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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

METROPOLITAN.

HIGH CROSS LODGE (No. 754).—Few lodges of Masons occupy a more favourable position in a variety of respects than the Tottenham High Cross Lodge (No. 754) does at this moment. Of late years its progress has been most marked. The brethren have largely increased in number, and such anxiety is displayed to enter the lodge that a few months ago it was deemed advisable to add two or three guineas to the initiation fee. The meetings are held at the Seven Sisters' Tavern, Page-green, Tottenham; and in order to provide the necessary accommodation for the augmented brotherhood of the lodge, and visitors—who always receive a very hearty welcome—Mr. Oddy, the universally respected host, recently built a splendid hall, the advantage of which was fully demonstrated last Wednesday evening. The High Cross Lodge, noted as it is for its benevolence, loyalty, and enterprise in Masonic affairs, could not permit the occasion of the Installation of the Prince of Wales to pass without making a special effort to afford pleasure to its own members and to those of other lodges who were invited to attend. Bro. J. Maller, the present W.M., is very popular in the Order, and being generally surrounded by such good men and true as Bros. D. Roberts, P.M.; T. Cunningham, P.M.; Jones, P.M.; Wells, P.M.; Linzell, P.M.; Townshend, S.W.; Barham, J.W.; Cocksedge, Farrin, Stephens, Burford, and others too numerous to mention, an opportunity to be present is rarely neglected. Last Wednesday there were many visitors, including several from the Hertford Lodge; Bros. Perry, Peace and Harmony; Girling, Priory, Southend; Harris, Albion; Strong, Leopold; Fisher, Perseverance; Ord, Hornsey; Cackett, Macdonald; Schleifer, Montefiore; Trebeck and Driscoll, United Mariners. Altogether upwards of a hundred brethren were in attendance. Bro. Cunningham presided when the lodge was opened. The business was only of a formal character. Bro. Maller was in his proper place at the head of the table at the banquet. The bill of fare was unusually attractive, and the dinner reflected the highest credit upon Bro. Oddy, the host, and also Bro. Joseph Smith, of Lower Tottenham, who shared in the catering and general superintendence. With such able commanders, success was certain. It is unnecessary to state that on such a day the toasts relating to Her Majesty and the Prince of Wales were received with the utmost enthusiasm; and when reference was made by the W.M., Bro. Cunningham, and others who had attended the Installation, to the magnificent spectacle they had witnessed at the Albert Hall, the brothers who had not been fortunate enough to obtain tickets of admission sighed with regret. They were told that they could form no idea of the grandeur of the scene; and the privilege of being present at such a ceremony was held to be amply sufficient to inspire the younger members of the Craft to endeavour to attain a position which would entitle them to take part in a similar display, should it ever occur. When the health of the Worshipful Master was given, the speaker dwelt upon the deservedly exalted position which Bro. Maller held in the estimation of all the brethren of the lodge, and the advantage which the lodge derived from having such a head. Bro. Maller replied in suitable terms, expressing a hope that he should continue to deserve the confidence which had been reposed in him. During the evening a Tyler's sword and a square and compasses, in silver, were presented to the lodge by the brethren from Hertford, Bro. Metcalf being the principal spokesman on their behalf. He mentioned the invariable kindness evinced by the High Cross Lodge towards every brother who visited it, and referred particularly to the unstinted hospitality which had been frequently shown to the members of the Hertford Lodge. It afforded great pleasure to mix with the Tottenham brethren, and they might rest assured that they would be most warmly welcomed if they honoured the Hertford Lodge with a

visit. Bro. Maller said he accepted the presents on behalf of the lodge, with a full appreciation of the sincerity with which they had been offered; and he then buckled the sword on to the Tyler amidst loud cheers. Several additional toasts were proposed, and interesting remarks made by Bro. D. Roberts, and various other brethren, but want of space prevents our entering further into the matter on the present occasion. The Host was specially toasted for his uniform liberality and desire to conduce to the comfort of Masons generally.

VICTORIA LODGE (No. 1056).—The installation meeting of this very flourishing lodge took place at Anderson's Hotel on Thursday week, when, after the minutes had been read and confirmed, Bro. Alfred Henry Kirton was raised by the W.M., Bro. Joseph Morton, to the degree of Master Mason. The new Master, Bro. Joseph Slade Brown, was then duly installed as Master, the ceremony being very ably performed by Bros. Frederick York Latreille and Alfred Robbins, the last named brother giving the addresses. The Master then appointed and invested the following as his officers:—Bros. William Perrin, S.W.; Thomas William Skelton, J.W.; William Wrenn, Treas.; A. A. Pendlebury, Sec.; George M. Felton, S.D.; William Gange Durrant, J.D.; E. H. Williams, I.G.; William Tonsett, Director of Ceremonies; Henry Allen, W.S.; and William Grant, Tyler. Other business of the lodge having been disposed of, the brethren adjourned to the banquet. On the cloth being removed, the first toast proposed was "The Queen and the Craft," which was responded to in the usual hearty manner amongst Freemasons and musical honours. That of "The M.W. Grand Master, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales" was then received with great applause. The W. Master in proposing it, took occasion to speak of the Installation of H.R. Highness at the Albert Hall, and the reception he had, a spectacle which will be impressed on the minds of those brethren who were able to be present as long as they live. "God bless the Prince of Wales" was then sung. "The Health of the W. Master" was proposed by Bro. J. Morton, who, in the course of his remarks, congratulated the brethren on their choice of a brother, who would make such an excellent Master; one who would exert himself to the utmost of his power in furthering the interests of the lodge, and the happiness of its members. Bro. Morton regretted that indisposition had prevented his being in a position to instal his successor, a duty which would have afforded him so very much pleasure. The Master, in his reply, expressed his great desire and determination to emulate his predecessors in the discharge of the duties of the high office to which the brethren had unanimously elected him, an honour of which he was very proud, and he trusted they would never have cause to regret the confidence they had placed in him. After a song by one of the brethren, "The Health of the I.P.M." was proposed in very suitable terms, and, in doing so, the Master decorated Bro. Morton with a Past Master's jewel, which the brethren had been pleased to vote to him as a slight mark of their appreciation of his valuable services, and the great esteem in which he is held by one and all of the members of his lodge. The Master, in concluding his very able speech, hoped the brother might long live to wear it, and be amongst the brethren of the lodge. Bro. Morton replied in a neat and suitable speech, in which he expressed his grateful thanks to the brethren for the kindnesses he had ever received at their hands. On "The Health of the Visitors" being proposed, the Master coupled with it the name of one who replied for the whole—of whom there were about twenty-seven present, who on behalf of their respective lodges brought hearty good wishes—and expressed thanks for their cordial reception and the kind manner in which the Master had spoken of them. "The Health of the Past Masters" was then proposed, and responded to with much favour. Whereupon one of them said,—W. Master and Brethren—

I now rise with a great deal of pleasure,
To say I feel, almost beyond measure,
The kindness which you, this day, have all shown,
And which proves you all good friends of our own.
In receiving the toast of the very good health,
Of the Past Masters, including myself,
For which I return our thanks most sincere,
And hope to do so again for many a year,
Whenever we meet thus happy and free,
As I trust will ever continue to be
The fate of a lodge we all so much prize,
Whose success we laud up to the skies.
Its glories increase to our great delight,
As evinced by our labours here to-night,
When we're now all assembled together,
Without any thought of the rain or the weather.
Our work being ended in lodge room above,
We now enjoy ourselves in brotherly love,
Sipping our wine in an affectionate way,
Chattering over the affairs of the day;
Making long speeches almost without end,
Extolling the virtues of brother or friend;
Singing old songs, or good tales reciting,
Which always render our party inviting.
Joyful are we when our meeting draws nigh,
Especially when Dear Billy Wrenn,
Does not think it wrong to give us a song,
And to remind us of days gone by,
When he at music was not quite so shy,
But was pleased, without much persuasion,
To give us a treat on many occasion.
And then, in a most generous manner,
Out with his notes and so stop our clamour;
Warble that story about "dear little Sally,"
That girl, we're told, who lived in our alley;
Or another that always pleased us the same,
Whom folks do name "My pretty Jane."
Why dear Billy Wrenn sings not as of yore

I cannot tell you, I am perfectly sure,
Unless it be that in days gone by
To practice his pipes he'd frequently try;
And when not inclined for a roam
Out of doors he sat quietly at home,
Making a noise, being almost alone;
And so practise the art
By singing his part,
Till he made his throat smart,
Or was quite perfect in "Home, sweet home."
At that time music was more in his line—
As some of you know, his singing was fine;
And gave us delight in the West and the South,
Whenever he pleased to open his mouth.
His chicks in those days were little and young,
And in the musical line had scarcely begun;
But now a fair daughter whose music so sweet,
Has put dear Billy quite out of conceit;
For as she improves in age, size and ability,
He finds he can't warble with that facility,
And practise at home as once was his pleasure,
Before she grew up to be such a treasure;
For when she was only a wee little mite,
To instruct her was his greatest delight.
But now father Time has changed all this,
And listening to her affords Wrenn more bliss,
Than singing to us here every lodge night,
And giving his brethren that great delight,
Which they used to hail with very much pleasure
When a few years ago they all met together.
Having referred to the lodge in times long gone by,
To say something about it I'll now endeavour to try:
Ten years are gone since our first Master was installed,
In which time he has grown very grey, if not at all bald.

Of founders of the lodge not many now remain,
But of those I am sure you will never complain;
For all are Past Masters, and when they began
Their labours, they all worked hard and well to a man;
And do now what they did then—whatever they can,
To promote the prosperity of the lodge and each member,
A circumstance I am certain you'll ever remember.
But as most of you have joined since those happy times,
Perhaps it will not be amiss to say a few lines;
And give you the history of Lodge Victoria's birth,
Though in my poor attempt I may cause you some mirth

By the queer way I shall do it,
Not yet being much of a poet;
For you'll find each little line
Won't appear exactly in rhyme;
But no matter for that
If you don't find it flat,
Or think it a bit of a bore,
To listen to anything more

Than I've already said on a subject of worth,
As a lodge is to a Mason who dwells on the earth,
I will do what I can to tell you the story
Of the first days of Lodge we now call Victory.
So not to create any further debate,
I will at once make a start before it grows late.
Of the founders but few now remain
Who can carry back their memories again
To the birth of this lodge, when
A few of us then, very young men,
With a knowledge of Masonry so exceedingly small
That it really might be considered nothing at all,
After a little palaver and plenty of fuss
Had the good luck to meet with the favourite, Buss,
Who, endowed with the wisdom of several men,
Put it into the head of our sweet Jenny Wrenn
To petition at once, without further remark,
For a lodge to be opened near Victoria Park.
It was very soon done, as some of you know,
At least Bro. George Roberts and Bro. George Snow,
Who with dear Billy Wrenn, myself, and a few
Friends on the spot, who were asked what they could do
To assist with their names to get the Petition in
What might be considered quite a very good trim;
And who kindly lent us their good wishes and aid,
That we might have success and be amply repaid
For our labours in forming a lodge of our own,
Not far from our dwellings, to keep us near home.
The Petition when ready was sent in a crack,
And a letter to strengthen it made fast to its back.
Some short time elapsed, when, to our great delight,
Bro. W. Gray Clarke told us the thing was all right.
We then set to work without further delay
To get everything ready for the opening day.
The fees they were paid and the warrant obtained,
So the principal thing in the matter was gained;
The furniture ready and in the room placed,
Only wanted ourselves to be thoroughly graced.
In opening the lodge the Grand Master lent us a bridge,
When he appointed to consecrate it Brother Muggeridge,
Who very kindly came down on the day,
And found us assembled in splendid array.
I should have much rejoiced to have seen him to-day,
A pleasure which seldom now falls in our way,
For we are all delighted to see his round, jovial face
Whenever he finds convenient our table to grace.
The lodge being consecrated in a masterly style,
Which in order to see brethren travelled many a mile,
The next thing to be done was to instal the First Master,
And thereby enable us to get on a bit faster,
Which Muggeridge did well when

He placed in the chair sweet Jenny Wrenn,
Who, with a twinkle in his eye exceedingly merry,
Invested as Senior Warden his friend Pendlebury;
Then the Junior Warden—a brother when living,
We admired for the instruction he gained and was giving,
Who was well known, beloved, and respected by all,
And it makes me feel sad when to memory I call

F. J. Baines, I.P.M. 523, J. T. Thorp, S.W. 523, E. Mason, S.W. 1391, J. Farndale, J. Jessop, the Rev. T. W. Gordon, W. E. Buck, 279, C. MacBride, 1391, G. Roberts, 673, J. F. Dixon, 10:9, and others. The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes read and confirmed. Bros. W. E. Buck and the Rev. T. W. Gordon were raised to the Third Degree, the ceremony being very impressively performed by the W.M. The W.M. informed the brethren that, on Wednesday, the 28th of April, he attended the Installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as Grand Master, at the Royal Albert Hall, South Kensington, and that he was accompanied by the following brethren of this lodge, namely, Bros. A. Palmer, I.P.M., Clement Stretton, P.M., Robert Waite, P.M., W. Weare, P.M., G. W. Statham, J.W., Clement Edwin Stretton, Secretary. The lodge having been closed in due form, the brethren partook of refreshment, after which the loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

SHEFFIELD.—**WESTWORTH LODGE** (No. 1239).—The usual monthly meeting of this prosperous lodge was held on Monday, May 3rd. The lodge was opened at seven o'clock by the following officers:—Bro. F. M. Tindall, W.M.; Bro. A. Scargill, I.P.M.; Bro. H. J. Garnett, P.M.; P.P.G.S.B., Treas.; Bros. Matthews, Pfirschnidt, Bennett and Wostenholm, P.M.'s; Bro. W. White, S.W.; Bro. S. B. Ellis, J.W.; Bro. R. Renton, Sec.; Bro. Dr. Thomas, S.D.; Bro. C. Harvey, J.D.; Bro. J. Clarke, I.G., the whole of the Past Masters and officers of the lodge being present. Amongst the visitors were Bro. W. Roddewig, P.M. 296, Prov. G.D.C., W. Yorks, and Bro. W. Botham, 139. The minutes of the last regular lodge having been read and confirmed, Mr. Richard Roberts and Mr. P. C. Watts were admitted (separately), and duly initiated into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry, the ceremonies being conducted by the W.M. in a most impressive manner. One candidate for initiation was balloted for and elected, and another was proposed. Although the fees for the Craft have been raised (in Sheffield) to ten guineas there is still a steady and regular demand for admission to the Order. The W.M. read some correspondence that had taken place between the W.M.'s of the Wentworth, 1239, Royal Brunswick, 296, and Britannia, 139 Lodges, with the R.W. Prov. Grand Master, Sir Henry Edwards, Bart., as to the desirability of presenting to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., a Masonic address on the occasion of His Royal Highness's visit to Sheffield in August next. Sir Henry Edwards offering his assistance, the W.M. stated the affair had been put in process. The ballot for Bro. J. M. White, of the Ashbury Lodge, 1459, as a joining member, was postponed on account of that lodge not having replied to the questions (as provided by the Prov. Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire), this being an imperative rule in W. Yorks. The lodge having been closed, supper was served, after which the usual toasts were given, the W.M. paying a high tribute to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, in his capacity of M.W.G.M., describing him as the "facile princeps" of Grand Masters. This lodge holding the first meeting in Sheffield since the grand ceremony of the 28th April, "a loving cup" was provided for this special toast. In proposing "The Health of the new R.W.P.G.M. of West Yorkshire," the W.M. spoke in high terms of Sir Henry Edwards, that he was undoubtedly "the right man in the right place," and that at the July Prov. Grand Lodge he (Bro. Tindall) should petition the Prov. Grand Master to hold the next Prov. Grand Lodge in Sheffield under the banner of the Wentworth Lodge; this was received with great enthusiasm, as also when the W.M. said that Bro. Wm. Tew, D.P.G.M., had stated it was his intention to visit all the important lodges in W. Yorks. The Wentworth Lodge was of necessity one of those, seeing it numbered 67 members, and he knew the P.M.'s, his officers and brethren, would rally round him to give Bro. Tew a thorough Masonic reception. The meeting throughout was most harmonious, happy and enjoyable.

WOOLWICH.—**THE HENLEY LODGE** (No. 1472).—On Tuesday, the 4th inst., the above lodge assembled at Host West's, the Three Crowns, North Woolwich, for its monthly business. Present: Bros. B. B. Brayshaw, P.M., W.M.; H. G. Sisley, P.M., and Sec.; J. Ives, S.W.; W. Steele, J.W.; I. Silver, S.D.; Manning, I.G. The Pattison, Union Waterloo, and Capper Lodges were represented by several visiting brethren, and there was a goodly attendance on the part of the members of the lodge. The lodge having been duly and reverently opened, Bro. Watson was raised to the Sublime Degree, and Bros. Berry and Williams were duly passed; Messrs. Fletcher, Davis, and Little, after regular ballot and approval, were then initiated, and Bro. W. T. Turner was received as a joining member. The whole of the three ceremonies were most impressively worked by the W.M. On the motion of Bro. Sisley, seconded by the W.M., a Lodge Benevolent Fund was formed, the members being unanimous as to the value of such an institution. The lodge being closed, the brethren partook of an excellent cold collation, provided in an adjoining room, and upon returning to the lodge the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, Bros. C. Jolly and Moore replying for the Visitors. Some excellent songs and recitations enlivened the proceedings, until at an early hour the Tyler's toast concluded a most enjoyable evening.

Scotland.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF RENFREWSHIRE EAST.

A communication of the various lodges of this province was held on Saturday last. Amongst the lodges represented were the following:—Royal Arch, 126, Rutherglen; St. Mirren, 129, Paisley; Royal Arch, 153, Pollokshaws; St. Barchan, 156, Kilbarchan; Garthland St. Winnoch, 205, Lochwinnoch; St. John's Operative, 347,

Rutherglen; Prince of Wales, 426, Renfrew, &c. There were also present a large number of visiting brethren. The Provincial Grand Master, Colonel A. C. Campbell, of Blythswood, presided; and was supported by Bros. J. Fergusson, R.W.M. 116, Rutherglen, Acting Provincial Grand Senior Warden; and H. S. Edmonds, R.W.M. 129, Paisley, Acting Provincial Grand Junior Warden. The lodge being opened, the Secretary (Bro. R. L. Henderson) read minutes of last communication, which were confirmed. Colonel Campbell intimated that Bro. J. D. Porteous, Crosshill, having resigned the position he held as Junior Warden in the Provincial Lodge, he had appointed Bro. James Gilmour, P.M. 129, to fill the vacant chair. Thereafter, Bro. Andrew Wallace, jun., P.M. 129, was installed as Senior Deacon, the ceremony being performed by Col. Campbell in a most impressive manner. The P.G. Chaplain, the Rev. Robert Stephen, M.A., Renfrew, having intimated that he was prepared to deliver a Masonic sermon, Bros. H. S. Edmond, R.W.M., Paisley, and J. Glen, R.W.M., Renfrew, were requested by Colonel Campbell to wait on the Chaplain and get the necessary arrangements completed. It is expected that the sermon will be delivered in Paisley.

NEW PUBLIC HALLS FOR GLASGOW.

LAYING THE MEMORIAL STONE.

As the public of Glasgow and district are aware, the memorial stone of the new public halls for Glasgow, in Granville-street, off New-street, is to be laid with full Masonic honours, this day. Should the weather prove propitious, the occasion will be an unusually important and memorable one, as may be judged of from the arrangements, which are as follows:—Captain Alexander McCall is to be Grand Marshal for the civic portion, and Robert Robb, Esq., Provincial Grand Marshal, for the Masonic portion of the procession. The committee of the Public Halls Company will meet in the large hall of the Queen's Rooms, Clifton-street, at 2 p.m. precisely, to receive the Magistrates and Councillors of the city, and others invited to join in the procession and take part in the ceremonial; and gentlemen in procession are expected to wear their official robes or uniforms. The Provincial Grand Lodge will open in the lower hall of the rooms at the same time, and thereafter the Marshals will arrange the procession according to this order:—Band of music, Chief Constable, Officers of Police, the Town Officers with halberets, the Lord Provost and Magistrates, followed by the Town Council; Judicial and Civil Officers of the Corporation, Lord Dean of Guild, Deacon-Convener, Officers of Police, Sheriff of Lanarkshire and Sheriffs-Substitute, Clergy, Officers of the Police, Chairman and Directors of the Chamber of Commerce; Chairman and Members of the Public Halls Committee, Inspector of Works and Contractors, Officers of Police, the Knights Templar, the Masonic Lodges, the Junior in front; band of music, the Provincial Grand Lodge, Officers of Police. Having been marshalled, the procession will proceed through the West-End Park, along Park Terrace, Woodlands Terrace, Scotland Street, Woodside Crescent, North Street, St. Vincent Street, and Cleveland Street, to site of the building in Granville Street. On its arrival there, the Lord Provost, Magistrates, and others will take their places on the platform, to the north side of the memorial stone. When the Junior Masonic Lodge arrives at the entrance of the enclosure it will remain stationary, opening right and left, and so on with all the lodges to the Provincial Grand Lodge. The latter will then advance through all the lodges, ascending the platform to the memorial stone, followed by the other lodges according to seniority, but as only a limited number can be accommodated upon the platform, the majority will have to take their places within the enclosure, and in front of the stone. When silence has been proclaimed by the Provincial Grand Marshal, the band will play the "National Anthem," after which the chairman of the Halls Committee will ask the Provincial Grand Master to proceed with the ceremony. The Provincial Grand Chaplain having offered up a prayer, the Provincial Grand Treasurer will deposit in the cavity of the stone a hermetically sealed glass jar containing coins of the present reign, records, &c., and the Provincial Grand Secretary will read the inscription on the plate and deposit in the memorial stone. The 100th Psalm will then be sung by a vocal choir, and the stone lowered into its place. The operatives having completed their part of the work, the Provincial Grand Master will lay the memorial stone with the usual ceremonial, spreading corn on it, and pouring out wine and oil thereon, repeating the while a short form of prayer. At the conclusion of the prayer, the brethren will give three cheers, and the band will play the "Masons' Anthem." The Provincial Grand Master will then address the brethren and those present, and report to the chairman of the Public Halls Committee the satisfaction which he has had in taking part in an undertaking of such importance, and of such advantage to the city of Glasgow. The chairman of committee will then, on the part of the shareholders, address the Provincial Grand Master, and thank the civic and Masonic bodies who have assisted on the occasion. The ceremonial will be concluded with three cheers, the band playing "Rule Britannia." The Provincial Grand Lodge will then return to the Queen's Rooms, where it will be closed in due form, and the members thereafter entertained at cake and wine by the Building Committee.

PERTH.—**SCOON AND PERTH LODGE** (No. 3).—This lodge held its usual monthly meeting, R.W. Bro. Chalmers presiding, on Tuesday, the 6th ult., when it was proposed to invite the co-operation of the Sister Perth Lodges to resuscitate the District Grand Lodge for the eastern district of the county, which has been in a dormant state for some years. The Secretary was directed to communicate with the other lodges in the city, and ascertain their views and wishes with reference to this, in order that joint action might be taken. Their being no further business of importance,

the lodge was closed in peace and harmony a little after nine p.m., having been in session over one hour. The usual hour of meeting is 8 p.m., and meetings are held in the Lodge-room, High-street.

PERTH.—**ST. ANDREW'S LODGE** (No. 74).—This lodge met for instruction at the Royal George Hotel, at 8 p.m., on Tuesday, the 6th ult., R.W. Bro. Young, in absence of R.W. Bro. Col. Williamson, presiding. Instruction was given in the First and Second Degrees. R.W. Bro. Dr. William Cowan, R.W.P.M. of Great Western Lodge (No. 47) of Canada, and R.W.P.M. of Eastern Bengal Railway Lodge (No. 444) of Scotland, in Bengal, visited the lodge, and were received with the usual cordial welcome. A very pleasant evening was spent in social harmony, after which the lodge was closed at 11 p.m.

On the 20th an emergent meeting of this lodge was held, at which the Rev. Bro. Carmichael, of the East Church, and Bro. Richardson, of Pitfour, were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason by R.W. Bro. Young, P.M., in the absence of R.W. Bro. Williamson. The lodge having agreed to admit Bro. Dr. William Cowan as an affiliated member, the usual obligation was then administered to him by the R.W.M. officiating, after which the lodge was called from labour to refreshment. The brethren having passed a pleasant and agreeable time during the hours of refreshment, again resumed labour, and the lodge was closed in peace and harmony at 11 p.m.

An emergent meeting of this lodge was again held at the Royal George Hotel, on Friday, the 30th, to give a farewell to Bros. Richardson, of Pitfour, and Smythe, of Methven. The brethren sat down at 6 p.m. to a magnificent banquet, provided for them by Bro. Kennedy, of the Royal George, under the presidency of R.W. Bro. Col. Williamson, of Lawers, the R.W.M. of the lodge. The R.W.M., who was well supported by the officers and brethren of the lodge, and several visiting brethren numbering about thirty, performed the duties of the chair in a most agreeable and satisfactory manner. After the cloth was removed the brethren were called to order, and the lodge was opened in due and ancient form in the First Degree. The R.W.M. then gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts of obligation, after which he addressed the guests of the evening on their Masonic and other duties, and said that as each of them would in the course of time be called upon, as landed proprietors in the county, and as the representatives of the old families of Smythe of Methven, and Richardson of Pitfour, who had long been in possession of distinguished and honourable names in the county, they would so hold the everlasting principles of our ancient and honourable Order as to become useful to society, and an ornament to the Order—that as the one, Bro. Smythe, was an officer of a most distinguished and gallant regiment, the 79th Highlanders, and the other, Bro. Richardson, held also a commission from her Majesty, as her representative and consul in the distant country of Buenos Ayres, both would in their intercourse with the external world in these influential positions have ample opportunities for the display of their principles, and show to the neutral world that brotherly love, relief, and truth and faith, hope and charity, were no mere empty vaunts in the mouths of Freemasons. The healths of these two brethren were then proposed by the R.W.M., and responded to by the brethren, and all wished them God speed on their departure from the fair city. After several other toasts had been proposed and responded to, R.W. Bro. Young, P.M., proposed, in a neat and appropriate manner, "The Health of our R.W.M., Bro. Col. Williamson, of Lawers," a man beloved by all who knew him, and whose name, in connection with the lodge, had, in itself, been, as it were, a "host." It was hoped that he would be often presiding over the brethren of St. Andrew's. The toast was warmly and enthusiastically responded to by the brethren. With song and toast and sentiment, a most pleasant evening was spent. The lodge was closed in peace and harmony at 11 p.m.

PERTH.—**ST. JOHNSTONE CHAPTER** (No. 134) met at the Moncrieff Arms Inn, Princes-street, on the 24th April, at 5 p.m., M.E. Comp. Macrae, P.Z., presiding. Comp. Dr. William Cowan, P.F.Z. of Chapter Kilwinning in the East, was present as a visitor. Bro. Charles Wilson, of Errol, received the Degrees of Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch Companion, and, there being no other business, the chapter was closed at 8 p.m.

DUNBAR.—**DUNBAR CASTLE LODGE** (No. 75).—At a monthly meeting of this lodge, held on Tuesday, the 4th inst., under the presidency of P.M. Brand, D.M. for present year, in the absence of the R.W.M., Capt. Denistoun, 64th regiment, a purse and sovereigns were presented, in a very full lodge, to P.M. David Vallance, the purse bearing, on a gold entablature, the following inscription:—"Presented to Bro. D. Vallance, by the brethren of the Dunbar Castle Lodge, as a mark of respect for long service as R.W.M., 4th May, 1875." In making the presentation, the D.M., in very eloquent terms, reminded the assembled brethren of the long connection subsisting between Bro. Vallance and the lodge, extending over a period of nineteen years, and especially to his services as an office-bearer for seventeen years, the last six years of which as R.W.M., and referred to the very important number of brethren who had been brought to a knowledge of "Masonic light" through the instrumentality of the worthy P.M. The presentation was acknowledged in feeling terms by Bro. Vallance. It may be mentioned, in connection with this presentation, that nearly 100 brethren have received their initiation and subsequent degrees from Bro. Vallance. This is the third Masonic presentation received by him, including a medal from the Stranraer Kilwinning Lodge, for services rendered in the resuscitation of that lodge in 1872, under its old charter. The Dunbar Castle Lodge is at present in a most flourishing state, both in numbers and efficiency of working.

GLASGOW.—LODGE UNION AND CROWN (No. 103).—The Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow made their annual visit of inspection to this lodge at the usual monthly meeting of the latter, held on 26th ult., in the Hall, 170, Buchanan-street. The deputation of P.G.L., which was an unusually numerous one, having been received by the R.W.M. (Bro. A. M. Wright) with the usual formalities, the P.G. Secretary (Bro. A. McTaggart) submitted the report of the deputation, which he said was a very short one. They had very few faults indeed to find with the working of Lodge 103 during the past year—in fact, almost none worthy of mention. The examination of the books had discovered that they were in excellent condition; while their cash-book, he thought, was admirably kept. In fact, he did not think he exceeded the proper limits of praise when he said that there was no better kept cash-book within the province of Glasgow; nor would it be too much if he said that the Treasurer of that lodge was the most regular in his payments to the P.G.L. Ordinary Fund, and also to that of Benevolence. It must have been very gratifying to the lodge to find how much their funds had increased at last balance, being all but double what they amounted to the year before. On the 30th March last year the amount of their funds was £30; while that night the deputation had found that they (the lodge) had cash in bank and on hand amounting to £70 6s. 3d. Now that was a very satisfactory state of matters. Further, they had distributed during the year in private charity the handsome sum of £20; had contributed £6 to the P.G. Benevolent Fund; and had made in all 39 members. In concluding, Bro. McTaggart begged to return the sincere thanks of the deputation for the cordial welcome they had received from the lodge, and to congratulate the latter on their prosperous state; and hoped that those who might visit them next year as representing the P.G.L. might find them equally prosperous. The R.W.M. having briefly thanked the deputation for their visit, said there was a little matter he would like to bring before them previous to their leaving. In the course of the lodge business that evening there had been read a communication from the Town Council of Dumbarton, with reference to the opening of the new pier there on the 8th of next month. Some of the brethren objected to go down there on that occasion, seeing that Masons were not to take a prominent part in the proceedings; and therefore the lodge would like to have the advice of the P.G.L. on the matter. Bro. McTaggart, P.G. Sec., in reply, said that he would be guided by the opinion of his colleagues present, but it seemed to him that the occasion in question was one upon which Masons were not called to be present. It was the opening of a new pier; and they (Freemasons) were to be mixed up with Odd Fellows, Shepherds, Free Gardeners, Good Templars, &c. In the absence of any Masonic ceremony, he did not see that they could go there in Masonic clothing to take part in a matter with which they had nothing to do. If his advice were taken, he would say they should have nothing to do with it. Upon another occasion, a fortnight later—namely, the laying of the foundation stone of the new Public Halls for Glasgow—they would have a very good and legitimate opportunity of airing their regalia, and he thought that should compensate for any loss any one might feel at giving up Dumbarton. On the motion of Bro. James Gillies, Secretary, the following members of the P.G. deputation were affiliated as members of Lodge 103, viz:—Bros. William Bell, Convener of Committee; G. Thallon, J.D.; J. Ritchie, A.; and A. Allison, Jeweller. The ceremonial of affiliation was performed by Bro. A. Bain, P.M.; and Bro. Bell having on behalf of his colleagues and himself returned thanks for the honour done them, the deputation thereafter retired.

PAISLEY.—ST. MIRREN'S LODGE (No. 129).—On Monday evening, 10th inst., a meeting of the brethren of this lodge was held in St. Mirren's Hall, Moss-street. The Right Worshipful Master, Bro. H. Edmonds, presided, supported on the dais by Bros. the Rev. W. S. Mills, Lodge Chaplain; J. Gilmour, P.G.J.W.; George Glen, R.W.M., Prince of Wales Lodge, 426, Renfrew; Alexander McLeod, P.M. 129; Alex. McIntosh, P.D.M.; William Gemmill, S.W.; and George Fisher, J.W. There was a large attendance. On the lodge being duly constituted and opened on the First Degree, Bro. Alex. McPherson, Secretary, read the minutes of previous meeting, which were adopted. Bro. Edmonds stated that before proceeding with the business of the evening he felt it to be his duty to take this opportunity, as Master of this lodge, to congratulate Bro. Gilmour on his appointment to the honourable and important position of Junior Warden for the Province of Renfrewshire East. The nomination had given the greatest satisfaction in the province, proving thereby that Colonel Campbell, their Provincial Grand Master, had on this occasion put the right man in the right place. The brethren of St. Mirren's also felt themselves highly honoured from the fact that Bro. Gilmour was an old office-bearer of St. Mirren's Lodge, and he could safely say that no master had ever discharged the duties of the chair in a more conscientious manner. He had much pleasure in wishing Bro. Gilmour health and prosperity to enjoy his new honour. The R.W.M. called the attention of the brethren to an article in the *Scottish Freemasons' Magazine*, published on 1st inst., headed, "Princes and Grand Masters," in which article, in his opinion, an indirect attack was made on the character of the Prince of Wales, and it also stigmatised their English brethren as going mad with toadyism, and prostituting their institution for the mere name of "Prince." The R.W.M. said that, had the article appeared in the columns of a neutral paper he would not have demeaned himself by taking the least notice of it; but appearing in a journal supposed to represent the opinions of the Craft in Scotland, and said to be recognised by the Grand Lodge, he considered he would be unworthy the name of a loyal subject if he did not denounce it as a contemptible article, an insult to Royalty, and entirely antagonistic to the feelings of the

Scottish brethren. He was very glad to know that in this opinion he was supported by the Masters of the Thornliebank and Renfrew Lodges, and he trusted by all Masons who prized honour and virtue above all the external advantages of rank and fortune; he therefore called upon the brethren to vindicate the Prince from the insult levelled at him. Several brethren spoke strongly and eloquently against the article, and ultimately a motion to the following effect was carried by acclamation,—namely, that the office-bearers of this lodge be appointed as a committee to draw up a report on this subject, and forward same to Colonel Campbell, requesting him to bring the matter under the consideration of the Provincial Grand Lodge. The Rev. Bro. Mills intimated that, as Chaplain of this lodge, he would be glad to deliver a sermon under the auspices of the Order on Sunday, the 27th June. A committee was appointed to make the necessary arrangements. Thereafter, the lodge was passed to the Second Degree; and after the workings on this degree were finished, the lodge was reduced, and closed in due form. We understand that a meeting of the office-bearers of the lodge was held, at which a mild but dignified protest against the article in the *Scottish Freemasons' Magazine* referred to above was drawn up and forwarded to Col. Campbell.

GLASGOW.—LODGE STAR (No. 219).—The regular bi-monthly meeting of this lodge was held in their Hall, No. 12, Tron-gate, Glasgow, on Monday, the 10th inst. Bro. John Morgan, R.W.M., occupied the chair, Wardens and other Office-bearers in their respective places. There was as usual a large attendance; among the visitors were Bros. Wm. Phillips, R.W.M. 556; J. Campbell, 128; A. Thomson, 333; Wilson, 27. On the lodge being opened, the Secretary, Bro. J. Crawford, read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were approved of. Applications were then read (with names of proposer and seconder) from two gentlemen for admission into the Order. There being no objection offered, it was resolved that the two candidates be brought forward for initiation into the E.A. Degree, on Friday, the 21st inst. Bro. Morgan, R.W.M., then brought up the subject of having an annual test fee of membership paid into the lodge in accordance with Grand Lodge Laws, Art. 24, page 53, strongly recommending the same, explaining various reasons for the necessity of an annual test fee being paid. After a little discussion upon this matter, it was duly proposed and seconded, that an annual test fee be paid, and that this subject be brought up for discussion at next regular meeting, which was agreed to. Bro. Morgan reminded the brethren of the laying the foundation stone of the Public Halls, Glasgow, with Masonic honours, on Saturday, the 22nd inst.; he hoped to be present himself heading a large deputation of Lodge Star, which would be a red letter day in Glasgow for the cause of Freemasonry. There being no further business the lodge was called to refreshment. The R.W.M., Bro. Morgan, proposed the usual loyal toasts, which were responded to with great acclamation (quite apart from the article which appeared in the S.F.M. of the 1st inst.) The toast of the three Grand Lodges, coupled with their respective Grand Masters—Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow, Lodge Star, Sister Lodges, and Visiting Brethren were then given, in the intervals several most excellent songs enlivened the brethren. The toasts of Lodge Star, Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow, and Sister Lodges were most ably replied to by Bros. Phillips, Morgan, Thomson, and Campbell. Altogether a most enjoyable evening was spent, and after the last toast had been given the brethren, who had kept within due hail, were called together and dismissed.

GLASGOW.—LODGE CALEDONIAN RAILWAY No. (354) met in St. Mark's Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, Glasgow, on Wednesday, the 5th inst., being their regular meeting, present: Bros. James Shaw, R.W.M.; Stafford, S.W.; Ferguson, J.W.; A. A. Smith, I.P.M.; John Morgan, R.W.M. Lodge Star 219, and a fair attendance of members and visiting brethren. The lodge was opened by the R.W.M., Bro. James Shaw, and the motion of raising the initiation fees, also that of having an annual test fee, brought before the lodge, which was carried unanimously; on the minutes of the last regular meeting, also that of a special meeting, having been read and approved of, Mr. James Smith and Mr. F. McMonagh, who had been regularly proposed and seconded for initiation into Freemasonry, and no objection offered, entered and received the E.A. Degree. Bro. James Shaw intimated that the Treasurer, Bro. A. Carmichael, had tendered his resignation on account of his being about to leave Scotland, which was accepted; the lodge then closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment, and with the usual loyal toasts, enlivened with some excellent songs, the evening was brought most happily to a close. The next regular meeting of this lodge will take place in the Masonic Hall, 30, Hope-street, on Wednesday, the 2nd June.

GLASGOW.—LODGE COMMERCIAL (No. 360).—A special meeting of this lodge was held in their Hall, 30, Hope-street, Glasgow, on Friday, the 14th inst., and Monday the 17th inst., for admittance into the Order of Freemasonry of Dr. Wm. Oswald Livingstone, son of the late illustrious African explorer, who had been regularly proposed, seconded, and ballotted for at last regular meeting. The ballot having proved favourable, this gentleman came forward on Friday, the 14th inst., and received the E.A. and F.C. Degrees, the R.W.M., Bro. John Monro, and Bro. D. Lamb, D.M., officiating. On Monday, the 17th inst., Bro. Wm. Oswald Livingstone was raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M., Bro. D. Lamb, D.M., officiating. On both occasions the ceremony of each degree was performed in a masterly and most impressive manner, great pains being taken in the degrees, though two were given in one night, and the Master Mason Degree so soon after. The manner, and great care with which they were given, will, we are sure, make a lasting impression upon Bro. Livingstone's mind. On both occasions there was a large attendance of members of Lodge Commercial, and deputations from most of the lodges of the district.

At the conclusion of the ceremony on Monday evening, Bro. Lamb addressed Bro. Livingstone upon the beauties of the Order of Freemasonry, which elicited great applause. Bro. Livingstone, we understand, leaves Glasgow on Tuesday, the 25th inst., for Trinidad, there to reside and practise his profession as a surgeon. We wish Bro. Livingstone a safe and pleasant journey, and may his life be happy and prosperous, a honour to the Craft and the memory of his illustrious father.

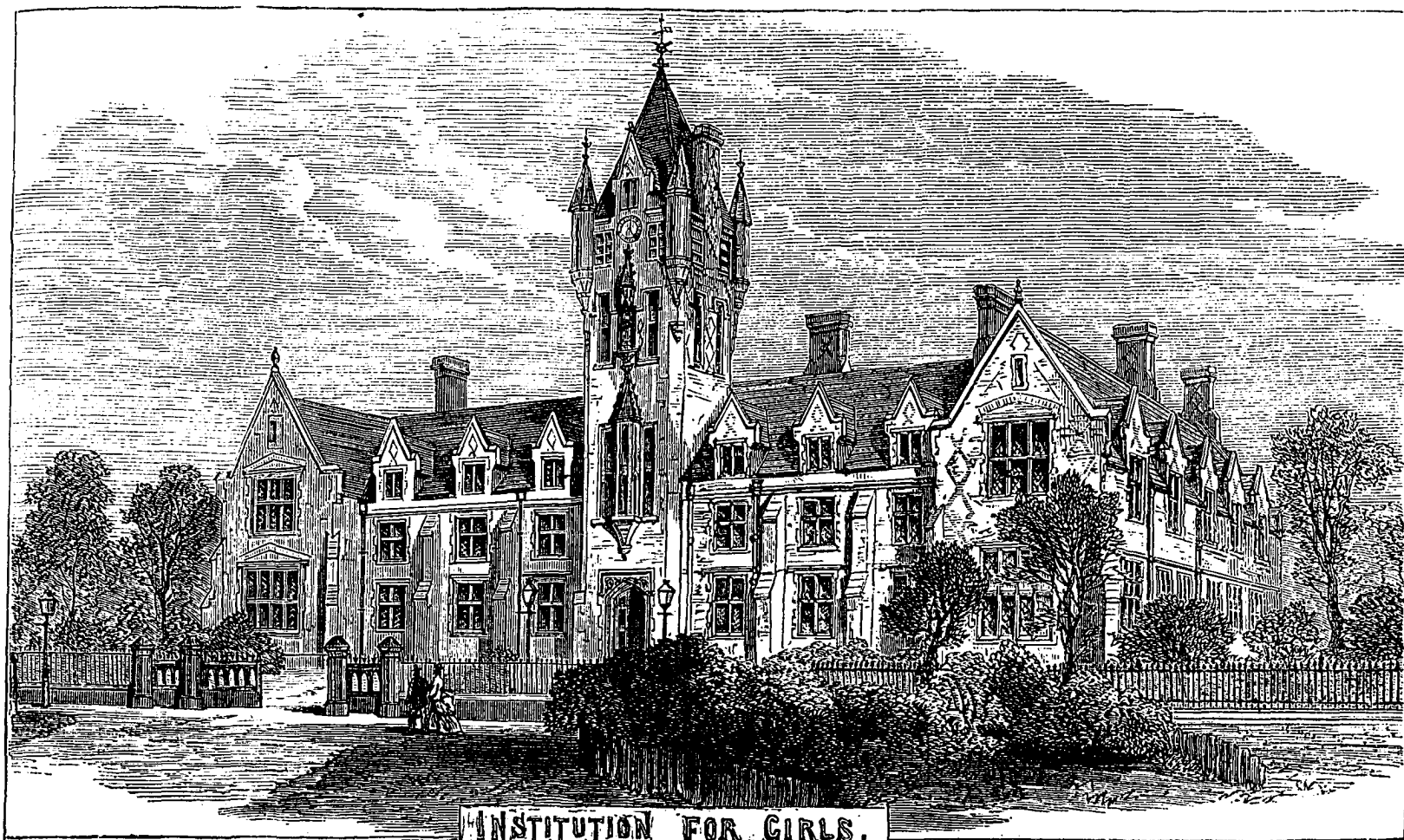
GLASGOW.—LODGE COMMERCIAL (No. 360) met in their hall, Hope-street, Glasgow, on Friday, 7th inst.; present, Bros. John Monro, R.W.M.; J. Brodè, P.M., acting as J.W.; J. M. Olliver, S.W.; J. Davidson, P.M.; A. Morton, I.P.M.; D. Lamb, D.M.; W. Finlay, Treas.; W. H. Bickerton, Sec.; J. Gibson, S.D.; Thomas Graham, J.D.; T. Keiller, I.G.; Jas. Minnoch, Tyler. Jas. Shaw, R.W.M. 354; J. W. Burns, R.W.M. 87; James Anderson, R.W.M. 370, and a very large attendance (69) having signed the sederunt book. The lodge was opened by the R.W.M., Bro. John Monro, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. Mr. Scott, who had been regularly proposed and ballotted for, and no objection offered, was admitted into the ancient Order of Freemasonry in the E.A. Degree, Bro. John Monro officiating in a most careful manner, and Bros. Jas. Kerr, Thos. Ross, and James Neish were advanced to the Degree of F.C., Bros. John Monro and J. Brodè, P.M., officiating. Bro. J. Brodè moved that new clothing for the office-bearers, also a Past Master's jewel for presentation to their I.P.M., Bro. A. Morton, be got, which was agreed to unanimously. The lodge was then closed in due form.

CROSSHILL.—LODGE MARIE STUART (No. 541) met in the Masonic Hall, Prince of Wales Terrace, Crosshill, on Monday, the 10th inst., being the regular meeting of the lodge. Bro. Julius Brodè, R.W.M., occupied the chair; Bro. A. Morton, S.W.; J. Fraser, J.W. There was a large attendance of brethren present, the business of the evening being a subscription sale for the benefit of Mrs. Stamm, widow of the late Bro. Stamm, Junior Warden of the lodge, the result of which proved very gratifying to all, the sum of £38 having been realized. Bro. J. Brodè in a few well chosen remarks, said that it gave him great pleasure to see that the brethren had come so nobly forward to assist him in carrying out that great principle of the Order, charity. Mrs. Stamm was one that was highly respectable and deserving; her late husband was a most zealous and a good Mason, and highly respected by all who knew him. Before sitting down, he begged to thank the brethren for their kindness and support in this case, for without their support his efforts would have been very small. After a few brief remarks from other brethren, the business was brought to a close.

PARTICK.—ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER (No. 113).—The Provincial Grand Superintendent, Comp. F. A. Barrow, accompanied by his office-bearers, visited the above chapter on Wednesday evening week. After a strict scrutiny of the books of the chapter, a minute was recorded by the deputation to the effect that everything during the past working year had been conducted in consonance with the practice and principles of Royal Arch Masonry. The deputation, it should be stated, was received with the usual formalities; but, on this occasion, they preferred to see the opening of the chapter, and to have personal evidence as to how the different office-bearers discharged their several offices. The chapter was then opened in regular form; and the authority of the Most Excellent Superintendent having been duly recognised by Companion Halket, Z., Comp. Barrow returned him his mallet with an expression of full confidence that it would be wielded on that occasion with the same judgment that it had always been done in the past. The report of the Prov. G. Scribe E., was then read, which showed that everything had met the highest approval of the deputation. Thereafter, the Most Excellent Superintendent entered into some particulars as to the working of Royal Arch Masonry in the province, and made some valuable suggestions in reference to the desirability of having an uniformity of ritual and of general working in the Order. He concluded by complimenting the First Principal and the Chapter on the position they occupied in the province, and hoping that they might always be in a position to claim and occupy as high a position. The First Principal made a suitable reply to the remarks of the Prov. G. Supt., and asked the Companions to award a hearty vote of thanks to the Prov. G. Chapter for their kindly visit and for the high eulogiums they had passed upon the working and upon the general success of Chapter No. 113. The chapter was then duly closed, and thereafter they entertained the members of the Prov. G. deputation for a short time at refreshment. During this the toast of "The Prov. Grand R.A. Chapter of Lanarkshire" was duly recognised; after which "Chapter Partick, No. 113," was proposed by the M.E. Supt., and replied to in felicitous terms by the First Principal. Several other toasts were given and responded to—notably that of "Companion Grange," P. First Principal, and a companion noted for all the social and moral virtues demanded by the constitution and underlying the principles of the Order. The proceedings further were agreeably interspersed with song and sentiment; and, after a short sojourn, the deputation required to leave by the latest conveyance homeward.

INSTALLATION OF H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES AS GRAND MASTER.

Copies of THE FREEMASON for May 1st and 8th, containing a full and accurate account of the Installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, as Most Worshipful Grand Master and First Grand Principal, may still be obtained at the Office, 198, Fleet-street, or of any News-agent.



ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS, ST. JOHN'S HILL, BATTERSEA RISE.

LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

The monthly meeting of the Lodge of Benevolence was held on Wednesday evening, at Freemasons' Hall. The three chairs were occupied by Bros. J. M. Clabon, President, Joshua Nunn, S.V.P., and James Brett, J.V.P. Among the other brethren present there were Bros. John Savage, Thomas Cubitt, John Hervey, W. Mann, John While, James Willing, jun., H. Massey (*Freemason*), Joseph Smith, Bengemann, A. A. Pendlebury, Wright, C. A. Cottebrune, Steadwell, H. G. Buss, Wm. Smith, J. E. Saunders, Bartlett, H. Garrod, Griffiths Smith, W. Stephens, Kennett, and Payne.

At the Board of Masters, previously held, several notices of motion were given for the ensuing Grand Lodge, and the report of the Board of General Purposes was received. Grants made at last Lodge of Benevolence were confirmed, and Scrutineers were elected. The Lodge then proceeded to consider new petitions, and at its closing it was found that £301 had been granted. One grant was of £100, one £40, one £30, five £20, and two £10. The remainder were small sums.

Lodge was then closed.

Masonic Tidings.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Gloucestershire was held at Newnham-on-the-Severn, on Tuesday, the 18th inst., when a considerable gathering of the Craft assembled. Lord Sherborne, Prov. Grand Master, presided. After an interesting discussion on the Masonic charities, a testimonial was presented to Bro. Newarch, the Deputy Prov. G.M., and the brethren subsequently dined at the Victoria Hotel, under the presidency of Lord Sherborne, supported by Bro. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Chief Secretary for Ireland.

An Ultramontane paper, the *Osservatore Romano*, has published an article in which it takes the Prince of Wales to task for accepting the post of Grand Master of the English Freemasons. It ascribes the downfall of Charles X., Louis Philippe, and Louis Napoleon to their connection with the Craft, and implores the Prince to take warning before it is too late.

THE VISIT OF THE PRINCE OF WALES TO INDIA.—The *Central News* states that Admiral Rowley Lambert, C.B., will succeed Admiral Randolph, C.B., in command when the ships of the Flying Squadron arrive at Gibraltar, and the first-named gallant officer will convoy the Prince of Wales to India. The following are the ships of the squadron which will proceed with the Prince to Calcutta: —Narcissus (flagship), Commander Alfred Jephson; Doris, Captain Hon. Edmund Fremantle, C.B.; Immortalité, Captain Francis A. Hume; Newcastle, Captain Robert G. Douglas; Raleigh, Captain George Tryon,

C.B.; Topaze, Captain Arthur T. Thrupp. It is understood that the Flying Squadron will not come to England, and accordingly will not take part in the departure of the Prince of Wales. The ships will, however, meet the troopship conveying his Royal Highness off Gibraltar, and proceed thence, via the Suez Canal, to Calcutta. Here the vessels will remain until the return of the Prince. His Royal Highness, it is anticipated, will be back in England by next May.

The Lord Mayor (Grand Junior Warden of England) honoured with his presence May 14th the Bank of England Lodge of Freemasons, at their last meeting before the summer vacation, held at the Albion Tavern. His lordship, who was accompanied by several distinguished brethren, was received by numerous members of the lodge, amongst them being Bros. F. Micheli, W.M.; G. Chance, of the Treasury, and other Past Masters; Bro. Captain Elliott (of the Royal Naval Reserve), and Bro. Magee. Bro. Chance proposed the Lord Mayor's health in eulogistic terms, dwelling particularly on the distinguished position in the Craft to which he had attained. The toast was received with the greatest acclamation by the brethren present. The Lord Mayor replied in appropriate terms.

We learn by telegraph that Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Rosslyn, her Majesty's Lord High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, has arrived at Holyrood House, Edinburgh. He was formally presented to the Lord Provost and Magistrates with the keys of the city, which were returned to the keeping of the civic authorities. His Grace and the Countess of Rosslyn afterwards entertained a large party of noblemen and gentlemen at dinner.

The Camden Lodge of Instruction will, on and after Monday, the 31st inst., meet at the Stanhope Arms, James-street, Camden Town.

Bro. Boord, M.P., presided at the annual meeting of the Metropolitan Conservative Alliance held on Tuesday at the Westminster Palace Hotel.

At Madame Tussaud's several new figures have been added, including the Prince of Wales, in his garb of Grand Master of the Freemasons, and King Alfonso XII.

Bro. Defries and Son furnished the whole of the decorations for the Royal visit to Leeds, on Thursday.

BOSTON ELECTION COMMISSION.—A Royal Commission has just issued, appointing Bro. A. J. McIntyre, Q.C., Mr. Wyndham Slade, and Bro. Douglas Straight, Commissioners to inquire into the existence of corrupt practices reported by Mr. Justice Grove to have extensively prevailed at the last election for Boston. The inquiry will be held in August. Mr. Ernest Baggallay has been appointed Secretary to the Commission.

At a meeting of the Council of the Miners' Defence Association, held at the Royal Hotel, Cardiff, the following resolution was passed:—"That a committee be appointed to consider a future sliding scale of wages for fixed periods, to be based upon the selling price of coal,

and after the men on strike have returned to work on the terms named (of 15 per cent. reduction) to suggest such a scheme to the Council at an early meeting for arrangement with the men, and that such committee shall consist of the following gentlemen, viz.:—Bro. J. C. Parkinson, Messrs. Richard Fothergill, M.P., (Chairman); David Davis, W. Thomas Lewis, Archd. Hood, W. Menelaus, W. Perch, J. O. Riches, W. T. Crawshaw, John Nixon, W. S. Cartwright, Basil Jayne, Edward Jones, Robert Jordan, R. Laybourne, H. Hussey Vivian, M.P., and F. A. Yeo.

The 20th annual report of the Sovereign Life Assurance Company has just been issued. The revenue has exceeded that of the preceding year by £3,362. 349 new policies were issued last year. The dividend recommended on the capital and bonus additions is based on the rate of interest actually earned, and is equal this year to 5½ per cent. on the original amount paid up.

ANOTHER VISIT OF VOLUNTEERS TO FRANCE.—Bro. Charles Mercier has had the honour of receiving from Monsieur E. Langer, the president of the Société Havraise de Tir, a most cordial invitation to English volunteers, to take part in a rifle competition, which will be held at Havre about the end of July:—"As this invitation is another pledge of international friendship, I beg you will kindly make it known, mentioning at the same time that the Société Havraise de Tir, in addition to other improvements, have been endeavouring to provide shooting in the 'open,' and at long ranges. As, however, unexpected difficulties have arisen, firing in the 'open' may be unattainable, in which case, if the invitation is accepted, volunteers must not count upon this facility, and may have to be content with the Society's ordinary 'stand.' Nor must they expect a repetition of the grand demonstrations and hospitality of last year, which took all so completely by surprise. I venture to mention these points—this specially—as, in consequence of impaired health and pressing professional engagements, it will not be in my power to take any further part in general public work, or in promoting international rifle competitions, though, as a consultation may be necessary, I should be happy, if no more suitable place is available, for volunteers interested to meet at my residence; this intimation being accepted as a sufficient invitation."

Our Brother, H.R.H. Prince Leopold, has been proposed as a joining member of the Lodge of Antiquity, No. 2.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—No one should treat the present changes in the weather with indifference, for they undoubtedly have a great effect upon the human body. It is necessary for every one to be cautious and watchful. Cautious as regards clothing and exposure, and watchfulness as regards the effect on the body. The skin, nervous system, and breathing organs often suffer severely, as is evidenced by Erysipelas, Rheumatism, Colds, Sore Throats, &c. When, therefore, symptoms of any of the above diseases show themselves, they should be at once attended to. The Ointment should be rubbed into the parts affected, and the Pills taken according to the printed directions; this treatment soon eradicates the disease and restores the general health.—AUNT,

TO OUR READERS.

The *Freemason* is a sixteen page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the United Kingdom, Post free, 10/. Brethren in foreign parts, wishing to have this newspaper sent them regularly from the office of publication, should, in sending their remittances, add to the 2d. per week the postage on 20z. newspapers.

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Advertisements, change in address, complaints of difficulties in procuring *Freemason*, &c., to the Publisher, 198, Fleet-st., London, E.C.

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Dawson, Wm., 121, Cannon-street.

Gilbert, Jas., 18, Gracechurch-street.

Guest, Wm., 54, Paternoster-row.

Phillipott Bros., 65, King William-street.

Pottle, R., 14, Royal Exchange.

May also be obtained at W. H. Smith & Son's Bookstalls at the following City Stations:—

Broad-street.

Holborn Viaduct.

Cannon-street.

London Bridge.

Ludgate Hill.

Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

The following stand over and will be inserted next week:—

Bro. W. J. Hughan on Guilds; Bro. W. P. Buchan on Lord Carnarvon's Speech; Bro. W. J. Hughan on an old American Mark Lodge; Masonic Student.

Reports of Lodges, 33, 54, 949, 1260, 1289, 1326, 1486. Chapter 720; Red Cross Conclave 4, Edinburgh; Reports from New Zealand, Sandridge, Victoria, Mazagon, Jamaica, and Smyrna.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, MAY 22, 1875.

THE GIRLS' SCHOOL FESTIVAL.

We congratulate the Committee, and Bro. Little, and the Order generally, on the successful result of the anniversary for 1875. Everything seems to have prospered with it, from the Chairman down to the weather. We are glad to record the fact that our distinguished brother, the Lord Mayor, presided, and we still more rejoice to call attention to his sensible and Masonic address. That the result of so numerous and animated a meeting would be large and gratifying we did not doubt, and we feel some little honest pride, as Freemasons, for our benevolent Order, in adding that the Stewards' lists realised the large sum of £7,268 3s. All honour to that maligned Craft of ours, which is yet untiring and unrelaxing in its efforts to promote the great and sacred cause of benevolence and charity. The returns, as usual, are very striking. The metropolis is to the fore with £4,811, in round numbers. The provinces send up £2,257 10s. 6d., and miscellaneous and foreign £200, in round numbers, a little more or less. Bro. Constable heads the metropolitan list with the goodly sum of £420 12s., Bro. Headon of 1426, follows with £211 1s.; while Bro. Palmer, 1348, brings up £174; Bro. Hyde Pullen, 1382, £170 2s.; Bro. J. G. Stevens, 933, £142 16s.; Bro. J. L. Thomas, 1328, £133 7s.; Bro. S. Poynter, 1491, £118 0s. 6d.; Bro. F. Lough, 69, £115 10s.; and Bro. W. H. Stevens, 607, and Bro. W. J. Murlis, 1489, £102 18s. and £120 respectively. In the provinces, Middlesex and West Yorkshire have a close race for it, the former winning by a head

on the post with £581 19s. against £580 17s. The next is Monmouth with £464 10s., followed by Kent with £142 3s.; the remaining 19 provinces not exceeding the two figures. The return, however, is a very striking one, as we have said before, and reflects the highest credit on the zeal and energy of the Stewards, and tells also a good tale for the ready liberality of our Craft. We are happy to state that the financial affairs of the Girls' School to the close of 1874 are in a very prosperous condition. The Lord Mayor alluded to the Balance Sheet in warm terms of commendation, and certainly it is very gratifying. The credit side of the account for 1874 shews from all sources, including balance of preceding year, the sum of £11,557 9s. 4d. The debit amounts to £10,258 18s., leaving a balance, when all is paid, at the bankers at the close of 1874, of £1,298 11s. 4d., with £70 for petty cash. It is, however, fair to observe that of this amount of £10,258 18s., £2,296 2s. 6d. was invested in £2,500 Consols, leaving the vested property of the School at £23,000, Three-per-Cent. Consols. This surely is a most praiseworthy state of affairs, and says much for the effective management of the Committee and the Secretary. Our distinguished brother the Lord Mayor asked why with such great advantages, with the blessings of such an Institution, not double the number of inmates, making them 285 or 300? We believe, though Bro. Little can inform us officially, that there is no more room at the School for new buildings! But two questions arise. Cannot land be purchased? and cannot the School be extended in one direction or the other? We apprehend that with our rapidly increasing numbers, rapidly augmenting claims will come upon us, and we fear that is impossible to suppose that in the present state of our Order 145 girls can represent the permanent number of the inmates of the Girls' School. The question is so important, and the Girls' School is so well managed by those able and painstaking brethren who look after its interests and control its affairs, and Bro. Little is so alive to its educational value and the needs of our Order, that we only venture to suggest the consideration of the increase of numbers to the attention of those best qualified in all respects to deal with so grave a question.

THE POPE AND THE FREEMASONS.

Telegrams dated Paris, Sunday night, state that Bishop Dupanloup has received the following letter from the Pope, congratulating him on his pamphlet against Freemasonry:—"Venerable Brother,—Salutation and apostolical benediction. In this war waged on all sides against the Catholic Church by the Masonic sect, your publication was most useful and opportune, especially because this sect, long secret, has now unmasked itself. It avows its designs, and in a certain country, not under the pretext of public rights, but in its own name, does guilty battle with the Church. It is useful because, the nefarious character of the sect being known, there is no honest man who must not turn from it with horror, and perhaps many members who do not know the secret mysteries will now withdraw. What is particularly useful is the perspicacity with which you demonstrate to all attentive minds the real tendency of the taking words, 'Fraternity and Equality,' which have deceived and seduced so many, and the true origin and object of the much boasted liberties of conscience, of public worship, and of the Press. After reading your work nobody can doubt that all this came from Freemasonry to overturn civil and religious order, and consequently the Church has wisely condemned those who practise and defend such liberties. It is manifest that all partisans of these liberties, albeit unknown to themselves, favour the Masonic sect, and the more honest they are the more disastrous is their support to such principles. We therefore wish you many intelligent readers, for it is no small advantage to perceive the snare, and as a pledge of Divine favour and our special goodwill we give you, venerable brother, from the bottom of our heart, to you and your diocese, our Apostolical benediction.

"In the twenty-ninth year of our Pontificate,—
PIUS IX., POPE."

THE "SCOTTISH FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE."

Having said our say about the most unfortunate little "faux pas" of our Scottish contemporary, in the best interests, as we consider, both of Scottish and English Freemasonry, we do not deem it wise to continue a very inopportune, and, in our opinion, unwarrantable discussion. But we must protest, as before both the English and Scottish Craft, against the tone and temper of that most injudicious writer, who could pen such an article, alike disloyal in utterance, and impertinent to all English Freemasons. And what shall we say of his defence of it? All that his best friends can possibly urge in mitigation of his renewed unmasonic temperament is, that his words seem so strange, his opinions so incoherent, that, as Meg Merrilies observed, if we remember rightly, to Dominie Sampson, so we all must say, "Mon, ye maun be either fou or fast-ing." We are very, very sorry for the *Scottish Freemasons' Magazine*, and having said this—we say no more. We observe, however, that our contemporary likens himself, by implication, to John Knox, and apparently ventures to compare his most unmasonic and unfounded tirade against English Freemasons and their Royal Grand Master, to the old reformer's fervid utterances of what he believed was Truth. The writer in the *Scottish Freemasons' Magazine* puts us in mind of a young friend of ours who has just returned from a great public school, in which his report for the half is, that he is "addicted to idleness," and, what is worst of all, that he is "self-complacent in his idleness." We do not suppose that the egotism or self-complacency of our sensational confrere can be exceeded by any journalist at the present hour.

A PLEASANT SCENE.

If it is true that "one touch of nature makes the whole world kin," we think that never did the application of the truism appeal more forcibly to our own sense of what is true, sympathetic, and natural, than in the little incident to which we have given the above name. The *Times* of Thursday records a meeting at Windsor Castle, where the Queen of many millions surrounds herself with all the highest charms of home life amid the splendour of a palace, and seems to forget the shadow of the great sorrow of her being in the bright hopes and gracious promise of her grandchildren! We are amongst those writers and thinkers—call us realistic if you will—who believe that the best history of the times in which we live, of the world in its progress from age to age, in the onward way of all of human kind, is to be found in the actual habits and wonted customs of public, and, above all, of private life! The eyes of men are sometimes dazzled by the tinsel and the trappings of outward sensationalism, but we should gain a sorry picture, either of the world as it has been really, or as it is truly now, if we ever forgot for one moment that it is in the inner lives of peoples and of persons that you are to look for the certain clue to the hopes and plans and longings and aspirations of successive generations. Beneath the gilded show of the great "Vanity Fair" of life lies the quiet, hidden existence in the home, by the fireside, and there we must go, after all, for those ennobling touches of our wondrous humanity, which give reality to fiction, certainty to history, and lighten up the continuous kalendar of time with unmistakable tokens of reliability and truth. It was one of the greatest characteristics of all the many excellent counsels and endeavours of the late Prince Consort, to which as a people we are, and shall ever be most deeply indebted, to throw the colouring of his cherished German "Heimlichkeit," over the often garish and dangerous splendors of the Court and of high social rank. When, like a wise master builder, he strove so earnestly to impart his conceptions to our English mind, he found a soil well prepared for the growth of such goodly plants as home life and domestic happiness. How well he prospered in his labours we need not recount to-day; the evidence of many "lustra" points to the unmistakable success of his goodly plans and his life-long

care. In England the love of home in its intense practicability has been at the foundation of all our real greatness and national prosperity. But the lesson the Prince Consort essayed to teach us was another one. High rank and great place, the ceaseless exactments of needful ceremonial, often left but little time for the enjoyment of domestic retirement and sympathies. But it was not enough to be intent on Court duties, on the brilliant gathering; on the splendid outer life; there was an inner life, of simple home tastes and pursuits, which had to be fostered, upheld, and vitalized, if all was to go well and to be well. Nothing, we venture to think, has so strengthened the Throne in the hearts of the English people as this fellow-feeling with their most cherished ideas and actual daily, hourly, often trying and laborious, existence. And so to-day we, as Freemasons, remembering that our Gracious Sovereign is not only the daughter of an old Grand Master, but our ever kindly Patroness—that three of her sons and one of her sons-in-law are members of our great fraternity, that we boast more than one little "Lewis" of the "House of Brunswick"—we shall rejoice, as all patriotic Englishmen will rejoice, over that little family gathering which took place on May 10th, in that great castle, so bound up with the imperishable memories of England, of the English Throne, and of the English people. May the hopes of many millions, and the trust of many loyal hearts, be fulfilled in those of the coming generation, who when we of this present epoch are passed away, and gone from the "Battle-field of Life," will yet have high duties to perform alike in the holy interests of civilization, and peace, and progress; in the conservation of society, in the living welfare of our own great country, as well as in the increased happiness, liberty, and union of the great brotherhood of mankind.

THE MERRY MONTH OF MAY.

May is amongst us in all its freshness and brightness, with the balmy breezes of the closing spring, and with the genial warmth of the opening summer. Though ours is proverbially changeable weather, and London is specially credited with fogs and rain, King Charles the Second used to say, and he was a very good judge of the matter, that the climate of England was on the whole the best he knew, as it enabled you to be out of doors, after all, more than in any other. And we citizens of our "Little Village" may well be glad when May therefore puts on her most smiling face for us. As we all know, an English May in the country is very pleasant, especially when fine, and we are inclined to think that from the last fortnight in May, and until the end of June, there is not much anywhere that can compare with the aspect of our good old Fatherland. The hedges are leafy, the daisies are visible, the grass is lifting up its head, the hawthorn is fragrant in pink and white, while the chestnuts are beginning to bloom, and the oaks to be green again amid an increasing freshness and verdure of lane and mead, of wood and covert. A fine May is therefore not only very pleasant to the "country mouse," but has its special attraction for the "town mouse." For all our Londoners, pent up between interminable rows of dull brick, or smoky stone, or pretentious stucco, often sigh for a glimpse of green fields, for the hum of bees, for the cawing of rooks, for the songs of birds, and the umbrageous shelter of lime or elm. And those of us are wise in their generation, especially those to whom belong the cares and responsibilities of family life, if they run down with their belongings, great and small, to have a look at the pastures and shady lanes within some easy distance of town. Nothing is so healthy for us all as to have from early years the love of natural sights and common things. Especially is this so in that wonderful creation, that treasure house of goodness and wisdom and compassion, wherein the Great Architect of the Universe has given us all so many clear tokens of His presence, of infinite contrivance and design, of omnipotent constructiveness and care. In that glorious handiwork of excelling majesty and mercy there is nothing, however humble, from which we may not learn something alike striking to the intellect, and refreshing to the mind. In-

deed, every consideration or survey of this world's frame and fabric and goodly sights and pleasant scenes must lead us all to the inevitable conclusion, as it has led so many of the wisest and best of earth, that the hand which made all these outer things and us is indeed Divine. Therefore, in this merry month of May let us not be chary of visiting, with our young and with our old, the fair extent of rural spots around our overgrown and toiling and sweltering metropolis. Happy privilege for our married brethren, goodly chance for some rash, if trembling aspirants for all the mysteries of Hymen, that they can enjoy, in the company of those they love the best, the sights and sounds of this merry month of May, amid the pleasant perfume of hawthorn hedges and budding trees and verdant fields, already studded with the daisy, the cowslip, and the primrose. But what a melancholy "outcome" and "lookout" for miserable bachelor Masons, still left to wander on "separatim" in this troublesome world, whose solitary excursion must be, for the most part, to the Welsh Harp or the Spotted Dog, to Greenwich or Black wall, and who return as they go, little better for their outing, slightly heated and considerably bored. Even May, with all its refreshing hours and gladdening and revivifying influences, has its Nemesis for all those infatuated persons who, despite warnings very many, and chances not a few, resolutely continue "unblest and singularly single," with no dear, dear Jezebel to cheer, to worry, to govern, or to obey, still, "save at circuit unretained, and save at chess unmated."

NOTICE.

The June number of the "Masonic Magazine" which is the closing number of the 2nd volume, will be increased in letter-press. The photograph of H.R.H. the Grand Master is not yet ready, owing to the great demand on the Photographer, but we will publish it with the MASONIC MAGAZINE as soon as our arrangement is perfected. In order to prevent disappointment, non-subscribers should send an order at once to the publisher, 198, Fleet-street, E.C., who is most anxious to accommodate all who apply in time. The price of the single number is 6d., seven shillings for the whole year, and postage paid. With the end of the second volume it is a good time for many of our brethren to subscribe for the next twelve months.

We beg to call attention to the very interesting illustration of the Girls' School on another page, which originally appeared in the *Illustrated London News*.

We shall publish in the next *Freemason* some interesting letters from Bro. Buchan, W. J. Hughan, and "Masonic Student" on the Guild Theory. We shall also insert a communication from our esteemed Bro. Hughan, relative to a Mark Lodge of the last century, in America.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

STEWARDS' LIST, 1875.

Lodge		Bro. Paterson, Alderman	£	s.	d.
"	1	Thomas Greetham	52	10	0
"	2	J. S. H. McEwan	44	2	0
"	4	Francis Morgan	51	9	0
"	5	J. Lewis Geiger	60	18	0
"	8	Rev. T. Cochrane	19	19	3
"	10	E. J. Bradstreet	57	15	0
"	11	A. L. Bristow	32	0	6
"	14	H. G. Martin	21	0	0
"	15	J. F. Huggins	88	4	0
"	18	J. K. Stead	34	13	0
"	21	Griffiths Smith	48	6	0
Chap.	21	G. Phythian	17	17	0
Lodge	22	Henry Venn	52	10	0
"	23	J. B. Poole	10	10	0
"	27	W. Lugg	73	10	6
"	33	H. Dubosc	78	4	6
"	33	Dr. J. H. Paul	15	15	0
"	46	Fred Lough	24	3	0
"	59	E. C. Mather	115	10	0
"	65	J. A. Rucker	30	9	0
"	66	T. R. Marshall	52	10	0
"	91	Geo. S. Ayres	40	19	0
"	95	G. D. Stibbard	39	18	0
"	99	Thos. Beard	87	3	0
"	101	G. N. Strawbridge	16	16	0
"	143	Geo. Parkes	72	9	0
"	145	Geo. C. Capper	31	10	0
"	162	Charles Lacy	30	9	0
"	174	W. J. Ferguson	109	4	0
"	177	James Kew	31	10	0
"	179		40	0	0

Lodge	180	A. Cameron	23	12	0
"	180	W. H. Pannell	26	5	0
"	181	Wm. Sharratt	29	8	0
"	185	J. H. Ross	52	10	0
"	185	John Constable	420	12	0
"	192	Geo. Newman	47	5	0
"	194	Dr. R. Fowler	67	4	0
"	197	Geo. Findlay	37	16	0
"	198	H. C. Lambert	22	1	0
"	227	Percival Sanford	24	3	0
"	231	G. A. Ibbetson	28	9	0
"	235	H. Robinson	43	1	0
"	250	J. A. Farnfield	37	16	0
"	259	F. W. Ramsay	11	11	0
"	534	John Boyd	21	0	0
"	657	W. H. Stevens	102	18	0
"	715	J. J. Clemans	21	0	0
"	733	J. Cooper	40	0	0
"	781	John Wright	52	10	0
"	822	Percy Trower	52	10	0
"	860	Dr. J. C. White	47	15	0
"	862	W. Jones, J. Hayward	29	8	0
"	907	Thos. Griffiths	43	1	0
"	933	J. G. Stevens	142	16	0
Chap.	1056	Elias Gotthiel	31	10	0
Lodge	1118	W. E. Blakeway	21	0	0
"	1150	J. B. Rochester	26	5	0
"	1126	R. H. Pearson	24	13	6
"	1257	John Elliott	24	13	6
"	1260	George Harrison	33	12	0
"	1328	Jas. Lewis Thomas	133	7	0
"	1329	E. Clarke	48	17	0
"	1339	C. Hammerton	10	10	0
"	1348	J. Palmer	174	0	0
"	1361	R. H. Thrupp	44	5	0
"	1383	W. Hyde Pullen	170	2	0
"	1397	Dr. J. H. Galton	23	12	6
"	1425	A. H. Longhurst	33	1	6
"	1426	N. B. Headon	211	1	0
"	1471	J. L. Mather	49	7	0
"	1475	A. H. Watkins	57	15	0
"	1480	W. J. Murlis	120	0	0
"	1491	S. Poynter	118	0	6
"	1524	J. B. Shackleton	52	10	0
PROVINCES.					
Bristol	J. F. Norris	66	13	6	
Berks and Bucks	W. Knight, Powell, Laxton	75	2	0	
Cheshire	J. Salmon, W. Goodacre	21	0	0	
Derbyshire	W. E. Diamond, H. Whitham	10	10	0	
Essex	A. Lucking, C. F. Hogard, A. W. Naylor	86	6	6	
Herts	T. S. Carter	17	17	0	
Kent	T. S. Carter, H. M. Baker, G. F. Carnell	142	3	0	
Lancashire	E. D. T. Entwistle, G. P. Brockbank, Rev. P. Hains	42	0	0	
Lancashire, West	F. C. Lunt, Col. Birchell, W. Leader, J. D. Moore, M.D.	63	11	0	
Lincolnshire	John Sutcliffe, W. Marshall, J. Robinson, W. H. Roberts, J. R. Tong	63	0	0	
Middlesex	Col. Burdett, J. C. Parkinson, R. W. Stewart, J. T. Moss, R. W. Little, H. A. Dubois, J. G. Marsh, J. Coulton, B. H. Swallow, F. Keily, R. P. Tebb, S. Wickens, J. S. Sweasey, J. Johnson, J. Faulkner, F. S. Knyvett, E. Hopwood	581	19	0	
Monmouthshire and South Wales	Col. Lyne, Capt. Homfray, L. A. Homfray, S. B. Power	464	10	0	
Oxfordshire	F. P. Morrell (including £10 10s. from Prince Leopold, and £26 5s. from Earl of Jersey)	68	4	0	
Long		10	10	0	
Shropshire	J. H. Spaul, J. Corbett, J. Beresford, J. Bagnall, Briscoe	64	1	0	
Somersetshire	C. L. F. Edwards	21	0	0	
Suffolk	Rev. C. J. Martyn, Peter de L. Long	64	19	6	
Surrey	George Wright, Thos. Long, Rev. C. W. Hall	75	13	0	
Sussex	Dr. T. Trollope	76	2	0	
Warwickshire	Walter Short	21	0	0	
Yorkshire, North and East	B. Tesseman, Henri E. Voigt	34	13	0	
Yorkshire, West	Sir H. Edwards, Bentley Shaw, T. Hill, Capt. Wordsworth, Rev. A. W. Hamilton, Henry Smith, T. Schofield, R. Arnison, R. E. Collinson, J. E. Wavell, G. E. Webster, H. W. Lofthouse, J. Nixon, J. Binney, H. Pawson, H. W. Maleham, W. Roddewig, B. Broughton, T. W. Andrews, R. Craig, P. C. Lowrie, C. Pegler, A. Brilton, F. Crossley, T. N. Tindall, W. White, W. C. Smith, Capt. T. E. Clark, J. Simpson, W. Clayton	580	17	0	
MISCELLANEOUS.					
J. E. Saunders		10	10	0	
W. R. Woodman		10	10	0	
Thomas W. White		34	13	0	
Palestine Rose Croix	Rev. P. M. Holden	31	10	0	
Premier Red Cross	Capt. G. Cockle	10	10	0	
Red Cross, 17	Wm. Richards	16	16	0	
Mark Lodge, 104	T. W. Murley	34	1	0	
A. Mansfield		10	10	0	
D. Nicols		39	18	0	
A. Twynan		10	10	0	
E. C. Woodward		16	16	0	
James Mason		15	15	0	
FOREIGN.					
Bombay, 549	E. Tyrrell Leith	21	0	0	
Total		£7,268	3	0	
The total is exclusive of 14 lists to come in.					

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.]

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.
To the Editor of the Freemason.

Sir and Brother,—

In the *Illustrated London News* of May 1st there appears an engraving with the title of "Inmates of the Royal Masonic Institution for the Aged and Widows," which I assert without hesitation to be a caricature. To my certain knowledge there has never been such a party. Had an illustration been given in the style of those of the Schools, the inmates of this noble Institution would have considered it a compliment, but the one in question is an insult to the aged, and particularly to the widows, which the editor ought not to have allowed to appear.

If you will give this a place in your Journal you will oblige, Sir and Brother, yours respectfully and fraternally,
L. B.

Royal Masonic Institution, Croydon, May 11th.

[We do not suppose that there was any intended disrespect, as both the letterpress and illustrations were marked alike by kindness to the inmates and the Craft, and a desire evidently to call friendly attention to the Institutions of our Order.—Ed.]

THE FATHER OF FREEMASONS.
To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In your issue of Saturday last you inserted a letter signed "Honour to whom Honour is Due," relating to our esteemed Bro. Isaac Townsend, a member of Adam's Lodge, No. 158, Sheerness, as the father of Freemasons, in opposition to Bro. D. Osmett, of Sherborne, Dorset, who was initiated in January, 1820. But as your correspondent made an error in the date of Bro. Townsend's initiation, I beg to correct it, as it may be the means of bringing forth the name of the oldest member of the Craft, who, I am sure, the brethren will delight to honour.

Bro. Isaac Townsend was born in Essex on July 26th, 1793, and was initiated into the rites of Masonry in Lodge 79, Greenwich, in March, 1815, consequently he has been sixty years a Freemason. We have likewise, in the Province of Kent, Bro. P. W. Thorpe, Provincial Grand Treasurer, who, I believe, was initiated in the same year as Bro. Townsend. The brethren of the Province of Kent are proud of having among them the two oldest brethren of the Craft.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,
A. SPEARS, P.M. of 158.
Sheerness, 11th May, 1875.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Seeing my father's name (Benj. Thorpe) mentioned in a letter headed "The Father of Freemasons," in your journal of the 8th inst. with a confusion of dates, as far as he is concerned I can give them correctly. He was born in June, 1793, and was initiated in the Wellington Lodge, Rye, Sussex, in October, 1814. He is now, and has been for some years past, the Provincial Grand Treasurer for Kent, and this year, I am thankful to say, he has performed the duties of his office, correspondence, &c., without any assistance. He had the pleasure of initiating his grandson in the Invicta Lodge, 709, in August, 1862, now nearly thirteen years since, and rarely fails to attend the monthly meetings of his lodge.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,
B. K. THORPE, P.M. 709, P. Prov. G.R. Kent.

THE "SCOTTISH FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE."
To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I am very much amused at the remarks I have recently read about myself in the "Scottish Freemasons' Magazine." I believe that I have met the writer of them before in controversy, and, therefore, I am not astonished at anything he says. I learn for the first time that it is not customary or competent for writers to protest against unfair critics and unjust criticism. I care nothing for honest criticism, come from what quarter it may, but I do object to personalities, and above all, to shallow utterances and pretentious pomposity. I do not believe that in treating of literary matters you are at liberty to import into what assumes to my mind, in one aspect, a judicial deliverance, any of the prejudices of personal encounters!

We ought as Freemasons to be above all such lower grounds of literary pettiness, and leave them to the profane world.

The Reviewer had a clear right to criticise any little work I published "more suo," on grounds which appeal to fact, to truth, and reason. But if in doing so a critic shows convincingly to any dispassionate bystander that he has not half read the work he is criticising, and that he does not for some one reason or other clearly understand what he has read, and if, too, the critic demonstrates that at best his views on the whole subject are hazy, and his knowledge but skin deep, any author, I contend, has a right to appeal to the supreme court of the public, in order to prove that the critic is "hardly up to the mark," and that his criticism is valueless, "per se."

I only write on public grounds; on personal, I care nothing for any animadversions; as I feel quite sure, from the opinions of some of the best informed Masons in England and America, that however I may have failed from want of power to illustrate and enforce my argument, my premises are sound, and my conclusions irrefragable.

With regard to the question of "nervousness" for "incisiveness," which I confess not to have noticed, it is, like "argumentative," only a printer's mistake, which the writer might surely have seen.

But I do not wish to complain of remarks, or to defend my little essay; all I desire is to record my humble protest against the thoroughly unmasonic temper which colours the startling "dicta" of an old offender against the rules of courtesy and fairness in Masonic controversy.

A. F. A. WOODFORD.

THE INSTALLATION JEWEL.
To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Is anything settled about the Steward's jewel? How is it to be arranged? Are designs to be offered, and is the competition to be open? Is there any chance of a general commemoration jewel? Yours fraternally,
MAY DAY, 1875. EXPECTANS.

A CORRECTION.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In justice to myself, I feel bound to call your attention to either a "misprint" on your part, or an "error" on the part of your informant, with respect to the kindly report of our festive gathering, in celebration of the Installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as M.W.G.M. of England. Your report states that I said, in the course of my remarks—"I well remember the great excitement occasioned at the acceptance of the Grand Mastership by the late Duke of Sussex," &c., &c., &c. This is most incorrect. The words I used were—"I well remember, although young, the death of his late R.H. the Duke of Sussex, and the grief expressed by numerous members of the Craft at the loss of so distinguished a nobleman and so good a Mason." I trust you will do me the justice to insert this explanation, and oblige,

Yours fraternally,
S. W. GARDNER, W.M. 1381.

THE GIRLS' SCHOOL HOUSE COMMITTEE.

We have received the following circular:—

"Dear Sir and Brother,—I beg to inform you that I have been nominated to fill the vacancy on the Board of the House Committee occasioned by the election of Col. Francis Burdett as one of the Trustees; and I shall feel obliged if you could make it convenient to attend the meeting of the Life Governors, to be held at the Freemasons' Hall, on Thursday, the 27th inst., and there record one of your votes in my favour. The interest I take in all Masonic matters, and more especially in this Institution, being so well known to you that I am led to hope the same may be sufficient to secure for me your support on that occasion. I have no desire to displace any of the brethren who at present constitute the House Committee, but solely to fill the vacancy before referred to.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,
"H. A. DUBOIS.
"2, Gresham Buildings, Basinghall-street, May, 14th."

Mulum in Parbo; or Masonic Notes and Queries.

THE MASONS' COMPANY.

On looking carefully over Ashmole's Diary, I find that he does mention the Astrologers' Feast after 1759, namely, July 13th, 1682—"The Astrologers' Feast was restored by Mr. Moxon;" and, again, January 29, 1683—"The Astrologers' Feast was held at the Three Cranes in Chancery-lane, Sir Edward Deering and the Town Clerk of London were Stewards." With regard to the "Old Freemasons," &c., though it is true that, in Preston's Edition of 1788, the words occur, as Bro. Hughan properly points out, yet, as Bro. Dr. Oliver made that footnote his own, in his Edition of 1861, the 17th, by greatly altering and abbreviating it, I venture to think that he ought to have verified his authorities. Preston, with all his merit, which is very great, was somewhat careless in collating quotations and MSS., but this want of correctness constitutes one of the greatest difficulties of the Masonic student. All our writers more or less accept too readily the unverified statements of others, and hand them on, without hesitation, from one to another.

A. F. A. WOODFORD.

In answer to our most active and indefatigable Masonic student, Bro. Woodford, I desire to state that in the *Freemason* for May 8th, I gave the entries in Elias Ashmole's Diary respecting his initiation in a lodge at Warrington, A.D. 1646, and his visitation of a lodge in London, A.D. 1682, which I transcribed from the Edition of Lilly's and Ashmole's Lives of A.D. 1774, and which Bro. Woodford some time since informed me were the same as the first edition of the Diary, published in 1714.

I cannot find any authority for the reference to the "seven other Old Freemasons," in Preston's "Illustrations of Masonry," which latter statement is not only to be found in the excellent edition of that well-known, by the revered Bro. Dr. Oliver (Spencer, London), but also in the earlier issues, even to 1788, which I have now before me. In the first and second editions but little historical information is to be found, but the successive issues were much enlarged from time to time.

Will Bro. Woodford kindly have the whole of the reference to Elias Ashmole transcribed from the History of Berkshire, so far as the author refers to Freemasonry? It would be a boon to many, and would, I feel, be

appreciated by the numerous readers of the *Freemason*. Also state date of the edition of the History of Berkshire in which the reference to Ashmole's Masonic career occurs. I presume Dr. Knipe's statement is the authority for the assertion in the "Biographia Britannica" that Ashmole's election as a member of Masonic lodge was by him "considered as a mark of great honour." The quotation is to be found in Dr. Mackay's Grand Encyclopædia of Freemasonry, but I should like an authorised transcript of the original, and also date of first publication of work. We know nothing as yet about the Astrologers' Feast, but for certain Bro. Ashmole was not only a Freemason, but also a believer in Astrology. In fact, he apparently fancied studies which were by the majority considered unfathomable.

Preston's transcripts from old documents are sometimes most inaccurate.

W. J. HUGHAN.

Reviews.

Mr. Heckethorn has written a work professedly on secret societies, lately published by Bentley and Son. We opened it expecting to find a work of original research and careful verification, for a history of secret societies must always be a very difficult undertaking from the very nature of the case. We must confess to our entire disappointment. We say nothing of the childish attacks on Freemasonry, and Mr. Heckethorn's evident ignorance of what Freemasonry is or professes to be; but we cannot concede that Mr. Heckethorn's jottings and cuttings and extracts can fairly be called a history of secret societies at all. The history of secret societies is, as we said before, not only a very difficult one, but it is a very interesting one, and requires to be studied and elaborated with much of care and no little of power. It is a very curious chapter, look at it which way you will, in the history of the human race, and cannot be disposed of by some shallow sciolist who has not yet mastered the A B C of his subject, and utterly misapprehends the true records of this remarkable feature of the human love for the mysterious and the incommunicable. Mr. Heckethorn's dissertation on secret societies strikes us as eminently weak and unsatisfactory, and clearly based on a somewhat imperfect acquaintance with the subject on which he is dilating. There are two other great drawbacks to his work, its superficiality and its imperfectness. It professes to be a history of all secret societies, and it only deals with those of which we have even already fuller and more minute information than Mr. Heckethorn imparts, while it ostentatiously ignores altogether many of which we should like to know something. All, therefore, that Mr. Heckethorn's work can fairly be called is, a "Contribution towards the History of Secret Societies," a little diffuse and somewhat heavy. We feel bound to say this, in the interest of Masonic students, as we could not allow it to be a work of any authority on "Secret Societies." With regard to his attack on Freemasonry, we can afford simply to laugh at it. His verbiage and line of attack seems, to say the truth, to savour of a Roman Catholic School of thought and feeling; and if Mr. Heckethorn be not a disciple of Stoneyhurst, the animus of his incriminations of our Order coincides in a somewhat remarkable measure with the effusions generally everywhere of the Ultramontane Press just now. Be that as it may, this new attack on our good old Craft will do it and us no harm. To use a young man's phrase just now, it is in "very bad form," and the "rubbing in" does not go down. And while we say this, we do not wish to assert that Mr. Heckethorn's book is without value. "Au contraire," subject to much reservation as to his authorities and views, we think his book, for what it does contain, may be scanned over by the Masonic student who is working up the history of secret societies. But for a publication which shall give us the "raison d'être" of such societies, on higher and more satisfactory grounds—for a more calm, and critical, and philosophical, and exhaustive treatment of a large subject—we must, we fear, wait yet for the coming writer, as such conditions are hardly to be found in the one-sided and sketchy history of Mr. Heckethorn.

DISTRICT GRAND LODGE OF BENGAL.

A Quarterly Communication of the District Grand Lodge of Bengal was held at Freemasons' Hall, Calcutta, on Saturday the 20th of March. Present: Bros. John B. Roberts, Past Dep. D.G.M., as District Grand Master; F. Jennings, Past Dep. D.G.M., as Dep. District Grand Master; W. B. Mactavish, D.S.G.W.; W. G. Amos, Past D.G.D., as D.J.G.W.; J. B. Knight, Past D.S.G.W.; W. H. Jones, D.G. Treas.; W. C. Bonnerjee, D.G. Reg.; D. J. Zemin, Past D.G. Reg.; Thomas Jones, Past D.G. Reg.; H. H. Locke, Past Dep. D.G.M., as D.G. Sec.; W. H. Fitze, Past D.S.G.D., as D.S.G.D.; A. LeFranc, D.J.G.D.; Jas. Watson, D.G.D. of C.; P. C. Datt, D.G. Assist., of C.; W. M. Benwell, Past D.G.A.D. of C.; J. H. Turner, Past D.G.S.B., as D.G.S.B.; J. H. E. Beer, Past D.G. Org., as D.G. Org.; C. H. Compton, Past D.G. Org.; W. H. T. Ayres, D.G. Purst; T. Leach, of L. 232, B.B.; J. Mumford, C. F. Egerton Allen, H. M. Rustomjee, J. L. Anderson, Lieut. B. D. Hayes, Robt. Monk, D. G. Stewards; Bro. G. Alexander, D. G. Tyler. The following lodges were represented:—Star in the East, No. 67; True Friendship, No. 218; Humility with Fortitude, No. 229; Marine, No. 232; Anchor and Hope, No. 234; Courage with Humanity, No. 392; St. John, No. 486; Excelsior, No. 825; Star of Orissa, No. 1106; Temperance and Benevolence, No. 1160; Sandeman, No. 1374; Pioneer, No. 1490.

The minutes of the Quarterly Communication of the 28th December, 1875, were read and confirmed.

The District Grand Master in the Chair reminded the brethren that since the last Quarterly Communication of District Grand Lodge, that held on the 28th December, the minutes of which had just been confirmed,—there had been, on the 7th January, a Special Communication, for the purpose of dealing with certain propositions relative to the support of the Bengal Masonic Association. The minutes of this Special Communication would now be put before District Grand Lodge for confirmation, but he wished the brethren to understand clearly that the confirmation which would now be asked for was a confirmation of the minutes only, not of the resolutions of which they were the record. The confirmation of the resolutions by which (with the final sanction of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master of England) they would acquire the force of law, in and for the Province of Bengal, could only be voted at a meeting held after the lapse of a period of not less than three months from the Special Communication of the 7th January. Summonses were about to be issued immediately for such a meeting, and with each summons it was required by Art. 8, page 59 of the Book of Constitutions, that a copy of the resolutions which had been agreed to at the first meeting should be sent to every lodge. All therefore that District Grand Lodge was now asked to do, by "confirming the minutes" of the Special Communication of the 7th January, was to certify that the business which these minutes declared had been transacted at the meeting in question, had taken place, and had been correctly recorded.

Bro. Prosonno Coomar Dutt moved—That the minutes of the proceedings of District Grand Lodge, at a Special Communication held on the 7th January, 1875, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read. Seconded by Bro. W. H. Fitze, P.M. 218, and Past D.S.G.D., and carried.

Bro. D. J. Zemin, P.M. 229, and Past D.G. Registrar, then moved that the aforesaid minutes of the 7th January, 1875, be declared to be correctly recorded. Seconded by Bro. W. G. Amos, W.M. 229, and Past D.G. Deacon, and carried.

The District Grand Master in the Chair addressed the District Grand Lodge as follows:—

"It is customary for you to receive an address from this chair at our Quarterly Communications of District Grand Lodge, but my words to you this evening will be but few. I will not be guilty of the mock modesty of saying that I could not have prepared an address, but still, having only taken charge four days ago, you would scarcely expect me to speak very glibly of the affairs of the Province. The Acting District Grand Secretary has, however, furnished me with a few notes, from which I find that at the close of the year 1874 there were 27 lodges working, and 675 subscribing members, as against 25 lodges and 581 members at the close of 1873.

"Financially, our position is also extremely satisfactory, as you will see from the Reports from our two Committees (the Committee of General Purposes and the Committee of the Fund of Benevolence) which will be put before you this evening.

"The punctuality with which nearly all the lodges in the Province have submitted their returns is most marked, and it is also very gratifying to me that there is not one single subject of a disagreeable nature to bring before you. No exclusions have been reported from any lodge in the Province since we last met.

"It gives me much pleasure to announce to you that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, our Most Worshipful Grand Master, has been pleased to appoint Captain Marmaduke Ramsay, of Meean Meer, to be District Grand Master for the Punjab. Our R. W. brother was installed at Lahore on the 26th of last month, and it will be, gratifying to you all to know that the Installing Officer was a Past Deputy District Grand Master of Bengal. In the Masonic periodical which I have in my hand (the "Masonic Record of Western India," for March, 1875) there is a very interesting account of the ceremony, and an allusion to the great Masonic worth of our Bro. H. H. Locke, which greatly commends itself to me, written with a warmth of language exceedingly pleasant to read. I am sure that you will join me in congratulating both the District of the Punjab and our Bro. Ramsay on this appointment, and in sincere and most cordial good wishes for the prosperity of our sister Grand District under his rule.

"In conclusion I would say a word to you about our Bengal Freemasons' Almanac and Diary for 1875. It has been considerably enlarged this year, and now gives as much Masonic information concerning the sister Grand Districts of Madras, Bombay, British Burmah, and the Punjab as for Bengal itself. A very great amount of labour has been devoted to it by Bro. Locke and Bro. Dutt, and the expense which has been incurred in getting together the latest information from distant places and in producing the work in its present enlarged form, and in the best style in which it could be executed in Calcutta, has naturally been considerable; unless therefore a proportionately larger sale is obtained, the amount which our Fund of Benevolence (to which, as you know, all the profits upon our Diary are devoted) will derive from it will fail to be in any way commensurate with the pains which have been taken to please you. Our Bro. Locke says that he confidently expects a larger sale this year, and he has had, I know, a sufficient number of copies printed to enable every working Bengal Freemason (according to the statistics which I gave you a little while since) to possess himself of one. I hope, brethren, that you will all do your best to see that he is not disappointed in his expectation, which to me seems certainly a reasonable one, for I hardly know how any real working Mason could manage to get on without his Bengal Diary—I know, at any rate, that I could not."

The report of the Committee of General Purposes having been printed and circulated, was, on motion made by Bro.

Zemin, Past D.G. Reg., seconded by Bro. Fitze, Past D.G. Deacon, taken as read.

Bro. W. C. Bonnerjee, D. G. Reg., moved, and Bro. P. C. Dutt, D. G. Assist. D. of C., seconded, that the accounts of the District Grand Lodge and Fund of Benevolence for the quarter ending 28th February, 1875, as presented in the abstracts furnished in the report of the Committee of General Purposes, be accepted and passed as correct, which was carried.

Bro. Fitze, Past D. G. Deacon, moved, and Bro. Mactavish, D. S. G. W., seconded, that the remainder of the report of the Committee of General Purposes be also adopted and recorded, which was carried.

It was proposed by Bro. Mactavish, D. S. G. W., and seconded by Bro. J. H. Turner, Past D. G. S. B., that the report from the Committee of the Fund of Benevolence be adopted and recorded. Carried.

Pursuant to notice, Bro. J. H. E. Beer moved that Worshipful Bro. John Blessington Roberts be the nominee of this District Grand Lodge for the vacant office of District Grand Master of Bengal.

The District Grand Master in the Chair said he must ask Bro. Beer not to move this resolution, at any rate in its present form as to wording. However desirable it might be to approach the M. W. the Grand Master with some representation upon the subject (and he believed the wishes of the brethren in Bengal that some representation should be made were very strong), he did not think that the mode of doing so, which the motion in question appeared to contemplate, was the proper one.

Bro. H. H. Locke likewise took exception to the course proposed by Bro. Beer's motion. It was, he thought, entirely out of the question that this District Grand Lodge should take any such step as that of "nomination;" in fact, were such a resolution passed, it must prove wholly infructuous, even if it did not subject us to censure from the Grand Lodge of England for encroaching, or at any rate seeming to encroach, upon the prerogative of the M. W. the Grand Master. At the same time he thought that the lodges in the Province might, without impropriety, make known to the M. W. the G. M. their desires upon a subject of such near concern to their prosperity; and although the Grand Master was in no way bound to adopt any recommendation that might be made, it was not, he thought, unlikely that, in the event of their being anything like a general concurrence in the wishes of the brethren, it would receive full consideration, and would doubtless much assist the M. W. the G. M. in determining his choice. He thought that if Bro. Beer would amend his motion, so that it should simply invite the lodges in the Province to express any wishes they might have upon the subject, it would meet with full support from all present. He should himself be very happy to second the motion in such a shape, whereas in its present form, though in full sympathy with its object, he should feel compelled to vote against it.

Bro. Thomas Jones, Past D.G. Reg., expressed his concurrence in the view taken by Bro. Locke as to the form which the motion should take.

Bro. Beer declared his entire readiness to amend his motion as suggested.

Bro. C. H. Compton, Past D.G. Org., was of opinion that Bro. Beer could not alter the motion from the form in which he had placed it upon the Agenda paper.

Bro. Bonnerjee, D.G. Reg., and Bro. Thomas Jones, Past D.G. Reg., were of the same opinion.

Bro. Locke thought that Bro. Beer could do so with the consent of the meeting, but of course not without this; and, as objection had been made, he supposed Bro. Beer would be obliged to adhere to the motion as entered on the Agenda paper. He much regretted, however, that Bro. Beer was not permitted to move an amended motion instead.

Bro. Beer then said that, simply as a matter of form, and for the purpose of giving the opportunity of an amendment being proposed, of the kind suggested by the District Grand Master in the Chair and by Bro. Locke, he would move his original resolution, as given above.

The motion was seconded, pro forma, by Bro. F. Jennings, Past Dep. D.G.M., in order that the resolution of Bro. Beer might not fall for want of a seconder, and so preclude the adoption of an amendment which it was intended should be put.

Bro. H. H. Locke, Past Dep. D.G.M., then moved the following amendment:—"That the lodges in the Province be invited to send in, to the District Grand Secretary, the name of the brother whom they would wish to see appointed to the office of District Grand Master, with a view to the submission of the same to the M.W. the Grand Master for his gracious consideration."

This amendment was seconded by Bro. Thomas Jones, Past D.G. Reg., who spoke very forcibly in support of it. On being put to the vote, the amendment was declared to be carried.

After some other business had been transacted, the usual collection was made for the Fund of Benevolence. The amount was announced to be Rs. 122, and was made over to the District Grand Treasurer.

District Grand Lodge was then closed in form.

ARREST OF A MASONIC SWINDLER.

It affords us a great deal of pleasure and gratification to be able to announce that a most consummate Masonic swindler has been arrested and brought to justice in California, and at the present time he is serving a sentence of imprisonment in the county jail of Solano County, for obtaining money by false representations.

At the last session of the Grand Lodge, the Grand Master called attention to the operations of this rascal,

who had been operating in the Western States, and cautioned the Craft to be on the look-out for him, as it was probable he would visit California. Shortly after the adjournment of the Grand Lodge the fellow made his appearance in San Francisco. He even had the audacity to visit the Temple, and interview the President of the Board of Relief. Brother Past Master Elias Rodecker examined the swindler and found him to be an unusually bright Mason. He gave the name of Alexander Craig, said he had been a deputy lecturer, and told a story of distress which so aroused the sympathies of Brothers McCormick and Rodecker that they gave him quite a large sum of money. When Brother Alexander G. Abell, the Grand Secretary, was informed of the case, he immediately recognized the description as that of the man who had been mentioned by the Grand Master, and for whom the brethren were notified to keep watch. Efforts were made to secure the arrest of the rascal in the city, but he succeeded in eluding those who were sent to look after him, and escaped into the country. Every few days the fellow would be heard from, but, like the Irishman's flea, he was always gone when you went to put your finger on him. After a time he turned up in Vallejo, where he "went for" some of the brethren, and succeeding in getting sums ranging from £10 to £50. Immediately after obtaining the money he started for San Francisco, but had hardly taken his departure before it was discovered that he was a confidence operator. A telegram was forwarded to Grand Secretary Abell, requesting him to cause the arrest of the fugitive on the arrival of the boat in San Francisco. Unfortunately the dispatch was forwarded to Oakland instead of San Francisco, and the opportunity to make the arrest was lost. On the boat, while coming from Vallejo, the plausible rascal succeeded in obtaining money from two of the passengers and the captain.

When informed of the miscarriage of the telegram, and the consequent failure to arrest the rascal, the Sheriff of Solano county visited San Francisco and began a search for the fugitive, whom he found in one of the theatres hob-nobbing with a police officer. He whispered to the officer to keep an eye on the fellow until the boat was ready to depart for Vallejo, when the arrest was made and the prisoner conveyed to Solano county.

A grand jury was immediately empanelled and the case submitted, and a true bill found against the prisoner, to which he pleaded guilty, and was sentenced to one year's imprisonment in the county jail—the utmost penalty allowed by the law.

This precious rascal is twenty-eight or thirty years of age; about six feet high; large dark eyes, with an unusual amount of white in them, and with a restless expression—presenting a wild gaze, as though he momentarily expected to be seized by an officer of the law. His hair is a dark brown, with whiskers lighter in colour. His complexion is medium blonde, and his weight is, perhaps, 140 to 150 pounds. The fellow is a good billiard player, and was in the habit of loafing about billiard saloons, playing pool, etc.

Obituary.

BRO. J. HOLLAND.

The High Cross Lodge has lost a valuable member by the death of Bro. J. Holland, of Northumberland Park. The deceased was much respected wherever he was known. He was always ready to perform an act of kindness; and the very large attendance at Abney Park Cemetery when he was interred was an unmistakeable proof of the affection with which he was regarded.

BRO. C. T. WALMISLEY.

We regret to have to record the death of Bro. Charles Thomas Walmisley, who was for nearly twenty years Deputy Grand Secretary of Grand Lodge of Ireland. He was in his 63rd year, and died on the 13th inst., after a short illness, at the house of his brother, in Belsize-road, Hampstead, near London.

BRO. WILLIAM ROBERTSON, P.M. 333.

The funeral of this lamented brother, whose death at the early age of forty-eight years was announced in our obituary on Monday, 10th inst., took place on Tuesday. It having been resolved that the funeral should be a public one, the brethren met at two o'clock in Edgins-street, U.P. Church Hall, where appropriate devotional exercises were conducted by the Rev. Mr. McBride. Thereafter the procession of brethren was formed four abreast, headed by the R.W.M. and Past Masters of Lodge 333, and followed by the hearse, and two carriages containing the immediate relatives of the deceased, marched from the house of the latter in Pollokshaws-road to the Necropolis, where the remains of the departed brother were interred in a site selected and acquired by him only some eight months ago. By the removal of Bro. Robertson the province has untimely lost one of its most zealous and accomplished brethren. He joined the Craft in the year 1862, being entered, passed, and raised in Lodge St. George, No. 333, which at that time held its meetings in Hutcheson-street. He speedily discovered himself to be one who had the good of Freemasonry at heart, and both willing and able to work for the furthering of its interests. Accordingly, he was soon promoted to office, holding the Senior Warden's chair in 1863 and 1864, and being installed in the year following. At the close of 1866 he resigned the R.W.M. chair, but up to the time of his fatal illness, about a month ago, he was a chief column at all meetings of the lodge where there was work to be done. Nor were his services confined to his mother lodge alone, but freely given throughout the Province of Glasgow and adjoining provinces; inasmuch so that, in acknowledgment of them, he had been affiliated as honorary member in no fewer than twenty-two lodges. Bro. Robertson leaves behind him a widow and eight children, four sons and four daughters,

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, May 28, 1875.

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

SATURDAY, MAY 22.

Lodge 1297, West Kent, Forest Hill Hotel, Forest Hill.
Manchester Lodge of Instruction (179), Yorkshire Grey, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-sq., at 8; Bro. H. Ash, Prec.
Lily Lodge of Instruction (820), Greyhound, Richmond.
Star Lodge of Instruction (1275), Marquess of Granby, New Cross-road, at 7; Bro. C. G. Dilley, Preceptor.

MONDAY, MAY 24.

Lodge 4, Royal Somerset House and Inverness, Freemasons' Hall.
" 26, Castle of Harmony, Willis's Rooms, King-st., St. James's.
" 58, Felicity, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-st.
" 183, Unity, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-st.
" 902, Burgoyne, Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-st.
" 905, De Grey and Ripon, Angel Hotel, Gt. Ilford.
Chap. 25, Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall.
Prince Leopold Lodge of Instruction (1445), Lord Stanley Tavern, Sandringham-road, Kingsland, at 7; Bro. T. Austin, Preceptor.
Strong Man Lodge of Instruction (45), Crown Tavern, Clerkenwell Green, at 8; Bro. Beckett, Preceptor.
Sincerity Lodge of Instruction (174), Railway Tavern, Fenchurch-street Station, at 7.
Camden Lodge of Instruction (704), Adelaide Tavern, Haverstock-hill, at 8; Bro. T. A. Adams, Preceptor.
Eastern Star Lodge of Instruction (95), Royal Hotel, Mile-end-road, at 7.30; Bro. E. Gottheil, Preceptor.
British Oak Lodge of Instruction (813), Bank of Friendship Tavern, Mile-end, at 7 for 8.
St. James's Union Lodge of Instruction (180), Union Tavern, Air-st., Regent-st., at 8; Bro. J. R. Stacey, Preceptor.
Wellington Lodge of Instruction, White Swan, Deptford, at 8; Bro. C. G. Dilley, P.M. 1155, Preceptor.
West Kent Lodge of Improvement (1297), St. Saviour's College, Stansted-road, Forest-hill, at 7.30; Bro. H. W. Lindus, Preceptor.
Metropolitan Mark Lodge of Instruction, Coach and Horses Hotel, 323, Strand, at 8.
Perfect Ashlar Lodge of Instruction (1178), Victoria Tavern, Lower-road, Rotherhithe, at 8; Bro. C. W. Kent, Preceptor.

TUESDAY, MAY 25.

Lodge 259, Prince of Wales's, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.
" 1158, Southern Star, Montpellier Tavern, Walworth.
Chap. 21, Cyrus, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 46, Old Union, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
" 180, St. James's Union, Freemasons' Hall.
Yarborough Lodge of Instruction (554), Green Dragon, Stepney, at 8; Bro. Barnes, P.M., Preceptor.
Domestic Lodge of Instruction, Palmerston Tavern, Grosvenor-park, Canberwell, at 8; Bro. Larham, Preceptor.
Faith Lodge of Instruction (141), Refreshment Rooms, Victoria-st. (opposite Westminster Palace Hotel), at 8; Bro. C. A. Cottebrune, Preceptor.
Prince Fredk. William Lodge of Instruction (753), Lord's Hotel, Lord's Cricket Ground, St. John's Wood, at 8; Bro. F. G. Baker, Preceptor.
Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction (860), King Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7.30; Bro. Crawley, Preceptor.
Prosperity Lodge of Instruction (65), Gladstone Tavern, Bishopsgate-st. Within, at 7.30; Bro. J. L. Mather, P.M. 65 and 1227, Preceptor.
St. Marylebone Lodge of Instruction (1305), British Stores Tavern, New-street, St. John's Wood, at 8; Bro. T. A. Adams, Preceptor.
Constitutional Lodge of Instruction (55), Wheat-sheaf Hotel, Hand-court, Holborn, at 7; Bro. J. R. Stacey, P.M. 180, Preceptor.
Percy Lodge of Instruction, Grapes Tavern, Little Windmill-street, W.
Israel Lodge of Instruction, Rising Sun Tavern, Globe-road, at 7.30.
Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement (975), Jamaica Coffee House, St. Michael's Alley, Cornhill, at 6.30; Comp. Jas. Brett, Preceptor.
Sydney Lodge of Instruction, White Hart Hotel, Upper Norwood; Bro. H. Frances, Preceptor.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26.

Lodge 2, Antiquity, Freemasons' Hall.
" 212, Euphrates, Masonic Hall, Basinghall-street.
" 507, United Pilgrims, Horns Tavern, Kennington.
" 753, Prince Frederick William, Knights of St. John Hotel, Queen's-terrace, St. John's Wood.
" 754, High Cross, Seven Sisters, Tottenham.
" 898, Temperance in the East, 6, Newby-pl., Poplar.
Chap. 13, Union of Waterloo, Freemasons' Hall, William-street, Woolwich.
Pythagorean Lodge of Instruction (79), Prince of Orange, Greenwich, at 8; Bro. J. Robt. Nash, Preceptor.
New Concord Lodge of Instruction, Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton, at 8.
Royal Union Lodge of Instruction, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st., at 8; Bro. T. A. Adams, Prec.
Confidence Lodge of Instruction, White Hart Tavern, Abchurch-lane, at 7.30.
Peckham Lodge of Instruction, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham, at 8; Bro. David Rose, Preceptor.

Temperance in the East Lodge of Instruction, George the Fourth, Catherine-street, Poplar.
Stanhope Lodge of Instruction, Thicket Hotel, Anerley, at 7.30 p.m.; Bro. H. W. Lindus, Preceptor.
Finsbury Park Lodge of Instruction (1288), Finsbury Park Tavern, Seven Sisters'-road, N., at 8. Bro. P. Dickinson, Preceptor.
United Strength Lodge of Instruction (228), the Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, Kentish-town, at 8; Bro. J. N. Frost, Preceptor.
Southwark Lodge of Instruction (879), Southwark Park Tavern, Southwark Park.
Dalston Lodge of Instruction (975), Havelock Tavern, Albion-road, Dalston, E.

THURSDAY, MAY 27.

General Committee Girls' School, at 4.
Lodge 34, Mount Moriah, Freemasons' Hall.
" 55, Constitutional, Private Rooms, Leytonstone.
" 99, Shakespeare, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-st.
" 524, Duke of Connaught, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Haggerston.
Chap. 5, St. George's, Freemasons' Hall.
" 29, St. Alban's, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
" 538, Vane, Freemasons' Hall.
" 657, Canonbury, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-st.
" 834, Ranelagh, Clarendon Hotel, Hammersmith.
Egyptian Lodge of Instruction (27), Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-st., at 7.30; J. Crawley, Preceptor.
Albert Edward Lodge of Instruction, King's Arms Hotel, Peckham Rye, W. W. Ayling, Hon. Sec.
Fidelity Lodge of Instruction (3), Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W., at 8; Bro. T. A. Adams, Preceptor.
Finsbury Lodge of Instruction, Jolly Anglers' Tavern, Bath-street, City-road; Bro. Stean, Preceptor.
United Mariners' Lodge of Instruction, Three Cranes, Mile-end-road, at 8; Bro. T. J. Barnes, Preceptor.
Whittington Lodge of Instruction (862), Crown Tavern, Holborn, at 8; Bro. L. Alexander, P.M. 188, Preceptor.
Doric Chapter of Instruction, Three Cranes Tavern, Mile-end-road, at 8; Comp. T. J. Barnes, Preceptor.
Ebury Lodge of Instruction, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank.
Highgate Lodge of Instruction (1366), Buil and Gate, Kentish-town, at 8; Bro. J. N. Frost, Preceptor.
The Great City Lodge of Instruction (1426), 111, Cheap-side, at 6.30.
High Cross Lodge of Instruction (754), Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.

FRIDAY, MAY 28.

Lodge 197, Jerusalem, Freemasons' Hall.
" 780, Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge.
" 861, Rosemary Branch, Hoxton.
Chap. 134, Caledonian, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 862, Whittington, Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-st.
Preceptory 74, Harcourt, Greyhound Inn, Richmond.
St. George's Lodge of Instruction (140), Globe Tavern, Royal-hill, Greenwich.
Robert Burns Lodge of Instruction, Union Tavern, Air-st., Regent-st., at 8.
Belgrave Lodge of Instruction, (749), Lyceum Tavern, 354, Strand, at 8; Bro. Pulsford, Preceptor.
Panmure Lodge of Instruction (720), Balham Hotel, Balham, at 7.30.
Unions Emulation Lodge of Improvement for M.M.'s, Freemasons' Hall, at 7.
Temperance Lodge of Instruction, Victoria Tavern, Victoria-road, Deptford, at 8.
Clapton Lodge of Instruction (1365), White Hart, Clapton, at 7.30; Bro. James Brett, P.G.P., &c., Preceptor.
Royal Standard Lodge of Instruction (1298), the Castle Tavern, Holloway, at 8; Bro. W. F. Rogers, Preceptor.
Pythagorean Chapter of Instruction (79), Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd., at 8; Comp. W. Smith, Preceptor.
Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction (1056), Portugal Hotel, Fleet-street; Bro. Stacey, P.M. 180, Preceptor.
Westbourne Lodge of Instruction (733), Horse and Groom, Winsley-street, Oxford-street, at 8.
Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, 269, Pentonville-road, at 7; Br. T. Adams, P.G.P., Preceptor.
United Pilgrims Lodge of Instruction, Duke of Edinburgh, Brixton, at 7; Bro. M. S. Larham, Preceptor.
St. James's Lodge of Instruction, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-road, Bermondsey, at 8; C. W. Kent, P.M., Preceptor.
Duke of Edinburgh Lodge of Instruction, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar, at 7; Bro. D. S. Potts, Preceptor.
Doric Lodge of Instruction, Earl Grey Tavern, Mile-end-road, at 8, Bro. P. M. Austin, Preceptor.
Burgoyne Lodge of Instruction, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W., at 8; Bro. P. M. Wuest, Preceptor.
St. Luke's Lodge of Instruction (144), Rose Tavern, Fulham-road, S.W.
Chigwell Lodge of Instruction, Bald-faced Stag Hotel, Buckhurst-hill, at 8.
Burdett Coutts Lodge of Instruction (1278), Approach Tavern, Approach-road, Victoria Park, at 8; Bro. J. Crawley, Preceptor.
Stability Lodge of Instruction (217), Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue; Bro. H. Muggeridge, P.M., Preceptor.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, May 29, 1875.

MONDAY, MAY 24.

Lodge 148, Lights, Masonic Rooms, Warrington, at 6.30.
Chap. 241, Friendship, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 5.30.

TUESDAY, MAY 25.

Lodge 178, Antiquity, Royal Hotel, Wigan, at 6.30.
" 1384, Equity, Walker's Hotel, Widnes, at 6.
" 1393, Hamer, 92, Everton-road, Liverpool, at 6.
Chap. 721, Grosvenor, Masonic Rooms, Eastgate-row, Chester, at 6.30.
" 1094, Temple, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 6.
Merchants' Lodge of Instruction (241), Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 6.
Downshire Lodge of Instruction (594), Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26.

Lodge 220, Harmony, Garston Hotel, Garston, at 4.30.
" 724, Derby, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 6.
" 1061, Triumph, Masonic Hall, Lytham.
" 1325, Stanley, Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, at 9.
" 1403, West Lancashire, Commercial Hotel, Orms-kirk, at 6.
Chap. 1052, Callender, Public Hall, Risholme.
Neptune Lodge of Instruction (1264), Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8.
De Grey and Ripon Lodge of Instruction (1356), 80, North Hill-street, Toxteth Park, Liverpool, at 7.30.
St. John's Lodge of Instruction (673), Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8.

THURSDAY, MAY 27.

Lodge 594, Downshire, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 6.
Chap. 292, Liverpool, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 6.
" 1086, Walton, St. Lawrence Schools, Kirkdale.
Mariners' Lodge of Instruction (249), Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8.
Duke of Edinburgh Lodge of Instruction (1182), 150, Park-lane, Liverpool, at 7.

SATURDAY, MAY 29.

Chap. 178, Harmony, Royal Hotel, Wigan, at 3.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND VICINITY.

For the week ending Saturday, May 29, 1875.

All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, MAY 24.

Lodge 187, St. John's, Black Bull Inn, Carlisle.
" 219, Star, 12, Tron-gate.
" 362, St. Clair, 25, Robertson-street.
" 541, Marie Stuart, Masonic Hall, Crosshill.

TUESDAY, MAY 25.

Lodge 413, Athole, 213, Buchanan-street.
Chap. 67, Cathedral, 22, Struthers-street, Glasgow.
" 73, Caledonian Unity, 170, Buchanan-street.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26.

Lodge 505, Burns, St. Mary's Commercial Inn, Hurlford.
" 510, Maryhill, 167, Main-st., Maryhill.
Red Cross Conclave, Glasgow, 213, Buchanan-st.

THURSDAY, MAY 27.

Lodge 290, Dalry Blair, White Hart Hotel, Dalry.
" 334, St. John, Castle Inn, New Cumnock.
" 553, St. Vincent, 162, Kent-road.
Chap. 117, Govan, Portland-buildings, Govan.

FRIDAY, MAY 28.

Provincial Grand Chapter, St. Mark's Hall, 213, Buchanan street.

Lodge 118, St. Bride's, Masonic Hall, Douglas.
" 125, St. James's, Masons' Arms, Newton, Ayr.
" 153, Royal Arch, Town Hall, Pollokshaws.
" 236, St. John, Forth Inn, Carnwarth.
" 347, St. John's, Masonic Hall, Rutherglen.
" 399, Royal Blues, Commercial Hotel, Kilbirnie.

SATURDAY, MAY 29.

Lodge 28, St. John's, Black Bull Inn, Kirkintilloch.
" 305, St. John's Woodhall, Freemasons' Hall, Holytown.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, May 29, 1875.

MONDAY, MAY 24.

Lodge 145, St. Stephen's, Writers' Court, High-st.
" 349, St. Clair, Freemasons' Hall.

TUESDAY, MAY 25.

Lodge 151, Defensive Band, Alexandra Hotel, Cockburn-st.
Chap. 40, Naval and Military, Freemasons' Hall.
Red Cross Conclave 4, Edinburgh, Writers'-court, High-st.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26.

Lodge 2, Canongate, St. John's Chapel, St. John-st.
" 112, St. John, Royal Hotel, Musselburgh.

THURSDAY, MAY 27.

Lodge 8, Journeymen, Masonic Hall, Blackfriars-st.
" 392, Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall.

FRIDAY, MAY 28.

Lodge 223, Trafalgar, 54, Bernard-st., Leith.

MASONIC FLAGS

FOR HIRE.

Freemasons' Arms.....	15ft. by 12ft.
Knights Templar Arms.....	15ft. by 12ft.
Red Cross of Rome and Constantine Arms	15ft. by 12ft.
Square and Compasses, with Prince of Wales's	
Feathers in Centre	12ft. by 9ft.
City of London Arms.....	10ft. by 7ft.
Union Jack	27ft. by 13ft.
"	10ft. by 6ft.
Duke of Edinburgh.....	9ft. by 4ft.
Russian	9ft. by 4ft.

KENNING'S MASONIC DEPOT
198, FLEET-STREET, LONDON.