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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

**LION AND LAMB LODGE (No. 192).**—A regular meeting of this well known lodge was held at the Cannon Street Hotel, on Thursday, the 2nd inst., at which were present Bros. Geo. Newman, W.M.; T. Cohu, S.W.; C. Arkell, J.W.; J. G. Marsh, P.M., Sec.; E. Jones, S.D.; H. Legge, J.D.; F. Fellowes, I.G.; W. T. Rickwood, D.C.; and E. King, P.M., Steward; also Bros. Geo. Abbott, I.P.M.; G. Kenning, P.M.; E. J. Kellaway, G. H. Gillam, W. L. Pontch, Geo. Bartholemew, S. Haynes, C. J. Benson, W. F. Poulton, Robt. Clank, R. E. Bright, C. J. Scholes, S. T. Lucas, T. Fisher, S. Edwards, J. Kent, E. Bunch, J. Larkin, W. Small, A. Lewis, W. Alfatt, B. Penkins, R. H. Goddard, T. Perrin, the Rev. J. H. Jukes, P.P. G.W. Hereford; and H. Stevenson. The lodge was duly opened, and the minutes read and confirmed. Bro. W. L. Pontch was passed to the Second Degree, and Bro. Geo. Borers was initiated into the mysteries of the Order. This meeting being the day of election, Bro. T. Cohu was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year; and Bro. Geo. Kenning was elected Treasurer. The sum of £5 was voted to Bro. George Newman, W.M., to defray the expense of the installation jewel granted by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, as the Steward representing the lodge on that occasion. Notice of motion was also given by Bro. Marsh to present to the W.M. the usual gold jewel of the lodge for the very able manner he has presided over the lodge during the past year. The minor business of the lodge having been transacted, the lodge was closed in due form and adjourned. The brethren then adjourned to the usual banquetting room, where a most excellent repast was served, the W.M. presiding. During the evening the loyal and Masonic toasts usually given were proposed and most heartily responded to. The W.M. gave "The Health of the W.M. Elect," which was received with the greatest enthusiasm. We are glad to notice that the lodge was honoured with the presence of its new member, Bro. the Rev. J. H. Jukes, P.G.W. Hereford, who presented to the lodge a short time since an ancient apron of the Craft belonging to one of the members of this lodge, and which bears date 1800—in consideration of which the said brother was unanimously elected a honorary member. The newly elected brother was most warmly received and congratulated, and returned thanks in an eloquent speech. The W.M., as usual, in the most hearty terms gave "The Visitors," which met with a general response—thanking the W.M. for the most kind and liberal hospitality always accorded to visitors by the Lion and Lamb Lodge. The W.M. announced that he had another pleasing duty to perform—amongst the many that fell to his lot during his year of office—that was to present to Bro. Marsh a slight testimonial, as a recognition of the able services he has rendered to the lodge and the members during the last eight years as its Secretary. The testimonial was set on foot a few months since amongst the members, and he had the great pleasure to announce that the testimonial consisted of a purse containing £50; and he hoped Bro. Marsh would receive it as a slight testimonial of the respect and esteem of the brethren, and as an appreciation of the services so ably rendered to the lodge during his eight years' Secretaryship. The W.M. having made the presentation, Bro. Marsh most cordially thanked the brethren for their kindness, and said he had been a member of the lodge 16 years, half of which had been devoted to the work of Secretary; and he hoped to continue to serve the lodge in that office for many years to come. The "Officers" and "Tyler's" toast brought a most agreeable meeting to a close. The visitors present were Bros. W. H. Lee, W.M. 1524; H. B. Dunn, Geo. Clarke, 177; W. Parker, 753; J. Jessett, 1489; W. F. Smart, 766; A. Leard, P.M. 1185; and J. W. Berrie, 1293.

**ROYAL OAK LODGE (No. 871).**—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, 25th ult., at the White Swan Tavern, High-street, Deptford. Present, Bros. S. O. Lewin, W.M.; H. Tuson, S.W.; J. Pakes, J.W. Bro. Wells having resigned his office, W. Myatt, P.M. was appointed S.D. in his stead. J. Langley (who acted as Secretary), J.D.; G. Limn, I.G.; J. Vohmann, W.S.; J.

Bavin, P.M. 147, Tyler. Past Masters, Bros. G. Andrews, I.P.M.; W. Myatt, P.M. Visitors, Bros. J. W. Baldwin, W.M. 1423; W. M. Goss, S.W. 176; W. T. Lover, J.W. 1178; and others. The lodge being opened by the W.M., Bro. S. O. Lewin, the minutes of the meeting held in October were read, unanimously confirmed, and signed by the W.M. Bro. G. Andrews, I.P.M., took the chair, and in an able manner raised Bro. T. W. Crout, 1326, to the Third Degree. The notice of motion by Bro. F. Walters, P.P.G.P. Middlesex, P.M. Sec., to revise the bye-laws was referred to a committee, to consist of the W.M. and officers of the lodge.

**LODGE OF ASAPH (No. 1319).**—The December meeting of this lodge was held on Monday last, at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. C. D. Jekyll, W.M., presiding. There were also present Bros. W. A. Tinney, S.W.; E. Terry, J.W.; C. Coote, P.M.; E. Frewin, I.P.M.; John Read, P.M.; E. Swanborough, J.D.; Charles Wellard, I.G.; Arthur Swanborough; Harry Cox, D.C.; C. Stephenson, W.S.; H. J. E. Tinney, Abraham Henson, H. Snyders, E. Stanton Jones, Secretary; Edmund Reynolds, E. Chamberlain, P.M.; R. Soutar, John Maclean, and G. R. Egerton, Org. There was also present a distinguished Past Master from India. Mr. W. B. Fair was initiated, and this was the only business before the brethren; the ceremony was splendidly performed in the usual Asaph Lodge style. After this the lodge was closed, and the brethren separated.

**ST. CLEMENT'S DANE LODGE (No. 1351).**—The usual meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 2nd inst., at the King's Head Hotel, Strand, when as usual, there was a goodly muster of the brethren. Unfortunately Bro. Steward, the W.M., was prevented by illness from occupying the chair of K.S., and Bro. Betts, I.P.M., filled the position. Four brethren were raised to the Sublime Degree, and the two initiates of the previous meeting were passed, the acting W.M. performing his duties to the great satisfaction of the brethren, and with that evident knowledge of his work which made his year of office so enjoyable. After labour the brethren adjourned to banquet, which was provided by Bro. Carr in his usual good style. There were present:—Bros. Betts, I.P.M. (presiding); Hale, P.M.; Hilton, P.M. (Secretary); Parker, P.M. (Treasurer); Wilson, J.W.; Parter, S.D.; Wigg, J.D.; Butler, I.G.; Paryman, D.C.; Barnes, Org. Amongst the other brethren present were:—Bros. Tedbury, Hutton (2), Gazes (3), Deighton, Arthur Betts, Brannan, Townley, Wiseman, Harrison, W. H. Hall, Dr. Fan, Grievie, Williams, and others. After the cloth had been removed, Bro. Betts gave the usual Masonic and loyal toasts, and when proposing "The Health of the W.M.," he alluded to him in high terms and his sentiments were fully endorsed by those present. Those brethren who possess vocal capabilities added to the enjoyment of the evening, which was spent in that thorough harmony and good feeling which has ever been the leading characteristic of this young and rising lodge.

PROVINCIAL.

**STONEHOUSE.**—Brunswick Lodge (No. 159).—A full meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 1st inst., in the lodge room at Stonehouse, the W.M., Bro. A. R. Lethbridge, presiding. The S.W., Bro. E. Hawke, was elected W.M. for the year ensuing; Bro. Carter, Treasurer, and Bro. Chapman was re-elected Tyler. In consequence of some change in the tenure of Lodge Metham, the W.M. stated that he and the Wardens had waited upon Lodge Charity and had received from that lodge an acceptance of Lodge Brunswick, and it was therefore proposed that in future Brunswick should meet Lodge Charity. This was unanimously agreed to. The Secretary then read the statement of accounts for the past year, which showed a very satisfactory amount of income and an expenditure that included much benevolent work and subscriptions. There had been 25 meetings of the lodge in the course of the year, and 15 initiations, with probably three initiations at the next meeting. The accounts were accepted and passed unanimously. It was agreed that the installation of the W.M. elect should take place on the 29th inst. at three o'clock, and that the annual banquet should be held at six o'clock on the same day at Bro. Thomas's, Great Western Hotel, Plymouth. Bro. Latimer then introduced the subject of the commemoration window in the New Guildhall, stating that he had attended every lodge in the Three Towns, and that all with only one exception had contributed,—and that that lodge would have done so but for the state of its funds. The Secretary then proposed, and the W.M. elect seconded, and other brethren supported the proposal, that a sum of five guineas be contributed, which was unanimously agreed to. Bro. Latimer thanked the lodge for the cordial and graceful manner in which it had responded, as one of the oldest lodges, to his appeal. It was then resolved to vote a P.M.'s jewel to the W.M., Bro. A. R. Lethbridge; and on the motion of Bro. Stentiford a similar jewel was most cheerfully voted to Bro. J. C. Stephens, the only Past Master of Lodge Brunswick who had not received a jewel. It seemed to be a pleasure to all present that this honour should be accorded to Bro. Stephens, who has been a member of Lodge Brunswick for nearly forty years, and was its Master some twenty-eight years ago. Bro. Stephens expressed his sense of the kindness which influenced the brethren, and said that although the vote was to him quite unexpected, he should greatly esteem the kindness which had prompted it. The lodge has been in existence nearly a hundred years, and has enrolled in its books some names highly honoured in the Three Towns' history. It has had its ups and downs; happily at present it seems to be in a state that is so flourishing as to be a source of pleasure to all its members.

**CAMBRIDGE.**—Isaac Newton University Lodge (No. 859).—A regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Old Union Rooms, Cambridge, on Monday, Nov. 29th. The Rev. J. W. Cartmell (Fellow of Christ's),

P.P.G.C., who was installed as W.M. at the last lodge, performed the active duties of the chair for the first time, and that in a very effective manner. Four brethren were raised, eleven passed, and thirteen members of the University were initiated, the necessary dispensation having been obtained. This active lodge has never been in a more flourishing condition, and the brethren are now looking for a site to build a Masonic Hall, which is much wanted in Cambridge.

**AUCKLAND, N.Z.**—Prince of Wales Lodge (No. 1338).—The annual festival of this lodge took place in the Masonic room of Mr. Avey's hotel, Princes-street, at the annual reunion of the Prince of Wales Lodge of Freemasons, No. 1338, E.C. There were about fifteen Past Masters present, besides a very full attendance of the brotherhood. The ceremonies were commenced shortly after six o'clock, the proceedings being opened by Bro. G. W. Brassey, W.M. After other business had been disposed of, the installation of the W.M. took place, Bro. P.M. Leers in the chair. This ceremony was performed by Bro. P.M. Leers, with the assistance of a number of Past Masters, and was a most interesting one. The newly-appointed W.M., Bro. Skinner, then proceeded with the appointment of officers for the ensuing year:—S.W., Clayton; J.W., Rev. C. M. Nelson; Treasurer, Stoddart; Secretary, P.M. Leers; S.D., Dawson; J.D., Dyer; Rattray, I.G.; Porter, Tyler. When the official business of the lodge had been concluded, the repast provided by Bro. Avey was partaken of by a company which well filled the room. The toasts were:—"The Queen and Craft," by the W.M. He said it would be unnecessary that he should do more than name the toast to ensure for it a hearty response. "The Grand Master, Bro. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," by the W.M.; responded to with considerable enthusiasm, and with Masonic honours. "The Grand Masters of the Irish and Scottish Constitutions," by the W.M.; responded to by Bro. G. P. Pierce, P.G.M., I.C., and Bro. Niccol, R.W.M. St. Andrew's Lodge. "The Worshipful Master," by Bro. G. W. Brassey, P.M.; responded to by the W.M. "The Past Masters," by the W.M.; responded to by Bros. Brassey, P.M., and Moss, P.M. "The Installing Master" was proposed by Bro. E. Bennett in a happy and appropriate speech; responded to by Bro. S. M. Leers, P.M. "The Officers," by Bro. W. J. Rees, P.M. Lodge Ara; responded to by Bro. F. G. Clayton, S.W., and Bro. C. M. Nelson, J.W. "The Visitors," by Bro. W. H. Kissling, P.M.; responded to by Bros. Anderson, Hughes, Robinson, Burns, Green, Burton, and Niccol. "The Entered Apprentices," by Bros. M. S. Leers, P.M.; responded to by Bro. G. Jones. "The Brethren who rendered the Music of the Evening," by Bro. C. M. Nelson, J.W.; responded to by Bros. J. Brown and Diethelm. "The Ladies," by Bro. W. H. Kissling, P.M.; responded to by Bro. C. M. Nelson, J.W., and Bro. W. Rattray, I.G. "The Tyler's Toast." During the course of the evening many excellent suggestions were made—those of Bros. Niccol, Nelson, and Hughes being particularly noticeable. A little discussion took place on the desirability of amalgamating the various lodges in the Colony of New Zealand under one dispensation, and Bros. Niccol and Moss were animated in their remarks upon this question; the former being in favour of a Colonial Grand Lodge, the latter of opinion that such a thing would be premature. It is some time since a Masonic ceremony on such a scale and possessing so much interest has occurred in the city, and indeed throughout the whole proceedings the greatest amount of unanimity of feeling and happiness prevailed. Bros. Browne, W. J. Rees, Diethelm, Harker, Higgins, Skinner, and Jones contributed much to this end, the vocal music, which had been prepared by Bro. Browne, being sung exceedingly well. To Bro. Avey is due great praise for the manner in which the banquet was conducted. The meeting broke up at half past eleven o'clock.

**HALLIFORD.**—The Thames Valley Lodge (No. 1460).—The last regular meeting of this flourishing lodge was held at the Ship Hotel, Halliford, on Saturday last. The members present were Bros. the Rev. Dr. Brette, Prov. G. Chaplain Middlesex, W.M.; J. Llewellyn Jones, J.W.; J. G. Marsh, P.P.G.P., Secretary; W. T. Howe, P.G.P., S.D.; Colonel James Peters, P.G.D., I.P.M.; R. W. Little, P.G.S.W.; James Davis, C. I. Davis, W. Sweetland, E. C. Hislop, J. H. R. Gowan, W. Alcock, Major the Hon. O. G. Lambert, J. S. Tyler, P. Dunn, Geo. Townsend, and R. Strong. The lodge having been duly opened and the minutes read and confirmed, the following brethren were passed to the Second Degree: Bros. P. Dunn and J. S. Tyler. Bros. Alcock, Hislop, and Major the Hon. O. G. Lambert were raised to the Third Degree, the ceremonies being worked by Bro. R. W. Little by the especial wish of the W.M. Bro. Geo. Townsend, P.M. 754, was unanimously elected a joining member. Bro. J. Llewellyn Jones, J.W., was unanimously elected as W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. W. Paas, P.M. 28, was also unanimously re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. Woodstock, Tyler. Owing to the great success which has attended this lodge, which is comparatively new in the province, a resolution was passed to increase the number of members from thirty to forty-five, and also to make the lodge a summer lodge, by ranging its meetings between the months of March and September in each year. The handsome gold jewel, designed by Bro. Marsh, Secretary, which was voted to Col. Peters last year, was unanimously accorded to the much esteemed W.M. for the year now terminating, the Rev. Dr. Brette. Several new members were proposed, and the lodge was closed in due form. After this the brethren adjourned to a well served repast, provided by Bro. Stone, the W.M., Bro. Dr. Brette, presiding. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and honoured in the most hearty manner, including "Col. Burdett, the popular Grand Master of the Province," and "The Grand Officers." Bro. W. T. Howe returned thanks for the Provincial Grand Officers. Bro. Colonel

Peters proposed "The Health of the W.M.," to whom the lodge was much indebted for the very able manner he had discharged his duties during his year of office, and for the kind and genial manner he had displayed in presiding over the lodge meetings. The toast was received with the heartiest approval. Bro. Colonel Peters returned thanks as the I.P.M., and R. Wentworth Little for "The Masonic Charities." Bro. Jones responded to the toast specially proposed for "The W.M. Elect," and the toast of "The Officers" was replied to by Bro. J. G. Marsh, Secretary, and Bro. W. T. Howe, S.D. The Tyler's toast concluded a most agreeable evening, and the brethren then returned to town.

## INSTRUCTION.

**EMULATION LODGE OF IMPROVEMENT** (under the direction of the Lodge of Unions, No. 256).—The annual festival of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement was held on the 26th ult., at Freemasons' Hall. Annually this lodge (strongly supported though it always has been) becomes better and better supported, and the large additions there yearly are to the Craft supply a very numerous body of brethren who join this excellent lodge, notwithstanding the many lodges of instruction which are to be found in all the districts of the metropolis. One of the evidences of the strong support this lodge receives is to be found in the number of brethren that are ever ready to offer their services as Stewards of the festival, and on the present occasion the same readiness was evinced as has been the case on former occasions. Among those who found on the Stewards' list for the festival of 1875 were Bros. J. Hervey, G.S., Treas.; H. Bishop, S.W. 66; G. B. Brodie, J.W. 1118; G. Copeland Capper, W.M. 162; R. J. Chappell, P.M. 7 and 1228; F. Clever, W.M. 12; A. G. Cocke, S.W. 222; J. Cree, 181; R. R. Davis, W.M. 256; H. J. P. Dumas, P.G.D.; C. C. Dumas, P.A.G.D.C.; H. E. Diamond, W.M. 353; A. Durrant, W.M. 1185; G. E. Eachus, P.M. 33; T. Fenn, P.G.D.; E. W. Fithian, S.D. 193; J. J. Forrester, P.M. 269; J. Gibson, J.D. 1420; J. P. Godfrey, S.D. 1261; Montague Gosset, P.M. 66; R. Grey, J.G.D.; E. J. Hart, S.D. 1201; J. F. Huggins, P.M. 18; E. Legg, J.W. 861; P. de L. Long, Vice-President of the Board of General Purposes; Edwin March, P.M. 99; C. A. Murton, P.G.D.; J. Muzio, J.W. 1150; E. Nash, J.W. 14; J. C. Parkinson, P.G.D.; A. A. Richards, P.G.S.; J. A. Rucker, P.G.D.; J. Savage, P.G.D.; W. Smallpeice, P.M. 1395, Sec.; G. B. Smallpeice, P.M. 370; W. W. Smith, W.M. 1261; E. H. Stammwitz, S.W. 435; H. T. Wood, W.M. 1159; and J. Verity, S.W. 1348. The attendance at the lodge was very large, about 300 brethren being present. The lodge was opened at 6 o'clock. Bro. Thomas Fenn, P.G.D., presided as W.M.; while Bro. J. A. Rucker, P.G.D., was appointed to the S.W. chair, and Bro. H. J. P. Dumas, P.G.D., to the J.W. chair. Bro. G. B. Brodie, J.W. No. 1118, was S.D.; Bro. H. Bishop, S.W. No. 66, was J.D.; and Bro. H. T. Wood, W.M. No. 1159, I.G. The work performed was the Second Lecture, and the whole of the five sections were admirably rendered by the W.M. and his officers, in the following order:—

- 1st Section by Bro. H. T. Wood, W.M. 1159.
- 2nd " " " H. Bishop, S.W. 66.
- 3rd " " " H. J. P. Dumas, P.G.D.
- 4th " " " J. A. Rucker, P.G.D.
- 5th " " " G. B. Brodie, J.W. 1118.

Bro. Wood in the 1st, and Bro. Rucker in the 4th section were successful in a very marked degree, and obtained immense applause. All the working brethren, however, did their work admirably, and all were applauded. At the conclusion of the ceremony the usual votes of thanks were passed, and complimentary speeches made, and a list of 45 brethren to be voted for as joining members at next meeting, were read out, proposed, and seconded. At the termination of these formalities the brethren adjourned to supper in Freemasons' Tavern, under the presidency of Bro. J. B. Monckton, P.G.D., Town Clerk of London. The speeches in proposing and replying to the toasts were very brief. Bro. Fenn proposed "The Chairman's Health," and the chairman proposed "Prosperity to the Emulation Lodge of Improvement," for which Bro. Hervey, G.S., Treas., responded. "The Working Brethren" was given by the chairman, and Bro. Rucker and Bro. Dumas replied. "The Sister Lodges of Instruction" was responded to by Bro. H. Muggerridge, Treasurer and Preceptor of the Stability, No. 217. "The Parent Lodge of Unions," given by the chairman, was acknowledged by Bro. R. R. Davis, W.M., and Bro. Joseph C. Parkinson was sponsor for "The Masonic Charities." The evening, which was not enlivened by any of the aids of music and singing, was a remarkably successful one, and was heartily enjoyed by the brethren. Bros. John Symonds, R. Brandt, Hyde Pullen, Peter de L. Long, Dr. Erasmus Wilson, A. A. Richards, F. Robinson, Clever, Dr. Paul, Winkfield, and Spooner were among the guests. Bro. W. Smallpeice, the Secretary, P.M., No. 1395, whose duties were of a somewhat onerous character throughout the evening, discharged them as usual with perfect satisfaction to the brethren. The lodge, we may remind our readers, meets every Friday evening throughout the year at Freemasons' Hall, and is open to Master Masons only. It should be remembered also, as we are frequently reminded, that it is what its name implies, a lodge of improvement, not a lodge of instruction, and is intended for the further improvement of those brethren who have already acquired a knowledge of Masonic working. Its instructors are therefore the crème de la crème of Masonic preceptors. The company on the 26th ult. were dismissed with the chairman's benediction, "And so, brethren, Heaven be with you!"

## Royal Arch.

**CAVEAC CHAPTER** (No. 176).—The election and installation meeting was held on Saturday, 27th ult., at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street. There were present Comps. W. Wyman, H.; G. Lemann, J.; Frederick Walters, P. 1st G.A.S. Middlesex, P.Z., Treas.; Walter Miller Goss, S.N.; J. Sorrell, 1st A.S.; A. W. Thorpe, D.C.; R. S. Foreman, P.Z.; P. A. Nairne, P.Z.; M. Scott, P.Z. The Visitors were Comps. J. Lacey, P.Z. 176; H. Garrod, P.Z. 507; and others. The chapter was opened by Comp. M. Scott, as M.E.Z.; W. S. Wyman, H.; G. K. Lemann, J.; and all the P.Z.'s. The minutes of the October meeting were read and unanimously confirmed. The ballots for exaltation were unanimous in favour of the admission of the candidates. Bros. W. T. Lover, J.W. 1178; J. Johnson, 1423; J. B. Sorrell, jun., S.D. 176; were exalted. The elections were unanimous in favour of the following companions as the officers for ensuing year, viz.:—S. Wyman, M.E.Z.; G. K. Lemann, H.; J. B. Sorrell, S.J.; F. Walters, P.Z., Treas., re-elected for eighth time; W. M. Goss, S.E.; W. J. Stride, S.N.; J. B. Langley, P.S.; C. J. Speight, unanimously re-elected Janitor. M. Scott, P.Z., installed W. S. Wyman, M.E.Z., and G. K. Lemann, H.; H. Garrod, P.Z., installed J. B. Sorrell, J. These members were invested with collars, jewels, and robes of office, viz., Comps. F. Walters, P. 1st G.A.S. Middlesex, P.Z., Treas.; W. M. Goss, S.E.; W. J. Stride, S.N.; J. B. Baxter Langley, P.S.; S. Pownceby, 1st A.S.; R. P. Tebb, 2nd A.S.; H. Faija, C.E., W.S.; A. Middlemass, M.C.; C. J. Speight, Janitor. Several candidates were proposed for exaltation.

**JOPPA CHAPTER** (No. 188).—A convocation of this chapter was held on Monday evening at the Albion, Aldersgate-street, where there was a large attendance of companions. Comp. H. M. Levy, Z., presided, with Comp. M. Emanuel, H. After the opening of the chapter, and the reading and confirmation of the minutes, the installation of Principals was proceeded with, and Comp. M. Emanuel having been placed in the First Principal's chair he installed, in admirably fluent style, Comp. M. I. Emanuel as H., after which Comp. Wolff-Littaur was placed in the H. chair. The other officers appointed were Comps. S. V. Abrahams, Treas.; P. Dickinson, S.E.; L. Lazarus, S.N.; L. Jacobs, P.S.; and Comp. Smith, Janitor. After this Bros. Grove-Ellis and Buderus were exalted into R.A. Masonry. Among the companions present during the evening were P.Z.'s E. P. Albert, E. Stanton Jones, A. Lazarus, and Comps. W. C. Parsons, G. J. Kain, H. Massey, Jennings, E. M. Haigh, and S. Pollitzer. Before the chapter was closed a handsome P.Z. jewel and silver goblet were presented to Comp. H. M. Levy. In presenting these gifts the M.E.Z. said they were evidences of the opinion which the companions of the chapter had of him, and of the good he had done for the chapter. The presentation was accompanied with some other complimentary remarks which showed that the companions had a high estimate of Comp. Levy's merits. Comp. Levy returned his thanks, and assured the companions that the gift would ever be engraven on his heart. He had always tried to do good for the Chapter, and he was sorry that during the last year he had not been able to do more. The balance-sheet was then read, which showed that the chapter was in a flourishing condition. After this the chapter was closed, and the companions adjourned to an excellent banquet, provided by Comp. Jennings. Subsequently the usual R.A. toasts were proposed by the M.E.Z., who, being an experienced orator, ran off the speeches with which they were accompanied with a facility which was very agreeable. The companions spent a most delightful evening, and the new M.E.Z.'s year of office was inaugurated with the happiest circumstances.

**WHITTINGTON CHAPTER** (No. 862).—The latest convocation of this chapter was held on the 26th ult., at Anderson's Hotel, Comps. W. Hurlstone, Z.; W. Jones, H.; and W. Stephens, P.Z., J.; James Weaver, P.Z.; R. W. Little, P.Z., S.E.; Thomas Kingston, S.M.; W. A. Tinney, P.S.; W. H. Murlis, John High, J. H. Glaskin, W. McDonnell, W. F. Norman, James Paul, T. Jessett, John Boyd, and H. Massey being present. After the opening of the chapter, Comp. W. Stephens took the Z. chair for work, and exalted Bros. Grist, 1489; Starkey, 1489; and H. Parkhouse, 511, into R.A. Masonry. At the conclusion of this ceremony, in which Comp. Boyd gave the J. and H. explanations, and Comp. Stephens the Z., the installation of Principals was proceeded with, and on presentation duly made of Comp. W. Jones, Comp. R. W. Little installed him in the Z. chair. Comp. W. Stephens, H. elect, being already an installed First Principal, was simply placed in the H. chair, and his first duty was to install the J. Comp. Thomas Kingston was presented to him for that purpose, and Comp. W. Stephens then installed him in the Third Principal's chair. Comp. Hurlstone took the rank of I.P.Z., and the rest of the officers were thereupon severally invested:—Comps. R. W. Little, P.Z., Treas.; James Weaver, P.Z., S.E.; W. A. Tinney, S.N.; Pritchard, P.S.; F. Pritchard, First A.S.; Moore, Second A.S.; W. H. Murlis, D.C.; and J. G. Ebert, Janitor. A handsome P.Z.'s jewel, set with diamonds, was presented to Comp. W. Hurlstone by the M.E.Z. in a complimentary speech, to which Comp. Hurlstone made a suitable and effective reply. After this the chapter was closed, and the companions adjourned to a comfortable little banquet, at which they honoured all the toasts customary in chapters, and wished the M.E.Z. a very happy and prosperous year of office. Comp. Hurlstone replied for "The P.Z.'s," and, notwithstanding his age, exhibited all the fervency and zeal for Freemasonry which habitually characterise the younger members of the Order. The companions separated early.

**YORK.**—Zetland Chapter (No. 236).—An emergency meeting was held on the 1st inst. at the Masonic Hall, York, for the purpose of exalting the Rt. Hon. Law-

rence Dundas, Earl of Zetland, Past Master of the Lennox Lodge, Richmond, and R.W.P.G.M. North and East Riding of Yorkshire. The chapter was opened in form at 4 p.m. by Comp. J. Todd, P.Z., as Z.; Comp. C. Smith, Z., as H.; and Comp. T. Smurthwaite, J.; and the following officers and companions were also present:—Comps. T. B. Whythead, S.E.; G. Balmford, S.N.; W. Lawton, P.Z., P.S.; J. S. Walton, First A.S.; Wilson, Second A.S.; W. Cowling, P.Z., Treas.; T. S. Camidge-Org.; R. W. Hollon, P.D.C. England; Sir James Meek, P.G.P.H.; Rev. J. E. M. Young, P.Z.; R. Davison, P.Z.; Rev. H. V. Palmer, B. Wormald, Hon. W. Orde-Powlett, and a number of other companions, members of the chapter, and visitors. A ballot was taken for his lordship, which having proved successful, he was duly exalted to the Supreme Degree of a Royal Arch Mason. The Historical Lecture was given by Comp. T. Smurthwaite, the Symbolical by Comp. Sir James Meek, and the Mystical by Comp. J. Todd. The chapter was then closed, and the companions adjourned to the banqueting room, where an excellent cold collation had been prepared, supplied by Comp. C. Abbott. The M.E.Z. presided, supported by the Second and Third Principals and the Past Z.'s. The usual loyal toasts having been duly honoured, the M.E.Z. explained that the newly-exalted candidate would have to leave early in order to reach Aske Hall that night, and he should therefore depart from the usual order of toasts. He then proposed "The Health of Comp. Lord Zetland," who was a most worthy descendant of his illustrious uncle, whose memory was so dear to Masons. It was both a pleasure and a honour to the chapter to have the Earl of Zetland amongst them that evening, and no words were needed from him to give colour to the happy proceedings of that day. The toast was enthusiastically received, and his lordship, in returning thanks, expressed his regret at the shortness of the time at his disposal. He thanked the chapter for the very cordial manner in which his health had been drunk, and for the kind manner in which his predecessor had been referred to. The late Earl was beloved not only by his family but by all who knew him. It had been a great pleasure to him to be present that evening; and he might say that the proceedings in which he had just taken part had corroborated an opinion he had previously formed, that the Royal Arch Degree was the climax of Masonry, and that every good Mason should take that degree. The M.E.Z. then proposed "The Health of the G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," in whose welfare at the present moment Masons took a special interest. The toast was drunk with the grand honours. Comp. Sir Jas. Meek, who, on rising, was most cordially received, congratulated the Zetland Chapter upon its present and future prospects. It was a great satisfaction to them all that the Earl of Zetland had chosen it as the medium of his exaltation, and it was a great honour to the chapter to have been privileged to exalt the P.G.M. of the North and East Ridings. The ceremony must have been very gratifying to their noble companion, performed as it had been with the utmost perfection by those who had the working of the chapter. He should propose "The Health of the Three Principals." The toast was received with the honours, and was acknowledged by Comps. C. Smith, J. Todd, and T. Smurthwaite; the M.E.Z. acknowledging the valuable assistance he had received during his term of office from Comp. Todd, and alluding to the excellence of the delivery of the three lectures that evening. Comp. Todd, in returning thanks, expressed a hope that Lord Zetland would soon occupy a distinguished position with regard to Royal Arch Masonry in that province. Comp. Terry (ex-Lord Mayor) proposed "The Health of the Past Z.'s," which was replied to by Comp. Cowling, who said they could not but feel it an honour done to the chapter by his lordship's selection. The name of Dundas was well known and venerated in York, and had been so for generations. Members of that family had been Lord Mayors of York and had represented the city in parliament, and even yet the family held large properties in the city. Times had now changed, and county men no longer served as Lord Mayors, but he hoped to see some means yet discovered whereby the county and city families would be bound together by closer ties of interest, and he could not but regard the institution of Freemasonry as one of the means which might tend to such a result. At any rate, the step taken that night by his lordship proved that the interest of the Dundas family in York was not altogether dead. Comp. Cowling then went on to compliment the members of the chapter on the excellent Masonic spirit they had always shown, and expressed a hope that the future would be as successful a time for the chapter as the past had been. Several other toasts were duly honoured, and the proceedings were enlivened by the singing of Comps. Cumberland, Todd, and others, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

**IPSWICH.**—Royal Sussex Chapter.—The quarterly convocation of this chapter was held at the Masonic Hall, Ipswich, on Wednesday, the 1st inst., when there were present Comps. P. Cornell, M.E.Z.; N. Tracy, H.; R. D. Fraser, J.; H. Luff, Scribe E.; D. Mills, P.Z.; C. Barfoot, C. Pedder, C. Godbold, A. Gamman, W. Clarke, and others. Visiting: Comps. Emra Holmes, M.E.Z. St. Luke's Chapter; W. T. Westgate, P.Z. Alexandra Chapter; G. Abbott, Prin. Soj. St. Luke's Chapter; and others. Chapter having been opened in due form, the installation of the three Principals was proceeded with, Comp. Tracy being inducted into that of Z., Comp. Fraser as H. Comp. W. A. Smith, who had been elected as J. for the ensuing year, not being present, his installation into the Third Chair was postponed. Bro. Henry C. Casley, of the British Union Lodge, having been proposed, balloted for, and approved as a candidate for exaltation, he was admitted, obligated, and exalted to the Sublime Degree of Holy Royal Arch, the ceremony being performed by Comp. Mills, in a very able manner. Comp. Tracy gave the Symbolical and Comp. Fraser the Historical Lecture, the mystical portion

being impressively given by the acting Z., Comp. Mills. Comp. Abbott most efficiently sustained the office of Prin. Soj., and performed that onerous duty in a manner we have seldom if ever seen excelled. The other officers appointed, we understand, were Comps. A. Gamman, as Prin. Soj.; C. Pedder, as Scribe N.; Mills and H. Luff being re-appointed Treasurer and Secretary. At the conclusion of the customary business, and after two new candidates had been proposed, the companions shared the secrets, and the chapter was closed. A substantial banquet was served in the adjacent dining hall, to which all the visitors were hospitably invited, and a most pleasant evening was spent. The Royal Sussex occupies the same position in Suffolk in Royal Arch Masonry that the British Union does in the Craft. It is emphatically the chapter in the province, and long may it continue to prosper. The customary loyal toast of "The Queen" was duly honoured of course. Then followed that of "The Three Grand Principals," H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, [Z., "The Earl of Carnarvon, H., and Lord Skelmersdale, J." To the toast of "The Newly Installed Principals, Comps. Tracy and Fraser," both brethren made suitable, modest, and well-chosen words in reply. Comp. Casley, in responding to the toast of "The Newly-Exalted Comp.," proposed by the M.E.Z., who remarked upon the smallness of the numbers of candidates for the R.A. from the British Union Lodge, of which Comp. Casley was a member, adverted to the observation of the M.E.Z., and said that it had often struck him with surprise how little the British Union members seemed to appreciate the Royal Arch, but he should do his best endeavours to persuade the younger members especially to take the degree, which had greatly impressed him. The more he saw of Masonry the more he was convinced that the three grand principles of the Order, Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth, were in reality practised amongst Masons. Comp. Cornell, P.Z., in eulogistic terms proposed "The Health of Comp. Mills," who had so ably performed the ceremony; and that brother, in reply, said that he felt the difficulty that evening of filling the part which had heretofore been so admirably sustained by their late esteemed friends, Comps. King and Franks—now no more. He felt their loss very much, for they had kept up this degree, and he was conscious how far he fell short of their ability in working it. He had often remarked with surprise how few of the British Union members came forward for this degree, considering that as Master Masons they only had the casual signs, the substituted secrets, and it was not until they were in possession of this degree that they learned the real secrets of Masonry. He hoped, however, that Bro. Casley's aduent would be the means of drawing many more from that lodge into the Royal Arch. Comp. Tracy, M.E.Z., proposed "The Visitors," to which Comps. Holmes, Abbott, and Westgate suitably responded. Comp. Abbott also kindly sang "The Irish Emigrant" and another song, the title of which we forget, in a manner which elicited the warmest approval. Our companion is the possessor of a lovely tenor voice, and when we say he sings as well as he performs his Masonic duties, we say a good deal. Comp. Westgate acted as M.C., and very efficiently performed his by no means light duties. The companions were loath to separate at a late hour.

**CAMBRIDGE.**—Euclid Chapter (No. 859).—A regular meeting of this chapter was held at the Old Union Rooms, Cambridge, on Tuesday, November 30th. M. E. Comp. Professor Miller, Z.; Caldwell, H.; and Wace, J. Bro. Raj Narain Mitra, of St. Catharine's College, and the Isaac Newton University Lodge, was exalted. Boards of Installed First, Second, and Third Principals were then formed successively, and the following companions were installed in the three chairs for the ensuing year:—R. T. Caldwell (Fellow of Corpus Christi), Z.; F. C. Wace (late Fellow of St. John's), H.; and W. F. Smith (Fellow of St. John's), J. The installations were performed by M. E. C. Deighton, Grand Superintendent of Cambridgeshire.

**Scotland.**

**GRAND LODGE OF SCOTLAND.**

The annual meeting of the Grand Lodge of Scotland was held on Tuesday evening, the 30th Nov., in the Freemasons' Hall, George-street, Edinburgh. There was a large attendance, including deputations from No. 1, Mary's Chapel, Edinburgh; No. 2, Canongate, Kilwinning; No. 5, Canongate and Leith; No. 8, Journeyman, Edinburgh; No. 36, St. David; No. 44, St. Luke; No. 48, St. Andrew—all of Edinburgh; No. 69, Alloa; No. 97, St. James', Edinburgh; No. 112, St. John, Fishrow; No. 145, St. Stephen, Edinburgh; No. 160, Roman Eagle, Edinburgh; No. 223, Trafalgar, Leith; No. 242, Houston, St. Johnstone; No. 349, St. Clair, Edinburgh; No. 360, Commercial, Glasgow; No. 405, Rifle, Edinburgh; No. 548, St. Margaret, South Queensferry; and No. 570, Kenmuir, Springburn, Glasgow.

The chair was occupied by the Earl of Mar and Kellie, Depute Grand Master Mason of Scotland.

Grand Lodge having been duly opened in the lodge room, the Grand Office-Bearers and Grand Stewards for the ensuing year were elected. The principal office-bearers so appointed were:

- Grand Master Mason, Sir Michael R. Shaw Stewart, Bart.
- Past Grand Master, the Right Hon. the Earl of Rosslyn.
- Substitute Grand Master, the Right Hon. Lord Balfour of Burleigh.
- Senior Grand Warden, Major Hamilton Ramsay of Ga-ion.
- Junior Grand Warden, the Right Hon. Lord Rosehill.
- Grand Treasurer, Samuel Hay (Union Bank).
- Grand Secretary, John Laurie.
- Joint Grand Chaplains, the Rev. W. H. Gray, D.D., and the Rev. A. Thomson Grant.

- Senior Grand Deacon, William Hay.
- Junior Grand Deacon, David Kinnear.
- Grand Architect, D. Bryce.
- Grand Jeweller, Alexander Hay.
- Grand Bible Bearer, D. Robertson.
- Grand Director of Ceremonies, J. Coghill.
- Grand Bard, J. Ballantine.
- Grand Sword Bearer, G. F. R. Colt, of Gartsherrie.
- Grand Director of Music, C. W. M. Muller.
- Grand Organist, R. Davidson.
- Grand Chief Marshal, M. Mackenzie.
- Grand Marshal, A. T. Apthorpe.
- Grand Tyler, W. M. Bryce.
- Grand Outer Guard, J. Baikie.
- President of Board of Grand Stewards, F. S. Melville.
- Vice-President do. do. John Haig.
- Manager of Locomotive Arrangements, J. McLaren (N.B.R.).

Thereafter the brethren adjourned to the large hall to celebrate the Festival of St. Andrew.

The Earl of Mar and Kellie, Depute G.M.M. of Scotland, occupied the chair, and was supported by Major Hamilton Ramsay, G.S.W.; J. T. Oswald of Dunnikier, representative of the Grand Lodge of Ireland; Henry Inglis, of Torsonce, representative of the Three Globes, Prussia; William Mann, representative of the Grand Lodge of Sweden; Rev. W. H. Gray, D.D., Grand Chaplain; Lauderdale Maitland of Eccles, Prov. G.M. of Dumfriesshire; William Neilson, of Queenshill, Prov. G.M. of Glasgow; C. Dalrymple, M.P., Prov. G.M. of Argyll and the Isles; Alexander Hay, Grand Jeweller; John Coghill, Grand Director of Ceremonies; William Officer, Daniel Robertson, Captain G. T. Colt, C. W. M. Muller, Grand Director of Music; R. Davidson, Grand Organist; A. T. Apthorpe, Grand Marshal; and William M. Bryce, Grand Tyler.

Dinner over, the Chairman proposed "Holy Lodge of St. John," together with the usual loyal and patriotic toasts; and after these the "Craft of Freemasonry over the World," and the "Grand Lodges of England and Ireland." A number of complimentary toasts followed, and the evening was enlivened with glees and songs, including one of the latter from the Grand Bard, and an organ solo by Bro. Davidson.

**GLASGOW.**—Lodge Kilwinning (No. 4).—The regular meeting was held on 1st December in the hall, 170, Buchanan-street. Present: Bros. A. B. Thorburn, R.W.M.; Robert Prout, S.M.; F. J. Jameson, S.W.; George Holmes, J.W.; John Currie, Sec.; McCulloch, Sage, J. McKean, William Prout, John McInnes, S.W. 408; W. F. Homer, D.M. 19; and others. After the minutes were read and confirmed, the election of office-bearers for the next year was proceeded with. The result was as follows:—Bros. Robert Prout, R.W.M.; A. Dixon, D.M.; Alexander Sage, S.M.; George Holmes, S.W.; W. McCulloch, J.W.; J. McKean, Treas.; J. Currie, Sec.; J. Carmichael, S.D.; S. D. Riddell, J.D.; Oer, Architect; Smith, Chaplain; Clelland, B.B.; Gourley, Jeweller. The remaining offices were left to be filled up on the night of installation, which takes place on the 15th inst. The Auditors appointed were Bros. Dixon, Oer, Sage, and Currie. After some more business of a general character was gone through satisfactorily, the lodge was closed.

**GREENOCK.**—Lodge Kilwinning (No. 12).—The annual general meeting of this lodge was held in the Council Chambers on Tuesday evening, 30th November, Bro. James Newton, R.W.M., in the chair. The following were elected office-bearers for the ensuing year, and duly installed, viz.: Bros. John P. Fyfe, R.W.M.; James Newton, I.P.M.; D. Cunningham, D.M.; J. R. Allison, S.M.; Edward Blackmore, O.M.; John Agnew, S.W.; Robert Allan, J.W.; J. McDonald, Sec.; J. D. Walton, Treas.; Hugh R. Neill, S.D.; Alex. Smith, J.D.; Rev. W. W. Tolloch, D.D. Chaplain; Geo. T. Poulter, D. of Mus.; Archibald Roxburgh, Architect; J. T. Tolmie, Jeweller; Alex. Neilson, 1st S.S.; William Marlin, 2nd S.S.; James R. McArthur, 1st J.S.; Wm. Allison, 2nd J.S.; Charles Murray, I.G.; and Nathaniel Tucker, Tyler. The annual statement of income and expenditure, was submitted by the Treasurer, which showed the lodge to be in a prosperous condition.

**INVERARY.**—St. John's Lodge (No. 50).—The regular meeting of this old lodge was held on Tuesday evening, the 30th ult., (St. Andrew's night) in the George Hotel, Inverary. The following office-bearers were elected for the ensuing year:—Q. M. Wright, R.W.M.; John Rose, D.M.; Nichol Lemon, S.W.; John Campbell, S.W.; David Stewart, J.W.; A. M. Ross, Secretary and Treasurer; Donald Sutherland, S.S.; W. Marchmont, J.S.; Angus Guthrie, S.D.; Alex. McDonald, J.D.; John Sibbald, Tyler; Bro. Alexander Guthrie, being the I.P.M. The R.W.M. of this lodge, which is the oldest in the country, has been appointed Substitute Master of the Provincial Grand Lodge.

**GLASGOW.**—Thetis Chapter (No. 122).—The regular meeting was held in the chapter rooms, 35, St. James-street, Kingston, on the 28th ult. In the absence of Comp. Scott, M.E.Z., Comp. J. O. Park, P.P.Z., presided, and conducted the business of the evening. Among others, there were present Comps. J. De Neif, J.; B. M. Innes, Treas.; J. Quinlay, S.E.; J. McAllister, First Soj.; Wm. Gum, Second Soj.; Alex. Love, J. McGlaskin, R. Hardie, D. Gilles, and others. After the reading of the minutes, which were passed, Comp. J. O. Park, P.P.Z., said no doubt most of them would be aware that death had removed from them one of the most useful and esteemed office-bearers, viz., Comp. J. Johnston, Second Principal of the chapter. The merits of the deceased companion were too well-known to them all to need any further comment from him, and all would feel the great loss they had sustained. Comp. J. De Neif was then elected to the office left vacant by the death of Comp. Johnston. It was also

intimated that arrangements were made for the Provincial Grand Chapter of Lanarkshire to pay them an official visit, and there being no further business, the chapter was closed.

**KILMARNOCK.**—Lodge St. Andrew, (No. 126).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held in their lodge room, Crown Hotel, Kilmarnock, on Wednesday evening, the 1st inst., Bro. David Phillips, R.W.M. in the chair, with the other office bearers in their places, and a good attendance of members and visiting brethren. Three gentlemen were initiated into the E.A. degree by the R.W.M., in a very creditable manner, Bro. John McKay of Lodge St. John Kilwinning, Kilmarnock, No. 22, giving the candidates the charge in an impressive style. Afterwards arrangements were made for the annual festival.

**SHETTLESTON.**—St. John's Lodge (No. 128).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, at Shettleston, on Wednesday evening, the 1st inst. Bro. John Campbell, R.W.M., presiding. Bro. Walter Allan, S.W.; Bro. James Morrison, J.W.; with a large attendance of brethren. The minutes of last meeting being read and approved of, the election of office-bearers for the ensuing year was then proceeded with, and the following brethren were duly elected, viz.:—Bros. Robert Jack, R.W.M.; John Campbell, I.P.M.; John Allen, D.M.; George McLeod, S.W.; Charles Webster, J.W.; James Allen, sen., Secretary; John Reid, P.M., Treasurer; Robert M. Paton, S.D.; James Barr, J.D.; John Gibb, Chaplain; William Campbell, B.B.; John Stewart, Standard Bearer; John Bell, Prov. G. Steward; and Louis Stewart, Inner Guard. The ceremony of installation then took place, Bro. J. Campbell, P.M., officiating. The degree of Installed Master was conferred on Bro. Robert Jack, R.W.M., a Board of Installed Masters having been formed for that purpose. The lodge was transferred to refreshment, and the brethren enjoyed themselves for a short time in harmony.

**VALE OF LEVEN.**—Lodge St. Andrew's Royal Arch (No. 321) Alexandria and Bonhill, celebrated their eleventh anniversary on Friday evening, the 26th ult., in the public hall, Alexandria. There was a large attendance. Bro. Michael Barclay presided, and Bro. P. Jardine acted as croupier. The chairman stated in the course of an interesting speech, that during the last Masonic year their lodge had increased its roll of membership to a large extent, and the attendance was now much better than of late years. An assembly followed.

**GLASGOW.**—Lodge Union (No. 332).—A special meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday evening, the 23rd ult., in St. John's Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, Bro. J. B. Macnair, R.W.M., in the chair; Bros. D. McKirdy, S.W.; William Murray, acting J.W.; with a number of members and visiting brethren present. An application was read from Mr. Campbell Edwards praying for admission into the Order; and the same having been favourably received, he was admitted and received the E.A. Degree; and on account of his having to leave Scotland in a few days, he was passed to the F.C. Degree, and along with Bro. Andrew McEwan, F.C., was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, Bro. Macnair working the three degrees in his usual impressive manner.

**GLASGOW.**—Lodge Caledonian Railway (No. 354).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, 30, Hope-street, on the 24th ult. Bro. Shaw, R.W.M., presided; A. B. Ferguson, S.W.; J. Harley, J.W.; R. Dunn, Sec.; W. J. E. Dobson, R.W.M. 571, &c. The First Degree was given to Mr. Thos. Billing Brown, who had been duly proposed and carried. For the Second Degree Bros. W. Harff and J. B. Brown appeared, and were intrusted in that position. The R.W.M. reminded the brethren that the installation of office-bearers would take place on Wednesday, 1st Dec. There being no other business, the lodge was closed in due form.

The installation of office-bearers duly elected for the ensuing year in connection with this lodge took place on Wednesday evening, 1st Dec., in the Masonic Hall, 30, Hope-street, Bro. James Shaw, R.W.M., in the chair, supported on the dais by Bros. John Morgan, R.W.M. 219; and James W. Burns, I.P.M. 87. In the absence from indisposition of Bro. Arch. McTaggart, P.G. Secretary, the ceremony of installation was conducted by Bro. A. Arrick Smith, P.M. of the lodge. On the conclusion of the proceedings therewith, the Chairman thanked the lodge very much for the position in which they had now for the third time placed him. Thereafter Bro. A. A. Smith, P.M., made presentation to the lodge of a Third Degree mallet, suitably inscribed, and for which, on behalf of the lodge, the R.W.M. cordially thanked him. The lodge having adjourned to refreshment, the standard toast of "Visiting Brethren," proposed in eloquent terms by Bro. Colin McKenzie, was coupled with the names of Bros. Morgan, R.W.M. 219, and P.M. 87, by each of whom the compliment was duly acknowledged.

**GLASGOW.**—Lodge Commercial, (No. 360).—The annual meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, 30, Hope-street, on Friday evening, the 19th inst., Bro. John Monro, R.W.M. presiding, supported on the dais by Bros. Julius Brodó, P.M.; and Wm. Findlay, S.M.; J. M. Olliver, S.W.; Thos. Graham, J.W.; J. Scott, Treas.; Reid, J.D.; and a large number of members and visiting brethren. After the minutes were read and adopted, Bro. John Smith was elected Secretary for the current year, and being present took the "Oath de fidele," and was invested with his badge of office by the R.W.M. A sum of money was granted to a brother in distress, and also a donation to the fund in aid of the sufferers from the late Bridgeton fire. Bro. John Mitchell, E.A., was then passed to the Fellow Craft Degree, Bro. J. M. Oliver, S.W., officiating at the request of the R.W.M.



**PAISLEY.**—Lodge Renfrew County Kilwinning (No. 370).—A meeting of this lodge was held, on Thursday evening, the 2nd inst., in the Masonic Hall, No. 8, High-street, Paisley. Bro. James Anderson R.W.M., in the chair. Bro. John Marshall, S.W.; Bro. J. K. McElwee, J.W.; with a fair attendance of members and visiting brethren, among them were:—Bros. R. F. McGibbon, 129; R. C. McLeod, 129; Wm. Ferguson, 543; ("Freemason?") John Harkness, James Dick, Duncan, McCallum, David P. Boyd, C. Galbraith, Peter Fulton, William Wilson, and James Goldie, Treasurer. The minutes were read and confirmed, and also Auditor's report, after which the nomination of office-bearers for the next year was proceeded with, when Bro. John Marshall was unanimously elected R.W.M.

**GLASGOW.**—Lodge Clyde (No. 408) held their regular meeting on the 19th ult. in the hall, 170, Buchanan-street. The R.W.M., Wm. Harper, presided, supported by Bros. J. McInnes, S.W.; W. Bisland, J.W.; J. Stewart, Treas.; D. S. Mitchell, Sec., and other office-bearers. Among the visitors were Bros. J. Bannerman, D.M. 73; J. Hambidge, J.W. 73; A. B. Ferguson, S.W. 354; J. B. Brierley, 310, Chicago, United States America; and others. The lodge being opened, and the minutes of previous meeting read and confirmed, Messrs. J. Campbell, J. Miller, and W. McNellan applied for initiation into Freemasonry. Messrs. Miller and McNellan only being present, they received the First Degree, the R.W.M. officiating. Bros. Jas. Robertson, Miller, and McNellan were entrusted, Bro. J. McInnes, S.W., officiating. It was then arranged to hold an emergency meeting on Tuesday first.

**GLASGOW.**—Lodge Clyde (No. 408).—A special meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday evening, the 23rd ult., in Kilwinning Masonic Hall, 170, Buchanan-street, Bro. William Harper, R.W.M., presiding, supported by Bros. Duncan Downie, P.M.; John McInnes, S.W.; Wm. Bisland, J.W.; J. Stewart, Treas.; D. S. Mitchell, Sec.; John Bannerman, D.M. 73; Donald McRae, 102; Wm. Ferguson, 543 ("Freemason?"); and others. Bros. Edward Boyd, Richard Watson, of 347; and Wm. Watson, of 73, were passed to the Fellow Craft Degree by the R.W.M., after which Bros. Thomas Brown, William McNellan, John Millar, Jamieson Robertson, Edward Boyd, Richard Watson, 347; Wm. Watson, 73, were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason; the R.W.M. again officiated in a very satisfactory manner.

**MARYHILL.**—Lodge Maryhill (No. 510).—The fortnightly meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday evening, 24th ult., in their hall, 167, Main-street, Maryhill, Bro. John Lockhart, R.W.M., presiding; Bros. Malcolm Carey, S.W.; Don. McLachlan, J.W. There was a full attendance of members and visiting brethren present, viz.: Bros. Hugh Niven, P.M.; John McKay, D.M.; Alexander Nevey, S.M.; P. F. Craigie, Sec.; and others. Bros. Corpl. W. Lynn, Wm. Murray, John Fisher, and Andrew Lithgow, E.A.'s, were passed to the Square Degree of Fellow Craft, Bro. McLachlan, J.W., officiating; Bro. A. Nevey, S.M., giving them the charge in an able manner. Bro. Wm. Neil was elected Treasurer; (Bro. Govan resigned); and Bro. Andrew Gibson was elected Inner Guard, (Bro. J. Clark resigned). The R.W.M. intimated that the installation of office-bearers would take place on Wednesday, the 8th December, and that the annual festival would be held on the 15th December. This concluded the business.

Several reports of Scotch Lodges unavoidably stand over.

**GLASGOW.**—Lodge St. Vincent (No. 553).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday evening, the 25th ult., in Claremont Hall, Kent-road., Bro. Robert McDougall, R.W.M., in the chair; Bro. A. C. Hunter, J.W., acting S.W.; Bro. Robt. Paxton, acting J.W.; Bro. Geo. C. McNair, S.D.; Bro. Thos. Best, J.D.; Bro. Halley, Sec., &c. Among the visiting brethren were Bros. James Shaw, R.W.M. 354; William Ferguson, 543 ("Freemason?"); C. Mackenzie, 354; G. W. Wheeler, 73, &c. The R.W.M. having to leave on other important business, handed the mallet to Bro. Shaw, R.W.M. 354. Bros. James Gray, William Anderson, William Mailer, Thomas Marshall, and John Pritty were passed to the Fellow Craft Degree by Bro. Shaw. The acting R.W.M. then handed the mallet to Bro. Wm. Ferguson, R.W.M. 543, when Bros. Robert Marshall, Thomas Watson, William Campbell, A. Smith, D. McCall, James Gray, William Anderson, John Pritty, William Mailer, Thomas Marshall, and Thomas B. Brown, 354, were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason.

**GLASGOW.**—Lodge Dramatic (No. 571).—The election of office-bearers of this lodge for the ensuing year took place on Wednesday afternoon, 1st inst., in St. Mark's Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, and in the unavoidable absence of Bro. Dobson, R.W.M.; Bro. Harry Jackman, S.W., presided, supported on the dais by Bros. John Munro, R.W.M. 360; William Phillips, R.W.M. 556; J. W. Burns, P.M. 87; James F. Mitchell, P.M. 103; John Fraser, P.M. 87; and John Davidson, P.M. 360. The following is the revised list of office-bearers:—W. J. E. Dobson, R.W.M.; James Houston, D.M.; Archibald Lander, S.M.; Harry Jackman, S.W.; William Sive-wright, J.W.; William Barbour, Treas.; D. Campbell, Sec.; G. S. Smyth, S.D.; L. R. Mitchell, J.D.; Hay, I.G.; and J. Burton Hardie, Tyler.

#### PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF NEW ZEALAND (S.C.).

The very interesting and imposing ceremony of installing Bro. William McCullough into the office of Deputy Provincial Grand Master of New Zealand, under the Scottish Constitution, took place at the lodge room, Masonic Hotel. At 7.30 p.m. Lodge St. Andrew, 1418

S.C., was opened in the Third Degree by Bro. M. Niccol, R.W.M. The Provincial Grand Lodge, I.C., was then announced and received in due form, and the P.G.L. Officers took the place of the Craft Officers and opened the P.G. Lodge in ample form. Bro. McCullough was then presented to the P.G.M. of New Zealand, I.C., Bro. G. P. Pierce, for installation, Bro. Pierce having been requested by the P.G.M., S.C., who is resident in Dunedin, to do so. The D.P.G.M. elect was presented by Past Masters Hay, Dewar, Anderson, and Niccol, the last named of whom made a few appropriate remarks. Bro. McCullough was then invested and installed, Bro. Pierce conducting the ceremony in the most impressive manner, and ably assisted by the V.W.P.G. Chaplain, Dr. Kidd, and Bro. Rev. D. Bruce, Chaplain of St. Andrew's. The D.P.G.M. having been placed to the right of the P.G.M., and saluted with grand honours, Dr. Kidd then delivered a very able and instructive address which was listened to with pleasure by the brethren, many expressing the desire that the oration might be printed. Bro. McCullough having briefly thanked the brethren, the P.G. Lodge was closed, the officers of Lodge St. Andrew resumed their chairs, and closed. The brethren afterwards sat down, to the number of about fifty, to an excellent supper, provided by Host Avey, at which Bro. Niccol, R.W.M. of St. Andrew, presided, supported on the right by Bro. G. P. Pierce, P.G.M. of New Zealand, S.C., and on the left by Bro. McCullough, D.P.G.M. of New Zealand, S.C., when the list of toasts were gone through. The brethren separated at half-past 11, after spending a most enjoyable evening, the gathering having been the largest that has been known for many years. The lodge-room was inconveniently crowded, and many obliged to go away, not being able to find room. This, as was remarked by several speakers, shows the urgent necessity of a Masonic Hall in Auckland, and we trust the brethren composing the directory of the company recently formed for this purpose will not relax their efforts till they have effected their object. A considerable number of the shares have been applied for, but a number are still open for application, &c.

#### ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The General Committee of this Institution met on the 4th inst. at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. John Symonds, V.P., in the chair. There were also present:—Bros. Raynham, W. Stewart, Hyde Pullen, A. H. Tattershall, W. F. C. Moutrie, Benj. Head, G. Bolzon, Jesse Turner, H. Massey ("Freemason?"), John Boyd, Col. Alexander Ridgway, Herbert Dicketts, A. H. Diaper, John W. Denison, Barrow Turner (W.M. 183), Robert B. Webster, F. Adlard, W. Maple, G. J. Palmer, C. W. Todd, J. G. Chancellor, and F. Binckes (Secretary).

After the formalities of reading and confirming the minutes of the last meeting, and the reading of the meetings of House and Audit Committees for information, Bro. Binckes informed the Committee that a sad occurrence took place at the School the day before. A lad named Nevill, from the Province of West Yorkshire, eleven years of age, was seized with rheumatic pains in the middle of the day, when Mr. Hall, the medical officer, attended him. He saw him again later in the day, and again in the evening, and found he got worse. Directions were at once given to have the lad's mother telegraphed to, which was accordingly done, and Mr. Hall remained with him till four o'clock in the morning, at which hour the poor little fellow died from stoppage of the heart, caused by rheumatics. The lad's mother answered the telegram, and desired that his funeral might take place on Tuesday following, at the Tottenham Cemetery, for which directions were accordingly given.

The Committee then considered petitions of candidates, of whom they placed four on the list for next election.

Bro. Alexander Ridgway next brought up the report of the Special Committee appointed to enquire into the charges brought by Bros. Tew and Perrott against Bro. Binckes, and stated that every member of the Special Committee agreed to the report.

The following is the report referred to:—

Report of a Special Committee appointed on the 6th day of Nov. 1875, by the General Committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

The committee have directed their attention to a paragraph at p. 29 of a pamphlet, published at Pontefract on the 29th of September, 1875, by Bro. T. W. Tew, of Pontefract, D. Prov. G.M. of the Province of West Yorkshire, and Bro. the Rev. O. G. D. Perrott, late Head Master of this Institution.

The paragraph is as follows:—"Since writing, and, as we had hoped, concluding the preceding pages, we have discovered an item in the accounts for 1872, 1873, and 1874, which, of itself, is enough to warrant us in condemning in the strongest terms the way in which the School expenditure is presented. We refer to the item under the head of 'Gratuities to (with grants and outfits for) Boys leaving the Institution.' The amount so expended (see different Reports for 1872, 1873, and 1874) for the last three years is £314 5s. (viz.: £119 in 1872; £126 10s. in 1873; and £68 15s. for 1874), of which sum only £172 10s. are accounted for, leaving £141 15s. of which no account is rendered! We note too, according to Reports, that during six years and a half, i.e., from June, 1868 (see Report for 1872, p. 40) to December, 1874 (see Report for 1874, p. 48) only £362 15s. have been awarded in grants, of which sum £314 5s., is assigned to the last three years, 1872, 1873, and 1874; so that for the preceding three years and a half only £48 10s. appears to have been spent in this way. Now, all this can be verified by referring to the three Reports, but great care is needed in consequence of the numerous blunders; and we assert what we mean when we say, that these blunders are sufficient to make any one look at these accounts with very grave doubts."

They have also had before them the different Reports of the Institution for 1872, 1873, and 1874, referred to in the pamphlet. At page 34 of the Report for 1872 they found a schedule of receipts and expenditure, in which, under the latter head, there appeared the two following items namely:—

A. Grants and outfits for boys leaving the Institution .....	£110 0 0
B. Gratuities to boys on leaving the Institution .....	9 0 0

Forming together..... £119 0 0  
which appears to be the sum of "£119 in 1872" referred to in the pamphlet.

At page 31 of the Report for 1873 they found a similar schedule, in which, under the head of expenditure, they found the following items, namely:—

C. Grant and outfit for boys leaving Institution .....	£122 0 0
D. Gratuities to boys on leaving Institution.....	4 10 0

forming together .....

£126 10 0  
which appears to be the sum of "£126 10s. in 1873," referred to in the pamphlet.

At page 41 of the Report for 1874 they found a similar schedule, in which, under the head of special expenditure, there appeared the following items, namely:—

E. Gratuities to boys on leaving Institution .....	£ 5 0 0
F. Grants and outfits for boys leaving Institution .....	62 10 0
G. Silver Medal.....	1 5 0

making together .....

£ 68 15 0  
which appears to be the sum of "£68 15s. for 1874" referred to in the pamphlet.

The attention of the committee was called to the fact that this sum of £68 15s., comprising the above three items, is entered in the schedule attached to some of the Reports under the following description:—

First—Gratuities to boys on leaving the Institution .....	£ 17 10 0
Secondly—Grants and outfits for boys leaving the Institution .....	51 5 0

making together the same total of .....

£ 68 15 0

This apparent discrepancy was investigated by the Committee, and was found to result from a less specific analysis of the several items under the heads of Grants and Gratuities and Outfits in the latter case than in the former case.

The committee next proceeded to examine the vouchers for each item in the sums marked A, B, C, D, E, F, and G, with the following results:—

The sum A of £110 charged for grants and outfits for boys on leaving the Institution paid in 1872, for sums awarded in that and previous years, is fully vouched by receipts which are sealed together, marked A, and presented with this Report.

The sum B of £9 charged for gratuities was found to consist of 18 several sums of 10s. each, which was ordered by the General Committee to be paid to as many deserving boys on their leaving the school, as provided for by the by-laws. They examined the minute book and found that on the 21st June, 1872, £5 10s. was paid to 11 boys, and on the 20th December, 1872, £4 was paid to 8 boys, making together £9 10s.

The sum C, namely £122, was found to consist of £120, the amount of grants paid in 1873 for sums awarded in that and previous years, which sums are fully vouched by receipts which are sealed together, marked C, and presented with this Report; and further, that the sum of £2 for clothing for Harry Smith, which was omitted under the head of clothing, is vouched by a receipt which is annexed separately to the other receipts under the letter C.

The sum D of £4 10s. was found to consist of 9 several sums of 10s. each, which were paid to as many deserving boys on their leaving school, in accordance with a minute of the House Committee, dated 20th June, 1873. These two sums, namely C £122 and D £4 10s., thus found to be vouched, amount to £126 10s., the sum referred to in the pamphlet.

The sum F, namely £62 10s., charged for grants paid in 1874 for sums awarded in that and the previous years, is fully vouched by receipts, which are sealed together and marked E, and presented with this Report.

The sum E, being £5 charged for gratuities, was found to consist in the first place of 10s. previously authorised to be paid as above stated, but not paid in 1874, and secondly of £4 10s. authorised to be paid in nine several sums, according to the minutes of the House Committee, follows, namely: On the 24th July, 1874, at folios 268 and 269, £3; and on the 23rd day of October, 1874, at folio 282, 10s.; and on the 20th November, 1874, at folio 296, 10s.; and on the 18th of December, £1.

The sum G, namely £1 5s., was found to be the cost of a silver medal which was voted by the House Committee, as appears by a minute dated 24th Oct., 1874, and the committee see no reason to doubt that the payment was properly vouched to the auditors in the regular way. These three sums, namely, E, £62 10s.; F, £5; and G, £1 5s. form together £68 15s., which they consider to be properly vouched. The three sums of £119, charged in 1872; £126 10s., charged in 1873; and £68 15s., charged in 1874, make up together the £314 5s. referred to in the pamphlet of Bros. Tew and Perrott.

There appears to the committee no intricacy of account connected with these sums; they are found in lump sums

in the three annual reports, and the details of the names of the boys for whom the grants were ordered by the General Committee appear set forth at length at page 40 of the Report for 1872, and in continuation of a similar list up to Dec., 1874, as apparently referred to in the pamphlet of Bros. Tew and Perrott. The lump sums, therefore, which have been charged in the published accounts of the Institution, amounting to £314 5s., will be found to agree with the vouchers and minutes as above set forth.

The schedules of the names of the boys who have received the grants, which range from page 40 of the Report for 1872 down to the month of Dec. in the Report of 1874, illustrate and explain the agreement of the vouchers and the sums debited. Having thus arrived at the conclusion that the sum expended for the years 1872, 1873, and 1874 for grants and gratuities, amounting to £314 5s., is satisfactorily accounted for, the committee next directed their attention to the statement of Bros. Tew and Perrott, that out of this sum of £314 5s. only £172 10s. is accounted for, leaving £141 15s., of which no account is rendered.

In this second portion of the investigation they have entirely failed to discover any ground for such a statement; there is no such sum as £172 10s., forming the aggregate of grants and gratuities or grants and outfits, accounted for in the three years of 1872, 1873, and 1874; on the contrary, as above stated, it has been found that the full sum of £314 5s. has been so accounted for, and that there is clearly no ground for the statement that "no account is rendered" of the sum of £141 15s., or of any part thereof.

The committee did not find that any necessity existed for calling in the assistance of a professional accountant to enable them to investigate and report upon this matter, nor did they consider that they would be justified in putting the charity to the expense of any professional accountant under such circumstances.

It appears to the committee that this serious imputation upon the accounts of the Secretary has not been caused by any lack of clearness in the published accounts. There is, however, one clause in that paragraph of the pamphlet to which attention has been directed, which suggests that Bros. Tew and Perrott have had a confused impression regarding the periods in respect of which the various grants were voted, and the dates on which these various grants were applied for and paid. The committee ground this opinion on the very loose and unbusiness-like expression that the sum of £314 5s. is "assigned" to the last three years. In other words, there appears to have been a difficulty in discriminating between, on the one hand, sums debited within a certain period in the cash account and properly vouched, and, on the other hand, sums based upon events which may have merely occurred in any given period, the items of which, of course, can only be dealt with as "assigned" in the form of a schedule.

The Secretary and his clerk have afforded us every information and assistance in reply to our searching enquiries.

ALEX. RIDGWAY.  
ALFRED H. T. DIAPER.  
HERBERT DICKETTS.  
GEORGE MOTION.  
J. C. DWARBER.

(Signed)

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart asked whether the committee had directed their attention to the mistakes in the spelling of the names. Bros. Tew and Perrott made out their case by the leaving out of the o or the u in a name.

Bro. Ridgway said that the committee felt that they had to deal with certain specific figures, and they also felt that it was impossible to go into things in general. If they could detect in these particular figures named any amount of error, they thought they would then be justified in going on investigating matters of a more general character; and with that view they therefore dealt with the specific sum of £314 5s. In investigating this sum they found the vouchers clearly vouching for every item of the sum debited. If it did so happen that there had been a dozen boys named a dozen times over, it would have affected in no degree the accuracy of these accounts; and he had no doubt whatever—and the committee referred to it in their report—that Bros. Tew and Perrott had probably misled themselves in dealing with what was not an account, instead of with the account itself. The committee did not direct their attention to any other matter, any side issue, as it were. The reference to the committee was to see whether those sums were vouched for. They did not look, nor did they consider it necessary for them to look, into any mis-spelling of names or repetition of names. It was quite clear if a boy's name appeared twice in the reports it must have been a blunder; at all events, they were not charged twice, and the committee did not find (that was the point of Bro. Stewart's question) that any boy had been charged for twice over.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart said then the committee so satisfied their own minds that the sum was right—they did not see two vouchers for the same sum. He had rather regretted that their report did not go further than that, and say that among the vouchers there was no mis-spelling of names. There was the great charge that the names were mis-spelt.

Bro. Ridgway said whether they were clerical errors or printers' errors to which Bros. Tew and Perrott referred, they were not matters which came before the committee. The simple fact that came before them was whether a certain sum of money had been expended by Bro. Binckes; they required vouchers for those sums; vouchers were given them; and they found among them no duplicate charge for the same voucher. So that having found all these properly vouched they had not followed up a loose statement.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart added that he did not doubt the thing for a moment; but looking at Bros. Tew and Perrott's pamphlet, it was not only a slur upon Bro. Binckes, but upon the auditors of the school, saying "You have been deceived and gulled; and you are parties to it."

Bro. Ridgway said he was afraid it was a much more serious matter. It was very clear—the committee were unquestionably of opinion—that there was no basis of those charges made in this pamphlet with respect to the figures.

Bro. C. W. Todd said he supposed the committee were also of opinion that they were amounts which ought to be paid.

Bro. Ridgway replied yes; and not only so, but they were ordered to be paid, and there were the minutes which showed that the order was given.

Bro. C. W. Todd thought so, and the committee looked into the amounts. He understood Bro. Ridgway to say that everything was examined, and everything was vouched except a silver medal, £1 5s.

Bro. Ridgway said yes; and the committee had no reason to doubt that that voucher was at the institution, and that it had been produced to the auditors when they passed the accounts. It was for a silver medal, which was a matter of such notoriety to the House Committee that no one, he presumed, would doubt that that money was paid for the medal.

Bro. Herbert Dicketts said the Special Committee had not sent to Warrington's for a receipt.

Bro. Ridgway then read some letters which had passed between the committee and Bros. Tew and Perrott with reference to the report of the Special Committee. The first was from Bro. Dicketts, the chairman of the committee, and was sent in duplicate, one to Bro. Tew and the other to Bro. Perrott, on the 26th November. The committee, after satisfying themselves as to what the state of the facts was with regard to these specific figures, considered they were in a position to communicate with Bros. Tew and Perrott, to give them an opportunity of explaining the specific charges with which they had more particularly to deal, and therefore a week ago they instructed their chairman, Bro. Dicketts, to write a letter to Bros. Tew and Perrott. This he did, and the letter was in the following words:—"Dear Sir and Brother,—The Special Committee appointed to investigate certain charges published in a pamphlet reflecting upon the accuracy of the accounts of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys have had under their consideration the £141 15s. considered by you to be unaccounted for in the accounts of the institution. If you are desirous of making any distinct specification of the items comprised in that sum supposed to be thus unaccounted for, I shall be happy to receive a communication from you at your earliest convenience." Bro. Dicketts received the two following letters in reply:—

"Enfield Villa, Hanwell,  
Nov. 27th, 1875.

"Dear Sir and Brother,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of yesterday's date, and I note its contents. As I presume a similar letter has been addressed to Bro. Tew, I must wait till I hear from him as to the course we shall adopt; when this is determined on, we shall at once communicate with you; in the meantime I may be allowed to observe that in the "Freemason" of last week I offered some remarks on the statement of account in the matter, (1) 'Gratuities' and (2), 'Grants and Outfits,' said to be the one submitted to yourself and colleagues.

"I am, dear Sir and Brother, very faithfully and fraternally yours,  
(Signed) "O. G. D. PERROTT.  
"H. Dicketts, Esq."

"The Grange, Carleton, Pontefract,  
3rd Dec., 1875.

"Dear Sir and Brother,—We jointly beg to acknowledge your communication to us on the subject of our pamphlet in reference to the Masonic Boys' School, only one portion of which appears to have been submitted to the notice of the committee. We therefore see no reason for withdrawing our statements respecting the very unsatisfactory manner in which the accounts in the published official reports have been drawn up; and we shall therefore wait for any explanation that may be forthcoming.

"We remain, dear Sir and Brother, yours faithfully and fraternally,  
"THOS. WM. TEW.  
"O. G. D. PERROTT.

"H. Dicketts, Esq., No. 6, Freemasons' Hall,"  
The committee produced this correspondence in order to shew that they had given Bros. Tew and Perrott an opportunity of explaining and enabling the committee more specifically to enter into those two sums named; but as they had not chosen to do so the committee had not the slightest hesitation whatever in holding to their report that those sums said not to be accounted for were accounted for and vouched. (Hear hear.)

Bro. Geo. J. Palmer moved, "That the report of the Special Committee be received and adopted by the General Committee."

Bro. J. G. Chancellor seconded the motion.  
Carried nem. con.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart thought that that report ought to be printed and circulated among the brethren. It would, of course, remain with Bro. Binckes to take further steps or make a further statement. There never was a more unjustifiable attack on a number of brethren without the slightest rhyme or reason. A more libellous pamphlet could not have been written. He would, therefore, move, "That the report be printed and circulated."

Bro. J. G. Chancellor seconded it.

Bro. Ridgway thought after what had occurred that it was right for him to say that the pamphlet was not only false and libellous, but the object with which it was circulated could not be recognised by brother Masons as in the slightest degree of an honourable or fraternal character. (Hear, hear.)

The Chairman said that perhaps the better motion would be "That the report of the Committee of Investigation, together with the letters from Bros. Tew and Perrott, be printed under the direction of the committee, and circulated among the subscribers."

In this form the motion was put and carried unanimously.

Bro. Raynham Stewart thought that the brethren owed a very great debt of gratitude to the committee for the great pains they had taken in the enquiry in order to give the brethren a true statement. He was sure they must have had great trouble, and they were deserving of the best thanks of the General Committee for voluntarily taking the work upon them. He begged to move the thanks of the General Committee to the brethren of the Special Committee.

Bro. John Boyd seconded the motion, which was put, and carried unanimously.

The Chairman, addressing Bro. Dicketts as Chairman of the Special Committee, said he cordially concurred in the resolution the brethren had come to; and perhaps he might be permitted to say it was very satisfactory to them all that the motion should have come from Bro. Stewart, who, though his views were not entirely in accordance with the majority of the other brethren with regard to Bro. Perrott's resignation, now came and condemned most emphatically, and he must add, most justly, the course taken by Bros. Perrott and Tew.

Bro. Dicketts in returning thanks said that he had occupied the post of Chairman of the Special Committee with some reluctance. The brethren's thanks were mainly due to Bro. Ridgway whose assistance had been most valuable to the Committee. They had met several times and spent several hours over the report, because they were fully determined that there should be nothing wanting as far as they were concerned. The report they had presented was the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.

Bro. Benj. Head proposed, and Bro. F. Adlard seconded, a vote of thanks to the Chairman, which was unanimously adopted.

The Chairman acknowledged the compliment, and said he never had had the slightest doubt but that Bro. Binckes would be able to clear himself from the odious imputation cast upon him. He (the Chairman) had never been one of those who had flattered Bro. Binckes, but he had often had to speak to him with respect to what he might call his over zeal in behalf of the Institution. He could remember the time when £800 collected at a festival was considered a large sum. Since Bro. Binckes had been Secretary it had gone on increasing until at last festival the amount was £12,700, and mainly by the exertions of Bro. Binckes. If such a man were to be driven from his Secretaryship they would be stopping up the source from which the Institution derived its income.

The meeting then separated.

#### BANQUET TO BRO. ERASMUS WILSON, F.R.S.

On Monday week, the Grand Steward's of 1874-5 entertained Bro. Erasmus Wilson, their president, at a grand banquet at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street. Bro. George Payne, W.M. 1; Treasurer of the late Board of Stewards, took the chair, having Bro. Wilson on his right hand. The other brethren present were Bros. J. E. Middleton, W.M. 29, Secretary of the late Board, in Vice President's chair; W. B. Rogers, J.W. 91; H. H. Bothamley, W.M. 14; Sir Bruce M. Seton, Bart., 6; C. E. Stoltenhoff, P.M. 21; H. Whitfield, W.M. 60; James Warner, P.M. 23; J. Oastler, 197; Alfred H. Diaper, 5; Alfred Richards, P.M. 46; and Visitors, Bros. C. A. Payne, S. A. Nott, 29; E. M. Haigh, P.M. 29; H. J. Chapman, Hugh D. Sandeman, P.G.D.M., Bengal; W. V. Brown, Captain Marcus Sharpe, W. Hollingsworth, Lieut.-Col. Creaton, P.G.D.; Dr. Pauls, Stephen Pearce, S.D. 2; and H. Massey, ("Freemason.")

The dinner was supplied in splendid style by Bro. Jennings, and at its conclusion four toasts only were proposed, "The Queen and the Craft," "The Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," and "The Visitors." In giving the toast of the evening, "Bro. Erasmus Wilson," the Chairman said that it was with much diffidence he rose to propose it, as it required a brother of greater power of speech than he to do full justice to it. Simply, however, to express his feelings and those of the other Grand Stewards in recognition of his courteous conduct to them whilst president of their Board, was not so difficult a task, and this he begged to do most heartily and sincerely, and as powerfully as he could. Bro. Wilson's generous hospitality towards them, and the labour he undertook to obtain for them some mark of recognition from Grand Lodge during the late eventful year in Masonry, had incited the brethren to pass the compliment upon him of entertaining him at this dinner. The project had met with the approbation of every Grand Steward, although there were some who, from unavoidable circumstances, were absent that evening, some unfortunately through domestic affliction. Still, he knew he expressed the feelings of the whole body of Grand Stewards when he said that they all wished Bro. Wilson might be spared long to practise that profession he so much adored. It was also one of their earnest wishes that he might achieve high rank in Grand Lodge, which his Masonic ability and geniality fairly entitled him to. (Cheers.)

Bro. Wilson, in reply, said he hoped and believed that the brotherhood which had been established under circumstances certainly so peculiar, and scarcely likely to recur—the installation of a Prince of Wales as G.M.—in our time, would be a lasting one. In taking an active part in the ceremony the Grand Stewards had formed personal friendships which he was sanguine enough to hope might be maintained by their meeting year by year in future till time should be with them no more. He trusted that at the end of another year the Grand Stewards would become his guests at the Conservative Club, so that they might together perpetuate the auspicious ceremony of the installation of their present Grand Master, and their happy union by that great event. (Cheers.)

The Chairman, in giving the toast of "The Visitors," said the Grand Stewards were especially pleased on that occasion to have visitors, because two of them were members of Bro. Wilson's own lodge, one a P.M., and one the S.D. The Past District Grand Master of Bengal, Bro. Sandeman, he (the Chairman) was proud to claim as a member of his own lodge, No. 1. They were also obliged to the visitors for having come to assist them in paying a compliment to Bro. Wilson. (Hear, hear.)

Lieut.-Col. Creaton, in reply, said that, as a member of Bro. Wilson's lodge, he was delighted at being present to witness the compliment paid to him. They had all been surprised at Bro. Wilson's work in Masonry, and he was a highly valued member of his lodge.

Bro. H. D. Sandeman also responded, and the brethren then adjourned to the drawing-room.

#### CONSECRATION OF THE CARNARVON LODGE, No. 1572.

The consecration of this new lodge took place on Saturday last at the Albion, Aldersgate-street. The ceremony was performed by Bro. John Hervey, G.S., P.G.D. (the officer appointed for the purpose by the M.W.G.M., the Prince of Wales, K.G.), assisted by Bro. James Terry, P.M., P.G.D.C., Herts, as D.C.; Bro. H. G. Buss, Prov. G. Treas., Middlesex, as S.W.; Bro. J. Bingemann, W.M. No. 55, as J.W., and the following brethren—G. A. Brock, 765; A. Taylor, 765; J. L. Mather, P.M. 65; D. R. Still, P.M. 1293; J. Slade Brown, W.M. 1056; J. Cowan, 765; N. Reed, 765; H. Crump, 765; R. N. Field, W.M. 902; M. Jaggeridge, 538; J. R. Stacey, P.M. 180; P. Hickman, W.M. Joppa, 168; P. Tucker, 765; C. W. Thompson, J.D. 969; A. G. Marks, 192; A. Townsend, 22; W. Leman, 765; W. S. Whitaker, 765; B. Dafforn, 765; F. Wilcocks, 765; A. White, 318; J. McCubbin, P.P.G.S.D. Bucks, P.M. 948; R. Hobbs, 765; C. Soppitt, 55; J. Gardner, 183; C. Daniel, J.W. 65; W. Bray, 511; C. B. Payne, P.M. 27; E. Turner, 157; W. Munro, 765; J. Jolmasson, J.W. 657; W. Buck, S.W. 657; J. Clarricoats, 765; T. Brown, S.W. 765; J. Margetts, 765; T. Hellier, 765; G. Briggs, 765; A. Jaceard, 1314; J. Burman, 1314. The ceremony was performed with all the customary formalities, and with the ability which habitually distinguishes the working of consecrating officers. The Rev. W. Taylor Jones, as Chaplain, and Bro. Van Noorden as Organist, for the consecrating ceremony, were absent, and sent letters expressing their regret at their inability to attend. When the consecration ceremony was concluded, Bro. Hervey proceeded to instal Bro. Richard Pawson Hooton, P.M. and Treasurer, No. 765, as Worshipful Master, and when this had been performed the brethren below the degree of Installed Master were admitted, and the customary proceedings followed. The brethren appointed to office were Bros. W. S. Whitaker, S.W.; J. Cowan, J.W.; W. Clarricoats, Treasurer; Mont. Scott, Secretary; T. Hellier, S.D.; Nelson Reed J.D.; James Briggs, I.G.; T. Brown, D.C.; G. A. Brock, W.S.; and Steedman, Tyler. Votes of thanks were afterwards passed to the consecrating officers, who were also elected hon. members of the lodge. Several names were given in of gentlemen wishing to be initiated in the Order, and the lodge was thereafter closed. The brethren, forming a very nice little party, then partook of a delightful banquet, supplied at the Albion by Bro. Jennings, and when this, which was thoroughly enjoyed, had been disposed of, the toasts were honoured.

In proposing "The Queen and the Craft," the W.M. said that Her Majesty must take a deep interest in all their doings, inasmuch as her eldest son was in the high position of the Grand Master of Freemasons.

The W.M. referred to the Prince of Wales's visit to the East, when he proposed "The Health of the M.W.G.M.," and revived the recollection of the brethren with regard to the wonderful sight seen on the 28th of April last, when H.R.H. was installed. In undertaking the duties of G.M., Freemasons felt it was an honour conferred upon them individually. The Prince's heart was in Masonry, and there was not the slightest doubt that he was in all respects a Freemason, a man, and a brother.

The W.M. also spoke in the highest terms of the Masonic merits and virtues of all the Grand

Officers in giving the toast of "The Earl of Carnarvon, Lord Skelmersdale, and the rest of the Grand Officers." Being at Liverpool a few days ago, he found that Lord Skelmersdale stood as high in the estimation of the Lancashire brethren as it was possible for a man to stand in the opinion of his fellow men. (Cheers.)

Bro. Hervey replied. He did not wonder at the W.M. using such eulogistic expressions of the Grand Officers, inasmuch as the lodge had appropriated the Pro Grand Master's name. He did not think it could have appropriated a better. There was not a position in life which Lord Carnarvon had filled that he had not occupied well and worthily, and which he had not honoured. With regard to Lord Skelmersdale, the W.M. had expressed what was felt throughout the length and breadth of West Lancashire; there was not a brother they would wish to have as Prov. G.M. in preference to Lord Skelmersdale; there was not a brother in the Craft who did his duty more genially, with more sincerity, with more real feeling, or with more anxiety that the work of the Craft should be well done, than Lord Skelmersdale. Bro. Hervey then thanked the brethren for the rest of the Grand Officers, and ended by proposing "Success to the Carnarvon Lodge, and the Health of the W.M." It was ten years that very day that the W.M. was initiated in Freemasonry. It was a strange coincidence that on the day ten years after his initiation he should be installed W.M. of a new lodge. It augured well for the future of the lodge that the W.M. was so highly appreciated as to be selected by the brethren to preside over them when his natal day in Freemasonry fell on his natal day in the Carnarvon Lodge. He would not have been recommended to the Grand Master if the brethren had not felt confidence in the way he would work the lodge. Bro. Hervey was also sure that Bro. Hooton would not have undertaken the task if he had not felt himself competent to undertake his duties; and he called upon the brethren of all grades of office in the lodge to support Bro. Hooton to the utmost of their ability. (Cheers.)

The W.M. said it was with infinite pleasure he looked on the fact of his having been ten years a Mason. During that time he had done all in his power to fulfil and carry out the principles that were instilled into his mind at his Masonic baptism. In undertaking the duties of the W.M. chair of this lodge he did it for one special reason, to further the advancement of the brethren who had belonged to the lodge from which they all emanated. He was quite certain that if they all worked together they would be a good lodge. If they were not harmonious of course they must come to the ground. It was one thing to be placed in his dignified position; it was another thing to be supported when in it. He was sure that the officers he had just appointed would be most able, and willing, and assiduous in their duties. Within his own mind he felt that the prosperity of the Carnarvon Lodge would be enhanced by the brethren knowing their duties. He thanked the brethren for the dignity they had conferred upon him, and promised to perform his duties to the satisfaction of the brethren. (Cheers.) The W.M. next gave "The Consecrating Officer," and said it was a distinguished privilege to have Bro. Hervey to perform the ceremony. Alluding to what Grand Secretary had said in lodge, that if the brethren were not bound together they were as nothing, he thanked Bro. Hervey for saying so; and he hoped that he would frequently come among them, to see how they were getting on. No one could charge G. Secretary with not coming among the brethren, for he was very often seen among them, and was always ready to render any assistance he could in the work of ceremonies. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. Hervey responded in a very few words.

Bro. Terry replied for "The Visitors," and wished the lodge every prosperity.

The W.M. next gave "The Officers of the Lodge," and said that he was quite clear that no W.M. in the annals of Freemasonry ever ascended the throne of King Solomon with a more efficient staff of officers than he had around him. He felt in his own heart and mind that all the officers were brethren who were competent to perform their duty, although they were all

young Masons. He then named all the brethren who were appointed to office and enumerated the offices they held.

Bros. Carlton, Whitaker, Cowan, Clarricoats, Mont. Scott, Hellier, Nelson Reed, Briggs, Brown, and Brock responded, and the evening was brought to a close with "The Tyler's" toast, given by Bro. Steedman.

#### PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

A meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge was held at the rooms of the Isaac Newton University Lodge, on Saturday, Dec. 2nd. In the absence of the Earl of Hardwicke, R.W.P.G.M., the chair was occupied by Bro. John Deighton, D.P.G.M., the Wardens' chairs being filled by Bros. Fetch and Professor Miller. The Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were read and approved. Bro. T. Nichols was re-elected Treas., and the following Provincial Grand Officers were appointed for the ensuing year:—A. F. Donagan, S.W.; J. Leach, J.W.; Rev. W. D. Stephens (Corpus Christi Coll.) and Rev. W. B. Coyte, (Clare), Chaplains; H. Browne (Clare), Registrar; E. Haggis, Sec.; E. A. Maund (St. Peter's), S.D.; B. Chennell, J.D.; Carrick, Supt. of Works; A. J. Brogden (Downing), Dir. of Cers.; C. Jennings, Ass. Dir. of Cers.; H. Bossard, Sword Bearer; W. D. Jones (Trinity), Organist; Squire, Pursuivant; the Hon. J. W. Plunkett, and five other members of the University, Stewards.

#### METROPOLITAN MASONIC BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION.

We cannot too often call the attention of the Craft to the claims of the various Masonic Institutions, and remind them that those splendid buildings erected at Croydon as an asylum for aged Freemasons and widows, and at Wood Green and Battersea Rise, as schools for the sons and daughters of Freemasons, cannot be maintained in their present state of efficiency, and their inmates increased, without the liberal contributions of the Craft.

There are at the present time 130 aged Freemasons in receipt of annuities of £36 per annum, 100 widows in receipt of annuities of £28 per annum, and 11 widows in receipt of half annuities, most of whom are also inmates of the asylum; also 177 boys and 148 girls in the schools, while about 402 aged Freemasons, 186 widows, 1266 boys, and 1039 girls have been benefitted by the institutions since their foundations.

Every member of the Craft should subscribe to one or other of the institutions, and brethren who have not already subscribed should, through such an association as the Metropolitan Masonic Benevolent Association, become life subscribers or life governors of the institutions by payment of the small sum of one shilling per week, and thus have the privilege of voting at each election of annuitants and inmates.

The President of the association is our well-known and highly respected Bro. J. R. Stacey, W.M. 180, Preceptor of the Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction; the Vice-President, Bro. J. While, W.M. 228; and the Treasurer, Bro. J. Bingemann, W.M. 55; and the association holds its meetings at the Portugal Hotel, 155, Fleet-street, E.C., on the first Friday in every month at 8.30 in the evening, after the closing of the Lodge of Instruction, when the sums in the hands of the Treasurer are balloted for.

Any brother, lady, or lewis may become a member of the association, and, for the convenience of members residing at a distance, the subscriptions may be sent by post-office order to the Honorary Secretary, Bro. Wm. W. Snelling, who will forward prospectus and bye-laws of the association free to any brother desirous of becoming a member.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS: Vigorous health.—With winter come sore trials to the soundest constitutions, while the naturally delicate and feeble find it too frequently a prolonged struggle against undue suffering. All diseases affecting the nervous system arise from impurity in the blood, irregularity of organic action, or vitiated secretions. Holloway's Pills are invaluable for removing all poisonous elements from the body, and are famed for curing indigestion, flatulency, and costiveness, as well as palpitation, pain in the side, and other morbid feelings. The neuralgic pains, attendant on the nervous class of diseases, soon yield to these purifying Pills—the sensations of anxiety daily diminish under their use, sound sleep supersedes nights of watching, and calm repose displaces hideous dreams.—ADV'T.



## Reviews.

THE DISCREPANCIES OF FREEMASONRY. BY REV. G. OLIVER, D.D. John Hogg & Co.

We are among those who always welcome all contributions to the common store of Masonic archaeological literature, even when we do not agree with the views of the writers, and we certainly are always glad to peruse the works of our able Bro. Dr. Oliver. The work before us is a posthumous publication by Bro. Hogg of a MS., as we understand, purchased at Bro. R. Spencer's sale. It is rather curious to note that three posthumous works of Dr. Oliver's are now before the Masonic reading public. The Pythagorean Triangle, the book before us, and the Hermesian Analglyph, now appearing monthly in the "Masonic Magazine." And one thing, we think, is incontestable, that Bro. Dr. Oliver's name keeps, so to say, the Masonic market. And we do not wonder at it, for, despite some obvious faults, our Bro. the Dr. was a man of great reading, great industry, and much acumen. At the same time all great men have their faults, and our good old teacher was not exempt from them, as indeed no one is. We are among those who think that he often touched on subjects he had better have left in repose. There can be no doubt that to Dr. Oliver the realistic school of Masonic writers owes its origin, and we seem following his example too eagerly, and to be pushing things to extremes just now in many matters, alike in over publication and in uncalled-for confidences. The public does not want our extreme expansiveness and readiness of explanation, and the Craft is none the better for it. We especially object to public discussions on the minutæ of the ritual—and we have always regretted that Dr. Oliver set an example, which has been too readily followed by the discussion of matters only to be properly treated of in lodge. Interesting as this posthumous MS. of the Dr.'s is, and we do not at all find fault with Bro. Hogg for publishing it, yet, we feel, it will strike many, as it has struck us, that it deals with many subjects, hardly suitable for general publication or discussion. Not that we fear publicity or discussion, or object to scientific research, or intellectual studies; far from it. But the archaeology of Freemasonry is one thing, the arcana of Freemasonry is another, and while we all hail investigation into and publication of the former, we deprecate explanation of and publication of the latter. Readable and animated as the little work is, we doubt somewhat whether it will add much to the writer's Masonic or literary fame. There are one or two glaring errors as to matter of fact and archaeological accuracy, and we think that as a work on the whole it is hastily put together and hurriedly worked out. Still we will not be either too fastidious, or too hypercritical, or "look," as they say, a "gift horse in the mouth;" and so we hope that this last publication of our reverend and worthy brother may find a considerable circle of appreciating Masonic readers. As Masonic students we thank Bro. Hogg for another contribution to Masonic literature.

ILLUSTRATED PRICE LIST OF MASONIC CLOTHING. Price 5s. GEORGE KENNING. Third Edition.

Despite an apparent inconvenience in the matter, we cannot ourselves see why we should not notice here all publications coming bona fide from our publisher. Whether some may cavil, or others complain, we, to say the truth, care very little, and we therefore in the first place beg to call the attention of all lodges and brethren to that very interesting establishment which is now open at 1, 2 and 3, Little Britain, and which reflects the highest credit on the skill of the architect, and the energy of Bro. Kenning. We believe that we are warranted in saying that if our brethren like to take their wives, and daughters, and sisters, and sweethearts with them when they visit this unique Masonic Emporium, Bro. Kenning will be glad that they shall see the rooms, alike for work and show, and sure we are they will be much pleased with the same.—Bro. Kenning's elaborate and artistically executed "Price List," a specialité in its way, is an evidence both of a happy conception by himself, and a most successful execution by the printers,

Messrs. Reeves. We beg to repeat, the exhibition at 1, 2, and 3, Little Britain, is worth a visit.

THE ROYAL MASONIC CYCLOPEDIA. Edited by BRO. KENNETH R. H. MACKENZIE. Bro. John Hogg.

Part 2 of this new undertaking is before us, and leaves us about half way through the letter G. It seems to be progressing carefully and well, and evidences a considerable amount of hard work, alike in research and study. If we do not agree with every position of its undoubtedly able editor, we like the frankness of his statements, and the honest manner in which he propounds his own opinions. We think that all such handbooks are most useful to Masonic students, and we can honestly and sincerely say, we wish fraternally all success to the Royal Masonic Cyclopaedia.

THE CITY DIARY FOR 1876. W. H. COLLINGRIDGE. "City Press" Office.

We have received and looked over this diary, and like it much. It is neat, compact, and handy, and we think is likely to be acceptable to many business men and students. The cheapness of price, one shilling, strikes us as something very remarkable, even in these days of cheap everything. We can safely commend it to the notice of our many readers.

THE CHRISTMAS NUMBER OF THE "GRAPHIC."

The Christmas number of this illustrated periodical will, we doubt not, be very acceptable to a large number of readers, especially our juvenile "lot," as the irreverent youth term them: Miss Thompson's splendid picture will be much and justly admired.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The monthly meeting of the Committee of this institution was held on Wednesday at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. Lieut.-Col. Creaton, V.P., in the chair. There were also present Bros. S. Rawson, Benj. Head, Thomas W. White, A. H. Tattershall, Charles Lacey, John Constable, C. F. Hogard, James Brett, W. Stephens, W. Hilton, John Belterby, J. A. Farnfield, R. H. Giraud, A. A. Richards, John Newton, Thomas Cubitt, F. Adlard, J. Ebenezer Saunders, and James Terry (Secretary).

The Secretary reported that one of the candidates had died since last meeting. The alterations at the asylum had not been completed, owing to the unfavourable weather. The inmates of the institution were very happy, and expressed themselves thoroughly satisfied with the arrangements for their comfort.

Seven candidates were placed on the list for election, after which a letter was read from Dr. Strong, the honorary surgeon to the institution, respecting the insufficient water supply and sewer system at the asylum. The letter enclosed a plan showing the piping on the premises. On the motion of Bro. C. F. Hogard, the motion was referred to the House Committee to consult the architect immediately, and have the necessary remedies applied at once.

Bro. James Terry, Secretary, asked for and obtained the permission of the Committee for the use of the hall and rooms, at the commencement of the new year, for the purpose of giving the old people a new year's dinner and entertainment, for which the requisite funds were now coming in.

The Chairman, before the Committee separated, said that as this was the last time the Committee would meet this year, he wished them and theirs a very happy Christmas.

Bro. J. Constable: Allow us, Bro. Chairman, most heartily to reciprocate your kind wish.

The Committee then adjourned.

GRAND LODGE OF IRELAND.

At the stated meeting of Grand Lodge, held on the 2nd of December, the following were elected Grand Officers for 1876:—

Grand Master, His Grace the Duke of Abercorn, K.G.  
Senior Grand Warden, the Marquis of Headfort.  
Junior Grand Warden, Lord Dunboyne.  
Grand Treasurer, Arthur Bushie.  
Grand Secretary, Viscount Bernard.  
Grand Chaplains, Rev. John J. Macsorley, Rev. Lord Plunket.  
Senior Grand Deacon, the Hon. David Plunket, Q.C., M.P.  
Junior Grand Deacon, Alderman Joseph Manning.  
Grand Superintendent of Works, George A. Stephens.  
Grand Director of Ceremonies, Theophilus E. St. George.  
Grand Steward, George Moyers, LL.D.  
Grand Sword Bearers, Harry Hodges, George Moyers.  
Grand Organist, Charles O. Grandison.  
Grand Inner Guard, Humphrey Minchin, M.B.

WIPE YOUR FEET.—The best Cocoa Nut Mats and Matting are made by Treloar and Sons, 69, Ludgate Hill.

## Masonic and General Tidings.

The De Grey and Ripon Chapter, No. 1356, will be consecrated at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, on Wednesday, Dec. 22, at three o'clock. Comps. B. B. Marson will be the first M.E.Z.; Joseph Bell, the first M.E.H.; and R. Brown the first M.E.J.

The officers and staff of the Royal Naval College, Greenwich, are preparing a petition to the Grand Master for a warrant for a lodge, to be called the Royal Naval College Lodge, and held within the precincts of the College.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.—A special General Court of the Governors and Subscribers of this Institution will be held at Freemasons' Hall this day (Saturday), at twelve o'clock.

The name of Bro. S. G. Homfray, A.G.D.C. and D.P. G.M. Monmouthshire, was omitted in our report of the meeting of the United Grand Lodge.

The engraving of the Installation is rapidly approaching completion. A photograph of it was exhibited by Bro. E. M. Haigh, at the dinner given by the Grand Stewards to Dr. Erasmus Wilson on Monday week. Bro. Harty informs us that among the subscribers are the King of Sweden, the Swedish deputation, the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and the Irish deputation. He also expects to have the Emperor of Germany, the King of the Belgians, several other crowned heads, and the Khedive.

At the last regular meeting, on Monday, the 6th inst., of the Library Committee of the Corporation of London, of which Bro. John Symonds, P.G.A.D.C., has been the chairman for the year, the following resolution was unanimously passed:—"That the Committee desire to express to their Chairman, John Symonds, Esq., their sincere and hearty thanks for the zealous and efficient manner in which he has discharged the arduous and important duties of his office during the past year, and for the readiness with which he has devoted himself to the consideration of every question which has had for its object the extension of the usefulness of the great public institution entrusted by the Corporation to their care. Whilst appreciating the constant anxiety for the development of the resources of the Library, his colleagues desire also to acknowledge their sense of the invariable courtesy which characterized his demeanour towards every member.

The Christmas number of the "Freemason" will consist of 32 pages, and will contain a portrait of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Most Worshipful Grand Master. The price of this number to non-subscribers will be fourpence.

Bro. H.R.H. Prince Leopold has been elected Worshipful Master of the Apollo University Lodge, Oxford, for the ensuing year.

On Monday evening, the 6th inst., Bro. Charles Du Val, an entertainer of a high order, gave his entertainment, "Odds and Ends," at the Concert Hall, Liscard, near Birkenhead, in aid of the Cheshire Masonic Educational Institution. The effort enjoyed the patronage of Bro. the Right Hon. Lord de Tabley, R.W.P.G.M.; Bro. G. C. Legh, D. P.G.M.; the officers of the P.G. Lodge of Cheshire; and the W.M.'s, Wardens, and officers of Lodges 477 and 537, Birkenhead; 605 and 1276, Seacombe; and 1289, Rock Ferry. Bro. Du Val generously repeated his clever entertainment at Birkenhead and Rock Ferry on Tuesday and Wednesday for the same object.

Next week we shall publish a paper issued from the Chancery of the Order of the Temple, and which throws considerable light upon the compilation and authorship of the new statutes of the Order, about which so much has been written in the "Freemason." By the time our paper is in the hands of our readers, Great Priory will be sitting at Cannon-street Hotel (why not at Freemasons' Tavern?), and considerable discussion is likely to ensue on the operation of the statutes, which appear to find scant favour in many quarters. The supporters of the new regime aver that the operation of the new statutes must be beneficial in the end, their tendency being to raise the Order in social status, and so approximate more nearly to the Ancient Knights.

The ceremony of installation will be rehearsed in the Confidence Lodge of Instruction on Wednesday, the 15th inst., by Bro. S. L. Hickman, W.M. 188, at Bro. Gosden's, Masons' Hall Tavern, Masons' Avenue, Basinghall-street, E.C. The lodge will be opened at 7.30.

The "Masonic Magazine" will, on and after January, 1876, be enlarged to 48 pages.

The Leopold Lodge No. 1571, was consecrated on Tuesday last. A report of the proceedings will appear in our next.

Volumes 1 and 2 of the "Masonic Magazine" are now ready, price 9s. 6d. each.

HEALTH, comfort, and economy promoted. Gas superseded in day time, and daylight reflected in dark rooms by adopting Chappuis' Patent Daylight Reflectors. Manufactory, 69, Fleet-street, London.

## NOTICE TO THE TRADE.

The CHRISTMAS NUMBER of the "FREEMASON" will consist of 32 PAGES, EXCLUSIVE of WRAPPER, and will contain a PORTRAIT of HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS the PRINCE of WALES. The CHARGE for this number will be FOUR PENCE.

## 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.

Careful attention will be paid to all MSS. entrusted to the Editor, but he cannot undertake to return them unless accompanied by stamped directed covers.

We shall publish next week an official reply by the United Order of the Temple and Hospitallers to certain memorials.

A large number of letters and lodge reports unavoidably stand over.

A letter purporting to be from Bro. C. Pegler relative to the Girls' School, has reached us. As we are in some doubt about it, he will perhaps communicate with the Editor, 198, Fleet-street, the letter on the Boys' School received.

EUCLID.—1. Cannot say. 2. Professor Wanklyn, 117, Charlotte-street, Fitzroy Square.

P.G. asks the proper method of wearing the apron, whether over or under the coat, by the E.A., F.C., and M.M. respectively.—[It is a matter of indifference, rather of individual taste.]

## Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

## DEATH.

WILKINS.—November 24th, Eliza Wilkins, aged 36, the beloved wife of Bro. W. S. Wilkins, Lodge No. 140, St. George's.

## The Freemason,

SATURDAY, DEC. 11, 1875.

## OUR ROYAL GRAND MASTER'S VISIT TO INDIA.

In our condensed report last week, we had to leave out an important item, our Royal Grand Master's visit to Goa en passant. We give the newspaper account of it, therefore, this week. On Saturday morning the Prince landed at Goa, and was received with Royal honours by the Portuguese authorities. The special telegram to the "Times" states that the Governor and his suite came off in a curious eighteen-oar galley, the oarsmen wearing scarlet caps, with very antique silver plaques. A crowd of respectable citizens received the Prince and the Governor, the natives being very eager to obtain a sight of the illustrious visitor. The Prince passed along the line of Sepoys and the Portuguese corps to the Government House, which contains a most interesting collection of portraits of Portuguese Governors, and Viceroys—Albuquerque, De Gama, Castro, Constantine, Braganza, &c. The Governor presented the principal officials, after which the Prince and the Governor, with their suites, embarked on board two steam launches, and proceeded up the river to old Goa—half-an-hour's run.—There the Prince inspected the monuments of the ancient greatness and departed splendour of the Portuguese settlement. The quays and the old arsenal are now ruins, as are also the Government buildings. Convents, monasteries, churches, and palaces crown the heights, and the shores are lined with cocoa-nut and palm trees, with a densely wooded background. The Prince landed and drove with his suite, in two carriages, under the ancient gateway of Vasco de Gama, under which every Viceroy of Goa must pass. He visited St. Catherine's Cathedral, passing the Palace of the Inquisition and the Church of St. Caetan, built after the model of St. Peter's at Rome. This church possesses a noble interior, with many rich shrines. There were a few native Christian women praying, but no crowd. There are no remains of the ancient city or houses. The Prince walked round and examined the shrines; and next, in litters called mancheels, or on foot, the party proceeded to Bom Jesus Church, a very fine edifice, with a curious shrine of St. Francis Xavier. The altar is of marble, and was presented by the Grand Duke of Tus-

cany. It has silver and bronze ornaments, with relics, and the windows have oyster-shell films in lieu of glass. The Prince inspected the solid gold and chased silver vessels containing the sacred elements, and the quaint cabinets, which are most interesting. As regards the visit to Madras, we find the following:—The cholera is all over the country, not raging very severely, but sufficiently widespread to induce caution. The Prince of Wales was obliged to decline the Rajah's invitation to visit Travancore. The visit to Madras will depend on the news received at Colombo. The Prince entertained the Madras officials at lunch on board the Serapis. There is immense disappointment expressed on all sides at the abandonment of the Prince's visit. The preparations were extensive and most costly all over the Presidency, and (says the telegram) the ladies especially are disconsolate. As we said in our last, the Prince landed at Colombo on the 1st. He was well received everywhere, especially by the natives. Despite heavy rains and a thunderstorm, he has been hunting elephants at Hebulgala, and on December 7th the "Times" reports the following successful results. The Prince of Wales left the camp Dec. 6th at 6.30, and drove to the forest, where elephants had been traced. The Prince reached the jungle at 9 a.m., and, attended by Lord C. Beresford, took post on a stand for six hours. Every effort to drive the elephants failed, the old tusker having led the herd through the beaters again and again, and defeated every attempt to drive him. Elephants could be heard crashing through the trees with a noise like pistol shots, but only glimpses of their backs could be seen. As the beaters could not trace the elephants, the Prince, having got a shot at one, descended and advanced into the jungle on foot, with M. Varien and Mr. Fisher, followed by Lord C. Beresford and Lord Suffield, with rifles. They were amid the elephants, and the Prince showed the utmost coolness as he stood within ten yards of the wounded beast, who prepared to charge, when the Prince dropped him dead. The Prince also hit two others, which are reported dead in the jungle. The hunters said the situation was critical. The scene over the dead elephant in the river was very exciting. Crowds of natives were waiting outside the jungle to learn the result. The Prince was much pleased, and has just arrived here after an upset in a ditch, but he was not in the least hurt, nor was any of the party. It was a most successful day. The Prince leaves for Colombo in the morning. He is in excellent health and spirits.

## THE LAST QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

If there was not any matter of very great importance to be discussed and decided at the last Grand Lodge, there was yet sufficient on the agenda paper, and notwithstanding the ungenial weather, to draw together a numerous assemblage. Our Royal G. Master was proposed for re-election—naturally, one should say and feel—in an effective speech by Bro. J. M. Case, P.G.S. and P.M. No. 1, and amid the sympathizing cheers of Grand Lodge. Bro. Clabon was re-appointed by the Grand Master President of the Board of Benevolence, and Bros. Nunn and Brett, Vice-Presidents, by the G. Lodge, there being no other nominations. Bro. Alderman Hadley was nominated on the Board of General Purposes in the place of Bro. Savage. The Report of the Lodge of Benevolence was received, and the votes confirmed, except the large vote for £250, which was, in our opinion, properly reduced to £100. The appeal of Bro. Robert Levingstone was allowed, and Bro. Braine declared to be ineligible, on the facts as stated, to be elected to the Master's chair. The alterations proposed in the rules of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution were unanimously confirmed. Bro. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C., brought forward a resolution that Grand Lodge should grant a vote of £100 towards the "Palestine Exploration Fund," and which, after some regrettable opposition, was carried by a large majority. We do not pretend to understand why our good brothers Carpenter and Constable, both Masons of note, should have opposed so

innocent and natural a proposition, but we presume that they had good reasons for so doing. No doubt, happily, in Grand Lodge, as in this good old land of ours, thoughts are untrammelled and speech is free, and we have, thank God, both liberty of utterance and liberty of conscience, still, the Masonic student or philosopher must somewhat wonder why two such good Masons should have set themselves against so reasonable a resolution. Grand Lodge has so often set the precedent, on special occasions, of granting special votes for special purposes, if not even actually Masonic, that it is utterly in vain for any one to raise the old stereotyped objection that such grants do not come within the scope of Freemasonry. All matters which affect the sufferings of our common humanity, or any form of Masonry, of natural or local distress, may fairly be deemed, if not actually Masonic, quasi-Masonic, for the purpose of active benevolence and temporary aid. But in this particular case not only was the common sense of the matter with our Past Grand Chaplain, but all the "sentiment" of Freemasonry, so to say. He had precedent in his favour, even in respect of the grant he asked for, and in what could Freemasonry find a closer or a deeper interest than in that "Holy Ground," which appealed alike to their own reverential memories; and the long cherished traditions of their Order. We rejoice, therefore, to find that Grand Lodge acceded to Bro. Simpson's resolution by a large majority, and we only regret that the grace of the grant was not augmented by the unanimous vote of Grand Lodge. There is no society which has done more good for Biblical archaeology than that influential and distinguished Committee formed for the exploration of Palestine, and we wish it all success in its arduous and most interesting labours.

## MASONIC APPEALS.

While we all rejoice to think that we have in our Grand Lodge a Supreme Court of Appeal for our entire Order, we must also regret that much of its valuable time is wasted in dealing with cases which ought not properly to come before it at all. The Book of Constitutions is before us all, its admirable provisions are in all our hands, and yet, strange to say, many an appeal is made because those who ought to read the Book of Constitutions will not take the trouble to do so, or read it so carelessly and to so little purpose, or their heads really are so thick, that they commit illegalities with the greatest readiness and ease, with a high hand and a smiling face. Then come long folios of manuscript, to weary the patience of our Grand Secretary and our Grand Registrar, and time is taken up in deciding cases which really require no decision, in dealing with perverse illegalities, or preposterous evasions of the laws of Masonry. Take this last appeal as an illustration.—A Bro. Braine is elected a joining member of the Lodge Orion, in the West, No. 415, Poonah, and on the evening of his election he is placed by the W.M. in the Junior Warden's chair. The Master had been initiated at the previously monthly meeting, and the brother then legally and duly appointed J.W. had since left the district on a military emergency. So far all is plain sailing. The W.M. was without a J.W., and no doubt he had to fill up the post. It was a "strong order" to appoint a brother J.W. of a lodge the very night of his ballot as a joining member, and the W.M., if he took the step deliberately, could never for one moment have realised what a blow he was inflicting on the harmony and peaceful progress of the lodge. But so it was, and Bro. Braine was invested with the collar of the J.W. But the lodge meeting came round for the election of W.M., and of course Bro. Braine had only served eleven months, not twelve. He was clearly ipso facto "ineligible" as W.M., but "non obstante" the Book of Constitutions, the lodge elected him, and the District Grand Master of Bombay confirmed the election, pace the objection of Bro. R. Levingstone. Why he, the D.G. Master, so decided we do not gather, and we cannot profess to understand on what grounds he could base such a decision. As the Grand Registrar cogently put it, Bro. Braine was not even a member of the



lodge the night the J.W. was appointed; how could he have served the necessary twelve months? The Grand Lodge unanimously reversed the decision of the D.G. Master, and declared that Bro. Braine could not legally continue as W.M. or be considered in consequence a lawfully installed W.M. Now, we allude to this appeal for the purpose of impressing on our readers, first of all, the duty of all W.M.'s, and indeed of all our brethren, to read and study carefully the Book of Constitutions; and secondly, of urging on our active brotherhood the great need there is of careful adherence to the letter of our wise and admirable laws. The great feature of English Freemasonry has been, like our natural character, happily, its law-abiding and constitutional progress, and greatly will it be to be deplored if inattention to the provisions of the Book of Constitutions, or any deliberate departure from its enactments, on any pretences, or for any reasons, be ever in any way carelessly or easily regarded amongst us. We cannot understand how any brother, in the face of the Book of Constitutions, so clear and explicit as the present, could elect as W.M. a brother who had not been twelve months Junior Warden, much less how a D.G. Master could sanction such a proceeding. Yet so it is. We beg, therefore, at this period of the year especially, to commend to all W.M.'s and Secretaries and brethren of our Order, the careful study of the Book of Constitutions, to remind them of our unalterable laws, and to point out the one simple course of duty in any similar question of doubt or debate. We think that the late decision of Grand Lodge will have a very good effect in convincing the Craft, that our laws are made to be obeyed in all contingencies, and not evaded or explained away.

#### MASONIC FORBEARANCE.

"It is a queer world we live in, my masters," is a saying as true as when it was first written, or given to the world. We note every day striking evidences before us, how very strange are its ups and downs, how very peculiar are its votaries, how very reckless its ways, and how little scrupulous are we all for the most part, whether as regards our neighbours, our friends, our brethren, or our compeers. We cannot have lived long or seen much of society if we do not ourselves fully realize the fact, that selfishness is a motto, so to say, emblazoned on many of this world's armorial bearings, over its palaces, over its "emporiums" of business, over its "shining halls of pleasure," over even the palaces of the high, and the houses of the humbler. To many of us all life is only a struggle, in which all means are fair and all manouvres lawful. To distance our neighbours in the race for wealth or profit, to head them in the dirty and dusty arena, to become prosperous though they fail, and to be fortunate when they are crushed down to earth, seems to many the real aim of the great battle of life. Hence to them all earthly existence is but an enduring struggle, in which the strong prevail and the weak are worsted, and in the hurry of the hour, in the excitement of the conflict, they have little time for thought and less for sympathy. "People must take their chance," "People can't all expect to win," "People must do as others do, and bear as others bear," "People should not go into a fight and then whine because they are beaten;" these, and sayings like these, we often hear from the lips of the successful, if somewhat selfish athletes, when to them, in their hour of mortal success, has come the chaplet of honour or the wreath of victory! Now it is against this ingrained selfishness that Freemasonry seems ever to protest! Such persons for the most part, as we see them act, and hear them talk, whether at home or abroad, whether in the house of merchandize or the house of feasting, whether in the "forum" or some other select assembly, are ever most overbearing and intolerant. They have done very well, why has not every one else? is their apparent idea. Therefore, they have no endurance and no forbearance for others, for those, the weary, who have either made a false start or mistaken the course, or grown weak, and faint, and weary; or who, for some cause or another, have utterly failed, whether in the struggle or the race. Now, it

is just in these points that Freemasonry may give us all many a beneficial lesson. We all of us need forbearance ourselves in countless things and many ways, though we are ignorant of the fact or choose to forget it; and Freemasonry bids us all remember it, and therefore shew forbearance to others. The world in which we live is made up of incongruities and inconsistencies, of anomalies very many, of contradictions most abounding; and many are its pitfalls, as well as its falls; its weaknesses as well as its errors; its misfortunes as well as its tribulations for every brother and sister of the dust! We all know life is not, and cannot be, always sunshine to any of us here; for many of us its grass has long since withered, its trees have lost their foliage, its songs are hushed, and its flowers are faded, and we are like the guests of the fairy story, where the table is surrounded by phantom associates, and where the food, and the garlands, and the wine, and the plate, are all but tinsel, covering the dust and ashes underneath!—Freemasonry comes to us then, and bids us be considerate, tolerant, and forbearing. We are to feel for others and with others. If we are prosperous we should seek to help others in adverse circumstances; if we are happy we should endeavour kindly to solace the bruised spirit and the grieving heart; if we are full of this life's good things we should remember ever and anon that some are not so blessed as we are. And, above all, we should be very forbearing in thought, and will, and work. When the world makes no allowance we should make every allowance. When others are calumnious or malignant we should be very charitable, when others greedily accept the poisoned rumour, or the slanderous tale, we should not "look down with contempt upon the dirt;" when others are open-mouthed we should be reticent; and when others are overbearing we should be forbearing. This should be our golden law of life, our silver rule of action. We should ever keep before us the fact that we are brethren, and as true and steady Craftsmen we should never cease to be full of sympathy for our brethren, but should ever endeavour to be most forbearing, conscious that we all need, ever greatly need, forbearance ourselves.

#### WHAT JEWELS MAY LEGALLY BE WORN IN LODGE.

We apprehend that the question "What jewels may legally be worn in lodge," is entirely governed by the Book of Constitutions, and can only be answered by proper authority. When our laws talk of a "honorary or other jewel," of medals, an "emblem," or "device," which may each and all be worn in lodge if "consistent with those degrees of Masonry which are recognised by Grand Lodge," or "under its control," they surely carry a distinct meaning, and allow a definite interpretation. That meaning and interpretation we contend are as follows. Emblems, medals, and devices which may be fitly worn in lodge, just as all those jewels or medals, or devices, or emblems, which belong to a grade not recognised are strictly forbidden and can never be Masonically put on in lodge. Hence we see that the real discussion turns and turns alone on this one fact—what are really the jewels, &c., which are consistent with the Grand Lodge recognition of pure and ancient Masonry, and which in consequence may be worn by our brethren in lodge; And here, confessedly, the matter assumes a somewhat difficult phasis. The three provisions of the Book of Constitutions which refer to the subject seem only to relate to the jewels of present or past rank pendent to collars, and no other jewel is apparently recognised by the Book of Constitutions but the "Centenary Jewel." The Charity Medal, strangely enough, is not mentioned in the Book of Constitutions, and rests on the authority of the conjoint sanction of the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge. In the last "Freemason" there appeared an extract from what purports to be a reply of our esteemed and worthy Grand Secretary on the subject, but which we think does not quite fully or fairly represent Bro. Hervey's views on the matter. He seems to say, that he is "not aware of any jewels authorised to be worn save the Charity Medal, especially sanctioned by the Grand Master, and

such jewels of Grand Officers as are named in the Book of Constitutions." The letter is of date June 23rd, this year, and addressed, "sic dicata," to Bro. J. A. Hayes. We do not, however, deem it to be quite correct or complete, for this reason, that our Grand Secretary, who is well known to be a "Master" alike of Constitutional lore and ritualistic enactments, entirely leaves out the "Centenary Jewel." Bro. Hervey points out what is undeniable, that lodge jewels, and jewels with the name of a lodge upon them, without the sanction of the Grand Master are absolutely illegal, and in this we heartily agree with him. He also adds, as we ourselves said, a short time back, that there are probably not more than half a dozen lodges possessing a lodge jewel. Now it is quite clear to us that, though the Book of Constitutions is silent upon the subject, probably for a good reason, the Grand Master "Virtute Officii," and "jure suo," is the fountain of Masonic honour, just as the sovereign is the fountain of all civic dignity. The sovereign can issue orders to form a new order of knighthood or appoint a decoration to be worn to-morrow, just as she can forbid all foreign insignia to be exhibited by her subjects. And in like manner our Grand Master can give his sanction to a lodge to establish an honorary jewel, to be worn by its members, and such sanction rests alone upon his supreme authority in that respect. Indeed, as we have before said, we venture we think, that if each lodge had its own lodge jewel under the warrant of the Grand Master, and on payment of a regular fee, the "jewel question" would be naturally lessened in importance; and much good would accrue to our Fund of Benevolence if the fee for each lodge warrant to have a lodge jewel as specified on the warrant, subject to needful expenses in the Grand Secretary's office, was made a portion of the income of the Fund of Benevolence. The question must ere long be authoritatively settled, as at present there is much necessary doubt on the subject. It is quite clear to us, for instance, that the Book of Constitutions means something when it talks of an "honorary or other jewel," an "emblem," a "medal," a "device," but what does it mean? A "medal" certainly is not a "jewel," a "jewel" is not a "device," a "device" is not an "emblem;" these are not synonymous or even alternative terms, they have each and all an independent and special meaning. Therefore we come back to the original query, what are they, which are they? In our humble opinion, all emblems, devices, medals, honorary or other jewels which are consistent with the three degrees of Masonry, are wearable in lodge! And, however hypercritical or paradoxical it may seem to some, we doubt very much whether Royal Arch jewels can be worn out of a Royal Arch Chapter. We hope, however, ere long that the question may be officially settled, but we confess that we fancy, it is not quite so easy a matter judicially to decide, in a spirit of careful and legal interpretation, as some of our correspondents appear to think. The wording of the Book of Constitutions is so special and yet so peculiar on the subject, that we feel quite persuaded it must require a good deal both of legal acumen and common sense, to give a judicial deliverance on so "vexata" a "questio."

#### THE GIRLS' SCHOOL.

The Special General Court of the Governors and Subscribers of the Girls' School takes place at Freemasons' Hall, this day (Saturday), at 12 o'clock, and we recommend all qualified members to be there. We were very glad to see our excellent Bro. Col. Creaton's motion, and trust that it may be unanimously agreed to. We shall recur to the subject next week.

THE LATE QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION OF GRAND LODGE.—At the conclusion of our report of this meeting in the "Freemason" of last week, it is stated that Bro. Carpenter moved the negating of the Rev. R. J. Simpson's proposition for granting £100 to the Palestine Exploration Fund, and that Bro. John Constable, P.M. 185, seconded Dr. Carpenter's amendment. "The amendment was put, and but few hands were held up for it; whereupon Bro. Constable wished to withdraw from seconding the amendment." Bro. Constable informs our reporter that this is a mistake; that he did not rise to withdraw from his position as seconder of the amendment, but that he rose and asked the acting Grand Master what was the purport of the amendment which he himself had just seconded.

Original Correspondence.

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

THE LAST LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir, and Brother,—

The three causes mentioned in last week's "Freemason" have no doubt a very great deal to do with the demand for so much relief being required; but it seems to me, from what I have seen of Masonry, that there is another and greater cause, which is the lodges being held at public-houses, and I am not the only brother who can see the great evil arising from this cause.

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales is the Grand Master and head of the Order, but the number of publicans belonging to the Order is so great, that their power has a great influence over the brethren, and, speaking within bounds, I should say that a considerable sum of the money spent by Masons on Masonry finds its way into their pockets, and it is this which gives them so much power. In my opinion it is through them so many are brought into the Order that should not be allowed in, for a publican having a lodge in his house will recommend any one who may offer themselves, so long as they are good customers and drink freely. Again, another great evil, when an initiate has been admitted, where is he to go for instruction but to a tavern; in fact, there is nothing but that from his entry into the Order—to his craving for charity—and here again this is felt, as many of the brothers who apply for charity are tradesmen who enter Masonry when first rising in business, and if ambitious to rise in the Order they have to spend so much of their valuable time in the public-house instead of attending to their business. Of course men who have attained a good position, and can employ others to look after their affairs, can afford to spend their time as they like without feeling it, but not so with beginners in business. I know many brothers who spend much of their time in public-houses (where lodges are held) on Masonic business, and so they must go on (until lodge rooms be provided away from these places) with habits which are the forerunner of the claims on the Lodge of Benevolence.

Yours truly, 1446.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir, and Brother,

I had almost arrived at the determination not to reply to the letter of Bro. Charles Pegler, but after reading your editorial comments thereon, it would seem ungracious not to do so. I write, however, with extreme distaste and reluctance, for nothing to my mind is so painful and wearying as to be constantly on the defence of that which you know to be undeserving of censures. This feeling is intensified when you are conscious of pleading in the presence of prejudiced judges who have formed their opinions without fair enquiry, and who having once adopted certain views adhere to them with pertinacity, refusing to admit evidence which is calculated to modify them.

I write this without the least intention to cast any reflection upon any brother, or to find fault with the course which he may think it wise, in the exercise of his discretion, to pursue. The strongest impression on my mind is that of utter hopelessness in attempting to convince our critics that the standard they have fixed is one utterly at variance with all our traditions (no matter of how modern an origin they may be).

To come to the point without further preface, it is very evident that we have now two classes of contributors—the one contending that cheapness is the true test of good management—the other maintaining that, while a prudent economy is by all means to be observed, there are other considerations of greater importance than those involved in the question, "At how low a rate can such and such results be produced, and how large a number can be done for a given sum?" This is the philosophy of "Dotheboys' Hall," which has never yet found favour in the charitable institutions connected with Freemasonry. The ruling motive or principle in the management of our schools during the period I have been associated with them—extending over twenty years—has been to treat the children as if they were members of your own family, as in a sense, I hope understood by at least the large majority of Masons, they undoubtedly are—and to deprive the benefits they receive of everything that would imply an idea of charity. This has been successfully achieved, not without cost, I admit, and until I know to what extent similar notions prevail in other institutions, it is idle and fallacious to attempt analytical comparisons of expenditure.

If those who find their highest gratification in microscopically dissecting accounts, and in denouncing what they term extravagance, are in earnest, why do they not give notice of motion for the Quarterly Courts to the effect "that the present management of the Masonic schools is disapproved, and that the children therein shall be educated and maintained at a cost not exceeding £— per head. We shall then have a fair chance of arriving at the real feeling of the governors and subscribers by whose voluntary contributions the institutions are supported. From the time of the controversy now going on, an outsider would imagine that our Institutions are maintained by a poll tax, or by an enforced rate, instead of by voluntary effort. I state with confidence that hundreds of donations have been given entirely on account of the care and attention paid to health and comfort in our establishments, and have every reason to believe that many of our kindest friends and most liberal contributors would discontinue their assistance were we to adopt a cheeseparing policy of parsimony.

As to the comparative expenditure for clothing and pro-

visions I decline to enter fully until I am in a position to ascertain the particulars of the quantity and quality of the former and of the diet regulating the latter in the various institutions of a somewhat kindred nature, though I will quote the cost of these items in one or two schools. The cost is for

	Clothing.	Provisions.
Royal Medical Benevolent ...	7 18 3	17 12 9
Clergy Orphan ...	5 10 4	17 2 7
British Orphan ...	5 4 8	13 8 9

	Average
Masonic Boys' School ...	6 4 5
	7 11 7

But let us turn to two other important items, and with reference to these I will quote from the reports of the above and other societies, because in school labours and office work there is closer affinity than in details such as the above, and because in respect of one of these items many unjust and undeserved strictures have been published.

	Number.		Office Expenses.		School Salaries and Wages.	
	£	s. d.	Total.	Per Head.	Total.	Per Head.
Royal Medical Benevolent.....	189	11 2	189 11 2	5 19 0	2947	12 7
Clergy Orphan .....	731	9 9	731 9 9	6 13 0	1134	15 8
British Orphan .....	1447	19 7	1447 19 7	7 19 1	1117	1 1
Warehousemen and Clerks ...	983	11 11	983 11 11	6 17 7	804	3 2
Commercial Travellers .....	1301	10 4	1301 10 4	4 10 4	1317	8 10
Average .....	1130	16 6	1130 16 6	6 7 9	1464	4 3
Masonic Boys' School .....	959	10 10	959 10 10	6 3 0	1286	2 8
	1159	10 10	1159 10 10	7 8 8		

I have abjured fractions, and have given our office expenses in two accounts, the smaller exclusive, the larger inclusive, of the £200 so "suspiciously" placed in another account, and which, from the special circumstances attending it I still contend ought not to form part of the ordinary charge.

I regret not having obtained a larger number of reports, but the above will afford evidence that in our expenditure there is no such extravagance as to warrant the serious accusations brought against us.

You very justly draw attention to the Report of the West Yorkshire Charity Committee issued in October, 1868, and I hope its reproduction in your columns may not be without effect. The peculiar circumstances of our position are there put forcibly and fairly, and I contend that it is neither wise nor just to attempt the disparagement of an institution by contrasting it unfavourably with others with which no strict grounds of comparison exist. Our system has been the growth of ten years approval of numerous, distinguished, and influential members of the Craft, by whom, as well as by a large number of well-qualified judges belonging to the outer world, the entire arrangements of the establishment at Wood Green have been awarded the highest praise and admiration.

All that is now needed is the best possible middle class Education combined with good discipline, and this I conscientiously believe we are now in a fair way of securing.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours faithfully and fraternally,

FREDERICK BINCKES, Secretary.

London, 6th December, 1875.

WHAT'S IN THE WIND NOW?

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Is it true that some few brethren in West Yorkshire are preparing a scheme for a snug little berth for an ex-Master of the Boys' School? One should like to know. For just now some few brethren of that most distinguished province seem to be running-a-muck at our Metropolitan Educational Institutions.

Yours fraternally,

A YORKSHIRE TYKE.

THE FORCE OF HABIT.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

How difficult it is for a man to lay aside his ordinary habits may be estimated any day by carefully watching ourselves and those around us. Particular forms of speech or action become so ingrained in us, that no

matter how inappropriate the time or place, we find it impossible to leave them off. An example or two will best explain this. Suppose a man, remarkable for the force rather than elegance of his diction, finds himself in the society of respectable chapel-going elderly ladies: how frequently he will have to beg their pardon for his want of appreciation of the conversational value of the letter "h," as compared with the monosyllable "damn;" or suppose a gang of miners, listening to one of their fellows as wraptly and rapturously as to the parson (during a strike) while he relates to them the historic encounter of "Brummy;" how instinctively they all throw themselves into that elegant attitude known as "squatting on their haunches," which they have long accustomed themselves to down the pit. And if these things be so in their cases, and many similar ones in our own, how can we wonder that a distinguished W.M. of a metropolitan lodge, who rose at a meeting of the Criterion Building Society to second a proposition, should do so after saluting the chairman in the approved Masonic manner.

A.L.H.

PROVINCIAL GRAND OFFICERS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

A Provincial Grand Lodge, comprising three counties, and meeting alternately in the principal town of each county, passed, five years ago, the following resolution:—

"That at the annual election of P.G. Officers the Senior Warden retires, and the other officers to be promoted one step, so that the Inner Guard's place alone has to be filled up, and that by a brother from the three counties alternately."

This rule was duly entered in the minute book of the Provincial Grand Lodge, signed in due time by the R.W. D.G. Master, and acted on with great success, without intermission or question as to its utility; but it was not on the book of bye-laws, as we had not any printed since, nor was it reported to the Grand Lodge of the country for confirmation, as this was deemed unnecessary.

At the last election, however, the members of the county where the election was held, without notice of any sort, without rescinding the above rule, proposed and elected members of their own county only to all the various offices from P.I.G. to P.S.W.

Will you kindly inform me whether this election is legal, or ought another election to take place, as there is considerable doubt whether the election, having taken place on the day appointed by the bye-laws, can be disturbed?

FAIR PLAY.

LONDON MASONIC CLUB.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

My attention has just been directed to a letter in one of your issues having reference to the above club.

I beg to assure your correspondent that no time has been lost in securing suitable club premises, and I have every reason to hope that a few days will enable me officially to notify to those interested the situation and date of opening.

As I am not writing with the authority of the directors, I take this opportunity of saying that each of those brethren have spared neither time or trouble in looking after and promoting the undertaking.

The difficulty has been in obtaining premises and to know for what number to make provision, which would have been obviated by intending members sending in their names earlier.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

JOHN A. LATHBURY.

COLOURED MASONS IN THE UNITED STATES v. PRINCE HALL GRAND LODGE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In your issue of October 23rd you have given your decision against the legality of the coloured Masons in the United States because their lodge was erased from the English list of lodges in 1813. But I beg respectfully to ask whether you can find in the history of Freemasonry, during the last century, any Grand Lodge that was formed on the Continent of Europe, or in America, which acted in a different manner from that of the African Lodge at Boston?

Thus, France received its first charter from England in 1724, and within a dozen years the French Lodge, or lodges, formed themselves into a Grand Lodge. And so it was with Holland; and so it was with all the lodges on the American continent.

In 1769 the Grand Lodge of Scotland sent a deputation to Dr. (afterwards General) Joseph Warren appointing him Prov. G.M. over a certain part of New England. Gen. Warren died on Bunker Hill in 1775, and on March 8th, 1777, the officers of this defunct Scotch Provincial Grand Lodge formed themselves into an independent Grand Lodge by the name or title of "The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts;" and in 1792 the several lodges, which originally owed allegiance to the Grand Lodge of England, also formed themselves into an independent Grand Lodge, and then the two Grand Lodges united. It will be seen that the coloured Masons of Boston followed the example set them by their white brothers at that period, for neither the Scotch, nor the English lodges in Boston, consulted their respective parent Grand Lodges as to whether they might or might not secede.

There was even no formal notice sent to the Grand Lodge of England that the Boston white Masons did secede (vide letter of Wm. White below), and I frankly admit that in the light of Masonic law of to-day their unceremonious secession from their parent Grand Lodge was illegal; yet, what was the practice at that time with American Grand Lodges? We find, as we have already said,

that on March 8th, 1777, the Masons of Boston, of Scottish origin, without the counsel or consent of their parent Grand Lodge, formed a Grand Lodge at Boston, under the name of "The Massachusetts Grand Lodge."

Again, the St. John's Grand Lodge claiming to have descended from English authority, without giving previous notice, or in any way notifying their mother Grand Lodge, united with their Scottish brethren and formed the present Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. This they did in 1792.

Now, if in consequence of the illegal action of the African Lodge, the coloured Masons in the United States have lost their right as Masons, why should you not also deprive the white Masons of their Masonic rights, because their predecessors in 1777, and in 1792, did in like manner unceremoniously secede from their parent Grand Lodges? There can be but one reason; and that is this: one was white and the other black.

It will be seen that in 1868 the late D.G.M., C. W. Moore, of Boston, wrote to the R.W. Bro. John Hervey, Grand Lodge of England, asking whether he (Bro. Hervey) did not think that the coloured Masons in the United States were an illegitimate body. Bro. Hervey replied in the affirmative; but the letter had scarcely been mailed when Bro. Hervey came to an opposite conclusion, and he immediately wrote another letter to Bro. Moore recalling his first decision. And in conversation upon the subject with Bro. Jacob Norton, Bro. Hervey told Bro. Norton that he really could not see any difference between the legality of the white and coloured organizations in the United States.

In 1870 Bro. W. S. Gardner made a strong effort to prove the illegitimacy of the coloured lodges. Bro. Jacob Norton reviewed Bro. Gardner's address, and Bro. Gardner frankly admitted afterwards that Bro. Norton dealt fairly and squarely in his criticisms, assuring him, however, that when he compiled his address he did not know of Bro. Hervey's second letter.

That was the only objection Bro. Gardner made to Bro. Norton's article, and in the following issue of the "Masonic Monthly" Bro. Norton exonerated Bro. Gardner from the charge of ignoring the second letter of Bro. Hervey. The same year, 1871, Bro. Joseph Robbins, as chairman of the Committee of Foreign Correspondence, also reviewed Bro. Gardner's address in the proceedings of the G.L. of Illinois, and indorsed fully and unequivocally Bro. Norton's arguments.

And, last but not least, the G.L. of Ohio, at its last annual session, gave utterance in our favour, as the following will show:—

"Proposed Recognition of the Coloured Grand Lodge of Ohio.

"Your committee, to whom was referred so much of the annual address of the Most Worshipful Grand Master and accompanying documents as relates to the so-called coloured lodges, and more especially to the coloured Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Ohio, have given the subject careful consideration, and respectfully submit the following:—

"We do not propose, nor do we deem it necessary, at this time, to enter into the history of the origin of so-called coloured Freemasonry in this country. That subject has been fully discussed in all the Grand Lodges and Masonic periodicals of this country for more than 25 years past. Your committee deem it sufficient to say that they are satisfied beyond all question that coloured Freemasonry had a legitimate beginning in this country, as much so as any other Freemasonry; in fact, it came from the same source.

"Your committee will not attempt, at this time, to investigate as to the transmission of this legitimate beginning down to the present time, when we find more than 40 subordinate lodges and a Grand Lodge of so-called coloured Freemasons, and an aggregate of more than 800 members in the state of Ohio. Your committee have only to say that such is the fact.

"Your committee have the most satisfactory and conclusive evidence that these coloured Freemasons practise the very same rites and ceremonies, and have substantially the same esoteric or secret modes of recognition, as are practised by the universal family of Freemasons throughout the world.

"The question of the recognition of these coloured Freemasons has long been before this Grand Body, and your committee feel that its importance is pressing upon us and demanding, prompt, serious, and decided action.

"Your committee, therefore, offer for adoption the following resolution:—

"Resolved, by the 'Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Ohio,' that this Grand Body will recognise the so-called Grand Lodge of Coloured Free Masons of the State of Ohio as a legitimate and independent Grand Lodge, on condition that the so-called Coloured Grand Lodge shall change its constitutional title, so that it shall read as follows: 'The African Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Ohio.' And if the so-called Coloured Grand Lodge shall accept the recognition and make the suggested change in its constitutional title, then, and in that case, upon said being reported to the M. W. Grand Master of this Grand Lodge, under the seal of said body, then the M. W. Grand Master is hereby authorized and instructed to issue his proclamation to the subordinates to this Grand Lodge, and to the Grand Lodges throughout the world with which we are in fraternal correspondence, recognising the said Coloured Grand Lodge as an independent Grand Lodge in the State of Ohio, under the title of 'The African Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Ohio.'

"Respectfully submitted.  
 "L. V. BIERCE. "C. A. WOODWARD.  
 "E. T. CARSON. "L. H. PIKE."  
 "F. WILLMER.

After discussion thereon, Bro. Lewis H. Williams, W.M. Russellville Lodge, No. 166, now R.W. Grand Junior

Warden, moved that final action on the subject matter of the Coloured Grand Lodge, as above, be deferred until the next annual Communication, which was agreed to.

In the name of justice to a wronged race, I therefore beg you to publish the above in the "Freemason," and also Bro. Norton's article above alluded to, so that English Masons may learn to understand the true nature of the controversy; and when once the truth is known; I am satisfied that English justice will decide in our favour.

Yours, in behalf of truth and justice,  
 LEWIS HAYDEN,  
 P.G.M. Prince Hall Grand Lodge.  
 "London, August 20th, 1792.

"Right Worshipful Brother,—

"I have the pleasure of sending inclosed the printed proceedings of the Grand Lodge, by which you will perceive the flourishing state of our society, and in the account of the 24th November, 1787, you will find accredited your donation to the Charity Fund ten dollars, sent by Capt. Scott, and that of the 18th of April last your donation of one guinea. I am much obliged to you for the summons you sent me, which I think very well written, and very appropriate for the occasion. When you next write to me I should be obliged to you if you would let me know if the lodges in the inclosed list, which were constituted by the Grand Lodge of England, are yet in being, as we have never heard from them since the commencement of the late war in America, or, indeed, long before, and in case they have ceased to meet, which I rather apprehend, they ought to be erased from our list of lodges. I am much obliged to you for the account you give respecting your own lodge, to which I sincerely wish success as I should be happy to have it in my power to contribute thereto. I, inclosed, send you one of the calendars for the present year, which I beg your acceptance.

"I remain, with fraternal regard, Right Worshipful Brother, your obedient Servant and Brother,  
 "(Signed) "WILLIAM WHITE."  
 Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, 1872, page 381."

COLOURED LODGES IN THE UNITED STATES.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Only few words as answer to the last article of the "Freemason" on this question. If the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Boston, i.e., the African Lodge, was ever for some time gone asleep and inactive, but still in possession of its warrant, as was the case, then it had without any doubt the right to assume labour as a just and perfect lodge, and the more so as her mother, the Grand Lodge of England, had not erased it from the roll. But there is no evidence that the African Lodge was at any time dormant. Bro. Dr. R. Barthelmess, of Brooklyn (now at Nuremberg) has published in the "Bauhütte," 1861, a report, drawn from the memorials of Bro. Prince Hall, containing the letters to the Grand Lodge of England and the answers of its Grand Secretary. This correspondence proves that the Grand Lodge of England, as in many other instances, did not answer and not much care for her daughter. This correspondence between Prince Hall and the Grand Lodge goes from 1784 to 1806, and not sooner than 1820 Prince Hall Grand Lodge declared herself independent. If my dear English brethren will direct their attention to Hutchinson's Spirit of Masonry, 1795, 2 ed.; to Jones' Masonic Miscellanies, eds. 1797 and 1811; to the Freemasons' Anthologie of 1813, they will find, that the African Lodge is made mention of as an active lodge, and as a legitimate daughter of Grand Lodge of England. But, alas, there is at last a happy end of this question, as will be seen from the admirable and truly Masonic documents of the M.W. Grand Lodge of Ohio, to which, I am sure, the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts will follow. I make no other remark, as these important documents, the pride of American Masonry, speak for themselves. J. G. FINDEL.

[We do not republish these printed documents, as they have been before the public, the more so, as we also publish a letter from America on the subject.—ED.]

ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBERS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

On the 6th of March last you kindly inserted a letter of mine, on the above very important subject, and you were pleased to make some complimentary remarks upon the perspicuity of my plans for removing the baneful results of the present lax system. I advocated a complete system of enquiries—that no person should be initiated, nor a brother affiliated, in any place elsewhere than where he resides without making certain enquiries—under severe penalties. I explained a system "in extenso," that any brother who takes an interest in the matter will, perhaps, do well to refer to the letter above alluded to. It is so seldom this subject gets ventilated that I beg you will grant me the space I now ask.

I am proud of being a Mason, would like to see all my best friends in our ranks, yet nothing would induce me to importune them to enter. I would never stoop to proselytism.

If brethren would but bear in mind that portion of the charge at initiation, what an amount of good would accrue to our Order.

"By refraining to recommend anyone to a participation of our secrets, unless you have strong grounds to believe that, &c." I underline strong, but instead of this many lodges seem to look upon making Masons as a matter of "work," or "fees;" having a meeting they "must have a candidate." Two instances of this deplorable state of things has recently come under my notice; my wish is to place them before the Craft to illustrate the necessity of stringent rules.

1. A young man in business on his own account does

not seek admission in the town where he resides, but goes to London and is at once admitted and in due time becomes a M.M. Now had this man sought initiation in his own town he could not possibly have been received, for it was known he was carrying on a fraudulent trade, which culminated in fictitious claims on railway companies, &c., Making the place too hot, he ran his country.

2. A man in the confidential loan and "status" enquiry business sought admission to a lodge held in the town where he resided—he had been heard to say that his object was to further his business (especially the latter portion). The lodge knowing the man's character, and business traits, and having heard of the above remarks, refused him admission. He went to London and in a short time became a full-blown Mason. Within eighteen months of his initiation he had bolted from England—investigation of his affairs showed that he had embezzled some hundreds of pounds—swindled his creditors; lastly, he deserted his wife and family.

In neither case did the London lodges make the slightest enquiries of lodges held where these men had resided for years, and were well known—one having been already refused—but they admitted them, to the disgrace of the Order.

Wherever these men go they are English Masons. I ask, is it not a scandal that such blots should be seen on our escutcheon?

In case No. 2, when the man was newly initiated he went about snapping his fingers in the face of Masons, saying, "I am a Mason in spite of you all," and once, in a public room, was heard to remark (after shaking hands) "that so and so were Masons, but so and so were not," as he had just proved.

Will not Grand Lodge give us the power to protect ourselves? The apathy of many of those high in power is really surprising. If every Mason would but take the trouble to report to you every case, (similar to these two) that came to his knowledge, we should soon have the "Freemason" teeming with them, week after week, until steps would have to be taken.

What are we drifting to? English Craft Masonry will soon be on as low a level as Scotch, or perhaps as friendly societies whose members delight to parade the streets in regalia. In which case our Craft Lodges will but become "a matter of form to go through" for those who wish to enter the High Grades, where (in such a case) as each lands, he kicks away the ladder as an unclean thing.

In conclusion let me beg of the brethren to rally round the glorious old Craft, and prevent such a future as I have sketched, that when it is said of a man "he is a Mason," the world may know him to be a good man. I trust abler pens than mine will follow up this subject.

Fraternally yours, "AD REM."

MASONIC LIBRARIES.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

The letter from Bro. S.B.E. will, I hope, draw the special attention of the members of lodges to the desirability of forming Masonic libraries.

In addition to the many advantages resulting from libraries, so graphically described by Bro. S.B.E., who is evidently a warm-hearted Mason, and does not begrudge his subscriptions for his Masonic papers and works, I may mention one important reason why such a subject should receive the support of the members of the Craft generally.

How many lodges keep their old minutes, and books presented by the members from time to time. In preparing the history of an old lodge the other day, I was more than surprised to find from an examination of the records that very many books, and several volumes of the minutes had disappeared, and the majority were quite unknown to the present members. I found few of the quarterly communications preserved, all the "Freemasons' Magazine" lost, and a chance copy of the "Freemason" here and there, &c.

Now, all these would, in all probability, have been preserved had there been a Masonic library in connection with the lodge, and from the want of it, the brethren are now lamenting the loss, which no money can replace, for much of the history of the lodge in times gone by is lost for ever.

I need not attempt to say more to induce the members of the lodges to consider the vital question of the establishment of Masonic libraries, for those who have read Bro. S.B.E.'s communication, or have at all thought over the matter, will see the necessity for action, and I hope many lodges will set their house in order at once.

There are many Masonic libraries scattered over the country, and several more than Bro. S.B.E. has fingers on his hands—if of the usual number. The more the better. REVIRESCO.

"NOBLE GRANDS."

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I observe in to-day's "Freemason" a report of a lecture delivered by Dr. Hunter to the Bath Literary and Philosophical Association on the 24th ult., in which he says:—

"What he knew of Masons was all in their favour as a benevolent society, but it was the opinion of the experts of police that Englishmen were not admitted to a knowledge of the real objects of the Order, and that although noble-men and princes might be called Grand Grands and Noble Grands, they were merely marionettes whose strings were pulled by a secret council sitting somewhere in Germany."

I think before a man undertakes to lecture on Masonry, or even to touch on it in his lectures, he ought to know better than to attribute to us such very foolish titles as "Grand Grands and Noble Grands." It is bad enough (as is sometimes done) to appoint a "Grand Provincial Superintendent of Works," who can neither name the orders



of architecture nor superintend the erection of a pig-stye. My brother Oddfellows, I am sorry to say, still retain the foolish title of "Noble Grand" for president of a lodge, but they did not derive the name from any Masonic body; but borrowed or stole it from the Ancient Order of Bucks, which was a burlesque on the Craft.

I remain, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,  
GEORGE MARKHAM TWEDDELL.  
Rose Cottage, Stokesley, Dec. 4th, 1875.

AN OLD JEWEL.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—  
The jewel described at page 540 is an old Mark badge, possibly of Ireland; and the figure attended by the lion is that of the Evangelist St. Mark. Our theory, to which I subscribe, is that the Mark degree represents that skilled branch of the Fellow Crafts to which was entrusted the geometric form or more florid ornamentation required in the component stones of the building, and which they identified, each by the mark he had adopted. Is it possible that any other theory has ever prevailed, and that this section of the Craft was ever alleged to be called "Mark Masonry" after the name of the Evangelist? I cannot make these few observations without alluding to the use in this degree of the passage "read Mark," &c., which appears to me so strange and far-fetched an application of the one word, generally made very prominent, that I should be glad to see a revision in this.

LUPUS.

THE "MASONIC MAGAZINE."

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—  
Will you allow me to draw the attention of my brother Knights Templar to the valuable and interesting address of the Grand Prior of Canada which appears in the December number of the Magazine. It is important that all should read it before attending Grand Priory on the 10th inst. The Magazine is interesting this month in many ways, particularly to our wives and daughters.

There are three or four illustrations, including a capital woodcut of our Grand Secretary.

Wishing every success to the Magazine,  
I am, fraternally yours,  
EMRA HOLMES, F. 31.

A CORRECTION.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir, and Brother,—  
In my letter in your last issue headed "A Past Master" there appears a mistake in the latter part of it as follows: "Bro. Henry Ingham has no such rank as P.M. inasmuch as he has not contributed to any Craft Lodge since March, 1875;" it should have been since March, 1870. Will you kindly make the correction and oblige,  
Yours fraternally,  
JIM SHEARD, P.M. 971.  
Batley, December 6th, 1875.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS  
For the Week ending Friday, December 17, 1875.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11.  
Special General Court of Governors and Subscribers of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, Freemasons' Hall, at 12.  
Lodge 108, London, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.  
" 173, Phoenix, F. M. H.  
" 176, Caveac, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.  
" 1361, United Service, Greyhound Hot., Richmond.  
" 1423, Era, Kings' Arms Hot., Hampton Court.  
" 1426, The Great City, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.  
Mark Lodge 144, Grosvenor, Caledonian Hot., Adelphi.

INSTRUCTION.  
Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-square.  
Fily, Greyhound, Richmond.  
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-road.  
Sinai Chapter, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 13.  
Lodge 5, St. George's and Corner Stone, F. M. H.  
" 29, St. Alban's, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.  
" 59, Royal Naval, F. M. H.  
" 90, St. John's, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.  
" 136, Good Report, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.  
" 193, Confidence, Anderson's Hot., Fleet-st.  
" 957, Leigh, F. M. H.  
Chap. 1118, University, F. M. H.  
" 1319, Asaph, F. M. H.  
Rose Croix, Holy Sanctuary, 33, Golden-square.

INSTRUCTION.  
Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.  
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.  
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-street Station.  
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.  
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.  
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.  
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.  
West Kent, St. Saviour's College, Forest-hill.  
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.  
Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.  
Metropolitan, Coach and Horses Hot., 323, Strand.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14.  
Lodge 46, Old Union, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.  
" 96, Burlington, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.  
" 162, Cadogan, F. M. H.  
" 166, Union, London Tav., Bishopsgate-st.  
" 180, St. James's Union, F. M. H.  
" 186, Industry, M. H., Masons' Avenue.  
" 198, Percy, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.  
" 211, St. Michael, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.  
" 228, United Strength, Old Jerusalem, Clerkenwell.  
" 235, Nine Muses, Long's Hot., Bond-st., W.  
" 548 Wellington, White Swan Tav., Deptford.

Lodge 834, Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.  
" 860, Dalhousie, Anderson's Hot., Fleet-st.  
" 933, Doric, Anderson's Hot., Fleet-st.  
" 1538, St. Martin's-le-Grand, M. H., Mason's Avenue.  
Chap. 185, Jerusalem, F. M. H.

INSTRUCTION.  
Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.  
Domatic, Surrey M. H., Camberwell New-road.  
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.  
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.  
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.  
Prosperity, Gladstone Tav., Bishopsgate-st. Within.  
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.  
Constitutional, Wheatsheaf Ho., Hand-court, Holborn.  
Percy, Grapes Tav., Little Windmill-st., W.  
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.  
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.  
Metropolitan Chapter, St. Michael's Alley, Cornhill.  
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15.  
Lodge 140, St. George's, Trafalgar Hot., Greenwich.  
" 174, Sincerity, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.  
" 700, Nelson, M. H., William-st., Woolwich.  
" 969, Maybury, F. M. H.  
" 1044, Wandsworth, Spread Eagle Ho., Wandsworth.  
" 1349, Friars, Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars.  
" 1382, Corinthian, George Hot., Millwall Docks.  
" 1540, Chaucer, Bridge House Hot., London-bridge.  
Mark Lodge, Bon Accord, F. M. H.

INSTRUCTION.  
Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Cas. Tav., Southwark-bd.-rd.  
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.  
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.  
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.  
Confidence, White Hart Tav., Abchurch-lane.  
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.  
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.  
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.  
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.  
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.  
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.  
Mount Edgcombe, 19, Jermyn-street, St. James's.  
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16.  
House Committee, Girls' School, at 4.  
Lodge 23, Globe, F. M. H.  
" 49, Gihon, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.  
" 169, Temperance, White Swan, High-st., Deptford.  
" 179, Manchester, Anderson's Hot., Fleet-st.  
" 513, New Concord, Rosemary Branch, Hoxton.  
" 1139, South Norwood, Public Hall, South Norwood.  
" 1287, Great Northern, F. M. H.  
" 1339, Stockwell, Half Moon Tav., Herne-hill.  
" 1475, Peckham, Surrey M. H.  
Chap. 79, Pythagorean, Ship Hot., Greenwich.  
Preceptory E., Observance, 14, Bedford Row.

INSTRUCTION.  
Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.  
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.  
Finsbury Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.  
United Mariners', Three Cranes, Mile-end-road.  
Whittington, Crown Tav., Holborn.  
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st.; Poplar.  
Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank.  
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.  
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.  
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.  
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.  
Marquis of Ripon, Albion Tav., Albion-rd., Dalston.  
Doric Chapter, Three Cranes Tav., Mile-end-road.  
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17.  
House Committee, Boys' School, at 4.  
Lodge 6, Friendship, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.  
" 201, Jordan, F. M. H.  
Preceptory 6, St. George's, Albion, Aldersgate.  
Rose Croix, Invicta, 33, Golden-square.

INSTRUCTION.  
Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.  
St. George's, Globe Tav., Royal-hill, Greenwich.  
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.  
Belgrave, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand.  
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F. M. H.  
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.  
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.  
Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.  
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.  
Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.  
Metropolitan, Pentonville-road.  
United Pilgrims, Surrey M. H., Camberwell New-road.  
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.  
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.  
Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.  
Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.  
St. Luke's, Commercial Tav., King's-road, Chelsea.  
Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hot., Buckhurst-hill.  
Burdett Courts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.  
Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.  
Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.  
Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND  
CHESHIRE.  
For the Week ending Saturday, December 18, 1875.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 13.  
Lodge 292, Sincerity, M. H., Liverpool, at 4.  
" 314, Peace and Unity, Militia Mess Rooms, Preston.  
" 613, Unity, Masonic Hall, Southport.  
" 721, Independence, M. R., Eastgate-row, Chester.  
" 1021, Hartington, M. H., Barrow-in-Furness.  
" 1398, Baldwin Castle, Dalton-in-Furness.  
" 1350, Fermor Hesketh M. H., Liverpool, at 6.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14.  
Lodge 178, Antiquity, Royal Hot., Wigan, at 6.30.  
" 241, Merchants', Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 5.  
" 1250, Gilbert Greenall, Mas. Rooms, Warrington.  
" 1256, Fidelity, Bull Hot., Poulton-le-Fylde.  
" 1325, Stanley, Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, at 9.  
" 1384, Equity, Walker's Commercial Hotel, Widnes.  
Chap. 537, Zion, 55, Argyle-street, Birkenhead.  
" 613, Bridson, M. H., Southport, at 7.  
Downshire L. of I., M. H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15.  
Lodge 537, Zetland, 55, Argyle-st., Birkenhead, at 5.  
" 823, Everton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 6.  
" 1061, Triumph, Masonic Hall, Lytham.  
" 1086, Walton, St. Lawrence's Schools, Kirkdale.  
" 1345, Victoria, Cross Keys, Eccles.  
" 1353, Duke of Lancaster, Athenæum, Lancaster.  
" 1403, West Lancashire, Commercial Ho., Ormskirk.  
Mark Lodge, Fidelity, Norfolk Arms Hot., Hyde.  
Downshire L. of I., M.H., Liverpool, at 7.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16.  
Lodge 203, Ancient Union, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 6.  
" 343, Concord, Queen's Arms, Church-st., Preston.  
" 425, Cestrian, Mas. Rooms, Eastgate-row, Chester.  
" 605, Combermere, Seacombe Hotel, Seacombe.  
" 1299, Pembroke, Rawlinson's Hotel, West Derby.  
St. John's L. of I. (673), M. H., Liverpool.  
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17.  
Duke of Edinburgh L. of I. (182), M. H., Liverpool.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND  
VICINITY.  
For the Week ending Saturday, December 18, 1875.  
All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 13.  
Lodge 102, St. Mark, 213, Buchanan-street.  
" 179, St. Mungo, London Hotel, Mauchline.  
" 204, St. Paul, Whip Inn, Ayr.  
" 205, Garthland, St. Winnoch, Lochwinnoch.  
" 219, Star, 12, Trongate.  
" 307, Union and Crown, Masonic Hall, Barrhead.  
" 362, St. Clair, 25, Robertson-street.  
" 384, Athole, Washington Hotel, Kirkintilloch.  
" 403, St. George, Oddfellows' Hall, Helensburgh.  
" 541, Marie Stuart, M. H., Crosshill.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14.  
Lodge 177, St. James, Masonic Hall, Coatbridge.  
" 230, St. Barnabas, Black Bull Hotel, Old Cumnock.  
" 413, Athole, 213, Buchanan-street.  
" 419, Neptune, 35, St. James's-street, Kingston.  
" 426, Prince of Wales, Mas. Hall, High-st. Renfrew.  
" 441, Glasgow, 22, Struthers-street, Glasgow.  
" 543, St. John's, M. H., Dalmuir.  
Chap. 69, St. Andrew, 170, Buchanan-st.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15.  
Lodge 117, Partick St. Mary's, M. H., Partick.  
" 354, Caledonian Railway, 30, Hope-st.  
" 571, Dramatic, 213, Buchanan-street, at 3.  
Chap. 150, St. John, Masonic Hall, Shettleston.  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16.  
Lodge 22, St. John's Kilwinning, George H., Kilmarnock.  
" 27, St. Mungo, 213, Buchanan-st.  
" 465, St. Andrew's, M. H., Garnagad Road.  
" 553, St. Vincent, 162, Kent Road, Glasgow.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17.  
Lodge 12, Greenock Kilwinning, Town Hall, Greenock.  
" 31, St. Mary's Coltness, Scout's Hall, Wishaw.  
" 306, St. Thomas, 90, Wellgate-street, Larkhall.  
" 321, St. Andrew's, Public Hall, Alexandria.  
" 360, Commercial, 30, Hope-st.  
" 408, Clyde, 170, Buchanan-st.  
" 471, St. John's, Stane Inn, Shotts.  
" 551, Clydesdale, Royal Hot, Larkhall.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18.  
Lodge 524, St. Andrew's, Masonic Hall, Kilbride.  
" 544, St. Andrew's, M. H., Coatbridge.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND  
VICINITY.  
For the Week ending Saturday, December 18, 1875.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 13.  
Lodge 145, St. Stephen's, St. James's Hall, Writers' Court.  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14.  
Lodge 1, St. Mary's Chapel, Waterloo Ho., Waterloo-pl.  
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15.  
Lodge 160, Roman Eagle, Iona Hotel, Nicholson-st.  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16.  
Lodge 48, St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall, George-st.  
" 226, Portobello, Royal Hotel, Bath-street.  
Chap. 152, Perseverance, 86, Constitution-street, Leith.  
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17.  
Chap. 83, St. Andrew, F. M. H., George-street.

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