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## UNITED GRAND LODGE.

The Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge of English Freemasons was held on Wednesday evening, at Freemasons' Hall. The brethren began to assemble at a very early hour, even before the doors were opened, although that event always occurs an hour before the Grand Master takes the chair. It was evident that some excitement prevailed among the Craft, for the brethren mustered in large numbers, and completely filled the body of the hall. When the procession of Grand Officers, accompanying Lord Leigh, who was to preside, entered, the dais was the only portion of the hall unoccupied. An impression had prevailed that the Prince of Wales would be present, and this would account for the presence of many of the brethren. But the principal cause of the large gathering was the notices of motion on the agenda paper for the devoting £3000 to various objects as a thankoffering for the safe return of the Grand Master to England. A fortnight ago information was given in the daily press, as well as in the "Freemason," of an intention on the part of Bros. Havers and Simpson to move that three sums of £1000 each should be given to the restoration of St. Alban's Abbey, St. Paul's Cathedral, and in charity in India. Hence the large attendance.

Among the brethren present were Lord Leigh, Major Ramsay, District G.M. Punjab, D.G.M.; Earl of Donoughmore, G.S.W.; the Hon. W. Warren Vernon, G.J.W.; Sir H. Edwards, Earl of Shrewsbury, Lord Tenterden, Richard Giddy, the new District G.M. of Griqualand, South Africa; John Havers, Æ. J. McIntyre, Q.C., J. B. Monckton, John Hervey, Rev. Sir J. Warren Hayes, Rev. S. R. Wigram, Rev. C. J. Martyn, Rev. R. J. Simpson, Sir Michael Costa, H. D. Sandeman, Rev. C. W. Arnold, G.C.; Sir F. M. Williams, S. Rawson, F. Pattison, Rev. T. F. Ravenshaw, Rev. C. R. Davy, Brackstone Baker, C. Hutton Gregory, W. White, Captain Platt, Colonel Creaton, Dr. Jabez Hogg, K. W. Stewart, E. S. Snell, Benjamin Head, H. Browne, Edmund Phillips, W. E. Gumbleton, C. A. Murton, Percy Leith, S. L. Tomkins, F. P. Morrell, R. Havers, R. J. Spiers, F. P. Cockerell, Dr. R. Williams, Alderman Hadley, Joshua Nunn, Hyde Pullen, J. Mason, James T. Collins, Wilhelm Kuhe, Sir Albert Woods, Garter, P.G.W., and G.D.C.; Col. Birchall, G.D.; T. W. Boord, M.P., G.D.; E. J. Barrow, G.D.; J. M. Case, G.D.; J. E. Saunders, H. J. P. Dumas, J. C. Parkinson, J. A. Rucker, F. Fenn, S. G. Homfray, W. F. Nettleship, Rev. Edward Moore, James Glaisher, Robert Gray, A. J. Filer, C. A. Cottebrune, T. Adams, W. Ough, S. G. Foxall, John Coutts, E. P. Albert, Joseph Smith, James Brett, and John Wright.

Grand Lodge having been formally opened, and the minutes read by Grand Secretary and confirmed,

The Acting Grand Master rose and said: Brethren, I have now orders to make an announcement, which I will do in a very few words. Certain charges of complaints having been preferred against the District Grand Master of Trinidad, the Grand Secretary, by command

of the M.W. Pro G.M., requested an explanation from the District Grand Master on several occasions. No explanation whatever having been given, the M.W. Pro Grand Master superseded the District Grand Master, and intimated to the lodges in Trinidad that his powers had ceased.

Grand Secretary then, by command of Lord Leigh, read the following announcement with reference to certain alterations and additions, which it is the pleasure of H.R.H. the Grand Master to make in relation to the charity jewel:

A brother having served the office of Steward to any two of the following institutions, viz., the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, has the privilege of wearing the charity jewel, provided he shall at the time of so serving have personally subscribed, as to each of the two Masonic schools, 10 guineas at the least, and as to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, £10 at the least. The jewel shall be suspended to a ribbon of one and a half inches in width, the colours of which shall be white and blue, white and red, blue and red, or white, blue, and red respectively, according to the institutions for which the brother has served the Stewardships as above, namely, white for the Institution for Girls, blue for the Institution for Boys, red for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.

A brother being, according to the foregoing regulation, entitled to wear the charity jewel, and who may have served the office of Steward to any other institution a second time, may wear a clasp attached to the ribbon, and an additional clasp for each occasion of having served the office of Steward to any of the institutions, but in no case shall he be entitled to wear such clasp or clasps unless he shall on each of those occasions at the time of serving such Stewardship have personally subscribed a like amount as above named.

A Vice-President of any one or more of the Masonic Institutions being otherwise entitled to the charity jewel, may wear attached to the ribbon immediately above the jewel a rosette of the colour or colours before mentioned, or in combination, according to the institution or institutions of which he is a Vice-President.

A Vice-Patron of any one or more of the Masonic Institutions, being otherwise entitled to the charity jewel, may wear the same suspended from a ribbon around his neck, of the like width and colour or colours respectively, or in combination, according to the institution or institutions of which he is a Vice-Patron.

Every brother who shall serve the office of Steward at any anniversary festival of any one of the Masonic charities as the representative of some provincial or country lodge, who shall personally attend such festivals, and shall bring up thereto contributions amounting to not less than 100 guineas, shall have the same rights and privileges as to wearing the charity jewel or clasp as if he had himself contributed the sum of 10 guineas whilst serving such stewardship.

No charity jewel, clasp, ribbon, or rosette shall be obtained, except through the office of the Grand Secretary, to whom the Secretaries of the respective institutions shall after their respective annual festivals hand lists of the names of the brothers entitled to the jewel or decorations hereinbefore authorised.

The election of members to serve on the Board of General Purposes and the Colonial Board were then taken; and at the close of the evening the following were found to have been chosen:—

BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.—MASTERS.—Bros. E. March, G.S.L.; John Brockett Sorrell, 176; Henry Bishop, 66; John Gibson, 259; Henry A. Dubois, 1326; Alfred Richards, 46; Robert Freke Gould, 92; Rev. Wm. Taylor Jones, 1601. PAST MASTERS.—Bros Peter De L. Long, 1150; Daniel Betts, 1351; Henry C. Levander, 632; Charles F. Hogard, 205; John F. Huggins, 18; Samuel Poynter, 902.

COLONIAL BOARD.—Bros. James Brett, 177; Erasmus Wilson, 2; Brackstone Baker, 21; Francis Bennoch, 1; Samuel Poynter, 902; Griffiths Smith, 569; Robert Freke Gould, 92.

The under-mentioned brethren were nominated at the General Committee on the 24th of

May to be on the Committee of Management for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons, and no others were named:—Bros. James Brett, P.M. 177; Charles A. Cottebrune, P.M. 733; Thomas Cubitt, P.M. 157; John A. Farnfield, P.M. 256; Charles F. Hogard, P.M. 205; M. Levy, P.M. 188; John G. Stevens, P.M. 554; Alfred H. Tattershall, P.M. 140; Henry George Warren, P.M., G.S.L.; and Thos. Wm. White, P.M. 21.

The recommendations of the Board of Benevolence were severally put and agreed to.

The following Report of the Board of General Purposes was then presented:—

Several questions bearing on the interpretation of the Book of Constitutions have been during the past quarter brought under the notice of the board, which, having been duly considered, have been satisfactorily dealt with, no specific report to Grand Lodge upon or in connection with them becoming necessary. Some important matters connected with the buildings of the Society have been dealt with by the Premises Committee and approved by the board.

The question of a re-arrangement of the seating of the brethren in Grand Lodge has received considerable attention, resulting in the addition of upwards of one hundred seats, which in the opinion of the board is the utmost that can be done in the existing area.

The board have been for a long period engaged in correspondence with the Lessees of Freemasons' Tavern with reference to the question of rent, and in result recommend to Grand Lodge that if a thoroughly responsible tenant or tenants can be found by the Tavern Company (the present Lessees), who would be willing to take over the lease, Grand Lodge should assent to a reduction of the rent of the tavern from £1500, at which it at present stands, to £1200 per annum, and to such re-adjustment of the term as may appear fair and reasonable, and that the Board of General Purposes be empowered to negotiate and act accordingly.

(Signed) JOHN B. MONCKTON,  
President.

Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.,  
16th May, 1876.

At the meeting on the 16th May, after the ordinary business was concluded, it was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously, that the best thanks of the members of the board are eminently merited by the President for the great attention he has paid to the duties of his office, for the admirable manner in which he has discharged them, and the great courtesy and kindness he has on all occasions evinced to his colleagues, and they are therefore fraternally tendered to him.

(Signed) PETER DE LANDE LONG,  
Vice-President.

To the Report is subjoined a statement of the Grand Lodge Accounts at the last meeting of the Finance Committee, held on Friday, the 12th day of May last, showing a balance in the hands of the Grand Treasurer of £6172 12s. 8d.; and in the hands of the Grand Secretary, for petty cash, £75; and for servants' wages, £96 15s.

On the motion of Bro. Monckton, the Report was taken as read, and it was afterwards agreed to be received and entered on the minutes.

Bro. Monckton, President of the Board of General Purposes, said he wished to say a few words as to the recommendation of the board contained in the last paragraph in their report, and he should move that that paragraph be approved. He did not think that the Grand Lodge would require that all that had taken place between the committee on the one hand and the board on the other should be made public, or give in detail what had taken place by the Board of General Purposes in their interviews with the directors. He might say that it was notorious that the Tavern Company was not a success, and little need be said on that point, but he thought he might say for his colleagues on the board, that it was their opinion that it would be better for the interests of the Craft if the tavern was in their hands rather than in that of a company. In the present state of the Ta-

vern Company they asked them what was to be done to enable them to find a tenant, but the board had no power to modify their terms unless it was done with the consent of the Grand Lodge, and after giving the subject the fullest consideration they recommended that if a tenant was to be found that the Grand Lodge should consent to a reduction of the rent from £1500 to £1200 per annum. In making that recommendation the Board were of opinion that the adoption of it would be for the interest of the Craft.

Bro. Raynham Stewart said he considered the best way to deal with this matter was to leave it in the hands of the Board of General Purposes, and he had great pleasure in seconding the motion.

Bro. Mason said he felt sure that many of the brethren must have been taken by surprise at the proposed reduction of the rent of the tavern, as a reduction of it had taken place three years ago. He should have been glad if he could have supported the proposition, but they were not there for the gratification of their own feelings, but to legislate for the interests of the Craft. They were the custodians of the property, not for themselves, but for the benefit of others. He contended that if the Tavern Company failed to make it profitable it was through their mismanagement, and because that was so were they to be called upon to reduce their rent? It was a matter of notoriety that the tavern was not properly conducted. (Loud cries of "Time, time.") It was all very well for brethren to cry out "Time," but this was a matter of great importance, and the Book of Constitutions said that a brother was not to be interrupted when he was speaking. If their tavern was properly conducted it would be one of the most prosperous in London. He opposed the resolution, and moved as an amendment that the report be referred back for further consideration, and that it be brought up at the next quarterly communication.

Some delay occurred before a seconder was found, and after a few words from Bro. Binckes the amendment was negatived, and the original motion was put and agreed to by a large majority.

The Grand Registrar (Bro. A. J. McIntyre) then moved the adoption of the following paragraph of the report:—

"At the meeting on the 16th May, after the ordinary business was concluded, it was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously, that the best thanks of the members of the board are eminently merited by the President for the great attention he has paid to the duties of his office, for the admirable manner in which he has discharged them, and the great courtesy and kindness he has on all occasions evinced to his colleagues, and they are therefore fraternally tendered to him."

The motion having been seconded, it was put and carried unanimously.

Bro. Monckton said he felt that he could best express his gratitude to the Grand Lodge by saying as little as possible, but he felt deeply grateful for their kindness to him upon all occasions.

The Report of a Special General Meeting of the Governors and Subscribers of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons, held at Freemasons' Hall, on Tuesday, the 25th day of April, 1876, was before Grand Lodge, and the following proposed alterations in the rules, which were then agreed to, were, in accordance with the laws of the Institution, submitted for the approval of Grand Lodge:—

That Law 4, page 12, be altered by substituting the figures "£40" for £36, and that Law 4, page 13, be also altered by substituting the figures "£32" for £28.

The laws as altered now read thus:—

"The amount of the annuity shall be £40 per annum," and

"The amount of annuity shall be £32 per annum."

The report and alterations were put and agreed to.

Bro. McIntyre said there was an appeal of Bro. W. C. Rowe, W.M., of the Lodge of Truth, No. 944, Bombay, against the decision of the

R.W. District Grand Master of Bombay, censuring the lodge for having passed and raised a brother at one and the same meeting. This appeal was of a rather curious character, as there could be no doubt that the District Grand Master was right in his decision. The facts of the case appeared to be that the W. Master of the lodge was absent from his lodge in India, and the Senior Warden was a Mason made under the Scotch Constitution, under which it was not uncommon—in former times more than at present—for more than one degree to be conferred in the same night. He gave a direction to the J.W. to apply to the District Grand Master for a dispensation for the two degrees to be conferred on the same night. The District Grand Master happened also to be absent, and it so occurred that his deputy was also a Scotch Mason, and he, acting on his knowledge of Scotch Masonry, granted the dispensation. In the event it happened that on the evening in question there was no P.M. of the lodge present, but there was a P.M. from another lodge, and he, acting on the dispensation, conferred the degrees upon the same night. Somehow or other a report of the proceedings was communicated to a Masonic paper that is published in India, and in the notes and queries in that paper it was asked whether this was not a rather extraordinary proceeding. I do not know that a document was sent home, but it came to be known in England, and our worthy Grand Secretary, who is always taking care that nothing wrong should be done in Masonry, heard of it, and a communication was made to India. On its receipt, the District Grand Master for Bombay acted very properly; he called attention to the irregularity that had occurred, and stated that under all the circumstances he censured the lodge for their irregularity, censured the brethren who had taken part in the proceedings, and warned them not to do it again. In the meantime the S.W. resigned his office under the English Constitution, and so escaped censure. Now, against this censure there was an appeal, on the ground that those censured were not the only persons to blame and that those others had not been censured. Bro. McIntyre concluded by suggesting that the appeal should be dismissed, and that the decision of the District Grand Master should be confirmed, which was done accordingly.

Bro. Havers: During a period of nearly 40 years, 30 of which I have spent in the active exercise of the duties of Grand Lodge, many times I have addressed you, many times pleasantly, often on difficult occasions, and though I have lately felt disposed to leave the discussions here to younger and abler hands I find that there is still an occasion on which I must claim the privilege of addressing you. If ever there was an occasion in which I spoke with confidence this is the occasion, because the subject of my remarks will find its way to the heart of every man present. I beg to propose that this Grand Lodge desires to return its humble and hearty thanks to the Almighty Architect of the Universe for the safe return to his native land of their beloved Grand Master, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and in memory of that happy event, determine to devote the sum of £2000 in aid of the restoration of the two churches which are the most intimately connected with the history of Freemasonry in England. I therefore beg to move that the sum of £1000 should be voted for the restoration of St. Paul's, and a like sum of £1000 to the restoration of St. Alban's. (No, no.) I am sorry to observe those objections. They show that some have come here with a foregone conclusion, but I will ask those brethren to permit me to state my arguments, which, with all modesty, I will endeavour to make clear. None will doubt that we have abundant cause of rejoicing in the safe return of our beloved Grand Master, but if we have occasion to return thanks for the safe return of the Prince of Wales, we have abundant reason to return thanks for the blessings which have been vouchsafed to our Order. Any one who will compare Masonry now with Masonry twenty years ago cannot fail to be struck with the result. Our charities are flourishing beyond the expectation of the most sanguine of us all; we have not a shilling of debt, we have an increas-

ing income of £12,000, and an expenditure of less than £6000; we have, therefore, abundant means to assist on a great public occasion. Now, no doubt the grant of £2000 is a large outlay to make to bodies that are not strictly Masonic, Masonry never lost and never will lose by stepping out of the beaten track. Some say that we ought to devote this to our charities. The success of the charities is secure; whatever they have had, they are having, and will continue to have. The welfare of our Order, and the success of our charities is our first consideration, but it is unwise to restrict our charities to these sole objects. We should teach the outside world that Masonic charity can go outside of Masonry. I think it is a wise and politic thing for Grand Lodge to step out of the beaten track, and I think this a grand opportunity for doing so. Now, it may be asked, what claims have St. Paul's and St. Alban's upon us? And why should we give our funds for denominational purposes? I will endeavour to show you. St. Alban, like him whom we have all represented, lost his life, as you know, from his fidelity to his order. He was the builder of that great Abbey that bears his name, probably one of the most beautiful structures in the country. To most of us St. Alban's is familiar. To those who have not seen it I would say you could not better spend a summer afternoon than in viewing the grand work I have mentioned. All St. Alban's history is associated with our most cherished traditions, but it is not because he gave his life to save the life of his guest that we principally cherish his memory; it is because he was the founder of the first Grand Lodge of England. St. Paul's brings us down to a much later date. It was built, or rather rebuilt, by our most illustrious Grand Master Sir Christopher Wren. You know it is one of the greatest ornaments of the metropolis; and probably you know, too, that the interior of the building has never been completed according to his designs. I may mention, incidentally, that the identical maul and working tools that he used are now used in his own lodge, the Lodge of Antiquity. I am told that this vote if carried would be for a denominational object. Outside these walls I hate the term "denominational." It is not denominational; as well might you say that Grand Lodge is denominational, because the plain truth is this, Masons are of no special religion, they honour every man's religion and interfere with none. I ask you to vote this money to these churches because I think that there could not be a better thank-offering to God; I ask you only because these are historical ornaments which are inseparably and intimately connected with our honoured Institution. Let us look even to our neighbours on the continent; be their head king or emperor, or the government republican, they devote a sum annually to the restoration of a cathedral. Have our provincial brethren considered this objection when they restored St. Mary, Redcliffe, or Gloucester Cathedral? They did not consider that their gifts were for denominational purposes. There are some, who know nothing of us, who charge us with being of no religion. I need not waste a moment's words upon these. Every Mason who hears me knows it is utterly untrue. I will venture to say on my own behalf, and I think I may say on yours, that Masonry is a help to religion. I ask you to accept my resolution at the end of a long Masonic life, as I feel assured it will make us stand better in the eyes of the world; it will induce men of higher influence and greater intelligence—(no!)—to join our Order. Let us pass this resolution in justice to ourselves; let us do it in reverence for our predecessors—why should you allow their cherished works to languish and decay. We never close our social gatherings without wishing for our poor or distressed brethren a safe return to their native country if they desire it. How much more then should we show our gratitude when the safe return of our beloved Grand Master has been granted us. It is a grand opportunity which we should not neglect as a graceful expression of our feelings towards him, and also of a substantial expression of thanks to Almighty God for a blessing received. Before concluding I may mention that I have

submitted this resolution for the Grand Master's approval, and I am permitted to say that it received his hearty and entire approval. There is one more subject before I sit down that I must allude to. If this is to be done it should be done with unanimity. I am sorry to find that this is not likely to be the case. I take occasion to inform my brethren that my resolution and the last one on the paper do not run together. I could not expect to carry them both. My resolution stands on its own merits. It is a right thing to do, and this is a right time to do it; and I trust that by your vote this evening you will add a jewel to that diadem of loyalty which has ever been our proudest boast.

Bro. Gould, W.M. No. 92: I beg to second the resolutions which have just been proposed by R.W. Bro. Havers; resolutions so good in themselves and urged in so able a manner, as to induce me to bespeak the indulgence of Grand Lodge in trespassing even for a few moments upon its attention. It may, I think, be taken as a fact that we are all agreed as to the fitness of voting a sum of money, though a divergence of views may exist as to the purposes to which it should be applied. Without again going into subjects which have been so ably and so exhaustively discussed by Bro. Havers, I may be allowed to say that, in my judgment, there could be no more appropriate way of celebrating our Grand Master's safe return than by adopting the resolutions now before Grand Lodge. The purposes proposed are simple and unostentatious. No elaborate machinery is required to carry them into effect; but they would demonstrate most forcibly the expression of our gratitude to the Giver of all Good, our fealty and attachment to our Grand Master, and our desire to illustrate those sentiments by aiding in the restoration of two national edifices, whose histories, as Bro. Havers has so eloquently shown, are inseparably connected with that of our Order, and who, in a great measure, own their very existence to the labours and exertions of our ancient brethren.

Bro. Simpson rose and said: I take the liberty of rising at this early stage of the proceedings in order that I may lay before this Grand Lodge a few remarks on the very complicated state of affairs that we find ourselves in at present. It is very evident that the whole of the brethren present cannot support the motion of Bro. Havers. Seeing, therefore, that such a motion should be unanimous, I beg to state that I withdraw the motion I have put on the paper. I am sure Most W.G. Master, that I am not trusting too much to the charitable indulgence of my brethren when I say that they will give me credit for two things which I will explain—one is an honest expression of an opinion, and the other is the upholding the character and dignity of our Order. It was with such motives that I ventured to propose the motion that is upon the paper. I wrote to Bro. Havers for his opinion, and I am sure that our Deputy Grand Master if he were here would state that he approved of it. He said to me, Bro. Simpson, I like your idea, and you are at liberty to state this. Thus it was made, but feeling that the passing of a resolution on such a subject should be unanimous, I withdraw it. I propose an amendment. I propose that the words from "the Prince of Wales" be omitted, and the following words be inserted:—That a special committee be appointed to consider the best mode in which this feeling can be perpetuated in some practicable and charitable form, and to report thereon to this Grand Lodge. This would give time for thought and for the ventilation of the many excellent suggestions which no doubt various brethren will desire to make. I will not yield to Bro. Havers in zeal for the Craft—and after 25 years I ought to know its general principles. I will not yield to him in zeal for the religious body to which, out of this lodge, I belong. If Bro. Havers's motion pass to-night, if he is able to throw an archaeological veil over the motion he has made, if he can do this, it gives a blow to Masonry from which it will never recover. I say that it will involve us in questions which we desire to keep entirely distinct from Freemasonry, and that it will be employed in the future to our detriment. If brethren wish to benefit the cathedrals let them come out like men, or like churchmen, and do it; but Grand Lodge represents the whole of Masonry, and, therefore, dipping into its

funds for outside purposes is, in a measure, a breach of trust. I give Bro. Havers credit for the highest motives in proposing this motion. I cannot but feel that his archaeological knowledge and his reverence for and desire for the restoration of beautiful edifices is very praiseworthy, but can these objects be compared with good scholarships for our Boys' School—(cheers)—and a Prince of Wales wing for our old men—(loud and continued cheering)—or some other proposal better than my Indian project. I shall be perfectly ready, for I do not stand upon the fact that because I propose a thing it is the best thing that can be done, but I do think that this amendment will give us time, brethren, and Bro. Havers may feel that we shall not lose unanimity, and if we are able to come to some conclusion which will be satisfactory to the whole Craft, our time will not have been lost.

Bro. Baxter Langley rose to second the amendment of Bro. Simpson, and in doing so remarked that, giving full credit for excellent motives to Bro. Havers, he did not think he had proposed the best method of commemorating the return to this country of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales; and he thought that if noble Sir Christopher Wren were present he would say "Not St. Paul's, not St. Alban's, but the charities of our institution."

Bro. Hutton Gregory said that Bro. Simpson, by this amendment, instead of introducing the dove had thrown down the apple of discord. He was quite sure the meeting was unanimous up to a certain point, beyond which they were divided in opinion whether or not it should take the form of charity. He believed that something in the monumental style would be more appropriate; and he instanced, as a precedent, the statue of the Duke of Sussex, which stands on a niche behind the throne, which was executed 30 years ago in honour of the M.W.G.M. of the day.

A brother rose and suggested that, for the sake of unanimity, Bro. Havers should be asked to divide his motion into two parts, so that the first part, on which they were all agreed, might be passed unanimously, and they might then proceed to consider the remainder as a separate resolution.

Bro. Baxter Langley suggested that as a great many Masons were Jews, these brethren were not likely to concur in a vote for ecclesiastical purposes.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart reminded the lodge that they had to consider whose money and funds they were dealing with as members of Grand Lodge. They were the funds of all creeds, and Grand Lodge had no right to appropriate them to our own. He suggested that the question be referred to a committee.

Cries of "time" having been frequently repeated

Bro. Binckes expressed his surprise that in the discussion of so important a question the cry of "time" should be raised at nine o'clock in the evening. He said he would not follow Bro. Havers's argument, but would remind him that the matters he had referred to were only traditional. He should not support the original motion. Bro. Havers had tried to carry Grand Lodge with him by saying that by passing his resolution they would be doing something towards erecting and repairing God's house. But he would remind them that churches had been built by most irreligious men. He would like the vote to stop at £2000, leaving it open in what direction the sum should be distributed.

Bro. Havers replying to the observation that had been made said that he could scarcely have credited that he should not have been allowed to read his resolution without interruption, and animadverted upon the conduct of the brethren who had caused the interruption. Bro. Simpson had said that if this resolution were carried it would give a blow from which Freemasonry would never recover, but he would ask, had it so suffered in past times? They had been asked to give the money to the charities, he answered, do, in heaven's name, give twice as much to your charities, but do let us for once act like high-minded Masons, and step out of the line to do a graceful act. Do not lay yourselves open to the charge of keeping your charity all to

yourselves. It may be a good sort of charity that begins at home, but not that stops there. He had been asked to withdraw his motion; as a member of Grand Lodge he could not do so. He had been asked to divide his motion, to stop at the preamble, and it would be carried; of course it would, for that would be an empty vote which would cost them nothing.

The M.W. Acting Grand Master: Before I put this to the meeting I must be permitted to express, occupying this chair for the first time since the return of the G.M., occupying it in the unavoidable absence of the Pro-Grand Master, from causes with which we all sympathise, I must be permitted to express my own gratitude in connection with the gratitude of every member of the Craft of the province over which I have had the honour and pleasure of presiding for twenty years, and of every Mason in the United Kingdom to the Great Architect of the Universe having spared our Grand Master to return to this country after the most successful visit to India, where it appears to everybody that he gained the esteem of every individual with whom he has come in contact. I hope that that visit to our great Indian empire will create above all things that unity and brotherly love which we, who are Freemasons, should always desire to maintain with our brethren in India. I have now to put the amendment as proposed by Bro. Simpson and seconded by Bro. Langley.

The amendment was carried by a large majority, but there being some dissatisfaction expressed, cries of "Divide!" were raised, but the division only made the result the more apparent.

After some further remarks of no real importance from brethren who had already spoken,

W. Bro. Benj. Head's motion "That the sum of £70 be given from the Fund of General Purposes; that the money be placed in the hands of the Secretary of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons, to supply the inmates of the asylum at Croydon with coals during the winter months" was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

Grand Lodge was then closed in ample form and with thanksgiving.

## REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

### Craft Masonry.

**METROPOLITAN LODGE (No. 1507).**—An emergency meeting of this young lodge was held on Tuesday, May 30th, at 269, Pentonville-road, King's-cross, Bro. Michael, W.M. Also present Bros. Willing, I.P.M.; Williams, S.W.; Kingham, J.W.; Tims, Sec.; Side, as S.D.; Scales, J.D.; Sikes, I.G.; Read, Saintsbury, Check, Cadell, Hewison, Solomon, Clark, Tims, jr.; Wrigley, &c. Visitors: Bros. Bull, P.M. 145; McDougall, I.P.M. 713; Finner, S.D. 1227; Morgan, 1385. There were five raisings, one passing, and four initiations. Ceremonies worked in a very fluent and impressive manner, after which Bro. Check's first motion was withdrawn, and his other one not securing a seconder fell to the ground. Notice of motion respecting the inadequacy of the rooms for the large gatherings of the lodge, was given for the ensuing meeting in September, which will be the installation. The brethren adjourned to banquet, when a very pleasant evening was spent, several of the brethren giving proofs of no mean vocal powers.

**THE ALEXANDRA PALACE LODGE (No. 1541).**—The usual meeting of this progressing lodge was held on Saturday last in the private rooms at the Palace whose name it bears. The attendance was good, and Bro. P.M. Kelly King, the S.W., in the absence of the Master, opened the lodge, the officers assisting being Bros. P.M. Dyer, P.M. Stacey, P.M. Palmer, P.M. Haigh, P.G.S.; Lee, Daniel, and John Rowlands. The first business, after the confirmation of the minutes, was the initiation of five gentlemen who had been duly elected, and this duty was undertaken by Bro. P.M. Stacey, in order to permit the acting W.M. to transact other lodge business. The work was done in Bro. Stacey's St. James's Union and Victoria style—"perfect in all its parts," and honourable to the worker. The gentlemen who were now made Brethren were Messrs. W. W. Fitch, J. Hulme Pearman, John Neil, William Knight, and William Shelly. The acting W.M., Bro. Kelly King, then took the chair, and passed Bros. Blackman, Daniel, and Stubbins, and Bros. Harris, Calvert, Gush, and Delvalle were raised. The lodge was then resumed in the Primary Degree, and the ballot was taken for the election of Bro. C. Weeding Skinner, whose desire to join the brethren of the Alexandra Palace Lodge was proved to be unanimously reciprocated by a clear ballot box. The election of Master—the first election which the lodge has had—ensued, and the members showed their appreciation of Bro. Kelly King's



assiduous labours by unanimously electing him as the W.M. for the ensuing year, and all who know our Bro. Kelly King will say that by this act the lodge has at once proved its worthiness as a Masonic body and its acknowledgements of favours received. The hardworking and universally esteemed Bro. Dyte was as unanimously elected Treasurer, and thanked most warmly for his labours throughout the year. The brethren dined "en famille" at the table d'hôte, and of course there were none of the usual speeches. If the usual eloquence was lacking the usual good feeling was not; and with braced up nerves for the second year of the life of the lodge the brethren broke up their meeting at an early hour.

**SURREY MASONIC HALL LODGE (No. 1539).**—An emergency meeting of this highly successful lodge was held at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New Road, on Thursday evening, the 1st inst., Bro. Mark Samuel Larham, W.M., presided, supported by Bros. Ramsay, S.W. (W.M. elect.); Oliver, P.M., Sec.; Ritherdon, J.D.; Ross, I.G.; Harvey, D.C.; Allen, Claris, Martin, Chartres, Seal, Tims, Murray, Walden, and the following visitors:—Bros. Hines, Royal Jubilee; Wallis, P.M. De Grey and Ripon; Cackett, S.W. Duke of Connaught; H. Thompson, Great City, and P.M. Domestic and Southern Star ("Freemason"); Perryman, Sphinx; Hastie, P.M., Macdonald; Rock, P.M. Kennington; Vockins, P.M. Sphinx; Dubois, P.M., Era; Middlemass; Leigh; and Pain, Granite. The lodge was opened in due form. Bros. Claris and Moss were severally raised to the Sublime Degree with all the care and correctness which has ever distinguished the working of the W. Master. He also most impressively recited the traditional history, and gave a beautiful explanation of the Tracing Board and Working Tools. The ceremony gave entire satisfaction, and several of the visitors expressing their opinion that this splendid ritual was seldom so efficiently rendered. The next business was to pass Bros. Cannon and Wells to the Second Degree, which was also most ably performed by the W. Master. A ballot then took place for Mr. John Walden and Mr. Francis Tims, which being unanimous in their favour they were impressively initiated into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry. There being no further business the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment, which was well served. On the withdrawal of the cloth the W.M. said as that was an emergency meeting the toasts would be few in number, and in some few concise remarks proposed "The Queen and the Craft," which was duly honoured. The W. Master next gave "The Health of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Most Worshipful Grand Master," and congratulated the Craft on his return in good health to his native land. This toast was most enthusiastically responded to. The W.M. said the next toast he had to propose was "The Health of their Newly-Initiated Brethren," and remarked that he was very proud of having the privilege of initiating two gentlemen into the Order who would do credit to the lodge, and not before his time as W.M. expired, as that would be the last time he would occupy the chair for the performance of that ceremony. He therefore called upon the brethren to join heartily with him in drinking "The Health of their Newly-Initiated Brethren." This toast was most cordially responded to. Bros. Walden and Tims expressed the great pleasure they had derived from being admitted to the ancient Order of Freemasons, and for the very cordial manner in which their health had been drank. They were deeply impressed with the ceremony they had gone through, and said it would be their study to become good members of the Order. Bro. Clarke, P.M., said he had much pleasure in proposing the next toast, which was "The Health of their Worshipful Master." It had been at various times a great pleasure to him to propose that toast, for he felt assured that Bro. Larham had done all that was possible for him to do to promote the welfare of the lodge, and he believed that the brethren would regret that he was about to quit the chair of W.M. He asked them to join with him in cordially drinking his health. The toast was drunk with hearty cheering. The Worshipful Master, in reply, thanked Bro. Clarke for the kind remarks he had made, and the brethren for the unanimous way in which they had responded to them in drinking his health, and if he had given them satisfaction he was amply repaid for any trouble to which he had been put. He ought not, however, to say anything about trouble, for it was really a pleasure to him, or he should not devote as much time as he did, for he always devoted two or three nights a week to Freemasonry, to shew the love he had for it. He cordially thanked them for the honour they had conferred upon him. The W.M. said there was one toast that must not be omitted, and that was "The Health of their brother Visitors," and the lodge gave them a hearty welcome. The toast was well received. Bro. H. Thompson ("Freemason") said he had been highly pleased with the very able manner in which the working of the lodge had been conducted that evening by the W.M., but it was nothing less than he expected of him, when he knew the able tutor who had instructed him, and the information he received he also most willingly imparted to others as the preceptor of other lodges. He thanked the brethren also for their hospitality, and took occasion to remark that the present was a particularly interesting period as regarded the Order of Freemasonry, for His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales would again appear and take his place in the Grand Lodge as the Most Worshipful Grand Master, and it was almost needless to say that on his return from his tour in a distant land he would be warmly received by his brother Freemasons. There were two or three notices on the agenda of the Grand Lodge which were open to criticism, and upon which there might possibly be a difference of opinion, but as that as it might there was one point upon which they would all be unanimous, and that was the hearty welcome his

Royal Highness would receive on his return from his successful tour in the East, where he had been received with acclamation in every part of those vast and distant dominions. He (Bro. Thompson) believed that they as Freemasons were greatly indebted to the Prince of Wales for the suggestions he threw out to the Craft at the time of the glorious gathering of the greatest number of Freemasons ever assembled together at his installation twelve months ago, when he impressed upon them that the watchwords of the Order were "loyalty and charity." The brethren had profited by those suggestions, for at the last election for their Benevolent Institution an event had occurred which had no parallel in its previous history, for all the male candidates were taken on to the fund without undergoing the ordeal of an election, and a large proportion of the widows who were candidates were successful in obtaining the benefits of the Institution, which showed how the charitable feelings of the Craft, had been stimulated by the appeal which had been made to them by their Royal Grand Master. He thought, therefore, that this was a position most gratifying to them, and that when they met His Royal Highness at the Grand Lodge he would receive the welcome he so eminently deserved. Bro. Middlemass also returned thanks in a very humorous speech, in which he jocosely rated Bro. Thompson for having taken the wind out of his sails and left him little to say beyond thanking the lodge for the Masonic treat in working, and the hospitality he had received. Bro. Rock said he was greatly pleased to be amongst them, and expressed his determination to become a member of the lodge. Bro. Vockins, P.M. of the Sphinx Lodge, also briefly returned thanks. The Tyler's toast brought a most enjoyable evening to a close at an early hour. A number of songs were sung, and the entire proceedings were distinguished by harmony and goodwill, and the parting took place in the true spirit of Masonry.

**BATH.—Royal Cumberland Lodge (No. 41).**—An emergency meeting was held in the Masonic Hall, on Thursday, June 1st, which was attended by Bros. Brown, W.M.; Clark, I.P.M.; Cooper, P.M.; Rubie, P.M.; Ashley, P.M. and Treas.; Captain Peel Floyd, P.M.; Wilton, P.M. and D.C.; Major Preston, P.M.; Dr. Hopkins, P.M. 41 and 958, and P.P.G.S.W. for Warwickshire; P. Wilkinson, S.W.; Faulkner, J.W.; C. Wilkinson, Sec.; P. Braham, S.D.; Gummer, I.G.; Hunt and Radway, Stewards; Bigwood, Tyler; and other members. As visitors Bros. Col. Ford, P.M. 58; Collins, 53; Hughes, 53; Reeves, P.M. 906; Freeman, 906; Styles, 906; Cantrell, 1501. The lodge was opened in the First Degree, at quarter to eight, by the W.M. A ballot was taken for a candidate for initiation, which proved unanimous in his favour. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, Bro. Ashley took the chair, and Bros. Mercer, Mentyard, and Wheeler having been presented as candidates for raising were examined as to their proficiency. This proved unusually satisfactory, entitling them to be entrusted previous to dismissal for preparation, which was done. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree; the candidates were re-admitted, and duly raised by W. Bro. Ashley, who performed his duty in an admirable and impressive manner, ably assisted by Bro. W. Bro. Cooper, in certain portions for which his voice and style peculiarly fit him. The S.W. explained the symbolism of the working tools. It may be stated that on this occasion, as also in the First and Second Degrees, throughout the Mastership of the present W.M. the form of ceremony differs considerably from that in ordinary use, described as the Old York ritual, in which the verbiage is somewhat more diffuse. At the conclusion of the traditional history the lodge was closed in the Third and afterwards in the Second Degree. Bro. Brown, W.M., then resumed the chair, and finally closed the lodge at quarter to ten.

**GREENWICH.—Lodge of Amity (No. 171)**—The installation meeting of this old lodge was held on Tuesday evening, at the Ship, Greenwich. Bro. Clarence Harcourt, W.M., presided, and he was assisted by Bros. C. P. Whiteley, S.W.; J. H. Batty, J.W. pro tem.; S. W. Partridge, S.D.; W. H. Bateman, J.D. pro tem.; and J. W. Clever, I.G. pro tem. There was also a fair attendance of brethren of the lodge and visitors. Bros. Green, Goodinge, and Mardon were raised, and Messrs. Buck and Straith were initiated. Afterwards Bro. Joseph Clever, P.M., installed Bro. Charles Perry Whiteley as W.M., who invested the following brethren as his officers:—Bros. Partridge, S.W.; J. W. Clever, J.W.; Clarence Harcourt, I.P.M., Treas.; Joseph Clever, P.M., Sec.; J. H. Batty, S.D.; W. H. Bateman, J.D.; E. Phillips, I.G.; and Geo. Smith, T. A P.M. jewel was presented in open lodge to Bro. Harcourt by the W.M., who congratulated him on the ability with which he had discharged the important functions of Master of the lodge during the past year. Bro. Harcourt acknowledged the compliment which the lodge had paid him. He reminded the brethren that at the beginning of his term of office he had not been able to attend very regularly, but during the latter portion of the time his engagements have allowed of his paying more attention to the affairs of the lodge, and he had endeavoured to discharge the duties of W.M. to the satisfaction of the brethren. The brethren afterwards dined together and honoured the usual toasts. Bro. Johnson (G. Master's Lodge) responded for "The Grand Officers," &c. Bro. Scotter, No. 22, responded to the toast of "The Visitors," Bro. James Terry for "The Masonic Charities," and Bro. J. W. Clever for "The Officers." Both the initiates replied to the toast drunk specially in their honour. The list of visitors comprises the names of Bro. Llewellyn Jones, W.M. 1460, and Lemon, Treas. 1601. A most agreeable evening was spent by the brethren.

**PORT ELIZABETH (Cape of Good Hope).**—Lodge of Good Hope (No. 863).—At the installation meeting of this lodge there was a large attend-

ance of members of the lodge and visiting brethren. The Past Masters present were:—Bros. C. T. Wheelwright, S. Bain, J. C. Kelmsley, Jas. Kelmsley, Dr. McIntjes, and the I.P.M., Bro. E. R. Smith, who acted as Installing Master, and performed his duties most creditably. Bro. S. Alabaster, having been installed and duly honoured, invested his officers as follows:—Bros. C. R. Whinfield, S.W.; C. R. Read, J.W.; W. Philip, T.; J. L. Laurie, Sec.; J. C. Probert, S.D.; F. Holmes, J.D.; C. Dickinson, Org.; B. Holmes and H. Smith, Stewards; T. Colling, I.G.; J. Morley, O.G. The installation over, the brethren adjourned to the banquetting room, where an excellent repast had been laid out. To this the fullest justice was done. The newly-elected W.M. then gave first "The Queen and the Craft," and afterwards "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales and Grand Master of England," both of which were drunk with enthusiasm. In a neat speech Bro. Smyth, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the Worshipful Master, Bro. Alabaster," expressing the confidence he felt that he would satisfactorily perform the onerous duties that would now devolve upon him. The toast having been duly honoured, Bro. Alabaster acknowledged the compliment paid him in suitable terms, promising his best endeavours to fulfil the duties pertaining thereto. Bro. S. Bath P.M., in proposing "The Health of the Installing Master," complimented Bro. Smyth highly upon his zeal and efficiency. Bro. Smyth having replied, "The Newly-elected Officers" was given by Bro. Wheelwright, P.M., and acknowledged by Bro. Winfield. "The Health of the Visiting Brethren" was next proposed, and in responding Bro. Dr. McIntjes, W.M. of the Bon Accord Lodge, Aberdeen, made a most eloquent and thoroughly Masonic speech, which made a deep impression upon all present. The usual interchange of compliments then took place between the two sister lodges; the services of the retiring officers were acknowledged; "The Past Masters" were toasted; "Sweethearts and Wives" were remembered; the "Banquet Committee" were thanked; and "Poor and Distressed Masons" were not forgotten. The gathering, which was of a most pleasant nature, did not break up till after eleven o'clock.

**SOUTHEND.—Priory Lodge (No. 1000).**—The usual monthly meeting of this flourishing lodge was held on Thursday, the 1st June, at the Middleton Hotel, Southend. The lodge was opened at seven o'clock by the W.M., Bro. Dr. E. E. Phillips, P.M. 379, supported by the following officers and brethren, viz.:—Bros. A. Lucking, P.M. 160, Prov. A.G.D.C., I.P.M.; H. Rowley, P.M., P. Prov. G.D., acting S.W. (the S.W., Bro. Rev. S. R. Wigram, Grand Chaplain, being unavoidably absent); Revs. H. J. Hatch, S.W. and W.M. elect, 160; P. Prov. G. Chaplain, acting J.W.; Rev. H. Hayes, Chaplain; J. A. Wardell, P.M. 160 and 1000; P. Prov. G.D., Sec.; J. R. Hemmann, P.M., P. Prov. G.D., Org.; W. Chaplin, S.D.; W. P. Bliss, J.D.; F. D. Grayson, acting I.G.; J. C. Johnstone, P.M. 25 (I.C.) D.C.; Mountain, Tyler; J. W. Harris, P.M., P. Prov. A.G.D.C.; H. Briggs, F. V. Jillings, J.W. 165; W. Frost, W. D. Merritt, G. F. Jones, J. English, and B. Mackel. After the reading and confirmation of the minutes, the ballot having proved unanimous in favour of Mr. W. H. Newman, he was duly initiated. Bro. G. F. Wood was then raised to the Sublime Degree of a M.M. by the W.M., who afterwards gave the traditional history, the whole of the ceremonies being well carried out. A candidate having been proposed for initiation, the lodge was then duly closed and adjourned to the last Thursday in September. The brethren then partook of refreshment. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and duly honoured, some excellent songs were well rendered, and the Tyler's toast, having terminated the proceedings, the brethren separated, after the enjoyment of a most successful evening.

**LANCASTER.—Rowley Lodge (No. 1051).**—The ordinary monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Monday morning, the 5th inst., in the Masonic Rooms, Atheneum, the Worshipful Master, Bro. H. Lengman, occupying the chair of King Solomon. The lodge having been opened in the First Degree with the usual formalities the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. Mr. John Thomas Jackson and Mr. Thomas Bell were balloted for and unanimously elected, but in consequence of its being Whit Monday, no degrees were conferred, the work being postponed till Monday, June 12th. The usual proclamations were made, and hearty good wishes having been tendered by the visiting brethren, the lodge was closed in peace and harmony.

**FOREST HILL.—West Kent Lodge (No. 1297).**—The regular bi-monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday, the 27th ult., when there were present at the commencement of business Bros. D. Stread, W.M.; J. Allen, I.P.M.; C. R. Crouch, S.W.; E. C. Massey, J.W. ("Freemason"); with the Deacons and other officers, and also many brethren. The business included the passing of Bro. Zuccardi, and the initiation of Mr. Gay Ess, the ceremonies being performed by the W.M. in a manner which entitled him to the sincere approbation of the brethren, inasmuch, as was afterwards observed by the I.P.M. it was abundantly clear that which it was asserted that a Master should know the W.M. was acquainted with in every particular. At the conclusion of the active part of the proceedings two candidates of good social position were proposed by Bro. G. Coruni, and duly seconded. The lodge having been closed in due form there was a short sitting for refreshment, and it being the Queen's birthday "Her Majesty's Health" was proposed and drunk with, if possible, more than the customary cordiality. "The Health of the Brother Initiate," and that of "The W.M." were also drunk.

**NORWICH.—Walpole Lodge (No. 1500).**—The ceremony of installing Bro. T. Isley as the W.M. of

Lodge Walpole for the ensuing year was admirably performed in the Assembly-rooms at Norwich, on Thursday afternoon, the 1st inst., by the I.P.M., Bro. T. Lord, in the presence of a goodly number of P.M.'s and brethren, who subsequently spoke very highly of the working. The W.M. appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. T. J. Mackley, S.W.; F. Mills, J.W.; D. Mannings, S.D.; A. Bullard, J.D.; J. Harper, I.G.; P.M. F. B. Quinton, Sec.; S. J. Carman, Treas.; P.M. G. Brittain, Org.; P.M. W. H. Stevens, D.C.; Matthews and Payne, Stewards. In the evening the brethren sat down to a splendid banquet, exceedingly well served by Mr. Levett, who made most satisfactory arrangements for the comfort and enjoyment of the brethren. The newly-installed W.M. filled the chair, and ably fulfilled its duties. He was supported by Bros. A. M. F. Morgan, P.D.P.G.M.; G. B. Kennett, W.M. 52; J. C. Chittock, W.M. 943; J. Commins, W.M. 93; G. C. Stevens, Sec. 52; W. Provart, W.M. 807; G. Brittain, P.M.; Bonfellow, W.M. 100, Yarmouth; Bond, I.P.M. 100; D. Stone, Lowestoft; H. Lamb, P.M. 807; H. Burgess, 943; R. Thorns, P.M.; R. Gilman, P.M. 93; Hennemeyer, 51, Colchester; F. Wright, Colchester; Chas. Winterbon, Colchester; H. J. Martin, 807; R. Boulton, and others. The S.W. and J.W. chairs were occupied by the brothers appointed to those offices. Letters apologising for non-attendance were received from several brethren high in the Craft. A feature in the after-dinner proceedings was the presentation of a handsome Past Master's jewel to the retiring W.M., Bro. Lord, as a mark of fraternal esteem and a recognition of the efficiency with which he "worked" the lodge during his term of office; and a similar jewel to P.M. W. H. Stevens, in cordial acknowledgment of his 'twenty years' services to Masonry in various positions, and especially as Preceptor of the Lodge of Instruction. The presentation in each case was made in felicitous terms by the W.M., who announced that a list of the subscribing brethren was being beautifully illuminated by the well-known local artist, Mr. Gunn, the son of a respected brother Mason. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been given, that to the memory of the late distinguished brother after whom the lodge is named being drunk in solemn silence, Bro. A. M. F. Morgan proposed "The W.M.'s of Lodges," and took occasion to refer to the admirable working which he had witnessed in this lodge, and to express his confidence that its good reputation would be sustained by the present W.M. Bro. G. B. Kennett responded to the toast, and among others which were honoured were, "The Initiate," Bro. C. Daniels; "The Installing Officer," Bro. Lord; "The Visitors," Bro. G. C. Stevens responding; "The Officers," Bro. Mackley; "The Past Masters," Bro. Brittain; "The Treasurer and Secretary," Bro. Quinton; "Non-resident Brethren and Visitors from other Provinces," Bros. Wright, Bond, Stone, and others; and "The Press," Bro. H. J. Martin responding for the "Freemason." Some excellent vocal and instrumental music interlarded the speeches, Bro. Winterbon playing in a masterly manner a fine selection on the pianoforte.

**GREAT STANMORE.**—Abercorn Lodge (No. 1542). The second regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Abercorn Hotel on the 2nd ult. Bro. R. Helsdon, W.M., in the chair, supported by his officers and many of the brethren. Visitor, Bro. C. Cathrow, P.P.G.S.B. Surrey. The lodge was opened in solemn prayer at 3.40 p.m., and after the usual regular business was disposed of, Bro. E. G. Swatton, having undergone a highly satisfactory examination, was duly passed to the Second Degree, and the Tracing Board ably explained by the W.M. The lodge having been resumed to First Degree, the ballot was unanimous in favour of Mr. W. S. Marshall, and Mr. T. Peach as candidates for initiation. Bro. C. Long, I.G. 733, was also admitted as a joining member. Mr. Marshall being unavoidably absent, Mr. Peach was duly enlightened and impressed with the First degree. The election for W.M. was then proceeded with, for the ensuing year, and was unanimous in favour of Bro. J. W. Garrod, S.W. Bro. Rogers was also unanimously elected Treasurer, and Bro. Huddleton appointed Tyler. The W.M., Wardens, and three brethren were then appointed on the Audit Committee to meet June 13th, at 5 p.m. Various other minor matters were then disposed of, and the sum of £5 5s. voted annually for a Past Master's jewel. Mr. A. E. Fradelle was proposed for initiation at the next meeting, and after the usual good wishes the lodge was adjourned, until the installation meeting in July, and closed with solemn prayer at 6 p.m. The customary banquet followed, enlivened by the musical brethren and assisted by the talented Organist, Bro. H. L. Winter, all passing off highly satisfactory.

**MORECAMBE.**—Morecambe Lodge (No. 1561).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Room, Morecambe-street, on the 1st inst. Although the lodge has only been consecrated within the last nine months, yet, under the superintendence of its first Worshipful Master, the zealous and indefatigable member of the Craft, Bro. J. D. Moore, P.G.S.B., England, it has during the time considerably extended itself, and already occupies a prominent position amongst the Masonic lodges in West Lancashire. There was an unusually large number of brethren present, as well as several visitors from Lancaster. Amongst the former were Bros. Dr. Moore, Capt. Garnett, J.P., (the Worshipful Master elect); W. Duff, T. Longmire, H. Hartley (Morecambe), H. Hartley (Heysham), G. Bingham, W. Stephenson, R. Bannister, J. Shaw, A. E. Poole, W. Asplen, W. W. Wilde, J. Gott, and amongst the latter being Bros. W. J. Ley, P.G.W.; H. Longman, W.M., (1051); J. L. Bradshaw, P.M. (1051); F. G. Dale, J.W. (1353); T. Atkinson, W.M.; F. Dean, P.M.; John Hatch, P.M.; E. Simpson, P.M.; E. Cardwell, S.D.; J. Atkinson, J. Pilkington, J. Thistlethwaite, (281); W. Stewardson, W.M. (Heskell Lodge); D. Redwood, (1527); Dr. Tidswell, &c. The Worshipful Master, Bro. Dr.

Moore, occupied the chair as installing officer, and was supported by his respective officers. The lodge having been opened in the first degree the minutes were read and confirmed, after which the lodge was raised to the second and third degrees. The Worshipful Master elect having been previously presented by the Wardens, the ceremony of installation was proceeded with, officially performed by the installing officer, by whom Bro. Capt. Garnett was inducted to the Chair of King Solomon, according to the ancient rites and ceremonies of the Craft, and afterwards received the homage of the assembled brethren. The working tools were presented by Bro. Longman. The newly elected Master then proceeded to elect his officers for the ensuing year as follows:—Bros. W. Duff, S.W.; T. Longmire, J.W.; H. Hartley, (Morecambe), Treas.; W. Stephenson, Sec.; A. Hartley, (Heysham), S.D.; W. Longmire, J.D.; A. K. Stansfeld, I.G.; and R. Bannister, and E. C. Poole, Stewards, who were inducted into their respective offices by Bro. Moore. The lodge was afterwards closed down to the first degree, when on the motion of the newly-installed Master, seconded by Bro. Duff, a most cordial and hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Dr. Moore for the able and efficient manner in which he had performed the ceremony of installation. The remaining Masonic business was then gone through, at the conclusion of which the brethren adjourned from labour to refreshment, and proceeded to the house of Bro. T. Longmire, the West View Hotel, where a sumptuous banquet was prepared, which was presided over by Capt. Garnett, the newly-appointed Master, who was supported by Bro. Dr. Moore and other leading brethren of the Craft; the duties of croupier being ably discharged by Bro. Duff, the S.W., who was supported by the Deacons and other members of the lodge. On the conclusion of the repast, the chairman gave "The Health of the Queen," and of "The Prince of Wales, the Most Worshipful Grand Master of England." Speaking of the proposal to be brought forward in the Grand Lodge that the Freemasons should have a Masonic thanksgiving in honour of His Royal Highness's safe return from India, the Chairman said he felt sure that nothing could more meet with the approval of the Masonic brethren throughout the country than such a proceeding as that, for the Prince of Wales was endeared to them, not only by Masonic ties, but also by the many other good qualities which he had shown. (Applause.) Bro. Longman proposed the next toast, "The Health of the Earl of Carnarvon, Pro Grand Master, Lord Skelmersdale, the M.W.D.G.M., and other Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge Officers," coupling with the former the name of Bro. Dr. Moore, and with the latter that of Bro. W. J. Sly, each of whom acknowledged the toast. Bro. Moore, in a few well-chosen sentences, proposed the health of the Chairman, and said that although some of them had not seen much of him, yet he would be found no mere tyro in Freemasonry. He considered that in their proceedings to-day honour had been distributed in two places—Bro. Capt. Garrett having conferred honour on the Morecambe Lodge in accepting the office of Master, whilst the Morecambe Lodge had conferred equal honours on Capt. Garnett in installing him as its head. (Hear, hear.) He was sure their new Master would make a good and efficient officer, and that the prestige of the office would lose nothing at his hands. The toast was received with enthusiasm, and the Chairman was heartily greeted on rising to respond. He first expressed the pleasure he felt at being so kindly received amongst them, and expressed his indebtedness to Bro. Dr. Moore for the position he occupied on the occasion. He had always been desirous of attaining to the Master's chair, but owing to the exigencies of a soldier's life, he had never remained long enough in one place to allow of his accomplishing it, and he was obliged to give up hope of doing so till he should have left the service. It was entirely owing to Bro. Dr. Moore that he occupied the position he did, and so long as he had the honour of being Master of the Morecambe Lodge it would be his pleasure and duty to follow as clearly as he could in the footsteps of his worthy predecessor in the office—Bro. Moore. The Chairman then proposed "The Health of the Installing Officer," and thought the Morecambe Lodge must feel much indebted to Bro. Moore for the interest he had taken in it. Bro. Dr. Moore briefly acknowledged the compliment, and expressed his readiness at all times to give what assistance he could for the advancement of the lodge and its members. Bro. E. Simpson proposed "The Health of the Wardens," which was responded to by Bros. Duff and T. Longmire. Bro. Dr. Moore next gave "Success to the Lancashire Lodges," which was responded to by Bros. T. Atkinson, W.M. 281; H. Longman, W.M. 1051; and G. Dale, J.W. 1353, with whose names the toast was coupled. "The Healths of the Treasurer and Secretary" was proposed by Bro. John Hatch, and acknowledged by Bro. Stephenson. Bro. Sly proposed "The Assistant Officers," which was responded to by Bros. H. Hartley and W. Longmire. "The Visitors" followed, and was responded to by Bro. Tidswell. Bro. Moore proposed "The Health of Bro. F. Dean, as an old Past Master, the toast being warmly received, and was duly acknowledged by Bro. Dean. Bro. Duff proposed "The Masonic Press," and alluded to the discretion and prudence exercised by Bro. J. Atkinson in the reports which he furnished of Masonic proceedings, and with whose name the toast was coupled. Bro. J. Atkinson having acknowledged the compliment, Bro. Dr. Moore proposed "The Newly Initiated," coupling with the toast the name of Bro. John Gott, who responded. Other toasts were given and responded to, and the proceedings, which throughout had been of a very agreeable character, terminated about half-past nine o'clock.

The ordinary monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Room, Morecambe-street, on Friday, 2nd inst., the chair of K.S. being occupied by the newly-installed W.M., Bro. Capt. Garnett. There was

only a small number of members present, but several brethren were present from Lancaster. The lodge having been opened with solemn prayer, the minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed, after which the lodge was raised to the Second Degree. Bros. Wilde and Gott having given proof of their proficiency as Fellow Craftsmen, retired, and the lodge having been opened in the Third Degree, they were subsequently re-admitted and raised to the sublime degree of M.M.'s by the W.M., whose working of the ceremonies connected therewith was marked by an exactness and impressiveness very rarely witnessed in one who has hitherto held only subordinate offices in the Craft. The concluding portion of the ceremony was worked by the I.P.M., Bro. Dr. J. D. Moore, P.G.S.B. England, with his well-known ability; the working tools being presented by Bro. H. Longman, W.M. 1051. The lodge was then closed down to the First degree, when Bro. J. C. Bradshaw, P.M. 1051, and Bro. F. G. Dale, J.W. 1353, were proposed as joining members. The usual proclamations were made, and hearty good wishes having been rendered by the visiting brethren, the lodge closed in peace and harmony.

### Royal Arch.

**BOLTON.**—St. John's Chapter (No. 848).—The regular meeting of this chapter was held at the Bull's Head Inn, Bradshawgate, Bolton, on Thursday, the 1st of June, when there were present Comps. Jos. Horrocks, Z.; Robt. Harwood, P. Prov. G. Standard Bearer, H.; Harry Ainsworth, J.; Thomas Chambers, P.Z.; James Newton, P.Z.; Thos. Wilson, P.Z.; and others. The chapter having been opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for a candidate for exaltation, who was unanimously elected. The installation of Principals and investiture of officers then followed, the ceremony being performed by Comp. James Newton, P.Z. The following are the new officers for the ensuing year:—Comp. Robert Harwood, Z.; H. Ainsworth, H.; R. Glaister, J.; Thos. Chambers, E.; H. Greenwood, N.; Jas. Allen, Prin. Soj.; J. Harwood, 1st Ast. Soj.; Thos. Milligan, 2nd Ast. Soj.; T. Wilson, Treas.; T. Higson, Janitor. A candidate was proposed for exaltation, and the chapter was closed.

### Mark Masonry.

**HINCKLEY.**—Knights of Malta Lodge (No. 39).—This old time-immemorial Mark Lodge held its regular meeting on Wednesday, May 24. Present: V. W. Bro. Rev. W. Langley, P.M. 21, P.G.C., Prov. D.P.G.M.M.M., in the chair of Adoniram; Bros. Clark, S.W.; Preston, as J.W.; W. H. Griffiths, M.O.; Smith, as S.O.; Worthington, as J.O.; G. Toller, I.P.M. of 19 as Deacon; Marston, I.G.; and several other brethren. Two candidates being present, Bros. Blastich and Simpkin were advanced to the degree of Mark Man and Mark Master by the W.M. The by-laws of the lodge were considered and amended as to the fees for advancement and annual subscription. Several candidates were proposed, and the lodge was closed in harmony.

### A MASONIC FUNERAL IN CHINA.

Interments with Masonic honours are by no means infrequent in America; but as the distinctive features of the Craft never appear at the grave unless at the request of the deceased, such funerals are very rare in this colony. Mr. E. Estarico, who was formerly proprietor of the Hotel d'Europe, died on Monday last, and according to his dying wish, he was buried in the Happy Valley Cemetery on the 28th March, with all the ancient forms and ceremonies of the Order. Deceased was a member of the Zetland Lodge, and the dispensation having been obtained from the R.W. District Grand Master, T. G. Linstead, by the W. Master of the above named lodge (Bro. L. Mallory), the lodge was formed in the Masonic Hall, a large number of members being present, including the D.G. Master. The preliminary part of the solemn service having been gone through, the members unrobed and adjourned to the Mortuary Chapel, where the lodge was re-formed, and the brethren accompanied the remains of the deceased to the grave.

### PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF NORTHAMPTONSHIRE AND HUNTINGDONSHIRE.

The holding of the Grand Lodge of Freemasons of the province of Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire, at Peterborough, on the 2nd inst., afforded an opportunity for laying the foundation stone of the new aisle which is to be added to the church of St. Mary in that city. The brethren began to assemble at half-past eleven at St. Peter's College, and after attiring themselves, proceeded to the lodge-room and took up the positions assigned to them.

The lodge was opened in due form by the W.M. of St. Peter's (Bro. Waller), and shortly afterwards his Grace the Duke of Manchester, Provincial Grand Master, and Bro. Butler Wilkins, Deputy Provincial Grand Master, with the other Provincial Grand Officers, arrived, and the business was proceeded with. Bro. R. Howes, 445, Fidelity, was re-elected Treasurer; Bro. R. H. Griffin, P.G. S.W. 442, St. Peter's; Bros. J. T. Green, 360, Pomfret, P.G.J.W.; the Hon. and Rev. J. Courtenay Vernon, 607, Chicheley, P.G. Chap.; the Rev. S. Westbrook, 373, Soarates, Prov. G. Assist. Chap.; J. M. Stanton, P.M. 360, P. Prov. G.S.D.; Hawley, Prov. G. Reg.; F. G. Buckle,

Prov. G. Sec.; G. Gaches, 442, St. Peter's, Prov. G.S.D.; Percival, 445, Fidelity, Prov. G.J.G.D.; Jackson, 373, Socrates, Prov. G. Supt. of Works; Marson, P.G.D. of C.; Molyneux, 607, Chicheley, A.P.G.D.C.; Ward, 466, Merit, P.G. Swd. B.; Margetts, 455, Perseverance, P.G. Purst.; Eales, 737, Wentworth, Std. B.

The officers were invested by the Right Worshipful Grand Master, assisted by the D. Prov. G.M.

Bro. Buckle, P. Prov. G.S., then read the report of the Board of Benevolence, who voted the sum of £25 and £20 to two widows in the province, £10 to the male fund of the aged and decayed, and £21 to the Boys' School.

Jewels commemorative of the installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G., M.W. Grand Master of England, were voted to the Stewards of Norths, and Hunts, Bro. E. Cox, 360, Pomfret, and Bro. J. Marson, 373, Socrates.

The Prov. G.M. then moved that an address of congratulation be presented to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., on his safe return from India.

The W.M. of St. Peter's seconded, and it was approved.

A vote of thanks to the brethren of that lodge for the handsome manner in which they had received the Provincial Grand Lodge was proposed by Bro. Butler Wilkins, D. Prov. G.M., seconded and approved, and this concluded the business.

The brethren were then marshalled by Bro. Marson, Dir. of Cers., in the quadrangle of the College, and proceeded by the playground through the Deanery to the Cathedral, opening out right and left along the nave, so that the Prov. G. Officers and Chaplain might pass up the centre, and then closing in and taking the seats allotted to them in the north and south transepts. Prayers were read by the Rev. W. Katterns, curate of St. Mary's, and the lessons by the Assistant Chaplain (Bro. F. S. Westbrook) and Canon Argles respectively. The anthem was "O give thanks," that most appropriate passage being introduced, "The stone which the builders refused has become the headstone in the corner," and Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus" was finely rendered by the lay clerks and chorists after the anthem proper. The sermon was preached by the Prov. G. Chaplain (Bro. the Hon. and Rev. J. Courtenay Vernon), who took for his text 1 Peter iii. 8—"Be ye all of one mind." He said he had selected the words because he considered them appropriate to that day's business, and more particularly to the Craft to which so many of those present belonged. One of the great beauties, and the chief essence of the brotherhood, was that in all its principles and precepts it inculcated and sought to instil into the mind unity amongst themselves, and good will and peace to all mankind. The preacher then showed the wider significance of the words to Christians, and contrasted those who held the unity of the faith with that false unity which was to be found amongst the ungodly, but which rested on no solid foundation because there was no true love amongst them. He concluded with an appeal on behalf of the building fund of St. Mary's and the Masonic Charities, and after the sermon the Stewards collected amongst the brethren. The singing of the hymn, "All people that on earth do dwell" was followed by the Benediction.

The service being over, the brethren re-formed, leaving the west part of the Cathedral in the following order:—Bros. Mills and Willson, Sword Bearer; Lodge No. 737, Wentworth (Wellingborough), T. Cook, H. James, &c.; Lodge No. 607, Chicheley (Thrapston, Bros. Revs. Westbrook, Hawthorn, and J. Courtenay Vernon; Lodge No. 466, Merit (Stamford), Bros. Orford, Peck, Wright, Rev. S. G. W. Sanders, &c.; Lodge No. 455, Perseverance (Kettering); amongst whom we noticed Bros. Miller, P.P.J.G.D. and P.M.; Margetts, W.M.; Coles, P.M.; Salmons, P.M.; Standley, I.G.; Dainty, and Beeby; Lodge No. 445, Fidelity (Towcester), Bros. G. Osborn, R. Howes, W. A. Howes, T. M. Percival, W. H. Linnell, Crowley, G. Willcox, Smith, J. Tunnard, &c.; Lodge No. 373, Socrates (Huntingdon); Lodge No. 360, Pomfret (Northampton), represented by Bros. R. Howes, P.G.T.; J. T. Green, P.G.J.W.; J. Stanton, P.M.; H. J. Atkins; J. Whitehouse, P.G.S. and J.W.; H. W. Parker, H. Spoor, E. Ashford, A. Richardson, J. Bingley, Gadsby, Wood, H. Brown, Rev. S. J. W. Sanders, &c.; J. H. Williams, Winter, S.W., and Dean; Lodge No. 442, St. Peter's, Junior Members, Past Masters, the Cornucopia containing wheat, and the trowel, Bro. Vergette, S.W., with ewer of wine, and Bro. Gachen, J.W., with ewer of oil; Dr. Waller, W.M. of 442, with mallet of the lodge. Past Provincial Grand Lodge Officers of Norths and Hunts; visitors of the other Provincial Grand Lodges, Juniors in front, and Wardens and Deputy Grand Masters in the rear, the Grand Lodge officers; Superintendent of Works and Registrar, the latter with bottle containing newspapers, including copies of the "Freemason," to put under the stone; the Secretary and Treasurer, the latter with coins to put under the stone; Junior Warden with plumb rule, and Senior Warden with level; Assistant Chaplain and Chaplain of Provincial Grand Lodge; the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Dr. Butler Wilkins, with a square; the Director and Assistant Director of the Ceremonies; Standard Bearer, Sword Bearer; His Grace the Duke of Manchester, P.G.M.; Bros. Dixey and Pilcher, Stewards.

It may be easily conceived that the procession was one of which the like has not been seen for many a day in Peterborough. The inhabitants, no doubt, were gratified by the sight, and the profuse use of flags, streamers, and banners, many of which were inscribed with "Hearty Good Wishes," showed that something out of the ordinary way had been anticipated. As the procession moved through the Minster and out of the west gateway, to the Market-place, and then turned along the Causeway, in the direction of the New-road, the route, admirably kept by the Stewards, assisted by the police, was lined with hundreds

of people, many of whom were, no doubt, discussing with much curiosity the clothing, so richly adorned with gold and silver, and the jewels, which in the case of the Provincial Grand Officers, literally covered their breasts.

On arriving at the Church of St. Mary's, the hymn, "We love Thy place, O, God," was sung, and the brethren having opened out and faced inwards, the Duke, and those who were to take part in the ceremony, walked through to the site of the stone-laying. Canon Argles heartily welcomed His Grace, who had come with so many of his brethren to assist the work of enlarging a church which was so much required for an increasing population. There was still a deficiency of £400, and they had looked forward to something being done that day by the powerful Masonic body, of which His Grace was the head.

The bottle of papers and coins was then placed in a cavity of the stone, and covered; after which His Grace (the P.G.M.) spread the mortar with the trowel belonging to the St. Peter's Lodge, and the stone was lowered with three drops. The plumb rule, level, and square were next applied, and the Duke then tapped it with the gavel or mallet and pronounced it well and truly laid, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. The mallet used on this occasion has a history, as the inscription on the plate shows. It is as follows:—"By order of the Worshipful Grand Master, His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex and Worshipful Master of the Lodge of Antiquity, and with the concurrence of the brethren of the lodge, this plate has been engraved and affixed to this mallet, A.L. 5831, A.D. 1827, to commemorate that this being the same mallet with which His Majesty King Charles the Second levelled the foundation stone of St. Paul's Cathedral, A.L. 5672, A.D. 1675, was presented to the old Lodge of St. Paul, now the Lodge of Antiquity, acting by immemorial constitution by Bro. Sir Christopher Wren W.D.G.M., Worshipful Master of this Lodge and architect of that edifice.

Bro. F. G. Hodson, P.P.G., Chaplain, said he had been requested to address a few words to them in connection with the ceremony they had just witnessed. When engaged on a work like that they were but performing the natural duties of their order. They were Masons. In Masonry and all akin to it some of their deepest sympathies were enlisted, especially in such Masonry as that which, when completed, they had reason to believe would add to the glory of God and the good of their fellowmen in that city. It was the pride of true Masonry to lend both its sanction and its help to all works which were consecrated to the honour of the great Architect of the Universe, and the eternal welfare of their brethren in the world. He reminded them of what was done at the last general meeting of the Grand Lodge of England to commemorate the safe return of the Grand Master, the Prince of Wales, and said that being influenced by a similar spirit, their Provincial Grand Lodge felt itself at home in the good work in which it was engaged. Doubtless that addition to St. Mary's Church was a good work, for the church was at present inadequate to the wants of the increasing population, and there could not be so many worshippers as would otherwise avail themselves of the privileges offered. The remembrance of the glories and fair proportions of Solomon's magnificent temple came to the mind of the Mason on such an occasion as that, and stirred within him a desire to make God's house more beautiful and more majestic than was His own house then. Many of the noble sentiments of their Craft were intimately connected with that grand old temple at Jerusalem. God grant that they might so influence their minds as to cause them to freely open their purses and freely lend their aid to all kindred institutions.—In reply, his Grace, the P.G.M., said he had been very much favoured in being requested to lay the stone, and he hoped that success might attend their efforts in getting funds to complete the building. The brethren had done something towards reducing the deficit, and in any case he hoped the services would still be continued for the benefit of their fellowmen and to the Glory of God.

His Grace then scattered wheat upon the stone as an emblem of the blessing they desired to be poured upon them by Him whom they honoured, and the Masonic part of the ceremony being concluded, the public were invited by Canon Argles to contribute to the building fund.

The stone laid was inscribed as follows:—"Dei gloria. This corner stone of the north aisle as an addition to the Church of Saint Mary, Peterborough, was laid on the 1st of June, 1876, by his Grace the Duke of Manchester, Prov. G.M., and the officers and brethren of Norths and Hunts.

The new aisle, we may add, will be 14 ft. 9 in. wide, and 62 ft. long, and will be seated with chairs so as to accommodate 208 persons. The north wall will be removed and in the place of that will be an arcade like that on the south side, while the windows will be utilized for lighting the new aisle, and it will thus accord more closely with the other part of the church, which has but little claim to notice architecturally. It is also intended at the same time to construct a tower which will be carried up to the new roof and covered, so that the spire can be added hereafter. The total cost of the work is upwards of £1,000, of which £400 has yet to be obtained. Mr. H. M. Townshend is the architect, and Mr. J. Thompson the builder.

After the ceremony of laying the stone the brethren re-formed in procession and walked to the Great Northern Hotel, where the banquet had been prepared in a tastefully-decorated marquee. The canvas was lined with red, white, blue, and green bunting, and shields bearing the Masonic emblems were affixed to the poles. There were three or four gasaliers in case artificial light was needed, and the general effect was heightened by large mirrors at each end of the marquee. The chair was taken

by the Prov. G.M., and on the right of his Grace sat the D. Prov. G.M., Bro. Butler Wilkins; on his left Bro. Kelly, P. Prov. G.M. of Leicestershire, with the provincial officers on either side.

About 200 sat down to the excellent repast served in Bro. Moore's usual manner, and which gave the greatest satisfaction.

After grace, which was said by the Prov. G. Chaplain, the good things were discussed for some time, Bro. Marson taking the office of toast-master, which he discharged most efficiently.

In giving "The Queen and the Craft," his Grace said he was sure he could not say anything in an assembly of loyal Englishmen, much less in an assembly of loyal Masons, to induce them to receive cordially the health of the Queen. Under her reign the country had flourished, the Empire had increased both in extent and in wealth, in power and in prosperity. They all hoped as Masons and as loyal subjects that her reign might long continue, and that they might long drink the toast of "The Queen and Craft."

The toast was duly honoured, a private band playing the National Anthem.

The Prov. G. Master next gave "The Health of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G., the M.W. Grand Master of England," and said he had been told by those who had accompanied His Royal Highness on his Indian tour that nothing could have been happier than the way in which he received persons of all races and ranks. He made a most favourable impression upon all, and his friends especially were delighted with the tact, the discretion, and the good taste which he showed at all times. As a Mason they knew his merits, and as his (the Duke's) time was short he would say no more, but ask them to drink cordially "The Health of their Grand Master, the Prince of Wales."

As the P.G.M. had to leave in order to be present at the State Ball at Buckingham Palace that evening, the chair was afterwards taken by the D.P.G.M., Bro. Butler Wilkins, who gave the "M.W. Pro G.M., the Earl of Carnarvon, and the M.W.D.G.M., Lord Skelmersdale, and Officers of the Grand Lodge," and then called upon Bro. Waller, W.M. 442, to propose "The Health of the P.G.M., his Grace the Duke of Manchester."

That was done in suitable terms, Bro. Waller saying that the popularity of their P.G.M. was proved by the many public demands made upon him.

Bro. Kelly, P.P.G.M. Leicestershire, next gave "The Health of the P.D.G.M., Bro. Butler Wilkins.

Bro. Kelly remarked that however generous the Grand Master might be, upon his deputy must fall the burden and heat of the day in carrying out the duties. He was glad to know that Bro. Inns had such a successor. But as "good wine needs no bush," a good toast required no eulogium.

D.P.G.M., Butler Wilkins, replied very ably. He took the opportunity of thanking the different lodges and chapters in the province for the kind reception they had given him whenever he had had the honour of paying them a visit, and he thought that had not the Prov. G.M. been compelled to leave he would have been gratified to know that throughout the province over which he presided all the lodges were in working order. Differences of opinion would arise in all communities, but he was happy to say that in that province they were so slight as not in any way to interfere with the carrying out of those Masonic principles which all should observe, and which tended to unite them more closely in the cause of brotherly love, relief and truth. In meeting his brethren at the close of the first year of office, he felt himself in a position somewhat similar to that of a member of Parliament before his constituents, sensible of many shortcomings; but when he saw so many present, to welcome the R.W. Prov. G.M., and remembered that many had entered the higher degree of Royal Arch with satisfaction to themselves,—when he called to mind the energy and zeal displayed in working the different lodges which so many had joined, while others were seeking admission into their Craft,—he could not help feeling, that Masonry was steadily and surely progressing. It was progressing, he was happy to say, in the right direction. He made the remark last year on a similar occasion, that there should be no standing still, but that they should all do their best to support those institutions, from which they derived benefit. That had borne fruit, for they had seen that day in the person of the present Senior Warden (Bro. R. H. Griffin) a well known truth amply illustrated, that in every age men would always rise to fill the offices as occasion required. The D.P.G.M. then spoke of what the province had done for the Masonic institutions, remarking though it numbered only eight lodges, it stood in the front rank, and was, he might say, A 1 in the amount of its subscriptions. He was sure that the honour conferred on Bro. Griffin would be endorsed, and that it would stimulate other brethren in after years to follow so good an example. The D.P.G.M. spoke amusingly of the Provincial Grand coach, and its double team of eight having gone so smoothly that all he should have to do would be to try and remove the difficulties if the road became rough and rugged, and keep the necessary parts well oiled; and he closed with expressing thanks to the P.G.S. and the brethren of St. Peter's.

The toast of "The Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution" gave opportunities for Bros. Binckes and Terry to advocate those they represented, and several other toasts—"The Visiting Brethren," "Past Provincial Grand Officers," "Provincial Grand Treasurer and Secretary," "Provincial Grand Wardens, and Officers, and W.M.'s of Lodges," &c.—were afterwards given, with the Tyler's toast at the finish.

The Provincial Grand Lodge will be held next year at Thrapston.



## PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND.

The half-yearly communication of this Provincial Grand Lodge was held at the Corn Exchange, Melton Mowbray, on Monday, May 29th.

The charmingly fine weather, the numerous attendance, and the reception accorded by the members of the local lodge contributed to render the meeting one of a most successful and enjoyable character. The Rutland Lodge, No. 1130, under the auspices of which the Prov. Grand Lodge was held, was opened by the W.M., Bro. Luke Riley, after which the R.W. Prov. G.M. and the officers of the Prov. Grand Lodge entered the lodge in procession, the chair being surrendered to the Prov. G.M., the Right Honourable the Earl Ferrers, who opened the Provincial Grand Lodge in due form. Amongst those present, in addition to the Prov. G.M., were the following:—Bros. Rev. W. Langley, P.P.S.G.W., acting as D.P.G.M.; Rev. J. F. Halford, Prov. S.G.W.; J. J. Fast, P.P.S.G.W.; J. C. Duncombe, Prov. J.G.W.; W. Adcock and C. Stretton, P.P.J.G.W.'s; Revs. J. H. Smith and (Canon) H. J. Burfield, Prov. G. Chaplains; W. B. Smith, Prov. G. Treas.; C. Woodcock, Prov. G. Reg.; S. S. Partridge, Prov. G. Sec.; F. J. Baines, Prov. G.S.D.; Weare and Duff, P.P.G.S.D.'s; W. Hardy, P.P.G.J.D.; R. Dalgleish, Prov. G. Supt. of Works; C. J. McBride, Prov. G.A.D.C.; T. Markham, P.P.G.D.C.; R. Boughton-Smith, P.P.G.A.D.C.; H. James, Prov. G. Sw. B.; C. L. Ferneley, as Prov. G. Org.; J. Wright Smith, Prov. G. Purst.; Bright and Amatt, P.P.G.P.'s; L. Riley, Prov. G.A.P.; Alfred Palmer and C. E. Stretton, P.P.G.A.P.'s; Worthington, Prov. G. St. B.; Cleaver, Selby, and Mason, Prov. G. Stewards; Bembridge and Dunn, Prov. G. Tylers, and many other Past Provincial Grand Officers, W.M.'s, and Wardens of private lodges. The visitors' list included Bros. H. Peake, Prov. S.G.W. Norths and Hunts; P. Glover, Prov. G. Org. Berks and Bucks, and others.

The Prov. G.M. having been saluted with the customary honours, the Prov. G. Secretary read the minutes of the last meeting in November last, which were confirmed.

The Roll of Lodges was next called, when it was found that every lodge in the province was well represented.

A Report of the Provincial Committee of General Purposes was submitted, recommending the appointment of a Provincial Charity Committee for the purpose of managing and utilizing the voting power of the province at the elections of the great Masonic charities, and more systematically and effectively advocating the claims of those institutions on the liberality of the brethren, and also further recommending the formation of a Charity Fund to be devoted to the support of the charities above referred to, and for Masonic relief in special cases. The report was unanimously adopted and by-laws, framed by the Committee and submitted for adoption for the purpose of carrying into effect their recommendations, were considered and discussed seriatim, and, with certain additions and amendments, proposed by Bros. Langley, Stretton, and others, were duly passed.

Amendments were also made in the by-laws of the Prov. G. Lodge for the purpose of giving the Committee of General Purposes a more representative character, and also for admitting new lodges and other Masonic bodies using the Leicester Masonic Hall to representation on the Committee of Management of that building.

Bros. L. A. Clarke and C. Stretton were unanimously re-elected to represent the Leicester Masonic Hall Committee.

The following congratulatory address to the M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, on his return from India, was read by the Prov. G. Secretary:—

"To His Royal Highness, Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of England.

"May it please your Royal Highness, "We, the Provincial Grand Master, the Past Provincial Grand Master, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Officers and Brethren of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Leicestershire and Rutland, in Provincial Grand Lodge assembled, desire to embrace the opportunity, which our half-yearly communication this day held at Melton Mowbray affords us, of offering to your Royal Highness our warmest congratulations upon your safe and happy return to your native land. We have heard with feelings of unbounded satisfaction that on all sides you have been received with that respect and devotion which your exalted position justly entitles you to, and at the same time with a thorough heartiness which the generous nature of your character so fully inspires. We are confident that the journey so wisely undertaken by your Royal Highness and now prosperously terminated, has been fraught with immense advantages to the princes and peoples of India, and that the judicious and conciliatory manner in which you have treated those with whom you have come in contact has left an impression which will not be easily effaced.

"We feel that our heartfelt gratitude is due to the Great Architect of the Universe for safely carrying you through the dangers and difficulties of your journey, for the preservation of your health in the changes of temperature and climate to which you have been subjected, and for giving you strength to carry out the arduous duties you have everywhere so ably and willingly performed. Our fervent prayer will ever be that He will have you in His keeping and give you health and much happiness, that you may be a blessing to your country, your family, and the Ancient Craft over which you so worthily preside.

"Signed this 29th day of May, 1876.

"Ferrers, Prov. G.M.

"William Kelly, P.P.G.M.

"Henry St. John Halford, D.P.G.M.

(Countersigned)

"S. S. Partridge, P.M., Prov. G. Sec.

Bro. the Rev. Canon Burfield moved and Bro. the Rev. J. F. Halford seconded the adoption of the address, and on being put by the R.W. Prov. G.M., the motion was carried by acclamation.

This concluded the business of the meeting, and after hearty good wishes had been expressed by the several visitors and an invitation tendered by Bro. Peake, Prov. S.G.W. of Norths and Hunts, to the Leicestershire and Rutland brethren to visit his province at the meeting of Prov. G. Lodge at Peterborough on Thursday next, the Provincial Grand Master closed his lodge in accordance with ancient custom.

The brethren afterwards went to the George Hotel, where an excellent banquet, prepared by Bro. Childs, was in readiness, at which the Provincial Grand Master presided, and on his retirement to leave by an early train the chair was taken by Bro. the Rev. W. Langley, when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and duly honoured, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

It is but just to the brethren of the Rutland Lodge, No. 1130, to record that the various arrangements, both in the lodge-room and at the banquet, for the reception of the members of Provincial Grand Lodge were in every respect admirable and perfect, and the hearty welcome offered to them was most gratifying.

## PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF ESSEX.

The annual meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge was held at the Mission Hall, Harwich, kindly lent for the occasion by Bro. R. J. Bagshaw. There was a large attendance. The hall was tastefully decorated with flowers at the upper end, supplied by Bro. Ward, of Ramsey, and the furniture of the lodge was entirely new, being that provided for the Star of the East Lodge, Harwich, under whose banner the proceedings were held. Much credit is due to the W.M. of the Harwich Lodge, Bro. G. G. Pye, and his indefatigable Secretary, Bro. Basham, for the completeness of the arrangements for the reception of the brethren of the province. The Provincial Grand Treasurer, Bro. Barton, opened the proceedings. The Right Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. M. Clark, was then installed, and the lodge opened in form, Bro. the Rev. Mr. Pertwee offering prayer.

A letter was read from the R.W.P.G. Master, Bro. R. J. Bagshaw, regretting his inability to be present; also from the Grand Secretary, Bro. Hervey, the First Master of the Star in the East Lodge; and Lord Waveney, P.G.M. Suffolk, to the same effect.

The officers for the ensuing year were appointed as follows:—The Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Matthew E. Clark; Senior Warden, Augustus Clench, W.M. 697; Junior Warden, Alfred Welch, W.M. 51; Chaplain, the Rev. E. Pertwee, Lodge Hope, Brightlingsea; Treasurer, Joseph Burton, P.M. 276, Chelmsford; Secretary, John Wright Carr, P.M. 160 and 276; Registrar, — Clarkson, Bagshaw Lodge, Buckhurst Hill; Senior Deacon, Frank Whitmore, W.M. 296; Junior Deacon, E. E. Phillips, W.M. 1000; Director of Ceremonies, Peter Matthews, W.M. 276; Assistant Director of Ceremonies, Alfred Lucking, P.M. 160; Superintendent of Works, — Burgess, Hope and Unity; Organist, Rogers; Sword Bearer W. Basham, Sec. 650; Bishop, 276; Tyler, — Sarell, 276.

The only lodge unrepresented was the Rosslyn Lodge, the Master of which was prevented at the last moment from attending by a domestic affliction.

The brethren afterwards dined at the Great Eastern Hotel. The banquet was served in a style that gave general satisfaction. There was some excellent singing, and towards the close of the proceedings a party of hand-bell ringers performed an entertaining selection.

The R.W.D.P.G. Master presided, supported by the W.M. of the Star in the East, Bro. G. G. Pye, and about eighty other brethren. Bro. Clench, W.M. of the United, Colchester, G.S. Warden, in the vice-chair.

Among those present at the lodge and banquet were the following:—W. O. Ward, 65, P.P.G.P.; James Durrant, P.M., P.P.S.D. Essex; H. Foulger, 433; E. West, W.M. 1431; W. H. Walker, 650; Walter Balls, 650; Alfred Sturgeon, S.W. 1343; Frederick Adlard, 276, P.A.D.C.; William Balls, 433; A. S. Rogers, S.D. 433; W. Clarry, P.M. 433; C. Blyth, P.M. 433; G. Riches, P.M. 433; J. E. Wiseman, P.M. and Sec. 433, P.P.G.S.D.; B. York, P.M. 433; John Ward, P.M. 433; Joseph Hanly, I.G. 51, P.G.S. Essex; Francis B. Capon, 51; W. Nichols, 433; T. R. Quilter, P.M. 51; J. Howard, 650; Thomas Jennings, 650; W. H. Butcher, 650; J. Dunlop, S.W. 650; N. Dickson, P.M. 650; F. Edwards, 1091; G. Jackson, 650; Charles Pratt, 650; D. Reed, W.M. 453, 1437; J. Clarkson, P.M. 145; J. Watts, 650; E. E. Phillips, P.M. 379; T. F. Bishop, 276; F. Wright, 697, 1500; W. F. Hasler, S.W. 1312; D. Howard, 650; T. Water, 650; W. Oxenham, J.D. 650; Thos. Malchom, 100, 1457; A. K. Clench, W.M. 697; T. Eustace, P.M. 697; W. Bright, 1312; G. Harvey, 697; E. Shedd, W.M. 276; T. W. Naylor, S.W. 697; A. Richardson, 697; W. P. Lewis, P.M. and P.Z. 51; Geo. Mercer, 51; W. H. Ablitt, 51; T. Downing, 697; W. Barrett, 213; R. Thackeray, 650; A. T. Chambers, 650; W. H. Bateman, J.W. 697; W. G. Siggers, 697; A. Hunt, 276; E. Henne Meyer, 51, 697; A. Welch, W.M. 51; Ambrose Tennant, Henry Samuel, P.M. 51; W. Richey, 51 and 700; W. S. Sprent, 51, P.G.S.B.; W. Basham, Sec. 650; A. C. Veley, P.M. 276, P.G.J.W.; C. Gunner, Tyler 51; J. Brice, 650; W. Murray, 225; T. Truce, P.G.D. 276; Frank Whitmore, P.M. 276; W. G. Burgess, W.M. 214; G. Gard Pye, P.P.G.S.W., W.M. 650, S.W. 51; F. A. Cole, P.P.G.R., P.M. 51; S. Chaplin, P.P.G.S.W., P.M. 51, T. J. Ralling, Sec. 51; Fred. Slandford, 1024; John Coppin, P.M. 51, P.P.

G.J.W.; T. Rix, R.M. 697, P.P.G.S.B.; J. H. Boulton, D.C. 697; Chas. Lucas, 650; D. M. B. Wheeler, J.W. 276; and others.

Visitors—J. R. Foulger, P.M. 177 and 795, P.Z. 177; Robert Bewick, J. H. Staddon, W.M. 376; and others.

The Provincial Grand Lodge voted £10 10s. out of its funds towards the Harwich lifeboat.

## Masonic and General Tidings.

At the Levée held by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales for and on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen our excellent and well-known Bro. Lieutenant-Colonel James Peters had the pleasure and honour of presenting to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales Bro. the Rev. J. Vaughan, M.A.

The Prince and Princess of Wales arrived on Monday afternoon at Sandringham with their children for the Whitsun holidays. The Prince has been absent from Sandringham for eight months. Their Royal Highnesses and suite consisted of Lady Emily Kingscote, Miss Knollys, Colonel Teesdale, Bro. Francis Knollys, Mr. Holzmann, and the Rev. J. N. Dalton.

A valuable testimonial, in the shape of a handsomely-chased silver claret jug, has been presented to Bro. J. T. Ward, of St. John's College, Cambridge, the senior wrangler, by the master and scholars, past and present, of the Rochester Grammar School, at which Bro. Ward was educated. Bro. Ward, who met with a complete ovation, alluded in terms of gratitude to the excellent education he had received at Rochester, before he passed to the University, under the able tuition of his valued master, the Rev. Robert Whiston.

POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS.—It is announced by order of the Postmaster-General that correspondence for the French colonies will be subject, on and after July 1st, to the rates of postage applicable to the Postal Union. There will also be a reduction of postage to the East Indies, Aden, and Zanzibar, and to Australia and New Zealand, via Brindisi, and to Ceylon, the Straits Settlements, China, Labuan, and other foreign countries in the East, either via Brindisi or via Marseilles.

The thirty-first festival of the Royal General Theatrical Fund was held on Wednesday night in the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street. Mr. Alfred de Rothschild presided, and among those present were Mr. J. B. Buckstone, Mr. Alfred Wigan, Mr. E. Villiers, Mr. J. Coleman, Mr. E. L. Blanchard, Mr. E. Ledger, Mr. C. W. Thompson, and Mr. Garston Murray.

The Coaching Club has given a donation of £50 to the Cabdrivers' Benevolent Association, 15, Soho-square, as a contribution to the annuity fund for aged or infirm cabmen.

The annual fête and summer entertainment at the Asylum for Idiots, Earlswood, Redhill, Surrey, will be held on Thursday, July 6th.

It is expected that H.R.H. Prince Leopold, Prov. G.M. Oxford, who arrived in Paris on Tuesday night, will make some stay in that capital.

Sir Gilbert Scott's design for completing the restoration of the exterior of the octagon of Ely Cathedral, at a cost of nearly £3000, has been adopted.

The Secretary of State for War has approved of a review of Volunteers taking place in Hyde Park on or about July 1. The exact date will hereafter be notified.

Madame Tussaud and Sons have added a model portrait of the late Sultan, Abdul Aziz, to their collection.

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., was presented with a congratulatory address by the brethren of Lynn on Monday last.

The annual dinner of the Needleworkers' Company will take place at the Star and Garter, Richmond, on Saturday, the 24th inst.

The annual festival of the Benevolent Fund of Mark Grand Lodge will be held on the 19th July.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Kent is to be held at Deal on Wednesday, July 12th, at which meeting it is proposed to vote one hundred pounds to the relief of three poor brethren, two hundred pounds to the Freemasons' Boys' School, forty pounds to the Girls' School, and a similar amount to the Benevolent Institution; also to consider the following proposition, proposed by Bro. G. Snow, P. Prov. G.S.W.:—"That in the opinion of this Provincial Grand Lodge the time has arrived for special provision being made for the infant orphans of Masons, and that the opinion of the other Provincial Grand Lodges be ascertained as to whether if an institution, somewhat similar to the Infant Orphan Asylum, having for its object the reception of infant orphans of Masons be established, it would receive their support."

CONSECRATION OF A NEW LODGE IN LIVERPOOL.—The warrant for the Dramatic Lodge, No. 1609, was received last Saturday, and the consecration will take place in the course of next week or that following. Bro. J. Bell, W.M. 1356, is, by special dispensation, the W.M. Designate, and Bro. W. Chapman the S.W. Designate; and there is little doubt that the latest addition to the roll of lodges will, from the spirit displayed in connection with its foundation, take first rank in every respect amongst those in West Lancashire.

On Wednesday evening the Worshipful Company of Fishmongers entertained a numerous and distinguished assembly in their hall at London Bridge, on the occasion of the presentation of the freedom of the guild to Bro. His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught.

Hospital Sunday, 18th inst.

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OF THE

## MASONIC MAGAZINE.

198, FLEET-STREET, LONDON.

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

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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.

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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.

Several communications unavoidably stand over.

## Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

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

## BIRTHS.

ARMSTRONG.—On the 27th ult., at South Shields, the wife of J. F. Armstrong, M.D., of a son.

BAKER.—On the 2nd inst., at Herne-hill-road, Brixton, the wife of J. F. Baker, of a son.

BROWNE.—On the 2nd inst., at Framden, Suffolk, the wife of the Rev. S. B. Browne, of a son.

HUNT.—On the 3rd inst., at Oak Park, East Finchley, the wife of J. W. Hunt, of a son.

LEITH.—On the 3rd inst., at Queen's-gardens, the wife of W. Leith, Esq., of a son.

## MARRIAGES.

BAKER—WILKES.—On the 1st inst., at St. Paul's, Wal-sall, Harry Baker, of Huyton, Lancashire, to Sarah Kezia, daughter of Mr. G. Wilkes.

COOK—FORREST.—On the 1st inst., at Milltown, Co. Dublin, Herbert Cook, Esq., of Matlaske Hall, Norfolk, to Edith, daughter of J. Forrest, Esq.

COOPER—FREUER.—On the 1st inst., at Wetheringsett-cum-Brockford, Suffolk, Philip, son of D. Cooper, Esq., of Pyne House, Clapham Common, to Mary Ray, daughter of the late W. L. B. Freuer, of West Rudham, Norfolk.

## DEATHS.

COLLINS.—On the 30th ult., Daniel Edward Collins, Esq., of Whitley, near Coventry, aged 54.

DAWSON.—On the 4th inst., at 71, Elsham Road, Edith Grace, youngest daughter of Thomas Dawson, Esq.

DRUMMOND.—On the 3rd inst., at St. George's-place, Hyde Park-corner, London, George Stirling Home Drummond, Esq., of Blair Drummond and Ardoch, Perthshire, aged 63 years.

PULLEN.—On the 4th inst., at Lower Broughton, Manchester, Willie, the dearly beloved son of Robert William and Nancy Pullen, in the 7th year of his age.

ROSE.—On the 1st inst., at Farleigh Road, Stoke Newington, John Falconer Rose, aged 37.

WEST.—On the 3rd inst., at Putney, Edward Robert, son of F. B. West, aged 30.

WOOD.—On the 30th ult., at Westlands, West Grinstead, George Edward Wood, Esq., aged 76.

## The Freemason,

SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 1876.

## THE LIMITS OF MASONIC PUBLICATION.

This is confessedly one of the most difficult topics on which to dilate, or with which to treat. And the difficulty arises from the very nature of things, from the necessities of the case. For we in England—rightly or wrongly, we pause not to enquire to-day—adhere firmly to the oral delivery of ceremonial and exposition. In some countries it is different, but with us, and we think wisely, there is no "sealed book," so to say, of general appeal and infallible authority. Hence the publication of the proceedings of the Craft in England always has two great difficulties to contend with, and runs the risk of being confronted by one of the two "horns of the dilemma," over-publication of detail, uninteresting repetition of commonplace and well-known Ritual formularies. "Incidis in Scyllam cupiens evitare Charibdin." If, for instance, you dilate too much on lodge proceedings, you inevitably find yourselves treating as common and fit matters for publication the minutiae of the ritualism of Freemasonry until to profanes as well as to professed the technical terms and usages of lodge work become quite familiar. This we hold to be a great mistake, and therefore we have now for some time carefully eschewed, as far as lay in us, all references and correspondence respecting pure ritual, and shall certainly continue to do so. So again, if you simply relate the normal proceedings of lodge work and lodge banquets, the reading becomes neither very intellectual nor very profitable. Like in all other things, sameness produces monotony, and plethora leads to surfeit. It appears to us, therefore, that in order to keep to the "golden mean" in this branch of Masonic literature we should always endeavour to avoid too much expansion and freedom of language on the one hand and too much repetition of well-known habits on the other. While one extreme is hurtful to the interests of Freemasonry, the other falls upon our Masonic palate, so that it often requires a steady hand to keep the helm amidships, and steer the good old Craft safely through the breakers on either side into the still water of peaceful and approving sympathy. We hold, then, it will be observed, that great caution is still both advisable and requisite in all Masonic publication, and that especially as regards the current proceedings of the Order our reports should be neither too profuse in gushing statements, nor too dry in long-accustomed technicalities. That is a most mistaken view of the Masonic Press which would identify it with anything of unlicensed publication, and we cannot too severely deprecate anything like hasty indiscretion on a point which is, in our opinion, so essential to the best interests of Freemasonry, owing to the peculiar nature and characteristic of the Institution itself. But there is another feature of this question of publication which we must now consider. It is not merely the hebdomadal reporting of Masonic proceedings, or lodge gatherings, with which we have to do. We may observe that the actual reports in the "*Freemason*," qua reports, are marked by great clearness, skill, and fairness. But there is a Masonic literature which is, to say the truth, going ahead. And if it be true that good old Dr. Oliver paved the way by a too liberal dealing with Masonic regulation, by too much of communicativeness on matters, too, not purely archaeological, we can but feel that others have out-Heroded Herod. In some countries and by some writers Masonic publication seem to have been pushed to the extreme that propriety would suggest or duty sanction. Some might be disposed to say and to think a good deal beyond both, but we do not wish to appear to lay down anything like the principles of a Masonic censorship. There is still a wide difference, in our humble opinion, between what is allowable to print on Masonic archaeology, and what is permissible, even in good form, to publish in respect of Masonic ceremonial. The former may fairly be submitted to the profane and to the world, the latter ought to be reserved for the professed and the lodge-

room. In this respect we feel sure that we are on a wrong tack and a "false scent," so to say, and shall have to retrace our steps, to "hark back." We cannot continue to go the pace! If the system some are following is to be persisted in, there will be little left of Masonic reserve, and all the checks of Masonic silence and caution will have been ruthlessly swept away. Though this is true rather of other countries than our own, still the warning is needed by us, as we have a school, though not a large one, anxious apparently, though not on any very intelligible grounds, to be very generous and communicative as regards the arcana of Freemasonry. We can, then, have little hesitation in condemning such a system openly to-day. It is hurtful to Freemasonry, and injurious to us all. It affects our Masonic character for fair dealing and plain sailing, and our fidelity to an honorable observance of our own laws, and tends more than anything else to give arms to the hands of those who deprecate or dislike Masonic literature per se, while it alarms the timid, and decides the hesitating, being so clearly an open violation of the first principles of our Order. What Masonic literature may be, might be, ought to be, we will consider next week.

## THE EXPENSES OF LODGE BANQUETS.

One of the most unsatisfactory arrangements of our private lodges is, that connected with the victualling and commissariat department. A very large amount is annually swallowed up by the payment for dinners, which might be much better used, for which no satisfactory return is made, and which are too often, amid much external show, but a "Barmecides feast" for hungry and querulous brethren. It is certainly very hard, after a long day's work in chambers or counting-house, amid the Bulls and the Bears, in the hospital, or in the parish, amid the grave duties which harass and perplex all ordinary mortals, to find ourselves seated down to partake of insipid viands and questionable wines, to receive indeed but a very poor equivalent for what we pay so liberally. One feels under such melancholy circumstances how the innate dignity of the Briton and of the Freemason is palpably and materially injured; how the needful feelings of self-respect and self-gratification ought to be asserted and vindicated. But what is to be done? Labour requires refreshment. We must eat and drink, though the cynic may say, "Je ne vois pas la nécessité," and how else are the arduous sacrifices we make for the work and honour of our lodges to be fitly repaid or compensated? What "solatium" are we to receive when we have adjourned from the serious responsibilities of lodge rule and work, to the pleasant symposium, or the sustaining and animated banquet? It appears to us that lodges have the remedy in their own hands, and that all complainants can speedily have their vehement and indignant complaints remedied. Why should not lodges, for instance, cater for themselves at Freemasons' Hall and elsewhere? Why should they not, if they think well so to do, cook their own victuals, and lay in their own wine, alike in that central house of English Freemasonry and in all private lodge halls? The adjournment for the banquet to cafés and hotels is, we believe, a great mistake. We apprehend that there is no real difficulty in the matter, and that where there's a will there's a way. There is accommodation, for instance, under the Board Room, and elsewhere, at Freemasons' Hall, where lodge private kitchens might be set up. There is space and convenience, with some easy alteration, for the storage of lodge cellars. We feel sure that such a change would be most acceptable to lodges and valuable to the health of our brethren. The expenses of the banquets could be materially reduced, and contentment instead of grumbling would be the result. If the whole of these arrangements were placed under one able and active brother, with autocratic powers, the present difficulty would soon cease, and we should no more hear the mournful complaint of excellent men and Masons, that their digestions are impaired and their tempers soured, and that they do not receive a "quid pro quo." We feel deeply for all such, and for their bodily and mental sufferings, and can only hope that ere



long we may have to report in our veracious pages a happier state of things, and publish even the expressed satisfaction of a grateful clientèle. It is just possible that the complaints which rise up are somewhat exaggerated, and much perhaps may be allowed at the close of May, when diners out are somewhat dyspeptic, and the average Briton or Freemason is looking forward for sea breezes, or Welsh hills, for the waters of some German "Bad," or for the restoring freshness of the English Channel. It is at such a time that molehills become mountains, and that Bro. Grogram's indisposition and Bro. Potter's oburgations are traceable as much as anything to successive dinners and a good deal of "refreshment." We are only talking now of bonâ-fide complaints, and we are perfectly aware that such complaints are not universal. But we contend that our whole system of lodge banquets requires revision and control. We spend, in our humble opinion, too much upon it, owing to defective arrangement, and we feel sure by a careful readjustment of our Grand Lodge regulations in this respect a wonderful saving would accrue and more satisfaction generally be given to the Craft. We are of course aware that there are two sides to this, as to every other question, and if any of our good brethren like to give us their opinion on it, "pro or con," we shall, with needful editorial supervision of course, "bien entendu," be willing to give them a fair field and free course in our impartial columns.

#### THE EAST.

What memories and associations belong to the East. Whether as Freemasons or as citizens of the world, we must be the dullest, or most apathetic of mortals, if we do not feel an interest in that wondrous region, whence has burst forth, so to say, the whole history of the world, from which still flow to us to-day the most affecting and the most solemn of human association. The voices of a great dead past, of a mighty old world, seem to emerge alike from the lapse of ages, and the haze which still overhangs that wondrous Orient, reminding us of a common origin and fellowship, the same sympathies, and the same rejoicings, of blended hopes and fears, interests and aspirations, united aims and relationships, the faith of ages, the rule of life! As Freemasons we must ever look kindly and benignly on the East. The East beheld our origin and witnessed our onward march; its legends and its living memories, distinguish from first to last every tradition of our Order, and every portion of our ritual! But taking a broader view even as citizens of the world, the East must have, as it seems to us, a charm ever for us all! It is still to us the magic land of romance, and early dreams, the land whose marvellous yet fascinating story still affects the innocence of youth, warms the maturity of manhood, and brightens the twilight of old age! Its history and its people, its vicissitudes and its trials, its heroes and its heroines, its wonders and its landmarks still move the imagination and arrest the steps of the wandering pilgrim abroad, of the admiring student at home. There is a spell from its calm decay, its monumental glories, its scenes, its sands, its palm trees, its seas, its palaces, its pyramids, and its rivers, which can lend to poetry a charm, to prose a fervour, which equally attract the attention of our statesman and the student, the antiquary, and the annalist, the believing, and the sceptical, the traveller, and the stay-at-home. From it what mighty impulses have been lent to art, and science, to poetry, to the drama, to the architecture we admire, and to the paintings we praise? Say what we will, the East is still for us the land of romance and yet of reality, of strange contrasts, of marvellous vicissitudes, of all that is often weird and awful, and yet graceful and glowing, of all that makes up the sentiment of life, or develops the poetry of being. And the East is a clime moreover, of often startling intelligences, and unlooked-for events. Beneath that blue sky and glaring sun, beneath the lethargy and exhaustion, so to say, of nature, are to be found the vivid passions, and the stirring emotions of more excitable lands! We hear in the daily telegram, of the deposition of this Sultan, the elevation of that Caliph of

the Faithful, and we are lost in a mist of strange conjectures and endless queries. To-day all seems to be done in a new way, on the most approved plan, of this civil and sagacious age, of a time when men often think the veil of outward and affected courtesy, may be a substitute for angry acts and outrageous proceedings! Exit the old Sultan, enter the new Sultan; the cards are shuffled, and the situation is changed. Voila tout. With that exception all remains the same, and what the future has in store for us, and for the East, who can venture to say? Well all this is better than the days of dark deeds in the Seraglio, of heartrending shrieks in the Bosphorus, of the crimes which stain the annals of Turkey, of that recklessness of human suffering which too often marks the revolution of empires. The old Sultan is in the Pavilion of the Tcheragan Palace, resigned and contented with his family, and numerous dependants, and the new Sultan is amid all the stateliness and glories of the Dolma Bagtche Palace, a few days previously hiding in a cellar, his life hanging on a thread. How wonderful are the vicissitudes of the world, and the shifting scenes of this sublunary life. For some time to come we all shall await with breathless interest the telegraphic intelligence of each returning day, as the life drama of the East is played out, and one act succeeds to another, on that crowded stage. Still as Freemasons, our sympathies go with the East. Not being politicians, we do not even presume to glance at what the profane publicist may conjecture or assert, but this we may be permitted to observe, that as of old, the East still plays the most important part in the history of the ages as they roll on, and so we believe it will ever be in the good Providence, of the Great Architect of the Universe, until that greater hour, when even the wonders of the Orient shall have passed away, and this world of ours, with its greatness and littleness, its triumph and its defeats, its heroism and its horrors, is itself but a faded vision of the past.

We had written this when the sad news is flashed to us in a few hours of the dark ending of Abdul Aziz, an astounding surprise, as the "Times" has it, and an awful incident, we will add of Oriental politics. The telegrams assert that by suicide in the Tcheragan Palaces, Abdul Aziz put an end to his life, on the morning of June 4th. He was buried, it is said, "in the afternoon of the same day, with all the usual pomp, and all the honour due to the deceased," and was "placed in the Mausoleum of the Sultan Mahmoud." Here we leave the matter to-day, as it would be a waste of time now, in our imperfect information, to dilate at any length on such wondrous changes and so mournful a catastrophe.

#### WHIT-MONDAY'S HOLIDAY.

As Freemasons, we rejoice in all that affects the social happiness, and comfort, and welfare of the People. We leave politics to the politicians, and grievances to the grievance-mongers, and the turbid scenes of foreign affairs to those whose duty and interest are identified with their peaceful progress and happy solution. But on our own principles we have a right, and we mean to exercise it, from time to time, to express our humble opinion on all matters which relate to the social progress of our own "goodfolk" or of humanity at large. We are among those who have always welcomed the quarterly holiday. We feel sure that it is a wise provision, fraught with health and happiness, to many toiling thousands, whose lives of hourly, daily labour are cheered by the anticipation of a pleasant outing. And do not let us too hastily take stock, or affect to discuss the question how the holiday is used, for many very difficult considerations arise up before us at once. It is not the working-classes alone who misuse opportunities, or pervert hours of ease! And because of the "abuse" by some of these days of "holiday," are we to deny the use to the great majority, which seriously and soberly avails itself of its hard-earned day of honest recreation? It is pleasant to note how, despite the marring weather, how thousands were abroad everywhere on Whit-Monday in health and good-humour de-

termined to enjoy their "Alba dies!" We trust that on another holiday we may not hear that "red tape" again interferes even with a holiday. It seems that at the British Museum and other places women with babies in their arms were not admitted. Now we are not much given to babies ourselves—we are like the man who said distinctly that he "objected to babies on principle!" We are quite aware of the nuisance sometimes caused by vociferous and uneasy babies, and as a rule no doubt the exclusion of this turbulent portion of the community is justified by every law of comfort, quiet, and hygiene. But it is not so much the babies, as the women who carry their babies, we are thinking of. What are they to do? Why should they be excluded on their holiday? It is their one holiday for many weary months, and as they cannot leave their babies, why are they not on these holidays to have the same enjoyments as others? It seems to us very "hard lines" for the women, who can appreciate as well, if not better, than the men, the acquisitions of science and the wonders of nature, the results of enterprise, and the relics of archaeology. So let us hope for better things, and for the increased use of the popular holidays, never grudging on any ground whatever that occasional cessation of toil and care which is ever good, depend upon it, for us all alike.

#### THE QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

The early hour at which we go to press on Thursday renders it impossible for us to call attention editorially to the proceedings of the last Quarterly Communication, which we shall hope to do next week.

#### ERRATUM.

In the first leader of last week read "West Lancashire" for "East Lancashire."

#### 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 was pleased to see that my letter on this very important subject called forth criticism, and I will at once proceed to answer Bros. "R. W. O." and "Magnus Ohren," i.e. to the best of my ability.

I agree with "R. W. O." that the private lodge jewels, referred to on p.p. 121 and 122, seem to be those that are worn suspended from the collar of office; but, that, Article 2, p. 118, appears to allow a P.M.'s jewel to be worn as a breast jewel (one may suppose) although "Past Master" is not named on p. 16 as a degree "recognised and acknowledged."

It is a pity that Bro. "M.O." did not take a little more time when he so kindly essayed to put "R. W. O." and myself to rights, as a very cursory glance at his letter and the following remarks will indicate:—

Firstly: He gives a quotation from my letter, yet attributes it to "R. W. O."

Secondly: He says "R. W. O." and "Ad Rem" "confound presentation with regulation jewels," but reference to my letter, or "R. W. O.'s" second letter, will show neither of us to be in such a state of abject ignorance of the main point, or article, on which this "vexata questio" turns.

Thirdly: He seeks to fix the case personally on "R. W. O." by suggesting "if he should become eligible to attend Grand Lodge he will find," &c. Personalities are un-Masonic, unnecessary, and objectionable.

Fourthly: He gives an extract from the Constitutions on jewels, but as there is another, under the head of regalia, that is so much more explicit and binding which I think would have been the better to have reproduced, therefore I will embody a copy of it in this letter.

Fifthly: Respecting Bro. "M.O.'s" title or affix, is it right or wrong? Is not a Warden of the Grand Lodge termed a "Grand Warden?" and of a Prov. Grand Lodge a "Prov. Grand Warden for ———?" If so, should not Bro. "M.O.'s" affix run as follows:—"P.P.J.G.W. for Surrey?"

Article 2, p. 118 (referred to above), says:—"No honorary or other jewel or emblem shall be worn in the Grand Lodge or any subordinate lodge which shall not appertain to or be consistent with those degrees which are recognized and acknowledged by and are under the control of the Grand Lodge as part of pure and ancient Masonry."

If the foregoing admits of a Past Master wearing a P.M.'s jewel on his breast, in addition to the one on his collar, it is still qualified by the Article on p. 122, which says they shall be in silver, for with certain exceptions, made and provided, is it not clear that in regalia—

Private lodges are restricted to sky-blue and silver, and are termed "Blue."

Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodges are restricted to garter-blue and gold, and are termed "Purple."

So, in a word, you may designate the former as "silver" and the latter as "gold."

Such being the case, can gold be said to appertain, or belong to, be consistent with, or be substituted by silver?

Further—The degree or status of a Past Master being acquired in a "Silver" lodge, I should say, as a paragon of inconsistency, give me a brother who wears a Past Master's jewel in silver on his official collar, yet can wear a gold one on his breast.

In reference to what Bro. "M. O." says about "confounding presentation with regulation jewels," while he admits presentation jewels must be consistent with the degrees recognized and acknowledged, yet he would allow gold to be substituted for silver; would it not be as consistent to allow a Rose Croix jewel to be worn simply because it is a "presentation jewel?" Could anything be more incongruous? The one word "consistent" is surely enough to make the meaning of the law clear. Crabb ("English Synonyms") defines consistent as follows:—"It is not consistent with the elevated and dignified character of a clergyman to engage in the ordinary pursuits of other men."

Gold to be substituted at pleasure for silver is surely as inconsistent as it would have been to have expected the late Mark Lemon to have appeared at an evening party in the motley costume of a jester.

Or that evening dress, generally understood to mean black and white, would justify any one appearing (as "Punch" suggested) in a black shirt, and white coat, trousers, &c.

Or, again, of the actor who, having but a scanty wardrobe, played Hamlet in a red cloak, and, on being taken to task, made a virtue of the necessity by referring to the text,—

"'Tis not alone my inky cloak, good mother," and adding,— "Had they never heard of red ink?"

Bro. "M.O." says that P.M.'s jewels are generally presented. Perhaps so, but surely a P.M. is equally justified in buying one as he is in receiving one as a present.

Doubtless many a worthy P.M. has not been so fortunate as to have one presented to him, and the high price set by the fashion of illegal or inconsistent (gold) jewels may deter him, or he may prefer giving the money to the charities.

As a recommendation to lodges, or brethren, about to present a P.M.'s jewel to a brother they esteem worthy of such a proud mark of distinction, let me suggest that they buy a silver jewel, and as it is so truly worldly to mete out esteem by intrinsic value, let the difference be made up to five or ten guineas and paid over to one of our noble charities, in the name of the P.M., and let these facts be recorded in a plain address—thus, say, £13 would be ample for the jewel, the address, and to make the P.M. a Life-Governor in one of our charities. Where is the P.M. who would not elect this truly Masonic and self-commending plan, notwithstanding how much he might have personally given to the charities? Such a jewel would be a "jewel" indeed.

Fraternally yours,

"AN REM."

To the Editor of The Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Bro. R. W. O. asks certain questions for his own information. I presume that when you allow letters to appear in your paper you expect replies to be given which may be interesting to the Craft in general. My letter was so intended, and is, I consider, sufficiently intelligible. I beg to be excused from going into personal questions for which I have neither time nor inclination.

I am, &c.,

MAGNUS OHREN, P.P.G.J.W.

#### HONORARY MEMBERS.

To the Editor of The Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

If your space permits would you kindly give a short resumé of the status of an honorary member in a lodge, or refer me to some work where it may be found. I think this would be of sufficient general interest to warrant its insertion.

Yours fraternally,

"AN HONORARY MEMBER."

#### FRENCH LODGES IN ENGLAND

To the Editor of The Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Referring to a letter from an English reader of the "Monde Maçonnique" in this days "Freemason," I think if your correspondent will refer to our Grand Secretary he will find that the lodge referred to is not recognised by any Masonic body, as I have in my possession a copy of a certificate issued by a lodge calling itself "The Reformed Masonic Order of Memphis, or Rite of the Grand Lodge of Philadelphia," and holding its meetings at Stratford, in Essex. This was sent to all the lodges, accompanied by a circular from our late Grand Secretary, Bro. Wm. G. Clarke, dated 24th October, 1859, cautioning all regular Masons against allowing any member of such a body under any circumstances to have access to their lodges, or holding any communication with such irregular lodges.

I have no doubt that you can obtain a copy of the above on application at the Grand Secretary's office.

Yours fraternally,

ARTHUR LEARD,

P.M., Sec. Lewis Lodge, 1185,

Wood Green, June 3rd, 1876.

#### MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Would you kindly inform us (Lodge 579, St. Bryde), through the columns of your influential journal: (1) Whether a brother can demand being a member of a newly constituted lodge, because he merely signed a petition praying a charter to be granted, without producing vouchers, such as diploma, to demit from his mother lodge—to prove beyond doubt he is the man he represents himself to be. (2) If he becomes a member is he not required to obligate or take some obligation to obey the bye-laws and office-bearers of the lodge? (3) Can such a brother belong to his mother lodge and be a voting member of another without owing any obedience or obligation to the latter? (4) Whether should the Greater Light be closed during the lodge being called from labour to refreshment, or shut during such refreshment. Is it illegal to have it open during the latter?

Yours fraternally,

W. H. LINDSAY CRAWFORD,

Secretary 579, S.C.

[(1) A brother signing a petition for charter as a founder has a right to be a member, but must produce diploma, and demit from his mother lodge or last lodge he may have been a member of. (2) He must be obligated to the newly constituted lodge. (3) He cannot be a voting member of any lodge unless all dues are paid and obligated. (4) The Greater Light should be closed during the time the lodge is at refreshment.]

#### A CAUTION.

The following circular has been issued by Lodge Friendly, 1513, Barnsley:—

"April, 1876.

"Dear Sir and Brother,—

"A man, having a foreign accent, grey whiskers, tall, and aged about 65 years, who gives the name of Francis Joseph Risse, has by his artfulness imposed upon several members of this lodge, and obtained various sums of money from them on misrepresentation. He says that he is, or was a member of St. Peter's Lodge, Peterboro'; that he is a Hungarian, and only wants sufficient money to enable him to get to Peterboro', when he will be able to obtain money to take him to his native place. Enquiry having been made at the lodge named, we find that he is an impostor, and never was a member of St. Peter's Lodge. As this man is in possession of a great deal of information we take the liberty of putting you on your guard, lest the members of your lodge be imposed upon as we have been.

"We are, Worshipful Sir and Brother, yours faithfully and fraternally,

"THOMAS BRAITHWAITE, W.M.,  
"T. F. SHEPHERD, Secretary."

#### REPORTS OF THE HIGH DEGREES.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I wish to join "A Past Provincial Grand Officer in expressing my disappointment as no report has been given in the "Freemason," not only of the meeting of Great Priory held in London May 12th, but of two other important meetings held in London the same week, namely, the A. and A. Rite 33° and the Royal Order of Scotland. I am sure a report of the business transacted at such meetings as these would be far more interesting to a large number of the brethren who are not able to attend them than the speeches that are so fully reported from Craft lodges.

I should like to see the "Freemason" more like what it professes to be, namely, "a first class reference and chronology of the leading events in Freemasonry during the year."

I am, yours fraternally,

CHAS. FENDELOW.

[We should be very happy to publish all such documents if we only received them.—ED.]

#### Mulum in Parbo; or Masonic Notes and Queries.

##### CATCH QUESTIONS.

Can any brother give me the interpretation of certain letters, and catch questions—at page 100 of the Revelations of a Square,—either in the "Freemason," or privately to "Enquirer," care of Editor of the "Freemason," 198, Fleet-street, London, E.C. The letters are T. F. B. G. T. H. A. F. G., and H. F. W. P. O. T. T. P. O. T. F. ENQUIRER.

#### PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF EAST LANCASHIRE.

The annual meeting of the above Prov. Grand Lodge was held in St. Saviour's School, Bacup, on Thursday, the 25th May. There was a large attendance of brethren from all parts of the province, the total number present being about 400. The Craft Lodge was opened in the Three Degrees by the W.M. and Officers of the Samaritan Lodge, No. 286, Bacup, after which the R.W. Prov. G. Master (Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie), and the Prov. G. Officers entered in procession, and the Prov. G. Lodge was opened in due form and with prayer at half-past one o'clock. The roll of lodges was called over, when it was found that all the lodges in the province—82 in number—were represented, in some instances very numerously. The R.W. Prov. G. Master announced that he had received letters of apology from the absent Prov. G. Officers, also one from Bro. J. L. Hine, P. Prov. S.G. Warden, Chairman of the Charity Committee, who was to have been presented at this meeting with a testimonial as an acknowledgment of his assiduous and successful exertions in pro-

moting the interests of this province with the various Masonic charitable institutions, but who was prevented from attending by severe indisposition. The R.W. Prov. G. Master paid an appropriate tribute to Bro. Hine's eminent services, and expressed his deep sympathy with him upon the circumstances which prevented him from being present.

The Right W. Prov. Grand Master then said he would now proceed to instal Bro. George Mellor, the Mayor of Ashton-under-Lyne, as Deputy Provincial Grand Master, but he could not do so without alluding to the loss the province had sustained by the death of Bro. W. Romaine Callender, who formerly held the office. On a former occasion he had alluded to the death of the late Deputy Grand Master, but the event was then so recent, and their sense of the loss they had sustained so painful, that he could not fully and adequately express his feelings, and it was quite impossible for him to do so now. He then proceeded to speak of the zealous, courteous, and efficient manner in which Bro. Callender had discharged his Masonic duties, and said with regard to Bro. Mellor, that he was a gentleman who was known both in his private and public capacity to be a thoroughly honourable, straightforward, upright, and gentlemanly man. He had succeeded well in the various municipal and civic offices he had held in the borough in which he resided, and he had no doubt the same conduct he had displayed in those offices would be equally well displayed in the distinguished Masonic office that was now about to be conferred upon him.

Bro. George Mellor having been duly installed, briefly returned thanks for the honour the Provincial Grand Master had done him in appointing him, with the approbation of his brethren, to that high and distinguished position. Referring to the late Bro. Callender, he spoke of him as a perfect and excellent Mason, and said he could not find words in which to express himself better and more appropriately than those of our national bard—

"He was a man, take him for all in all."

We shall not look upon his like again." He trusted that in the discharge of his duties he should be encouraged by their approbation and help. (Applause.)

Bro. Statham, Prov. G. Treas., presented his statement of the accounts of the Provincial Grand Lodge, which were found to be in a highly satisfactory condition. Bro. John Thomas Hooper, of Blackley, near Manchester, was elected G. Treasurer for the ensuing year by an almost unanimous vote.

The Provincial Grand Master then proceeded to invest the Provincial Grand Officers with their insignia and jewels of offices as follow:—

W. Harrison, Blackburn .....	Prov. S.G.W.
Thomas Rhodes, Manchester .....	Prov. J.G.W.
The Rev. A. Salts, LL.D., Little-	
borough, and the Rev. S. Y. Brad-	
shaw, Manchester .....	Prov. G. Chaplains.
J. T. Hooper, Manchester .....	Prov. G. Treas.
Thos. Chorlton, Manchester .....	Prov. G. Reg.
John Tunnah, Bolton .....	Prov. G. Sec.
W. O. Walker, Bury .....	Prov. G.S.D.
Albert Wolstenholme, Heywood .....	Prov. G.J.D.
John Pilling, Bacup .....	Prov. G. Supt. Wks.
C. M. Jones, Rochdale .....	Prov. G.D. of Cers.
James Shillito, Manchester .....	Prov. A.G.D.C.
James Mills, Heywood .....	Prov. G. Swd. Bc.
Thos. Hargreaves, Haslingden .....	Prov. G. Org.
W. Cunliffe, Blackburn .....	Prov. G. Purst.
Westray Benn, Bacup .....	Prov. A.G. Purst.
Robert Crossley, jun., John Crossley,	
James Barker, William Blackledge,	
John Wilson, and Rawdon Ash-	
worth, all of Bacup .....	Prov. G. Stewards.
Charles Walker .....	Prov. G. Tyler.
Hobson Wadsworth, Burnley .....	Prov. G. Std. Br.

The business of the Provincial Grand Lodge was then transacted, and amongst other business it was agreed that Bro. Tunnah, the Prov. G. Sec., should be paid the sum of £100 per annum for the services of an assistant. We may here state that Bro. Tunnah, was appointed to his present office in 1848, when the meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge was held at Bacup, since which time he has held the office with entire satisfaction to all concerned. The services of Bro. Hutton, his assistant, were also spoken of in high terms.

The Prov. Grand Secretary then announced that Bro. N. Chadwick, of the Samaritan Lodge, No. 286, had to perform what he had no doubt would prove a very pleasing duty. Bro. Chadwick then, approaching the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, said he had been requested by the officers and brethren of the Samaritan Lodge, No. 286, to undertake what was to him a most pleasant duty. It was to present to the Right Worshipful Grand Master some acknowledgment of his great kindness in causing the most important, successful, and in several respects memorable meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of East Lancashire to be held at Bacup. That acknowledgment had taken the form of an address, which read as follows:

"The Honourable Fraternity of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons.

"To Colonel Le Gendre N. Starkie, Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master of East Lancashire.

"Right Worshipful Sir and brother,—

"We, the officers and members of the Samaritan Lodge, No. 286, Bacup, desire to offer you our hearty thanks for the honour you have conferred upon us in holding the annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge at Bacup, and also to accord to you, and to all the provincial officers and brethren, a most cordial welcome on the occasion of your visit to this populous and enterprising part of our province. We feel proud to acknowledge that you have, since your elevation to your high and distinguished position, discharged your onerous duties with commendable

zeal, tact, and efficiency, and that under your fostering care the Craft has not only been, but continues to be, favoured with increasing prosperity. We fervently pray that under Divine Providence you may be long spared to preside over this important and flourishing province, and faithfully to preserve our landmarks, symbolisms, ceremonies, and privileges, as Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons of England.

"We are, Right Worshipful Sir and Brother, on behalf of the officers and members of the lodge, yours fraternally,

"James Pilling, W.M.  
"Henry Taylor, S.W.  
"John Wilson, J.W.  
"James Barker, P.M., Hon. Sec.  
"John Pilling, P.M., Treas.

"Bacup, 25th May, 1876."

He scarcely need say that the expression of feeling in that address was sincerity itself. It was a downright honest and true Masonic feeling, and one that on the part of the R.W. Grand Master was well merited. He had only to hope, and he had no doubt such hope would receive the fullest realisation, that the address would be received in the same kind spirit as that which had dictated its presentation.

The address was beautifully illuminated, and was enclosed in a massive gold frame.

The R.W. Prov. G. Master, in acknowledging the compliment, said it gave him great pleasure to find that his Masonic conduct had so far commended itself to the approval of the brethren of the Samaritan Lodge as to elicit from them such a tangible mark of their confidence. It was the first testimonial he had received since he entered upon the duties of his present high and distinguished position, and he should treasure it as a memento of one of the most pleasant provincial meetings he had ever attended. He should hang it in his home where it could be seen by his friends, and should hand it down as an heirloom to his children and his children's children. He hoped that as the letters of that address were illuminated in blue and gold that the address itself would ever illuminate his Masonic conduct.

The Prov. G. Lodge was then closed, after which the officers and brethren were, under the direction of Bro. C. M. Jones, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers., and his assistant, Bro. James Shillito, marshalled in processional order to the Mechanics' Institution, where the usual banquet was to be held. The brethren wore their badges and jewels of office, and were headed by the Wellington brass band. The streets were well lined with spectators, and as the weather was tolerably favourable, the procession, though we are afraid it did not meet everybody's expectations, was a great success.

The arrangements for the banquet at the Mechanics' Institution were on a large and costly scale. The hall had been decorated for the occasion in a most artistic and superb style. The back part of the platform was raised and covered with carpet, on which was placed a table extending the full width of the platform. There was also a table on each side of the platform, each of which was hung round with blue and purple velvet, &c., and overlaid with fine white muslin. The space behind the Grand Master was made to represent a bay window with orange and blue curtains, and red valances trimmed with spangles, &c. The space behind the side tables was made to represent windows, with red and white curtains and purple and silk velvet valances, &c., trimmed with gold lace. Over these were shields, banners, &c., and from the roof were suspended festoons of green and pink muslin. In front of the platform there was placed, among a variety of beautiful plants, a statue, representing a female figure with a light in her hand. The windows were all draped with red and green sateen, trimmed with gold lace, &c., and overlaid with fine leno muslin, and purple and crimson silk velvet valances trimmed with gold lace. On the walls between the windows there was placed, on a blue ground, a fine landscape scene in Switzerland, and also figures representing different nations. These were placed on a scarlet ground, and underneath were very magnificent mirrors in gilt frames (kindly lent for the occasion by Mr. Henry Clough, Messrs. P. and J. Greenwood, and Mr. Wm. Lord). These were on a green and gold ground, over which were hung very massive silver-plated stars, shields, and banners, and other ornaments and Masonic emblems. Under the gallery, at the back part of the hall, was a framework of wood, covered with gold and green, and in the centre there was a mirror and other ornaments. The ground work was blue and the centre scarlet, and bore the initials H.R.H. in gold. Over these were placed the Prince of Wales' feathers in gold, and on each side was a magnificent shield, covered with gold and ornamented with Masonic emblems. The two spaces on each side of the platform were made in the form of panels, on which were figures, on a blue and white ground, of the Prince of Wales and the Princess of Wales. Various parts of the hall were adorned with shields and banners. The gallery was very neatly adorned with plants, flags, and shields, and the seats were covered with scarlet baize. The staircase and entrance were also decorated with shields, banners, &c., and the steps and landings were all covered with carpets. There was a profuse display of plants and flowers, which had been kindly lent for the occasion by Mr. E. Hoyle, of Moorlands, Mr. H. Maden, of Rockliffe House, and Mr. John Hargreaves, of Greensnook.

The address which had been presented to the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master was exhibited in front of the platform, and was greatly admired. After the banquet ladies were admitted to the gallery, and they attended in large numbers, and were supplied with dessert. The vocalists were Miss Ho't, of Rawtenstall; Miss Smith, of Radcliffe; Mr. Green, of Rochdale; and Bro. Dumville, of Manchester; Bro. H. Taylor, S.W., ably

officiating as accompanist, and they went through a most appropriate performance in first-class style. After dinner,

The Prov. Grand Master gave in succession the toasts of "The Queen," "The Prince of Wales, M.W. Grand Master." In proposing the toast of the Prince of Wales, the Grand Master referred to the fact that our future Sovereign had become a member of the Order, and had become Worshipful Grand Master of this country and the colonies. The toast was received with "three times nine."

The Prov. Grand Master next proposed "The Princess of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family." Her fame, her goodness, and her beauty went before her before she arrived in this country. No princess ever came to this country who had more identified herself with the people of this country. The rest of the Royal family fulfilled their duty in a manner creditable to themselves and satisfactory to the country.

The Deputy Grand Master, Bro. George Mellor, proposed "The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, Provincial Grand Master, the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, Deputy Grand Master;" and the Grand Officers Present and Past." When they saw noblemen like these becoming members of the Craft, and doing their best for the good of the Order, they ought to be very proud.

Bro. James A. Birch proposed "Col. Le Gendre Starkie, R.W. Provincial Grand Master," which was received with loud cheers. In another portion of the county the name of Starkie was revered. He ventured to assert that the prestige of that house had never been more highly sustained than in the person of the Provincial Grand Master. The manner in which he performed suit and service in the Grand Lodge showed how fit he was for the position. The progress of Freemasonry in the province during his rule had been most rapid. He referred to the successful exertions which the Grand Master had made to establish a Masonic charity in East Lancashire, and said he ventured to think that in future days the rule of the Provincial Grand Master would be blessed by the families of indigent Masons. The toast was drunk with much enthusiasm.

The Prov. Grand Master returned his heartfelt thanks for the manner in which Bro. Birch had proposed his health, and said he only wished he was half as good a Mason as their brother had represented him to be. Though he was a stranger in that part of Lancashire, the manner in which he had been received would ever remain impressed on his mind. He simply wished as a man and a Mason to do his duty, and he hoped they would excuse his deficiencies. He had been brought up in the cradle of Freemasonry, and had the example of his father, as a Mason, before him. He sought neither honour nor glory. The true Mason did not seek honour or glory, but endeavoured to do his duty. They were a body of people who wished to do good. Friendship, love, and truth were the elements they held by. He loved his province as a father loved his family, and if he enforced the laws he would endeavour to do so justly, but as leniently as possible. He thanked the brethren of Bacup for the hearty manner in which they had received him, and the testimonial which they had presented to him.

The Prov. Grand Master, after passing a warm tribute to the memory of Bro. W. R. Callender, M.P., proposed "George Mellor, Esq., Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and the Provincial Grand Officers, Present and Past." He trusted Bro. Mellor would long have the pleasure of working in harmony and unity with him for the good of the Order. He trusted Bro. Mellor would have happiness in his new office.

Bro. Mellor briefly returned thanks. He said he had been thirty-five years connected with the Craft, and he had always tried to do his best for the interest of the Order. He thanked them for the great honour they had conferred upon him, stating that he would do all in his power for the good of the Craft.

The Prov. G. Master gave the next toast, "The Samaritan Lodge, No. 286, Bacup." He expressed the delight of himself and the other members on the manner in which they had received the Grand Lodge. He was glad there was a lodge of Freemasons in Bacup. He did not know how they managed their meetings, or whether they got blown up when they went home. He could assure them he never got blown up when he went home. He wished prosperity to the Bacup Lodge, and he hoped to meet many of them in future Grand Lodges.

Bro. the Rev. A. J. Harrison returned thanks for the W.M. He spoke only the sentiments of the brethren of the lodge when he said it was a proud day for the Freemasons of Bacup. The coming among them that day of so many men of high intelligence was a proof that Freemasonry was worthy of respect. Not only would the seventy or eighty members in Bacup be stimulated by the events of the day, but all the brethren of the Craft in Rossendale.

The other toasts were "The Masonic Charities," proposed by Bro. W. Harrison; "The Visiting Brethren," proposed by Bro. W. Blackledge, and acknowledged by Bro. Helliwell, of Bury; "The Ladies," proposed by Bro. J. T. Barcroft; "The Army, Navy, and Volunteers," proposed by Bro. R. H. Hardman; and "All Poor and Distressed Masons." The appropriate glee of "Good Night to the Day" exhausted the programme, after which the meeting broke up.

In the evening the front of the Mechanics' Institution was illuminated, the devices being a star and the Prince of Wales' feathers.

NAVAL PREPARATIONS.—Preparations have been made for dispatching to Malta medical stores for 5000 men, in addition to the strength of the squadron at present in the Mediterranean.

#### GRAND MARK LODGE.

The Half-yearly Communication of Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons was held on Tuesday evening, at 33, Golden-square, the Hall of the High Degrees of Freemasonry. At the opening of Grand Lodge it was formed as follows:—The Earl of Limerick, M.W.G.M.M.M.; Rev. G. R. Portal, P.G.M.M.M.; Col. Starkie, as G.S.W.; Capt. N. G. Phillips, G.J.W.; Major Geo. Barlow, G.M.O.; John Chadwick, G.S.O.; S. Rosenthal, as G.J.O.; Rev. C. R. Davy, G. Chap.; Frederic Davison, G. Treas.; H. C. Levander, G. Reg.; F. Binckes, G. Sec.; Samuel Jones, G.S.D.; J. C. Gregg, G.J.D.; Robert W. Edes, G. Insp. of Wks.; Thomas Trollope, M.D., G.D. of C.; T. W. Coffin, P.G.S.B., as G. Swd. Bearer; T. S. Mortlock, G. Std. Bearer; J. H. Spencer, G.I.G.

The following brethren were also present:—F. Richardson, W. Thompson, Sir F. W. Winn, Prov. G.M.; Rev. W. Lingley, P.G.C. (Leicester); S. Rosenthal, P.G.D.; Rev. D. Shaboe, P.G.C.; George Mellor, P.G.M.O.; Rev. T. F. Ravenshaw, P.G.C.; Thomas J. Sabine, P.G.A.D.C.; D. M. Dewar, P.G.S.; J. H. Scott, P.G.S.; Wm. S. Webster, P.G.S.; Magnus Ohren, P.G.M.O.; Thomas Meggy, P.G.M.O.; A. Great Rex, P.G.S., and P.G.J.O.; J. Pringle, P.G.S.; Stephen Dibdin, P.G.O.; R. G. Glover, P.G.S.; W. E. Gumbleton, P.G.W.; George Neall, P.G. Supt. Wks.; Thomas Cubitt, P.G.D.C.; John Read, P.G. Org.; Wm. Roebuck, P.P.G.J.W., Middlesex and Surrey, P.M. Old Kent; E. J. Harty, Reg. Mks., Bon Accord; R. W. H. Giddy, P.M. Northumberland and Berwick; P. L. Simmonds, P.M. St. Mark's, No. 1; Rev. P. H. E. Brette, W.M. St. Mark's, No. 1; J. T. Shapland, W.M. Fortescue, No. 9; J. J. Fast, P.M. Howe, No. 21; J. C. Mason, J.W. Southwark, No. 22; W. F. Cox, S.O. Furness, No. 36; J. E. Curteis, P.P.G.W. Devon, P.M. Sincerity, No. 35; H. Bagot, W.M. Furness, No. 36; S. B. Ellis, S.O. Britannia, No. 53; G. J. McKay, Cumberland, No. 60; Rev. K. Miller, P.M. Isaac Newton University, No. 112; J. M. P. Montagu, P.M. St. Mary's, No. 121; J. J. Gibson, S.D. Panmure, No. 139; G. Martin, W.M. Mallet and Chisel, No. 134; T. C. Pulman, W.M. Panmure, No. 139; C. Lacey, W.M. Temple, No. 173; H. G. Morse, St. Peter and St. Paul, No. 163; J. Braithwaite, S.W. Southdown, No. 164; H. Court, jun., M.O. Francis Burdett, No. 181; H. Court, J.O. Francis Burdett, No. 181; Col. H. S. Burney; H. Pullen; R.W. Bro. J. Elliott, D.P.G.M.M.M. Devon; W. Bro. J. Gould, P.G.D. Devon; W. Bro. H. Matthews, P.P.S.G.W. West Yorkshire; W. Bro. R. Berridge, P.J.G.W. Middlesex and Surrey; W. Bro. R. Butterworth, P.P.G.D.C. Lancashire; W. Bro. R. J. Mure, P.G.M.O. Middlesex and Surrey; W. Bro. F. H. Cozens, P.G. Org. Middlesex and Surrey; and H. Massey ("Freemason").

Bro. F. Binckes, Grand Secretary, having read the minutes of the last half-yearly communication, and of the movable Grand Lodge held at Bristol on the 28th April last, they were severally put to Grand Lodge and confirmed.

Bro. Binckes then read the following Report of the General Board:—

The number of certificates issued in the six months to 31st March last is 438.

During the same period warrants for new lodges have been granted:—

No. 189, Scarlett, Burnley.  
No. 190, Adoniram, Mussoorie, Bengal.  
No. 191, Friendship, Unanimity, and Philanthropy, Bridgewater.  
No. 192, St. Cuthbert's, Berwick-on-Tweed.

The lamented death of Bro. W. Romaine Callender, M.P., caused, in addition to the loss of his valuable services as R.W. Deputy Grand Mark Master, a vacancy in the government of the province of Lancashire, in connection with which his exertions in behalf of the Order had been so successful and so highly appreciated. Fitting and appropriate notice of this unexpected and regretted event has already been taken, and it now only remains to add that the duties of R.W. Deputy Grand Mark Master, and of R.W. Provincial Grand Mark Master of Lancashire, have devolved upon the Rt. Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, whose appointment, it is confidently believed, will be hailed with satisfaction, not only by the brethren of the Province of Lancashire, but by the members of the Order at large.

Another change in provincial rule has been occasioned by the death of R.W. Bro. Sir John Cordy Burrows, whose too brief tenure of office as first Provincial Grand Mark Master of Sussex was productive of very considerable benefit to the Order, though the full advantages of his presidency could not be realised, as undoubtedly would have been the case had his valuable life been prolonged.

As successor to Sir Cordy Burrows, the brethren of the Province of Sussex, in Grand Lodge assembled, unanimously recommended Bro. James Mackay Cunningham, M.D., who so ably assisted his predecessor as Deputy Provincial Grand Mark Master, and the M.W. Grand Mark Master has been pleased to approve such recommendation.

In Madras the board have to report that in succession to R.W. Bro. Arthur Macdonald Ritchie, B.A., whose term of office had expired, Bro. Aubrey William Ogilvie Saunders has been recommended and approved as R.W. Provincial Grand Master.

A movable Grand Lodge was held by command of the M.W. Grand Mark Master at Bristol on Friday, 28th April, for the purpose of constituting a Mark Province of Bristol, and of installing Bro. William Augustus Frederick Powell as first Provincial Grand Master. A very successful meeting was held under the presidency of the W.M. Past Grand Mark Master, the Rev. G. R. Portal, in the unavoidable absence of the W.M. Grand Mark Master, who had fully proposed to be



present, and from the known zeal of the Bristol brethren and the Provincial Grand Mark Master, it may be safely predicted that the degree will take firm root in that ancient city.

The board have had under consideration the memorial, together with letters under date 26th November and 29th December, 1875, and 8th January, 1876, from a brother whose case has been previously before the General Board and this Grand Lodge. They regret that the personalities contained in these communications make it inadvisable under present circumstances to go further into the questions which he has raised. The correspondence is open to the inspection of any member of Grand Lodge.

Copies of the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States of America, and of the proceedings of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Maine, have been received. The board have to express their cordial acknowledgments to the learned and illustrious Comp. Josiah H. Drummond, Past General Grand High Priest, for his able defence of the Masonic position of this Grand Lodge as the legitimate head of the Mark Degree in England, contained in both the above publications.

The resolution adopted by this Grand Lodge at the last half-yearly communication, with reference to the relations between this Grand Lodge and other supreme Masonic jurisdictions under the "Tripartite Treaty," has been formally communicated by the Grand Secretary to the recognised officials of those bodies.

The annual festival in aid of the "Benevolent Fund" will be held on Wednesday, 19th July. The arrangements will be published in due course. The services of brethren representing lodges or provinces as Stewards are earnestly requested.

A grant of £20 to Bro. M. E., recommended by the board, requires confirmation by Grand Lodge.

The board has extreme satisfaction in submitting a recommendation, in proof of the gratifying condition of the finances of Grand Lodge, for the investment of £200 on account of the General Fund.

The invested property will then be:  
On account of General Fund ..... £400 0 0  
" Benevolent Fund ..... 600 0 0  
The Grand Treasurer's accounts for the six months to 31st March are subjoined, which shew:

GENERAL FUND.	
Balance from 30th September, 1875	£348 19 0
Half year's receipts.....	£495 14 6
	4 19 2
	495 13 8
Total	844 12 8
Half year's disbursements .....	313 7 7
	215 10 3
	528 17 10
Balance 1st April, 1876 .....	£315 14 10
FUND OF BENEVOLENCE.	
Balance 30th September, 1875	£301 1 4
Receipts for the half year:	
Donations .....	31 17 6
Dividends .....	14 17 6
	46 15 0
	347 16 4
Grants to Petitioners .....	75 0 0
200 Canadians .....	215 10 3
	290 10 3
	£57 6 1

On the motion of Bro. the Rev. D. Shaboe, P.G.C., seconded by the Rev. Dr. Brette, this report was ordered to be received.

On the motion of Bro. Levander, G. Reg., seconded by Bro. Meggy, P.G.M.O., the grant of £20 to Bro. M.E. was confirmed.

On the motion of Bro. W. S. Webster, seconded by Bro. Davison, G.T., £200 was ordered to be invested for the General Fund account.

The report was then ordered to be received and entered on the minutes, on the motion of the Rev. D. Shaboe, P.G.C., seconded by Bro. T. J. Sabine, P.G.A.D.C.

This being the day for the annual Installation of Grand Master, Dr. Thomas Trollope, G.D.C., proclaimed the Right Hon. the Earl of Limerick M.W.G.M.M. for the ensuing year, and he was saluted accordingly.

The Earl of Limerick afterwards rose and said,—Brethren, I have to thank you for this proof of your confidence in electing me for another term of office. I thank you heartily for the honour you have done me. I think I may say that during the past year of my office the Order has in no way gone backward. We have had, however, owing to individual losses of brethren high in office, and much esteemed in our Order, times of most sincere and heartfelt mourning; but, in spite of these losses, which we all deplore, the Order has gone on steadily progressing during the last year. A considerable number of new warrants have been granted, a new province has been formed, and I may say that the Degree is in as flourishing a state now as it ever has been in time past. I trust that during the next term of office with which you have so kindly entrusted me the progress which has been made will be continued. (Hear, hear.) My next duty is to thank those brethren who have so well discharged the duties of Grand Office during the past year, in my own name, and I am sure I may also do it in the name of Grand Lodge. Having done that I have to declare the Grand Offices vacant, and to proceed with the appointment and investiture of officers in their places. The office of Deputy Grand Master became vacant, as you are aware, since the last meeting of Grand Lodge, by the lamented death of our Bro. Romaine Callender. That office I have been able to fill, I trust and believe, to the

satisfaction of all brethren of the Order by appointing to the vacancy Lord Skelmersdale. All the brethren are acquainted with the fact that from the nature of his duties during the parliamentary session, which are very arduous, he is kept pretty constantly in London. Our meeting now is held during the short parliamentary recess, and he is unfortunately out of town and not able to be here to-night. The brethren know that he discharges the duties of any office he undertakes very ably, and that he never takes an office the duties of which he does not thoroughly intend to discharge zealously. I appoint Lord Skelmersdale as Deputy Grand Master.

The following brethren were then appointed Grand Officers for the year:—

The Earl of Jersey.....	G.S.W.
General Brownrigg .....	G.J.W.
Rev. P. H. E. Brette, D.D., and Rev.	
J. S. Brownrigg, M.A. ....	G.C.
F. Davison (elected) .....	G.T.
H. C. Levander .....	G.R.
F. Binckes .....	G.S.
W. Roebuck .....	G.M.O.
W. S. Webster .....	G.S.O.
H. Matthews .....	G.J.O.
Josiah Austin.....	G.S.D.
J. E. Curteis .....	G.J.D.
Edis .....	G.S.W.M.
H. M. Green .....	G.D.C.
Charles Lacey .....	G.A.D.C.
Henry Bagot .....	G. Swd. B.
E. W. Franklin .....	G. Std. B.
Frederick H. Cozens .....	G. Org.
John G. Fast .....	G.I.G.
H. W. Binckes .....	G. Asst. Sec.
C. T. Speight.....	G.T.
Captain Mason, C. Pulman, and	
George Bolton .....	G. Stewards.

The Grand Master next nominated Bros. W. E. Gumblerton, Thomas Meggy, S. Rosenthal, Edis, Dibdin, and Ohren to serve on the General Board, and the Rev. G. R. Portal to be President.

Bros. Cubitt, Dewar, Sabine, Stidolph, and Roebuck were elected as members of this Board.

The Grand Master invested Bro. W. Roebuck with the Charity Jewel. Addressing Bro. Gerald Martin, from Poonah, he said that it was exceedingly pleasant to him to have to discharge a duty which had been cast on him by the brethren of Poonah. They had requested him to present to Bro. Gerald Martin, P.M. 134, a P.M. jewel, bearing the following inscription:—"Presented by the Brethren of the Mallet and Chisel Lodge, No. 134, to Worshipful Brother Gerald Martin, as an expression of their admiration and esteem for him as a Master, and their regard for him as a friend and brother."

Bro. Gerald Martin said it would always be a great pride to him to wear this jewel.

A Brother moved for a return at next Grand Lodge of the expenses of the Mark Grand Lodge Benevolent Festival of 1874, with the names of the Stewards, the amount payable by each, and a list of those who had not paid their proportion.

Bro. the Rev. D. Shaboe said that this subject had been mentioned before, and he had himself spoken upon it. He hoped that the expression of the brethren's feelings then given would have induced every brother who had not paid to forward the money. It was with great regret he found it necessary that such a motion should be made. Still he did not think there was one brother in that room who would put his name down as representing such a magnificent lodge as that, and not pay his money, unless through some forgetfulness. He hoped that by next Grand Lodge they would find that the right thing had been done; if not, he should have to say something very strong on that occasion.

Bro. Binckes informed the Grand Master that he had made repeated applications to the brethren who had not paid, but he hoped that what had just been said would have the desired effect.

Bro. Curteis, G.J.D. said they had heard that the funds of this Grand Lodge were in a flourishing condition, so flourishing indeed that they were able to put aside certain sums for investment. He therefore thought that they might also put aside something for some charitable object. (Hear, hear.) Consequently he would propose that 25 guineas be given to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and begged to give notice of motion to that effect.

The Rev. Bro. Langley, Leicester, then said he had been desired by the Prov. G.M. of Leicestershire to express his regret for his absence from this Grand Lodge, but he hoped that the Right Hon. the Grand Mark Master would honour the province of Leicestershire by holding the Movable Grand Lodge there in the autumn, when he trusted another Mark Lodge would be consecrated there.

The M.W.G.M. said he should be very happy to accept the invitation which had been given by the brethren of Leicestershire, to hold a Movable Grand Lodge there.

The customary salutes for the new Grand Officers were afterwards given, and Grand Lodge was closed.

The banquet was held at the Café Royal, Air-street, and was followed by the usual toasts. The Right Hon. the Grand Master presided, having the Rev. Dr. Brette, G.C., on his right, and the Past Grand Master, Bro. Portal, on his left.

In giving the toast of "The Queen and Mark Masonry," the Grand Master said that there was no one who practised that most exalted principle of our Order, Charity, more than the Queen and the Royal family. With respect to Mark Masonry, it never was more flourishing than now, and he believed it was steadily progressing, both as regarded numbers and usefulness at home and abroad, and wherever it took root. It lost no ground it ever made, and wherever it was planted its roots struck. (Hear, hear.) This toast was followed by that of "The Prince

of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family," and the Grand Master said that Craft and Mark Masons, and all Englishmen, gladly welcomed the Prince on his return to England. Although he had been suffering from illness lately, it was not of a serious character. At present Mark Masons had the honour and pleasure of having only one member of the Royal family belonging to them, but he trusted this would not long be the case. They certainly had a most zealous and hard-working brother among the Order in his Royal Highness Prince Leopold, and before very long he would be Master of a Mark Lodge, in which position, as in every other he took upon him, he would thoroughly work out his obligation. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. the Rev. G. R. Portal, P.G.M., proposed "The M.W.G.M.M.M." The growth of this degree was really almost marvellous. He could remember, when he was Grand Chaplain, attending Grand Lodge in a very small room in Freemasons' Tavern; there were but fifteen persons present (who all talked at once). Now, however, they saw what a brilliant assembly was got together, and they had heard that night that 600 certificates had been issued in the year, and there were now nearly 200 lodges on the roll. He thought this was due to no one brother in particular, but to each of the Grand Masters. Never was it safer than in the hands of Lord Limerick, and he would say this with the greatest confidence, having known them all. No one had set himself more at work than the present Grand Master, and the success of the Order was certain while his lordship was at its head.

The M.W.G.M., in reply, said,—Your M.W.P.G.M. has spoken of me in terms much more complimentary than I could in any way deserve (No), because all I could endeavour to do has been to follow closely in the footsteps of the previous Grand Masters, during whose time Mark Masonry has made steady progress. I am only thankful that that progress has not been in any way retarded during my year of office. I feel very proud at the continued progress it has made, and I trust and hope it will make still further progress in the future. Everything leads us to suppose that the progress which has been made in the past is only an augury of what it will be in the future. At the present moment the Mark Degree is second only to the Craft to which we all belong. It surpasses the Royal Arch; it surpasses the other degrees in the number of its lodges, and in the number of its members; and I trust at some future time it will rival the Craft itself, for I cannot see any reason why where there is a Craft lodge there should not also be a Mark lodge. I look upon the Mark Degree as a complement of the Craft. I thank you, brethren, very heartily for the manner in which you have received the toast of my health. I have said that the Order has continued to prosper and flourish in the United Kingdom and in places abroad. I may add that there are openings in places abroad for its taking root where it has not hitherto. We had with us to-night a brother who, I believe, is returning to the Cape of Good Hope as District G. Master of that colony, and I trust he will be able to explain the principles of our Mark Degree out there, which may lead to the formation of new Mark lodges there. Much as we regret his temporary absence, I trust it will tend in a considerable degree to the progress of the Order. I must say that I look forward to a very great future for this Mark Degree, and as it has not gone back during my time I confidently expect to see it prospering, and spreading its useful work.

The M.W.G.M. then proposed "The Past Grand Masters," and approved of the custom of this Grand Lodge selecting its G. Masters for a certain term only. This he considered had a very beneficial effect, for it had surrounded the G.M. for the time being with a body of brethren who were acquainted with the customs, the traditions, and working of the Order. All the brethren knew what excellent Grand Masters they had had and how much they had done for the degree; but he believed not one of them had done more for it than Bro. Portal. (Hear, hear.) They all knew how thoroughly his heart was with the degree and how zealous he was in promoting its best interests. He had known Bro. Portal for a great many years, and was aware how entirely his heart was with Mark Masonry.

Bro. Portal, in reply, said it was a singular fact, which had been suggested to him by a sharp-witted friend, that all the Past Masters of this Grand Lodge were in the ruddiest and most vigorous health. Grand Lodge had not lost one of them. On the General Board their attention had been directed towards the promotion of this Order. When he saw how rulers were treated in other countries he could not but congratulate himself that the rulers of this Order were the receptacles of the confidence of Mark Masons, and he was thankful that they gave the P.M.'s credit for what they did for the good of the Order. With such feelings they would go on doing their best, because they knew they would have the sympathy and encouragement of the brethren.

The M.W.G.M. then gave "The Grand Officers," and referred to the great zeal those brethren had always displayed who were entrusted with office that evening. Among them he alluded to Lord Skelmersdale, Bros. Levander, Binckes, Davison, Dr. Brette, Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, Gen. Brownrigg (who was the oldest Mark Master present, having been advanced thirty-three years ago). One of this brother's first acts on his arrival in India was to sign a petition for a new Mark lodge out there. (Cheers.) With a staff of such G. Officers he (the M.W.G.M.) felt sure of efficient support.

General Brownrigg, in the course of a very brief reply, said he was afraid he had not done so much for Masonry as he ought to have done. Still, as we read in a very old authority that the sins of the fathers were visited on the children, he hoped in this case that the good his sons might do would be some recompense for his own faults.

The M.W.G.M. then gave "The Prov. Grand Lodges," on whom Grand Lodge relied for the conduct of the Order on proper and constitutional principles. These Provincial Grand Lodges had of late years greatly developed; their numbers had increased, and their efficiency had grown

JUNE 10, 1876.

Grand Lodge congratulated itself on the way the work was done in the provinces. The Province of Bristol had recently been constituted, and it augured well for the progress of Mark Masonry in that ancient home of Masonry. The year before two Provincial Grand Lodges were formed, and from year to year Mark Masonry was spreading, and a strong and settled form of government was established.

Bro. Elliot, D.P.G.M. Devon, replied.

Bro. Levander proposed "The Benevolent Fund," to which Bros. Roebuck and Brette responded.

The M.W.G.M. proposed "The Grand Stewards," coupling with it the name of Bro. H. Massey ("Freemason"), Past Grand Steward, who briefly acknowledged the compliment, and the remaining toasts were afterwards given, and the brethren separated.

### Scotland.

**GLASGOW.**—Lodge Kilwinning (No. 4).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held in the hall, 162, Kent-road, on Friday afternoon, at 4 p.m., the 2nd inst., Bro. R. Prout, W.M., presiding, supported by his office-bearers and a fair attendance of members. On the lodge being opened a brother was passed to the F.C. degree by Bro. T. Stewart, P.M. Thistle and Rose, No. 73, and afterwards a brother was raised to the sublime degree of M.M. by Bro. G. W. Wheeler, Chaplain No. 73.

**KIRKINTILLOCH.**—St. John Kilwinning Lodge (No. 28).—The regular monthly meeting of this very old lodge was held in their lodge-room, "Black Bull" Inn, on Saturday afternoon, the 27th ult. Bro. D. Cameron, W.M., presided, supported by his Wardens, and Bro. Allan, D.M., acting Sec. On the lodge being opened, and the minutes of last monthly meeting read and confirmed, two applications were read from the following gentlemen—Messrs. John Buchanan and Alexander Russell—and favourably received. They were then admitted and received the E.A. degree at the hands of Bro. Cameron, W.M., in that brother's able and impressive manner. Bro. Archibald Neven was afterwards raised to the sublime degree of M.M. by Bro. D. Gilchrist, W.M. St. Andrew's, Glasgow, No. 465. The meeting was well attended by members, and a deputation was present from Maryhill Lodge, No. 510, headed by Bro. John McKay, W.M. The lodge was then resumed in the First Degree, and closed in due form.

**GLASGOW.**—Union and Crown Lodge (No. 103).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Commercial Hall, 30, Hope-street, on Monday evening, the 29th ult., Bro. D. Murray, W.M., in the chair, supported by Bros. A. M. Wright, I.P.M., acting S.W.; W. Ferguson, P.M. 543, acting J.W.; R. Munro, D.M.; J. McFarlane, S.M.; Neil Cameron, Treas.; J. Gillies, P.M. Sec.; A. Gray, J.D.; J. Gray, I.G.; and R. Boyd, Tyler. Among the visiting brethren were Bros. D. Butler, W.M. St. Mungo, 27; W. Foster, P.M. 354; David Reid, I.P.M. 465; Jas. Findlay, S.M. 333; J. McLeish, S.M. 465; J. Bannerman, D.M. 73; John Stewart, 360; R. Young, St. Patrick, Belfast, 195 (I.C.), and members from Nos. 28, 73, 169, 219, 292, 294, 307, 333, 465, and 553. On the lodge being opened, the Secretary read the minutes of the last monthly and one emergency meeting, which were approved of. The W.M. then complimented the office-bearers and members of the lodge on the choice they had made in securing the Commercial Masonic Hall for holding their meetings, at the same time remarking that he (the chairman) hoped the day was not far distant when the Union and Crown Lodge, No. 103, would be in a position to have a hall of their own. The W.M. then said he was glad in using his prerogative in proposing for honorary affiliation to the Union and Crown Lodge Bros. J. Findlay, S.M. 333; W. Ferguson, I.P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); J. Stewart, 360 (N.B.D.M.); and J. Bannerman, D.M. 73, for services rendered to the lodge; and they were duly obligated by Bro. Gillies, P.M., Sec. Mr. Jas. Patterson was initiated by Bro. A. M. Wright, I.P.M., in his usual careful manner. The lodge was then closed, and afterwards a Board of Installed Masters was formed, and conferred that degree on Bro. W. Foster, P.M. 354. Bro. Ferguson officiating, supported by Bros. Gillies, Murray, and Reid. The brethren then adjourned to refreshment, when a short time was spent in harmony.

**RUTHERGLEN.**—Lodge St. John Operative (No. 347).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Friday evening, the 26th ult., Bro. D. Smart, W.M., in the chair; J. Murdoch, S.W.; T. Alston, J.W. The W.M. was supported on the dais by Bros. D. Butler, W.M. 27; Hamilton, W.M. 116; W. Phillips, W.M. 556; A. Gow, S.M. 581; J. Cunningham, I.P.M.; and M. Abbott, D.M. of the lodge. The principle feature of the evening's business was presentation to Bro. Cunningham, I.P.M., for his valuable services to the lodge as W.M. for the long period of four consecutive years, and the occasion turned out a large number of brethren from the different lodges in the Province of Glasgow and neighbourhood, no less than 200 were present. Deputations were present from the following lodges:—32, 4, 18, 27, 28, 73, 103, 116, 128, 142, 219, 275, 278, 305, 333, 362, 408, 441, 556 and 581. The lodge having been opened, and minutes of last meeting read and confirmed, four gentlemen, Messrs. P. McGregor, J. McCrae, S. Burlington, and S. Wilson were initiated into the E.A. Degree by Bro. Smart, the W.M. The lodge was then closed and transferred to refreshment. Bro. M. Abbott, D.M., was called upon to make the presentation, who, in an excellent speech, referring particularly to the past conduct of the worthy brother whom he had the honour to present with this testimonial, the untiring energies with which he had for the past years wrought for this, his mother lodge in particular, and the Craft in general. He also referred to this charitable disposition,

remarking that he had set a good and true example to those who may follow in his footsteps. Bro. Abbott then presented Bro. Cunningham with a massive gold watch and chain with appendages, and they were, we understand, subscribed for not only in Scotland, but in England and Ireland as well, owing to the esteem in which he is held. Bro. Cunningham replied in feeling terms, confining himself principally to the progress of the lodge during his mastership. He stated that the initiates had been numerous, they had also acquired a splendid hall which they were now assembled in, and that he had worked pretty hard, but all the honour was not due to him, if he had not been supported by the most able and willing office-bearers it would have been utterly impossible for him as an individual to have gone through the work, he therefore thanked the brethren for the handsome and costly present. (Applause.) During the evening the several W.M.'s present occupied the chair in rotation, and among the various toasts which were honoured, "The Prosperity of Lodge St. John, No. 347," was proposed by Bro. D. Butler, W.M. 27, and replied to by Bro. Smart, W.M. "The Visitors," proposed by Bro. Smart, W.M., and replied to by Bro. Robert Allan, Sec. 581.

**GLASGOW.**—Commercial Lodge (No. 360).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in their hall, 30, Hope-street, on Friday evening, 2nd inst., Bro. John Munro, W.M., in the chair; Davidson, P.M.; J. M. Oliver, S.W.; J. M. Duncan, acting J.W.; John Smith, Sec.; G. Scott, Treas.; R. Brodie, D. of M., and a very good attendance of members and visiting brethren. Among the latter was a Bro. J. Richmond, of Lodge 526, holding of Grand Lodge of Springfield, America. On the lodge being opened the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. W. Campbell was then raised to the sublime degree of M.M., Bro. Oliver, S.W., giving the obligation, and the W.M., Bro. Munro, performing the remaining part of the degree in his able and impressive style. The lodge was then resumed in the First Degree, and closed in due form.

**GLASGOW.**—Clyde Lodge (No. 408).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in St. Mark's Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, on Friday evening, the 2nd inst. In the unavoidable absence of Bro. W. Harper, W.M., Bro. T. Gordon, P.M., D.M., occupied the chair; J. McInnes, S.M.; W. Bilsland, S.W.; J. Neagle, J.W. 441, acting J.W.; W. Anderson, Treas.; R. Wallace, &c. Among the visitors were Bros. G. McDonald, W.M. 73; J. Bannerman, D.M. 73; Wheeler, Chap. 73; Kay, S.D. 73; A. Bain, P.M. 103; Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"). The lodge was opened, and Mr. Angel Roman Colunga was initiated. Messrs. Louis Lesser Dutch and Andrew Deans were also initiated on behalf of Thistle and Rose Lodge, No. 73. Bros. Colunga and Dutch having to leave Scotland in a few days, were then passed at their own request to the F.C. degree, and they were afterwards, along with Bro. M. Smith, raised to the sublime degree of M.M., Bro. T. Gordon, P.M., D.M., performing the whole of the ceremonies. The lodge was then reduced to the E.A. degree, and closed in due form.

**GLASGOW.**—St. Andrew Lodge (No. 465).—A meeting of this lodge was held in their Masonic Hall, 69, Garngad-road, on Thursday evening, the 1st inst., Bro. D. Gilchrist, W.M., presiding; J. McLeish, S.M.; G. B. Davidson, S.W.; W. Chalmers, J.W.; W. Campbell, Sec. Visitors: Bros. J. T. Muir, W.M. Argyle, No. 335; J. Martin, D.M. 219; B. Smart, Treas. 219, and a deputation of fifteen; J. McInnes, S.W. 332; W. Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); J. S. Allan, D.M. 28, and others. The lodge being opened, and the minutes read and confirmed, it was called to refreshment, when the W.M. in succession proposed the following toasts, which were most enthusiastically responded to, viz., "The Queen and the Craft," "The Three Grand Lodges," "Grand Lodge of New Brunswick," (replied to by Bro. Campbell, of Lodge No. 22), "The Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow," "The Visitors," coupled with the name of Bro. Muir, W.M. 335, who replied in a very able manner; "The W.M.," proposed by Bro. Martin, D.M. 219, and neatly replied to by Bro. Gilchrist; "The Masonic Press," by the W.M., replied to by Bro. Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"). Other toasts followed. During the evening Bros. Chalmers, Davidson, Neven, Grieve, and others contributed to the enjoyment by singing some excellent songs, and the brethren, after spending a most harmonious evening, separated, after the Tyler's toast, "Happy to meet, sorry to part, and happy to meet again."

**THORNIEBANK.**—Lodge Thorntree (No. 512).—The regular monthly meeting of this prosperous lodge was held in their hall, on Saturday last, Bro. Robert Scobie, W.M., presiding, supported by Bro. Robert Fletcher, S.W., and Bro. Robert McEwan, J.W., and was attended by a numerous and distinguished company. Amongst the visiting brethren were deputations from the Paisley St. Mirren's Lodge, No. 129, and Renfrew County Kilwinning Lodge, No. 370, Paisley. On the lodge being opened on the First Degree, it was announced that the members of the Provincial Grand Lodge, Renfrewshire East, were in waiting outside for the purpose of inspecting the lodge. The W.M. gave instructions to receive them, which was accordingly done, with the usual honours. The deputation, in the unavoidable absence of the Provincial Grand Master, Col. Campbell, of Blythswood, was headed by ex-Bailie Caldwell, of Craigielea, P.G. Deputy Master, who, on taking his seat on the dais, was handed the mallet by the W.M. of Thorntree Lodge, and requested to occupy the chair, which compliment the Deputy Master gracefully acknowledged, at the same time returning the mallet, and requesting the R.W.M. to retain his seat. Ex-Bailie Caldwell then said that they had made a careful examination of the books of the Lodge Thorntree, No. 512, and found them to be in a most satisfactory condition, reflecting

great credit on the Secretary. The general working of the lodge was found to be in strict harmony with the constitution of the Grand Lodge. He complimented the lodge on their excellent staff of office-bearers, making special reference to the W.M., and also spoke of its prosperity, no less than twenty-five new members being added to its roll for last year. In conclusion, he hoped that the same prosperity would attend the lodge in the future as had been the case in the past. The W.M. then thanked the deputation for their flattering report; after which two candidates were admitted as members of the Order, the initiation ceremony being ably rendered by Bro. Scobie. The lodge was called to harmony, and the Provincial deputation and visiting brethren most hospitably entertained by the office-bearers of Thorntree Lodge, when hearty good wishes were expressed by the brethren from the various visiting lodges towards the Thorntree Lodge for their kindness to them on this occasion.

**GLASGOW.**—Clydesdale Lodge (No. 556).—A meeting of this lodge was held in their hall, 106, Rose-street, S.S., on Tuesday, 30th ult., Bro. W. Phillips, W.M., in the chair; J. McNaught, S.W.; T. Phillips, J. W.; H. M. Culloch, D.M.; J. McKechnie, Treas.; G. B. Yuill, Sec.; P. Young, S.D.; J. McCammon, J.D.; W. Smith, I.G.; and W. Graham, Tyler; and a large turn-out of members and visitors. Among the latter we noticed Bros. W. J. E. Dobson, W.M. Dramatic, 571; G. C. H. McNaught, P.M. 275; Wm. Foster, P.M. 354; J. M. Oliver, S.W. 360; M. Stark, 553; W. Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); J. Robertson, I.G. 571, and others. The minutes of last meeting being read and confirmed, and other business disposed of, Messrs. J. Bennet, R. Mabin, and Peter Lloyd were initiated into the E.A. degree by the W.M. Bros. Alex. Moore, S. Johnstone, and Robt. McMillan were passed to the F.C. degree by Bro. W. Ferguson, P.M. 543; and Bros. R. Wilson, A. Richardson, and J. Moore were raised to the sublime degree of M.M. by Bro. Phillips, W.M. The lodge was then reduced to the First Degree, and afterwards a short time was spent in harmony and refreshment.

**MASONIC AND GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.**—We would again call the attention of our readers to the steady progress which this company is making. We do so more particularly at this time as its financial year ends on 30th September next. It is also a very satisfactory fact that this company has had no difficulty or trouble whatever in passing its accounts and balance-sheet with the Board of Trade, in compliance with the Act. The accounts for the year ending 30th September, 1875, have been duly filed and passed by the Board of Trade, and when the next blue-book is issued will appear therein. These are facts which should be pleasing to our readers, and we strongly recommend our brethren to follow out the advice of the late Charles Dickens, "Be assured, whether you are thinking of the safety of your life by land, or by railway, or by sea, or of the unbroken condition of your arms and legs, or of the maintenance of general health, or of comfort, and competence in your old age, or of the interests of wife and children when you may be no more, or for a provision for your boy when he reaches the apprenticing age, or of the happy marriage and the wedding portion of your little Mary Anne, one day to be, you hope, a blushing bride, now a tiny prattling fairy of two or three years—never mind the subject matter—'Be assured.'" In a recent but eloquent speech made by the Rev. Dr. Gillan on assurance matters, he said: "I commend such institutions because I see in them the centre point or germs of many of the higher virtues which adorn man and the Christian. Among these, self-abnegation stands out the most prominent. Narrowness is banished, and liberality takes its place. In many cases of life assurance restraint is placed on individual inclination. Domestic privations are often submitted to, which the selfish must admire; and where luxuries or superfluities are denied for this purpose, a blessing is safe to rest on what remains. This is the highest sentiment which can inspire the breast, and what can be more touchingly indicative of genuine generous affection than the adoption of such a course? Whatever is contained in your Policy is secured for the benefit of others. It is a provision for your nearest and dearest when you can provide for them no longer. It is to ward off the horrors of poverty, and, humanly speaking, to render destitution impossible. To vindicate the neglect of such a precaution on the plea of plenty while living cannot be admitted. On the contrary, the more comfortably the family are kept, the greater the cruelty of leaving them to the cold charity of an unfeeling world. The greener the pasture now, the more dreary will the desert be then. Such exercises of self denial cannot go without their reward."

What ought to prove an investigation of interest and value is about to be made in Glasgow. It is determined to begin a series of observations on the air of that city. It is understood that Dr. Russell, the medical officer of health has associated with himself Dr. Joseph Coates and Mr. Dickson, the former of whom will undertake the microscopic examination of the air-working, and the latter the chemical. The result should be exceedingly interesting, and the example might with advantage be followed in other great cities.

Copies of the "Freemason" for May 1st and 8th, 1875, containing a full account of the proceedings at the Installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, as Most Worshipful Grand Master and First Grand Principal, are still obtainable at the office, 198, Fleet-street.

The "Masonic Magazine" for the current month, contains an engraving of the first church built in England, A.D. 61.

## ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The General Committee of this institution was held on Saturday, the 3rd inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. John Symonds in the chair. There were also present Bros. Benj. Head, Capt. J. Wordsworth, H. Browse, Jesse Turner, R. B. Webster, J. B. Scriven, Alfred H. Diaper, W. Hyde Pullen, George J. Palmer, H. Massey ("Freemason"), F. H. Ebsworth, J. G. Chancellor, Richard Spencer, Alex. Wallace, W. Mann, J. W. Dosell, F. Adlard, Percival Sanford, S. Rosenthal, A. Durrant, and F. Binckes, Secretary.

After the reading of the minutes it was agreed, on the recommendation of the House Committee, to admit two boys by purchase on the payment of 170 guineas each.

Bro. H. Browse, P.G.D., again brought forward the subject of admission to the School by purchase, which he wished the brethren to weigh well. He thought that by allowing such a system they were not doing good to the Craft at large. It was all very well when the School was not in a prosperous condition, but that state of things was now altered; and if they took in children whose friends were sufficiently well off to raise amongst them a sum of 170 guineas, they were excluding those children whose friends were really without any means to support them. The system of purchase was to the injury of the poor and distressed; and he had it in contemplation to give notice for the next Quarterly Court to consider the desirability of discontinuing the present system. He felt that it was a matter which required consideration by the whole body of Masons.

The Chairman, having referred to the "laws" of the institution, found that to carry out Bro. Browse's object it would be necessary to repeal the two laws which allowed the purchase system.

Bro. Browse said that that would be his notice of motion.

Capt. J. Wordsworth observed that three years ago he was on the committee appointed to consider these laws. They had many meetings, at the first of which they decided to strike out purchase; but as they found that it would be very hard to lose any deserving case, after considerable argument the price of purchase was raised from 150 to 170 guineas. Now that the laws had been made after considerable thought and care, he believed they would be making a mistake if they again altered them, more especially as they had assimilated the rules of the Girls' School with those of the Boys'. Bye-and-bye, if they went on making so many alterations, they would not understand what the laws were.

Bro. Browse then gave his notice of motion.

The House Committee was afterwards elected as follows:—

Bros. Henry Browse, J. Giles Chancellor, Benjamin Head, W. Henry Hunt, W. F. C. Moutrie, William Paas, W. Hyde Pullen, William Roebuck, Sigismund Rosenthal, J. Bagot Scriven, R. W. Stewart, John Wordsworth.

The election of the Audit Committee was then taken:—

Bros. John Boyd, J. W. Dosell, Benjamin Head, W. Mann, D. W. Pearce, George James Row, Jesse Turner, Alexander Wallace, R. B. Webster.

There was no contest for either of these elections.

Four boys were then placed on the list for the October election, and two cases were deferred for better reading. An outfit was granted to one ex-pupil, and the Committee adjourned.

Mr. J. L. Toole is just now the star of the Scottish theatrical evening. The genial comedian opened at the Edinburgh Theatre on Monday, and was received as usual by a "bumper." Mr. Toole is very popular in Scotland. He spends his day in receiving visits from and visiting the literary and other intellectual dignitaries of the land. Heaps of invitations to dine await him; and it is no secret that some of the Fathers of the Church are delighted to make his acquaintance, and see him also from a sly corner of the theatre. If you see an individual with his coat collar turned up and a wide-awake on, sitting in the shadow of the balcony or the pit, depend upon it that man is a reverend father or a university professor. Mr. Toole's visits will always put money in his purse.

A report of the "Premier" Red Cross Conclave will appear in our next.

We are requested to state that the Bishop of London has removed his residence to Fulham Palace.

Her Majesty the Queen has been pleased to send a box of toys, bought in Germany, to St. Andrew's Hospital, Clewer, Windsor, for the use of the children in that hospital.

A marriage has been arranged between Lady Gwendolin Talbot, second daughter of the Right Honourable the Earl of Shrewsbury, Provincial Grand Master for Staffordshire, and Viscount Helmsley, M.P. for the North Riding, eldest son of the Earl of Faversham.

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.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Old Wounds, Sores, and Ulcers are not only unsightly, often loathsome, they frequently give rise to exhaustion of body, and depression of mind, which presently retard recovery, and remotely endanger life. Daily experience confirms the fact, which has triumphed over all opposition for thirty years, viz., that no means are known to equal Holloway's remedies for curing Bad Legs, Sores, Wounds, Diseases of the Skin, Erysipelas, Abscesses, Burns, Scalds, in truth all cases, where the skin is broken. To cure these infirmities quickly is of primary importance, as compulsory confinement indoors weakens the general health. The ready means of cure are found in Holloway's Ointment and Pills, which heal the sores and expel their cause.—ADVT.

## METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, June 16, 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, JUNE 10.

Lodge 176, Caveac, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.  
" 1361, United Service, Greyhound Hot., Richmond.  
" 1423, Era, King's Arms Hot., Hampton Court.  
" 1446, Mount Edgumbe, Swan Tav., Battersea.  
Mark Lodge 144, Grosvenor, Caledonian Hot., Adelphi.

## LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.  
Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-square.  
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-rd.

## MONDAY, JUNE 12.

Chap. 1319, Asaph, F.M.H.

## 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.  
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.  
Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.

## TUESDAY, JUNE 13.

Lodge 167, St. John's, Holly Bush Tav., Hampstead.  
" 548, Wellington, White Swan Tav., Deptford.  
" 834, Andrew, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.  
" 1269, Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.  
" 1538, St. Martin's-le-Grand, M.H., Masons' Avenue.

## LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.  
Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.  
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.  
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.  
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.  
Prosperity, 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.  
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14.

Com. R.M.B.I., at 3.  
Lodge 708, Carnarvon, Mitre Inn, Hampton Court.  
" 1017, Montefiore, F.M.H.  
" 1228, Beacontree, Private Rooms, Leytonstone.  
" 1260, Hervey, F.M.H.  
" 1305, St. Marylebone, Eyre Arms, St. John's Wood.  
Rose Croix Chap., Grand Metropolitan, 33, Golden-sq.

## LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.  
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.  
New Concord, Rosemary Broom Tav., Hoxton.  
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.  
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.  
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.  
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.  
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.  
Duke of Connaught, Havlock Tav., Dalston, E.  
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.  
Mount Edgumbe, 19, Jermyn-street, St. James's.  
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.  
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.

## THURSDAY, JUNE 15.

Lodge 1227, Upton, Spotted Dog Tav., Upton.  
" 1320, Blackheath, Crown Hot., Blackheath.  
" 1339, Stockwell, Half Moon Tav., Herne Hill.  
Mark Lodge 7, Carnarvon, Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court.  
Precep E., Observance, 14, Bedford-row.

## LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.  
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.  
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.  
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.  
Ebony, 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.  
Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.

## FRIDAY, JUNE 16.

House Com. Boys' School, at 4.  
Lodge 6, Friendship, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.  
" 975, Rose of Denmark, White Hart Hot., Barnes.  
" 1118, University, F.M.H.  
Chap. 92, Moira, London Tav., Bishopsgate-st.  
Precep. 6, St. George's, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.  
Rose Croix Chap., Invicta, 33, Golden-sq.

## LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.  
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.  
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 June, 17, 1876.

## MONDAY, JUNE 12.

Lodge 314, Peace and Unity, Militia Mess R., Preston.  
" 703, Clifton, Clifton Hot., Blackpool.  
" 1021, Hartington, H.M. C.H.B., B.-in-Furness.  
" 1350, Fermor Hesketh, M.H., Liverpool.  
" 1398, Baldwin Castle, Dalton-in-Furness.  
" 1496, Trafford, Northumberland Hot., Old Trafford.

## TUESDAY, JUNE 13.

Lodge 178, Antiquity, Royal Hot., Wigan.  
" 241, Merchants, M.H., Liverpool.  
" 1250, Gilbert Greenall, M.R., Warrington.  
" 1384, Equity, Commercial Hot., Widnes.  
Chap. 613, Bridson, M.H., Southport.

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14.

Lodge 281, Fortitude, the Athenæum, Lancaster.  
" 1052, Callender, P.H., Rusholme.  
" 1061, Triumph, M.H., Lytham.  
" 1094, Temple, M.H., Liverpool.  
" 1356, De Grey and Ripon, 80, N. Hill-st.  
" 1403, West Lancashire, Commercial Hot., Ormskirk.  
" 1547, Liverpool, M.H., Liverpool.  
Chap. 673, St. John's, M.H., Liverpool.  
" 1345, Victoria, Cross Keys Hot., Eccles.  
Neptune L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

## THURSDAY, JUNE 15.

Lodge 203, Ancient Union, M.H., Liverpool.  
" 343, Concord, Militia Mess Rooms, Preston.  
" 425, Cestrian, M.R., Eastgate-row, Chester.  
" 605, Combermere, Seacombe Hot., Seacombe.  
" 1299, Pembroke, Rawlinson's Hot., West Derby.  
William de la More Preceptory, M.H., Prescott.  
Liverpool Red Cross Conclave, M.H., Liverpool.  
St. John's L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

## FRIDAY, JUNE 16.

Duke of Edinburgh L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

## MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, June 17, 1876.

All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

## MONDAY, JUNE 12.

Lodge 102, St. Mark, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.  
" 204, St. Paul, George Inn, Ayr.  
" 205, Garthland St. Winnoch, Eagle, Lochwinnoch.  
" 219, Star, 12, Trongate, Glasgow.  
" 307, Union and Crown, M.H., Barrhead.  
" 362, St. Clair, 25, Robertson-st., Glasgow.  
" 384, Athole, Washington Hot., Kirkintilloch.  
" 503, St. George, Oddfellows' Hall, Helensburgh.  
" 541, Marie Stuart, M.H., Crosshill.  
Chap. 76, Abbey, 8, High-st., Paisley.

## TUESDAY, JUNE 13.

Lodge 230, St. Barnabas, Black Bull Hot., Old Cumnock.  
" 413, Athole, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.  
" 419, Neptune, 35, St. James-st., S.S., Glasgow.  
" 426, Prince of Wales, M.H., Renfrew.  
" 441, Glasgow, 22, Struthers-st., Glasgow.  
" 543, St. John, M.H., Dalmair.  
" 556, Clydesdale, 106, Rose-st., Glasgow.  
" 579, St. Bryde, M.H., Uddingstone.  
Chap. 17, Greenock, M.H., Cathcart-st., Greenock.

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14.

Lodge 178, Scotia, 12, Trongate, Glasgow.  
" 333, St. George, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.  
Chap. 113, Partick, M.H., Douglas-st., Partick.

## THURSDAY, JUNE 15.

Lodge 27, St. Mungo, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.

## FRIDAY, JUNE 16.

Lodge 31, St. Mary's Coltness, Com. Hot., Wishaw.  
" 306, St. Thomas, 90, Wellgate-st., Larkhall.  
" 321, St. Andrew, R.A., Public Hall, Alexandria.  
" 471, St. John, Stane Inn, Shotts.  
" 496, St. Munn, Ardnam, Kilmun.

## SATURDAY, JUNE 17.

Lodge 512, Thorntree, School House, Thornliebank.  
" 524, St. Andrew, M.H., East Kilbride.

## MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Friday, June 16, 1876.

## MONDAY, JUNE 12.

Lodge 145, St. Stephen, Writers' Court, Edinburgh.

## TUESDAY, JUNE 13.

Lodge 1, L. of Edinburgh, Mary's Chapel, Waterloo-pl.

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14.

Lodge 2, Canongate Kilwinning, St. John's Chapel.

Chap. 1, Edinburgh, F.M.H., George-st.

## THURSDAY, JUNE 15.

Lodge 48, St. Andrew, F.M.H., George-st.

" 226, Portobello, Town Hall, Portobello.

Chap. 152, Perseverance, Constitution-st.

## FRIDAY, JUNE 16.

Chap. 83, St. Andrew, F.M.H., 98, George-st.