fund, in the name of the W.M. of the lodge for the time being, thereby securing a Life Governorship of all the Masonic Charities in perpetuity by the completion of sums required to attain that object. Some candidates were proposed for initiation at the next lodge meeting. These members were selected by the Audit Committee for recom-

mendation to the P.G. Master, Bro. Col. Burdett, as those whom the lodge would like to see have P. G. Lodge honours: Bros. H. A. Dubois, P.G.A.D.C. Middlesex, and T. J. Sabine, P.G.S.B. Middlesex, for promotion to higher rank; Rev. P. M. Holden, Chaplain, for P. G. Chaplain; T. H. Miller, P.M., Organist, for P. G. Organist; and the selections made met with the unanimous approval of the lodge. All business being ended, the lodge was closed. A splendid banquet, at which upwards of sixty sat down, was served in a large room in a building opposite to the hotel. The usual loyal toasts were given and responded to. Some good songs and excellent recitations passed away, in an agreeable manner, the time, when the brethren separated, sorry to part, but hoped happy to meet again. The visitors were: Bros. S. Rade, P.M. 315; H. Andrews, 784; J. H. Spencer, 73; E. B. Grabham, W.M. 1494; J. H. Ryley, 188; T. Horton, 871; T. F. Peacock, 21; W. Fullager; W. Hammond, P.G.S. Middlesex, P.M. 201, W.M. 1326; W.M. 1512.

NEWPORT (MON).—ALBERT EDWARD, PRINCE OF WALES LODGE (No. 1429).—The Albert Edward, Prince of Wales Lodge, the junior lodge of the province of Monmouth, was honoured on Thursday afternoon by an official visit from Bro. Col. Lyne, P.G.M., Bro. Captain George Homfray, the D.P.G.M., and other officers and brethren of the province of Monmouth, at the Masonic Hall, Dock-street. Bro. Wm. Watkins, the W.M., presided over a large attendance of brethren, and was well supported by the following officers:—Bros. Charles Rowe, P.G. Secretary, I.P.M.; J. G. Huxtable, P. Prov. G.A.D.C., S.W.; E. Whitehall, J.W.; J. W. Bebell, Secretary; J. Horner, Treasurer; Frederick Orders, S.D.; John James, J.D.; Edward W. Perren, Organist; Robert Wilkinson, Supt. Works; Louis Hermessen, D.C.; William Twist, I.G.; J. Horner, jun., and James Poole, Stewards; Henry Fletcher, Tyler. After disposing of the business set down in the agenda, the W.M. thanked the P.G.M., and also the D.P.G.M., and other visiting brethren, for the honour they had done the Albert Edward, Prince of Wales Lodge in visiting them on this occasion. The vote was passed in due form, and ordered to be recorded on the minutes of the lodge. Both the P.G.M. and D.P.G.M. expressed the pleasure it afforded them in being present, and likewise their great gratification at the able and praiseworthy manner in which the business had been conducted by the W.M. Another pleasing feature in the proceedings was the announcement by the W.M. that the Very Worshipful Bro. J. C. Parkinson, one of the Deacons of the Grand Lodge of England, had presented to the Albert Edward Lodge an elegantly bound and beautifully executed copy of his book, containing a cleverly compiled history of the Bard of Avon Lodge, which the author had been mainly instrumental in resuscitating. The highly-valued presentation was accompanied by a letter in which regret was expressed at the inability of Bro. J. C. Parkinson to be present at the lodge's banquet, as he had fully intended to have been. His good wishes for the continued prosperity of the Albert Edward Prince of Wales Lodge were couched in fraternal language. A hearty vote of thanks, moved by Bro. C. Rowe, I.P.M., and seconded by Bro. J. Horner, Treasurer 1429, was passed in due Masonic form to Bro. Parkinson for his much-prized gift, and a minute of the same was ordered to be recorded on the minutes of the lodge, viz.: "That a cordial vote of thanks of the W.M. and brethren of the Albert Edward, Prince of Wales Lodge, be given to the Very Worshipful Bro. J. C. Parkinson, Grand Deacon of England, and D.P.G.M. of Middlesex, for so kindly presenting this lodge with a copy of his interesting and instructive work, the Bard of Avon Lodge, No. 778, and in consideration of his great Masonic and intellectual attainments, the brethren, with pleasure, unanimously elect him as honorary member of Lodge 1429." The business having been closed with due ceremony, the brethren repaired to the Westgate Hotel, where Bro. S. T. Hallen had placed on the tables of the banquetting room, with his usual taste and skill, a sumptuous provision of the richest and rarest as well as more substantial viands. Covers were laid for about seventy brethren, and it is almost superfluous to state that the guests were loud in their praise of the excellent manner in which all the arrangements of the banquet were carried out. The following is a list of the brethren who sat down:—Bros. Wm. Watkins, W.M. and P.G.S. Wks., president; Chas. Lyne, P.G.M.; S. G. Homfray, D.P.G.M.; L. A. Homfray, P. Prov. G.S.W.; James Abernethy, Lodge of Unanimity, Wakefield, Yorkshire; W. W. Morgan, P.M. Isca, 683; J. S. Adam, P.M. 90, P.G.J.D.; G. W. Jones, 471; J. Griffiths, P.M. 471; Louis Hermessen, D.C. 1429; James Poole, St. 1429; R. Wilkinson, Sup. Wks., 1429; Henry Richards, 1429; Alfred Taylor, 471, 1429; George Fabian Smith, 1429; James Horner, sen., Treasurer 1429; J. G. Huxtable, S.W. 1429, 471; J. W. Bebell, Secretary 1429, 471; John Lewis Lloyd, 471; F. Orders, S.D. 1429, 471; Charles P. Evans, S. 471; John James, J.D. 1429, 471; H. Gratte, P.M. 471, P. Prov. G.S.D.; W. H. W. Homfray, W.M. 683, P. Prov. G.S.B.; Charles Rowe, I.P.M. 1429 and 471; C. R. Lyne, S.W. 471 and P.G.S.B.; William Pickford, P.M. 471, P.G.T.; S. Davies 1429, P.M. 1363, P.G.S.B.; W. West, P.M. 471 and P.G.D.C.; R. J. Chambers, P.M. 683, P. Prov. G.R.; H. P. Tipples, J.W. 457; W. B. Broad, P.M. 457, P. Prov. G.J.D., P. Prov. G.S.; John Thomas, S.W. 457; William Welsford, 1429; J. Aeneas Seys, 1429; W. Twist, 471, and I.G. 1429; James Horner, jun., St. 1429; Walter West, J.W. 683, P.G.S. and 471; Harry T. Davis, 683, 471, P. Prov. G.S., Eastern Division of South Wales; E. Whitehall, J.W. 1429; Alfred Jacob, 471; S. Brukewick (Cardiff), 1429; W. W. Kinsey Morgan, St. 1429; John Summers, 1429; Isaac Evan Thomas, 1429; W. Milton, Locke, 1429; James Saunders, 1429; E. W. Perrin, Organist; J. Gibbs, J.W. 471 and 683; Jno. Neck, 1429; John Sims, 1429; Simeon Wyatt, 147; W. Neill, 237, &c., &c.; H. Fletcher, Tyler 1429, &c. In pro-

ceeding with the toast list, the W.M. first gave "The Queen and the Craft." The toast was loyally drunk, and the brethren all joined in singing the National Anthem. The W.M. next proposed "H.R.H. Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, G.M. of England," and expressed a hope that many of the brethren would have the opportunity afforded them of witnessing the ceremony of the installation of His Royal Highness as G.M. of England. Bro. Adam, P.M. 90, P. Prov. G.D. Mon.; gave, in eulogistic terms, "The R.W. the Earl Carnarvon, Pro G.M.; Viscount Skelmersdale, D.G.M.; and officers of the G.L." He expressed deep sympathy with the noble Earl in the bereavement he had so recently been called upon to sustain. Bro. Colonel Lyne, as one of the Grand Officers of England, replied to the toast. Bro. G. W. Jones gave "The R.W. Bro. Lyne, P.G.M." In responding, the P.G.M. expressed the great gratification he experienced at being present at so splendid a gathering of the junior lodge of the province. What he had witnessed that day was sufficiently convincing to him that the business of the lodge had been conducted in a highly creditable and unexceptionable manner. Colonel Lyne, the P.G.M., gave "The V.W. Bro. Homfray, D.P.G.M., and officers of P.G.L., of Monmouthshire." Having been given and drunk with enthusiasm, Bro. Captain Homfray responded. He had also the greatest pleasure in being present, and bore testimony to the able and efficient manner in which the W.M. conducted the business of his lodge. He had the honour of installing the W.M. in the chair, and was more than gratified with the manner in which the junior lodge had progressed. Bro. L. A. Homfray, P.M. 683, and P. Prov. G.S.W., Mon., proposed the toast of the evening, "The W.M., 1426, Bro. Wm. Watkins," and in doing so paid a befitting tribute to the ability displayed by the W.M. It was with extreme pleasure that he was here to support the youngest lodge of the province. In replying to the toast the W.M. said that he scarcely felt deserving of the high compliments which had been paid to him that evening. In his position he aimed at making the Albert Edward Prince of Wales Lodge a credit to the province, and in the selection of members quality was the standard and not numbers (applause). He was one of those brethren who felt that a third lodge was necessary for Newport, and in his efforts to bring about this object he had sought only the healthy extension and interests of Freemasonry (hear, hear). Bro. Chambers, P.M. 683, and P. Prov. G. Reg., proposed, "The I.P.M., Bro. Chas. Rowe, P.G.Sec.," which Bro. Rowe, in suitable terms, acknowledged. Bro. Capt. Homfray gave "The health of the representative of the oldest lodge in the Province," coupling therewith the name of Bro. Broad, P.M. Loyal Monmouth Lodge. He knew that the toast would be received with the greatest cordiality. The toast was enthusiastically drunk with musical honours, and Bro. Broad responded in a brief, though pointed manner. In giving "The Visitors," the W.M. made allusion to the unavoidable absence of Bro. Parkinson, who had presented the lodge with a copy of his interesting work, "The Bard of Avon Lodge." He coupled with the toast the name of Bro. Abernethy (who was engaged in a great work of operative Freemasonry in this town. He referred to the "Alexandra Dock," and expressed a hope that every effort would be made to induce the Grand Master to come down and open that grand and glorious undertaking) who replied on behalf of the visiting brethren in well chosen terms. Bro. Dr. Morgan gave "The P.G. Supt. and Officers of the P.G. Chapter," which having been duly acknowledged, "The Masonic Charities" was given by the D.P.G.M., and Bro. Pickford responded. An appeal was made, and the sum of £16 10s. was subscribed in the room, with a guarantee that it would be made up to £20, exclusive of the sum of ten guineas voted in the lodge. Bro. Gibbs gave "The Principal and Past Principals of the Silurian, St. Wood's and other Chapters of the Province." Bro. Gratte replied, and stated that the four chapters in the province were in a flourishing condition. Bro. Griffiths: "The W.M.'s Officers and Brethren of the Silurian and Isca Lodges." Bro. Wickey Homfray, W.M. 683, responded, and expressed himself in felicitous terms as to the pleasure of being amongst the members of the Albert Edward Lodge. Bro. Gibbs, J.W. 471, also replied. Bro. Sanders proposed "The other Lodges of the Province," and in doing so reviewed briefly the handsomest treatment which the English Freemasons received in Belgium at the International Rifle Competition. The W.M. proposed "The newly Initiated Brethren," and coupled therewith the name of Bro. Seys, who replied in feeling terms. The W.M. then gave "The Officers of the Albert Edward, Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 1429," which was duly honoured and responded to by Bro. Huxtable, the ancient S.W., alluding to the long series of years that he had been a Freemason, and the great and satisfactory progress made in the town since his initiation upwards of twenty years ago. He was one of the brethren who advocated the new lodge, in order that competent and worthy members might have a laudable ambition gratified, in becoming officers and passing the chair. The concluding toast, "To all poor and distressed Masons," was given by Bro. H. Fletcher, which having been drunk, the brethren separated, highly pleased with the harmony and conviviality that had characterised the entire proceedings.

IVY LODGE (No. 1441).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held at the Windsor Castle Tavern, Southwark Bridge-road, on the 16th inst., for the purpose of lessening the work to be performed at the March meeting. There was also another reason that induced the W.M., Bro. C. Smith, to call the brethren together, viz., the desire expressed by a gentleman, engaged in parliamentary business, to be initiated into the brotherhood. The lodge was opened soon after the hour appointed. The second and third ceremonies were worked for the benefit of Bros. J. R. and D. H. Ashford. The lodge having been resumed to the first degree, a communication was made to the effect

that the candidate, whose name appeared in the summons, would not be in attendance that evening through an unavoidable cause. The circumstance occasioned some little disappointment. The lodge was then closed, the brethren separating at about nine o'clock.

PECKHAM LODGE (No. 1475).—The installation meeting of this prosperous young lodge was held on Thursday, the 11th inst., at the Victory Tavern, Trafalgar-road, Old Kent-road, Bro. Alfred Henry Watkins, W.M., in the chair, all the other officers being present. The lodge was opened shortly after three o'clock, and the ballot for Messrs. Geo. Gaywood, Frederick Reed, and Godfrey John Gibson having proved unanimous in their favour, the two first-named gentlemen were duly initiated into the mysteries of ancient Freemasonry by the W.M. in his customary masterly manner. Bro. Warren, P.M. and Treasurer, then presented Bro. Dalby, S.W. and W.M., elect, for the benefit of installation, and a board of Installed Masters having been formed, he was duly inducted in the chair of K.S., according to ancient custom. The W.M. then appointed and invested his officers as follows:—Bros. Watkins, I.P.M.; Canton, S.W.; Duck, J.W.; Warren, P.M.; Treasurer; Gompertz, P.M., P. Prov. G. of Herts, Secretary; T. Stephens, S.D.; Harvey, J.D.; Jenkins, I.G.; Rose, P.M., D.C.; Allsopp, P.M., W.S.; Harrison, Tyler. The whole ceremony of installation was very impressively rendered by Bro. Watkins, the addresses to the Master, Wardens, and brethren in particular, being delivered in a most effective and eloquent manner. The W.M. afterwards initiated Mr. G. J. Gibson into the Order, the ceremony being clearly and distinctly rendered. A very pleasing duty next devolved upon the W.M., that of presenting Bro. Watkins, I.P.M., with the Past Master's jewel unanimously voted to him by the lodge. This very handsome jewel is from the atelier of Bro. Kenning, and is of the value of ten guineas. Having affixed the jewel on the breast of Bro. Watkins, the W.M. then presented him with a richly emblazoned testimonial on vellum, enclosed in a massive gilt frame, subscribed for by the members of the lodge as a mark of the high estimation in which Bro. Watkins is held by them, and of their appreciation of his valuable services as the first W.M. The Secretary having given notice that at the next meeting he should move that a sum of five guineas be given to the Girls' School, to be placed on the list of Bro. Watkins, who intended to represent the lodge as Steward at the forthcoming festival, and there being no further business, the lodge was closed in due form. The brethren then adjourned to an excellent banquet, presided over by the W.M., and the usual Masonic toasts having been duly honoured, the proceedings having been also enlivened by some good singing, the brethren separated at a late hour, after having spent a very enjoyable evening. Among the members present, besides those already mentioned, were Bros. Jackson, Murley, Cain, Wrigglesworth, Scott, Garner, Walker, Channon, Norris, Davis, Harris, Kelk, and others, and the visitors comprised Bros. Ring, W.M. 73; David Roberts, P.M. 754; Frances, P.M. 857; Dann, P.M. 72; Green, J.W. 1295; H. Gompertz, J.D. 1364; Pritchett, 1327; Johnson, S.W. 301; J. W. Ring, 72; Bevan, 1223; L. Mills, I.G. 49; F. A. Riches, 975; R. G. Bennett, 93; and E. J. Cain, 1446. The first balance sheet of this lodge shows that the whole of the furniture, beside all other expenses attending the formation of a new lodge, is paid, with a small balance in cash to the credit of the lodge, a state of prosperity reflecting favourably on the management of the W.M. and his responsible officers.

LIVERPOOL.—LODGE OF ISRAEL (No. 1502).—The first quarterly meeting of this lodge after consecration, took place at the Masonic Hall, Liverpool, on Monday evening, the 15th inst., when there was a very large gathering of the brethren and visitors. As might have been expected from the excellence of the captain and crew of the new Masonic craft, its voyage has been singularly prosperous and the increase in membership has been in good keeping with the fine feeling of brotherhood which has been shown by every member. Bro. Ralph Robinson, W.M., opened his lodge at six o'clock, and the officers and members present were:—Bros. Maurice de Frece, S.W.; A. J. Henochsberg, J.W.; the Rev. Professor Prag, C.; Isaac de Frece, Treas.; M. Hart, Sec.; A. Jones, S.D.; L. Schonstadt, J.D.; B. Woolf, I.G.; P. A. Crozier, S.S.; A. Hart, J.S.; W. G. Veale, Org.; W. H. Ball, Tyler; J. Moss, B. Levy, L. Simmons, A. Collins, F. Moss, A. Rabow, R. Brown, L. Wagner, H. Harris, L. Lazarus, L. Hart, D. L. Marcus, N. Liebschutz, J. Frank, J. S. Maccabe, J. Goldberg, N. Goldstein, A. Saqui, J. M. Foote, F. Barnett, M. A. Prensau, G. J. Somers, M. Tieske, A. Van-dyke, S. A. Stonewehr, H. M. Silver, S. Jacob, &c. The visitors were Bros. J. W. Baker, P.M. 241; W. Connell, 175; R. Colling, Sec., 249; G. de La Parelle, P.P. G.D.C., P.M. 1380; P. Savvée, 1380; J. Winsor, S.D., 241; Q. A. Evans, W.M., 1395; H. Jackson, S.W., 1393; P. Stern, 249; R. C. Yelland, S.W., 1394; T. Boden, 249; L. D. Gough, 24; J. Dale, 1505 and 786; William Savage, jun., 241; J. Parsons, P.M. 205, &c. After several candidates had been ballotted for, two brethren were passed to the second degree, and two candidates were initiated into the Order. The manner in which the W.M. performed the ceremonies in each degree elicited the heartiest admiration, and the working was pronounced by competent judges to be quite equal to any in the province. After the transaction of some formal business, the lodge adjourned from labour to refreshment in the large dining hall. Here Messrs. Fisk and Fairhurst, Castle-street, supplied a most *recherchée* fish supper, the excellent and varied quality of which was beyond all praise. During the after proceedings, the W.M. gave the standard loyal and Masonic toasts in terse and pointed terms. He also proposed "The Health of Bro. the Rev. Professor Prag, C.," who in responding in an eloquent speech, spoke of Masonry as like the old cedar tree which spread its branches and extended its roots. He

referred to the leading characteristics of the Order, and thanked the brethren heartily for the manner in which his health had been received. Bro. J. W. Baker, P.M. 241, proposed "The Health of the W.M.," and in doing so spoke of his working of the Lodge of Israel, as quite equal, if not superior, to any in the Province. The W.M. briefly responded, and hoped he would always be enabled to maintain the same efficiency. "The Officers," "The Visitors," and "Bro. W. G. Veale," were amongst the other toasts on the programme.

HAMPTON HILL.—FRANCIS BURDETT LODGE (No. 1503).—A strong meeting of this lodge was held at the King's Arms Hotel on Wednesday, the 10th inst. The proceedings commenced at five o'clock in the afternoon. There were present Bros. Col. Wigginton, P.M., W.M.; Saunders, S.W.; Tomlinson, P.M., J.W.; Walls, I.G.; Knaggs, Treas.; Mitchell, Sec.; Horsley, P.M., acting I.P.M. The minutes of the January meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M., assisted by his officers, raised Bros. Saunders, Rogers, Lovett, Clark and Mitchell to the sublime degree. The lodge having been resumed to the first degree, Bros. Vaughan and Court were examined, entrusted, and ultimately passed to the F.C. degree. The whole of the proceedings of both ceremonies were successfully carried out, and completed with the W.M.'s well known ability. It was proposed by the J.W., and seconded by the W.M., that Bros. Chaplain Buchill, P.M. 795, should become a joining member. The ballot was taken on behalf of Bro. Richards (Beaufort), who was proposed at the last meeting as a joining member, and declared unanimous. Bro. P.M. Horsley proposed, which was seconded by Bro. Saunders, S.W.—"That the sum of ten guineas should be voted from the funds of the lodge to head the list of Bro. Col. Wigginton, W.M., who had kindly volunteered to stand as Steward for the forthcoming festival on behalf of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys." This resolution was unanimously carried. The W.M. gave notice of motion that at the next meeting he should move that the lodge should annually subscribe ten guineas, through the W.M. for the time being, to the three charities alternately, and thus secure life-governorships to those valuable institutions. Resolutions were then passed that the lodge should become subscribers to the *Freemason* and the *Masonic Magazine*, and that a library should be established in connection with the lodge to be devoted exclusively to Craft literature. Some minor resolutions having been passed the lodge was closed in ancient form, and the proceedings terminated. Among the visitors present Bros. Littlewood, P.M. 780; Buchill, P.M. 795; Hammond, P.M., &c., &c., and W.M. 1512.

HAMPTON.—HEMMING LODGE (No. 1512).—A meeting of this lodge was held at the Lion Hotel, on Thursday, the 18th inst. The officers present were Bros. Hammond, P.M., P.G.S. of Middlesex, W.M.; Hopwood, P.M., S.W.; Hill, P.M., J.W.; Hurst, S.D.; Walls, acting J.D.; Wheeler, I.G.; Jepson, Treasurer; J. Hammond, P.M., Secretary; Wilson (Etonian), acting I.P.M.; Gilbert, Tyler. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken on behalf of Bro. T. C. Walls, 141, W.S. 1381, and I.G. 1503, as a joining member, and declared unanimous. The name of Mr. Arnold, who, by a special dispensation, was allowed to be a candidate for initiation as a serving brother, was then submitted to the ballot, and unanimously received, and he being in attendance, was duly initiated into Craft mysteries by the W.M. Bros. Ockenden, Phillips, and Chilcott, having satisfactorily gone through an examination in open lodge, were raised by the W.M., assisted by his officers, to the sublime degree. Both ceremonies were ably carried out by the W.M., and all the well-known points of the beautiful ritual were given with that impressive emphasis which they necessarily require in order to render them effective. Several minor matters having been transacted, the lodge was closed in ancient form, and the brethren adjourned to banquet. Among the visitors present were Bros. Wilson, P.M. Etonian; Kent, jun., 889; Bowra, 889; Rowland, 957; Festing, 1063. The cloth having been cleared, the W.M. commenced the proceedings by proposing the "Queen and Craft," which was heartily received. In giving the next toast, that of "Bro. H.R.H. the M.W.G.M.," Bro. Hammond alluded at length to the forthcoming installation of the Prince, which he characterised as an event of a life-time, and which would give an impetus to Freemasonry throughout the world, and check, if not silence, the denunciations of the bigoted. This toast, and the succeeding one, that of the "Pro G. M.," was responded to with excellent "fire." The health of the "Provincial G.M. and the rest of the Grand Officers of Middlesex" was proposed by the W.M., who expressed the gratification he felt at being a P.G.O. of the county which was so ably represented in the Masonic world by Colonel Burdett, whose abilities and energies in every grade of the Craft were of universal renown. This toast having been drunk with the customary honours, that of "The Visitors" followed, and was acknowledged by Bros. Kent and Rowland, on behalf of their colleagues. The latter brother amusingly stated, that he being in the habit of frequenting bustling town lodges, was agreeably pleased at the contrast afforded by visiting the Hemming, whose proceedings, both in lodge and at the banquet table, were marked by rural quietness and harmony, and from that time he should add his testimony to the general opinion that this district was justly entitled to the euphonious appellation of "Happy Hampton." Bro. Hill, P.M., proposed the health of the W.M., and congratulated him upon the manner in which he had carried out the arduous duties of his position that evening, and for his zeal in furthering at all times the true principles of Freemasonry, namely, "Benevolence" and "Charity." The W.M., having briefly replied, he gave the toast of "The Principal Officers," coupling it with the name of the Treasurer, who, he said, was one of

the oldest subscribing members in the Craft. Bro. Jepson, in reply, stated that the remark of the W.M. was correct,—he was one of the oldest representatives of this glorious institution. In the course of his speech, he stated that the room in which they were possessed an interest to him, which the brethren would appreciate, when he informed them that in it he was raised to a M.M. by Bro. Dr. Hemming, the W.M. of the Harmony Lodge, upwards of fifty years ago, and that he also took his R.A. degree as far back as 1824. From the period of his initiation unto the present time he had always had Freemasonry at heart, and he hoped to die a Mason. The W.M. then proposed the health of the other officers of the lodge, and coupled it with the name of their young member, Bro. Walls, who had kindly assisted them as Deacon several times. Bro. Walls, in reply, thanked the W.M. and brethren for the honour they had conferred upon him by electing him as a joining member, and he hoped that this confidence in him would never be regretted. With regard to the poor services which he had rendered to the lodge, and which had been so complimentarily alluded to by the W.M., he could only say that he was at all times willing to officiate to the best of his ability in any position in Freemasonry that was required to be filled, as in endeavouring to carry it out, it was to him but a "labour of love."

Scotland.

GLASGOW.—LODGE ST. JOHN (No. 34).—The regular bi-monthly meeting of this prosperous lodge was held in their hall, No. 213, Buchanan-street, Glasgow, on Tuesday, 16th inst.; Bro. Wm. Bell, R.W.M., presiding. Bros. John D. Young, S.W.; D. Horne, J.W.; there was also present; Bros. John Dick, Secretary; R. B. Dalzell, Treasurer; McMillan, P.M.; J. B. Walker, P.M.; Thos. Fletcher, I.P.M.; Wm. Ferguson, R.W.M., Lodge Dalmuir, St. Johns; J. B. Macnair, R.W.M. Lodge Union, No. 332; W. H. Bickerton (*Freemason*); and a very large attendance of members and visiting brethren. The lodge was opened by the R.W.M., Bro. Wm. Bell, and the minutes of last regular meeting, also an emergency meeting, read and approved of. The lodge thereafter adjourned from labour to refreshment, the usual loyal toasts, &c., being given to music discoursed at intervals. Bros. Rogers and Leslie, eminent vocalists, gave some of their excellent duets with great spirit and taste, to the delight of all.

GLASGOW.—LODGE ST. MUNGO (No. 27).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in their hall, No. 213, Buchanan-street, on Thursday 18th inst. Bro. Dugald Butler, R.W.M., presiding. Bros. Thos. Hastie, acting S.W.; G. McComb, J.W. There were also present:—Bros. A. Bain, P.M. 103; Johnstone, P.M.; Wallace, R.W.M. Lodge Athole, 413; W. H. Bickerton (*Freemason*), and several members of the lodge and visiting brethren. The lodge being opened by the R.W.M., Bro. Dugald Butler, the Secretary read the minutes of last meeting, which were approved of. Bros. McGibbon, W. J. Craig, and John Walker were then affiliated into Lodge St. Mungo, No. 27, Bro. A. Bain, P.M., 103, Union and Crown, officiating. Bro. Dugald Butler, R.W.M., then intimated to the lodge that the annual festival of Lodge St. Mungo would take place on Tuesday, 2nd March, at the Crown Hall, and he hoped that as many as possibly could would be present to celebrate the 146th anniversary of this lodge. Bros. John Brownie McNichol and Peter McNichol, also A. Neavey, were then passed to the degree of Fellow Craft, and Bros. Jas. McKinnon, J. Miller, A. Neavey, J. B. McNichol and Peter McNichol raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason by Bro. A. Bain, P.M. Lodge Union and Crown, No. 103, in a style which could not have been excelled. There being no further business, the lodge was closed.

GLASGOW.—LODGE THISTLE (No. 87).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in their hall, No. 12, Tron-gate, Glasgow, on Tuesday, 16th inst., Bros. J. W. Burns, R.W.M., presiding; James Booth, S.W.; C. R. Jenkins, D.M., acting J.W. There were also present: Bros. John Miller, P.M. 87; McNaught, S.W. 556; S. Russell, D.M. 556; and a number of brethren and visitors. The lodge was opened by the R.W.M., Bro. J. W. Burns, the minutes of last meeting read and approved of. Messrs. H. O. Foray, H. Hardy, and G. Charters were then initiated into the mysteries of Ancient Freemasonry, every care and attention being paid to the solemnity of the occasion by Bros. Burns, R.W.M., and John Miller, S.M., who officiated. There being no further business before the meeting, the lodge was closed.

GLASGOW.—LODGE UNION (No. 332).—The usual fortnightly meeting of this lodge was held in their hall, 170, Buchanan-street, Glasgow, on Monday, 15th inst., Bro. J. B. Macnair, R.W.M., presiding. Bros. D. McKirdy, S.W.; A. Conochie, J.W.; John McInnes, Secretary; John Laird, Treasurer; R. Mitchell, P.M. There were also present: Bros. Wm. Harper, R.W.M. Lodge Clyde, 408; D. Horne, J.W. Lodge St. John, 34; W. H. Bickerton (*Freemason*), and several members of the lodge and visiting brethren. The minutes having been read and approved of, and the lodge opened by the R.W.M., Bro. Wm. Harper, R.W.M. Lodge Clyde, 408, applied for Bro. R. Mitchell, jun., of his lodge, to be raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason, he being about to leave Scotland for Australia in a few days, which application was received unanimously. Mr. Jas. Mitchell, and Mr. John Dale, who had been regularly proposed for initiation, and no objection raised, received the E.A. degree, Bro. J. B. Macnair, R.W.M., officiating. Bro. Jas. Gibson, Lodge 480, was then affiliated into Lodge Union, 332, Bro. J. B. Macnair also performing the ceremony of affiliation, after which Bro. R. Mitchell, jun., Lodge Clyde, 408, was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason by Bro. J. Fash, in a careful manner. There being no further business, the lodge was closed.

NOTICE.

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

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

NOTICE.

Many complaints having been received of the difficulty experienced in procuring the *Freemason* in the City, the publisher begs to append the following list, being a selected few of the appointed agents:—

Abbott, Wm., Great Tower-street.
Bates, Pilgrim-street, Ludgate-Hill.
Born, H., 115, London Wall.
Dawson, Wm., 121, Cannon-street.
Gilbert, Jas., 18, Gracechurch-street.
Guest, Wm., 54, Paternoster-row.
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Births, Marriages and Deaths.

DEATHS.

SILLIFANT.—On the 19th instant, Bro. Edwin Sillifant, of Crofton-lodge, Upper Tulse-hill, Brixton, and Gresham-buildings, Basinghall-street, aged 41.

On the 11th inst., Edward B., eleventh child of Bro. G. A. Taylor, of 27, Change-alley.

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.

ERRATUM.—In the letter of Bro. J. Chapman last week, for "London Lodge" read "Jordan Lodge."

BETA.—At a recent meeting of a chapter, a candidate was balloted for and rejected, whereupon a member declared the ballot was an illegal one, inasmuch as some of the members who voted were in arrears of subscription. This objection was in turn objected to on the ground that it came too late, and was simply a device to discover, if possible, who the objectors were. The M.E.Z., however, notwithstanding the protest, ordered the Treasurer to read out the names of members in arrears, excluded such from voting, and ordered a fresh ballot to be taken.

I. Was not the M.E.Z. guilty of irregularity in ordering the second ballot under the circumstances? II. What remedy do you recommend, protest being unheeded?

Again.—III. Under what circumstances do you consider the ballot may legitimately be taken a second time for the same person? IV. Are members at liberty to shirk responsibility, or connive at trickery by abstaining from voting for candidates? i.e., is individual voting obligatory?

[We are of opinion that the M.E.Z. was guilty of an irregularity, both in ordering the names to be read out, and authorizing a second ballot under the circumstances. Something might be said for the chapter by e-laws on the subject, but though the M.E.Z. might, perhaps, before the ballot, caution the members in arrears, it is quite clear to us that he could not do so legally after the ballot was over. A ballot cannot be taken a second time, except in case of a clear mistake, or a possible misconception. In that case the presiding officer is justified to have a second ballot to clear up any doubt he has on the subject, before declaring the result. The only remedy we can suggest is an appeal to the P.G. Superintendent. Members cannot be compelled to vote. The freedom of voting in chapter as well as in lodge, is absolute.—ED.]

Bro. Constable's and Bro. Hughs's kind communications in our next. "Ad Rem," "W. Hopkins," and "Master Mason" in our next. "A Mark Master," received, but requires consideration, as we do not insert personal communications.

The following communications also stand over Reports of Lodges 523, 543, and 1125 E.C.; 178, 219, 354, 408, 437, and 556, S.C.

A. LITSTER.—The *Freemason* has been sent you regularly each week. Any that have failed to reach you shall be replaced by others, on learning the dates of each.

REMITTANCES RECEIVED.

Alcazar, J. L., Trinidad, P.O.O.	£2 0 0
Fetta, C., (U.S.A.), P.O.O.	3 13 4
Henry, Wm., P.O.O.	3 19 6
Imlath, R. W., (Demarara), P.O.O.	1 4 0
Jenkins, T., (New Zealand), P.O.O.	0 12 6
Litster, A., (Simla), P.O.O.	2 0 0
Wetherill, H., (Constantinople), Stamps	1 1 4

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1875.

THE INSTALLATION OF THE GRAND MASTER.

We announced to the Craft last week that the Albert Hall had been selected as the "locale" for the installation of our Royal Grand Master, Freemasons' Hall being clearly too small to receive the number of brethren who are expected to attend on that auspicious occasion. We congratulate the Order on the decision arrived at, one which we feel sure will receive the unanimous approval of the Craft. The Albert Hall is adapted to receive a large number of brethren, and we shall hope in an early impression to give a detailed account of its size and capabilities. Our readers may rely on us for giving them the earliest intimation possible of the minor details of the programme for the day's proceedings, as we well know the interest which is prevalent in all parts of England, with respect to this important gathering of our English Order.

FREEMASONRY IN SCOTLAND.

It seems that some little exception has been taken by a very worthy brother in Scotland, to some editorial words of ours in reply to a correspondent, Saturday, February 13th. We think it well, therefore, to explain the "why and the wherefore" of our remarks, which we penned in all good feeling and fraternal regard for our brethren "over the border." We wish to assure our fraternal critic in the first place, that none can have warmer feelings for the interests and prosperity of Freemasonry in North Britain than ourselves. We have partaken of the genial hospitality of distinguished lodges there, we have ourselves a good deal of Scotch blood in our veins, and we have a very genuine admiration of Scotland and its kindly inhabitants. But we are, in our editorial capacity, "censores morum lathomicorum," and what we think honestly we feel bound to say plainly—in all good-will, and in all kindly intent. Our worthy brother states that it is not the custom generally to give more than one degree on the same night, and that our answer went to the effect that "all candidates receive the three degrees together." But our words, we venture to submit to our friendly correspondent, do not bear such an interpretation. All that we state is, that such a custom is prevalent in Scotland, not that it is always observed. The same *Freemason* contains the account of a meeting of the lodge Caledonian Railway, 354, at Glasgow, in which certain candidates are initiated and passed the same night, and also of an emergency meeting of the same lodge three nights afterwards, when the third degree was conferred on the same brethren. We have often previously heard of the three degrees being conferred the same night, and such, no doubt, was our impression when we wrote the answer objected to. But we rejoice to learn from our worthy brother that such a practice is in itself illegal, and is not now habitually followed by the Scottish lodges. We feel sure that the month's interval between the degrees, as enforced by the English Grand Lodge, is a very wise and salutary regulation, and that if such was also the law in Scotland much good would accrue to the Scottish Grand Lodge and Scottish Freemasonry. Our good brother asks what is Scottish Freemasonry, we say the system practised in Scotland under the authority of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, just as English Freemasonry is the system practised in England under the authority of the Grand Lodge of England. We are quite aware that there are, and always will be, national peculiarities, and local divergencies, but we have this one fact clear as regards our English system, that no English Mason would advocate any alteration of the three-months regulation. Indeed, some Freemasons have thought it too short. When we mentioned the "unsatisfactory state" of Scottish Freemasonry, we used the term with-

out any offence to our Scottish brethren, as our only wish and endeavour was to raise the vital power of Freemasonry in Scotland. We stated that there were, in our opinion, three drawbacks to the system in Scotland, which, we ventured to think, were a stumbling block to the advance of sound Freemasonry. The first was the shortness of interval between the conferring of the degrees, the second was the facility and cheapness of initiation, and the third was the non-enforcement universally of annual subscriptions to every lodge. We believe that in saying this we express the opinion of a good many long-headed brethren in Scotland, who are fully alive to the weaknesses of their system. How otherwise can we account for the absence of any very striking evidence of Masonic charity? There must be many old and decayed Masons in Scotland, to whom annuities would be a most comfortable provision for their declining years; there must be many orphan sons and daughters of Freemasons to whom education and care would be alike an invaluable and a blessed gift. But the way the present system works is this—we speak with full knowledge of the subject. A person is made a Mason in a Scotch lodge; the lodge has no annual subscription; after a short time the brother leaves Scotland and moves south; he has only paid a certain sum; he is not supporting Scottish Freemasonry in the slightest degree, and yet, though practically unaffiliated, he claims all the present privileges, and all the eventual benefits of English Freemasonry. This is a very common case, known to almost every lodge in the North of England. Does our worthy brother ask what remedy do you propose? We reply, you cannot legislate ever so as to avoid all abuse of privileges; but what you can do is, to do the best you can. It the Scottish Grand Lodge will enforce an annual capitation fee on all its registered members for the purposes of benevolence; if it will require that all lodges shall receive an annual subscription from their members; if the initiation fee is raised, that is to say that the sum paid for "admission" is considerably increased, if the interval between the degrees is made as with us, we feel sure that an impetus would be given to Scottish Freemasonry, which would culminate ere long in charitable efforts worthy of so many warm-hearted men and good Masons. We trust that our very worthy brother and critic will take this friendly rejoinder of ours in good part, and will believe that it is dictated by a genuine love for our Order, and above all with heartfelt wishes for the honour and elevation, and progress and prosperity of Freemasonry in Scotland.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL PROGRESS.

No. III.

We have, in our previous articles, under this heading, referred to some difficulties in the pathway of the Masonic student, and we propose to continue our consideration of the same subject to-day. Great has been the advance in Masonic archæology in some respects, in others little headway has been gained so far. For instance, what do we yet know of the history of Freemasonry in England before 1723? Our earliest Grand Lodge minutes, we understand, only go back to that year, and no private lodge minute book, except that of Alnwick, as far as we are aware, has been found previous to that date. We cannot however help thinking that a search in some of the lodge chests, or among their old minute books would increase our stock of early 18th century Masonic knowledge. Indeed, we do not despair of disintombing some day from the dust and oblivion of years, a 17th century minute book, in this country. It is this paucity of information relative to the habits and acts of our Masonic predecessors which renders the history of English Freemasonry so full of doubts and difficulties, alike for the initiate and the profane. Even in Scotland, where the minute books are far earlier, the information is very sparse and the particulars are very limited. And if we are able to account for this by the "nature of the case," yet it should, we think, be a warning against any hasty dogmatism on matters on which we have no certain information, and which, alike historically and archæologically, are still

enveloped in a mist of uncertainty and debate-ability, if we may use such a word. Let us take for instance that important and interesting view of Freemasonry, which we may not unfairly term the "Johannite." Whence did this theory of Freemasonry arise? When did it first appear? These are questions which we must answer before we can assign the real date, and the true importance to this colouring of our Masonic system. But yet the moment we attempt to do so we find the greatest difficulty. Dr. Oliver has, we are aware, expressed a strong opinion on the subject, and many Masonic writers have been, and still are misled by his apparent authority. Now, without denying to Dr. Oliver, that most able brother, the greatest credit for his Masonic labours and contributions, we yet feel bound to say that we cannot always accept his conclusions. Bro. Mackey's view of Dr. Oliver's writings, when critically considered, is, we venture to think, the true one. "The great error of Dr. Oliver," he says, "as a Masonic teacher, was a too easy credulity or a too great warmth of imagination, which led him to accept, without hesitation, the crude theories of previous writers, and to recognise documents and legends as unquestionably authoritative, whose truthfulness subsequent researches have led most Masonic scholars to doubt or deny; his statements, therefore, as to the origin or the history of the Order have to be received with many grains of allowance." We feel bound to express our entire agreement with the opinion of our able American brother, as it is the inevitable conclusion, in truth, to which a careful study of Bro. Dr. Oliver's works must lead the Masonic student. With respect to the Johannite teaching of Freemasonry, Dr. Oliver is very positive, and seemingly very precise, and yet modern researches do not in any way uphold his view of the matter. It is quite clear, historically, that the Johannite teaching of Freemasonry as suggested by Dr. Oliver is, if not actually, of the 18th century, at any rate not earlier than the 17th. We find no traces of it previously, that is to say, as he evidently regards it. We know indeed that in Scotland in 1599, the Wardens were ordered to be chosen on St. John's Day—that is, the Evangelist's Day, as is clear from the minute of 27th November, 1599. And probably we may assume that St. John's Day was from very early times the day appointed for the election of office-bearers. But of St. John the Baptist's Day we find no trace. Bro. D. M. Lyon states that, as a Masonic anniversary it dates, in Scotland only, from 1755, and he believes was introduced from the Grand Lodge of England. The editor of "Multa Paucis" talks of a Grand Lodge assembled at York, December 27th, 1561, and though his story is now generally, we believe, looked on as apocryphal, we may have in the meeting on St. John's Day at York, this truth, namely, that of the annual meeting of the Grand Assembly. But we know of no other Masonic English reliable authority on the subject, and so far we are not aware of any 17th century ritual, except that of the Sloane MS. 3329. In that no doubt we find allusion to the "Holy Chapel of St. John," and the brother quoted is called "Brother John," but of the two Johns there is no trace. Our evidences of the customs of the operative guilds are at present very few indeed. In 1253 the working Masons at Westminster had the Saints' days divided between them and the King, and the list is given in the Fabric Roll of that year. John the Baptist's Day belonged to the King, and the Masons worked on that day, but, as the roll ends December 6th, beginning April 28th, we cannot say what was their custom on the Evangelist's Day. We have said enough, we think, to show that whatever may have been the custom of the early 18th or late 17th Century, the Johannite theory of Dr. Oliver must be taken "cum grano salis." We write simply in the interests of Masonic truth. An error, though a harmless one, if persisted in when proved to be an error, in things historical, becomes a falsehood, and if we are ever to obtain a true Masonic history, which will stand the criticism of experts and opponents, we must not sacrifice truth, from indolence to point out prevailing misconceptions, or from an unwillingness to face the real difficulties of the case. Thus far all that our avail-

able evidence proves, appears to be, that St. John the Evangelist's Day, is an old day of Masonic observance, but of St. John the Baptist's anniversary nothing is known archaeologically before, at the earliest, the latter part of the 17th century. Other evidence may be available, and when it is brought forward, we shall respectfully consider it, but until then we must regard Dr. Oliver's Johannite theory as "non proven." We shall recur to this interesting subject generally again shortly.

THE PUBLIC HOUSE QUESTION.

There can be no doubt, we think, that it is not for the advantage of Freemasonry, where it can be otherwise arranged, for lodge meetings to be held either at hotels or public houses. But when we say this, we must fairly admit, that there are many difficulties in the way of any uniform rule or practice on the subject. In the metropolis for instance, we could hardly lay down dogmatically the proposition, that the severance of lodges from hotels was advisable for the welfare of Freemasonry, inasmuch as the accommodation for meetings is very scanty indeed, and many of the hotels frequented by the Craft, offer rooms of handsome effect, and often of noble proportions. Neither should we affect, in accordance with a good deal of modern pharisaism, to condemn a public house, quâ a public house. Many very distinguished lodges have habitually held their meetings at houses of "public entertainment," and these meetings have been as well conducted, and as creditably carried on, as if in the most retired and separated Masonic Hall. But we think we are writing in the best interests of Freemasonry, when we venture to express an opinion, that for many reasons it is most desirable to sever our lodges from hotels and taverns. It may indeed be said, on the other side, that as our present Grand Lodge, and the first meetings of our Masonic forefathers, were held in taverns, at a time when Masonic Halls were unknown, there is after all no valid Masonic objection to our continuing to use such places of public resort, which are both convenient and economical, for our gatherings to-day. To this we would reply in all fraternal good-will and consideration, "It is quite true what you say, but the habits of the middle of the 18th century are not quite the habits of the 19th century." And we think that in addition, our brethren should always bear in mind, that this connection of Freemasonry with taverns, has not only kept out a good many worthy men from Freemasonry, and still keeps them out, but must inevitably tend to associate Freemasonry itself in the minds of some with late hours and convivial habits. Hogarth, when he depicted a W.M. of his day, reeling home with the collar and emblem of Freemasonry still around his neck, only gave us a representation of the then popular view of lodge meetings, and of Freemasons generally. And those of us who are old enough to remember the general condition of Freemasonry some thirty years ago, will admit, that in nothing has Freemasonry so improved, so elevated itself, if we may so say, since then, as by the building of the Masonic Hall, and the severance of the lodge from the convenient, and it may be, in some respects, comfortable public house. For there is one element which has to be taken into account here, in this important question, and which has largely swayed the course of many lodges, namely, the question of expense. Masonic Halls, in most cases, represent the maximum of expenditure for a lodge, hotels the minimum, and to some lodges—whose members are not numerous—this one consideration of expense is a crucial one. Hence at this hour many excellent lodges and many equally very worthy brethren, find that it conduces to a prosperous balance sheet, to continue their old connection with the tavern, ready of access, and moderate in its charge for rent. But then, on the other hand, how much of additional dignity and decorum is thrown around the Masonic Hall, which, separated from all common or profane uses, is entirely dedicated to the services and labours of Freemasonry. We know many such, and sure it is that they ever conduce, not only to the highest performance of our ritual, æsthetically,

but they minister largely to the welfare of the brethren, and the true spirit and teaching of Freemasonry. There is something incongruous often with the calm, and peacefulness, and mysteries of Freemasonry, in the crowded entrances and thronged bar of a public house. There are tendencies in all such scenes, we strongly feel, antagonistic to that sober character and that serious formality, which ought always to characterize our Masonic meetings, but especially at the reception of candidates. We know as a fact that many an aspirant for the light of Freemasonry, has been both disappointed and unfavourably impressed, when he found that our privileges were to be sought for and obtained in the "best room," even, of a most respectable "public house." So we conclude as we began, without seeking to lay down any austere axioms, or any arbitrary regulations on a somewhat difficult and delicate subject, by the recommendation to our brethren when possible, gradually, at any rate, to obtain for themselves the privacy and the conveniences of a Masonic Hall, of a lodge room, purely Masonic, set apart for the due performance of that ceremonial to which we are all so much attached, and for the proclamation of those truths we all so wisely preserve and revere.

GRAND LODGE FUNDS.

We rejoice to notice the continued prosperity of our Grand Lodge funds. In the agenda paper of Grand Lodge, the report of the last quarter states, that on Friday, the 12th day of February, the last meeting of the Finance Committee, the balance in the hands of the Grand Treasurer was £4462 8s. 11d., besides £75 petty cash and £96 for servants' wages, in the hands of the Grand Secretary.

BENEVOLENCE.

The grants of the Lodge of Benevolence on the 17th, seem to have been heavy, no less altogether than £778. We notice among the grants for confirmation at the approaching quarterly communication £200 for the widow of our lamented Bro. J. R. Stebbing. It is quite clear that we cannot under any pretence whatever reduce our Benevolent Funds.

NEW LODGES.

We note the gratifying fact, that since the last quarterly communication, 19 new lodges have been added to our calendar, so that the last number is 1535.

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 THE GRAND MASTER.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I note with much pleasure your announcement that the above ceremony will take place at the Royal Albert Hall, but I have been looking for another announcement, re Commemoration Jewel, as suggested by several of your correspondents, particularly Bro. T. C. W., (Feb. 6th, 1875, which letter please see).

I hope this idea will not be overlooked by Grand Lodge, so that every member of that body present, may wear some token, then and hereafter; in fact, all that are present should be allowed to wear one. I hope you will insert this, as a "gentle reminder," and further, that you may think well to give us a short leader on the subject.

Fraternally yours,

"ICH DIEN."

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

It would render the above ceremony much more grand, as a spectacle, if it were announced that brethren should appear in court dress (if entitled to same), or in the uniform of Army, Navy, or Volunteers, or evening dress. Those who are entitled to court dress, can scarcely appear before royalty without wearing it, but an order would set the question at rest.

I am, yours fraternally,

AN OLD P.M.

February 22nd, 1875.

THE STATUS OF PAST MASTERS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In answer to "An Old P.M., one &c.," I would just say this, that whatever he may deem is the letter, he clearly has not realised the true bearing, of the Book of

Constitutions. What the Book of Constitutions deals with is the Past Masters position in Grand Lodge. It does not deal with his position in the Private Lodge—that solely depends on his continuing a contributing member. If he desists for twelve months, he loses his lodge membership, and forfeits his Grand Lodge qualification. If he rejoins a lodge, he cannot recover his permanent Grand Lodge qualification, until he has been re-installed as W.M., though he may sit as Warden of a lodge, if so returned to Grand Lodge as the bona fide Senior, or Junior Warden. "An Old P.M." is very positive about the seniority question. I venture to think that he is altogether wrong. Let us take a case. A is the first W.M. of a new lodge, and at the expiration of twelve months service as W.M., becomes its first, and so its Senior Past Master. After five years more, A demits. There are now five Past Masters in the lodge, of which A is the Senior. He leaves the lodge for five years, during which time five more Past Masters have been added to the roll. A at length seeks re-admission, and becomes a joining member, and when he enters the lodge again, the question arises, where is he to go? "An old P.M." says to the top of the Past Masters, though for five years he has paid nothing to the lodge funds, and has left his other brethren "to bear the burden and heat of the day," and because he is senior in time, he continues always so! "Busy Bee" contends, and I agree with him, that he becomes the Junior Past Master at the time of his re-admission. And the common sense of this customary rule is clear. Were Past Masters to be permitted to remain or go out from a lodge just as they think well, the whole stability of our private lodges would be affected, and therefore the "lex inscripta" of all our lodges is, that a Past Master who leaves his lodge, takes rank after the Junior Past Master at the time of his re-admission. The custom of our Order, and of the lodges is, alike fair to the other Past Masters, and fair to him.

I am, yours faithfully.

MELCHISHUA.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

"An Old P.M., One, &c.," who notices my recent letter on the above subject, will find no authority in the "Constitutions" bearing on the question, and it is in consequence of this silence in our written law that the discussion has arisen. What I have ventured to urge is that a Past Master in the Craft, supposing him to be in the full possession of his privileges, must be allowed to sit as a Past Master in any lodge that he joins, and that he would do so below the actual Past Masters then in the lodge, ranking in the lodge next to them. I do not think that the circumstance of the lodge being his mother lodge would alter his position in any way. "An Old P.M." seems to me to be correct in thinking that a Past Master ceasing to subscribe to a lodge for twelve months loses his membership with Grand Lodge, and nothing more; the whole of the paragraph (I, page 18) must be taken together, it recites—"Subscription as a member of any lodge is sufficient to preserve his rank and rights as a Past Master," and the inference from the concluding portion of the paragraph is, to my mind, that a non-fulfilment of this condition for twelve months, which deprives him of his membership with Grand Lodge takes from him also his rank and rights as a Past Master.

Yours fraternally,

BUSY BEE.

THE RIGHT OF VISITING LODGES.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

A letter in your last issue shows the writer to be under the not uncommon misapprehension that a Mason may visit any lodge on simply proving himself a member of the Craft. A reference to the "Constitutions" (page 89) will show that no visitor can be admitted unless personally known, recommended, or vouched for, after due examination by one of the present brethren. Without this safeguard, a lodge might be at any time visited by a suspended or an expelled Mason, and even run the risk occasionally of admitting a clever cowan.

Yours fraternally,

BUSY BEE.

THE ADMISSION OF MEMBERS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,

All honour to "A Sincere Mason," who has thought it well to bring before the Craft existing evils; I am inclined to think that the admission of lame members is quite a mistake, and our Book of Constitutions, if properly carried out, would prove such initiations to be void; it might prove beneficial to those lodges who number one or two such on their books to have their certificates, and name or names, as might be necessary, cancelled and erased, so that, in this one respect, things would look healthy. I am of opinion that the manliness of some whom I know would lead one or more to accept such decision on the part of an honourable brotherhood, and at the same time remove from the mind of any one who might entertain thoughts as to motives, &c., of said individuals, that nothing but worthy motives were entertained; would you be kind enough in your next impression to favour us with a few remarks as to the validity or propriety of such initiations? as they cannot possibly be of any service, in my way of thinking, to so noble an institution, and might eventually prove an eyesore to our progress. Hoping you will favour the Craft with something from your able pen, I subscribe myself a

MASTER MASON.

ROYAL STANDARD LODGE (No. 1298).

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In your report of the above lodge last Saturday, you say that Bro. Shackell was the first W.M., &c.

In the minutes of the lodge meeting of the 7th Feb., 1871, you will find the following resolution, which at once disposes of the statement referred to:—

"That the freedom of the lodge be presented to Bro. Colonel William Wigginton, P.M. 902, P. Prov. G.D.C. Worcestershire, for services rendered as founder of the lodge and Lodge of Instruction, and as first Worshipful Master."

Yours very fraternally,
23rd Feb., 1875.

A P.M.

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

"An Old P.M.," writing on this subject, seems a very young one, or he would know that a lodge can vote its funds to any purpose it pleases—he wants it pointed out in the Book of Constitutions where the law is enacted that a lodge can subscribe to any charity it pleases. It is not at all necessary to have such an enactment—"Every lodge has the power of framing bye-laws for its own government." If a member wants his lodge to subscribe to a charity, or for any other purpose, he has simply to give notice of motion of what he wants; if carried at the meeting following, and the minutes are afterwards confirmed, the Treasurer is bound to pay the amount.

MAGNUS OHREN,
P.M. and P.Z.

MASONIC AMENITIES.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

It is with much pleasure that I have to place before you the following Masonic reception in Germany (of the Writer), at the Lodge "Lessing" in Barmen—Rhenish-Prussia.

One Thursday evening, on arriving from the above-named place, I said to myself, there is a Freemason's Lodge held at this hotel where I am staying. I made enquiry of Bro. Voleger, the Hotelbesitzer (Hotel-keeper), whom I knew to be a Freemason. (I should have referred to my "Cosmopolitan," but I had given that away to an American brother, whom I came across in Brussels, and to whom I became known only by signs and a Templar Cross. More anon about this most worthy American brother.) Bro. Voleger said, "Would you like to enter the lodge?" I said, "Yes, with great pleasure." I was at once introduced to the Vorberichter Brother—Tyler—and said to him that I was an English Freemason, and should like to enter the lodge—"Would you like to prove me?" He gave me to understand that he would make known my request to the Meister vom Stuhl (The Worshipful Master). The M.v.S. came out immediately. He thus questioned me: "Have you your certificate?" I said, "No, I have not; but try me and prove me." "Give me the word." I did so. "Now I will take your grips." I gave them to him. I thought, even now, a doubt rested, so I pulled from my pocket my apron, not a very clean one in appearance, and in addition to words and grips, said, "This is my certificate." He said, "Worthy Brother, enter." I did so, and met with a very hearty reception, on the report and introduction of the M.v.S. to the brethren present. With them I spent a very pleasant two hours, most brotherly and fraternally.

After some short time had elapsed, a gentleman came in whom I knew, and he again most kindly introduced me to all present a second time; this was "Bro. Hermann Brocke." They had met on this occasion for business, and not for work, and were all in an outer room, where they banquetted. I was questioned (and I also questioned) about English Masonry generally. A brother said, "Would you like to see our lodge?" I answered affirmatively, and the Tyler was ordered to light up the temple with all the appointments. I was much pleased, especially the Master's chair—which was nothing more nor less than a throne—raised high up above all others. Above his chair, which was surrounded with rich draperies, was placed a large crystal star, some two feet in diameter, and when the gas was lighted, the effect was most beautiful. The lodge had more the appearance of a temple than otherwise, and where solemn rites were performed and holy principles enunciated, such that Freemasons in general accept. I had, on my return to the brethren, a striking proof that the same glorious virtue—charity—was practised amongst them. My curiosity was aroused by seeing a list being passed round. I interrogated a brother by the side of me, and he informed me that a brother, a Frenchman, who had recently come from America with his wife and family, had died suddenly, and they were then making a collection for the deceased brother's wife. Being a foreign brother, they whispered "We cannot permit our brother to subscribe," but my heart prompted me, and my mite was given. 'Tis alone this gift, the greatest of all the three, that first drew me to have a wish to become a Freemason, and, without charity, Freemasonry would be but sounding brass and tinkling cymbal.

A goodly sum was collected, which, in relative value, amounted to about £17. All honour to our Rhenish brethren! Prior to my leaving the lodge my health was proposed and drank with all honours—the brethren expressed both satisfaction and pleasure at my being in the midst of them, and trusted it would not be the last time; he also exalted the greatness and manliness of this, the most noble and best of all orders and brotherhoods. In reply to the unexpected honour they had done me, I simply returned them my thanks, and said that I fully endorsed the sentiments which had been expressed, and that I believed in the Order at large for its fraternity of feeling, of which I had had conclusive proof personally, and also had been a witness of their charitableness.

T. BURDETT YEOMAN, 18°.

P.S.—Our American brother with whom I travelled a few hundreds of miles, was more than thankful for the "Cosmo." I handed over to him—and to show it, he drew from his pocket-book a printed card, which he signed, and said—"Upon any of my ships, on presenting this to the captain, you can travel the American lakes free

of all charge, and nothing would please me like having the pleasure to prove to you how very grateful I am for your information, otherwise than presenting me with this Masonic almanac." I hope to have the satisfaction of giving him some further proof of what an English Mason is, when passing through London for his American home. —T.B.Y.

AN APPEAL.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In consequence of the late severe frost, a great deal of destitution is existing in the parish of Bethnal Green, owing to the poor having insufficient clothing; and as there appears every reason to expect a return of the cold weather, I beg respectfully to make an appeal on their behalf. There are many benevolent and charitably disposed persons, who would willingly and gladly assist them if they only knew how easy they could do so. Most of us have old coats, trousers, boots, &c., which we do not require. Now if these were given to the poor, it would be doing them a great service, by keeping them from the inclemency of the weather. All contributions sent to the address given will be gratefully acknowledged, and trusting that this appeal will meet with a hearty response, I am sir, your obedient servant,

JOHN T. BAKER.

158, Bethnal Green-road, E.

[We are glad to publish this letter in the cause of charity.—Ed.]

UNITED GRAND LODGE.

The following is the agenda of business to be transacted in Grand Lodge on Wednesday, 3rd March, 1875.

- 1.—The Regulations for the Government of Grand Lodge during the time of public business will be read.
- 2.—The minutes of the Quarterly Communication of the 2nd December, 1874, will be read and put for confirmation.
- 3.—To read a letter from the Grand Lodge of Scotland, acknowledging the receipt of the Resolution of Condolence passed in Grand Lodge on the 2nd September last, on the decease of The Earl of Dalhousie, K.T., G.C.B., Past Grand Master Mason of Scotland.
- 4.—The M.W. Grand Master will move an Address of Condolence to the M.W. Pro Grand Master, The Earl of Carnarvon, on the sad affliction which has befallen his Lordship by the death of the Countess of Carnarvon.
- 5.—The M.W. Grand Master will make a communication to the Grand Lodge in reference to the formation of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, and will move a resolution to acknowledge it.
- 6.—Election of a M.W. Grand Master.
- 7.—Election of a Grand Treasurer.
- 8.—Report of the Lodge of Benevolence for the last Quarter, in which are recommendations for the following grants, viz.:—
A brother of the Samaritan Lodge, No. 286, Bacup £50
The widow of a brother of the St. Alban's Lodge, No. 29, London 50
The widow of a brother of the Royal Gloucester Lodge, No. 130, Southampton 200
A brother of the Lodge of Faith, No. 141, London 200
A brother of the Southwark Lodge, No. 879, Southwark 50
The widow of a brother of the Highgate Lodge, No. 1366, Highgate 100
- 9.—The Report of the Board of General Purposes to the United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England.

- 1.—The Board of General Purposes beg leave to submit their report for the last quarter as follows:—
- 2.—At the quarterly communication held on the 4th day of September, 1872, the board reported to Grand Lodge that they had suspended Bro. Nathaniel Henry Braham, of the Montefiore Lodge, No. 1017, for contumacy, under the circumstances set forth in their report.
- 3.—Bro. Nathaniel Henry Braham having now attended the Board and made due submission, the Board have removed the suspension and restored Bro. Braham to his Masonic functions.
- 4.—Mr. John Walter Malby having asked for a fresh lease of the premises in Middle Yard, held by him under the Trustees of Grand Lodge, on the expiration of the existing lease at Michaelmas next, the Board recommend that a lease of the said premises be granted for 14 years from the above date, at an annual rent of £150, subject to the covenants of the existing lease.

- 5.—The President will therefore move as follows:—
(1.)—That the Report be received and entered on the Minutes.
(2.)—That the recommendation of the Board with reference to Mr. Malby's application be agreed with, and that a fresh lease be granted accordingly.

(Signed) JOHN B. MONCKTON, President.

Freemasons' Hall, London, 16th February, 1875.
To the Report is subjoined a statement of the Grand Lodge Accounts at the last meeting of the Finance Committee, held on Friday, the 12th day of February instant, showing a balance in the hands of the Grand Treasurer of £4,462 8s. 11d.; and in the hands of the Grand Secretary, for Petty Cash, £75; and for Servants' Wages, £96 15s.

10.—Report of the Colonial Board to the United Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons of England.
The Colonial Board have little to report to Grand Lodge, except their congratulations on the continued prosperity of the Lodges in the various Colonies and Districts under the English jurisdiction, on the general absence of disputes and complaints, and the consequent good feeling which appears to prevail.

The Board beg to recommend to Grand Lodge the following alteration in the Book of Constitutions, page 114, art. 4, to omit in the second line the words—"at three o'clock precisely."

The President will therefore move accordingly.

(Signed) JOHN A. RUCKER, President.

Freemasons' Hall, London, 2nd February, 1875.
11.—Report of Bro. R. P. Harding, Auditor of Grand Lodge Accounts, of receipts and disbursements during the year 1874.

12.—Proposed motions:—

1.—By Bro. J. H. Wynne, P.M. No. 554.

"That this Grand Lodge do order to be given from the Fund of Benevolence, the sum of five pounds to each unsuccessful candidate at the next general election for annuitants in 1875 for old men and women belonging to the Craft of Freemasons."

2.—By Bro. John Constable, P.M. No. 185.

"That the sum of £100 be voted from the funds of Grand Lodge towards the fund now being raised for the purpose of endowing the Freemasons' Life Boat, stationed at North Berwick in 1872."

Reviews.

"Debrett's Peerage and Baronetage." Dean and Son, 106a, Fleet-street.

These two indispensable works for all alike come before us with every claim not only for commendation but admiration. Handsome in appearance, and skilful in arrangement, they give us a great deal of very needful information, in a very small space. They are useful as books of constant reference to many persons day by day, and no public office is complete without them, just as we venture to think that few good libraries should be without them. Indeed, they ought to stand on every writing table, especially on those of writers like ourselves, who are often indebted to them for the names of those who play an important part in public life, or who compose what fairly may be termed our upper English ten thousand, and even more!

Masonic Calendars for Durham, Dorsetshire, and Oxfordshire.

These three little manuals are very useful to the good brethren of the above named counties, and to us who live far away. They are all admirably got up, very neatly printed, contain a great deal of local information, and reflect every credit on their industrious compilers. They are put forth by well known brethren, and we wish them every success.

"The Child's Bible." Cassell, Petter, and Galpin.

Our attention has been called to this very pretty juvenile work of Messrs. Cassell, which appears to us full of promise. As a little scriptural reader or primer for the young, it is sure to be appreciated, and we doubt not will be largely patronised by many earnest little students. May all of good attend them.

"The Roman Fisherman." By an Observer of the System. Matthews and McIntosh.

This is the "old, old story," though perhaps told to a slight variation of time. It seems able and vigorous, but is purely controversial. And though in the recent "escapades" of the Roman Catholic authority, we have had to endure all the virulence of intolerance and all the folly of fanaticism, yet, as Freemasons, we are not controversialists, and long may we keep out of alike the "certamen" and the "odium theologicum." Rome is still Rome, and always will be Rome, and our best policy is to go on our own way, utterly heedless alike of her censures and of her maledictions.

"Some Account of our Masonic Charities," by Bro. Hardon, P.M. Andrews, Manchester.

This is a somewhat ambitious little book, and is also a little indistinct in its recommendation. We confess that after reading it twice over we do not exactly understand the drift of our good brother's remarks. We do not clearly understand what he terms the home system. If we understand his aim rightly, he would revert to the old idea of our educational establishments, and have the children educated at the school nearest their dwellings and to live at home. But suppose they have no home? What then? Are we to have Masonic boarding out? We have no doubt of the good intent of the writer, but we fear he has hardly yet mastered the leading principles of educational work. If there is one thing clearer than another it is this, that what he calls the home system is about as unsatisfactory a system as can well be devised, and that we have in our great Boys' and Girls' Schools now, the best arrangements and the most scientific appliances, with the best of results, for the orphans and their friends. But we may have misunderstood Bro. Hardon.

SCOTTISH FREEMASONRY.

We have been requested to publish the following letter:—

British Post Office, Haskien,
Constantinople, Feb. 3rd, 1875.

J. LAURIE, Esq., Grand Secretary, G.L.S.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I have noticed with pleasure that our Scottish brethren have at last been aroused to a sense of duty, a step in the right direction, and too much praise cannot be given to the promoters of this laudable and long-needed object. To establish a Scottish Masonic Benevolent Institution, where our aged worthy brothers and orphans can be cared for, will do much to raise the Scottish Craft in the estimation of the other sister Grand Lodges, and the Craft in general. I feel sure it will have the support of all good Masons. It is a source of regret that something of this kind has not been thought of before; if we

cannot be foremost in the race of doing good, don't let us be so far behind.

I have no doubt that the Grand Bodies will do all they can to facilitate this excellent scheme. There are also, in my opinion, other subjects that require reforming, such as strict adherence to our Constitution. Laws are of no use unless obeyed; also the initiation and joining fees are too low; I think they could with propriety be raised so as to benefit the Craft in other ways than raising the dignity of our Order. It has at the present time somewhat the appearance of benefit societies. In short, I think Masonry in Scotland is cheap, consequently a little lax. I am proud to say that 489 is second to no lodge in this country. I have no intention of boasting, simply my opinion, and I believe it will be accepted as intended, viz., for the good and welfare of the Scottish Craft.

If foreign lodges (S.C.) are allowed to have the honour of participating in this grand design, I should have much pleasure in representing the brethren in this part of the globe. I believe it would tend rather to enhance, than to act as any impediment to the object the promoters have in view.

If you deem this worthy, and concur with me, please forward the circulars and other necessary information, and in return I will pledge myself to do my best.

Trusting you will excuse for any seeming forwardness on my part, I beg to remain, yours fraternally;

(Signed) W.W. DORRELL,

R.W.M. 489.

Constantinople.

A voice
from the
East.

MASONIC BALL AT ATHERSTONE.

For some time past expectation has been rife in this town in consequence of the report that the Freemasons of the lodge meeting in the town had determined upon giving a Masonic ball. The report proved true, the ball being held on 5th February last, at the Town Hall, the usual place of meeting of the brethren of the Athelstan Lodge. The hall and staircase were lined with shrubs and elegant greenhouse ferns, while the walls were decorated with flags. The ball-room was most elaborately decorated with trophies of the chase, such as stags' heads, antlers, fox's heads, and "tails" we were going to say, but our readers would scout any Leicestershire man who could say tails when, of course, he meant brushes. Crossed swords seemed a favourite decoration, and at one end of the room we found an old Brown Bess, which we were told had "done some service at Waterloo," while opposite to it was an elegantly silver-mounted fowling-piece some two centuries old, while between the two, and beneath a grand red deer's head, there hung a small frame containing a mysterious document, headed Provincial Grand Lodge of Warwick, and intimating that all Masons were permitted upon this occasion to display the gorgeousness of their Masonic apparel before the eyes of the uninitiated, a permission which was duly taken advantage of—many of the brethren appearing resplendent in apron, collar, cuffs, and jewellery. Dancing commenced at half-past nine o'clock, and was kept up with great spirit until twelve, when supper was announced, and, the ball-room deserted for the supper-room, which was also elegantly decorated and draped, perhaps the most satisfactory decoration, however, was the supper table, spread with a most recherche supper, to which about 100 guests sat down, and we trust enjoyed as much as we did ourselves. The Masons may fairly be congratulated upon having secured so good a caterer for their first ball, as Mrs. Mangan (of the Red Lion) proved herself. After the toast of "The Queen and Royal Family," proposed by the W.M., Bro. Banbury, of London, proposed in a few well-chosen words the health of the W.M., Bro. Page, who after acknowledging the compliment proposed "The Ladies," to which Bro. Ch. Phillips responded. A return was then made to the ball-room, where half-past five found the dancers almost as numerous as ever; at six o'clock, however, the final galop was danced, and "God save the Queen" played by the band, and very soon afterwards the rooms were emptied, the general parting words being "Give another ball next year, and don't forget to send us an invitation."

Multum in Parbo; or Masonic Notes and Queries.

MASONIC BIBLIOGRAPHY.

"Unparalleled sufferings of John Coustos, who nine times underwent the most cruel tortures ever invented by man, in order to extort from him the secrets of Freemasonry; to which is added many valuable pieces on Masonry. Date 1790."

The above is copied from a book list sent to me a few days ago. I immediately applied for it, but some one had been before me. Can any of your readers tell me who was John Coustos, and what were the nature of the tortures inflicted upon him? Should this meet the eye of the purchaser of the book, I hope he will kindly put himself in communication with you on the subject.

G. BALDWIN.

"THE FREEMASON'S MAGAZINE."

At page 75, I observe our esteemed Bro. W. J. Hughan asking the last date of this paper. As I suppose it is the "Freemason's Magazine and Masonic Mirror" that he refers to, perhaps you will allow me to state that the last copy I got, was dated November 4th, 1871. This, I think, was its last appearance.

W. P. BUCHAN.

The Earl of Hardwicke, speaking at the Cambridgeshire Hunt dinner on Thursday night, referred to the game question, and said that the present agitation was entirely the fault of the game preservers, who, instead of giving away the game to the farmers on whose crop it had subsisted, sent it to market.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF OXFORDSHIRE.

A Provincial Grand Lodge was held at the University Masonic Hall on the morning of Tuesday, February 16th. There were present, besides the officers of the lodge, the following visitors:—Bros. Lord Skelmersdale, Deputy Grand Master; W. B. Beach, Prov. Grand Master of Hants and Isle of Wight; Theodore W. Talbot, Prov. Grand Master Western Division, South Wales; E. J. Morris, Deputy Prov. Grand Master, do.; Colonel Adair, P. Prov. Grand Master, Somerset; Fred. Davison, Prov. G.S. Warden, Middlesex. The Deputy Prov. Grand Master, Bro. R. J. Spiers, presided. The bye-laws, which had been entrusted to a committee for revision, were considered and passed. There was no other business.

GRAND MARK LODGE.

An especial Grand Lodge of this degree was held on Tuesday last, at the Hall, 2, Red Lion-square, for the purpose of nominating a Grand Master in the place of Earl Percy, M.P., whose term of office as M.W.G.M. has expired. Earl Percy presided, having Bro. S. Rosenthal in the G.S.W. chair; Bro. J. H. Wynne in the G.J.W. chair; Bro. F. Binckes, P.G.J.W., as Deputy Grand Master; and Bro. H. Dubosc, as G.S.B. Bro. H. W. Binckes, Assistant G. Secretary, acted as G. Secretary, and the other brethren present were Bros. H. Parker, G. Org.; W. Worrell, B. S. Fountain, S. M. Lazarus, H. R. Trigg, T. Horton, W. Stidolph, Joseph Spencer, Israel Abrahams, T. Mortlock, J. E. Middleton, and E. Gilbert. Grand Lodge having been opened, Bro. H. W. Binckes read the summons convening the meeting, and announced the receipt of letters of apology for non-attendance from Bros. James Stevens, and T. B. Yeoman, and a telegram from Bro. I. J. H. Wilkins.

The M.W.G.M. then rose, and said he wished to say a few words on the subject of his term of office having expired, in order that there might be no misapprehension in the matter. The Order of Mark Master Masons in this country was good enough, in the year 1872, to elect him its Grand Master, and the kindness which they showed to him at that time was the more marked because he was then in a state of health which incapacitated him from performing the duties of his office, and he was consequently not able to be installed in the chair for several months afterwards. He felt the kindness of the brethren very much, but at the same time he had always felt that the fact of his being unable to undertake the duties they had called him to fulfil, was no excuse for his having a longer term of office than the Grand Mark Master was usually called on to accept. He had in fact no doubt about the matter, and when at the last meeting of Grand Lodge he knew that the Grand Master would have to be proposed, it never occurred to him for a moment that his name would be brought before Grand Lodge as the Grand Master for the ensuing year. He was therefore extremely surprised, though at the same time extremely flattered, when he found he had again been proposed to fill the chair. But this did occur to him, that in the first place it was not perhaps a good precedent to establish. One of the fundamental regulations of their Order was that the Grand Master should hold his office for one year only, but that he should be eligible for re-election for three years, and after that term he should not be eligible again until some other brother was chosen as Grand Master for at least one year. He did not think that it was a good thing to establish a precedent which should go to prove that because a Grand Master should be incapacitated—from whatever cause—from performing his duties, he should have a term of office extending to four years instead of three. This would be the case were he again to accept the office which the brethren had so kindly proposed he should be elected to. Besides that, he also felt that as time went on he did not find his occupations diminish, and he did not therefore conscientiously feel that he could give the full time to the duties, which were rather important duties, and if they were to be performed efficiently, they were duties which required a certain amount of time and attention. The brethren had a right to expect that a Grand Master would devote his time to the office, and, as he had not the time, he considered it his duty not to allow himself again to be proposed, as the brethren had so generously wished, for the fourth time. He only wished to remove any impression which might arise in their minds that he was not alive to the very great kindness and good feeling which had dictated that proposal. Ever since he had been a Mason, and certainly ever since he had been a Mark Mason, he had met, both in the Craft and the Mark, and every other degree, with the greatest kindness and brotherly assistance and good feeling, and he would extremely regret if in leaving the chair of Grand Master, which he had now held for three years, and the tenure of which had been a source of great gratification to himself, he should leave the impression on the minds of the brethren that he was insensible to the kindness he had received. Therefore, he must beg of them not to think that it was anything of that sort. If he had had the faintest idea that he would have been proposed at the last meeting in December, he would not have given them the trouble to call the Especial Grand Lodge, but he thought he would not have been proposed, and that the constitutions would have been observed, and another Grand Master proposed. They would now proceed to nominate a Grand Master in his place for the next twelve months. (Applause.)

Bros. S. Rosenthal, acting as G.S.W., then rose and said that it was with great regret they heard that Earl Percy would not allow himself to be put in nomination for another year; but as it was his wish, of course they must respect his wishes. He therefore rose to propose a Grand

Master to succeed his lordship, and he thought he could not do better than propose the Deputy Grand Master, the Earl of Limerick, who, in the position of Deputy for the last three years had performed the duties of that office most efficiently. He was a Mason at heart, and in all his actions; and it was such men as he who ought to fill the highest position in the Order.

Bro. J. H. Wynne, acting as G.J.W., seconded the nomination. He had often met Earl Limerick in Grand Lodge, and had found him a nobleman that was a thorough Mason. The brethren would like to see him follow in Earl Percy's steps, as head of the order of Mark Masons. The manner in which the present Grand Master had presided for the past three years had been a great pride to Mark Masons, and in electing the Earl of Limerick to succeed him, they were assuring themselves that the Mark degree would be equally well presided over.

Bro. F. Binckes, P.G.J.W., proposed a vote of thanks to Earl Percy, for coming in the midst of his parliamentary occupations to offer his personal explanation to Mark Masons, and presiding over the Grand Lodge. He expressed the regret which all the brethren felt at losing so excellent a Grand Master, but felt sure that it would not diminish that regret, when the brethren found the additional proof his lordship had that day given of the interest he took in the Order. He concluded by wishing that his lordship would long be spared to come among his brethren, and give them his advice and assistance.

Bro. S. M. Lazarus seconded the motion, which was put by Bro. S. Rosenthal, and carried with acclamation.

Earl Percy, in responding, said he was extremely grateful to the proposer and seconder of the motion, and to the brethren. What Grand Secretary had said as to what he (Earl Percy) had done, exceeded very much the facts, because all the brethren knew that he had not been able to give the time he would have liked to give to his duties. After again thanking the brethren, he assured them that in future he would do for them whatever he was able to do, and he congratulated them on having secured the services of so eminent a Mason as Earl Limerick for Grand Master, who had then their welfare so thoroughly at heart (applause).

Grand Lodge then closed.

Royal Arch.

BATH.—ROYAL CUMBERLAND CHAPTER (No. 41).—The companions were summoned to attend a regular convocation at the Masonic Hall, at 7.30 p.m., on Tuesday February 16th. Many sent apologies for absence on account of illness, and among them were the Second and Third Principals. By request of Comp. Jelley, M.E.Z., Comp. Dr. Hopkins, P.Z. 328, 587, and 710, took the chair of H.; and Comp. Rubie P.Z., 41, that of J.; Comp. Moultrie, P.Z. 41, acted as I.P.Z. The chapter was opened at eight o'clock, and on the admission of the companions, the chairs of the officers were filled as follows: R. Carey and E. Brown, acting as N.; Hill, N., acting as P. Soj.; Howes and Young, acting as Assistant Soj. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for Bro. C. E. Davis, as a candidate for exaltation, and this proving favourable, he was introduced, properly prepared, for the ceremony, the early portion of which, to the end of the O.B., was worked by the M.E.Z. E. Comp. Dr. Hopkins then took the 1st chair, completed the work of exaltation, and afterwards gave the historical, symbolical, and mystical lecture. No other business offering, the Chapter was closed at a quarter to ten.

MANCHESTER.—CHAPTER OF AFFABILITY (No. 317).—The installation of the Principals and investiture of officers of this chapter took place at the Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, on Thursday, the 18th inst., in the presence of a large number of members and visiting companions. The chapter was opened by Comp. J. H. Sillitoe, Z., who afterwards exalted Bro. John Royle, W.M. of the Blair Lodge, to the supreme degree of a Royal Arch Mason. The ceremony of installation was ably performed by Comp. J. Hall, P.Z., the following companions being installed and invested: J. H. Sillitoe, as Z. (second year); Samuel S. Fox, H.; John J. Newton, J.; W. P. Norris, S.E.; John Smethurst, S.N.; James Dawson, P.S.; Daniel Donahavand, 1st A.S.; J. H. Clark, 2nd A.S.; John Higginbotham, Treasurer; F. Vetter, Organist; and James Sly, Janitor. Comp. Sillitoe, in submitting the balance-sheet to the meeting, congratulated the members of the chapter on the highly satisfactory state of their finances and on their increased numerical strength. For some years the chapter had been under a cloud, and 12 months ago they were in debt to their Treasurer, but he was happy to say that they had now a favourable balance. During the past year they had exalted eighteen brethren, and had admitted three companions as joining members, and he could see plenty of work before him for the coming year. Therefore he anticipated a bright future for this chapter, which was rapidly becoming one of the most prominent and influential chapters in the province. After the close of the chapter, a soiree was held in the banquet hall, at which nearly 100 companions and ladies were present. Dancing commenced at 8.30 to the enlivening strains of Comp. Vetter's quadrille band. In the interval, an adjournment was made to the lodge-room, where a sumptuous supper had been spread by Bro. S. Wright, and was presided over by Comp. Sillitoe. After supper dancing was resumed, and kept up with spirit until early morning. All who were present expressed themselves highly delighted with the evening's entertainment, and there is no doubt that the great success of this, the first soiree given by the chapter, will be the means of inducing those in power to follow the example of Comp. Sillitoe in substituting a soiree for the usual installation banquet.

BUXTON.—PHENIX CHAPTER OF ST. ANN (No. 1235).—The anniversary of this chapter was held on Thursday, Feb. 18th, at the Court House, Buxton, present—Comps. R. R. Duke, P.Z.; F. Turner, H.; A. A. Bagshawe, J.; J. Taylor, S.E.; Le Gros, Milligan, W. Smith, Lawson, Sykes, Comyn, P.Z. 47; and visiting Comps. Barrowby, Wrigley, Bramwell, W. Milligan, W. H. Hopkins, Jas. Hall. The minutes of the previous chapter having been read and confirmed, and the Board of Installing Principals opened, the Principals elect of the chapter were duly installed by Comp. Jas. Hall, P.Z. 207; assisted by Comp. W. H. Hopkins, P.Z. 1055; viz.: Comps. Fredk. Turner as First P.; A. A. Bagshawe as Second P., and Josiah Taylor as Third P. The usual charges were also delivered by Comp. Hall; and the newly installed Principals having been saluted in the proper manner, the Board of Installed Principals was closed, and the companions of the chapter and visiting companions were admitted. The following officers were then invested and addressed by the Installing Principals:—Comps. R. R. Duke, P.Z., as Treasurer; P. Le Gros, as S.E.; E. J. Sykes, as N.; E. C. Milligan, as P.S.; W. Smith, as First Asst. S.; and J. H. Lawson, as Second Asst. S. After a cordial vote of thanks to the Installing Principals, and the hearty good wishes from Chapters Faith, 210; Derby, 1055; Abbey, 47; Justice, 257; and Hope, 322, having been expressed, the chapter was duly closed.

Mark Masonry.

CARDIFF.—LANGLEY LODGE (No. 28).—A regular meeting of this lodge was held on Friday, February 5th. The lodge was opened in due form by Bro. J. Rogers, the W.M. The minutes of the last proceedings having been read and confirmed, several brethren were balloted for and elected, one of them, J. C. Jones, 237, Swansea, being present, he was duly advanced to the honourable degree by the W.M., who then stated that, as he had performed the ceremony of advancement that evening, and was suffering from a severe cold, he should request P.M. Bro. S. Weichert to install the W.M. for the ensuing year, explaining that no slight to the W.M. elect was intended. Bro. P.M. Weichert then took the chair, and installed the S.W., Bro. W. Williams, into the chair of A., which ceremony he performed in an excellent and impressive manner. The W.M. then invested his officers as follows: Bros. J. Hurman, S.W.; N. D. Marks, J.W.; R. South, Treasurer; S. Davies, Secretary; T. Jacob, M.O.; T. Glass, S.O.; T. C. Sladen, J.O.; J. Thomas, S.D.; E. Edmunds, J.D.; R. Maine, I.G.; W. Davies, Tyler. A vote of thanks was then proposed to Bro. Weichert, the Installing Master, and also one to Bro. J. Rogers, the I.P.M., for his services to the lodge, both of which votes were carried, and entered in the minute book. The names of several candidates for advancement were then proposed, and the lodge was closed in perfect harmony. The brethren then adjourned to an excellent supper at the Royal Hotel, where a very enjoyable evening was passed, though it was unavoidably shortened, many of the brethren having to leave by train. The lodge was honoured by the presence of Bro. Jukes, Past Grand Chaplain, who kindly came from Hereford, to represent the Keystone Lodge at Newport, Mon., of which he is the J.W.

Red Cross of Constantine.

LEICESTER.—BYZANTINE CONCLAVE (No. 44).—The regular assembly of this conclave was held at Freemasons' Hall, Leicester, on Tuesday, February 9th. Amongst those present were Sir Knight William Kelly, Intendant General; Clement Stretton, M.P.S.; G. Toller, G.H. and P.S.; S. S. Partridge, K.G.C., P.S.; F. J. Baines, V.E.; J. C. Duncombe, Hon. V.E.; W. Weare, S.G.; W. Sculthorpe, J. G. and Treasurer; J. T. Therp and R. Waite, Aides; Clement Edwin Stretton, Prefect; C. McBride, Herald; C. A. Spencer, and others. In the temporary absence of the M.P.S., the ceremony of installing Bro. Law, I.G. 279, was very ably performed by Sir Knt. Partridge, the lecture being given by Sir Knt. Toller, and the charge by Sir Knt. Kelly, Int. Gen. The ballot for the M.P.S., V.E., and Treasurer for the ensuing year, resulted in the unanimous election of Sir Knts. F. J. Baines, W. Weare, and W. Sculthorpe. After the conclave had been closed in due form, the Sir Knights adjourned to the banquet, after which the usual loyal and chivalric toasts were duly proposed and honoured. In response to a request of the Sir Knights, an interesting account was given by Sir Knt. Toller, of the Grand Conclave which was held at Liverpool in November last.

Ancient and Accepted Rite.

PALESTINE ROSE CROIX CHAPTER.—A meeting of the Palestine Chapter of Rose Croix, under the M.W.G., H. C. Levander, took place at the Masonic Hall, Golden-square, on Tuesday evening last, when Bro. Venn was perfected. Bro. Little proposed, and Bro. Boyd seconded that a letter of condolence be written and sent to the widow of Bro. Sillifant. Among those present we noticed Bros. Captain Nathaniel George Phillips, 33°; Major Shadwell Henry Clarke, 33°; Hyde Pullen, 33°; Charles Horsley, 31°; R. Wentworth Little, 30°; George Kenning, 30°; Dicketts, Hirsch, Cubitt, Rev. P. M. Holden, Rev. Vaughan, Leith Tomkins, J. T. Moss, H. A. Dubois, Fox, and others. Visitors, Bros. Dubose, F. Binckes, Batty, Pans, and Grabham. After the meeting the chapter adjourned to the Café Royal, where dinner was served.

Obituary.

BRO. EDWIN SILLIFANT, P.M., P.Z.

It is with extreme regret that our columns of to-day have to chronicle the death of Bro. Edwin Sillifant, which melancholy event took place at his residence, Upper Tulse Hill, on Friday last. Although the immediate cause of death was inflammation of the lungs, accelerated from the fact of his desire to meet the shareholders of the Surrey Masonic Hall, of which company he was Secretary, on the occasion of the last general meeting, a report of which appeared in our last issue, our late Bro. Sillifant had been suffering for some months from a very painful malady, but it was hoped by his friends (who, it is unnecessary to say, were numerous) that his presence on the occasion above referred to, was the commencement of a general convalescence, and we ourselves had then the opportunity of congratulating him upon appearing again amongst his brethren. Our deceased brother was a P. Prov. G.D. Middlesex, P.M. and P.Z. of more than one Lodge and Chapter, a Life Governor of all the Masonic charities, and at the time of his death holding the office of Treasurer to the Stability Lodge, No. 207, and the Acacia Lodge, No. 1309, and present Sovereign of the Premier Conclave of the Red Cross Order. His remains were deposited on Thursday afternoon in Norwood cemetery, in the presence of a large circle of sorrowing friends.

BRO. JOHN POUT, P.M., AND SEC. 31.

Freemasonry in general, and the United Industrious Lodge, No. 31, Canterbury, has just sustained a severe loss by the death of Bro. John Pout, P.M. and Hon. Sec. He was initiated May 22nd, 1848, and installed W.M. June 2nd, 1853, and for 24 years has acted as Hon. Sec. From the time of his initiation to the time of his being seized with his last illness, a period of more than 27 years, his signature in the attendance book of the lodge is absent on twenty-two occasions only. At the preliminary meetings, as well as the Festivals of Provincial Grand Lodge, he was a very regular attendant, and nothing gave him greater pleasure than to see his young brethren attentive to the duties of their lodge, and express a desire for Masonic knowledge. He was considered by all who knew him a great authority on Masonic matters, being well acquainted with the ancient usages and established customs of the Order. In 1866 the brethren of the lodge, as a slight acknowledgment of his valuable services as P.M. and Hon. Sec., presented him with a handsome silver salver. He has been unwell about three months, but has attended to business until within the last fortnight. He died at 10.30 a.m. (Monday, Feb. 22).

Masonic Tidings.

* The Fifty-eighth Anniversary of the Stability Lodge of Instruction will be held at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, on Tuesday, 30th April, at half-past five o'clock, when the Lecture of the Second Degree will be worked as follows:—

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|-------------|-------|-------------------------------------|
| 1st Section | | Bro. W. Bailey, J.D. 49. |
| 2nd Section | | Bro. J. E. Russell, P.M. 22. |
| 3rd Section | | Bro. J. Jones, W.M. 715. |
| 4th Section | | Bro. J. B. Scriven, P.G.S., P.M. 5. |
| 5th Section | | |

Col. Francis Burdett, Prov. G.M. of Middlesex, will preside at the banquet.

It is intended to form a Masonic lodge in connection with the Corporation and Livery Companies of the City of London, to be called "The Municipal Lodge." Bro. F. Kent, P.M., 117, has obtained the assistance of several distinguished brethren, who, together with some members of the Court of Common Council, have agreed to accept office.

Bro. Emra Holmes has just been delivering his popular lecture on Charles Dickens at the Literary Institute, Colchester, when the chair was taken by Bro. the Rev. C. L. Acland, Head Master of the Royal Grammar School, himself a gifted lecturer on scientific and other subjects.

For many years there has been a controversy between scientific and medical men as to the comparative value of Gelatine. Who shall decide when doctors disagree? In this case we think we may safely leave it to the house-keeper, in whom all the scientific knowledge of the chemist and the medical experience of the doctor must merge in practical experience. Every intelligent lady is glad to avail herself of all the discoveries of modern science as aids to household supplies, and a relief in the preparation of many foods from the old and very tedious methods followed by her great grandmothers. Among such discoveries one of the most useful to the cook has been Gelatine. The modern *Femme de Menage* would often be at a loss were it not for the excellent preparation of gelatine to be had so easily and cheaply at the present day. Forty years ago the late Mr. George Nelson of Emscote Works, near Warwick, and Dowgate Hill, London, started the manufacture of Gelatine under special patent, and having paid the greatest attention to the mode of manufacture, succeeded in producing an "opaque" Gelatine, containing a maximum of nutriment, and, as is certified by Dr. Andrew Ure, entirely free from acid. This preparation is admitted by the highest scientific authorities to be far superior to the best French Gelatine, and equal to the finest Russian Isinglass in nutritive value, more economical in use, and adapted to every purpose for which the Russian Isinglass is used. As a preventive against fraud, the well-known "opaque" Gelatine manufactured by Messrs. Nelson, Dale and Co., as the firm now stands, is sold principally in packets weighing from 1oz. to 1lb., each signed with the familiar signature of "Geo. Nelson."—*Church Herald*.