

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS:—	PAGE
Craft Masonry.....	175
Royal Arch.....	178
Scotland.....	178
OBITUARY:—	
Funeral of Bro. the Hon. F. Walpole.....	179
Masonic and General Tidings.....	179
Discontinue the "Freemason".....	180
Our Royal Grand Master's Return.....	180
Comparative Cost of the Boys' School.....	181
CORRESPONDENCE:—	
Regalia.....	181
Membership of Provincial Grand Lodge.....	181
Masonic Jurisprudence.....	181
Masonic Prefixes.....	181
After-Dinner Promises.....	182
By-Laws or Bye-Laws.....	182
Provincial Grand Chapter of East Lancashire.....	182
Masonic Progress at Galashiels.....	182
Consecration of the Skelmersdale Lodge.....	182
Consecration of the Ivy Spring Lodge.....	182
Consecration of the Hamilton Lodge.....	183
Addresses to our Royal Grand Master.....	183
Masonic Festivities.....	183
Reviews.....	183
American Notes.....	183
Lodge of Benevolence.....	184
Masonic Meetings for Next Week.....	184
Advertisements.....	i. ii. iii. iv. v. vi.

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

**LODGE OF UNITED STRENGTH (No. 228).**—The end of the season of this lodge was reached on Tuesday, the 11th inst., when a full assemblage of the brethren met at the Old Gate of St. John of Jerusalem, St. John's Lane, Smithfield. Bro. Robert Griggs, the W.M., ever punctual in his duties, was in his chair presiding at the time named in the summons, and like Master so the officers, for there was not a place vacant. The lodge was laid out in the Prior's Chamber, which makes a very picturesque lodge-room, and is only at a disadvantage when too many brethren attend the working, or when the lodge has to sit long at business, which it had on this occasion, for the Master had the programme of seven raisings, a passing, and five initiations. Bros. J. Hill, was S.W.; Snare, J.W.; Halford, S.D.; Percy, J.D.; Todd, I.G.; Flaws and Patmore, D.C.'s; and Hickman, A.W.S. The P.M.'s included Bros. J. While, I.P.M. ("Freemason"); Winsland, Treasurer; Crump, Secretary; Davies, James Terry, P.G.D.C. Herts, Secretary of the R.M. B.L. &c. (W.S.); and Hillhouse. The first work taken was to pass Bro. Booth, who was initiated on the previous night. Having very well answered the test questions the brother was further entrusted, and when admitted was in due form and with customary rites passed to the Second Degree, and was thus placed midway in the profession. Of the seven brethren who were to be raised six only attended at the time, and these were Bros. Coles, Griggs, Paine, Randall, Arnold, and Trotter. They answered the questions and were entrusted with a test. Of course the working of the degree had to be repeated, for the custom of the lodge is to render the ceremonies with due solemnity, and this is impossible when degrees are bestowed on too many at once. The W.M. and his officers went through the work in a perfect manner, and it was evident that all were adepts in the performance of the ceremonies. The lodge was then resumed in the First Degree, and five gentlemen having been balloted for earlier in the evening, were initiated by instalments of their number. The gentlemen who were thus made brethren were Messrs. Coote, T. Sandy, Phillip Woodman, John Woodman, and James Stephens Knight, all but the first being old inhabitants of the ancient and historic parish in which the old gate stands, and the last mentioned three were welcomed by Bros. While and Flaws as old comrades in the Pinsky Rifles. On the W.M. rising for the first time, the Treasurer, P.M. Winsland, proposed that the lodge should vote ten guineas to be placed on the list of the W.M., who was going up as Steward at the festival of the Girls' School. Bro. P.M. While seconded the motion, and Bro. James Terry supported it. The motion was of course carried unanimously. The lodge was then solicited to support a petition for a new lodge to be held at the Old Gate. No one appeared in support of the petition, and it was informal from there being no name of the proposed W.M. given in it. The lodge, with regret, had to pass the petition over. The lodge was then closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to the banquetting hall, where an excellent repast was laid, and among the visiting brethren who honoured the United Strength with their presence were Bros. Henry Smith, P.M. of the Royal Arthur, 1360 (at one time a member of United Strength); Knight, S.D. 1360; Timothy, S.D. of 87; Hinson, of 1319; Saul, of 1201; Grimwood, 1311; Tongue, 534; McNevin, 1426; Loverdo, 1196; Bacea, 1196; and Lawson, of 1426. The usual loyal toasts were given, and when the Grand Officers were toasted the hope was expressed that at no distant date G.L. honours would fall in a quarter where there was great merit, for, it was added, if honour should be bestowed upon merit in this case, then the lodge would be honoured in one of its children. The I.P.M. then proposed the toast of "The W.M.," saying that the many hours' arduous labours in the lodge which the W.M. had undergone had fully proved his ability, and the perfect manner in which he had rendered the ceremonies proved that he fully esteemed the honour of being Master of this old lodge by having successfully surmounted the difficulties which stood in the way of those who had to work in the duties of the Master's chair, as "men loved more ardently what they had suffered to attain, and enjoyed nothing so exquisitely as what they had pursued through calamity and danger," so would the busy W.M. come to regard the time he had given to the lodge and its

duties as a pleasant light cast athwart a period of life which in after years might otherwise have seemed to wear a dull uniformity. The toast was warmly honoured, and the W.M., in response, said it was indeed a pleasure to him to perform the duties of the high station to which he had been called, and that if he gave those ceremonies in a manner to please the brethren it was in no small measure owing to the instruction and assistance he received from his Past Masters. The initiates were then toasted, and were welcomed by the brethren as duly admitted to the Craft, and each in suitable terms thanked the lodge for cordially receiving them into the ranks of the ancient brotherhood. The visitors were toasted, and nearly all present responded, all expressing their gratification at seeing the work and principles of the Craft—those above and those below the surface—well carried out. The W.M. then gave "The Past Masters," and Bros. While, Winsland and Terry responded. Bro. Terry in one of those orations for which he is famous, "the grave, the gay, the lively and severe," the severity being in a mock criticism on the foibles of brethren, and greatly enlivened the gathering. He especially congratulated the W.M. upon having undertaken the office of Steward for the Girls' School, and said that the W.M. could see in the young ladies brought up in the schools all that young ladies should be, and when he felt disposed to quit his unhappy state of bache'o hood, he could make his choice of one who, like them could be the housewife and the lady, they being trained in all the duties of household management, and educated in all the accomplishments which made the lady. All the brethren then joined in drinking to the officers, and the Tyler's toasts closed the last meeting of spring. In the course of the evening several brethren sung, and Bro. Booth gave two laughable recitations. Bro. Hartly, the Organist, was much missed, he being obliged to be absent in Paris in connection with the preparation of the great picture of last year's grand Masonic ceremony in the Royal Albert Hall.

**MACDONALD LODGE (No. 1216).**—This lodge met for ordinary business and election of officers for the ensuing year, on Thursday, the 13th inst., at the headquarters of the First Surrey Rifles, at Camberwell. The W.M., Bro. J. Hepburn Hastie, was supported by Bros. M. S. Larham, S.W.; J. Stevens, P.M., as J.W.; Past Masters W. J. Messenger, G. Waterall, and S. H. Wagstaff; Bros. Capt. A. Styar, Treas.; J. J. Curtis, Sec.; T. W. Carnell, S.D.; C. Fountain, J.D.; F. Cozens, Org.; W. C. Hall, I.G.; and amongst others present were Bros. J. W. Holland, C. E. Golding, T. Edmonstone, F. P. Younge, P. Clay, A. Youngman, H. P. Jarman, A. C. Bradley, &c. The visitors were Bros. C. G. Cobham, W.M. 957; E. W. Fisher, 700; J. Greenway, 874; E. Fullager, 14; W. L. Pennewar, 1329; and — Middlemass, of the Sphinx Lodge. Bro. Younge was raised to the degree of M.M., and Mr. C. T. Danford was initiated into the Order. The unanimous vote of the lodge conferred upon Bro. M. S. Larham the distinction of W.M. elect, and a like vote re-elected Bro. Capt. Hyan as Treas. Bro. Grant, for whose late indisposition much sympathy was expressed, was re-elected Tyler. On the proposition of the W.M. the sum of 20 guineas was voted to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls to be placed on the list of Bro. G. Waterall, who represents the lodge as Steward at the ensuing festival. A like sum of 20 guineas was also voted to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys to head the list of Bro. Wagstaff, representing the lodge as Steward for that institution. Bro. Past Master Stevens, having addressed the lodge in reference to the very admirable manner in which Bro. Hastie had conducted the business of the past year, as well in regard to perfection of ritual as to courteous and dignified management of its affairs, evidenced by increased numbers and general efficiency, proposed "That a P.M. jewel of the value of 10 guineas be presented to the W.M. in recognition of his invaluable services, which proposition was carried by acclamation. Bro. Past Master Wagstaff made reference to the satisfactory progress of the society connected with the lodge for promoting the interests of the Masonic Charitable Institutions and securing Life Governorships for its members, and announced that during the ensuing week an additional Life Governorship would be constituted. An Audit Committee having been appointed, the business terminated. The lodge was closed with musical services, and the brethren partook of a frugal supper in hearty good fellowship, and separated much pleased with the evening's proceedings.

**HERVEY LODGE (No. 1260).**—The installation meeting of the Hervey Lodge was held on the 12th inst. at Freemasons' Hall. Dr. Jabez Hogg, W.M., presided, and was supported by most of his officers and a very large muster of brethren of the lodge and visitors. The meeting was in every respect a most successful one, as all the work was well performed, the officers being well up to their duties, and there being an excellent musical accompaniment to the ceremonies by Bro. Seymour Smith. The brethren who were present during the sitting were Bros. Dr. Hogg, W.M.; G. Harrison, S.W.; Southwood, J.W.; G. King, jun., P.M., Sec.; H. Hollingsworth, S.D.; E. J. Goodacre, I.G.; G. King, P.M.; H. B. Condy, H. Condy, W. Mason, E. T. Foot, J. Cox, F. R. Cox, F. A. Beeton, C. W. Robins, S. Spender, A. Czarnecki, A. Rosenthal, J. T. Bigwood, W. Howell, J. Fitch, W. Ryan, B. Butler, G. T. Salmon, J. T. Spalding, P. F. Portway, G. Vine, W. Burley, W. Gibbs, H. H. Topham, and Booker. Visitors: Bros. Clever, 12 and 171; R. Sears, D.C. 299; H. T. A. Stewart, P.M. 898; W. C. Beaven, 1288; S. Smith, 742; G. T. Carter, 145; M. Richards, 733; H. Hollis, P.M. 167; H. Massey, P.M. 169 ("Freemason"); C. Atkins, P.M. 17; and Green, W.M. 27. Dr. Hogg passed Bros. Mason, Fitch and H. B. Condy, and afterwards initiated Mr. Geo. Kidd Sheward, and Mr. Charles James. These ceremonies being completed, Bro.

Geo. King, jun., then ascended the throne and installed Bro. Geo. Harrison, S.W., as W.M. of the lodge for the year. The following brethren were the officers appointed and invested:—Bros. Southwood, S.W.; H. Hollingsworth, J.W., P.M. 487 and 1069; Dr. Jabez Hogg, P.M., Treas.; Geo. King, jun., P.M., Sec.; Ward, S.D.; Goodacre, J.D.; Spalding, I.G.; Geo. King, D.C.; and C. E. T. Speight, Tyler. All these brethren were vociferously cheered on receiving their different appointments. Bro. King concluded by delivering the addresses, and for his performance was also heartily cheered. As most pleasant gatherings have in them a dash of melancholy, the installation meeting of the Hervey Lodge formed no exception to the rule, and Dr. Hogg referred in feeling terms to the decease of Bro. Kingcome, whose little girl was an unsuccessful candidate at the last election of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. On Dr. Hogg's motion five guineas were voted from the benevolent fund of the lodge, and five guineas from the lodge fund towards assisting the case, and to be placed on Bro. Southwood's list. (Each of the initiates also placed ten guineas on the same list.) Bro. King seconded Dr. Hogg's motion, and Bro. Southwood, S.W., returned thanks. He acknowledged the exertions which the brethren of this lodge had made on behalf of his little protégé, and also thanked the W.M. of the Egyptian Lodge (Bro. Green), the Immediate Past Master (Bro. Charles Atkins), and the other brethren of that lodge, for their efforts in the same cause. He also called upon the brethren of the Hervey Lodge and the Egyptian Lodge to renew those efforts for the October election, when he was confident they would be able to land the little girl high and dry. Bro. Southwood gave notice of motion for a committee for carrying out a summer festival this year. Two years they had held summer festivals, to which ladies were invited, and these entertainments had been highly successful. (Hear hear.) Yet another drop of bitterness for the cup of enjoyment. Bro. George King, jun., announced that Bro. Darby, Dr. Hogg's Immediate Past Master, was dead; whereupon Dr. Hogg rose and said that, although the lodge had had no official announcement of the fact, although the members personally knew it, he would move a vote of condolence on the event. He regretted very much the loss the lodge had sustained. Bro. Darby was known to the brethren as a very earnest Mason; he took great interest in his work, though illness and other circumstances had kept him from the lodge during the last twelve months. At the last meeting he (Dr. Hogg) had a letter from Bro. Darby regretting his inability to be then present, but hoping to be present at the installation of Bro. Harrison. He would move a vote of condolence, and that the Secretary be instructed to write to the widow of Bro. Darby expressing the great regret of the brethren of the lodge at the death of Bro. Darby, and the deep sense they felt of the loss they had sustained thereby; hoping, however, that the Great Architect of the Universe would support Mrs. Darby in her very severe trial. (Hear hear.) Bro. Ward, S.D., seconded the motion, which was then put, and carried unanimously. Bro. Geo. King, jun., Secretary, then read several letters of regret for inability from being present, among others one from Grand Secretary. Lodge was then closed, and the brethren repaired to the Inns of Court Hotel, Lincoln's Inn Fields, to banquet, where a splendid repast awaited them. The customary toasts followed. After the toast of "The Queen and the Craft," in giving which the W.M. said that the feeling which existed on the part of Freemasons towards Her Majesty was just the very feeling which should exist, the toast of "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," was given, the W.M. saying that ever since His Royal Highness had accepted the Grand Mastership of the Craft he had proved himself to be a thorough Mason. He always furthered the interests of the Craft in general, and when he came again to England and to London no doubt we should see him with us in Masonry. The W.M. next proposed "The Pro Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers," eulogising all of them for what Masonry had benefited through them. With this toast he coupled the name of Dr. Hogg, P.G.D., who, in responding, said it was unnecessary for him to speak of the quality of the representatives of Grand Lodge, and of the way in which they performed their duties, as all the brethren were aware of it. Whenever these representatives could be of service to the Craft they were ready to fulfil the duty required of them. This was proved by the alacrity with which they agreed to take the chair at the festivals of the different institutions of the Craft. He then apologised for the absence of Bro. Hervey, one of the founders of the lodge, who at the present time was surrounded with a great deal of work. He also apologised for the absence of Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, who had written to say he was sorry he could not attend. The W.M. then proposed "The Initiates," two gentlemen who he was sure would prove very active members of the Order, and who had that evening given evidence by their conduct that they would become an honour to the Order, and to the Hervey Lodge. Bros. Sheward and James responded, and stated that they had long desired to become members of the Order, and to have an opportunity of showing their interest in the Craft. Both thanked the brethren for their admission, and said that when anything was required of them they were at the command of the Craft. Dr. Hogg proposed "The W.M." It gave him much pleasure to do so, not only because it relieved him of a great amount of responsibility, which he had endeavoured to discharge conscientiously, and to the general satisfaction of the brethren, but because he knew that Bro. Harrison would follow in his steps, and show the brethren that they had elected the right man. Although the W.M. had not yet had an opportunity of showing how well and efficiently he could fulfil his duties in the performance of the ceremonies, yet he had proved that he knew one part of the ritual by duly investing his officers. H

was sure that Bro. Harrison would perform the ceremonies much better than he (Bro. Hogg) had done. (No, no.) He had attended lodges of instruction, and had learned how to deliver the ritual in the best way that it could be given from the chair. In electing Bro. Harrison they had done the best thing they could for the lodge, and they had reason to be satisfied with the choice they had made. At the end of his year of office they would be able to say he had discharged his duties properly. He (Bro. Hogg) knew with what earnestness the W.M. had followed Masonry, and his interest in the Hervey Lodge was testified by the various presents he had made to it. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) The W.M., in responding, very cordially thanked the brethren and Dr. Hogg, whom he said he would follow as far as he was able in discharging his duties to the satisfaction of the brethren. It had given him great pleasure to see Dr. Hogg installed as Master, as under such enlightened rule the lodge could not fail to prosper. He then proposed "The Health of Dr. Hogg," and presented him, in the name of the lodge, with a massive Past Master's jewel. Dr. Hogg, in reply, said he could not find words to thank the brethren adequately for their kindly recognition of his poor services; but he assured the brethren that he should ever remember their kindness with the most grateful feelings. "The Visitors" was the next toast, and the W.M., after saying that the Hervey Lodge had always been celebrated for its visiting brethren, observed that that day was no exception to the general rule. Among the visitors there were some half dozen P.M.'s, who had taken part in the ceremony of installation. Among these brethren were some whom he had to thank for the efforts they had made on behalf of a candidate for the Girls' School whose late father was a member of the Hervey Lodge. He had thanked them in the lodge, but he now renewed those thanks to Bro. Green and Bro. Atkins, of the Egyptian Lodge, 27. Bro. Green, W.M. 27, in responding, said it gave him great pleasure and gratification to be present at the installation of Bro. Harrison. It was the third time he had had the honour of attending installations at the Hervey Lodge; and it was very agreeable to find that every time he came the lodge was increasing in prosperity. Bro. Richards, 733, also replied, and referred to the very impressive style in which the ceremony of initiation was performed. The W.M. next proposed "The P.M.'s," coupling with the toast the name of Bro. G. King, jun., and complimenting that brother on his fluent and impressive rendering of the grand ceremony of installation. (Hear, hear.) Bro. G. King, jun., having responded, the W.M. next gave "The Masonic Press," to whom all the brethren were much indebted for its faithful record of their proceedings, which was the result of arduous labour. Bro. H. Massey, replying for the "Freemason," refused to recognise the arduous nature of the duties of the representatives of the Masonic press when they were made so agreeable by the genial greeting with which he was always received by the Masters, Past Masters, and lay brethren of lodges among whom he was constantly thrown. The Masonic press, however, was always pleased to record any efforts faithfully and honestly made for the further extension of the Craft and the wide diffusion of its precepts. "The Musical Brethren" were then proposed by the W.M., and Bro. Seymour Smith replied. The toast of "The Officers" followed; and the W.M. said he was proud to think he had always had hard-working brethren as his officers. Referring to the S.W., he said that Bro. Southwood had done a great deal of good for the Hervey Lodge. He had expended much time in serving the family of one of their deceased officers, Bro. Kingcome. Bro. Southwood would have the approbation of every member of the Craft for the hearty way in which he had studied its interests. Bro. Hollingsworth, J.W., had been a member of the Craft for many years, and had already done much for it. He hoped he might live many years more to do yet greater things for it. Bro. Ward, S.D., was a thorough good working Mason, and would prove of great advantage to the members of the Hervey Lodge. Bro. Goodacre, J.D., also was a good working Mason, and he might say the same of Bro. Spalding, I.G. (Hear, hear.) Bro. Southwood responded. He took no credit for what he had done, which had been so kindly referred to by the W.M. Alluding to the initiates, he said they had shewn that they appreciated Freemasonry by having learned the lesson they had been taught of brotherly love, relief, and truth. Those were the grand principles on which the Order was founded, and on which the Hervey Lodge would always act. (Cheers.) The other officers also responded, and the brethren separated, having drunk the Tyler's toast, after spending a most agreeable evening. Bro. Seymour Smith and G. T. Carter added some charming melody to the other entertainments of the day.

**SKELMERSDALE LODGE (No. 1599).**—The first regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Masons' Hall, Basinghall-street, on Thursday, 13th inst. The brethren present were Bro. John Bingemann, W.M.; Wm. H. Marston, S.W.; Geo. Laker, J.W.; Henry Roberts, Treas.; Wm. H. Lec, Sec.; E. Abell, S.D.; Sargant, J.D.; Mirov, I.G.; Rawles, Tyler. The lodge was opened in due form. The minutes of the consecration meeting having been confirmed, the brethren proceeded to ballot for Mr. William Henry Knill-Abell, Mr. Thomas Knill-Abell, Mr. Charles Edward Hodsdon, Mr. James Causton, Mr. Louis Carl Beckmann, and Mr. George Evans, which resulted in their favour; the first five candidates being present, were initiated into the mysteries of ancient Freemasonry. Four brethren were also elected as joining members. On the W.M. rising several names were proposed as candidates for initiation and for joining at the next meeting. The lodge was then closed and adjourned to the second Thursday in May, and the brethren proceeded to an excellent banquet, provided by Bro. Bell, at which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given by the W.M. and heartily responded to by the brethren.

**BATH.—Royal Cumberland Lodge (No. 41).**—At the monthly meeting held at the Masonic Hall, on Thursday, April 6th, all the officers attended punctually, namely, Bros. Brown, W.M.; F. Wilkinson, S.W.; Falkner, J.W.; Wilton, P.M., Dir. Cer.; Ashley, P.M., Treas.; C. Wilkinson, Sec.; Braham, S.D.; Denham, J.D.; Gummer, I.G.; Hunt and Radway, Stewards. Besides these there were Past Masters Cooper, Moutrie, Rubie, Mann, Dr. Hopkins, P.M. 43 and 958, and a few members; also as visitors from No. 53, Walker W.M.; Col. Ford, P.M.; Rev.—Martin, P.M.; Rolfe, Willson, and Summison; from No. 379, G. H. Cook, W.M.; Dickenson, Sec.; and Bush; from No. 906, Keene, P.M.; Howes, Dingle, Pinkett. The lodge was opened at quarter to eight, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The Treasurer's accounts were presented and passed, and a printed copy was given to each member. A favourable ballot was taken for the re-admission of Bro. Robert Cook as a joining member. Bro. Falkner presented the report of the committee appointed to endeavour to make arrangements for the purchase of a new organ, which did not afford much hope of success. Mr. John A. Wheeler, who had been balloted for at a previous meeting, was admitted, and initiated by the W.M., the charge being admirably given by Bro. Cooper, and the working tools explained by the S.W. Bros. Meatyard and Mercer were examined as to their proficiency, of which they gave very satisfactory proof, entrusted, and dismissed for preparation. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, to which on their re-admission the candidates were passed by the W.M., who again called on the S.W. to explain the working tools. The lodge having been resumed in the First Degree, was finally closed soon after ten o'clock.

**LANCASTER.—Lodge of Fortitude (No. 281).**—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, at the Masonic Room, Athenaeum. There was a very good attendance of the Craft, including several visiting brethren, the chair of K.S. being occupied by the W.M., Bro. Thomas Atkinson. The lodge having been opened in the First Degree with solemn prayer, the minutes of the preceding meeting were read and confirmed. Mr. John Thistlethwaite having been unanimously elected, was duly initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry by the W.M., the working tools of an Entered Apprentice being presented by the J.W. Bro. Dr. J. D. Moore, P.G.S.B. England, then gave a lecture on the First Tracing Board, which was listened to with much attention by those present. At the close a hearty vote of thanks was accorded Bro. Moore, and suitably acknowledged. The usual proclamations were made, and the lodge was closed with the formalities of the Craft.

**BATH.—Lodge of Honour (No. 379).**—The last meeting of the season was held at the Masonic Hall on Monday, April 10th, at 8 p.m. Several officers were unable to attend, owing to illness or absence from home. Those present were Bros. Cook, W.M.; Gore, S.W.; H. Culliford Hopkins, J.W.; Dickenson, Sec.; Gazzard, Tyler; also J. S. Bartrum, P.M. Bro. Dr. Hopkins, P.M. 43 and 958, acted as I.P.M.; C. A. Bush, P.M., and D.C.; C. Collus, as S.D.; H. G. Bush, 379, as J.D.; Howes, 906, as I.G.; Reeves, P.M. 906, as Org. There were many visitors present, among them Bros. Brown, W.M. 41; Simmons, P.M. 53; Col. Ford, P.M. 53; Cooper, P.M. 41. After the lodge had been opened the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for Mr. H. W. Baldwin as a candidate for initiation, under dispensation, which was unanimously favourable. He was in attendance, as was also Mr. T. Johnston, previously balloted for. Bro. Dr. Hopkins, P.P.G.S.W., then took the chair at the request of the W.M., and performed the ceremony of initiation, afterwards calling upon Bro. Cooper to give the charge, who discharged the duty in his usual impressive manner, and upon the J.W. to deliver the lecture on the Tracing Board, which he did for the first time, and acquitted himself admirably. A vote of thanks was passed to the visitors for their attendance, and specially to those who had rendered assistance in working the ceremony, which was duly acknowledged. No other business offering, the lodge was closed at ten o'clock, and the brethren separated, not to meet again till November.

**CAWNPOR.—Lodge of Harmony (No. 438).**—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on the 6th March in the Freemasons' Hall. Bro. C. Burbidge presided, and was supported by Bros. Bedford, P.M.; Eastaway, S.W.; Littlewood, J.W.; Ward, S.D.; Wilson, J.D.; Coles, I.G.; Tumber, Organist; and a good number of members. The visitors were Bros. T. Deek, 563; J. Macpherson, 391; A. E. Linton, 1210; G. Noble, 1210; and E. Boare, 5. The lodge was opened in the First Degree, and the minutes of previous meeting read and confirmed. The lodge was then passed to the Second Degree, when Bro. Logic was entrusted with it. The lodge was then raised to the Sublime Degree, when Bros. H. Burton and A. Burton were brought forward to receive it, which was given with great effect by the worthy R.W.M. This brought the business of the evening to a close. The lodge was then closed in due and ancient form and the brethren adjourned to a good supper, to which the visitors were, as is usual with this most hospitable lodge, especially invited. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were then duly honoured. The R.W.M. then proposed "The Health of Bro. P.M. Bedford," who is, he was sorry to say, leaving the station; he has been a member of this lodge for the last nine years. Bro. Bedford responded at some length. He said that it was true he would be absent in person, but his thoughts would often wander to Lodge Harmony and the many pleasant evenings he had spent there. The brethren then separated after spending a very agreeable evening.

**RUNCORN.—Ellesmere Lodge (No. 758).**—The usual monthly meeting of this now prosperous lodge was held in the Freemasons' Hall on the evening of Wednesday, April 5th, 1876. The lodge was opened in due form

by the W.M., Bro. Edward Aston, at 6.30. The following officers and others were present:—Bros. James Warburton, S.W.; W. Wass, J.W.; Charles Gerrard, S.D.; J. Coxshill, J.D.; William Lyon, Treas.; George Moss, Sec.; Thomas Gregson, Org.; William Mellor, I.G.; George Purver, Tyler; Robert Rigby, I.P.M.; C. C. Simson, P.M.; J. Fothergill, P.M.; Thomas Kingston; J. Couth, J. W. Lightburn, John L. Jones, and others. Visiting brethren: Bros. J. K. Diggs, W.M. of St. John's, 673; John Pemberton, P.G., S.W.L., and P.M. of Lodge 1264. The minutes of the March meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M., assisted by his officers, passed Bro. John James Waterworth to the Fellow Craft Degree, after which Bro. James Collier was examined in the former degree, and having answered satisfactorily, was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. Bro. Jonathan Wilson having been proposed as a joining member, was balloted for, and unanimously elected. Bros. W. Wass, J.W., and W. Millor, I.G., proposed and seconded Mr. Charles Rigby as eligible to become a member. Other important business being done, the lodge closed in harmony at nine o'clock.

**PLUMSTEAD.—Pattison Lodge (No. 913).**—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Lord Raglan on Thursday, the 6th inst., Bro. A. Penfold, W.M., in the chair, supported by the following officers:—J. McDougall, I.P.M.; C. Coupland, P.M., and P.G.S. Kent; T. Smith, P.M., and P. Prov. G.P. Kent; C. Ellis, P.M.; J. Henderson, P.M.; W. T. Vincent, S.W.; H. J. Butter, J.W.; A. Jessup, Treas.; E. Denton, P.M. and Sec.; J. D. Hayes, S.D.; J. Chapman, I.G.; and R. Lister, Tyler. Among the visitors were H. Carnelly, W.M. 13; J. Rowland, P.M. 700; W. Weston, S.W. 1536; G. Spinks, J.W. 1536; H. S. Syer, Sec. 13; J. Warren, J.D. 700; J. Cavit, 147; H. Bryson, 700; T. W. Virgo, 700; J. Plume, 1472; W. Topp, 879; A. Cleese, 13; B. Pilcher, 1472; and others. Lodge having been opened in due form and with prayer, the ballot was taken for Mr. F. Hayward, and after approval he and Mr. D. Davis, who was already balloted for, were regularly initiated into Freemasonry. Bros. Upperton and Mitchell were passed, and Bros. Anderson, Read, and Long were raised in their several degrees, the impressive ceremonies being beautifully rendered by Bro. Penfold. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren and visitors adjourned to supper and refreshments, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts being put by the W.M. in his own choice and pithy manner. Some excellent singing enlivened the proceedings, and altogether a most enjoyable evening was spent by the brethren.

**FLEETWOOD.—Hesketh Lodge (No. 950).**—The annual meeting for the installation of W.M. was held on the 18th inst. in the Masonic room. About 40 members of the Craft were present. Bro. Captain Jameson, W.M., presided, and the lodge was opened in the First Degree with solemn prayer. The usual formalities of the Craft having been gone through, Bro. Dr. Orr, P.M., took the W.M.'s chair, and the brethren below the rank of Master having retired, Bro. William Stewardson, J.W. (Lancaster) was duly installed into the chair of King Solomon, the ceremony of installation being impressively gone through by Bro. Orr. The members having been re-admitted, the newly-installed W.M. was honoured with the customary salutes, and received the congratulations of the brethren present. The W.M. then proceeded to elect his officers, who were inducted into their respective chairs by Bro. Orr, as follows:—Bros. Henry Rawes, S.W.; Capt. Leeming, J.W.; R. Robinson, S.D.; John Wilson, Lancaster, J.D.; Richard Charnley, I.G.; John Gibson, Treas.;—Hall, Sec.; and James, Gibson, O.G. In the course of the proceedings, the newly-installed Master was presented with a beautiful collar by the retiring P.M., Bro. Capt. Jameson. The lodge was then closed in the manner peculiar to the Craft, and the brethren adjourned from labour to refreshment. The installation banquet was held at the house of Bro. Foster, the Crown Hotel, where an attractive bill of fare was provided. The dinner was carefully served, and gave complete satisfaction to all who had the pleasure of partaking of it. Bro. Stewardson, the W.M., occupied the post of honour, and was supported by Bros. Captain and Adj. Whitehead, Capt. Smith, Foster, Dr. Orr, Captain Leeming, Capt. Jameson. The S.W., Bro. H. Rawes, officiated as Croupier in the west, and was ably supported by the brethren around him. On the removal of the cloth, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to. The proceedings were worked with the greatest unanimity, and the installation meeting, and its attendant banquet, were fittingly brought to a close by the time-honoured Tyler's toast.

**WELCHPOOL.—Welchpool Lodge (No. 998).**—On Friday, the 31st ult. (the twelfth anniversary of this lodge) the brethren assembled to celebrate the Festival of St. John the Evangelist, amongst whom were Bros. Robinson, D.P. Owen, P.M.; W. Callender, I.P.M.; W. Wither, P.M.; F. Britton, W.M., P.M. 850, P.P.G.J.W. of Derbyshire; T. McGrath, S.W.; T. R. Morris, J.W.; G. Brown, S.D.; T. Richards, I.G.; J. Dainly, H. R. Gilbank, J. H. Anderson, R. Parry, J. Owen, E. Owen, A. Ikin, W. E. Rider, J. Barnard, Tyler. The lodge was opened by Bro. Britton, W.M., at 3.30 p.m., when the customary business was disposed of. The Treasurer's balance sheet was presented and read, which was received with great favour by the brethren, there being a larger balance than the lodge had ever had before in its favour. The W.M. afterwards announced that the installation of the W.M. would be immediately proceeded with, when Bro. Callender, I.P.M., presented Bro. Thomas Rowley Morris, the W.M. elect, and Bro. F. Britton, W.M., performed the ceremony in an impressive manner, assisted by Bro. D. P. Owen, P.M. The W.M. then invested his officers for the ensuing year as follows:—Bros. F. Britton, I.P.M.; G. Brown, S.W.; J. Sides Davies, J.W.; D. P. Owen, P.M., Sec.; W. Wither, P.M., Treas. (while in-

vesting this officer the Installing Master presented No. 998 with the badge for this office); T. McGrath, D.C.; J. Dainly, S.D.; H. R. Gilbank, J.D.; J. H. Anderson, I.G.; J. Barnard, Tyler. Before closing the lodge the W.M. said that he had the pleasure to present the I.P.M. with a Past Master's jewel given by the lodge, which was duly acknowledged. The jewel presented is a work of art, both chaste and beautiful; has the words "Welchpool Lodge, No. 998," on the front, and on the reverse is engraved as follows:—"Presented by the Welchpool Lodge, No. 998, to Bro. Frederick Britton, P.M., to mark the efficient manner in which he discharged the duties of W.M. AD. 1875-6." The business being completed, the lodge was closed according to ancient custom, and the brethren adjourned to a splendid banquet. After supper the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, interspersed with songs, after which the evening was brought to a close by the time-honoured toast, "To all Poor and Distressed Masons."

**SOUTHEND.**—Priory Lodge (No. 1000).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Middleton Hotel, Southend, on Thursday, the 6th inst. The lodge was summoned for six o'clock p.m., and shortly after that time was opened by the W.M., Bro. Dr. E. E. Phillips, P.M. 379, supported by the following officers and brethren:—Bros. A. Lucking, P.M. 160, and Prov. A.G. D.C. I.P.M.; Rev. S. R. Wigram, P.M. and P.Z. 214, Grand Chaplain, S.W.; W. Frost, J.W.; F. Wood, P.M., P. Prov. S.G.W., Treas.; J. A. Wardell, P.M. 160 and 1000, P. Prov. G.D., Sec.; J. R. Hemmann, P.M., Prov. J.G.D., Org.; W. Chaplin, S.D.; W. P. Bellias, J.D.; W. Chignell, I.G.; J. Reeve, W.M. 260; Wallis; W. Allen, jun., S.D. 160; G. J. Glasscock; Rev. H. J. Hatch, S.W. 160, Prov. G. Chap.; W. Waterhouse, H. Hicks, B. Mackei, H. Luker, W. D. Merritt, C. Woosnam, F. Canter, F. V. Jillings, S.W. 160. Visitors: Bros. Sir Thos. Kirkpatrick, Bart., 957; E. C. Rylay, W. Pissey, P.M. 160, P. Prov. J.G.W.; Capt. D. L'Anderson; G. Soiling, 160, G. Goodman, 160; Dr. Grayson, 277. The lodge having been opened, and the minutes read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for Mr. George Frederick Wood as a candidate for initiation, which proved unanimous in his favour. Bro. P. Benton was then passed to the Second Degree, Bros. Rev. Hayes, H. Briggs, and W. H. Lockety raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, and Mr. G. F. Wood into the mysteries of the Craft, the work being done in a masterly way by the W.M. The charge to the initiate was very impressively given by the S.W., Bro. Rev. S. R. Wigram. Bro. Rev. Hayes was then invested by the W.M. with the collar of Chaplain of the lodge. All Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to supper. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and duly responded to. Some excellent harmony by Captain De L'Anderson, and several others contributed to the pleasures of the evening.

**LANCASTER.**—Rowley Lodge (No. 1051).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Rooms, Athenaeum, on the 3rd inst., Bro. Longman, the W.M., presiding. The lodge having been opened in due form, the minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed. There being no business of importance before the lodge, it merged into instruction, with Bro. Dr. J. D. Moore, P.G.S.B. Eng., as Preceptor, and a very instructive evening was spent by those present.

**MANCHESTER.**—Derby Lodge (No. 1055).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Knowsley Hotel, Cheetham, on Thursday the 13th inst. The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. R. Hankinson, P.P.G. Reg., at 4 o'clock. The minutes were read and confirmed, and the balance sheet was submitted and passed. The W.M. Elect, Bro. E. Griffith Hughes, was installed in the chair of King Solomon by Bro. T. H. Glendinning, P.M., assisted by Bro. Sillitoe, P.M. 317, who also invested the following officers:—viz., Bros. A. Turner, S.W.; J. Pollitt, J.W.; J. West, P.M., Treas.; Bradshaw, Sec.; F. Thompson, P.M., D.C.; J. Boulton, S.D.; Robinson, J.D.; Morrison, I.G.; Pope and Williamson, Stewards; and Marshall, Tyler. The addresses to the W.M., Wardens, and brethren were impressively delivered by Bro. Freeman, P.M., about sixty members and visitors being present. After the lodge was closed, the brethren sat down to a sumptuous banquet, provided in the well-known style of the host, Bro. Bremnell, which was presided over by Bro. Hughes, W.M. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured. The toast of the evening, viz., "The W.M." was proposed by the I.P.M. in a very complimentary speech, and met with a very hearty and enthusiastic reception. Other toasts were also ably proposed and responded to. During the evening Bros. Lovatt and W. Dumville (of the cathedral choir), and Bro. Bednal sang some excellent songs and glees, and Bro. Jarrett amused the brethren with some choice comic songs. The meeting dispersed about 10.30 after spending a pleasant evening.

**DERBY.**—Hartington Lodge (No. 1085).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Gower-street, Derby, on Wednesday, April 5th. Present: Bros. S. Pipes, W.M.; J. Worsnop, I.P.M.; W. Heathcote, S.W.; J. Gadsby, J.W.; M. H. Bobart, Treas.; G. Pipes, Sec.; J. Hills, S.D.; J. Heathcote, J.D.; J. Shaw, D. of C.; J. H. Biggs, I.G.; G. F. Edwards, Org.; T. Slinn, Tyler; Steele, Parkins, Manton, Frazer, I. Hextall, Butterfield, Russell, and Whales. Visitors: Bros. McCoombe, W.M. 731; Dunsford, King Alfred Lodge, 306, Leeds; T. Merry, Whittaker, Knight, 731. The lodge was opened at 7.45. After the minutes had been read and confirmed the ballot was taken for Mr. George Johnson, coal proprietor, who was duly elected. Bro. Pakeman was duly passed to the Second Degree. Mr. Geo. Hill, iron founder, was duly initiated into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry by the W.M. Mr. John Lane, engineer, Derby, was proposed as a candidate

for Freemasonry. After the W.M. had received the hearty good wishes of several of the brethren the lodge was closed, after which the brethren adjourned to supper, when a very pleasant and enjoyable evening was spent.

**LAGOS (S.W. Africa).**—Lagos Lodge (No. 1171).—The annual festival and installation of this lodge in Lagos, Western Africa, was held on Monday, the 27th December, at the Freemasons' Hall, Broad-street, Bro. Robert Campbell W.M., presiding. The minutes of the previous meeting being read and confirmed, Bro. Charles Dennett Turton, W.M. elect, was then presented by Bro. Frank Simpson, P.M., to the Installing Master for installation. The ceremony of installation having been impressively performed, the new W.M. invested Bros. Robert Campbell, I.P.M.; Charles Pike, S.W.; Robert Knight Bousfield, J.W.; Rev. Valentine Faulkner, Chap.; George Smith, Sec.; Americo Jacinto Rodrigues, S.D.; William Meyer, J.D.; Jose Augusto Ribeiro, D.C.; Thomas J. Whittington, I.G.; John Smith and Adolphe Bell, Stwds. The lodge was closed at the conclusion of business and the brethren adjourned to the banquet. To the pleasures of this upwards of twenty-five brethren sat down to enjoy the many delicacies which had been so carefully provided by the exertions of Bros. Carrena and Ribeiro. The W.M. gave the toasts of "The Queen," "Bro. Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," "The Princess of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family," and "The Right Honourable the Earl of Carnarvon, M.W. Pro Grand Master," the last toast being responded to by his Excellency Bro. John D. Dumaresq, No. 784, who referred to the valuable services his lordship had rendered to the cause of Masonry. The W.M. then proposed "The Health of His Excellency Bro. Dumaresq," stating that it gave the members great pleasure to welcome him at their annual festival and it rejoiced all present to see him take so warm an interest in this lodge and Masonic work generally. His Excellency after thanking the brethren for their good feeling towards him, and wishing the lodge a continuance of its prosperity, proposed "The Health of the W.M." adding he had much pleasure in congratulating the brethren of the lodge in having secured so able and popular a brother as the W.M. to preside over them, and from his official knowledge of him he felt sure the brethren could not have elected one who would show more zeal for the work committed to his care, for this lodge and Masonry generally. The W.M. thanked the brethren for the manner in which the toast had been received, and hoped his year's services in the chair would justify the confidence reposed in him. The earnest zeal of the brethren of his mother lodge, No. 823, had animated him with a desire to emulate them in this new country, and it gave him much pleasure to say that he found the brethren here willing and determined to help him. His Excellency, Bro. Dumaresq, then proposed "The Health of the Installing Master and Past Masters," stating that he had been informed how much the lodge was indebted to their untiring zeal for its success. In an unhealthy climate like Lagos, Europeans were obliged to leave the country frequently to save their lives, and this naturally must make it a work of great difficulty to secure brethren capable of performing the duties efficiently. He understood that the Past Masters who had been associated with the lodge from its commencement had by their energy successfully overcome every obstacle, and placed Masonry in such a position in the country that could not but be gratifying to all who had its welfare at heart. He hoped they might long be spared so that the lodge might have a continuance of their valuable services. Bro. Robt. Campbell, Installing Master, thanked the brethren for the hearty manner in which the toast had been received, and he could only say that he never felt happier than when Masonry was prospering, as he took a great interest in the Craft. He saw the lodge improving daily, and he hoped he would long be able to take the same active part in its management as he had always done. Bro. Frank Simpson, P.M., in acknowledging the compliment for the Past Masters could only say that his efforts of late had been principally in the financial direction, as no lodge could prosper if it was in debt. They had over £400 in hand, which would be appropriated to the erection of a new Masonic Hall when the sum was sufficiently large to cover the expenditure of such a work. He always had been proud of this lodge, which was the pioneer of Masonry in this part of Africa, and he knowing the vast amount of work to be done could but be gratified at the success which had attended it. "The Officers of the Lodge" were acknowledged by the J.W., "The Visiting Brethren" by Bro. Senhor Godintro, Lodge Irmao de Caridade, Bahai, "The Ladies" by Bro. Meyer, and the banquet was brought to a close by the Tyler's toast. Owing to the forethought of Bro. Meyer, who is noted for his musical talent, the band of the Houssa armed police, by kind permission of Bro. H. H. Graves, Assistant Inspector Gold Coast Constabulary, played suitable airs between each toast, and several brethren exhibited their musical talent, which added much enjoyment to the evening.

**LIVERPOOL.**—Fermor Hesketh Lodge (No. 1350).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Monday evening, the 10th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Liverpool, the proceedings being of more than ordinary interest and novelty. Bro. Dr. J. M. Bennett, W.M., occupied his position in the E., and amongst those present were Bros. J. Higson Johnston, P.M.; Dr. A. Samuels, P.M.; T. A. Collinson, P.M., Treas.; Dr. Crawford, P.M.; R. Collinson, S.W.; W. H. Cooper, J.W.; Cooper, J.D.; Evans, I.G.; Gilmour, S.S.; Kaye, J.S.; and Titherly. The visitors included Bro. Dr. Stephens, P. Prov. J.G.D.; Bro. T. Platt, P. Prov. J.G.D. Cheshire; and Bro. Dr. Bailey, 786. After the First and Second Degrees had been given, and certain formal business had been transacted, Bro. Collinson, I.P.M., presented the W.M. with a very chaste and handsome silver cup, subscribed for by members of the lodge, as a kind of congratulatory offering in connection with a certain recent and in-

teresting event, when another child was added to his family. Bro. Collinson referred in felicitous terms to the happy event, and cordially wished Bro. Dr. Bennett, the W.M., sincere happiness along with his wife and family. Bro. J. Higson Johnston, P.M., also spoke in connection with the presentation, stating that the lodge was now in a prosperous condition, and hoped it would long continue so. Bro. Dr. Bennett, W.M., said he had been quite taken by surprise, as he had not the remotest idea such a presentation was to be made. He thanked the brethren for their kind recognition of the happy event, and he was quite sure his wife, along with himself, would be delighted at the kindly feeling thus displayed by the brethren of the lodge. Refreshments were subsequently served in an adjoining room, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

**VALPARAISO.**—Lodge of Harmony (No. 1411).—On Friday, 14th January, 1876, this lodge met in their hall in the Calle de Elias, for the purpose of installing the W.M. for the ensuing year. There was a good attendance of members, and a very numerous assemblage of visitors from the different sister lodges. The installation ceremony was performed in a most effective manner by Bro. W. R. Betterley, P.G.P. Staffordshire, W.M. 1551, after which the W.M., Bro. George Jenkins, was saluted by the members in each degree, and received the hearty good wishes of the visitors present. The appointment and investment of the officers next took place as follows:—Bros. J. B. Bughe, I.P.M.; J. Barnett, S.W.; G. H. Hodgkinson, J.W.; J. G. Rowe, Treas.; G. R. Gepp, Sec.; W. D. Vaughan, D.C.; C. D. Rowe, S.D.; Charles Lewis, J.D.; T. M. Mole, I.G.; G. Crisp, S.S.; G. B. Barnett, J.S.; Rev. John Rowe, Chaplain. Before the lodge was closed Bro. Trumbull, Chaplain Bethesda Lodge, made a most impressive appeal to the brethren on behalf of the Blas Cuevas Schools, which he had lately had an opportunity of visiting, and becoming convinced not only of the excellent administration of their present master, but also of the great amount of good these schools were effecting. All business being ended, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet, where the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and enthusiastically received.

**PLUMSTEAD.**—United Military Lodge (No. 1536).—The above lodge held an emergency meeting on Monday, the 10th inst., in consequence of Good Friday falling upon their usual meeting night, and the attendance of both brethren and visitors must have been most gratifying to the esteemed W.M., Bro. F. G. Pownall, Bro. Pownall's fine room being nearly double lined with Masons good and true. The visitors included Bros. C. Coupland, P.G.S. Kent, and P.M. 913; A. Penfold, W.M. 913; T. Butt, S.W. 700; C. Cooke, Org. 700 and 13; H. S. Syer, Sec. 13; T. Hutton, 13; O. Hutton, 13; B. Norman, 13; C. W. Crews, 13; T. W. Robinson, 13; T. E. Hassell, 13; T. Huntingford, 13; G. W. Mitchell, 700; F. Lyons, 913 and 700; R. Beaver, 700; G. Beaver, 700; Fisher, 700; J. W. Weill, 1331; W. Lennox, 273; Joskey, 1107; E. Humphreys, 1066; R. Fletcher, 1066; C. Morris, 1331; J. Richards, 1326; A. Upperton, 913; E. Hughes, 913; and C. Jolly, 913. The officers present beside the W.M. were W. Weston, S.W.; G. Spinks, J.W.; W. Murphy, Treas.; T. Cooper, Sec.; H. G. Picken, S.D.; R. Lapham, I.G.; J. McCaffery, Steward; and J. Lackland, O.G. Bro. Croisdale, P.M. 706, was I.P.M. The business before the lodge was the balloting for of Sergeant W. A. Watkins, R.A., who after approval was duly initiated into the Craft. Bros. W. Taylor and G. Harris were then passed to the Second Degree, the working of both degrees by Bro. Pownall was most excellent. It was then put and carried, that the election of W.M. take place in June instead of May, and that the bye-laws be amended accordingly, and after the proposal of three candidacies, the lodge was duly closed. After refreshment the W.M. gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, that of "H. R. H. the Prince of Wales and G.M. of England," who, the W.M. said, had done good service in India, and who he hoped, as had been suggested at Grand Lodge, would receive a truly Masonic welcome back to his native land, was most warmly received. In proposing the toast of "Lord Holmesdale, P.G.M. Kent, and the rest of the P.G. Officers," the W.M. said he hoped Bro. P.M. Coupland would tell the P.G.M. something of the real position and standing of the lodge, so that they might understand the great increase in its numbers and strength since the time of its consecration nine months ago. At the consecration of a new military lodge he had had the pleasure of attending in London a short time ago, Bro. Simpson, P.G.C. of England, had spoken warningly of indiscriminate admissions to the Craft, and it might be thought in the province that they were increasing in numbers without regard to those qualifications, both social and moral, without which no one should be admitted to the Order; but Bro. Coupland could see by the members present what the lodge was composed of, and their numbers would be accounted for by the admission of joining members who were continually arriving at the garrison from Canada, India, the Mediterranean, and other parts of Her Majesty's dominions. He felt proud to say that the initiates and former members were one and all an honour to both the lodge and the Craft. He coupled with the toast the name of Bro. P.M. Coupland, of the Pattison Lodge. Bro. Coupland, in the course of an eloquent reply, bore his testimony to the excellent character of the lodge, and should be proud to see the Worshipful Master some day taking a position in the province, such as his zeal and ability in Masonry, so well qualified him for. He quite agreed with Bro. Pownall as to the too lax manner in which members were admitted to Masonry; no one, in his opinion, should be admitted unless he occupied a good position in life and was of good moral character. Just at present there was quite a rage for Masonry, and many young men, who

could by any means save a few pounds, were, he thought, too readily admitted to membership, and having no sound position in life, too often became claimants for Masonic charity; this he thought should not be, but unfortunately it was so in some lodges. The United Military Lodge it was, however, he believed, placed upon a sound foundation in that respect, for all its members were in such positions as to be a credit to the Craft, and the W.M. might be sure that the Provincial Grand Master and officers should know the excellence in the lodge, both in its working and members. Bro. P.M. Croisdale eloquently proposed "The Health of the W.M.," who he declared had won the good opinion and esteem of every brother, both of that and neighbouring lodges, and had by his energy placed the lodge upon a sure and sound basis, making it known among them all for its efficiency in working, and he trusted that his example would yet have the effect of making it the home of loyalty, charity, and efficiency for the brethren, who, for years to come might seek shelter within its ranks. He gave with great pleasure "The Health of Bro. Pownall." Bro. Pownall briefly replied, saying, his desire was to make the lodge second to none in the province. "The Initiate" was toasted, as were "The Visitors" and "Officers." Bros. Hughes and Price replying for the former, and Bro. Weston for the latter. Bro. Knight, who is about leaving England for St. Helena, was kindly toasted, "God speed" being wished him, and after a reply from him the Tyler's toast concluded the pleasures of the evening.

**GREAT STANMORE.**—Abercorn Lodge (No. 1549).—The second season of this thriving summer lodge was commenced very favourably on the 4th inst. in the presence of the following officers and brethren:—R. Helsdon, P.M. 133, W.M.; J. W. Garrod, S.W.; Joshua Nunn, P.M. 134, P.G.S.B., J.W.S.; C. Veal, P.M. 889, P.P. G.S.D. Surrey, Hon. Sec.; G. Tidcombe, S.D.; J. Patterson, J.D.; H. L. Winter, Org.; J. Ebbs, acting I.G. Bros. Eversden, Best, Lloyd, Linton, Vincent, Roy, H. T. Swatton, and visitor Bro. C. Long, I.G. 753. The lodge was opened by the W.M. with solemn prayer at 4.15. The minutes of last meeting were then duly confirmed, and the ballot having been announced unanimously Mr. E. G. Swatton was impressively admitted to the First Degree. The ballot was also favourable for admission as joining members of Bro. J. Ebbs, 733, and R. Ray, 188. On the W.M. making the usual enquiries for the good of the Craft, the Hon. Secretary read a letter from Bro. J. Holden, S.D., tendering his resignation through inability to attend, which was accepted with regret, the brethren also decided to apply, through the R.W., Provincial Grand Master, for permission to wear a founder's jewel in commemoration of the consecration of the lodge in June last. Several minor matters were then disposed of. One joining member and one initiate were announced for next meeting in May, and the lodge was closed in perfect harmony at 5.45. An enjoyable evening and banquet, to which many musical brethren ably contributed very effectively closed the proceedings.

**MORECAMBE.**—Morecambe Lodge (No. 1561).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held on the 7th inst., at their lodge-room in Morecambe-street, Bro. Dr. Moore, P.G.S.B. of England, the W.M., occupying the chair of King Solomon. There was a good attendance of brethren. The lodge was opened in the First Degree with solemn prayer, and the minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. W. Stephenson, having given proficiency as an Entered Apprentice, retired, and the lodge was raised to the Second Degree, and Bro. Stephenson, having been re-admitted, was duly passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. The lodge was then resumed in the First Degree, and Messrs. Robert Gregson (Preston), John Gatt, W. W. Wilde, and John Hutton duly initiated into the mysteries of the Craft, the ceremony of initiation being ably performed by the W.M., and Bro. Hatch (I.P.M. 281), and Bro. Bradshaw, (P.M. 1051), respectively; the working tools being presented by the Junior Warden. The Worshipful Master then submitted a code of bye-laws for the government of the lodge, which were subsequently adopted with but few minor alterations. Some other business having been transacted, the lodge was closed in due form with the peculiarities of the Craft.

**PUTNEY.**—Royal Commemoration Lodge (No. 1585).—The first meeting of this new lodge since its consecration—which ceremony was fully reported in our issue of the 25th ult., and in which report by a clerical error the name of Bro. Joseph Smith, P.M., was inserted as Installed Master instead of Bro. Joseph Wright—was held at the Star and Garter Hotel, on the 5th inst. The lodge was opened at five o'clock by the following officers:—Bros. Joseph Wright, P.M. 1158, W.M.; Robinson, S.W.; Collins, D.C., acting J.W. in the unavoidable absence of Bro. Watson; Morphew, S.D.; Holland, J.D.; Boehr, I.G.; Smith, P.M. Royal Arthur, Sec.; Pulsford, P.M. and Secretary 1158, acting I.P.M.; Stacey, P.M., P.P.G.R. Berks and Bucks, acting Organist. The minutes of the consecration meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M., with the assistance of his officers, initiated Messrs. Mansell, Harrison, Cook, Russell, and Hatfield into Craft mysteries, the ceremony being most ably carried out. Bro. Holland, of 1206, was unanimously admitted a joining member, and Bros. Silcock and Franks, 862, and Bemish, 1044, proposed as joining members. Other propositions having been taken, the lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to an excellent repast. The other visitors present besides Bros. Stacey and Pulsford were Bros. Howick, P.M. 1044; Walls, S.D. 1381, &c.; and Franks 862. Upon the removal of the cloth the W.M. gave the customary loyal and Masonic toasts, prefaced by a few well chosen and appropriate remarks, and at his request Bro. Walls contributed the National Anthem and Brinley Richards' popular ode. The W.M. in proposing "The Health of the Visitors" alluded to the vast number

that had honoured the lodge by their presence on the day of its consecration, and he was pleased to see that the majority of the visitors then present (April 5th) were also in attendance on that auspicious occasion, and in conclusion he trusted that, although that evening he had not been to entertain them so well at the banquetting table as he had endeavoured to do on the opening day, their visit had been in every way satisfactory to them. This toast having been duly honoured, Bro. Walls said that by the request of some distinguished Past Masters on his right he had been requested to return thanks for the compliment passed to the visitors, but he wished that the honour had fallen into better hands. He then went on to state that he had had opportunities of witnessing the work of the W.M. in another lodge, which he characterised as being almost faultless. It was also a very gratifying circumstance and a very good augury of future prosperity for the Royal Commemoration Lodge that on their first regular meeting they should have had six candidates present for initiation, one of whom, however, was necessarily compelled to be disappointed, and in conclusion the speaker stated that, on behalf of his co-visitors and himself, he wished to assure the members of 1585 that their visit had in every way been satisfactory and most pleasant to them, and he congratulated the lodge upon having so experienced, zealous and able a first Master as Bro. Joseph Wright. In giving "The Health of the Initiates" the W.M. expressed himself highly pleased with the five gentlemen who had offered themselves that evening as candidates for the secrets and mysteries of their ancient Order. With regard to the gentleman that had been disappointed, he hoped that he, together with several others would have an opportunity of "seeing the light" at a very early date. In conclusion, the W.M. said he felt confident from the attention that the newly-made brethren had given throughout the entire trying ceremony that they would eventually become good and worthy Masons. This toast having been drunk the initiates acknowledged the compliment that had been paid to them, and each stated the deep impression that the ceremony had made upon him. Bro. Pulsford, P.M., then rose to propose a toast, which, according to accustomed Masonic usage, ought to have been given earlier in the evening, namely, "The Health of the W.M." In the course of a few happy remarks, the speaker spoke of Bro. Wright's labours in Freemasonry, and called the brethren's attention to the fact that when acting as Steward on behalf of the Southern Star at the last festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, that his list (the W.M.'s) was one of the best, and that the sum was expressed by three figures. In conclusion, Bro. Pulsford said that if he were capable of speaking for hours he could not sum up or do justice to all the good Masonic and other qualities that their W.M. possessed. This toast having been heartily drunk, the W.M. briefly replied by stating that he felt exceedingly pleased at the manner in which his name had been mentioned that evening, but he must say that both Bros. Pulsford and Walls had given him more praise than was his due. It was true that he had given up a great deal of his time in order to perfect himself in Masonic working, and he wished on that occasion to acknowledge that his endeavours in that respect had been greatly aided by the worthy brother who had just proposed his health; yet he considered that merely a personal duty, and one that every Mason who aspired to the chair should cheerfully undertake. With respect to what had been stated about his poor services at the last Boys' Festival, he desired to state that he considered it also the duty of every Mason to increase the funds of those truly noble charities connected with the Craft, and if he had been able to produce a satisfactory list on behalf of one of those institutions, yet the brethren must remember that his exertions would have been of little avail unless assisted by the philanthropy of his friends and brethren. "The Health of the Secretary and Treasurer" followed, and was responded to by the Secretary, Bro. Smith, P.M., upon behalf of the Treasurer (Bro. Watkins, P.M.) and himself, in a witty and able speech. The toast of "The Officers" came next, and having been duly honoured elicited a very excellent response from the S.W., Bro. Robinson. The proceedings were enlivened by vocal contributions from Bros. Morphew, Walls, Cook, and others, and the Tyler having been called upon to discharge his duty, the brethren separated until October next.

### Royal Arch.

**DOMATIC CHAPTER** (No. 177).—The last convocation of this well-known chapter was held at Anderson's Hotel, on the 23rd ult. This being the night of installation of Comp. Hayward there were a goodly number of companions present. The chapter was opened by Comps. Bolton, M.E.; Hayward, H.; Cottelbrune, P.Z., acting J.; Palmer, S.E.; Hill, S.N.; Lawrence, 1st A.S.; Harrison, 2nd A.S.; Buss, P.Z., Treas. The other P.Z.'s present were Comps. T. Adams, Wilson, Cubitt, Coutts, Simmonds, Sutton, Gilbert. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the report of the auditors, Comps. Sullivan, Foxcroft, and Clarke, was received and adopted. The installation ceremony was then most ably worked by Comp. T. Adams, P.Z. The officers were next inducted, with the exception of the following, who were unavoidably absent:—Comps. Scott, H.; Weaver, J.; and Treadwell, P.S. Comp. Hayward, M.E., who it was evident was far from being well, having requested the I.P.Z. to take the chair, Bro. Drew, P.M., was exalted to the S.D. of the R.A., in a manner that left little to be desired. Comp. Clarke having given a notice of motion that the services of Comp. Palmer, the zealous and obliging S.E. of the chapter for the last four years, should be taken into consideration at the next meeting, with a view to present him with some mark of the

chapter's esteem, the convocation was adjourned until the third Thursday in October next, and the companions repaired to the banquet, which was well served in the large hall. The visitors present were Comps. Nunn, P.Z. (Pannure); Stevens, P.Z. (Whittington); Swallow, H. 77; Scott, J. 77; Walls, (Jerusalem); Burford, (Belgrave), Kent. The cloth having been removed the M.E. gave the usual R.A. ceremonial toasts with commendable brevity. "The M.E.'s Health" having been duly proposed by Comp. Bolton, and responded to, the pleasing duty of presenting the I.P.Z. with a jewel—at the request of the M.E.—was performed by Comp. Cubitt, P.Z. He stated that he had known Comp. Bolton nearly fifty years, and he was extremely obliged to the M.E. in having allowed him to make the presentation to his dear old friend and companion. He then expatiated upon the services of the I.P.Z. to the chapter, and having pinned the very handsome jewel to the breast of Comp. Bolton, concluded his very excellent address by wishing him many years of health and happiness. Comp. Bolton having replied, "The Health of the Newly Exalted Comp. Drew" was proposed, and having been duly honoured was responded to by that companion most ably. "The Health of the Visitors" followed, and was acknowledged by Comps. Stevens, Burford, and Kent. The M.E. in proposing "The Health of the Past Principals of the Chapter" expressed his thanks to those worthy companions for the great assistance he had always received at their hands, and felt proud at occupying the chair which in the long history of the Domatic Chapter had had so many distinguished occupants. Comp. Buss, P.Z., replied in very excellent terms, in which he stated that he had been connected with the chapter for nearly twenty-five years, and was its senior member. He felt exceedingly proud that his name should have been coupled with the toast, and he hoped, by the blessings of Providence, to be spared many years yet to come to write himself Past Principal of the Domatic Chapter. "The Officers" toast having been proposed and drunk, was briefly acknowledged by Comps. Hill, Palmer, and Lawrence. During the evening contributions of harmony were given by Comps. Palmer, Lawrence, Stevens, Scott, Walls, and others. The Janitor's toast brought the proceedings to a close at a comparatively early hour.

**MOUNT LEBANON CHAPTER** (No. 73).—The installation meeting of this chapter was held at the Bridge House Hotel, Borough, High-street, Southwark, on Thursday, April 13th, Comps. J. H. Button, M.E.Z.; H. A. Dubois, H.; J. W. Baldwin, J.; W. Smeed, P.Z.; T. J. Sabine, P.Z.; J. T. Moss, P.Z. F. Walters, P.Z., S.E., opened the chapter. The companions were admitted. The minutes were read and unanimously confirmed. Ballots were unanimous in favour of the seven candidates for exaltation. Comp. W. Smeed, P.Z., in a correct and impressive manner exalted Bros. H. Hand, 1017; J. Parsons, 871; H. Ireland, 87; and C. J. Strome, 298, S.C. He installed Comps. H. A. Dubois, M.E.Z.; J. W. Baldwin, H.; John Mason, J. The officers invested and appointed were T. J. Sabine, P.Z., Treas. (re-invested for the fourth time); F. Walters, P.Z., S.E. (re-invested for the 13th time); B. Isaacs, S.N.; F. C. Mason, P.S.; T. W. Adams, First A.S.; S. Frankenberg, Second A.S.; W. V. Laing, Janitor. Many propositions were received of candidates for exaltation. The chapter was closed. Banquet and dessert followed. Visitor, Comp. T. E. Scott.

### Scotland.

#### LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE OF WORKING-MEN'S HOUSES AT CLYDEBANK.

The foundation-stone of the first of a series of buildings being erected at Clydebank, Dalmair, by the Glasgow Working-Men's Investment and Building Society, was laid on Saturday afternoon, the 8th inst., with full Masonic honours, by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Dumbarshire, in the presence of a large number of spectators.

At present the society, having secured three acres of land on the estate of Barns of Clyde, are constructing sixty-eight houses for the accommodation of the workmen employed in Messrs. Thomson's shipbuilding-yard, and have nearly finished twelve of the lot. Each tenement of two stories contains four houses, giving three apartments, with a garden plot of 20 feet in front, and a kitchen garden to the back. It is proposed to charge £165 for each house, and to allow the workmen to pay this sum at any time within 21 years. The houses are provided with water from the Old Kilpatrick Waterworks, and with gas, while a good system of drainage has been made to the Clyde, which flows near at hand. The range of buildings has been erected under the superintendence of Mr. James Smith, the architect and building manager of the society.

At three o'clock in the afternoon the members of the Provincial Grand Lodge assembled in the Masonic Hall, Dalmair, Bro. Sheriff William Cunninghame Steele, P.G. S.W., presiding; J. McLeish, P.G.S.D., acting P.G.D.M., A. Denny, P.G.J.W., acting P.G.S.M.; D. Paul, R.W.M. 170, acting P.G.S.W.; A. McGregor, P.G.S.S., acting P.G.J.W.; Rev. D. H. Wilson, P.G. Chap.; W. Ferguson, P.G.J.S., acting P.G. Sec.; R. Thomson, acting P.G. Treas.; P. Moir, P.G.B.B.; L. Leckie, R.W.M. 543, acting P.G.S.D.; J. Allan, B.B. 18, acting P.G.J.D.; J. F. Wilson, S.W. 543, acting P.G.S.S.; J. Muirhead, J.W., acting P.G.J.S.; W. Cameron, R.W.M. 28; and Mair, Archt. 18, carrying working tools; Wiggins, P.G.I.G., and J. Kennedy, P.G. Tyler. Deputations were present from the following lodges, viz., St. John's, Glasgow, 3½; Dumbar-ton Kilwinning, 18, headed by Bro. Barr, I.P.M.; St. John, Kirkintilloch, 28, headed by Bro. Cameron, R.W.M.; Thistle and Rose, Glasgow, 73, headed by Bro. Bannerman, D.M.; Leven St. John's, Renton, headed by 170, Bro. Paul, R.W.M.; St. Andrews, Bonhill and Alex-

andria, 321, headed by Bro. Stewart, R.W.M.; St. John's Dalmuir, 543, headed by Bro. Leckie, R.W.M.; Kenmuir Glasgow, 570, headed by Bro. Law, I.P.M.; Dramatic Glasgow, 571, headed by Bro. Dobson, R.W.M.; and Plantation, Glasgow, 581, headed by Bro. A. Gow, S.M. After the lodge had been opened the members walked in procession, headed by the 14th D.R.V. Band, to Clydebank.

Arrived at the platform beside the new buildings, the Freemasons took up their position round the foundation-stone, and the Rev. Bro. Wilson Renton, as Provincial Grand Chaplain, offered up prayer. Thereafter Bro. Sheriff Cunningham Steele, of Westonslee, Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Substitute Master, laid the stone with the ordinary ceremony.

Bro. Sheriff Steele then addressed the assembled company, and said it was exceedingly agreeable and pleasant to him to take part in a scheme of this kind, so pregnant with advantages to those whom they might call the working classes, but who were the stay and support of the nation, especially since the object of the society was to enable every man who had honourably, steadily, and industriously followed his vocation to find in his old age, or in his approach to old age, that he had the means of having a house. It gave one a status in the country, and he became a proprietor. No doubt the Savings Bank had done a great deal of good, but in this society there was a strong inducement held out to the working-man to deposit his money towards procuring a house. The society was founded in May, 1873, and had now no less than 760 members, with a subscribed capital of £59,750. One hundred and twenty houses had already been built, and out of these 96 had been sold at fair prices, while 65 houses were now being proceeded with.

Mr. Riddell, Secretary, read a letter of apology from the Rev. Dr. Bragg, Edinburgh, who apologised for his absence, and expressed the interest with which he had heard of the extension of the operations of the society. It was lamentable to hear, the rev. Doctor continued, of the difficulties and opposition which the working men met in their honourable and patriotic efforts to secure homes for themselves, and it was the interest of all classes to aid them in securing the removal of these difficulties. He was certain that when accurate statistics were taken it would be triumphantly proved that most of our social evils—crime, pauperism, intemperance, and disease—were directly and most favourably affected by making every man his own landlord, not to speak of higher and more important objects. Mr. Riddell further read a letter of apology for absence from Mr. James Thomson, Clydebank.

Mr. Allan S. Edmiston, the president of the society, next presented the silver trowel which had been used in the ceremony to Bro. Sheriff Steele, who briefly replied.

The members then re-formed in procession and walked back to Dalmuir, where the lodge was formally closed.

Immediately after, St. John's Lodge, Dalmuir, No. 543, was opened and called to refreshment, when a large number of the Glasgow brethren remained, Bros. Leckie, R.W.M., in the chair; J. F. Wilson, S.W.; and J. Muirhead, J.W. The Chairman proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, which were heartily responded to, and the brethren enjoyed themselves until 7.30 p.m., when the Glasgow brethren returned to town by rail.

**GLASGOW.—Lodge St. John's (No. 31).**—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in their hall, Buchanan-street, on Tuesday evening, the 4th inst., Bro. D. M. Nelson, W.M., in the chair. Bro. T. B. Bell, S.M., acting S.W.; Bros. P. Brownlie, J.W.; W. Bell, I.P.M.; James Dunn, Treas.; J. Dick, Sec.; A. Cameron, S.D.; D. Paton, J.D.; A. Peattie, I.G.; and J. Wright, Tyler. The meeting was particularly well attended by the members, and a large number of visiting brethren, amongst whom we noticed Bros. J. Monro, W.M. 360; J. Gillies, P.M. 103, P.G. Treas.; W. Hauper, W.M. 408; T. Halket, P.M. 102, W. Taylor, Treas. 581; R. Allan, Sec. 581; and W. Ferguson, P.M. 102 ("Freemason") &c. On the lodge being opened and the minutes of last meeting read and confirmed, Bros. W. Weir, G. R. Morrison and H. Tennant were passed to the Fellow Craft Degree in a most efficient manner by Bro. Monro, W.M. 360. On the lodge being reduced to the E.A. Degree, Bro. W. E. Campbell, of Lodge Magherafelt, 211, I.C., was affiliated a joining member. Bro. Nelson, the W.M., then rose and said,—"W. Wardens and brethren, I have now to perform a very pleasing duty, and that is to propose "That Bro. Monro, the respected Master of Lodge Commercial, 360, become an honorary member of this lodge." Bro. Monro has gained for himself a name long to be remembered for his zeal for Masonry in general, and the Province of Glasgow in particular. Bro. Monro was then obligated by the W.M.

**GLASGOW.—Lodge Glasgow Kilwinning (No. 4).**—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in their hall, Buchanan-st., on Wednesday evening, the 5th inst., Bro. R. Prout, W.M., in the chair, supported by Bros. A. Sage, P.M., S.M.; T. G. Jamieson, acting S.W.; G. Holmes, J.W.; R. Mitchell, P.M. 332, D.M.; J. McKeand, Treas.; J. Currie, Sec. Present: Bros. J. Morgan, W.M. Lodge Star, 219; W. Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); J. Law, I.P.M. 570; G. W. Wheeler, Chaplain 73; and others. On the minutes being read and approved of, the committee appointed to look out for a hall reported that they had secured the Claremont Hall, in Kent-road, where the meetings of the lodge will be held on and after Wednesday, the 7th June. Bro. J. S. Allan, Lodge Thistle and Rose, 73, was affiliated a joining member, and Mr. D. Carlisle was initiated by Bro. J. Morgan, W.M. 219, in his usual efficient style. After disposing of some charitable applications the lodge was closed.

**GLASGOW.—Lodge Thistle and Rose (No. 73).**—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in the

Kilwinning Hall, Buchanan-street, on Tuesday evening, the 4th inst., Bro. G. McDonald, W.M., presided, supported by Bros. J. Bannerman, D.M.; Alex. McLeod, S.W.; J. F. Handbridge, J.W.; J. S. Ampleford, Treas.; R. Richards, Sec.; Kay, S.D.; G. W. Wheeler, Chaplain; and others. On the minutes being read and approved of, Messrs. M. Reid and J. Miller were initiated into the E.A. Degree by Bro. McDonald, W.M., afterwards Bro. D. Fraser was passed to the Fellow Craft Degree by Bro. G. W. Wheeler, Chaplain.

**GLASGOW.—Lodge Shamrock and Thistle (No. 275).**—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, Struthers-street, on Friday evening, the 7th inst., Bro. P. Ronald, R.W.M., presiding; W. Findlay, S.W.; D. Rowan, acting J.W. Present: R. M. Yuill, I.P.M.; W. Phillips, P.M., R.W.M. 556; J. Paterson, D.M.; W. B. Hutcheson, Treas.; J. Horn, Sec.; C. McLeish, J.D.; H. Cox, I.G.; and J. Guthrie, Tyler. The lodge was opened and the minutes of last meeting read and approved of. Several applications were read from widows of deceased brethren for relief, most of which were favourably received. Mr. R. W. Guthrie was then initiated into the R. A. Degree by the R.W.M. A candidate was also proposed for initiation at next monthly meeting. A new code of bye-laws, drawn up by a committee appointed for that purpose, was read and passed.

**GLASGOW.—Lodge Dramatic (No. 571).**—A meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 5th inst., at three o'clock p.m., in St. Mark's Hall, Buchanan-street, the W.M., W. J. E. Dobson, in the chair; H. W. Jackman, S.W.; W. Sivewright, J.W.; D. Campbell, Sec.; R. S. Smyth, S.D.; L. Mitchell, J.D.; G. R. Weir, acting I.G.; and J. B. Hardie, Tyler. Present: G. R. Weir, F. Muir, J. Robertson, R. Prout, W.M. 4; D. McKirdy, W.M. 332; W. Phillips, W.M. 556; W. Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); J. M. Oliver, S.W. 360; G. W. Wheeler, 73; J. Allan, 73; J. H. Kelso, 116; W. Squires, 556; and W. Reynolds, 556, &c. The lodge being opened, Bro. Campbell read the minutes of last regular and one emergency meeting, which were confirmed. Mr. Gavin Connell was initiated into the First or E.A. Degree by Bro. Dobson, the W.M., in a most impressive manner. Thereafter Bro. F. Muir was passed to the Fellow Craft Degree by Bro. Ferguson, I.P.M. 543.

**UDDINGTON.—Lodge of St. Bride (No. 579).**—This lodge meets on the second and fourth Monday in each month, with the exception of the months of May, June, and July, when meetings will be called in cases of emergency. At the first meeting of the lodge, which was held on the 14th March, 15 candidates were initiated into the ancient rites and mysteries of Freemasonry; and at two subsequent meetings eight more were initiated, making a total of 23. Although the lodge is in its infancy, it is in a very flourishing condition, the success of which is due to Bro. W. J. Easton, R.W.M., who is a zealous and hard-working Freemason, and has won golden opinions thereby, and has made himself popular among the brethren and every way deserving of the high and exalted position in which they have placed him.

Obituary.

FUNERAL OF THE LATE HON. F. WALPOLE, M.P., PROV. G.M. OF NORFOLK.

The funeral of the late Hon. F. Walpole, M.P., Prov. G.M. of Norfolk, whose death was announced last week, and which has created a profound sense of sorrow among the brethren in that province, took place at Kingsbury on Friday. It was strictly private, among the mourners, however, was Bro. Drift, the Prov. G.S.W., and one or two other members of Grand Lodge. A special meeting of the members of the Craft had been held at Norwich under the presidency of the D.P.G.M., Bro. A. M. F. Morgan, when Bro. Lieut.-Colonel Bignold, P.M., P.G.R., said that never before had the Freemasons of Norfolk met together on so sad an occasion. No long ago their Prov. Grand Master Cabbell died, but time had dealt gently with him; he was more than in the fullness of age, and life had become a burden; but now it was different: Colonel Walpole was called away while his energies were powerful, his mind active, and his heart ever feeling in the cause of Masonry and for Masons. The shadow of the valley of death seemed to be resting on them, but beyond the shadow was the light which all true Masons sought after. Col. Bignold said that he would not dwell on his own loss in the death of the Prov. Grand Master, though friendships dating from early life were hard to fill; he would rather dwell on the irreparable loss which the Masonic body had suffered in the death of their beloved Prov. Grand Master, whose place, so ably filled, would know him no more. Colonel Bignold then moved that the following resolution of sympathy be agreed to and forwarded to Mrs. Walpole and the family of the late Prov. Grand Master:—"The brethren of the Province of Norfolk desire to express the sympathy of the whole Masonic body with Mrs. Walpole and the family of their late beloved and honoured Prov. Grand Master at the sudden bereavement which has befallen them, and the irreparable loss which they have sustained. God, the Great Architect of the Universe, has willed to call His servant from the earthly temple to that not made with hands, eternal in the heavens, so it must be well, but He alone can give the light of consolation in this great grief. The brethren trust it will be some solace to those to whom he was so dear, to know that every Freemason in Norfolk feels that by the death of their Prov. Grand Master he has lost a brother and a friend." Bro. H. G. Barwell, Prov. G. Sec., seconded the resolution, which was adopted unanimously; and it was determined to record it on the minutes of the Provincial Grand Lodge's transactions.

Masonic and General Tidings.

**NEW LODGE.**—Application is about to be made for a warrant for a new lodge, to be called the "Bayard," and held at 33, Golden-square. We understand that Bro. Col. Burney is to be the first W.M.; Bro. Capt. Leeson, S.W.; Bro. Watson, J.W.; and Bro. Portlock Dadson, Sec.

Bro. Henry Inglis, Provincial Grand Master of Peebles and Selkirkshire, assisted by a deputation from the Grand Lodge of Scotland, will lay the foundation-stone of the new Masonic Hall at Galashiels on Friday, the 12th prox.

The ceremony of consecration and installation will be worked in the Faith Lodge of Instruction, 2, Westminster Chambers, on Tuesday, the 9th May. The proceedings to commence at seven o'clock precisely.

A telegram has been received from Bro. Sir Wm. Knollys, announcing that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales had fixed the 19th of May as the day on which he would attend the banquet and ball to be given at the Guildhall. It is probable that the Princess of Wales will accompany his Royal Highness, who it is understood will enter the city by way of the Holborn Viaduct and pass along Newgate-street, Cheapside, and King-street to Guildhall.

The Rt. Hon. Lord Carnarvon, M.W. Pro Grand Master, arrived in Paris on Wednesday night, where he will remain for several days.

The Inaugural Masonic Ball took place at the Surrey Masonic Hall on Wednesday last. A full report will appear in our next.

Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, Deputy Grand Master, laid the foundation stone of the new church of St. John the Evangelist, at Walton, near Liverpool, on Monday last. Of the total number of sittings—950—which it is intended to provide, 500 will be free and unappropriated.

An Inaugural Ode, written by Bro. Samuel Poynter, on the completion of the Surrey Masonic Hall and spoken at the opening ball on Wednesday last by Bro. Dawson, will appear in our next.

The Lodge of Israel, No. 1474, will by special dispensation meet on the third Monday instead of the second.

The annual Red Cross Ball takes place on Monday next, at Willis's Rooms, King-street, St. James's.

Bro. Hollingsworth, J.W. of the Hervey Lodge, has been presented with an elegant silver vase, suitably inscribed, as a token of appreciation of his gallant conduct in saving the life of a young lady who was nearly drowned.

The directors of the Crystal Palace are organizing a grand fête, which will partake of the character of a great national welcome to the Prince of Wales, who has graciously accepted the invitation of the directors on his own behalf and that of the Princess of Wales.

A special meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge was held in Liverpool on Tuesday last under the presidency of Lord Skelmersdale, Deputy Grand Master, to consider an application for a grant from the lodge funds towards the restoration of Chester Cathedral. A proposal was formally made and ultimately adopted to vote £100 towards the restoration fund. Several members, however, expressed themselves opposed to the grant, because within the ranks of Freemasonry there were Dissenters and even Roman Catholics. On the other hand, it was urged that Freemasonry was under deep obligations to Church of England ministers, who were almost the only clergymen that ever become Freemasons.

The Duke of Connaught is shortly expected at Manchester to do duty with his regiment, the 7th Hussars, and will remain there for some time. His Royal Highness will leave Gibraltar about the end of the month.

The Annual Festival of the Wellington Lodge of Instruction (No. 548) will be held at the White Swan Hotel, High-street, Deptford, on Monday, the 24th inst. Bro. C. G. Dilly will preside.

A full report of the Installation Meeting of the Polish National Lodge, No. 534, will appear in our next.

Bro. Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart., M.P., R.W.P.G.M. of North Wales and Shropshire, and Lady Wynn, who have been cruising in the Mediterranean in the honourable baronet's yacht during the winter, were expected home during the past week. Sir Watkin's health is said to be completely re-established.

A renewed warning against furious driving has been issued by Colonel Henderson.

The total number of visitors at the Alexandra Palace on Monday last was 67,219.

**Crystal Palace.—One Shilling Day.—Monday, April 17.**—Admissions by season tickets, 4,324; ditto by payment, 55,692; total visitors, 60,016, being 12,000 in excess of any previous Easter Monday and 16,000 in excess of last Easter Monday.

**HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.**—As spring approaches a most favourable opportunity offers for rectifying irregularities, removing impurities, and erasing blemishes which have arisen from the presence of matters forbad by winter from being transferred through the pores. This searching Ointment well rubbed upon the skin, penetrates to the deeply seated organs, upon which it exerts a most wholesome and beneficial influence. Well nigh all indigestion gives way to this simple treatment aided by purifying and aperitive doses of Holloway's Pills, round each box of which plain instructions are folded. Bilious Disorders, Loss of Appetite, Fulness of Eating, Lassitude, Gout and Rheumatism, may be effectively checked in their painful progress, and the seeds of long suffering eradicated by these remedies.—ADVT.

## TO OUR READERS.

The *Freemason* is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the *United Kingdom*, Post free, 10/-

## NEW POSTAL RATES.

Owing to a reduction in the Postal Rates, the publisher is now enabled to send the "*Freemason*" to the following parts abroad for One Year for Twelve Shillings (payable in advance):—Africa, Australia, Bombay, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, China, Constantinople, Demerara, France, Germany, Gibraltar, Jamaica, Malta, Newfoundland, New South Wales, New Zealand, Suez, Trinidad, United States of America, &c.

P.O.O.'s to be made payable at the chief office, London.

## COLONIAL AND FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS

are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month.

NOTICE.—It is very necessary for our friends to advise us of all money orders they remit, more especially those from the United States of America and India; otherwise we cannot tell where to credit them.

## TO ADVERTISERS.

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## NOW READY.

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## Answers to Correspondents.

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

The following stand over:—Royal Cumberland Chapter, 41; Caledonian Lodge, 489, Constantinople; Lodge of Israel, 1474, Birmingham; Obituary of Bro. W. B. Gates.

Will Bro. G. H. Algrett, of H.M.S. Favourite, kindly send his private address to the editor of the Masonic Magazine, 198, Fleet-street, London, E.C.

## Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d. for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

## BIRTHS.

ANDERSON.—On the 15th inst., at Pelham House, Ventnor, the wife of T. C. Anderson, Esq., of a daughter.

AUSTIN.—On Feb. 14, at Yeo, Colac, Victoria, the wife of J. E. Austin, of a daughter.

NAPIER.—On the 13th inst., at Cannes, France, Lady Napier of Magdala, of a son.

PLAYER.—On the 15th inst., at Grays, Essex, the wife of G. N. Player, of a son.

STEVENS.—On the 11th inst., at Landor-road, Clapham, the wife of W. Stevens, Esq., of a son.

## MARRIAGES.

CHAMBERLIN-BOLINGBROKE.—On the 6th inst., at Christ Church, Eton, George Moore Chamberlin, Esq., Norwich, to Emily Mary, daughter of a A. F. C. Bolingbroke, Esq.

TAYLOR-RANDALL.—On the 11th inst., at St. Mary's, Stoke Newington, Arthur Norton Taylor, M.R.C.S., of Bovey, Tracey, Devon, to Emily Lloyd, daughter of A. M. Randall, M.R.C.S.

## DEATHS.

BENINGFIELD.—On the 18th inst., at Ware, Bro. John Beningfield, late of Broxbourne, Herts, in his 81st year. Natal and Australian papers please copy.

BRAITHWAITE.—On the 20th ult., at Barbadoes, W.I., Charlotte Willoughby, wife of C. M. Braithwaite, Esq.

LEMAN.—On the 9th inst., James Leman, Esq., of Chester-terrace, Regent's Park, in his 32nd year.

LONG.—On the 15th inst., at Hounslow, Ann, eldest daughter of the late Bro. James Long, and niece to Mr. John Paisley, of Hounslow. Illinois papers please copy.

## The Freemason,

SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 1876.

## OUR ROYAL GRAND MASTER'S RETURN.

By the Baron Reuter's telegrams in the "*Times*" and "*Telegraph*" we learn that the Serapis, with his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales on board, accompanied by the Osborne and Raleigh, arrived at Gibraltar at eight o'clock on the morning of the 15th, and was received with salutes from the forts and from her Majesty's ship's Devastation and Swiftsure and the Spanish frigate Vittoria. The Prince landed at noon. The Prince on landing was welcomed by the Acting-Governor and staff, the Royal Navy officers, the Colonial officials, &c. A guard of honour was drawn up on the quay, and flowers were strewn in the path of His Royal Highness. A procession was then formed to Casemate-square. The line of route was beautifully decorated. Altogether the reception was enthusiastic, and a complete success. On arriving at Casemate-square an address was presented on behalf of the inhabitants of Gibraltar, and a deputation from the friendly societies and other bodies joined the procession. At the Convent (Government House) His Royal Highness held a levee, at which the Moorish Ambassador, specially sent by the Sultan of Morocco to congratulate His Royal Highness on his safe return to Europe, was presented to the Prince by Sir J. Drummond Hay, the British Minister at Tangiers, and afterwards the Spanish Governor of Algeiras, the foreign Consuls, the heads of departments, and other officials were introduced by the Acting-Governor. A grand banquet was given in the ball-room of the Convent (Government House), by Major-Gen. Somerset, the Acting-Governor, in honour of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. Covers were laid for ninety-four. Among those invited to meet the Prince and the Duke of Connaught were the heads of the Departments, Sir John Drummond Hay, English Minister at Tangiers, Prince Louis of Battenburg, and the Protestant and Catholic Bishops of Gibraltar. The health of the Prince of Wales having been drunk, His Royal Highness, in returning thanks, said that it gave him great pleasure to revisit Gibraltar after an interval of seventeen years. He thanked the community for the excessively kind reception he had met with, and which he was not likely to forget. His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, whose health was also drunk, said that it gave him great pleasure to behold the hearty and loyal reception accorded to his brother the Prince of Wales. The town and rock were splendidly illuminated, and the effect was very grand. The Prince and Duke drove round the town alone. They were enthusiastically cheered by the crowd which followed. The people were most orderly. The Prince of Wales laid the foundation-stone of the new 38-ton gun battery at the Head Mole on April 17th. There was no ceremony. His Royal Highness afterwards laid the foundation-stone of a public market amid Masonic honours, the ceremony being witnessed by a great assemblage of people. His Royal Highness said he was glad to meet so many brethren of the Craft. Great enthusiasm was displayed. There was a grand review of the troops in the afternoon, and the Prince gave a dinner afterwards on board the Serapis. The company included his Excellency the Governor, the heads of the administrative departments, the military Staff, Sir John Drummond Hay, the Bishops of Gibraltar and Antioch, &c.; altogether fifty-two guests. The Prince was to leave on Thursday in the Osborne, on his way to Seville and Madrid. He is expected to arrive at Lisbon on the 1st. of May.

## GRAND FESTIVAL.

A full report of the proceedings will be given in the *Freemason* next week, with which number a supplement will be given.

## DISCONTINUE THE "FREEMASON."

That our world is sometimes a dirty world, and that men are sometimes marked by great littleness, paradoxical as the expression may seem, is a truth as undeniable as it is unwelcome. We note this untoward unreality of things and persons in every department of life, in the progress of troublous years, in the secrets of business, in the pursuit of wealth, in the "guingettes" of pleasure and society. Yes! very often we have to open our eyes, and to open them widely, at the insincerity of the trusted, and the meanness and pettiness and even "bassesse" of the fawning and the foolish, of the sycophant and the social, of the "friend of our bosom," of the neighbour in "our street." Perverse paradox of humanity! strange law of earthly life! which seems to throw around all we contend with, and all we mix with here, often its own gloomy hue of unreality, of untruthfulness, of hollowiness, of worthlessness. But do not let us become too serious or too didactic. People don't care for lectures, and are apt to deem moral essays dull reading, inasmuch as they do not suit the high spiced taste of the day for a looser and for a less exacting morality. So we will take a lighter tone and make use of a more jocose strain, alike of thought and verbiage, more in harmony probably with the tone and temper, the tastes and tendencies of our excellent *«l'«entele»*. We will content ourselves therefore with endorsing Mr. Weller's remark "that he never know'd such a state of things afore" as that which too often constitutes the way of the world, and marks both the professions and dealings of men. Some one has said that "we all have our troubles," so we have, even publishers and editors, no less than some forlorn bachelor, some obedient married man, some complaining wife, some desponding young woman, some youthful hero of the hour contemplating matrimony and misfortune all at the same moment. And though our troubles are small, and for the matter of that hardly worth notice, yet we have such a confiding circle of subscribers and sympathizers, that we feel it to be both a pleasure and a duty, "*sub sigillo confessionis*" too, to impart to them our humble grievances and to claim their fraternal commiseration. There are some people and brethren, proh pudor, in this world of ours who sometimes affect to think that they confer patronage or exhibit favour to publishers, and Masonic publishers "*surtout*," by their liberal orders for some periodical of the day. And equally the reverse is true, that by withdrawing their support, or by the magic word "*discontinue*," they opine, or seem to do, that to the energetic publisher such an order is alike a "heavy blow and a great discouragement." Now what we want to point out to-day is, that any such idea is a serious delusion. All such matters are details of business, not personal questions in any way, and our publisher for instance thinks little, and cares less, if even he were to receive twenty such missives daily, as he is utterly independent, alike of patronage or opposition, and entirely regardless of favour or disfavour. The "*Freemason*" has always been conducted on business principles, and always will be, it courts no patronage, it cares for no depreciation, it offers its wares in the open market of Masonic opinion, it supplies a good article at a very cheap price, and those who wish to buy it and support it can do so, and those who don't, can—well!—leave it alone. Never at any time has any Masonic periodical been so supported and so cheered by so numerous and increasing a circle of subscribers and correspondents, and for every fraternal friend who says or scribbles off "*discontinue*," our publisher receives twenty fresh subscribers week by week. Now we say all this in the best spirit, and with the kindest and most brotherly feelings. The "*Freemason*" has always taken an independent course in all things, and (D.V.) always means to do so, it belongs to no party, it affects no clique, it is open to all, friendly to all, who in the interests of our common Order, seek its advice, or communicate to its pages. But we have thought it but fair to our publisher, who has made the paper what it is, and to its editorial management, inasmuch, as publisher and editor are often

equally amused by these little acts, which for some petty cause, or at no cause at all, evidence, that in some minds a delusion exists, that by their patronage or their opposition, by the continuance or discontinuance of their subscription, they can in any measure, affect either the progress or the prosperity of the "Freemason," or manifest their approval, or exhibit their displeasure. Let all such, whoever they may be, be good enough to bear in mind that strong in the public opinion of a kindly and discerning Craft, the "Freemason" intends to go on its way, relying alike on that judicious and business like management which has given to it its solidity and its success, as well as on that free, impartial, and honest, and independent tone of thought and teaching which has characterized its past annals, marks its present material well doing, and has earned for it the good will, approval, fraternal confidence and cheerful countenance, not only of the Order in Great Britain, but of the Anglo-Saxon brotherhood, nay of Cosmopolitan Freemasonry.

#### THE COMPARATIVE COST OF THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

This question, which is a very important question in itself, had hardly full justice done to it at the recent discussion at Freemasons' Hall. The original accusations brought against the School in the pamphlets of unpleasant and un-Masonic memory were, that there was gross mismanagement, grosser extravagance; that the accounts were kept slovenly, and that Bro. Binckes arrogated too much to himself. But when at Sheffield, the province of Yorkshire, worked upon by these utterly misleading, and we feel bound to add malevolent statements of personal animosity, however much it might be affected to be denied, endeavoured to frame the articles of impeachment, the whole venue was changed at once. The original allegations amount, alike in open and suppressed pamphlets, to deliberate charges of malappropriation and embezzlement, and the suppressed pamphlet was, in our humble opinion, libellous and actionable. Think of any brother Mason putting into print with regard to a miserable 8s. 9d., or 9s. 4d., of a savings bank account for the boys "who has got the money?" in this way implicating the honour of brethren in every way distinguished by long service and high character. But, as we said, all the charges of the previous pamphlets were abandoned at Sheffield, and the point put forward was the excessive cost of the school, and comparisons were made with other institutions. Now it is on this point clear, that those who affected to lead West Yorkshire were utterly ignorant of the subject, and did not really understand anything practically about the matter. For it had been shown in 1867 that the question of comparative cost could hardly be fairly entered into, as, owing to its peculiar "status," the Masonic Boys' School was a school "sui generis," and must have in many things an exceptional standard, alike of cost, and even education. But supposing that a comparison was made, the Boys' School came well out of it, and so far from there being any real cause of complaint, the truth of the case required that proper eulogium should be passed upon the managers of the School. And in 1876 we apprehend that the same state of things is to be found, and it is very amusing to note that the inculpators of the School are "hoist" by their own "petard," actually silenced by their own figures. Take the Commercial Travellers' School, which we all know is a very well managed institution, economically administered. It had, according to its report, at the close of 1875, 288 boys and girls. Its office expenses were £1301 os. 4d. against Masonic Boys £1159 10s. with 156 boys. The report of the West Yorkshire Committee made the office expenses £1274 18s. 9d. (Bro. Binckes puts them at £1159 10s. 10d.), but even by their own reckoning their statement that the average is £10 11s. 11d. is absolutely incorrect. If £1274 18s. 9d. is divided by 156, the product will be £8 3s., and a few fractions per head. We invite the attention of brethren in West Yorkshire to the subject, as it is a very serious blot on the calculations of the committee. The school salaries of the Commercial Travellers are £1317 8s. 10d., those of the Masonic Boys' School to the end of

1875, Bro. Binckes, £1286 2s. 8d. We may note here that the West Yorkshire Committee only deals with the accounts to the close of 1874, and, according to their report, the accounts for wages and education to the close of 1874, amounted to—Educational, £833 16s.; Wages, £521 1s., in all, £1354 17s. As regards food, the averages of the Royal Medical Benevolent, Clergy, Orphan, and British Orphan, amounted to £16 14s. per head, that of the Masonic Boys' to £12 11s. 9d. Is any further comparison needful? The truth is, the whole agitation is a personal one, and based on no reliable data of any kind whatever. The annual cost per school, as no one knows better than Bro. Gill, and many of the brethren who signed the Report, is no criterion as to the comparative cost. For this reason, that each school has to be judged by its own details of work, standard, and arrangement. In some schools the children, for instance, do not have meat daily. In this school or that school meat is only given three or four times a week, while the allowance of clothing is scantier than with us. It is idle for any one to say "we can educate at Sidcot for £33 19s.; or at Ackworth, £31 10s. 6d.; or Yorkshire Boys' School, £33; and, therefore, the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys is extravagantly managed, and must be reduced to their minimum." It is neither reasonable nor, in truth, Masonic so to argue! We apprehend that the question of comparative cost of the School has been often considered by the House Committee and the Quarterly Court, and that those best competent to form an opinion on the subject have long since carefully arranged the present scale of expenditure. Any life-governor can give notice of a committee to enquire into such a question, but from our experience of schools generally we do not fancy that in London much, if any, saving could be made. Bro. Gill fairly admitted that the proper course for the malcontents was to have gone originally to the Quarterly Court, and we hope that now it is admitted that there is no foundation for any of these statements or charges, this unseemly agitation and un-Masonic irritation may cease, and that our good friends in West Yorkshire will return to their normal condition of activity and zeal, of kind feeling and brotherly love, of geniality and goodwill, of constitutional progress, and of Masonic feeling. Of their earnestness and energy we are all aware, as well as of their many good qualities, and we have been much grieved to have seen them led into the "Caudine Forks" of a hopeless cause, and of unavoidable defeat. It is a most serious thing to lower West Yorkshire in the good opinion of the other provinces, and, above all, to weaken or take away the normal and well-earned character of our good West Yorkshire brethren for sobriety of mind and common sense, for Masonic fairness and fraternal good feeling, for all the graces, in fact, of the true Craftsman's character.

#### 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.]

#### REGALIA.

To the Editor of The Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I regret that while the question of "Master Masons' Jewels" was recently passing through your columns I had not an opportunity of making one or two remarks thereon, but I take this as a fitting place, though under a more general head.

I agree with "A Past Master" (Feb. 26th) that "the compasses and square only" belong absolutely to Past D.G.M.'s—*vide* Constitutions, page 119. The "five-pointed star" I take to be in accordance with Article 2, page 118, and because it is not otherwise specially appropriated.

There are, however, other points at issue on the Regalia question. How is it that (say) ninety-nine out of every hundred Past Masters wear a gold or gilt jewel when the Constitutions distinctly say it shall be in silver?—(*vide* pages 121 and 122)—"except," it goes on to say, "in the Lodge of Antiquity, No. 2, and the British Lodge, No. 8, which are golden or gilt." Why don't these two lodges look after their privileges? This is really an important point and worth following up. I would make a passing remark that although a neat, artistic, and symbolical design is provided for a Past Master's jewel—(*vide* plate 12)—is it not strange that so very many brethren should disport themselves in over-ornamented and tawdry specimens of "Brummagem."

Page 125 says that the "three several sets of two right angles" worn by W.M.'s and P.M.'s in place of the three rosettes on the M.M.'s apron shall be of ribbon "of same colour as the lining and edging of the apron." Then how is it so very many W.M.'s and P.M.'s wear those emblems in silver instead of blue ribbon?

Are not the answers to these questions to be found in the old tale—general ignorance of that most concise yet comprehensive Book of Constitutions; but when we find so many Past Masters violating the rules they pledged themselves to support there should be a little allowance made to young M.M.'s seeking to decorate themselves. In conclusion, I would venture to recommend both classes to read up this subject (there are only 8 pages); those who have read it may benefit by re-perusing it; there are pearls to be found for those who pride themselves on being quite "au fait," as on page 124 it says that "officers and past officers of lodges may have the emblems of their offices in silver or white in the centre of the apron;" such is, to my taste, an improvement, for it fills up what otherwise appears a meaningless blank.

Fraternally yours,

"AD REM."

#### MEMBERSHIP OF A PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

To the Editor of The Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In answer to Brother T. F., we will find by reference to the Book of Constitutions that "the actual and Past Provincial Grand Officers, whilst they remain subscribing members to a lodge in the province, with the actual Provincial Grand Stewards, and the Masters, Past Masters, and Wardens of all lodges within the province, are members of the Provincial Grand Lodge."

Brother T. F. is anxious to know by what right, law, or constitution a Mason not qualified as before-mentioned can be appointed to an office in a Provincial Grand Lodge?

The right for the Provincial Grand Master to appoint a brother not officially a member of the Prov. G. L., owing to his being neither a Master, Past Master, nor Warden of a lodge in the province (though a contributing Master Mason therein), is conferred by the Book of Constitutions.

All officers of a Provincial Grand Lodge (as also of the Grand Lodge) below that of Provincial Grand Deacon may be filled by Master Masons who are eligible by reason of contributing to a lodge in the province, hence the Provincial Grand Master may appoint such brethren accordingly, and thus constitute those members of the Prov. G. Lodge who were not officially so before. It is plain also by the reading of the law on the subject, that Provincial Chaplains, Treasurers, Registrars and Secretaries may be selected from contributing Master Masons, and I believe are so appointed or elected in small provinces frequently, though the fewer officers elected by such means the better. In large provinces it is usual to select the provincial officers from Masters and Past Masters only, some also making it the rule for brethren to serve as Provincial Grand Stewards prior to being appointed to the "purple."

The judicious use of such a privilege by the Provincial Grand Master, by conferring honours when deserved, and only then, is often the means of stimulating worthy Masons to continue their services for the welfare of the Order, but the raising to the "purple" of the drones and Masonic shams in a province is an abuse of the office.

WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN.

#### MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

To the Editor of The Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Am I right in assuming that officers of private lodges in visiting other lodges, as well as Grand Lodge, cannot be considered properly clothed unless wearing their collar and jewel of office?

I take my ground on the first section in the Book of Constitutions, under the head of Regalia.

I remain, yours fraternally,

STIGLIUM.

#### MASONIC PREFIXES.

To the Editor of The Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

The last paragraph of my communication respecting Masonic Prefixes is unfortunately spoilt in the "Freemason" by the omission of the word not between are and entitled. To complete the letter as intended I will again write it.

1. Provincial Officers, not Present or Past Masters, are not entitled to the prefix Worshipful. All Provincial Grand Officers (being actual or Past Masters), excepting the Provincial Grand Master, are to be styled Worshipful.

2. The Provincial Grand Master being designated Right Worshipful.

3. Grand Officers below the rank of Grand Secretary are to be styled Worshipful.

4. Grand Officers below the rank of Grand Warden and above the rank of Grand Deacon are entitled to the prefix Veryj Worshipful, and such officers only.

5. Deputy Grand Master and Pro Grand Master are to be styled Most Worshipful.

These particulars, obtained from the circular issued by the authority of the M.W.G.M. (the lamented Earl of Zetland), are more fully noted in my communication in last week's "Freemason," and as that letter is the only official guide issued for Masonic prefixes it should be carefully studied by all concerned.

I may also state that the titles as above are those invariably used to designate the Grand Officers in all the Quarterly Communications from 1813 according to my examination of the whole series.

These prefixes are to be observed either in Provincial

Grand Lodge or elsewhere and are the only and constant designations of such officers, and in order that uniformity may be observed and every brother be styled according to the authority mentioned it is desirable when another such communication is printed that copies be sent to the Worshipful Masters of lodges as well as to the Provincial Grand Master as formerly. I confess to have formerly had a different opinion on the subject until the circular in question was kindly lent me for perusal, and doubtless others have been misled the same way, for it is unfortunate that the Book of Constitutions is not fully explicit on the matter.

Yours fraternally,

WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Our brother "W. Master" will find an answer to his query in the quarterly communications of the Grand Lodge, and especially in the official report of the Grand Festival held at the Royal Albert Hall, 28th April, 1875. The Rt Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon is therein described as M.W. Pro Grand Master, and rightly so, as the Pro Grand Master enjoys similar privileges to the Grand Master, just as the Deputy (or Pro) Master of a lodge has the same position in the Craft as the Master, when the latter is one of the Royal Family.

Reciprocating "W. Master's" kind wishes,

Yours fraternally,

WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN.

Truro, 17th April, 1876.

#### PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF EAST LANCASHIRE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In your report of the meeting of the above chapter at Bury there are several inaccuracies, viz. :—

The Prov. G. Sword Bearer should be "Sallon," not "Salton." The Prov. G. Director of Ceremonies should be "J. H. Sillitoe," not "Sidall." The sum granted to the East Lancashire Systematic Benevolent Society should be £50, not £59.

Yours fraternally,

P. Z.

Manchester, 15th April, 1876.

#### AFTER-DINNER PROMISES.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In your report of the installation meeting of the Lion and Lamb Lodge in the "Freemason" of January, the 15th, I read as follows :—

"The W.M. then proceeded to propose 'The Masonic Charities,' and spoke of the endeavours needed to place the son of the late Past Master 'Trott in the School, this being the only occasion upon which the boy could stand for election."

Bro. Binckes, in his response to the toast, speaks as follows :—

"And then, with regard to the candidature of their late Past Master's son, he warned them that they would require 2000 votes to warrant them in looking for success."

Further on we read that certain brethren then promised their votes for the boy.

Meantime we were gathering our strength, and applied to one of the brethren for the promised votes, when judge our surprise at receiving a reply written on a post card as follows :—

"I can't conceive the possibility of getting a child in on a first application. I am most earnestly pressed to support the 5th application of Gardner." As you are aware, sir, we did succeed in electing our boy; in fact, he was third on the list, with 1062 votes, and that without the promised help. So much for their scepticism, as well as for the value of after-dinner promises.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

A PAST MASTER OF 192.

#### BY-LAWS OR BYE-LAWS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

As you published a letter on the subject of the correct spelling of the above a few weeks ago, I would point out to you that in the Constitutions as published in 1815 under the authority of the United Grand Lodge by William Williams, Esq., Prov. Grand Master for Dorset, the words are by-laws, and the same spelling exists in the edition of the Constitutions published in 1873.

Ne Varietur should be our motto in this matter also.

Yours fraternally,

A Prov. G. Sec.

[The fact is as our correspondent states. But we think a great deal may be said for *Bye*.—Ed.]

#### MASONIC PROGRESS IN GALASHIELS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In Scotland Masonic progress is slow but sure. We are not an enthusiastic people, still, in our Masonic lodges I believe there is as much warmth of affection and brotherly love as in any other country.

The Freemasons of Galashiels, St. John's Lodge, No. 262, having long felt the want of a hall of their own have resolved to supply that want. They have formed themselves into a limited liability company, but as they are neither rich nor numerous brethren at a distance would render us a great favour by taking tickets for our Grand Prize Drawing.

The foundation-stone of our new Masonic Hall is to be laid by Bro. Henry Inglis, Esq., of Torsoyce, Provincial Grand Master of Peebles and Selkirkshire, assisted by deputations from Grand Lodge of Scotland as per enclosed circular, which perhaps you will copy on Friday 12th of

May. It is expected to be the largest Masonic demonstration that ever took place in the south of Scotland, and it would be a great pleasure to the brethren of this lodge to have deputations from some of the English lodges.

I am, yours fraternally,

ADAM JOHNSON, R.W.M. Lodge 262.

#### CONSECRATION OF THE SKELMERSDALE LODGE. NO. 1599.

This new lodge was consecrated on Friday, the 7th inst., at Mason's hall, Mason's Avenue, Basinghall-street, by Bro. James Terry, P.M., 228, 1278, 1366, Prov. G.D.C. Herts, and Secretary of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, who was assisted by Bros. John Hervey, G.S., as S.W.; H. G. Buss, Grand Treas., Middlesex, as J.W.; Hill, S.W. Highgate Lodge, as D.C.; Lucking, P.P.A.G.D.C., Essex, as I.G.; and W. H. Lee, P.M. 1524, as Sec. The musical brethren who also assisted were Bros. F. H. Cozens, Theodore Distin, and Seymour Smith, under the direction of Bro. Cozens. The lodge was attended by about forty brethren, among whom were John Bingemann, P.M. 55; F. Newcombe, 77; W. S. Killeter, 77; George Regan, 55; S. Steed, 177; W. M. Snelling, 180; W. Perrin, 1056; J. W. Skelton, 1056; F. W. Melnish, 55; A. Lucking, P.M. 166 and 1056; E. Miroy, 55; J. L. Heymans, 22; T. B. Linscott, 55; E. Driver, I.P.M. 45; Alex. Pilbeam, W.M. 45; J. J. Defriez, S.W. 45; G. Laker, 55; Alfred Sargant, 55; E. Abell, 55; C. A. Woods, 145; J. R. Foulger, P.M. 177; John H. R. Buckets, 55; W. T. Howe, G.P. Middlesex; G. Saul, 1201; W. H. Marston, 55; H. Roberts, 55; Richard Stanway, 1426; and C. B. Payne, G. Tyler.

The lodge having been opened by Bro. Terry, assisted by the other brethren, was afterwards in due form consecrated, Bro. Terry delivering the oration on the nature and principles of Freemasonry, which was heartily cheered at its conclusion. The ceremony of consecration was most beautifully and fluently performed, and it was rendered the more agreeable by a nice musical accompaniment, under the direction of Bro. Fred. H. Cozens, by Bros. J. W. Simons, Seymour Smith, and Theodore Distin. When the ceremony of consecration was completed,

Bro. Hill, acting D.C., presented Bro. John Bingemann, P.M. 55, W.M. designate, to Bro. Terry, for installation, which ceremony was afterwards ably performed by Bro. Terry.

The officers appointed and invested were Bros. W. Henry Marston, S.W., and Bro. George Laker, J.W. Bro. Henry Roberts, No. 55, was then unanimously elected Treasurer, and was invested as such by the W.M. Bro. W. H. Lee was invested as Secretary; Bros. Abell, S.D.; Sargant, J.D.; Miroy, I.G.; and Rawles, Tyler. Bro. Terry then delivered the addresses. The Secretary afterwards read letters of regret for absence from Lord Skelmersdale, Sir Albert W. Woods (Garter), and the Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C. On the motion of the W.M., seconded by the S.W., a vote of thanks was passed to Lord Skelmersdale for granting the use of his coat of arms for the purposes of the lodge; also on the motion of the W.M., seconded by the S.W.; Lord Skelmersdale was elected the first honorary member of the lodge.

On the motion of the W.M., seconded by the S.W., a vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Terry for consecrating the lodge, and to Bros. Hervey, Buss, Hill, and Lucking for assisting him in the ceremony. Bros. Terry, Hervey, and Buss were then elected honorary members of the lodge, on the motion of the W.M., seconded by the S.W., and Bro. Terry responded for the compliments on behalf of himself and the other brethren. A long list of gentlemen as candidates for initiation and brethren for joining was afterwards read by the Secretary.

Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet, provided by the new management of Masons' Hall Tavern. The usual toasts followed. In proposing "The Health of Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers," the W.M. referred to his lordship's presidency at the last festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, when no less a sum than £9200 was subscribed for the aged Freemasons and widows of Freemasons. Bro. John Hervey, Grand Secretary, responded, and after referring to the able discharge of the Grand Master's duties in his absence by Lord Carnarvon and Lord Skelmersdale, said that it was well known that the other Grand Officers endeavoured to do their duty ably. He himself knew this from personal observation, and whether in the highest position or the lowest he could testify to their ability. He knew perfectly well that Bro. Payne, who was present, did his duty. He could vouch for him in the most confident manner; would that he (Bro. Hervey) could do as much for himself. At least he could say he endeavoured to do it, and if he had succeeded to some extent, as he hoped he had, and from the manner in which he had been received that evening he did not doubt he had—at any rate he passed muster, and he was satisfied. Referring to the ceremony of the evening, it had given him great pleasure to be present, and though he was not going to take the wind out of another brother's sails he could not refrain from congratulating the brethren on having the ceremony of consecration so splendidly performed as it had been by Bro. Terry. The W.M. had also discharged his duties in a style which filled the brethren with confidence that he had in him all the elements which would make him succeed. (Hear, hear.) He trusted that the lodge would have a great future. He himself had some interest in it, inasmuch as the brethren had been kind enough to elect him an honorary member. He felt therefore that he had a great interest in it, as he also had in other lodges which had passed a similar compliment on him. Without exception all the lodges where he had assisted at the consecration had succeeded, some to a marvellous extent.

There was one, the Prince Leopold, No. 1445 over which Bro. Howe, who was present, two or three years ago presided, which had proved a great success, and which had in it all the germs of a great success in the future. The Great City, No. 1426, he need scarcely allude to, because it had made itself prominent in the City, and did not require an exponent of its principles. He would not refer to its bread and cheese. (Laughter.) All he could say was, that whenever he had been there there had been splendid banquets, and a large assemblage of friends around the table, who had been most cordially and hospitably received. (Cheers.) If the Great City Lodge had refrained from giving large banquets, it had succeeded in one of its principles—charity. No doubt Masons would do well to restrict their banquets somewhat, and they would have the more means of supporting the institutions. However, he had no doubt that the Skelmersdale Lodge would be fully equal to the support of the great institutions. (Cheers.)

Bro. James Terry proposed "The Health of the W.M." Prefacing his remarks by a reference to the name of the lodge, he took the opportunity of saying how largely and how justly Lord Skelmersdale was estimated in his own Province of East Lancashire. This was the first time a lodge in the metropolis had been named after his lordship, and he (Bro. Terry) was glad to see that his friend, Bro. Bingemann, was its first W.M. Every one who knew Bro. Bingemann knew how well he had performed his duties as Master elsewhere. He was a fit Master of a lodge named after such a Freemason as Lord Skelmersdale, a nobleman who had proved himself such an able president at a festival, who was a polished gentleman, an illustrious statesman, and a thorough-going Englishman. He (Bro. Terry) was especially pleased that such a name had been given to the lodge, and that his lordship had given permission for his coat of arms to be used on the banner of the lodge. The great fame, the honour, and the reputation of the D.G.M. of England might now be considered in the keeping of the W.M., and he had no doubt it would be perfectly safe. (Cheers.)

Bro. Bingemann, in reply, said the lodge had conferred on him a high honour by entrusting him with the first Mastership of the lodge. He would endeavour to bring it to a state of great prosperity. If he could only have the assistance of the brethren he had no doubt of being able to succeed.

Bro. Pilbeam replied as the Master of the lodge who had signed the petition for the warrant, and said how cheerfully he acceded to the wish of Bro. Bingemann in that respect.

The W.M. proposed "The Health of Bro. Terry, he Consecrating Officer," and said he was sure the brethren must have been as thoroughly delighted as he was with the explicit and genial way in which Bro. Terry performed his duties. It was something beautiful to hear. (Cheers.)

Bro. Terry, who was received with great applause, in reply, said how readily he accepted the invitation to consecrate the lodge when he knew of what materials it was to be composed, and that it was to be named after a noble lord who had done him such excellent service by taking the chair at the last festival of the institution of which he had the honour to be Secretary. He then referred to the ready way in which his institution was supported, and the liberal subscriptions which were paid to it. He had no doubt, from his knowledge of the W.M., that this lodge would also support it, and for any support it might extend to it he should always feel grateful. Bro. W. T. Howe, P.M. 1445, replied for "The Visitors," and the other toasts having been honoured the brethren separated.

#### CONSECRATION OF THE LEY SPRING LODGE, NO. 1598.

On the 15th inst. Bro. Terry, P.M. 1278 and P.G.D.C. Herts, assisted by Bro. C. G. Hill, S.W. 1366, consecrated at the Red Lion Hotel, Leytonstone, the Ley Spring Lodge, No. 1598, after which Bro. Barford, P.M. 55 and 1228, proceeded in the most able manner to instal Bro. P. A. Branchi as first W.M.

The officers appointed were Bros. G. E. Walters, S.W.; J. Buscoll, J.W.; J. W. Roberts, Sec.; R. Hogg, S.D.; W. Allen, J.D.; L. Lewis, I.G.; T. Varley, D.C.; S. Pott, Tyler.

The usual charges were then given, and the customary congratulation made.

It was proposed and seconded and unanimously carried that Bro. Terry should become an honorary member of the lodge.

Bro. Terry in reply assured the W.M. of the pleasure it had given him to consecrate the Ley Spring Lodge, and expressed his wishes for its future prosperity.

After a short interval the brethren sat down to an excellent repast provided in Bro. Barford's usual recherche style, the W.M. presided, and upon the removal of the cloth gave the toast of "H.M. the Queen," and referred to the pleasure which the whole of the Craft must feel at the early return of the M.W.G.M.

Bro. Terry then proposed "The Health of the W.M.," and passed some very high eulogiums upon the working capabilities of the officers; the toast was honoured in a most hearty manner.

The W.M. said he had to thank Bro. Terry for proposing his health and the brethren for the hearty way in which they had responded to it, and assured them of his conviction that the brethren whom he had appointed to office would give him that assistance that would enable him to carry out the duties of the chair in such a manner as would do great credit to the lodge. We would remark that great praise is due to the founders of this lodge, more especially to the indefatigable exertions of the S.W., who ever since the idea was formed of starting a new lodge has not left a stone unturned to make it a success.

"The Health of the Officers and Visitors" was given and duly responded to, and the Tyler's toast concluded a most enjoyable evening.

Bro. Lewis Warley rendered some excellent singing, Bro. Young accompanying upon the piano.

Visitors: T. Barford, P.M. 1228 and 55; W. H. Myers, P.M. 820, W.M. 1445; T. Y. Latreille, P.M. 1056; W. Mundy, P.M. 1228; W. A. Tharp, P.M. 1228; P. Edinger, W.M. 95; W. T. Christian, J.D. 1278; G. C. Young, Org. 820; G. Blackie, 1426; J. Taylor, 298; W. C. Claridge, 1420; C. Vile, 49; F. H. Varley, 33; T. Corbett, 143; W. Bailey, 49.

The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. G. C. Young, Org. 820 and 1445.

CONSECRATION OF THE HAMILTON LODGE, No. 1600.

This always interesting ceremony was performed at Alford on Thursday, 30th ult., by Bro. W. H. Smyth, of Elkington Hall, near Louth, W.D.P.G.M. of Lincolnshire, assisted by a few P.G. Officers.

Although Alford is one of the smallest towns in Lincolnshire (the population at the last census in 1871 being only 2881) the desirability of having a lodge there had long been felt by the brethren residing in the neighbourhood, and a small but energetic band having lately put their shoulders to the wheel, the result has been the engagement on lease of a convenient private room, advantageously situated in the very heart of the town, and the formation of the above-named lodge.

W. Bro. W. H. Smyth, D.P.G.M., having taken the chair, appointed Bros. C. M. Nesbitt, P.G. Treas., as S.W.; Jas. Fowler, P.P.G.S.W., as J.W.; W. Bro. A. Richdale, W.M. 426, as S. of W.; Bro. E. Locock, P.P.G.S.W., as Chaplain, in the absence of Bro. Rev. J. C. K. Saunders, P.G.C., who almost at the last moment telegraphed to say he could not be present.

Bro. Marsden, P.G. Sec., having read the petition and warrant from the Grand Lodge of England, the constitution and dedication of the lodge was proceeded with, concluding with a congratulatory address from W. Bro. Smyth, D.P.G.M., who mentioned among other matters that since his appointment to the office of D.P.G.M. in 1864 he had taken part in the consecration of no less than nine lodges, the number of which in the province had now just doubled, while the subscribing members had considerably more than doubled since the installation of the present P.G.M., His Grace the Duke of St. Albans.

The lodge having been reduced, the installation of Bro. Charles Smyth, P.P.G.Pt., as first W.M., was then proceeded with, the D.P.G.M. acting as Installing Master. The W.M., having been duly placed in the chair of K.S. according to ancient custom, invested the following officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. R. Garfit, S.W.; F. Higgins, J.W. and Treas.; T. C. Johnson, S.D. and Sec.; A. Veitch, J.D.; J. S. Cooke, I.G.; and Lewis, Tyler.

Hearty good wishes for the prosperity of the lodge having been given from members of the following lodges—Old Globe, 200; Shakespeare, 426; Lindsey, 712; Denison, 1248—W. Bro. W. H. Smyth, D.P.G.M., was proposed as an honorary member of the lodge, which compliment he suitably acknowledged.

Bro. Nesbitt, 712, P.G. Treas., was also proposed as a joining member.

Six gentlemen of Alford and neighbourhood having been proposed for initiation at the following lodge night, the lodge was closed and the brethren adjourned to an invitation banquet at the Windmill Hotel, served by Bro. Smith, at which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

ADDRESSES TO OUR ROYAL GRAND MASTER.

The one presented by the Chamber of Commerce of Malta was as follows:—

(Translation from the Italian).

"To his Royal Highness Albert Edward, Prince of Wales on the auspicious occasion of his arrival in Malta, April 6, 1876.

"From the Chamber of Commerce.

"Your Royal Highness,—To Malta, this small and sequestered island, has fallen the singular good fortune of being the first in Europe to welcome your Royal Highness on your return from the long and arduous but triumphant journey just completed in the far East among vast populations, the willing subjects of that great Queen whom they are now joyfully hailing as their Empress.

"The Chamber of Commerce of this diminutive, but not unworthy, gem of the Crown encircling the august brow of your Highness's Royal parent has already twice had the honour of tendering its respectful homage to your royal Highness, first on the occasion of the previous visit which you deigned to make to this island, and next when offering the expression of its heartfelt joy on your marriage with the august Princess who so happily shares your life.

"And to-day the Chamber of Commerce again presents itself to assure your Royal Highness of its gladness on once more beholding you treading these shores, where the loyal population will ever be foremost in its feelings of affectionate attachment towards the great Sovereign of the vast Empire which governs the seas, towards your Royal Highness personally, and towards your gracious consort and the whole Royal Family.

"The mercantile community of Malta, proud of the English flag that protects them, desire, through their chosen representatives, to express their earnest satisfaction on the arrival of your Royal Highness from India, and their fervent hope that you will be restored in perfect health to your Royal family, and to that great nation which is so eagerly awaiting your return to the land of your birth.

"Chamber of Commerce, Malta, April, 1876." The following address was read to the Prince of Wales: by the leader of the elected members of the Legislative

Council, the Hon. Cachia Zammit, on His Royal Highness landing on the shores of Malta:—  
"To His Royal Highness Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, &c.

"May it please your Royal Highness,—We, the elected members of the Council of Government, on behalf of the inhabitants of these islands, whom we have the honour to represent, deem it our bounden duty to be the first to greet your Royal Highness with a hearty welcome. We recognize in this third visit of your Royal Highness to these shores that unceasing interest which Her Gracious Majesty the Queen has always felt in the welfare of her faithful Maltese subjects; and we beg to express to your Royal Highness the earnest assurance of our deep attachment and unabated allegiance to Her Majesty our beloved Queen and her Royal house. Since the connection of these islands with Great Britain the loyalty and devotion of the Maltese to the British Throne have never for one instant wavered, and we feel confident that the advent of the heir of our Gracious Sovereign to our country will bind more closely the ties which happily unite these islands to the British Crown.

"Amid the universal rejoicings we regret the absence of Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, whom the people of Malta would have welcomed with hearty enthusiasm, which her presence invariably excites in the United Kingdom.

"With sincere wishes for the happiness and prosperity of Her Majesty, your Royal Highness, and the Royal Family, we beg to remain your Royal Highness's most loyal and most faithful servants."

His Royal Highness replied as follows:—

"I thank you for the address you have presented to me on behalf of the inhabitants of Malta and Gozo on my return from my long and interesting tour in India. This island has many agreeable recollections and associations for me, and I rejoice that it should be the first spot at which I touch on my arrival in Europe. I will not fail to convey to the Queen your expressions of devotion and attachment to her Throne and Government. I can assure you that the loyalty which has been displayed on various occasions to the British Crown by the inhabitants of these islands is neither forgotten nor unappreciated by Her Majesty. The Princess of Wales will be much touched by the kind terms in which you have alluded to her, and had circumstances permitted it she would, I think, have experienced a lively pleasure in being present here with me to-day."

Masonic Festivities.

The last social gathering of the season in connection with the Lodge of Truth, 521, Huddersfield, took place on Thursday, March 30th. The proceedings commenced with a short Operetta, entitled the "Sleeping Queen," written by H. B. Farnie, Esq., the music by M. W. Balfe.

The scene is at the Court of Leon in the 16th century, where the Regent is trying to promote a matrimonial alliance between the King of Arragon and the Queen of Leon; but the Queen is secretly in love with Phillippe D' Aguilar, who has just arrived from France with a letter of recommendation to Donna Agnes, a lady of honour. Donna Agnes intercedes for Don Phillippe with the Regent, who is in love with the lady of honour. The Regent at first refuses, as Don Phillippe is the son of a former foe and rival whom he exiled, but at last consents to grant any request preferred by the bearer of a knot of ribbon from Donna Agnes. Don Phillippe in an interview with Donna Agnes relates how he loves a lady whose life he saved about a year ago near Paris whilst out hunting, and how he recognised in the Queen the lady he loved, but who, on his attempting to speak with her, turned round and asked one of her attendants, "What is that person?" Crest-fallen at this seeming fickleness, he announces his determination to leave the Court, and Donna Agnes gives him the knot of ribbon, assuring him if he shews it to the Regent he will get a commission in the army. This turns out to be correct, but the Regent, jealous that he is a lover of Donna Agnes, orders him to a regiment then fighting the Moors. On taking his farewell Don Phillippe discovers the Queen asleep, kisses her, and rises just as the Regent and Donna Agnes enter. He delivers his sword to the Regent and is arrested, as by the laws of Leon "any one touching the sacred person of the Queen must suffer death." The Queen to prevent this catastrophe personates Donna Agnes in an interview with the Regent, until he also kisses her, when the Regent thinking himself lost, finds that the law further say "and no one can pardon except the Queen's husband." The Queen thereupon announces her intention to marry Don Phillippe, which ends the difficulty.

The several parts were excellently rendered, and gave universal satisfaction to the ladies and brethren, who availed themselves of the opportunity of witnessing the abilities of those who so kindly volunteered their services. Dancing commenced about half-past nine and was kept up until early in the morning. Refreshments were provided by the purveyors of the lodge. When the time for retiring arrived the universal exclamation was how much every one had enjoyed themselves. Bro. Varley, P.M., along with Bro. J. Jackson, W.M., are deserving of the thanks of all present for introducing the new feature of an Operetta, and we trust next season when the social gatherings are commenced that they will again favour the guests with similar entertainments. The musical arrangements were conducted by Bros. Joshua Marshall, and J. Wood, P.M.'s, and were simply perfection. In conclusion let us wish success to the next social gathering at Lodge Truth, 521.

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

Rebiews.

WELCOME HOME POLKA, Composed by W. SMALLWOOD—A. Williams, Paternoster Row, with a coloured portrait of the Prince of Wales.

We have received two very interesting "morceaux" of music. The one is a spirited polka, composed by W. Smallwood, and which we commend to the notice of our fair sisters. We shall hope that it may be patronized just now by that always loyal portion of our community.

The other is a "Festival Cantata," selected from Psalms cxxi. and cxxv.—"Praise to the Great Architect of the Universe," by Bro. T. Brooks, Org. 1358. Such compositions are very useful and very valuable, inasmuch as they can be seasonably introduced into many of our Masonic ceremonies. We commend Bro. Brooks's Cantata to the notice and support of the Craft.

AMERICAN NOTES.

MASONIC CENTENNIAL.—The One Hundredth Anniversary of American Union Lodge, No. 1, will be held on St. John's Day, June 24th, 1876, at Marietta, Ohio. This, the oldest Masonic lodge in the West, was originally constituted at Roxbury, in the State of Massachusetts, on the 20th day of February, 1776, the charter having been issued on the 15th, during the memorable struggle of the American Colonies for their independence, was worked in the Patriot Army, and visited by General George Washington and his Masonic brethren, who were holding offices in that army. Many other eminent men have since that time filled its various offices, among them General Rufus Putnam, the first Grand Master of Ohio, Gov. Return J. Meigs, and Gen. Lewis Cass. S. L. Hayden, in his work entitled "Washington and his Masonic Compeers," says: "American Union Lodge is the oldest daughter of the American Revolution," and undoubtedly the idea of the American Union was first developed by the organization of this lodge, as its name indicates—the colonies of America not having formed a union at that time, as the compact was declared first on July 4th, 1776, several months afterwards. An interesting sketch of the history of American Union Lodge is given in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, for 1875.

SEVENTY-SIX YEARS A MASON.—Bro. Peter Hammond, now residing at Geneseo, Henry county, Illinois, is one of the oldest Masons, as well as one of the oldest men, now living. He was born at Newton, Massachusetts, April 9th, 1776, consequently next April will be one hundred years old. His father, Samuel Hammond, was one of the old patriots who got up a lively tea party on board an English vessel in Boston harbour at the commencement of the Revolutionary war. He emigrated with his wife from Newton to Wardsboro, Windham county, Vermont, among the early settlers there, where he died December, 1842, aged ninety-four years. At the time they emigrated to Vermont, they left their eldest son, Peter, with his grand parents, where he remained until his mother made the journey on horseback after him, and took him back to their new home, a distance of one hundred and twenty-five miles, much of the way through the wilderness, the boy walking the whole distance. Here, on the eastern slope of the Green Mountains, he grew up to man's estate and became an honoured citizen. By industry and economy he acquired considerable wealth in early life. In the fall of 1799, being then twenty-three years old, Bro. Hammond took his first degree in Masonry. He subsequently became Worshipful Master of Mount Moriah Lodge, at Wardsboro, which position he held for a number of years, until the Morgan excitement, when the lodge voted to surrender its charter, much against his wishes. He yet retains the Master's jewel, which is now a precious jewel to him, and still takes a lively interest in Masonry, even now occasionally attending lodge meetings. His present health and strength indicate that he will not only live to celebrate his centennial year, but may add several more to it. So mote it be.—"Masonic Advocate."

THE FREEMASONS AND BURNS.—Amongst the recent celebrations of the birth-day of Burns, I am glad to see that the Freemasons of the St. James's Lodge at Tarbolton have not neglected to do honour to the memory of the poet who has enriched Masonic literature with one of its really good songs; the major part of the others being arrant rubbish, whether viewed as literary productions or as expositions of the glorious principles of the Craft. Whether Tarbolton be the burial-place of "auld King Coil" or not (and it has tradition for its green mound in its favour), Burns has made his connection with its Masonic lodge world-famous by his touching "Farewell to the Brethren of the St. James's Lodge, Tarbolton," written when want and persecution were about to drive him from his native land, which eternal disgrace to Scotland was saved through Masonry alone, as to that he owed his introduction to the Edinburgh literati. Let my readers, whether brother Masons or otherwise, take down their copy of Burns' poems, and read once more the beautiful verses I have alluded to, and they will feel all the better for having done so. Not only was the "one round" asked for "with a tear" by the bard to be given annually to his memory duly accorded by his "dear brothers of the mystic tie," in the very lodge where he had so oft not only "spent the festive night," but also "presided o'er the sons of light;" but several of his best songs were sung, the famous "Farewell" being appropriately included, and, as I learn from the "Freemason," "the jewel worn by the poet and other relics had a conspicuous place assigned them." I mention that Thom, the sculptor of the statues illustrative of "Tam o'Shanter and Souter Johnny," on the Burns' Monument at Alloway, was born in the parish of Tarbolton; and his name, like that of the poet, is "to Masonry and Scotia dear."—Bro. George Markham Tweddell, in the Archæo logist.

### LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

The monthly meeting of the Lodge of Benevolence was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall; Bros. John M. Clabon, President; Joshua Nunn, Senior Vice President; James Brett, Junior Vice President being in their places. The following brethren were also present:—H. Bartlett, P.M. 147; Joseph Smith, P.G.P.; C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P.; Hyde Pullen, P.G.S.B.; Griffiths Smith, P.M. 21; William Stephens, P.M.; C. F. Hogard, P.M.; Samuel May, James Mason, P.G.S.B.; Herbert Dicketts, P.M.; John Boyd, P.G.P.; Benj. Head, P.G.S.D.; Wm. Hy. Myers, P.M.; John Hervey, G.S.; H. G. Buss, A. A. Pendlebury, B. H. Swallow, W.M. City of Westminster; Charles H. Driver, P.M.; Samuel Pardoe, P.M. 511; H. T. Thompson, P.M. 742; F. H. Ebsworth, P.M. 73; F. W. Chittenden, W.M. 548; Thos. Kingston, W.M. 862; George Bird Gates, W.M. 829; J. H. Younghusband, P.M. 221; G. Rosh, W.M. 534; J. R. Foulger, P.M. 177; H. W. Hemsworth, P.M. 1193; C. P. Cobham, W.M. 957; Alex. Pilbeam, W.M. 45; Jesse Turner, P.M. 30; J. J. Berry, W.M. 534; A. R. Wade, P.M. 1442; George Brooks, W.M. 902; Lionel Jacobs, W.M. 205; J. Pringle, W.M. 766; Joseph J. Nelson, W.M. 539; W. J. Muris, W.M. 1489; J. H. Watts, W.M. 1201; W. Stuart, P.M. 179; W. R. Marsh, P.M. 9; Howard Williams, W.M. 905; W. W. Baxter, W.M. 742; B. H. Mallam, W.M. 1563; H. G. Goodall, W.M. 784; J. Lightfoot, P.M. 147; John Green, 27; J. R. Gallant, W.M. 813; J. Smith, P.M. 913; Karl Bergmann, W.M. 238; H. Massey, P.M. 619 ("Freemason"); G. W. F. Loftus, P.M. 1193; H. M. Levy, P.M. 188.

Grants to the extent of £320, out of the total grants made at the former sitting, were first confirmed, and the brethren then proceeded with the new cases. Of these there were 33, which were disposed of as follows:—8 deferred; 1 received £100; 2, £30 each; 7, £20 each; 5, £15 each; 6, £10 each; 3, £5 each; and 1 received £2. Many of the cases were those of widows. The lodge sat for three hours.

### METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, April 28, 1876.

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

### SATURDAY, APRIL 22.

Audit Com. Boys' School, at 3.  
Lodge 1293, Burdett, Mitre Hot., Hampton-court.  
LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.  
Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.  
Percy, 113, Southgate-rd., N.  
Manchester, 179, London-st., Fitzroy-square.  
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross Road.

### MONDAY, APRIL 24.

Annual Red Cross Ball.—See advt.  
Lodge 4, Royal Somerset House and Inverness.  
" 26, Castle of Harmony, Willis's Rooms.  
" 28, Old King's Arms, F.M.H.  
" 79, Pythagorean, Ship Hot., Greenwich.  
Chap. 188, Joppa, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.  
LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.  
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.  
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. 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.

### TUESDAY, APRIL 25.

Special Gen. Meeting R.M.B.I. at 3.—See advt.  
Audit Com. Girls' School at 4.  
Lodge 14, Tuscan, F.M.H.  
" 92, Moira, London Tav., Bishopsgate-st.  
" 141, Faith, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.  
" 145, Prudent Brethren, F.M.H.  
" 205, Israel, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.  
" 259, Prince of Wales, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.  
" 1158, Southern Star, Montpellier Tav., Walworth.  
" 1196, Urban, Old Jerusalem Tav., Clerkenwell.  
" 1348, Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank.  
Chap. 7, Royal York of Perseverance, F.M.H.

### LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.  
Domestic, Surey 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, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.  
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.  
Constitutional, Wheatsheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.  
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.  
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.  
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8.  
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.  
Ezelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26.

Grand Festival, F.M.H.—See advt.  
Lodge 212, Euphrates, M.H., Basinghall-st.  
" 507, United Pilgrims, Horns' Tav., Kennington.  
" 754, High Cross, Seven Sisters' Tav., Tottenham.  
" 898, Temperance-in-the-East, 6, Newby-pl., Poplar.  
" 1056, Victoria, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.

Lodge 1415, Campbell, Mitre Hot., Hampton-court.  
" 1523, St. Mary Magdalene, Star Hot., Greenwich.  
" 1540, Chaucer, Bridge House Hot., London-bridge.  
Chap. 753, Prince Frederick William, St. John's Wood.  
" 857, St. Marks, Surrey M.H.

### LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.  
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.  
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.  
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.  
Confidence, M.H., Basinghall-st.  
Peckham, Maimore 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 Edgumbe, 19, Jermyn-street, St. James's.  
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.

### THURSDAY, APRIL 27.

Gen. Com. Girls' School, at 4.  
Lodge 22, Neptune, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.  
" 65, Prosperity, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.  
" 66, Grenadiers', F.M.H.  
" 99, Shakespeare, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.  
" 858, South Middlesex, Beaufort Ho., Fulham.  
" 871, Royal Oak, White Swan, High-st., Deptford.  
Chap. 217, Stability, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.  
" 534, Polish National, F.M.H.

### LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.  
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.  
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.  
Whittington, Black Bull 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.  
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.

### FRIDAY, APRIL 28.

Anniversary Festival, Stability L. of I.—See advt.  
House Com. Boys' School, at 4.  
Lodge 197, Jerusalem, F.M.H.  
" 569, FitzRoy, Hd.-qtrs. Hon. Art. Co., City-rd.  
" 861, Finsbury, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.

### LODGES OF 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 Coutts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.  
Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.  
Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.  
Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.

### MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday April 29, 1876.

### MONDAY, APRIL 24.

Lodge 145, Lights, M.R., Warrington.  
Chap. 241, Friendship, M.H., Liverpool.

### TUESDAY, APRIL 25.

Lodge 1393, Hamer, 22, Everton-rd., Liverpool.  
Chap. 721, Grosvenor, M.R., Chester.  
" 823, Everton, M.H., Liverpool.  
Merchant's L. of I., Liverpool.

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26.

Lodge 2, St. George's, Adelphi Hot., Hot., Liverpool.  
" 220, Harmony, Garston Hot., Garston.  
" 724, Derby, M.H., Liverpool.  
" 1052, Callender, P.I.L., Rusholme.  
" 1356, De Grey and Ripon, M.H., Liverpool.  
Neptune L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

### THURSDAY, APRIL 27.

Lodge 594, Downshire, M.H., Liverpool.  
" 1313, Fermor, M.H., Southport.  
Chap. 216, Sacred Delta, M.H., Liverpool.  
" 1086, Walton, St. Lawrence's School.

### FRIDAY, APRIL 28.

Chap. 680, Sefton, M.H., Liverpool.

### MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, April 29, 1876.  
All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

### MONDAY, APRIL 24.

Lodge 102, St. Mark, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.  
" 103, Union & Crown, 170, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.  
" 187, St. John, Black Bull Inn, Carluke.  
" 219, Star, 12, Trongate, Glasgow.  
" 362, St. Clair, 25, Robertson-st., Glasgow.  
" 541, Marie Stuart, M.H., Crosshill.  
Chap. 122, Thetis, 35, St. James's-st., Kingston.

### TUESDAY, APRIL 25.

Lodge 413, Athole, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.  
" 543, St. John, M.H., Dalmuir.  
" 67, Cathedral, 22, Struthers-st., Glasgow.  
" 73, Caledonian of Unity, 170, Buchanan-st.

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26.

Lodge 505, Burns St. Mary, Commercial Inn, Hurlford.  
" 510, Maryhill, 167, Main-st., Maryhill.

### THURSDAY, APRIL 27.

Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow, 213, Buchanan-st.  
Lodge 290, Dalry Blair, White Hart H., Dalry.  
" 334, St. John's, Castle-inn, New Cumnock.  
" 570, Kenmuir, M.H., Springburn.  
Chap. 117, Govandale, Portland Buildings, Govan.

### FRIDAY, APRIL 28.

Lodge 51, Loudon Kilwinning, Black Bull, Newmilns  
" 118, St. Bride's, M.H., Douglas.  
" 125, St. James, Masons' Arms, Newton Ayr.  
" 153, Royal Arch, M.H., Pollokshaws.  
" 236, Wilsontown St. John, Forth Inn, Carnworth.  
" 347, St. John, M.H., Rutherglen.  
Chap. 79, Commercial, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.

### MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, April 29, 1876.

### MONDAY, APRIL 24.

Lodge 349, St. Clair, F.M.H., George-st.

### TUESDAY, APRIL 25.

Lodge 151, Defensive Band, Alexandra H., Cockburn-st.

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26.

Lodge 112, St. John, Royal Hot., Musselburgh.

### THURSDAY, APRIL 27.

Lodge 392, Caledonian, F.M.H., George-st.

### FRIDAY, APRIL 28.

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

## ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons,

In compliance with a requisition received in accordance with Rule 8, a SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of the Governors and Subscribers of the Institution will be held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, London, on TUESDAY, the 25th day of April, 1876, at Three o'clock in the afternoon precisely, to consider the propriety of altering Law 4, Page 12, of the rules and regulations by substituting the figures £40 for £36, and Law 4, Page 13, by substituting the figures £32 for £28, and further to consider any proposition or motion which may then be brought forward to carry into effect the proposed alterations.

(By order) JAMES TERRY,  
Secretary.  
Office, 4, Freemasons Hall, London, W.C.  
18th April, 1876.

## THE ANNUAL RED CROSS BALL

WILL BE GIVEN AT

WILLIS'S ROOMS, KING STREET, ST. JAMES'S.

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE GRAND COUNCIL.

By the Members of the Masonic and Military Orders of the Red Cross of Constantine, K.H.S., and Knights of St. John,

On Monday, April 24, 1876.

PRESIDENT,

COLONEL FRANCIS BURDETT,

M. Em. Grand Viceroy, and Deputy Grand Commander of St. John.

The surplus will be given to the Masonic Charities and to the Almoner's Fund of the Red Cross Order.

Coote and Tinney's Band, Conductor, Bro. Coote.  
Tickets, including Refreshments and Champagne Supper, Gentlemen's, 21s.; Ladies', 15s.; Double Ticket, 31s. 6d.  
Dancing to commence at Nine o'clock.

R. Wentworth Little, (Treas. Gen. and Knt. Grand Commander of St. John), Treasurer.

Henry A. Dubois, G.A. Treas. and Knt. Commander of St. John; and J. Musgrave Levick, Commander of St. John, Hon. Secs.

17, Great James-Street, Bedford-Row, W.C.

WELCOME HOME POLKA. — By W. SMALLWOOD, Composer of the celebrated Sea Shells Polka. Beautifully illustrated in colours, with life-like Portrait of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales in Masonic dress. "Welcome Home Quadrilles," by Arthur Henry Brown. Each 3s., post free 18 stamps.—London: B. Williams, 19, Paternoster-row.

A MASON of many years standing, owing to a run of misfortune is reduced to great distress, age 37, married, with family, appearance and address good, has plenty of push and tact. He will be most grateful to any brother for employment, not particular what some position of trust preferred. Address, M.M., Post Office, Sonning, Berks.