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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

CHAUCER LODGE (No. 1540).—A meeting of this lodge was held at the Bridge House Hotel, Southwark, on Wednesday, 28th ult. Bro. T. J. Sabine, W.M., P.P.G.S.B. Midx., P.M. 73, &c., presided. There were present Bros. J. C. Mason, S.W.; E. S. Stidolph, J.W.; W. Hudson, P.P.G.D. Sussex, P.M., Treas.; F. Walters, P.P.G.P. Midx., P.M., Sec.; W. J. Kemp, J.D.; H. Faija, I.G.; Hawks, D.C.; A. P. Stedman, W.S.; T. J. H. Wilkins, P.M.; Wright, P.M.; and many others. Amongst the visitors we noticed Bros. H. Keeble, P.M. 1275, &c.; A. Pulley, P.M. 169; Sandiman, P.M. 315; T. Walls, 141; R. Buck, 1559; and others. The work, done in an admirable manner, was raising Bros. Harrison, Blackwell, Hooper, Diack, and R. Buck, and passing Bro. H. Levy. The J.D., Bro. Hudson, was absent in consequence of his representing the lodge as its Steward at the Boys' Festival. The members subscribed ten guineas to make the W.M. in perpetuity a life subscriber to the Boys' School, the W.M. for the time being possessing life subscriberships of both Girls' and Boys', both subscribed for voluntarily by the members of this lodge. Some important notices of motion having been given, candidates proposed for initiation, and joining members proposed, the lodge was closed. Banquet and dessert followed.

MIDDLETON—Imperial George Lodge (No. 78).—The ordinary monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Assheton Arms, on Tuesday, June 22. The W.M., Bro. David Reid, took the post of honour at 6 p.m., and his officers being in their respective places, he proceeded to open the lodge. The Secretary having read the minutes of the last meeting, they were in due course confirmed. The ballot was then taken for a candidate, proposed by Bro. H. Wilson, Mr. William Valentine, of Chorlton-on-Medlock, Manchester, it being satisfactory he was initiated by the W.M., after which the lodge was passed to the Second Degree, and the working tools of a F.C. presented to Bros. Berresford and Brunt, which ceremony was omitted at the last meeting in consequence of other important business. These brethren having retired the lodge was raised to the Third Degree, and the Tracing Board explained to Bros. Tatton and Dodd. The lodge was then reduced to the First Degree and the whole of the brethren summoned to labour, after which the W.M. moved on behalf of Bro. H. Heywood, P.M. and Treasurer, who was unable to attend, "That a donation of Fifty guineas be given from the Charity Fund to the East Lancashire Systematic and Benevolent Institution." The W.M. having informed the brethren that this new institution was working well and wisely, and therefore worthy of the support of the Imperial George Lodge, then appealed to Bro. Wood, P.M., D.C., to give further information with regard to the institution, he being the representative of the lodge at its meetings. Bro. Ward, on rising, seconded the motion, and pointed out in an explicit manner, the great boon such an institution would be, to a province of such magnitude as that of East Lancashire. He also informed the brethren that its benefits would doubtless be experienced by many not connected with the province, by many not attached to the Masonic Constitution of England; his remarks here applying to brethren in distress, who were wending their way to their native homes, or in search of occupation. To dispense this charity, which with a little licence we might term "migrating Charity," Bro. Wood, P.M., D.C., informed the brethren that an Almoner had been appointed, who resided in Manchester, and to whom a distressed brother could apply for assistance, and if found worthy he would at once receive it. It is with regret we have read and heard much of late of designing Masons, and Masonic impostors; we feel that this fact was uppermost in the mind of Bro. Wood, when he advised the brethren to refer all cases of distress to the proper officer at the Masonic Hall, in Cooper-street, Manchester, there their case should be fully investigated, and as a consequence worthy men and worthy men alone would be relieved. Those who could not present themselves at that hall, would be regarded as Masons without mind or

without brief. At the conclusion of Bro. Wood's remarks the resolution was ably supported by Bros. Ridley, Cheetham, and Fothergill. The W.M. then put it to the meeting, viz., "That a donation of fifty guineas be given from the charity fund to the E.L.S. and B.I.," and it was unanimously carried. Bro. S. H. Cheetham, P.M., proposed, and Bro. Riley seconded, a candidate for initiation, and the candidate was entered accordingly on good report. Bro. Wood, P.M., D.C., proposed, and Bro. Bradbury, S.W., seconded, "That the lodge be adjourned until September," this also received general support. Two lodges were represented at this meeting, Bro. G. Sayles giving the customary salutations for Caledonian, 204, and Bro. R. Abrahams, P.M. for Walton, 1086. Before closing our report we must mention that Bro. S. H. Cheetham, P.M., kindly undertook the post of Tyler in order to allow Bro. John Kent, O.G., to be present at the working inside the lodge. He is an able officer in preparing rude matter to be placed in due form, and owing to this duty he is seldom within the door of the lodge; but the closing of the lodge for the season was certainly witnessed by one admired by all—our Bro. John Kent. The banquet having been disposed of, the usual toasts were proceeded with. Time would not permit "the power of song" to be much indulged in. Bro. S. H. Cheetham, P.M., enlivened the evening with his favourite melody, "The Anchor's Weighed." To their respective toasts "The Initiate" and "The Visitors" replied, that of "The Tyler" concluding and closing Imperial George Lodge doings until Thursday, Sept. 28th. May 78 resume labour, in the way in which it usually terminates it, in accordance with that old motto, "Cor unum, via una." ("One heart, one way.")

ROCHFORD.—Lodge of True Friendship (No. 160).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday, the 24th ult., at the Old Ship Inn, when Bro. Rev. H. J. Hatch, P. Prov. G. Chaplain Essex, was installed as the W.M. by the V.W. Bro. Rev. S. R. Wigram, Grand Chaplain, the beautiful ritual being rendered with the excellent effect for which our worthy brother is celebrated. Bro. A. Lucking, P.M. 160 and 1000, P. Prov. A.G.D.C., assisted as Director of Ceremonies. The W.M. invested the following as his officers:—Bros. J. Reeve, I.P.M.; F. V. Jillings, S.W.; W. Allen, jun., J.W.; H. Wood, P.M., P. Prov. G.O., Treas.; G. Burgess, P.M., P. Prov. G.D., Sec.; T. W. Gower, S.D.; G. Goodman, J.D.; G. Josling, I.G.; A. Lucking, D.C.; W. V. Willson and H. Harper, Stewards; J. Allen, Tyler. There were also present Bros. W. T. Allen, P.M., P. Prov. A.G.D.C.; J. A. Wardell, P.M. 160 and 1000, P. Prov. G.D.; Dr. E. E. Phillips, W.M. 1000, P. Prov. G.D.; G. F. Browning, P.M., P. Prov. G.W.; D. B. Grout, P.M., P. Prov. G.D.; Dr. King, Dr. G. F. Jones, Z. Pettitt, J. Harrington, J. C. Underwood, W. Frost, and A. Harrington. Amongst the numerous visitors were Bros. Major Birch, P. District G. Sec. of Bengal, P.M. and P.Z.; F. G. Green, P.M. 1024, P. Prov. S.G.W.; F. Wood, P.M. 1000, P. Prov. S.G.W.; W. F. Francis, W.M. 1024; W. C. Bell, 1024; F. Canton, 1000; W. H. Norman, 1000. On the motion of the newly-installed W.M., seconded by Bro. H. Wood, P.M., a most cordial vote of thanks was accorded to the Rev. S. R. Wigram for the able and impressive manner in which he had performed the ceremony of installation, which was ordered to be entered on the minutes. The lodge having been closed, the brethren sat down to an excellent banquet. On the withdrawal of the cloth the usual loyal toasts were given, all of which were drunk with enthusiasm. The W.M. gave "The R.W. Prov. G.M.," whom he regretted, was unable to be present through continued ill health, and next gave "The R.W. Dep. Prov. G.M. and the rest of Prov. Grand Officers, Present and Past," which was acknowledged by Bros. A. Lucking and Dr. E. E. Phillips. Bro. J. Reeve, I.P.M., then rose, and said it was exceedingly gratifying to him to have the privilege of proposing "The Health of the W.M.," who was in every respect qualified for the position to which the lodge had elected him. The toast having been cordially received the W.M. made an able response. Bros. Major Birch, Green, Wood, and F. Canton returned thanks to the toast of "The Visitors." The former said he had visited lodges in many parts of the globe, and was very pleased at the cordial welcome he always received, and wished the W.M. every prosperity during his year of office. The W.M. then gave the remaining toasts, viz., "The P.M.'s," "The Treasurer," "The Secretary," and "The Officers," which were suitably acknowledged. Some excellent vocal and instrumental music was rendered between the speeches under the direction of Bro. T. Lawler, assisted by Bros. Hodges and J. Thornton, and was highly appreciated by the assembled brethren. The Tyler's toast brought the day's proceedings to a close, which were of a highly successful and satisfactory character.

LIVERPOOL.—Merchants' Lodge (241).—The members of this celebrated lodge, which has long been recognised as the premier lodge in the Province of West Lancashire for its deeds of charity and excellence of its working, met at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool on Tuesday afternoon, the 27th of June, for the purpose of assisting at the annual installation ceremony and giving a hearty character to the greeting received by the W.M. after his year's admirable services. The Merchants' Lodge has now enjoyed an existence which stretches over the best part of a century, and during the whole of that time its chair has been filled by many worthy men and Masons—not the least distinguished and valued of these being Bro. Richard Brown, Hon. Sec. to the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution, who gave up the reins of government as the W.M. of 241 on this occasion. Bro. R. Brown, as W.M., opened the lodge in due form, and with him in the opening portion of the proceedings were a numerous and influential gathering

of the fraternity. The chair was subsequently taken by Bro. Robert Wilson, P.M. 241 P.P.G.S.D., who proceeded in a masterly style to instal Bro. G. Hutchin as the W.M. in the E. The following were invested officers for the coming year:—Bros. R. Brown I.P.M.; Councillor G. Peet, S.W.; James Winsor, J.W.; Dr. McGeorge, P.M.; Treasurer (re-elected); T. H. Sheen, Secretary; G. Broadbridge, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., D.C.; T. Salter, S.D.; W. Williams, J.D.; S. Jacobs, I.G.; and Peter Ball, Tyler. At the conclusion of this portion of the business the W.M. said he had great pleasure in presenting Bro. Brown, I.P.M., with a P.M.'s jewel, which had been voted from the funds of the lodge. Nothing which he (the W.M.) could say could add to its value in any way, and as there would be a future opportunity of saying something more, he would then rest content by merely presenting the jewel to Bro. Brown. In acknowledging the gift Bro. Brown said he need hardly tell the brethren that he thanked them heartily for the distinction conferred upon him. He hoped to wear the jewel as long as he lived, and remember with pride and pleasure the twelve months he had filled the chair in that lodge. At the close of the business proceedings the brethren took train for Birkdale, near Southport, where a sumptuous banquet was served at the Palace Hotel. Bro. G. Hutchin, W.M., presided, and amongst nearly 100 guests were Bros. H. S. Alpess, P.G. Sec.; R. Wilson, P.P.S.G.D.; G. Broadbridge, P.P.G.D.C.; J. Skeaf, P.G.Org.; R. Brown, I.P.M.; R. Robinson, P.M.; W. M. Chudley, P.M.; Dr. S. J. McGeorge, P.M.; J. Cobham, P.M.; J. I. Knight, P.M.; all the officers who had been invested, and Bros. W. Coates, 1356; W. Savage, G. Hulse, W. Johnson, J. Latta, B. Levy, I. de Frece, Treas. 1502; A. Woolrich, Ewart, &c. When dessert had been placed on the table, the W.M. proposed "The Queen," "The M.W.G.M. Bro. H.R.H., the Prince of Wales," and "The M.W. Pro Grand Master, Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon;" and Bro. P.M. Chudley gave the toast of "The R.W. the D.G.M. and Prov. G.M. of West Lancashire, Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale," and "The Grand Officers, Past and Present." The toast of "The W.D.P.G.M., Bro. the Hon. F. A. Stanley, and the Officers of the Prov. G. Lodge, Past and Present," given by the W.M., was responded to by Bro. H. S. Alpess, P.G. Sec. In doing so he said it always afforded him great pleasure to visit the Merchants' Lodge, which he remembered longer than, perhaps, any brother in that room. It had always been a lodge which was well worked, and whose members were greatly respected throughout the length and breadth of the province. His memory extended over a quarter of a century of the lodge's history, and during that time it had always been foremost in works of charity. Bro. Alpess then made an eloquent appeal to the brethren on behalf of the proposition to contribute a sedilia to the restoration of Chester Cathedral by the brethren of West Lancashire, which would cost about £450. Of this £170 had already been subscribed, and he appealed to the brethren to show the same large heartedness which had been shown in other provinces in connection with similar work. The W.M. then proposed "The Masonic Charitable Institutions," Bro. Broadbridge responding on behalf of the Hamer Benevolent Fund and the London charities, and Bro. Brown on behalf of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution, incidentally stating that that Institution was progressing in every possible way, and that there was now nearly the sum of £13,000 invested in connection with the charity. This was in face of the fact that during the past two years the amount paid for education had nearly doubled, and the number of children had also nearly doubled. Bro. W. Williams, J.D., rose at this stage of the proceedings, and said he rose on that occasion with a great deal of pride and considerable diffidence to discharge a duty which had been committed to his care by a number of the brethren of 241—with pride, because it was always a source of gratification to recognise the merits of any member of the lodge, and especially one who had gained the confidence of the brethren; and with diffidence, because he knew there were many members who were older in years, with a larger amount of Masonic experience, with greater ability, and some possessing a more intimate acquaintance with the brother in whose honour he had been asked to express the feelings of the lodge. He now desired on behalf of the brethren to express the sentiments and high regard for Bro. Richard Brown felt for him in the lodge, and any poverty of words on his (Bro. Williams's) part would be forgotten in that fact. A number of the brethren of the Merchants' Lodge had been for a considerable time anxious to testify their appreciation of the signal merits of Bro. Brown, not alone in connection with the faithful discharge of the various Masonic duties he had performed, but of his general character, and the many excellent qualities which distinguished him in his social relations. They had all seen how faithfully and well he had fulfilled the duties of the chair during the past twelve months, but it would be presumptuous to speak in the presence of so many brethren who knew Bro. Brown better. To endeavour to dilate on the many excellences he had shewn in every position would be to scent the rose, and paint the lily. They saw centred in Bro. Brown all that they should seek to imitate. (Hear, hear.) The brethren had therefore deputed him (Bro. Williams) to request his acceptance of a testimonial, as marking of the appreciation felt for him in connection with the able discharge of all the duties appertaining to his official position and personal connection with the members in different relations of life. Knowing the large amount of time which Bro. Brown bestowed on his Masonic duties it was felt that this could not be done without the co-operation of his wife; and it was therefore felt that she too ought to be recognised in connection with the presentation. He would now present a jewel for Mrs. Brown, typical of the artist's profession she so much honoured, and in which he hoped she would achieve

still greater honours; for he (Bro. Williams) looked upon Bro. Brown as the representative of art amongst them. A brother of the lodge, anxious to testify individually to Bro. Brown's excellent qualities, asked his acceptance of a handsome gold watch, and nearly the whole of the brethren further desired to present him with a gold chain, to mark their high sense of his many excellent qualities. This magnificent Albert chain, of chaste design, is perhaps one of the most unique extant. In the centre of the chain are inserted, between gold bezels set with flat crystals, three gold Aurei of the Roman Empire, pronounced by distinguished numismatists to be rare specimens, and in a splendid state of preservation. Two of the coins are of the reign of the Emperor Domitian, 12th Caesar, date A.D. 81 to 96, and the third of the Emperor Trajan, A.D. 98 to 117. The coins were purchased at Sotheby's in 1875, and formed part of the collection of Augustus Langdon, Esq., LL.B., F.Z.S., Trinity College, Cambridge, and Lincoln's Inn. Each of the bezels is set so as to rotate on pivots, in order to show reverse and obverse sides. The chain is of the pattern known as the fetter link, coupled with a small circular link, and to the drop links at the end is suspended a medallion beautifully engraved and bearing a suitable inscription, with the monogram "R.B." on the other side. The chaste and elegant brooch presented to Mrs. Brown was also a gem in its way, and thoroughly unique in design. By an ingenious contrivance it can also be worn as a pendant or negligé. The brooch is also apropos in its construction, representing an artist's pallet in gold, with brushes, maul stick, and pigments. The tips of the brushes are enamelled in colours, and the pigments on the pallet are depicted by gems, set transparently, viz., opal, aqua marine, amethyst, turquoise, and almadine, whilst the head of the maul stick is surmounted by a pearl. There is an appropriate inscription on the back of the brooch. Bro. Brown, in acknowledging the gifts, said he was sure the brethren would excuse him from making a speech on that occasion. He felt all heart and no words. When, twelve months since, it was prophesied that he would satisfy the brethren, he little dreamed that any feeble effort on his part would be recognised in this manner. It could not be from anything in him, but from their love for the Merchants' Lodge. He must thank the brethren again and again, and hoped the G.A.O.T.U. would mete out to them the grace and goodness they had always shown to him. Bro. Brown then proposed "The Worshipful Master," who responded in happy terms. "The Visitors," given by the W.M., was acknowledged by Bro. J. E. Jackson, W.M. 667, and Bro. I. de Frece, Treas. 1502. Bro. J. Cobham, P.M., gave "The Installing Master," acknowledged by Bro. R. Wilson, P.M. "The Worshipful P.M.'s," given by the W.M., was responded to by Bros. Robinson, Cobham, McGeorge, Chudley, and Brown; and "The Officers" by Bro. Councilor Peet, S.W. An excellent musical programme was furnished by Bros. T. Foulkes, Pugmire, Hobart, and Skeaf, the last-named presiding at the piano.

LANCASTER.—Lodge of Fortitude (No. 281).—On Wednesday evening, the 28th June, the Festival of St. John the Baptist was celebrated by the members of the Lodge of Fortitude dining together at the house of Bro. R. Hartley, the North Western Hotel, Morecambe. Between forty and fifty members of the Craft (including a few visitors who attended by invitation) assembled, the W.M., Bro. T. Atkinson, presiding, supported on the right by Bros. Dr. Moore, Count Pandolfini, W. C. Edmonds, H. Longman, W.M. 1051; and on the left by Bros. John Hatch, Sec.; James Hatch, Treas.; E. Simpson, W. King, R. Bond, G. Kelland, and others. The Dessert having been placed on the table, the Chairman, on rising to propose the first toast, said that owing to the fineness of the weather, he hoped short speeches would be the order of the evening, an injunction which was obeyed to the letter, the speeches being short, pithy, and to the point. He then proposed "The Health of the Queen," and also that of "The Prince of Wales, the M.W.G.M. of England," both of which were received in the usual loyal manner and with musical honours. The Chairman next proposed "The Health of the Earl of Carnarvon, Pro G.M., Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M., the Grand Officers of England, and the Provincial Grand Officers, Past and Present," coupling with the toast the name of Bro. Dr. Moore. Bro. Dr. Moore, in responding, alluded to the skill and ability displayed by both the noble lords in the discharge of their duties to the Craft, and to each of whom he was indebted, the former having honoured him by investing him with the badge and collar of an officer of the Grand Lodge of England, and the latter had, as most of them knew, installed him within the last twelve months into the Master's chair of the Morecambe Lodge on its consecration. With regard to the G. Lodge officers, and those of the Provincial Grand Lodge, all who had dealings with them, either by letter or in person, would bear him out when he said that their proceedings were marked with the greatest efficiency and courtesy. Bro. Simpson next proposed "The Health of the Chairman, their Worshipful Master," which was received with hearty demonstration and musical honours. The Chairman, in acknowledging the compliment, expressed the pleasure it had been to him to occupy the post of Worshipful Master of the Lodge of Fortitude. He thought the duties would have been more arduous, but he had been so well supported by his respective officers—than whom he did not think there were better in the North of England—that the duties had been a positive pleasure to him. Bro. J. Hatch then proposed "Success to the Lancaster Lodges," coupling with the toast the name of Bro. Longman, who acknowledged the compliment, and reciprocated most heartily the good wishes expressed by Bro. Hatch towards the Lancaster Lodges, and hoped the good fellowship which now existed between them would go on to the end of the chapter.

Bro. James Hatch proposed "The Health of the Wardens," which was responded to by Bros. Taylor and Jowitt, with whose names the toast was coupled. Bro. Fenton, in complimentary terms, proposed "The Health of the Treasurer and Secretary," both of whom acknowledged the toast, the former remarking that the funds of the lodge were in a very prosperous state; they were not anxious to obtain many new members, but would rather see the young lodges go on till they got nearer the prosperity and the number of members enjoyed by the mother lodge. Bro. Kelland next proposed "The Visitors." The toast was acknowledged by Bro. Count Pandolfini, who expressed his pleasure at being present, and the hearty welcome which had been extended to him, and hoped the Masonic lodges in the district would go on and prosper. Bro. W. King proposed "The Junior Officers," which was responded to by Bro. McRath. Bro. W. Hall proposed "The Masonic Press," which was responded to by Bro. J. Atkinson ("Freemason"), with whose name the toast was coupled. Bro. Bingham also responded. Bro. Dr. Moore gave the Tyler's toast, "To all poor and distressed Masons," which brought the after dinner proceedings to a close.

LIVERPOOL.—Downshire Lodge (No. 594).—The members of this old lodge had a grand "field day" on Thursday, the 22nd June, when installation and picnic were fixed. The lodge was summoned for initiation and installation ceremonies at half past nine o'clock in the morning, and shortly after that hour Bro. T. Dilcock, W.M., took the chair, supported by Bros. H. Hunt, I.P.M.; S. E. Ibbis, P.P.G.S.B., P.M., D.C.; W. J. Rowse, P.M.; P. M. Larsen, P.M.; R. P. France, S.W.; J. Lecomber, J.W.; R. Ing, P.M., Treas.; J. L. Houghton, Sec.; J. H. Martin, S.D.; T. Boswell, J.D.; G. Maxwell, S.; W. G. Veale, Org.; J. Bennekell, W. H. Menzies, W. Leatham, J. Phelau, J. Hine, C. Bond, P. Halme, D. Quayle, A. Rankin, J. Gabriel, J. Milnes, R. Maddox, J. Prince, Williams, J. McCormack, A. Morrison, J.W. 1570; J. G. Hartley, W. H. Booth, S. B. Goodman, R. J. Wilkinson, J. McCall, A. R. Watt, and J. H. Burch. The visitors included Bros. T. Evans, P.M. 1356, S.W. 1570; W. Cotterell, P.M. 123; T. Shaw, W.M. 823; J. Skeaf, P.G.O.; T. Roberts, S.W. 673; W. Shorts, P.M. 724; H. J. Henochsberg, W.M. 1502; E. Kyle, P.M. 973; J. Healing, P.M. and Treas. 1264; W. Vaughan, W.M. 724; J. Rea, 1182; J. B. Myers, W.M. 1182; J. A. Edginton, P.M. 1182; D. Jackson, S.D. 673; and others. After Bro. Dilcock, W.M., had initiated two candidates, he immediately proceeded with the installation of Bro. R. P. France as his successor in the chair of W.M., a ceremony which he performed most satisfactorily and impressively. The officers who were subsequently invested were Bros. T. Dilcock, I.P.M.; J. Lecomber, S.W.; J. L. Houghton, J.W.; R. Ing, P.M., Treas.; T. Boswell, Sec.; W. Leatham, S.D.; J. P. Pederson, J.D. (by proxy); G. Maxwell, I.O.; S. E. Ibbis, P.M., D.C.; W. G. Veale, Org.; J. Collas, S.S.; J. H. Burch, J.S.; and W. H. Ball, Tyler. On the motion of Bro. H. Hunt, P.M., seconded by Bro. Larsen, P.M., a cordial vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Dilcock for the very able manner in which he had performed the ceremony of installation. After some slight refreshments at the close of business, the brethren, along with their wives, sisters, and sweethearts, started by special omnibuses for the pretty village of Hale, which, after a lovely ride of about two hours, was reached in safety. Upwards of 100 were present, and the whole afternoon was of the most enjoyable kind. A substantial dinner was provided by "mine host" of the Childs of Hale in a large tent, and toast, sentiment, and presentation followed the repast. The W.M., in fitting terms, proposed "The Queen," "The M.W.G.M. &c.," "The D.G.M., P.G.M. West Lancashire, and Officers of the Province," responded to by Bro. Skeaf, P.G.O. "The Health of the W.M." was proposed and received with great cordiality. In giving "The Installing Master," the W.M. took the opportunity of presenting Bro. Dilcock, I.P.M., with a very handsome Past Master's jewel as a token of the respect and esteem of the brethren. A similar compliment, it should be stated, was paid to Bro. Veale at the meeting in the morning, when he received a valuable jewel in recognition of his services as Organist. The toast of "The Visitors" was acknowledged by Bros. Cottrell, P.M. 223; and J. Healing, P.M., Treas. 1264. "The Ladies," responded to by Bro. T. Evans, P.M. 1356, brought the toast list to a close, and the happy party adjourned to the green, where dancing was kept up with spirit to the strains of Martin's band. The weather was fine during the afternoon, although rain began to fall before the "pick-nickers" reached Liverpool in the evening.

WOOLWICH.—Florence Nightingale Lodge (No. 706).—The installation of Bro. G. M. Tapp, W.M. elect, in the chair of the above lodge, took place on Tuesday, the 27th June last, at the Masonic Hall, William-street, Bro. R. Croisdale, P.M., &c., being the Installing Officer, and most admirably did he perform the important and impressive ceremony. Amongst the visitors present were Bros. C. Coupland, P.G.S. Kent, and P.M. 913; Pidcock, P.M., &c., 30; T. Ward, W.M. 700; T. W. Whitmarsh, 1150; W. T. Vincent, W.M. elect 913; W. Weston, W.M. elect 1536; G. Spinks, J.W. 1536; G. W. Reed, J.W. 13; T. S. Hellier, 1536; Virgo, 700; and C. Jolly, 913. After the new W.M. had been duly saluted by the brethren in order, by his wish, Bro. Croisdale invested the following brethren with the badges of their office:—W. T. Gamble, S.W.; F. J. Sales, J.W.; S. Mutch, S.D.; J. J. Donolly, J.D.; E. Sweeney, I.G.; Sydney Clarke, P.M., Treas.; E. Denton, P.M., Sec.; and H. E. Eves, Tyler. A very cordial vote of thanks was then moved to Bro. Croisdale for so well and ably performing the installation ceremony, which was ordered to be inscribed in the minutes of the lodge, and then the lodge was closed in due form and with solemn prayer. The banquet, which was a most superb

one, took place at Bro. De Grey's house, the Freemasons' Tavern, opposite the Dockyard Station, Bro. Moulder having charge of the service, which was as usual simply perfection. Upon the removal of the cloth, the W.M., in choice terms, proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, which we need hardly say were loyally responded to. P.M. Croisdale then rose to propose "The Health of the W.M." He said their esteemed Bro. Tapp had most ably filled the various offices of the lodge, and he felt sure that they all had great regard for him, and that under his efficient guidance the prosperity and happiness of the lodge would be secured. Bro. Tapp, in reply, said that until that evening he had held but a subordinate position in the lodge, but now that he had been placed in the position of W.M. he hardly knew how sufficiently to thank them. He felt it to be a position that called upon him to uphold the dignity of the Craft, as well as the inviolability of its mysteries, and they might depend upon his best efforts to that end. The principles of Freemasonry had been beautifully described by a great American Freemason, who said "Although the origin of our fraternity is shrouded in darkness, and its history is to some extent obscure, yet we can confidently say it is the oldest society in the world, and we are equally sure its principles are based on pure morality; its ethics are the ethics of Christianity; its doctrines the doctrines of patriotism and brotherly love; its sentiments the sentiments of exalted benevolence. Upon these points there can be no doubt; whatever is good, and kind, and Christianable, it encourages, and whatever is vicious, cruel, and oppressive it reprobates." These he held to be the true principles of their Order, and as long as it was in his power he should endeavour to so carry them out that they would never regret placing him in the proud position as W.M. of the Florence Nightingale Lodge. In proposing "The Health of the Past Masters of and belonging to the Lodge," the W.M. said they were the patriarchs of it; they formed a cyclopædia for the benefit of the lodge, for they not only told them what to do but how to do it. Bro. Sidney Clarke, in reply, said it was a source of great regret that Bro. Santi, the now I.P.M., was not present to reply to the toast, but as the first duty of all was to obey the call to duty he could not be present, and he felt sure they were sorry at his enforced absence. So far as the Past Masters were concerned they always had the greatest pleasure in assisting an aspiring brother to the chair so worthily filled that day by Bro. Tapp. He had every confidence that their W.M. would do his duty in such a manner as to reflect honour upon the lodge, and that the Past Masters would do theirs by assisting both him and the brethren generally in any difficulty that might occur to them. The toast of "The Visitors" was then honoured, and in putting it the W.M. expressed the pleasure it gave him and the lodge to see visitors. He felt proud to have by his side one who had initiated him into Freemasonry, and who was an honour to the Craft; he alluded to their distinguished Bro. P.M. Coupland. He asked them to do honour to it, and coupled it with Bro. Coupland's name, who, in reply, expressed the gratification he felt at seeing his initiate in the chair, but would have liked to have heard Bro. Pidcock respond to the toast, because he was better known among them than he was. Although circumstances had compelled him (the speaker) to leave the lodge, yet he assured them he was not an idle Mason; he now stood Steward for the Boys' School, and was happy to tell them that he should, next day, have the pleasure of taking to the Alexandra Park the nice little sum of £123 for that Institution. Bro. Pidcock as well briefly replied. The last toast was that of "The Officers," to which Bros. Gamble, Sales, Sweeney, and Mutch severally replied, and then "God save the Queen" concluded a most enjoyable affair.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—Harbour of Refuge Lodge (No. 764).—The annual installation of officers in connection with this lodge, took place on Tuesday, the 13th ult. Bro. W. T. Tate was installed the W.M. for the ensuing year, the ceremony being most impressively performed, in the presence of a full lodge, by Bro. Coxon, P.M. The other officers were Bros. Casebourne, I.P.M.; Eisher, S.W.; Tweedy, J.W.; Harpley, Treas.; Cowper, Sec.; Lane, S.D.; Merryweather, J.D.; Young, Org.; Garry, I.G.; Atkinson, Tyler; and Tweddell and Bamlett, Stewards. The banquet, which was of a sumptuous description, was held at the Royal Hotel, Bro. Gallon's, several influential brethren of the province and neighbouring lodges being amongst the guests.

CARDIFF.—Bute Lodge (No. 960).—The installation of Bro. T. G. Glass, P.P.G.P., as W.M. for the ensuing year, took place on the 26th ult., as St. John the Baptist's Day fell this year upon Saturday. A cloud of gloom was cast over this usual interesting ceremony by the death of the beloved brother, the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, Theodore Mansel Talbot, of Margam Park. Consequently, all observances of a festive nature were entirely set aside, and nothing but the urgent and formal business of the lodge was entered into. Lodge was open in due form by the Worshipful Master, Bro. S. Weichert, Past Provincial G.S.D., at four o'clock, and the minutes having been read and confirmed, lodge was then opened in the Second Degree, when two worthy brethren were passed, after which the ceremony of installation commenced. Bro. Glass was led to the chair by Past Master Bro. Thomas, and having sworn to obey the ancient charges, was duly obligated, after which the lodge was raised to the Third or Sublime Degree. A Board of Installed Masters having been formed, the new W.M. was formally advanced to the chair. All Master Masons were now readmitted, and Bro. Glass was, for the first time, declared W.M. for the ensuing year. Lodge was then lowered to the Second Degree, and finally to the First, and Bro. Glass, for the second and third time, declared W.M. The Worshipful Master then proceeded to appoint and invest his officers, which were as follows: Bros. S

Weichert, I.P.M.; Dominic Watson, S.W.; Southern, J.W.; Calder was appointed Treas.; J. Williams, Sec.; H. Dyer, S.D.; S. Williams, J.D.; D. L. Thomas, I.G.; Hill, D.C.; Fisher, Org.; Bros. T. J. Morgan and P. M. Martin, Stewards; W. Davies, Tyler. A vote of condolence was then passed, and will be forwarded to Mr. C. R. Mansel Talbot, for the loss of his son, the late lamented Provincial Grand Master. Several brethren spoke in eulogistic and touching terms of the amiable and kind manner, as well as the sterling ability, of their late brother. It was also resolved that the lodge go into mourning for the space of three months. Bros. Past Masters Thomas and Martin were elected to serve on the Grand Lodge Committee. A vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Weichert for the able manner in which he had performed the duties of Installing Master, and Bro. Weichert suitably replied. A vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Henry Saunders for the efficient manner with which he had discharged the duties of Secretary during the past year. The lodge was then closed, and adjourned until next regular lodge night.

LIVERPOOL.—Stanley Lodge (No. 1325).—The annual festival gathering of the members connected with this lodge took place on Tuesday, 20th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, when and where there was a very large and influential gathering of the brethren. The Stanley has passed through some trying vicissitudes, but now a brighter day has dawned, and the lodge may fairly challenge comparison with any other in the province with respect to financial prosperity and excellent working. The lodge was opened by Bro. H. Ashmore, W.M., and amongst the others present were Bros. C. Leighton, I.P.M.; F. Knight, S.W.; James W. Burgess, J.W.; C. Heyden, Sec. and Treas.; J. H. Bradshaw, J.D.; J. P. Bryan, Organist; R. B. Burgess, N. Robertson, R. Upton, T. Wisman, J. Peakman, T. Foulkes, W. H. Quayle, J. Twiss, C. Marshall, and C. Winskill. The list of visitors included the names of Bros. the Rev. H. G. Vernon, P.P.G. Chaplain; J. W. Turley, P.P.J.G.D.; J. T. Callow, W.M. 1505; R. R. Forshaw, Sec. 1035; T. Fozzard, P.M. 1025; J. Houlding, J.W. 823; J. Ellis, W.M. 1086; W. Archer, P.M. 1083; T. Shaw, W.M. 823; E. Jones, 1209; W. Forrester, S.S. 1035; J. Hayes, P.M. 249; and W. Crane, P.M. 1299. The balance-sheet for the year disclosed a most satisfactory state of things, alike creditable to officers and private members. While there was only a nominal balance from last year to begin with, the affairs had been so well managed that at the close an exceedingly handsome balance now remained at the bank to the credit of the lodge. Bro. Francis Knight was presented for the benefit of installation as W.M. to Bro. H. Ashmore, I.P.M., who performed the whole of the ceremony most effectually and impressively. The subjoined brethren were invested officers of the lodge for the ensuing year:—Bros. H. Ashmore, I.P.M.; James W. Burgess, S.W.; J. H. Bradshaw, J.W.; C. Winskill, Sec.; Charles Heden, Treas.; T. Foulkes, S.D.; J. Twiss, J.D.; R. B. Burgess, I.G.; N. Robertson, S.S.; J. Thomas, J.S.; S. Hill, A.S.; J. P. Bryan, Hon. Organist; C. Leighton, P.M., D.C.; and M. Williamson, Tyler. The lodge was afterwards closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet, which was held in the hall, and provided in good style by Bro. Casey. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, that of "The Provincial Grand Officers" being very cordially and suitably replied to by Bro. the Rev. H. G. Vernon, P.P.G. Chaplain, W.L., who congratulated the lodge on the prosperous condition of its affairs. "The Health of the W.M." was proposed by Bro. Ashmore, I.P.M., and enthusiastically drunk. In replying, Bro. Knight, W.M., said he was glad to state that he hoped the lodge would shortly take a position second to none in the province, and he was determined to follow up the excellent example of the late Worshipful Master, Bro. Ashmore. The toasts of "The Past Master," "The Installing Master," "Officers of the Lodge," &c., were also given. After a most enjoyable evening the brethren separated. The meeting was enlivened by a capital selection of music, performed by Bros. Foulkes, Twiss, Quayle, and Forrester, under the direction of Bro. J. P. Bryan. One of the most interesting features of the proceedings was the presentation of a handsome Past Master's jewel to Bro. Ashmore, I.P.M., on behalf of the lodge, by the W.M.

LANCASTER.—Rowley Lodge (No. 1507).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Room, Athenæum, on Wednesday evening, the 12th ult. The chair of K.S. was occupied by Bro. H. Longman, the W.M., and there was a good attendance of members and visiting brethren. The lodge was opened in the First Degree with solemn prayer, and subsequently raised to the Second and Third Degrees, when Bro. John Hudspeth, having shown proficiency as a Fellow Craftsman was raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason. The lodge having been closed down, Mr. John Thomas Jackson, and Mr. William Bell, having been unanimously elected at the previous lodge meeting, were afterwards initiated into the mysteries of the Craft, the working being ably gone through by the W.M. The working tools of an Entered Apprentice being presented by the J.W. The lodge was subsequently closed with the usual formalities.

LIVERPOOL.—Liverpool Dramatic Lodge (No. 1609).—The first regular business meeting of this lodge, which had been consecrated a few days previously, was held at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, on Tuesday, the 27th ult., and the fine spirit and enthusiasm displayed by the brethren in connection with the first of their work augurs well for the prosperous future of the lodge. Bro. Joseph Bell was in his place as W.M., supported by Bros. B. B. Marson, P.M.; W. J. Chapman, S.W.; Lindo Courtenay, J.W.; A. Woolrich, Treas.; H. J. Loveday, Sec.; W. W. Sandbrook, J.D.; J. Atkinson, I.G.;

C. Pyer, S.; A. Collinson, S.; W. H. Ball, Tyler; R. Williams, W. Hildyard, W. Stafford, J. Reay, &c. Amongst others present were Bros. H. P. Squire, 1356; I. de Frece, Treas. 1502; Dr. A. Whittle, W. H. Shakespeare, 356; A. Hart, J.W. 724; Dr. A. W. Pierce, 673; J. Clegg, P.M. 1299; J. B. Bottomley, 1356; H. Lobb, J. W. Ashe, J. Skeaf, P.G.O.; J. Keet, 1356; W. Coates, P.L. Buck, 673; W. E. Tyrer, 203; J. R. Bramham, 1209; J. Busfield, 216; Dr. J. K. Smith, P.P. Reg.; Gilbert Maxwell, I.G. 504; T. W. Long, 1299; H. Stafford, 1356; A. Bucknall, 667, and others. There were six candidates for initiation, and 17 brethren proposed for joining; and after the ballot had been taken they were all declared unanimously elected. Bro. Loveday (unavoidably absent from the previous meeting) was now invested Secretary; and Bro. J. Skeaf, P.G.O., was invested the Organist of the new lodge. Messrs. Frederick Wilkinson, E. Cotton, W. Mears, and R. J. Cotton were impressively initiated by the W.M., the ancient charge being very effectively given by the S.W. The brethren at the close of the business, after a number of propositions for initiation and joining, adjourned to the banqueting room, where they partook of refreshments, and a genial and pleasant evening was spent, the brethren separating about seven o'clock.

Mark Masonry.

BOMBAY.—Lodge Holmesdale in the East (No. 72).—At a regular meeting of this lodge on April 15th there were present Bros. C. E. Mitchell, W.M.; A. McKenzie, I.P.M. and Treas.; W. C. Rowe, S.W.; B. Robinson, as J.W.; C. Tudball, M.O.; O. Tomlinson, S.O.; J. Luke, as J.O.; W. G. Davie, Sec.; W. Burton, I.G.; and J. Seager, Tyler. The lodge was opened in due form at 6.50 p.m. The summons convening the meeting having been read, the minutes of last regular meeting were read and confirmed. The minutes of the last Permanent Committee were read and adopted. The I.G. having informed the W.M. that the Provincial Grand Master and his Provincial Grand Officers were without the door of the lodge, they were admitted in due form, and the Provincial Grand Master saluted with the honours due to his rank. The P.G.M. then took charge of the lodge for a short time, and said as this was his official visit he now asked if the brethren had any complaints to make against the W.M. or any of the officers, and receiving no reply, congratulated the lodge on the efficient state and harmonious way the members were working together, and then handed over the charge to the W.M. The W.M. then informed the brethren that the first duty of the evening was to install the W.M. elect, Wor. Bro. W. C. Rowe, as W.M. for the ensuing year. The Secretary was then requested to read the ancient charges to Bro. W. C. Rowe, having agreed to which, he was duly obligated in the usual form. All brethren below the rank of Installed Mark Masters were then requested to retire. The brethren were again in a short time admitted, and Wor. Bro. W. C. Rowe was then proclaimed W.M. of Lodge Holmesdale in the East, No. 72, E.C., for the ensuing year, and saluted accordingly. The W.M. then proceeded to invest the following officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. C. Tudball, S.W.; B. Robinson, J.W.; O. Tomlinson, M.O.; W. G. Davie, S.O.; C. Parker, J.O.; J. E. Tyers, Sec.; J. B. Lyon, S.D.; J. Luke, J.D.; E. Fuelling, I.G.; J. Luke, Steward. The W.M. then thanked the brethren for electing him their W.M., adding that he would do his best during the ensuing year to work up the lodge creditably, and he trusted the officers he had chosen would do their best to assist him—and he had every reason to think they would. He was very sorry to say he would lose Bro. O. Tomlinson very soon, who, he understood, was going to England next month for a short time, but he was sure he would assist them heartily in the working voyage, and God speed. Bro. C. Tudball then proposed and the W.M. seconded Bro. T. Connell as a joining member. The W.M. proposed and Bro. C. Tudball seconded Bro. J. Thomas as a re-joining member. The W.M. proposed and W. Bro. A. McKenzie seconded Bro. T. Branson, of Lodge Truth, No. 944, E.C., as a candidate for advancement. Bro. Tudball proposed and the W.M. seconded Bro. R. W. Burton as a re-joining member. The W.M. then thanked the Provincial Grand Master for his visit to the lodge in suitable terms, and said that he hoped the next official visit he paid he would find they had increased in numbers and working in an effective manner. The Provincial Grand Master then rose, and returned thanks for himself and Provincial Grand Officers, and said he had not the slightest doubt of the lodge doing well in the present year under the able management of their newly-installed Master. The W.M. then proposed and R.W. Bro. E. T. Leith seconded that a list be circulated amongst the members of the lodge for the purpose of subscribing towards a P.M.'s jewel for Wor. Bro. C. E. Mitchell, for his services to Lodge Holmesdale during the past year, which was carried. Wor. Bro. C. E. Mitchell then rose, and returned thanks in suitable terms for the honour they had done him, and said that the jewel would be highly prized by him. There being no further business before the lodge, it was closed with prayer at 8.45 p.m.

MARYPORT.—Whitwell Lodge (No. 151).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday evening, the 18th ult., at the Freemasons' Hall, Maryport. Bro. P. de E. Collin, W.M.M., and P.G. Reg. of M., presided, assisted by his officers. There was also a fair attendance of the brethren of the lodge. Bro. G. G. Haywood, P.M.M. 60, P.G.M.I.G. England, acted as Installing Master, and performed his duties most creditably. Bro. James Gardiner having been installed and

duly honoured, invested his officers as follows:—Bros. Q. Moore, S.W.; P. Mandle, J.W.; J. R. Banks, M.O.; G. M. Tickle, S.O.; J. H. Banks, J.O.; J. Nicholsson, P.M.M., P.G. Treas., Treas.; P. Dodgson, Sec.; Rev. W. Beeby, Chaplain; T. Moore, Reg. of M.; J. Smith, Org.; D. Bell, S.D.; J. W. Robinson, J.D.; G. E. Mitchell, I.G.; J. Quay, Tyler pro tem. The installation over, all present were invited to a substantial collation, which was well served by the Messrs. Abbott. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and duly honoured, and a most agreeable evening was spent by the brethren.

Knights Templar.

PRESCOT.—William de la More Preceptory.—The usual periodical convocation of the Knights attached to this Preceptory was held at the New Masonic Hall, Prescott, near Liverpool, on Thursday, the 15th ult. Sir Knight Reginald Young, E.P., was in his place; and amongst others present were Sir Knights Dr. J. K. Smith, P.E.P.; Thos. Ashmore, 1st C.; W. Tyrer, Prelate; H. Nelson, 2nd C.; J. Wood, Treas. ("Freemason"); W. J. Thomson, Expert; Ballard, Almoner; R. Brown, Registrar; W. S. Matthews Boulton. Comp. C. Munroe, of the Everton Chapter, and Comp. Coward were duly installed, and the preceptory was subsequently closed in peace.

Scotland.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Union and Crown (No. 103).—This lodge held its monthly meeting in the Masonic Hall, 30, Hope-street, on Monday evening, the 26th ult., Bro. A. M. Wright, I.P.M., in the chair; Bros. W. Thomas, S.W.; W. Forsyth, J.W.; R. Munro, D.M.; Neil Cameron, Treas.; J. Gillies, P.M., Sec.; A. Bain, P.M.; P. McCay, P.M.; P. Cullen, B.B.; Arch. Gray, J.D.; Jas. Gray, I.G.; and a very large attendance of members. Amongst the visitors were Bros. J. M. Oliver, S.W. 360; D. L. Henderson, 111; J. Boyd, 175; Higgins, 275; Robertson, 219; Capt. J. Gray, 362; W. Ferguson, P.M. ("Freemason"); and others. Bro. Gillies, P.M., Sec., before reading the minutes said he was sorry to inform the brethren that their respected W.M., Bro. D. Murray, was unable to attend through an accident received a few days ago. Messrs. G. Solomon and Henry Boum were initiated on behalf of Lodge Thistle, No. 87, by Bro. A. M. Wright, I.P.M. Bros. J. Paterson, J. Taylor, Solomon, and Boum were then passed by Bro. J. M. Oliver, S.W., Lodge Commercial, 360. The lodge was then resumed on the E.A. Degree when Bros. J. M. Oliver, S.W. 360, and G. W. Wheeler, Chaplain, Lodge Thistle and Rose, 73, were obligated honorary members of the Lodge Union and Crown, 130, by Bro. Gillies, P.M., Sec. Bros. Oliver and Wheeler replied in suitable terms for the honour conferred. The lodge was then closed.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Clyde (No. 408).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held in St. Mark's Hall, Buchanan-st., on Monday evening, 26th ult. Bro. W. Harper, W.M., occupied the chair; W. Bilsland, S.W.; J. McInnes, S.M., acting J.W., and a good attendance of members and visiting brethren. On the lodge being opened, Mr. John Beaton was initiated into the E.A. Degree by Bro. W. J. E. Dobson, W.M. Dramatic Lodge, No. 571. On account of the above-named gentleman having to leave the country in a few days he was then passed to the F.C. Degree by Bro. J. Campbell, I.P.M. St. John's Lodge, Shettleston, No. 128. Bros. D. Mc Bain and J. Beaton were afterwards raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M. by Bro. W. Harper, W.M. The three degrees were wrought in a most careful and impressive manner.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Scotia (No. 178).—The funeral of the late Bro. Joseph Singleton, W. Master of this lodge, took place on Wednesday afternoon, the 28th ult. The brethren of the Craft who regret to follow the remains of their deceased brother to the grave assembled in the hall of Lodge Clydesdale, at No. 106, Rose-street (S.S.), and numbered 150 in all, including representatives from no fewer than twenty lodges, as follows:—Nos. 34, 27, 73, 75, 103, 116, 128, 153, 178, 219, 237, 275, 360, 362, 419, 437, 441, 556, 570, and 571. In the hall an appropriate religious service was conducted by Bro. Rev. J. C. Stewart, LL.D., of St. Bernard's, Cumberland-street; after which the brethren, who were in full Masonic costume, formed in procession outside, and proceeded to the house of the deceased in Crown-street, where they again formed in front of the hearse with the body, which was there in waiting. The relatives and friends of the deceased and other non-Masonic mourners who followed the hearse numbered about fifty; and the cortege created quite a stir along the line of route to the eastern division of the Southern Necropolis, where the remains were deposited without further special ceremony.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Clydesdale (No. 556).—A meeting of this lodge was held in their own Masonic Hall, 106, Rose-street, S.S., on Tuesday evening, the 27th ult., Bro. W. Phillips, W.M., presiding; J. McNaught, S.W.; T. Phillips, J.W.; J. Boyle, S.M.; J. Mc Kechnie, Treas.; G. B. Yuill, Sec.; and others. We noticed among the visiting brethren J. Campbell, P.M. 128; G. C. H. McNaught, P.M. 275; D. Ronald, W.M. 275; W. Findlay, S.W. 275; J. M. Oliver, S.W. 360; W. Ferguson, P.M. ("Freemason"); H. Killin, Sec. 178; M. Stark, 553; Stevens, 553; and others. Mr. M. McLaren was initiated into the First Degree by Bro. Campbell, P.M. 128. Bros. P. Lloyd, J. Downie, S. Johnston, G. Solomon, R. H. Simpson, R. McMillan, H. Baum, and R. Mabin were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason by Bro. W. Phillips,

W.M., in his usual able and perfect style. The annual picnic of this lodge took place on Thursday, the 29th ult. Starting at eight a.m. from Main-street Station, the excursionists caught the Iona at Princes' Pier, Greenock, and were by her landed on Rothesay Quay at eleven a.m. From the town of Rothesay they proceeded by special omnibus to Mountstuart, into the magnificent grounds of which they were freely admitted. A suitable spot having been selected, the good things necessary for creature comfort were spread forth on the grass, and there and then the party pic-nicked. Bro. W. Phillips, W.M., presided, but the proceedings exhibited that agreeable freedom from stiffness and conventionality which such a fresco gatherings, with the presence of lovely women, of course, are calculated to induce. Returning, as they had come, to Rothesay, the party got on board the steamer Sultan, which took them back to Prince's Pier again. Thence the train in waiting landed all safe in Glasgow by 8.15 p.m. The weather throughout was simply superb, and no other element of success being wanting, it was pronounced that the pic-nic could hardly have been a pleasanter one.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The July General Committee meeting of subscribers to this Institution was held on Saturday last in the Board-room, Freemasons' Hall. The brethren present were Capt. J. Wordsworth (Chairman), Henry Browne, Jesse Turner, John Symonds, S. Rosenthal, W. F. C. Moutrie, Henry Smith, W. Hyde Pullen, C. F. Matier, Robert B. Webster, H. C. Levander, J. G. Chancellor, F. Adlard, H. Massey ("Freemason"), and F. Binckes (Secretary).

Twelve boys were placed on the list for the October election. That list was settled, when there appeared upon it 60 candidates; and twelve vacancies in the school were declared to be open for filling up at that election. The salary of the Organist at the school was raised to £20 a year. This being the day for giving notices of motion for the Quarterly Court of Monday next, the announcement of that fact was made by the Secretary, but no notice was given. Bro. Binckes announced that the subscriptions at the late festival amounted to £12,178, and lists were coming in daily which were swelling the amount, and he had no doubt that the total would amount to £12,500. (Cheers.)

The Chairman then rose and said he should propose a vote of thanks to the Right Hon. Bro. Lord Leigh, Prov. G. Master for Warwickshire, for presiding at the festival, and to the Stewards and brethren from that province for their assistance, not only on that but on past occasions. The amount which was announced at the festival greatly exceeded the anticipations of the brethren who had the management of the affairs of the institution. More especially was the amount raised a noble sum because we heard everywhere of the bad condition of trade, and this being a fact was very much to the disadvantage of the Institution. Another thing which might be said to have been to the disadvantage of the festival was the numerous attacks which had been made lately by certain brethren upon the general management of the Institution. All the world had read them or heard of them, but still this had not deterred brethren from supporting the Boys' School most liberally. He was not, however, surprised at this, because he felt sure that whatever attacks were made on the Institution there would be plenty of brethren who would come boldly to the front and do all they could to advance the interests of the School. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. C. F. Matier seconded the motion, and thought it was due to Lord Leigh and the Stewards and brethren from Warwickshire that such a resolution should be come to.

The motion was carried unanimously, and

Bro. J. Symonds said he thought they must all congratulate Bro. Binckes (Secretary) on the result which had been achieved. (Hear, hear.)

An outfit was then granted to one of the pupils who had obtained a situation in the Post Office, and was giving great satisfaction, and the Committee adjourned after passing the usual compliment to the Chairman.

The Southport Town Council have accepted the offer of W. Atkinson, Esq., of Manchester, to provide a free library and fine art gallery for that town, to cost £8000.

ROYAL ALBERT ORPHAN ASYLUM.—The offices of this institution are now at 18, Newgate-street. Bro. Worrell, Secretary.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF WORCESTERSHIRE.

A Provincial Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of this county was held in the Public Hall, Dudley, on Tuesday morning, 27th ult. In the absence, through indisposition, of the R.W. Bro. Albert Hudson Royds, Provincial Grand Master, the Worshipful Bro. William Masefield, Deputy Provincial Grand Master, presided. There was a large muster of Provincial Grand Officers and Master Masons of the province, and the adjoining Provinces of Warwickshire and Staffordshire, the following being amongst the brethren present:—Bros. W. H. Jones, P.S.G.W., P.M. 564; T. M. Hopkins, P.G.J.W., P.M. 529; M. Dennison, P.P.S.G.W.; A. Brown, P.P.S.G.W.; S. Smith, P.P.S.G.W.; W. H. Westwood, P.P.G.J.W.; E. M. Warmington, P.P.G.J.W.; W. R. Cosens, D.D., P.G.C.; Rev. W. Randall, P.P.G.C.; J. C. Warwick, W.M. 468 and 462; Rev. J. Downes, P.P.G.C., P.M. 539; Rev. S. Tozer, P.P.G.C.; C. C. W. Griffiths, P.G.T., P.P.S.G.W., and P.M. 280; J. Stokes, P.G.R., P.M. 252; J. A. Pell, P.P.G.R., and P.M. 524; H. Cross, P.P.G.R.; W. Bristow, P.G.S., P.P.S.G.W., P.M. 252; R. Broomhall, P.G.S.D., P.M. 564; W. Gegg, P.P.G.S.D., Hereford; Gideon Smith, P.P.G.J.D.; E. Poole, P.P.G. Supt. of Works, W.M. 498, and P.M. 560; L. H. Kendrick, P.P.G. Supt. of Works, and P.M. 573; T. Brettell, P.G.D.C.; J. Fitzgerald, P.P.G.D.C.; A. F. Godson, P.P.G.D.C.; G. Westbury, P.P.G.S.B., and P.M. 573; G. Bloomer, P.P.G.S.B.; T. Troman, P.G.O. and P.D. 573; T. E. Lucy, P.P.G.P., and P.M. 529; Blundell, P.P.G.P., and P.M. 560; W. Caldicot, P.G.S.; T. Sneyd, P.P.G.I.G., and P.M. 539; Stanley, P.G.T.; W. Smith, W.M. 252; C. F. Clark, P.M. 252; D. Bradley, P.M. 498; G. Baldwin, P.M. 280; J. S. Hoppett, P.M. 498; J. Davies, S.W. 498; J. B. Folkner, W.M. 873; E. Turner, P.M. 252; F. J. Russell, J.W. 1204; V. Stallard, I.G. 280; J. W. Naylor, S.W. 560; J. Bedford, Sec. 560; G. Buck, Sec. 280; H. Hadden, W.M. 1204; R. S. Blundell, J.D. 560; J. Vaughan, S.W. 85; W. Gittos, S.W. 498; I. Foley, J.W. 564; F. Powell, 1204, P.M. 848; R. Eagar, 564; F. Garner, Tyler 252, 498, and 347; J. Dixon, J.W. 377, and S.D. 560; G. Taylor, S.W. 377; G. P. Chapman, P.M. 573; W. Torton, W.M. 377; J. M. Howes, J.W. 377; A. Comber, Organist 560; J. Parker, Steward 529; R. L. Campbell, P.M. 564; F. G. Underwood, 1204; W. C. Green, 377; J. W. Chadwick, 377; J. S. Fisher, 1163; J. Duggard, 377; J. Rodgers, 252; W. Brookbanks, 252; W. Waring, J.D. 252; J. Cellins, 252; H. Watts, 74; H. Bagott, 252; E. Hartley, 252; J. Russell, 252; M. Allen, 252; J. Clements, 47; J. Taylor, 696; F. C. D'Arcy Ellis, 564; R. G. Walker, 252; C. E. Bloomer, S.W. 573; G. K. Patten, S.D. 498; W. Waldron, 573; H. Hughes, 564; J. Jordan, 468; C. L. Lester J.W. 252; J. Bentley, 373; J. Baylis, 573; T. F. Higgs, 252; G. Morris, 252; W. E. Walker, I.G. 252; G. F. Thompson, S.D. 252; J. Dawes, P.M. 498; E. Naylor, 252; J. Naylor, 252; Rev. C. Wyncoll, 498; J. Beckley, 523; J. B. Lee, 573; J. Smith, 280; T. H. Fisher, S.W. 564; T. W. Candless, S.D. 377; J. G. Beasley, S.D. 573; J. G. Nicklin, 573; J. W. Charnock, 573; H. R. Duddell, 573; W. Mills, Tyler 560; J. H. Morgan, 498; R. T. Horley, 74 and 482; W. Bagott, 252; H. Wilson, P.M. 1204; G. R. Godson, P.M. 1098; G. T. Owen, 252; J. H. Smith, 498; A. Preedy, 925; H. Scott, Tyler 564; S. Bagott, 252; W. Holland, 252; and E. Gwynn, 1204.

The Harmonic Lodge having been opened in the third degree by the W.M. Bro. W. Smith, assisted by Bros. W. Gittos and C. L. Lester,

The Worshipful Bro. W. Masefield, D.P.G.M., and Provincial Grand Officers, entered the lodge, and were received with the customary honours. The Provincial Grand Lodge was then opened in due form, and the muster roll of the lodges in the province was called.

Bro. Bristow, P.G.S., said before they proceeded with the business of Grand Lodge he thought some expression of regret should emanate

from the lodge at the absence of the R.W.P.G.M., Bro. Albert Hudson Royds, through indisposition, and of sympathy with his family under the circumstances. He would move that as a proposition.

The W.D.P.G.M. seconded the proposition, and it was carried unanimously.

Bro. Bristow then read the minutes of the last Provincial Grand Lodge, which were unanimously confirmed.

The Provincial Grand Treasurer's statement of accounts having been read, they were unanimously adopted. They showed a balance of £30 6s. 5d. in hand, compared with £1 7s. 3d. last year.

Bro. Albert Brown, P.S.G.W., called attention to the non-compliance with previous suggestions of Provincial Grand Lodge, requiring a statement of the progress of Masonry in the province; and after some discussion,

Bro. Griffiths, P.G. Treasurer, read a statement, from which it appeared that the Harmonic Lodge (252) had 36 members in 1874 and 38 in 1875; Worcester (280), 58 in 1874 and 60 in 1875; Hope and Charity (377), 46 in 1874 and 49 in 1875; Royal Standard (498), 20 in 1874 and 25 in 1875; Semper Fidelis (529), 48 in 1874 and 49 in 1875; Vernon (560), 33 in 1874 and 37 in 1875; Stability (564), 36 in 1874 and 32 in 1875; St. Michael's (1097), 13 in 1874 and 20 in 1875; Royds (1204), 41 in 1874 and 32 in 1875. During the year there had been forty initiations and twenty-four resignations and deaths in the province, leaving a total increase of sixteen.

Further discussion followed, a general opinion being expressed that it was desirable that Worshipful Masters should supply returns of their respective lodges prior to the meeting of the Prov. Grand Lodge.

Bro. Bristow, Prov. G. Secretary, promised that the returns required by Bro. Brown should be presented at future meetings of the Prov. Grand Lodge.

Bro. C. C. W. Griffiths, P.M. 280, Prov. G. Treasurer, and Bro. W. Bristow, P.M. 252, Prov. G. Secretary, were unanimously re-elected, and the following officers were appointed and invested for the ensuing year by the Deputy W. Prov. G. Master:—Bros. S. Smith, P.M. 252, S.W.; H. Cross, P.M. 1204, J.W.; W. R. Cosens, D.D. 252, Chaplain; G. W. Grosvenor, 377, Registrar; A. F. Godson, P.M. 1097 S.D.; J. Bourne, W.M. 529, J.D.; J. Blundell, P.M. 560, Supt. of Works; D. Bradley, P.M. 498, D.C.; R. L. Campbell, P.M. 564, A.D.C.; W. Stallard, W.M. 280, Sword Bearer; T. Troman, P.M. 573, Organist; W. Smith, W.M. 252, Pursuivant; W. Waring, C. L. Lester, F. G. Thompson, W. Gittos, J. Dawes, and G. K. Patten, Stewards, and J. Stanley, 529, Tyler.

Upon the invitation of Bro. A. F. Godson,

The Deputy Prov. Grand Master appointed Tenbury as the place at which the next Provincial Grand Lodge should be held.

On the motion of Bro. T. Brettell, seconded by Bro. J. S. Hoppett, and supported by Bros. the Rev. Dr. Cosens and J. Stokes, it was decided that half the offertory should be given to St. Thomas's Day Schools and the other half to the Dudley Dispensary.

On the motion of Bro. F. A. Godson, seconded by the W.D.P.G.M., a vote of congratulation, similar to that adopted by the Grand Lodge of England, was ordered to be sent to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., upon his safe return from India.

As this concluded the business of the Provincial Grand Lodge, it was closed in due form; after which Bro. W. Smith, W.M. Harmonic Lodge, closed his lodge, and the brethren walked in procession to St. Thomas's Church, where Divine service was held.

During the time the brethren were walking from the hall to the church the bells rang out right merrily, and the streets were thronged with people. Great praise is due to Bro. H. Burton, chief superintendent of police, for the admirable way in which the police arrangements were carried out, there being no delay whatever in the course of the procession.

The service was full choral, Mr. Walter Spinney presiding at the organ during the first part of the service, and Bro. Troman, P.G.O.,

during the time the alms were being collected, and played the concluding voluntary. The prayers were intoned by the Rev. S. J. Marriott. The proper psalms were the 1st, 15th, 122nd, and 133rd. The Rev. C. Wyncoll read the 1st lesson, Ecclesiastes xxxv., and the Rev. A. L. Greaves the 2nd, 1st Peter ii, to verse 18. The hymn before the service was the 188th, and the Anthem was the collect for the fifth Sunday after Trinity, "Grant, O Lord," and set to music by Mozart; it was sung with excellent effect by the choir. The hymn before the sermon was the 243rd.

The sermon was preached by the Rev. D. V. Cosens, P.G.C.

At the close of the sermon a collection was made, the 370th hymn being sung in the meantime. The sum collected amounted to £12 7s., which was subsequently increased to £15 from the funds of the Harmonic Lodge.

After the benediction had been pronounced by the Rev. Bro. Dr. Cosens the brethren reformed in procession and walked to the Dudley Arms Hotel, where a banquet was served.

At the conclusion of the dinner several brethren made a complaint that they had not been properly attended upon.

About ninety of the brethren sat down, the W.D.P.G.M., Bro. W. Masefield, presiding, and after "The Health of the 'Queen and the Craft'" had been duly honoured,

The Rev. Bro. Dr. Cosens delivered a very feeling and appropriate address to the four Lewises (sons of Masons) who had carried the Bible in the procession to and from the church. He earnestly exhorted them to make the Bible their rule of life, and if they did that it would be a comfort to them in the hour of their death. He hoped they would remember that day in their after lives as being a happy day well spent. He then presented each of the lads with a beautiful reference Bible, containing on the fly-leaf an inscription in reference to the occasion.

"The Health of the Princess of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family" having been acknowledged,

The D.P.G.M. proposed "The Health of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Most Worshipful Grand Master of England," and remarked that he was sure no man could have the interests of the Craft more at heart than had His Royal Highness. He was the right man in the right place, and had given a great deal of time and attention to the order, and greatly honoured the Craft. (Loud applause.)

The toast was drunk with much enthusiasm, and was followed by the air "God bless the Prince of Wales," Bro. Troman accompanying on the pianoforte.

Bro. J. Stokes, P.M. 252, P.P.G. Reg., next proposed "The Health of Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, R.W. Pro. Grand Master; Lord Skelmersdale, Deputy G. Master, and the Officers of Grand Lodge, Present and Past." Bro. Stokes remarked that it was one of the great benefits of Masonry, and one of those circumstances which helped to support the Craft in the eyes of the outside world, that great personages paid so much attention to Freemasonry. They had the greatest and highest in the land joining the Craft—(hear, hear)—and it was not merely wealth that they brought with them—because that did not count for much when the grand principle of the Craft was involved; but they had also the highest intellects of the day joining them in carrying out the principles of Freemasonry; and by that alone the outside world must know there was something good in the Order. (Hear, hear.) That Lord Carnarvon belonged to those of mighty intellect was sufficiently proved by the fact that his lordship was one of those who possessed the confidence of her Majesty and assisted in ruling the nation. (Hear, hear.) That position of itself showed that his lordship was one of those who shed a lustre upon the Craft to which he belonged. (Applause.) He had therefore great pleasure in proposing "The Health of the Pro Grand Master, Lord Skelmersdale, and the Officers of the Grand Lodge." (Applause.)

The toast was drunk with Masonic fire.

The D.P.G.M., in proposing "The Health of the Right Worshipful Bro. Albert Hudson Royds, P.G.M. of Worcestershire," said he should have

liked to have seen him there that day. The P.G.M. was always ready to give them any assistance, and he hoped he would be long spared to preside over them. (Applause.)

The toast was drunk with much enthusiasm.

Bro. W. Bristow, P.G.S., proposed "The Health of the Worshipful Bro. William Masefield, Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Worcestershire." (Applause.) He said it was not necessary for him to say anything to recommend the toast, for he was sure they were all pleased to see Bro. Masefield in that position, though they all deeply regretted the cause. (Hear, hear, and applause.)

The Deputy Provincial Grand Master briefly acknowledged the compliment, and he afterwards proposed "The Health of the Provincial Grand Officers of Warwickshire and Staffordshire, coupled with the name of Bro. the Rev. Wm. Randall."

Bro. the Rev. W. Randall, in responding to the toast, said he could not himself endorse complaints which some brethren had made of the catering, for never at a meeting of G and Lodge had he, as a visitor, been better treated or better served than he had been on that occasion. (Applause.) It was always exceedingly interesting to him to go to any Masonic meeting, but it was especially interesting to him to go that day out of his own province to meet the brethren of Worcestershire, and one of the strongest motives he had in attending was to renew his intercourse with the Worshipful Deputy Grand Master. (Applause.) He was sure it did not need the artistic genius whose efforts he saw so well displayed before him (referring to an excellent portrait of Bro. Masefield by Mr. H. T. Munns) to commemorate or render immortal among Masons the memory of the Deputy Provincial Grand Master; for not only in his own province of Worcestershire, but as he (the rev. brother) could bear testimony, out of his province also, he stood amongst the highest of Masons. (Applause.) Having been seated opposite that noble portrait, he could not help saying, as a Mason, that it was a great gratification to think that when the time came—which they hoped might be far distant—when it might please the Great Architect of the Universe to remove Bro. Masefield to the Grand Lodge above, they would still have that portrait left as a memento to all Masons in the province as an encouragement to follow the example of one who had led them so well in Masonry. He could not help further saying that it had been peculiarly gratifying to him to come there and to listen, as he had had the pleasure and the opportunity for the first time of listening, to the Provincial Grand Chaplain. It did not come, perhaps, so appropriately from him to say so as from other Masons, but he claimed, in common with all thinking men, to appreciate the words which had been spoken to them in the House of God, as the Prov. Grand Chaplain had spoken to them that day. (Applause.) He must express his high appreciation of the truly-eloquent sermon which had been delivered to them that day. (Applause.) It gave him the very greatest pleasure to hear such sentiments, so much in accord with his own feelings. (Applause.) He felt sure that that intercourse of province with province, lodge with lodge, and brother Mason with brother Mason, was both interesting and beneficial, and greatly calculated to promote the advancement of the Craft. But perhaps the most interesting event of the day was the scene which he had just witnessed for the first time in his Masonic experience of now thirty-three years—the presentation of the volumes of the Sacred Law to those little embryo Masons, as they might be called—the rising generation of Masons, who would fill the place of the present brethren when they were called away. (Applause.) He was sure it was worth travelling any distance to witness such a scene. (Applause.) He again thanked the brethren for the opportunity they had given him of spending what he might truly call one of the most increasing Masonic days he had ever passed.

Bro. the Rev. S. T. Tozer also responded.

Bro. J. Stokes next proposed "The Health of the Prov. G. Chaplain, Bro. the Rev. Dr. Cosens," which was heartily drunk, and appropriately acknowledged by the rev. brother.

The D.P.G.M. proposed "The Officers of Provincial Grand Lodge, Past and Present."

Bros. S. Smith and M. Dennison returned thanks.

The D.P.G.M. proposed "The Worshipful Masters of the Lodges in the Province," and coupled with it the name of Bro. W. Smith, the W.M. of the Harmonic Lodge.

The toast was drunk with musical honours.

Bro. W. Smith briefly returned thanks, and said it afforded him considerable pleasure in being called upon to respond on behalf of his brother W.M.'s in the province. During the ten years he had been in Masonry he did not believe he had omitted attending his lodge more than three times, and he had done all he could to further the interests of the Craft. He could not endorse the complaints which had been made as to the catering, and considered they were an after thought when attention was drawn to the fact that dessert had been commenced before the health of "The Queen" had been drunk. (Hear, hear.)

The healths of "The Visitors," "The Provincial Grand Stewards," and the "Tyler's toast" were afterwards duly honoured.

At intervals during the evening some capital songs were sung by several of the brethren, Bro. T. Troman, P.G.O., presiding at the pianoforte in his accustomed masterly style.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS—VISIT TO THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

The annual visit of the Masonic Girls' School to the Crystal Palace was made on Monday last. The day's treat is provided by the Board of Stewards of the annual festival, who hand over the balance which remains after all the expenses of the festival have been discharged, for affording to the pupils of the school, in which they take such great interest, a pleasure beyond the walls of the Institution. The Crystal Palace is constantly chosen for these little outings, as it combines three very desirable elements—information in a wide field of practical subjects, many sources of entertainment, and a splendid expanse of country. With all of these before them the little girls find plenty to engage their attention, and look forward with great anxiety to the recurrence of the visit. On Monday they left Clapham Junction by train at 10.9 in the morning, accompanied by Miss Davis, and all the governesses and teachers, Bro. Faulkner (one of the Stewards of the late festival) and Bro. Hedges, in place of Bro. Little (Secretary), who had not returned from his sojourn in the country, where he has been recruiting his health. The whole of the morning after the arrival at the Palace was spent in viewing the Palace and grounds, which after the occasional showers of the preceding week were looking their best. At one o'clock a cold collation of the very best description was provided by Bro. Sawyer, and presided over by Bro. Thomas W. White, Chairman of the House Committee for the month; and when this had been disposed of the party visited the performances at Myers' magnificent Hippodrome, which must be acknowledged to have been the crowning amusement of the day. An excellent tea followed at five o'clock; and afterwards the Palace and grounds were again rambed over. At a quarter-past eight the company again took train, and arrived at the Institution at Battersea Rise half an hour later, after having spent a most charming day. Among the ladies and brethren who took part in the day's diversions were Mrs. Thomas W. White, Bro. Colonel J. Peters and party, Bro. Faulkner, Bro. Mason, Mrs. Mason and Mrs. Pemberton, Bro. and Mrs. Muggeridge, Bros. R. W. Hedges, Phillips, Phillips, jun., Capt. J. Wordsworth, and Bro. Kirby. Bros. Thomas W. White, Faulkner, and R. W. Hedges accompanied the party home.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.—Bro. Raynham W. Stewart intends bringing the following motion forward this day (Saturday): "That considering the satisfactory condition of the funds of the School; 10 of the successful candidates at the last election highest of the Poll, be admitted without further election, at the same time as those already elected, and that arrangements be made for their reception in the Infirmary until the alterations now in progress at the School are completed."

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF
SUFFOLK.

The annual provincial grand meeting of the several lodges comprising the Province of Suffolk was held on Monday, at Ipswich. By the kindness of the Mayor, the Grand Lodge was opened in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall, which capitably set off the various emblems of the Order, and the banners of the lodges which assembled.

The Lodge had been fixed to be opened at "High Noon," but it was close upon one o'clock before the Provincial Grand Officers were marshalled into the lodge-room.

The chair was taken by the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, Lord Waveney, supported by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. the Rev. E. I. Lockwood, and the respective officers of the province, and about 200 other brethren.

The lodge having been opened in due and ancient form, the minutes of the last meeting were confirmed.

The representatives of lodges then stated the condition of the lodges, which were generally in a flourishing state.

The minutes of the Board of Finance were read. They reported that a meeting was held on the 26th ult. The accounts having been audited, a surplus of over £70 existed, and it was proposed that the sum of £5 be voted to the widow of the late Rev. J. J. Farnham, which the P.G.M. decided to do; £10 was voted to the Institution for Aged Freemasons, £10 10s. to the Girls' School, and £10 10s. to the Boys' School.

The appointment and investiture of officers was next proceeded with, as follows:—P.P.J. W., Bros. S. H. Wright, P.M. 516; P.G. Registrar, A. D. George, P.M. 114; P.G.D. of Ceremonies, W. Clarke, P.M. 959; P.G.A. C., W. D. Payne, I.G. 959; P.G. Stewards, W. Daking, A. Read, and G. J. Paine; and P.G. Organist, Lindley Nunn.

Bro. Boby proposed, and Bro. Mills seconded, the re-election of Bro. Huddleston as P.G. Treasurer. Carried unanimously.

Bro. Syer was re-elected Tyler, on the proposition of Bro. Luff, seconded by Bro. Westgate.

After the conclusion, the brethren were marshalled by Bro. Clarke, Director of Ceremonies, and marched to the Tower Church.

As the brethren entered the church, Bro. Lindley Nunn, Provincial Grand Organist, played as a voluntary a movement from Sphor. The service was full choral. The first part was intoned by the Rev. J. R. Turncock, and the second by the Rev. C. A. Raymond. The lessons were read by the Rev. R. N. Sanderson. The hymns before the sermon were, "O Lord how joyful 'tis to see" and "O praise our God to day," 181 and 232 A. and M. Bro. the Rev. J. B. Tweed, Provincial Grand Chaplain, preached the sermon, taking as his text Matthew xxiii. 8.—"All ye are brethren." He congratulated the brethren upon the privilege of meeting within those consecrated walls to join in that solemn part of the ceremonies of the day, and he took it as a great privilege to be called upon to address to them a few words of counsel. Their assembly was not a mere matter of form, but was voluntary, and resulted from the mutual feeling of brethren to give expression to their gratitude to God for the blessing both temporal and spiritual which he had showered upon them during the past year, and to invoke his blessing during the year which was now before them. They met not as strangers whose names were isolated and as men indifferent to each others' welfare, but as brethren whose hearts and interests were linked together in a common band to acknowledge God, to express their dependence upon Him, and to pray for His help and direction. The design of Christ in coming into the world was the unity of mankind in a bond of universal brotherhood, and this association was formed for the like purpose, and was in harmony with that great and beneficent design. Without professing to be distinctly Christian in character, its design was to serve the purposes of Christianity. Its working for the reformation of men into a brotherhood was sublime, and it

would grow in proportion as civilization and education extended. In their brotherhood there was no restriction as to creed, and any interference with a brother's religious feelings was a violation of the rules of the Order. Without any intention of detracting from Christianity, he must say that the Masonic Order went further back than even the advent of our Lord, and formed its law of union and brotherhood upon the original constitution of man's nature, and the belief of a common parentage was its foundation. There should always be unity of heart amongst them, as unity was their strength, and they must seek to avoid all that would tend to divide them. The great aim of the brotherhood was to help one another in adversity, and to that end they must be united in prosperity. Their object was to assist one another and hold out a helping hand to him who needed it. No Mason was a worthy brother who neglected his obligations in that respect. Whenever a Mason met a Mason at home or abroad he was sure of meeting one who was prepared to greet him with the kindly offices of a brother. He urged upon his hearers to endeavour to put an end to all those things which terminated in a division among men and contribute each his quota towards gaining a universal brotherhood.

After the service the brethren returned to Grand Lodge, and after the transaction of other business it was closed in the usual manner.

On returning to Prov. G. Lodge, Bro. Emra Holmes proposed a vote of thanks to his worship the Mayor for the use of the Council Chamber and the Town Hall, which was cordially seconded by Bro. Newson Garrett, who regretted very much that the Mayor, Mr. Mason, was only so by name.

The banquet was held in the Assembly Room, Northgate-street. A very recherche repast was supplied by Mr. Ashford, of the Running Buck Inn.

Grace before meat was sung by a choir consisting of Bros. Abbott, Steele, and Graystone, with Bro. C. J. Cooke at the piano.

Grace after meat having been said by Bro. J. B. Tweed,

The Worshipful Prov. Grand Master, in proposing the first toast of the evening, spoke of the Queen as the first lady in the land, who, besides her other distinctions, had made herself distinguished as one of the Craft, being the mother of the head of the Craft.

The toast was drunk with three cheers, the National Anthem being also sung by the choir.

The P.G.M. proposed "The Grand Master of England, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales," and referred to the visit of His Royal Highness to India, and to the great affection shown towards him on his return.

Song: "God bless the Prince of Wales," by the choir.

The P.G.M. proposed "The Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and the Grand Officers," and coupled with it the name of Bro. Head, who responded, and expressed his pleasure at all times of visiting the Grand Lodge.

The P.G.M. next gave the toast of the "Representatives of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Norfolk," wished them all success in the province, and was sure the whole of the brethren would sympathise with them in their bereavement—the death of the P.G.M., the Hon. F. Walpole.

D.P.G.M. Morgan replied, and said it was a most pleasant but a most onerous task for him to reply to the toast. He thanked the Province of Suffolk cordially for their sympathy expressed at their recent bereavement. He little thought on a day in November last that the sun of their prosperity was so soon to set, but as the sun set so it must rise, and he trusted such would be the case in October or November next, when they expected His Royal Highness the G. Master would be able to visit Norfolk to instal their new Master. He was certain that if any of the Suffolk brethren would visit his province on that occasion they would be received with Masonic cordiality. Norfolk and Suffolk were geographically situated, that he considered it a geographical mistake that they were not one county, and that a thorough Masonic feeling ought to exist between them. He knew that an imperial

Masonic feeling existed, but he thought a higher feeling, if such could be.

The D.P.G.M. proposed "The Health of the Provincial Grand Master, Lord Waveney," and in eulogistic terms referred to the interest the noble lord took in the welfare of the Craft in the province, and to his readiness at all times to turn away from his great duties as a peer of the realm to devote his time to the Craft.

The P.G.M., in responding, said he felt they had received him with a welcome far more warm than he deserved, but it was a pleasure to be comforted and supported with the evidence they had given of the manner in which they appreciated his efforts, as expressed by his worshipful friend on his right. They had every day something to learn, and if he had to sit at the feet of a teacher, as the saying was, he should be a Suffolk man if possible, he should be one well acquainted with the peculiarities of Craft knowledge, and he should be such a one as their brother Head, who, in pointing out some mistakes in the programme, did it with the authority of age, but without its severity. (Hear, hear.) The way to reap advantage from another's knowledge was to follow his precepts, and he (the R.W.P.G.M.) attributed the success they had credited to him in a great measure to what he had learned from him. He had learned one lesson in particular, "Once engaged as a Suffolk Craftsman engaged for all time." (Applause.) He (the R.W.P.G.M.) was not amongst them as much as he could wish, but when he did come they received him as well as if he had been with them every week, giving them counsels, which, if they had been worth anything, he felt would have been effective from the effective way in which they would have been carried out. (Hear, hear.) He was proud of being in such a field with such colleagues as he had. He thanked them every man for their hearty welcome, which compensated for many a doubt, many an anxiety, many an uncertainty, assuring him as it did of the confidence that it was his strong desire to do that which was right and just in his position. (Applause.) The P.G.M. then proposed the health of a brother who, he said, was the working Head of their organization, who was always amongst them, and had grown old in their service. He was indebted to him for faithful and true counsel at all times, and he wished honour to be given to whom honour was due. (Applause.)

The Chairman proposed "The Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. the Rev. E. I. Lockwood," who, in responding, said he had been spoken of in too high terms. He considered his duties to be a labour of love, and if the brethren would bear with him in his growing age, so long would he be associated with the province.

"The Provincial Grand Chaplain and the Clergy of the Province" was given and responded to by Bro. J. B. Tweed, the P.G.C.

The P.G.M. proposed "The Wardens and Officers of the Grand Lodge of Suffolk, Past and Present." He coupled with the toast the names of Bro. E. Dorling, P.P.G. Secretary, who responded for the Past Officers, and the P.G.S. W. on behalf of the present officers.

"The Visiting Brethren" was responded to by Bro. G. Gard Pye on behalf of the Province of Essex, and by Bro. the Rev. T. L. Kyffin from Wales.

The noble Chairman gave the "Provincial Grand Secretary," and referred to his great interest in the province, and said he was the proved man of the Craft.

Bro. Lucia responded.

"The Charities" was proposed by the Provincial Grand Master, who in doing so stated that the sum collected in church that day amounted to £6 15s. 4¹/₂d.

Bro. Head and Bro. Body responded.

"The Masters of Lodges in the Provinces" was responded to by Bro. W.T. Westgate, W.M.

"The Ladies" and the Tyler's toast brought an enjoyable evening to a close.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.—More Precious than Gold.—Diarrhoea, Dysentery, and Cholera are, through the summer's heat, carrying off the young as the winter's cold destroyed the aged. In the most acute cases, where internal medicines cannot be retained, the greatest relief will immediately result from rubbing Holloway's soothing Ointment over the abdomen. The friction should be frequent and brisk, to insure the free penetration of the Unguent. This will calm the excited peristaltic action, and soothe the pain. Both vomiting and griping yield to it; when fruits or vegetables have originated the malady, it is proper to cleanse the bowels by a moderate dose of Holloway's Pills before using the Ointment.—ADVT.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF CORNWALL.

The Freemasons of Falmouth, on Thursday, 22nd ult., gave a right hearty welcome to their brethren of the province on the occasion of the annual Provincial Grand Lodge meeting of Cornwall being held in that town. The principal streets were, from end to end, profusely decorated with the flags of all nations; the Town Hall, in which the Provincial Grand Lodge was held, was most tastefully arranged with flags, evergreens, and other ornamentation, the work of the Mayoress (Mrs. Webber) and her daughters, and the same skill and taste were shown in the decoration of the Polytechnic Hall, where the annual banquet was held.

The attendance of brethren from all parts of the province was so large—every lodge was represented—that many of them were unable to obtain admission into the Town Hall.

Bro. the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, Prov.G.M., presided, and amongst those present were Bros. R. Rogers, 331, P.P.G. Sec., and P.D.P.G.M.; T. Chirgwin, 131, P.G. S.W.; H. G. Colvill, 330, P.P.G.S.W.; F. W. Dabb, 589, P.P.G.J.W.; W. C. Borlase, 121, P.P.G.S.W.; F. J. Hext, 330, P.P.G.S.W.; J. W. Peard, 977, P.P.G. S.W.; R. John, 131, P.P.G.D.C.; E. T. Carlyon, 331, P.G. Sec.; W. H. Jenkins, 331, P.P.G.S.W.; E. A. Davies, 1099, P.P.G.S. Works; N. J. West, P.G.S.B.; W. H. Bloxsome, 318, P.P.G. Chap.; W. Tweedy, 331, P.G. Treas.; R. Heath, 589, P.P.G.O.; J. Peter, 557, P.G.J.W.; W. W. Dymond, 557, P.G. Org.; E. Milford Cock, 589, P.P.G.S.; W. D. Pearse, 789, P.P. G.S.W.; J. H. Filmer, 893, P.G. Stwd.; W. F. Newman, 75, P.P.G.D.; J. Hocking, jun., 589, P.P.J.G.D.; T. Taylor, 318, P.P.G.S.D.; E. D. Anderton, 331, P.P. G.S. Works; T. N. Curry, 318, P.P.G.S.D.; J. Ninness, 699, P. Prov. G.R.; G. Lemon Church, 699, P. Prov. G. Chaplain; J. Hawkins, 789, Prov. G. Steward; J. Paull, 699, P. Prov. G.S.D.; S. Mitchell, 699, P.P.G.S.; W. J. Johns, 131, P.P.G.R.; J. G. Mason, 557, P.P.G.S.W.; T. Gill, 967, P.G. Steward; W. Hosken, 967, P.P.G.O.; W. Guy, 496, P.P.G.D.C.; F. H. A. Wright, 331, P.P.G.C.; G. Brown, 131, P. G.W. of Leicestershire and Rutland; S. Holloway, 131, P.P.G.J.D.; W. Lake, 131, P.P.G.R.; R. A. Courtney, 510, P.P.G.D.C.; F. Dennis, 75, P.G.P.; P. Giles, 496, P.P.G. Steward; E. G. Dyke, 496, P.P. G.O.; J. Grigg, 491, P.G.S.; E. Commings, 330, P.P.G.R.; H. Cochran, 1136, P.G.J.D.; S. Moyle, 699, P.G.S.; J. Boaden, 366, P.G.C.; J. Hill, 970, P.P.G.S.; J. Cardew, 1164, P.P.G. Steward; W. N. Abbott, 977, P.P.G. Steward; G. W. Trenery, 965, P.P.G.S.B.; J. Dennis, 330, P.P.G. Steward; B. Brokenshar, 856, P.P.G.S.D.; W. Lean, 699, P.P.G.T.; W. Rooks, P.G.P.; R. Penwarden, P.G. Tyler; A. T. Grant, 318, P.G. Steward; and numerous Past Masters, Wardens, officers, and brethren of the various lodges in the province.

The Provincial Grand Lodge having been opened in due form, the minutes of the last meeting were read by Bro. Richard John, and confirmed.

Before the regular business was proceeded with, The Prov. G.M. addressed a few observations to the brethren, in the course of which he said:—You will be glad to know that during the past year there have been three new lodges formed in the province, which I have had the pleasure of consecrating, viz., the Fort Lodge, Newquay, the Duke of Cornwall Lodge, at St. Columb, and the Mount Edgcumbe Lodge, at Camborne—(hear, hear)—and, so far as I can ascertain, I believe they are progressing very favourably in their infancy. At Newquay, indeed, the Fort Lodge seems to have gone beyond its infancy, the members having already increased from 25 to 40. It is also a very satisfactory thing to see that the lodges throughout the province are gradually having buildings of their own instead of holding their meetings at inns. (Hear, hear.) The foundation-stone of three new Masonic halls have been laid this year, one at Redruth, the other at Launceston, and a third at Callington, and out of the twenty-seven lodges now existing in the province twenty of them have provided rooms or halls of their own. (Applause.) Of the remaining seven, two are new lodges that have only recently been formed, and therefore it could hardly be expected that they would as yet have established a building of their own. I look upon this as exceedingly satisfactory, because I believe it is of great importance that lodges should have rooms of their own instead of having to meet at public houses. (Hear, hear, and applause.) I am glad to be able to say that there has been a marked improvement in the manner in which the returns have been sent in this year. Last time I expressed a hope that they would be sent in more regularly than formerly, and now I am informed that there has been no default whatever, all the lodges having sent in their returns within the time required. That has enabled Bro. Hughan to bring out his Directory with much greater ease and punctuality, and has also materially facilitated the work of the Secretary. The returns shew that Masonry is making very satisfactory progress throughout the province, as during the year the numbers have increased from 1240 to 1433, and during the time I have had the honour of holding the position of Prov. Grand Master there has been an increase of between four and five hundred brethren. (Applause.) At the same time I believe it is the general observation of those with whom I have consulted on the matter that the tone and status of the brethren who are admitted has not deteriorated, but has rather been raised. (Hear, hear.) You will see presently from the Treasurer's account that we have a larger balance this year than last—£58 6s. 10d. against £46 4s. 11d., and this notwithstanding the fact that £80 of our funds have been distinctly expended in charity, and probably with such a balance as we have now in hand we

shall be well able to contribute again, as heretofore, to the great Masonic charities of the country. I think it is only due that Cornwall should contribute to those charities because, owing mainly to the indefatigable zeal of Bro. Hughan, we have received a great deal of advantage from them. We have been remarkably successful with our candidates, and it is due to those charities that we should subscribe to them as a province. (Hear, hear.) I know that for many years the efforts of Bro. Hughan have occasioned him a great deal of trouble and expense, and we really owe him a debt of gratitude for all that he has done. (Applause.) His lordship mentioned, in conclusion, that he had received four applications from lodges desiring to have the next year's meeting held in their towns, and he intimated that he should hold it in the eastern part of the province.

Bro. R. John then read the report of the Prov. Grand Secretary, which stated that the number of initiations in 1875 was 167, as against 177 in the previous year. The joining members were 64 last year as compared with 54 in 1874, and the total number of members at the present time is 1433, giving an increase of 193 over the year preceding. During the last year the Prov. Grand Master has consecrated three new lodges, at Newbury, St. Columb, and Camborne. The returns for the past year have come in much more punctually than heretofore, and this has enabled Bro. Hughan to complete and issue his Directory in a reasonable and convenient time.

The Prov. Grand Treasurer's report showed that the expenditure for the year had amounted to £179 9s. 4d., and the receipts to £232 16s. 2d., leaving a balance in hand of £58 6s. 10d. Last year the credit balance was £46 4s. 11d.

Bro. Chirgwin, Secretary of the Cornwall Masonic Annuity and Benevolent Fund, read the report of the committee, which stated that the amount received from the various lodges in the province during the year amounted to £158 16s. 6d., as compared with £142 10s. in the previous year, showing an increase of £16 6s. 6d. (Applause.) The capital of the fund now amounts to £2493 5s. 4d., an increase over last year of £232 14s. 10d. Suggestions having been made for an alteration of the rules, the committee thought it desirable that a small committee should be appointed to consider the matter, and to report at the next Prov. Grand Lodge meeting. The Secretary's duties having during the last few years considerably increased, the committee recommended that an assistant Secretary should be appointed at an annual salary of £10. They also recommended that a sum not exceeding £100 be voted for grants to be dealt with by the subscribers at the next annual Provincial Grand Lodge meeting, and that a vacancy be declared in the Annuity Fund, in consequence of the death of one of the annuitants.

The report was unanimously adopted; and the following brethren were appointed as a Committee to revise the rules, "The Prov. Grand Master, and Bros. T. Carlyon, T. Webber, W. Tweedy, W. J. Hughan, G. L. Church, E. D. Anderton, T. Chirgwin, and R. Rogers.

The report of the Committee of Relief having been passed,

Bro. Chirgwin read the report of Bro. Hughan, P.P.G. Secretary (prevented through illness from attending), respecting his management of the votes for the London Masonic Charities on behalf of the province. They had, he said, been successful in securing the election of a deceased brother's widow as an annuitant of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and she would receive £32 per annum for life. As they had but 122 votes for widows in the province, and polled 654, it would readily be seen that without exchanging their votes for the other Masonic Institutions success would have been impossible. (Hear, hear.) By reason of having no candidate this time for the Girls' or Boys' Institution they were able to assist the Province of Devon in obtaining the election of its candidates. Devon and Cornwall should always be united in such a good work. (Applause.) The consolidation of the votes and good working organization in other provinces rendered it imperatively necessary for the Province of Cornwall to unite most completely and combine together as lodges for the management of their votes for the great Masonic Charities. Individual action meant a loss to the community, and unless the subscribers and the contributing lodges were willing to send their votes to an agreed centre, for the use of the Province generally, it would be as well to give up hopes of ever carrying their candidates. Combined action in the past had secured about £2500 in value for the Province of Cornwall in ten years. (Applause.) As Steward for the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys he hoped to send up on the 28th June at least 400 guineas—(applause)—and he only wished the amount could have been trebled, for as Masons they failed in their duty if they neglected the claims of the fatherless and widows in their affliction. (Hear, hear.)

The report was adopted, and a cordial vote of thanks was given to Bro. Hughan for his past valuable services in the province in connection with the Masonic charities.

Bro. Tweedy next proposed that a sum of money should be voted to Bro. Hughan in order to reimburse him his personal expenses during the many years that he had laboured in connection with the charities. (Hear, hear.) While Bro. Hughan had succeeded in every election, and had placed a large number of their poorer brethren and their relations on the funds of the great Masonic charities, he had never been paid a single penny for his expenses, which must have been very considerable, because he had to travel about from place to place in order to obtain the votes that were needed, this being the only way by which prompt success could be obtained. Bro. Hughan had refused to take any money for himself, but would be proud to have his name associated as a donor with one

of the Masonic Institutions. He (Bro. Tweedy) therefore moved, "That in consideration of the great trouble Bro. Hughan has taken, as well as the amount he has been out of pocket for postage and other expenses in carrying out the canvass for and election of candidates for the great Masonic charities, a sum of twenty guineas be paid in his name to one of the great charities, and that in future all out-of-pocket expenses be repaid to him. (Applause.)

The motion was seconded by Bro. T. Webber, and cordially supported by Bro. Colvill, and before putting it to the meeting the P.G.M. said there could be but one opinion as to the advantage of the work in which Bro. Hughan had been so long engaged, nor, he thought, could there be a second opinion as to the desirability of adopting his proposal to put all the votes of the different lodges together, in preference to attempting individual action. (Applause.)

The resolution was then carried with acclamation.

The following sums were voted:—£25 to the Cornwall Masonic Annuity Fund; £10 10s. to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys; £10 10s. to the Institution for Girls; and £10 10s. to the Institution for aged Freemasons.

The Secretary and Treasurer of the Cornwall Masonic Annuity Fund were re-elected for the year ensuing, and Bros. Trenery and S. Jacobs were appointed as Auditors.

The election of an annuitant to this fund fell through, as the ballot did not prove favourable to the candidate who applied for it.

An application was made by the widow of a deceased brother for a grant on behalf of her youngest child to assist in his education, and it was resolved to give the sum of £15 a year for three years.

The Committee of Relief were re-elected.

The Prov. G. Master invested the following brethren as his officers for the year ensuing:—

R. Rogers	D. Prov. G.M.
The Rev. G. L. Church, 699	Prov. G.S.W.
E. D. Anderton, 331	Prov. G.J.W.
The Rev. J. K. Lethbridge, 789	Prov. G.S.C.
The Rev. J. B. Jones, 1272	Prov. G.J.C.
W. Tweedy	Prov. G. Treas.
E. T. Carlyon	Prov. G. Sec.
W. Jenkins, 967	Prov. G. Reg.
J. Cardew, 1164	Prov. G.S.D.
J. H. Filmer, 893	Prov. G.J.D.
T. White, 510	Prov. G.S. Wks.
J. Chegwidden, 510	Prov. G.D.C.
T. Gill, 967	Prov. G.A.D.C.
J. Vivian, 75	Prov. G.S.B.
Carter, 75	Prov. G. Organist
A. T. Grant, 318	Prov. G. Purst.
W. Rooks	Prov. G.A. Purst.
Rusden	Prov. G. Tyler.

The following brethren were invested as Stewards:—T. Webber, 75; C. Archer, 789; G. Barnes, 1164; T. C. Polglase, 75; J. Burgess, 1006; Tonkin, 977; T. C. Stevens, 1151; S. Serpell, 331.

Bro. R. John was re-appointed as P.G. Asst. Sec., and Bro. Crewes received the appointment of Assistant Secretary to the Cornwall Masonic Annuity and Benevolent Fund.

Bros. Hughan and Penrose were elected as Auditors for the coming year.

This concluded the routine business, but before the Provincial Grand Lodge closed a resolution was unanimously passed expressing gratitude to the Great Architect of the Universe on the safe return of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Grand Master of England, from his Indian tour.

At mid-day the brethren marched in procession to the parish church, where an excellent sermon was preached by Bro. the Rev. G. L. Church, from the words, "But I trust that ye shall know that we are not reprobates. Now, I pray to God that ye do no evil, not that we should appear approved but that ye should do that which is honest, though we be as reprobates." The rev. gentleman said it would be rather late in this year of light, 5876, if he were even to attempt to defend Freemasonry from the sometimes absurd and sometimes false charges that were brought against it. Not long since it was denounced from the Vatican and classed with such secret societies as the Inquisition, the Illuminate, and other similar institutions, and no doubt it was so denounced because they were known as "Free and Accepted Masons," and the Church of Rome did not allow liberty of conscience or freedom of thought to any, but every man's will must be subject to that of one who called his decrees infallible. That Freemasonry had its secrets they did not for a moment deny, and further than that it was their proud boast, as it was their bounden duty, that they should not reveal them to any one but a brother. But those secrets affected not their religious or political opinions. They were condemned by the outer world for keeping the essentials of their institution from the knowledge of those who were not members of it, and it was said that this must sufficiently prove them to be of a bad nature and tendency. If, however, secrecy be a virtue—and who could deny it—could that be brought against them as a crime which had been considered an excellence in all ages. He contended that the institution of Freemasonry was one highly to be approved of both on account of the principles which it inculcated, and the great good which it accomplished in the community.

A collection was made at the close of the service, and realized £15 8s. 4d., with one exception, the largest ever made. Of this sum two-fifths will go to the Cornwall Masonic Annuity Fund; two-fifths to the Falmouth Dispensary, and the remaining one fifth to the clergyman of the parish.

In the afternoon a large number of brethren sat down to an excellent banquet, provided at the Polytechnic Hall by Bro. Carter, of the Royal Hotel. The P.G.M. presided, and the usual Masonic toasts were proposed and responded to.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

COLONIAL and FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month.

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

TO OUR READERS.

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

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

NEW POSTAL RATES.

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

TO ADVERTISERS.

The *Freemason* has a large circulation in all parts of the Globe, its advantages as an advertising medium can therefore scarcely be overrated.

For terms, position, &c., apply to
GEORGE KENNING, 198, Fleet-st.

Answers to Correspondents.

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

The following stand over:—

Nelson Lodge, Woolwich; Naval and Military Conclave, Landport; Sovereign Sanctuary, Ancient and Primitive Masonry, Manchester; Tyrian Lodge, 1110; Sherborne Lodge of Manchester, 1168; Granite Lodge, 1329; "On Proposing Joining Members, J.P., P.M."

BOOKS—MUSIC, &c., RECEIVED.—"La Chaine d'Union," "Furniture Gazette," "Hand and Heart," "Ladies Treasury."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

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

BIRTHS.

CURTIS.—On the 2nd inst., at Drayton Park, Holloway, the wife of J. Curtis, jun., prematurely, of a daughter, who survived but a few hours.

DOWNES.—On the 29th ult., at St. Mary's-terrace, Paddington, the wife of E. Downes, of a son.

SIM.—On the 30th ult., at Kussowlie, India, the wife of G. H. Sim, Esq., R.E., of a daughter.

THOMPSON.—On the 26th ult., at Elmsfield, Gateacre, near Liverpool, the wife of F. B. Thompson, Esq., of a son.

WHITE.—On the 29th ult., at Ledbury-road, W., the wife of A. J. White, Esq., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

ADEY—WALKER.—On the 14th ult., at Charleston, South Carolina, Henry Thomas Morse Adey, Esq., of New York, to Anna, daughter of H. P. Walker, Esq.

BRATTLE—OHREN.—On the 28th ult., at Christ Church, Forest-hill, Kent, Astyanax, only son of the late Dr. Brattle, late of Sulhampstead, Berks, to Rosa Cecilia, third daughter of Bro. Magnus Ohren, A.I.C.E., F.C.S., of Lower Sydenham. No cards.

OWEN—SAUNDERS.—On the 1st inst., at St. George's, Bloomsbury, John Owen, Esq., of Addison-gardens, South Kensington, to Julia, daughter of E. Saunders, Esq.

DEATHS.

SINGLETON.—On the 24th ult., Bro. Geo. Singleton, at his residence, 39, Crown-street, Glasgow.

ACLAND.—On the 21st ult., at Ellerslie Terrace, Clapham, Mr. James Acland, aged 77.

ASHBY.—On the 1st inst., at Eling, Near Southampton, Francis Stedman Ashby, aged 42.

COYLE.—On the 30th ult., at Woolston, near Southampton, Lewis Coyle, aged 36.

KERR.—On the 30th ult., at Stanhope Terrace, Hyde Park, in her 79th year, Susan Adams, wife of C. D. Kerr.

MOFFAT.—On the 1st inst., Lucy, wife of G. Moffat, Esq., of Eaton-square, in her 51st year.

MORRIS.—On the 1st inst., William Morris, of Esp-hill, Holt, Denbighshire, aged 81 years.

SHADBOLT.—On the 2nd inst., at Surbiton, Charles Shadbolt, in his 69th year.

WALPOLE.—On the 29th ult., at Alverstoke Rectory, Margaret Harriet Isabella, wife of the Rev. T. Walpole.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, JULY 8, 1876.

THE BOYS' SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.

We congratulate the House Committee and Bro. Binckes on their last most successful gathering. The return of £12,000 is a noble return, and in itself a sufficient and satisfactory reply to foolish charges and perverse incriminations. The confidence of the Craft is thus openly expressed in the executive of the Boys' School, and is a good set off against puerile personalities and a childish agitation. But we pass to a pleasanter topic. The success of the Boys' School gathering for two years fully justifies the "coup de Binckes" to which we alluded last year, which some thought hazardous, some shook their heads at, but concerning which the result has completely justified the words and views of our energetic brother. The hearty support accorded to the School evinces the continued and lively interest of our great Order in that institution, and we trust that 1877 may even witness increased sympathies and larger returns. We sincerely congratulate the managers of the institution, the Stewards, and not the least Bro. Binckes, on the success which has justly attended their united efforts, and on the good feeling manifested by that remarkable gathering at the Alexandra Palace, in response to the many, persevering, and meritorious efforts of the Secretary of the Boys' School. Another point is also, we think, a subject for deep satisfaction, and gratulatory notice, namely, the state of the school, as evinced by the examination, reflecting all credit on Dr. Morris, the able and zealous head master. As Bro. Binckes pointed out in his able address at the distribution of prizes, at the Cambridge examination for all England the average of "passes" was 55.3 per cent., while that of the Masonic Boys' School was 77.7, nearly 77.8—14 out of 18 boys sent up passed. These were the old boys. Of the new boys, whereas out of all London 21 passed out of 44, equal to 47.8 per cent.; of the Masonic schools 9 out of 11 passed, or an average of 81.9 per cent. The candidates at this examination were 121, 104 juniors, 17 seniors. Of the seniors only 1 obtained honours, while of the juniors 3 obtained a first class, and those three, W. Beaumont, R. Bryant, and H. G. Shaw, all of them educated under Dr. Morris, at the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. This fact surely will be appreciated by all who value the Boys' School, both for what it is and for what it may be, both for what it is doing and yet will do; and we congratulate Bro. Dr. Morris on this very pleasant commentary on his zealous labours of twelve months. The institution seems to be in most admirable working order, and we doubt not but that it will continue to receive, as it deserves, the warm and unwavering support of our educated, and loyal, and discerning Craft.

RESULTS OF THE DENOMINATIONAL CRY AT LAST GRAND LODGE.

Already all sincere Freemasons must deplore the "ugly rush" of the controversial "animus" which the most unwise appeal to denominational feelings at the last Quarterly Communication has already paved the way for and led up to. We cannot look on the tone and temper evolving, so to say, from this Masonic "self-consciousness" of ours without mingled feelings of alarm and shame! And this is the end of all our profession and flowery words? We cannot too much deplore, we feel bound to say, the opposition to Bro. Havers's motion, on the pitiful, and we will add debasing, ground of denominational differences. Such a discussion is forbidden by our own regulations, such a state of things is utterly alien from Freemasonry and absolutely discreditable to Freemasons. Bro. Baxter Langley, for instance, must see that his reference to architectural emblems in Anglican churches is utterly indefensible, especially on Masonic grounds. We fail to conceive, much less to understand, how he, a Freemason, professedly could have deliberately penned such a paragraph, which

recalls to one's memory the worst phasis and "animus" of the old deistical controversy and violence, and is hurtful to the feelings of thousands of his brethren, as it is one of the most ridiculous theories ever propounded by the hostile and unbelieving spirit, of the scorner and the infidel. Such a statement, however absurd on the face of it, and utterly unfit for our pages, or that of any decent publication, must be a subject of deep pain to all conscientious members of the Church of England, and brother Freemasons. There is no possible good in introducing such a ridiculous assertion architectonically, such an unjustifiable remark from a Masonic writer, and we cannot allow such a passage again, or any discussion on it, direct or indirect, to sully our respectable pages. But this is one proof among many of the intensity of that bitterness on such a subject which is a disgrace to our common humanity. But to find Freemasons not considering the feelings of others in the heat of their denominational "furore" is indeed a "leetle too much," and a bitter burlesque on our undenominational teaching. We have always lamented the line of argument employed in opposition to Bro. Havers's motion, as savouring to us alike of intolerance and bigotry, and an utter un-Masonic appreciation of the proposition of our very distinguished brother. For Bro. Havers's proposition never was intended as a denominational one, and no more unfortunate issue for the peace of Freemasonry ever was raised than this pseudo-denominational cry, on whomsoever the blame may really lie. While, then, we always welcome free discussion, we are not bound to allow on Masonic principles of toleration or consideration, that the religious feelings of any of our brethren should be trampled under foot, and if Bro. Baxter Langley wishes to pursue his peculiar line of discussion, or to express opinions which not only architecturally thousands of his brethren utterly scout and laugh at, though they feel them none the less as coming from a brother Freemason, he must find some more accommodating periodical than the "*Freemason*," in which to dilate upon this refined and ennobling topic. As a matter of history and fact we treat any such theory as a most puerile and perverse chimera, but as a matter of fraternal feeling it is, in our opinion, both indefensible and un-Masonic thus to throw down a gauntlet to the honest convictions of myriads of certainly not the least intelligent of our Order. It is altogether "an unclean thing," and as Freemasons we will have "none of it," and no more to do with it; and we must express our regret to our many readers that in our wish to be fair to all, we ever allowed such a passage to appear in the pages of the "*Freemason*."

ANALYSIS OF THE RETURNS OF THE BOYS' SCHOOL FESTIVAL.

When we come to deal with the large return announced by Bro. Binckes of £12,000, and look into its component figures, we are necessarily struck with one or two points—1st, the large provincial returns, and 2nd, the large metropolitan returns, evincing all alike a widespread interest in the Order, and unabated confidence in the executive of the School. This is as it should be, but we have thought it well just to dwell a little in detail on the returns themselves, as they certainly "both point the moral and adorn the tale." Warwickshire, in support of its P.G.M., the distinguished President for the year, heads the list with the large amount of £2000 2s. 6d. Kent follows with £659 19s. 6d. and is succeeded by Cornwall, under our very worthy Bro. W. J. Hughan, with £432 12s. Then appears West Yorkshire with £339 3s.; and Northumberland with £303 9s. Staffordshire sends up £295 1s., while Gloucestershire and Durham transmit, the former £276 14s., the latter £275. Lincolnshire, through our energetic Bro. Sutcliffe, always ready for Masonic good works, contributes £245 14s., and Surrey and South Wales, (East Division) each gives in £210, and Hants and the Isle of Wight come up with £176 8s., and Devonshire with £173; while Cheshire forwards £155 10s. 6d., and Berks and Bucks £152 15s. Cumberland and Westmoreland next appear with

£147, and Essex produces £144 18s. Derbyshire offers £129 15s. 6d., and Middlesex furnishes £121 5s. 6d. West Lancashire has remitted £105, Oxfordshire £93 11s., and Greece, through Bro. Matier, £92 8s. East Lancashire has remitted £88; Somersetshire £72 9s., North Wales and Salop £74 8s., Wiltshire £65 2s., and Nottinghamshire £63. Norfolk sends £45 3s., and Suffolk £32 1s.; while Leicestershire and Rutland forward £12 10s., and the Punjab £10. As the Metropolitan lodges have collected in round numbers £4700, the balance of £7500 in round numbers (exclusive of small amounts from other bodies, as London chapters and the Mark Degree), has been collected by the Provincial Stewards and lodges and brethren. Such a fact speaks clearer than words as to the zeal and interest of our entire fraternity in the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. And great and commendable as the "totality" is, and gratifying as the result must be to Bro. Binckes, after his many anxieties and arduous labours, there yet remains a goodly margin of duty to be done and efforts to be made by individual brethren and lodges. As a fact, it is a very striking one per se, as Bro. Terry well put it, that we have received this year £32,000 for our great Metropolitan Charities, but there are yet new fields to be worked out by our indefatigable Bro. Secretaries, and new "lodes," as it were, to be "struck" by zealous "Stewards" and good workers in the sacred cause and recurring duty of Masonic charity. And we shall not be surprised if Bro. Terry's prophecy turns out to be true, that 1877 will witness still larger returns and welcome contributions to the support and extension of our noble Charities.

Original Correspondence.

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

THE LAST QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In the "Freemason" of last Saturday I notice a letter from Bro. J. Baxter Langley, upon which I ask your permission to say a few words. He writes "that he cannot, without a sense of humiliation, read or hear the suggestion that the Craft should bow before my authority in a matter on which any properly constituted mind can at least form an independent opinion."

I do not know about every body reducing himself to a sense of humiliation on reading such a statement, but I should think that everybody who did read it, saw its absurdity. Surely Bro. Langley cannot imagine that I ever made such a claim, or that the writing of so thoughtless and so unwarrantable a remark was more than the work of some too zealous friend. Who that friend was I do not know.

I will not follow Bro. Langley into personalities, or complain of the liberal criticism he has bestowed on my tone, taste, &c. I can only say I am sorry I do not please him, but when he writes that my reference to a "foregone conclusion" was a mistake, and that it was scarcely fair or courteous to insinuate that the brethren in Grand Lodge were not open to argument or reason, I have something to say.

If it was not fair and courteous, I can only say that it was true; and may I ask (as fairness and courtesy should not be all on one side) was it fair and courteous, or was it not opposed to all our usual practice in Grand Lodge to interrupt a speaker while he was in the act of reading his resolution, and before he had adduced a single argument in support of it? All who were present in Grand Lodge must have observed that there were a large number of brethren congregated at the lower end of the hall who offered the chief interruption, and who did not suffer even the resolution to be read without interrupting by loud cries, who, to use Bro. Langley's own words, "were not open to argument and reason," but who came there (according to my words) with a "foregone conclusion."

It may not be fair, it may not be courteous in Bro. Langley's opinion, but I repeat my solemn conviction (increased tenfold by what I have since heard of the remarks made at that end of the hall) that a large number of brethren did come there with a "foregone conclusion."

Nay, I will go further, and for the honour of our Institution I state my deliberate opinion that the decision come to by the majority of Grand Lodge on that occasion will not be received with approbation by the great body of the Craft at large. I have far too high an opinion of the large-heartedness of Masons generally and of their chivalrous and high-minded dignity and intelligence to believe that they will allow prejudice to stand in the way and mar the progress of all the higher and more enlightened feelings of our nature.

I do not refer to other parts of Bro. Langley's letter, because I have already given the reasons which he now asks for, why we should in a thankoffering send some object

which should be national as well as Masonic, but, Sir, there is a paragraph in that letter which I cannot pass over in silence. It commences "I am . . . a Unitarian." I will not quote the remainder of the words (which should never have been written or spoken in Masonic society), because I cannot forget that one of the first charges impressed upon us at our very entrance into Freemasonry is, "that we shall avoid every topic of religious discussion." In my opinion the paragraph I refer to is in direct violation of our Masonic law; the belief expressed in it is as unwarranted as it is indecent, and as uncalled for as it is offensive, and insulting to the whole Christian community.

Let me ask you to give me space further to thank "T.P.M." for his kindly letter, and to say how willingly I will subscribe £20 towards carrying out the scheme he proposes, and which I only hope may be successful.

Yours fraternally,

JOHN HAVERS.

July 3rd, 1876.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I hail with much pleasure the frank admissions and regrets which Bro. Havers conveys in his last letter, and also his intention of being "done with Bro. Simpson as far as personal matters are concerned."

I must, however, on public grounds correct one or two grave inaccuracies into which our brother has fallen.

He says, alluding to his speech in Grand Lodge, "I never before heard of the opinion of the Grand Master received with cries of 'No, no.' When I heard those cries then for the first time I saw the formidable nature of the oppositions to my resolutions."

If Bro. Havers will check his memory by the recollection of almost any other brother present, or by your own excellent report of his speech, he will find this statement of his the very reverse of the fact. The "No, no's" were uttered at a very early stage of his speech, as well as on subsequent occasions, and had reference solely to his St. Paul's and St. Alban's proposal. His introduction of the Grand Master's name was not made till almost the concluding passage of his speech, and after Grand Lodge had during the preceding ten minutes given unmistakable proof of its adverse opinion.

I should have thought that under such circumstances Bro. Havers would, on his own present showing, have abstained from the course he now so candidly deprecates.

I take it for granted that none of us feel that our "Grand Master must not express an opinion," but most of us do think that to quote that opinion may be lawful, but not at all times expedient, especially when a strong opposition has clearly shown itself in regard to a proposal for which the Grand Master's approval had been doubtless sought and gained, but probably amidst a thousand other public matters crowding on his attention.

I shall not trouble you about my private letters to Bro. Havers. I am sure he will not affirm that a man cannot write a private note on public business. If he does not affirm this, his defence for quoting my notes in public without my leave, falls to the ground, as I certainly considered them private communications, and not intended for the public press. But as I said before, I am glad, as far as I am concerned, that they were published.

I wish to assure Bro. Havers that in proposing my amendment I did not act with "secrecy" or "subtlety." I can give him my word that I had not made up my mind to withdraw my motion up to the moment when I entered Grand Lodge, and that I only rough-drafted my amendment after Bro. Havers began his speech.

I like to conclude with something pleasant in prospect after this "winter of our discontent." It is Bro. Havers' words in the last paragraph but one, "I am ready to give my help in any way that may be thought desirable."

This is so happy a contrast to the statement contained in his private reply to me, that I take it for granted he will serve on the committee, and help to bring about that consummation so devoutly to be wished for—a unanimous decision.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

R. J. SIMPSON.

P.S.—I have read your foot note to my last letter with interest, and if you will allow me, I propose to say a few words in your next number on the subject alluded to, as suggested by your forcible article on "The Present Tendency of Freemasonry," in your impression of June 24th.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

If I could feel the deprivation, it would doubtless be a matter of poignant regret that I do not share in that obtuseness which is a matter of consolation to Bro. Simpson, and his "twenty-to-one" of Grand Lodge, but I do not feel the loss; neither is it a matter of ambition to me that I should be so preternaturally acute as to espy "denominationalism" in a generous impulse; it is quite enough for me to be only so far blessed with corners as to be rectangular, and so to act "on the square," and view the generous impulse of an open-hearted brother in the same straightforward light in which he conceived it.

One further remark (which I trust Bro. Simpson will regard as personal only so far as it is a reply to that which he himself wrote, and which had no origin with me) and I, too, will cast banter aside and address myself once more to the matter under discussion. I cannot, for the life of me, see the necessity of the unmerited sneer directed at a Prov. G. Officer by one who has probably risen to his present position by the same step of the very same ladder of promotion—at all events, if he has not, he would have had no cause for shame if he had. I, too, have been a Prov. G.O., and I am proud of the distinction; but more than this, if it should ever be my good fortune to be promoted to Grand rank in Grand Lodge I shall still always cherish the jewel of my Provincial rank,

as I shall, too, regard with the deepest affection my Mothe Province. If, however, this slighting mention of my brother, correspondent be taken as merely a "jest," then, indeed, has Bro. Simpson spoken the "true word in jest" for the "fine air of the provinces" has given the brethren there "clearer intellectual conceptions" to perceive the right-mindedness of Bro. Havers's proposal, as well as "clearer moral conceptions," by which they have in so many instances carried out exactly similar work (as that brother has so pointedly shown), than have the "fogs" to the brethren resident in "London." I will dismiss this part of the subject by assuring you, Sir, that we Provincials are very happy in filling the more humble places allotted to us, for we feel that so long as a solid structure is required it would not be well for Masonry, that all of us should be cope-stones like Bro. Simpson.

Now, Sir, with regard to the two questions that I put to Bro. Simpson, I find that he has given me no answer at all. I can, however, glean this much, that attendance at a service in St. Paul's is not more "denominational" than following to the last rites the remains of the late chief magistrate. Just so, for both are decidedly denominational, although pardonably so from the very cause which they would be designed to serve. This does not advance us much in trying to understand Bro. Simpson's "motives," but what follows is probably more to the purpose, for in it we find what constitutes the sting of this terrible "denominationalism," the wherefore of its having to be so sedulously avoided. It is when it comes to putting your hand in your pocket that an action becomes denominationalism. Exactly so!

Next Bro. Simpson tries to show that the votes of money proposed by Bro. Havers would be alienating the funds of Grand Lodge from their only lawful destination, i.e., charity. Has Bro. Simpson ever read his "Constitutions?" if so, he must surely know that there is such a thing as a "Fund of Benevolence," which "shall be solely devoted to charity;" thus clearly leaving the "Fund of General Purposes" entirely at the disposal of Grand Lodge, which may apply it at its good will and pleasure to any object either within or without the Craft. This last remark leads me to ask Bro. Simpson yet another question in addition to my previous ones. How comes he to decry Bro. Havers's proposals as being outside our Order, and yet, in his letter of June 26th says, "That we have gone out of what Bro. Havers calls the beaten track of Masonry in our grants the records of Grand Lodge amply, and I will add happily, testify?" (The italics are mine.)

Yet one other question—If Bro. Simpson withdrew his motion because he knew that it would not be passed unanimously, which he felt that such a motion ought to be, why ever did he press his amendments when he saw that there was not a ghost of a chance of their leading to anything else than a division? Oh! for consistency!

One other word and the "W.T. (who also writes from some shady and anonymous spot)" will have done. How "shady?" "Also," does "also" refer to "Prov. G.O." in the "light of the provinces?" or to "Bro. Simpson" in the "London fog?" To the former I trust, for I do not at all wish to be considered under the influence of the latter, the description of which seems wonderfully well adapted (self-chosen, too!) to describe one side of this controversy. "Anonymous," how can this "spot" be "anonymous?" I have written anonymously, it is true, but what object would be served by putting to my queries the name of merely a Provincial Grand Officer? You, Sir, were satisfied of my identity as a member of Grand Lodge, and, therefore, of my being entitled to a voice. However, if Bro. Simpson really desires to discover my personality, he may recognize me as one of those brethren (non-"obtuse," thanks to Bro. Simpson!) whose right hands were held up to protest against the hollow insincerity of giving to God a vote of thanks "which cost us nothing;" and more than this, he may recognize me again, if Grand Lodge should ever again suffer itself to be betrayed into the unmasonic condition of "appearing before the Lord empty," by mine being the only right hand held up, if need should be, against such a mockery and a sham.

I remain, dear Sir and Brother, faithfully and fraternally,

W. T.

(To the Editor of the Freemason.)

Dear Sir and Brother,—

There were reasons, dictated neither by modesty nor fear, which induced me to write anonymously to you a fortnight ago. In advocating or denouncing principles an anonymous signature is permissible, and often preferable, if the writer avoids personalities. I attacked no one in my letter, and my name would not have made Bro. Simpson's statement, to which I alluded, more or less absurd than it actually was. I do not know whether "London fogs," or the want of "clearer moral or intellectual conceptions," make Bro. Simpson so dull of comprehension, nor do I know by what computation he arrives at the consolatory feeling "that the brethren of Grand Lodge in the proportion of twenty to one are equally obtuse" (I beg pardon of the brethren. I am using not my own, but Bro. Simpson's words), but judging from the division at the last Quarterly Communication I should put his majority at three to two. Bro. Simpson appears to have forgotten the old maxim "practice is better than precept," for whilst he intersperses his sentences with pious utterances and fervent hopes that "peace may abound, &c.," he indulges in jests, sneers, and misrepresentations which are not likely to bring about the realization of this desirable end. Bro. Simpson is plausible but not profound. I give two instances from his last letter. He says, "I quite agree with our 'P.G. Officer' in his broad definition of 'charity,' but I do not agree with him in the opinion that because we raise a memorial on this occasion in some measure connected with one of our institutions

our charities will be our ruin." Am I to regard this statement with "amazement" or "sorrow?" I never expressed or implied such an opinion, nor did I say that "to aid the orphan, the widow, and the aged," will ruin us. What I did say was, briefly, this, "If our institutions want new wings to their buildings let them be built; if they want additions to their funds let them be supplied. But if our charities are to become the all-engrossing objects, and the sole outlets of our Masonic sympathies,—if the enrichment of these charities is to be considered the highest aim of the Order, and the sole criterion of Masonic excellence, then Freemasonry must inevitably become a benefit society, and thus "our charities will be our ruin." I say nothing in disparagement or in disrespect of benefit societies. They are admirable institutions, but Freemasonry is in no sense akin to them. Besides which, to care for the needy, the sick, and the aged, to provide for the fatherless and the widow, is not exclusively a Masonic attribute. It is a natural instinct, common to all who are not debased and degraded. Whereas the dignity and high value of Freemasonry is to promote brotherly love and spread a true Masonic spirit throughout our dealings with each other.

The other instance of Bro. Simpson's plausibility is as follows:—"No amount of eloquence or historical research could in the eyes of plain Englishmen alter these facts (1), that it was proposed to grant a sum of £2000 to two churches belonging to a particular religious body, &c." "This is true as far as words go, but "plain Englishmen" love fair dealing, and it is utterly false as far as the intention of the grant was concerned, and consequently it is a very unfair statement. Call the Church of England "a particular religious body!" Why, it is the national church! I suppose the Rev. Bro. Simpson will not deny that, and therefore the proposal of Bro. Havers was to give £2000, not "to two churches belonging to a particular religious body," but to that which was national as well as Masonic. It is this national element which removes from the grant its denominational aspect, to quote Bro. Havers's own words, in the eloquent speech in which he proposed his resolution, as far as I can remember.

"As well might Grand Lodge be called denominational because our Grand Chaplains are always clergymen of the Church of England. As well might the whole Craft be called denominational because the children in our schools are educated in the principles of the Church of England, and because whenever we did attend a religious service, which in the provinces was a constant practice, we always attended the parish church."

Of course, in one sense of the word, the Church of England is denominational, but only in the sense in which it would be used by the sectarian, the illiterate, and the unpatriotic. Those who would deny that the Church of England is the national church might as well deny that Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria is Queen of England because amongst her subjects there are those who would prefer a Republic to a Monarchy.

As Masons we are cosmopolitan and unsectarian, but we do not cease to be the subjects of the country in which we were born, and one of the duties most strongly urged upon every brother on his admission to the Order is "never to forget the allegiance which is due to the Sovereign of his native land; and the sacred and indissoluble attachment which binds him to the country from whence he derived his birth."

The return of the M.W.G.M. was an event both national and Masonic. A memorial to celebrate that event should have that double feature, and I know not how better that object could have been attained than by carrying out Bro. Havers's resolution.

Whatever rejoinder this communication may elicit, I shall not again address you on this subject. I thank you for your courtesy in inserting my letters, and trust Bro. Simpson will forgive me if I again subscribe myself,

Yours fraternally,

A PROVINCIAL GRAND OFFICER.

July 3rd, 1876.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

"The winner takes his bite, and the loser gets his bark." I trust, therefore, that the opponents of Bro. Havers's motion, whilst enjoying their victory, will not think out of place a few parting lamentations, over that, which from the minority's point of view, seems to have become a lost opportunity.

We sought to do, as in other countries, we believe would have been done, under precisely similar circumstances, by brethren of all creeds, had the restoration or embellishment of such representative edifices as Notre Dame, St. Peter's, the Mosque of St. Sophia, or the Taj Mahal been suggested by them, as presenting the happiest embodiment of the loyal, patriotic, Masonic, and withal religious sentiments, which combined to render a thank-offering desirable.

The chief argument used against us, was the superior claim of the charities upon the bounty of Grand Lodge, and as to this, some extracts from the speech of our late Grand Master, Lord Ripon, on March 11th, 1874, when presiding at the Boys' School festival, are a good deal in point:—

"But you must remember that we Freemasons have a habit, especially when we assemble together upon public occasions, of boasting exceedingly of our charitable institutions, and of telling those who are not Masons that in those institutions may be found the proof of what are the principles and the result of the Craft. Well, in one sense that is true; but there is another sense in which it is far less true than I should desire. I have become increasingly impressed with the conviction that the burden of their support falls much too much year after year upon the same shoulders. I have heard an estimate made that

after all there is not above one-sixth of the members of the Craft who are subscribers to these institutions. What I want to impress upon you to-night is this, that it is far better that these institutions should be supported by small subscriptions from large numbers, than that they should be supported by large subscriptions from a few. You who can subscribe and do not, have no right to say that the Boys' School is a credit to Freemasonry; it is a credit to its subscribers; it is no credit, but a discredit, to those who do not subscribe. A great many small subscriptions will in the end come, as you well know, to a great deal more than a few large ones, and what you want is, that these institutions should rest upon the widest possible basis, that they should be truly representatives of the spirit of this ancient fraternity, that what we say after dinner we may say deliberately at all times without fear of contradiction, that the spirit of the Craft is to be judged by the fruits which it bears in institutions like this, because these institutions should not rest upon the generosity of the few, but because they are founded upon the broad and staple basis of the general support of the Craft."

"Sectarian prejudice" was an expression freely used by the majority, and several speakers were quite apologetic, for opposing the restoration of national monuments, connected with the faith which they individually professed. Now it seemed to the minority, that, resting the claims of "St. Paul's" and "St. Alban's" entirely upon their Masonic and national character, the accident of their being connected with the religion of the state, so far (in our judgment) from rendering less appropriate the proposed tribute of respect to the future head of Church and State, produced in the minds of those of us who were members of the Established Church, a deep feeling of satisfaction, that by a happy coincidence, the monumental restoration our project comprised, would give pleasure to our co-religionists without the pale of the Order, thus, within these limits, blending, as it were, the rejoicings of the Craft with those of the nation, whilst an additional grace, we conceived would adorn the form of our thank-offering, from its meeting with the hearty approval of him who (though differing as to details) we one and all were delighted to honour.

The Churchmen amongst us saw, therefore, no reason to apologize for constituting, as (in that capacity) we believed we did, the majority of Grand Lodge. We entertained, and still entertain, a very earnest conviction, that our Jewish brethren, instead of disapproving the motion, as was contended, would have considered the employment of Grand Lodge funds in the restoration of two celebrated English Churches to have been dictated by equally high-minded and beneficent motives, with those which have prompted the devotion of moneys, contributed otherwise than by members of the Hebrew faith, towards recent excavations at Jerusalem, and the better exploration of the Holy Land.

Yours fraternally,

R. F. GOULD,

W.M. 92; P.M. 153, 570, 743.

RUBBISH.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

How can you admit such "rubbish" as Bro. B. Langley has thought fit to send to you about the emblems, &c., in Church Architecture?

Were it not all so essentially absurd, and so utterly beneath notice critically, archaeologically, and Masonically, I would protest, as a member of the tolerant Church of England, against such unseemly remarks, and such needless outrage on the feelings of thousands of good men and honest members of the Order, poor Christians though they be. If this is the "outcome" of modern intellectual studies, God help us all!

It only shews how extremes meet, and how Ultramontanes and ultra-liberal in religious speculations (I say nothing of politics) are equally intolerant.

But that is nothing new.

I wonder that it did not occur to Bro. B. Langley that when he brings in this childish illustration he was transgressing the Masonic canon, which forbids allusion to the religious tenets or sympathies of others.

Were the assertion not a proof in itself of the ignorance of the writer on the subject he affects so complacently to handle. I would say a good deal more, but "mole ruit sua," it is self-destructive, either of his capacity to throw new light on the matter, or even of his having realized the true teaching of Freemasonry, in any respect. Anything more sad than this outbreak of denominational venom I have never seen, and it really makes an old Mason blush for shame to think of the inconsistency of those, who for years have glibly talked of brotherly love and unsectarian kindness. But I will not trespass on your pages, over crowded as they are, but I hope you will never again allow such a passage as that to which I have adverted to pass your editorial censorship.

Yours fraternally,

A FREEMASON AND A MEMBER

OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

[We entirely agree with our correspondent. We always wish to be "fair." We have erred in allowing such a paragraph to appear. It will not occur again, nor any discussion upon it. It is indeed a sad commentary on Masonic profession.—ED.]

CORRECT MASONRY—WHAT IS IT?

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

A letter appears in the columns of July 1st, signed P. Robertson, Lennoxton, in reply to mine of June 17th, where I draw attention to a report appearing in the "Freemason" of the 10th ult., informing your readers that the Grand Lodge of Freemasons of the Province of Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire on June 2nd, laid the foundation stone of the new aisle which is to be added to the Church of St. Mary at Peterborough,

and that His Grace the Duke of Manchester (the I.P.M.) pronounced the stone well and duly laid, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Having an idea that the invocation of the Trinity was foreign to our Order, and thinking that information on the subject would be acceptable to many brethren as well as myself, I sought it through your world wide columns, and am informed by Bro. P. Robertson, that the Scottish Constitution is plain and clear on the subject, that the stone is laid according to the rules of Masonry, and that the Almighty Architect of the Universe is implored to look down with benignity upon the undertaking. Scottish procedure is therefore explicit. Will some brother or brethren now give information with respect to the English form of laying a foundation stone? Should English and Scottish Masonry, in this point, be alike? In order to make the subject a universal one, may I again ask—Correct Masonry—What is it? Is it the introduction of distinctive doctrines or dogmas, some of which would scar the feelings of many of our brethren? I think not. It is the propagation of that broad and radiant light, the belief in God the Glorious Architect of Heaven and Earth. In the latter brethren of all creeds and nationalities can take part, in the former some feel it their duty to hold aloof. Therefore, if the Trinity is not connected with our Order, many of our readers would like to know why an innovation at a public Masonic ceremony, an innovation which as Bro. Robertson remarks, is from a Masonic standpoint an error, which materially affects the cosmopolitan character of our institution.

Yours fraternally,

Manchester, July 3rd, 1876.

J.E.I., 78, 1458.

AN EDITORIAL SLIP.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Surely a little passage in Bro. B. Langley's last letter escaped your editorial supervision? It is singularly offensive even to us poor benighted members of the Church of England, Freemasons though we be.

I had expected better things of you.

Yours very fraternally,

A CLERICAL BROTHER.

[We plead "guilty, and throw ourselves on the mercy" of our readers. We ought not to have allowed the passage to appear, but in our wish to be fair we have unintentionally offended the conscientious convictions of others. It only shows how very perverse has been the "denominational cry," and how un-Masonic.—ED.]

MASONIC JEWELS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Will you kindly inform me whether the Mark Master's jewel may be worn in a Craft Lodge? In the Book of Constitutions, under the head "Private Lodges," § 22, it is forbidden to wear any jewel except such "as shall be consistent with those degrees recognised by the Grand Lodges as part of ancient Freemasonry," and it is declared by the Act of Union of 1813, that "pure ancient Masonry consists of three degrees and no more, viz., those of the E.A., the F.C., and the M.M., including the Supreme Order of the Holy Royal Arch." Taking these extracts together, I have been surprised to hear the ruling of a P.M. of my lodge, that any brother is at liberty to wear either the Mark or any other jewel. I should be glad to know what is the practice elsewhere, as well as the law on the subject.

Another matter is the wearing of the Craft apron in a Mark Lodge. Is not this contrary to the "Mark" Constitutions? For though I conclude that a candidate for advancement, being as is necessary a M.M., may wear his Craft apron, a brother advanced is bound to wear the Mark apron. I shall be glad to be put right on these matters.

I am, yours fraternally,

M.M. and M.M.M.

[In our decided opinion a Mark jewel cannot be worn in a Craft lodge, neither can a Craft apron be worn in a Mark lodge. The P.M. who gives such a "dictum" as our correspondent mentions, must be utterly ignorant of the Book of Constitutions.—ED.]

A STATEMENT.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Will you kindly peruse the following statement, and if convenient let me hear your opinion and advice.

I am a M.M., Royal Arch Mason, and Knight Templar, and belong to Thos. J. Turner, Lodge 409, Washington Chapter 43, and Chicago Commandery 19, all of the City of Chicago, U.S. of North America. I was in the employ of an American firm, when I came to this country for the purpose of buying goods for their account in England, France, and Germany. However, on my arrival, or shortly after the house failed, and the house in Hamburg, upon whom I was to draw for travelling funds, refused to accept my drafts, consequently I was left high and dry in a foreign country without money or friends. I started out at once to find employment but was unsuccessful for a time, and while looking about for a situation, I thought I should visit a lodge, hoping to meet with some brother who might possibly be able to assist me in finding employment. Accordingly I went one evening to the Masonic Hall, and gave my name, lodge, &c., to the Tyler, who, however, informed me that unless I had "papers" I could not be admitted. I stated my case to him and asked to be examined, but all to no purpose. On my return home I ransacked my papers, and found, I may say, accidentally, a document from my commandery, which I have had occasion to use in the States in order to obtain admission into a commandery when travelling. The reason I took this paper some time ago was that I had just taken

the higher degree, but having no competent brother to properly teach me I could not work my way into a commandery when I had no one to vouch for me, besides it saves the sometimes extremely tedious examinations in the States. On desiring to visit a lodge or chapter I have always been duly examined and been found entitled to admission.

I again went to the hall on the following evening and presented this document to the Secretary, stating that it would be impossible to get this paper unless I had taken all the preceding degrees, but the Secretary happened to be of a different opinion, and the consequence was I had to return home without shaking hands with some of those whom I consider friends and brothers.

Now if this style of treating Masonic brethren in foreign countries is the proper one, I think it but just that every brother upon being raised to the Sublime Degree of a M.M. should at all times be informed by the W.M., besides the customary lecture, that it is necessary, when abroad, to carry a bundle of "papers," to prove him to be a Mason, in good standing and clear on the books. Although it is perhaps not appreciated by many Masons I shall mention here that at a time when I happened to be S.D. of our lodge a stranger called at our place of meeting, who upon being found a M.M., said he came from this country and was on his way from New York to San Francisco. On his arrival in Chicago he found he had lost his money, and only had his railway ticket. He was compelled to ask somebody for assistance, and very properly, as I then thought, came to a Masonic Lodge. Travelling in an emigrant train it takes nearly six days to get to San Francisco, and we did not think it right he should be compelled to travel that long distance without food and arriving at the coast without a cent. I made a motion to assist him at once to the best of our ability without referring him to the Relief Committee. After requesting the stranger to retire the brethren made a collection, and he received a handful of greenbacks amounting to about 78 dollars. The brother went West the same night.

I do not wish to have the above meant for braggadocio on my part, or Thos. J. Turner lodge, but merely state it as an incident in Masonry. To resume my statement I will say, that in order to obtain the papers which are necessary to obtain permission here, I must write to the Secretary of my lodge and chapter, and also to the Grand Lodge and Chapter, and it would take at least six weeks before I could expect to get them. But I am not inclined to do so, for I am of the opinion that a person who is actually in want of assistance is not supposed to come already prepared with a roll of "papers."

I have, and I am proud of it, not asked for any pecuniary help, but merely wished to be introduced to some respectable persons.

I hold a seven years' character from my last employers, and I should think that if I could have made the acquaintance of a respectable merchant he might have helped me in getting a respectable position. As it is I have been compelled to engage myself as labourer in the docks at 3s. 6d. a day, which is certainly no dishonour, but I sometimes think rather rough.

I am capable of corresponding in French, German, and English, and have a fair knowledge of Spanish and Dutch, and don't you think my services would be worth a little more than 3s. 6d. a day to some merchant.

I beg your pardon for taking up so much of your valuable time, but as you frequently kindly take notice of correspondents I venture to ask if I am entitled to the treatment I received.

I am, fraternally yours,
7, Regent Road, Liverpool, J. HENRICHs.
[We think the best thing that we can do is to publish this straightforward letter, as it may ensure attention, and attract observation among those most interested.—Ed].

AN EXPLANATION.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I see that Bro. Binckes gives a partial answer to my letter of enquiry in his interesting speech at the distribution of prizes at the Boys' School, on Monday, the 25th. His reason for the "Presidency" of the Council of the 33rd was as a recognition of its continued support of, and interest in the school. That no doubt is a valid reason, and as it is a question of gratitude for past favours, we are bound to think and believe that Bro. Binckes, who will be as customary "looking onwards," sees in it an earnest too of favours yet to come. But still, with all deference, I think, the announcement of a personal President as in years gone by, would have been better, and whether it was our worthy Bro. Montague or Rosenthal, or Hyde Pullen, each would be equally and personally acceptable to all present. At any rate Bro. Binckes may plead, as he generally does, a very good answer in the word "success." I congratulate the House Committee and himself for the "couleur de Rose" of everything, and wish all possible success to the Boys' School.

I am,
AN ANCIENT CRAFTSMAN, AND
SUPPORTER OF THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Will you kindly answer the following questions: Whether St. John's Day (24th June), if the annual festival of a lodge, is a regular lodge, and at such meeting propose, ballot for, and give degrees to candidates? Supposing such to be the rule, whether the next regular lodge in July (often nine or ten days apart) is sufficient notification in terms of Sec. 2, "Proposing Members," p. 84, Book of Constitutions of being the "next regular" lodge; or whether it must be a lodge of emergency for that particular work begun on St. John's Day, in terms of Sec. 7, page 86?

Again, sec. 3, "Visitors," page 89, Book of Constitutions, says "A brother who is not a subscribing member to a lodge shall not be permitted to visit any lodge in the town or place where he resides more than once during his secession from the Craft."

A very prevalent opinion exists in practice that the "once" does not mean once pur et simple, but only once a year. Is this the right interpretation? or is the plain reading of the Book of Constitutions to mean once, and once only, in the town or place in which he resides?

Yours fraternally,

A SEC.

BRO. ALLCOTT.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Bro. G. A. Allcott, of the Zetland Lodge, Hong-Kong, and Companion Industry Chapter, 186 (also P.M. Lodge of Harmony, Texas, A.C.), has, owing to want of time before his departure, desired me to express through the medium of your columns his hearty and fraternal good wishes to all those who during his sojourn in this country offered him the heart of truth and the right hand of brotherhood. To many Bro. Allcott was able to bid a personal farewell, but to some, owing to the shortness of time and suddenness of his recall to his duties by the Chinese Government, he can now only bid farewell by your kindly inserting this letter.

A little more than a year ago Bro. Allcott came to this country a perfect stranger, yet before his departure for China so highly and generally was he appreciated by the Craft that he was entertained at a banquet by a large number of brethren, and presented with a testimonial of their fraternal esteem and regard.

Apologising to you for so far trespassing on your valuable space,

I remain, dear Sir and brother, yours fraternally,

M. KEITH FRITH, Lodge 1426.

Middle Temple, July 4th, 1876.

A CORRECTION.

(To the Editor of the Freemason.)

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In your report of the distribution of prizes at the R.M. Boys' School you make Bro. Binckes state that I am a "Vice-President of one of these Institutions." What Bro. Binckes stated was that "Bro. Montagu was a Vice-Patron of the Boys' School, and Miss Montagu also, and that Bro. Montagu and all his children were governors of all the other Masonic charities."

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

I.M.P. MONTAGU, 33rd.

D.P.G.M. Dorset.

NORTH WALES AND SHROPSHIRE MASONIC CHARITABLE ASSOCIATION.

The members and supporters of this most valuable Masonic institution held a half-yearly meeting on Tuesday, June 20, and celebrated the event by a picnic at Glanllyn, the seat of Bro. Sir Watkin W. Wynn, Bart., M.P., on Bala Lake. With his usual kindness and generosity Sir Watkin had thrown open his house and grounds for the inspection of the visitors, and under the influence of one of the loveliest summer days that has visited us this season, the magnificent scenery of the locality was seen to the best advantage, the place, in fact, being one of the most lovely spots for a picnic that could well be desired. The main body of the party, which numbered about seventy, reached Sir Watkin's private station at Glanllyn about one o'clock, whence they were conveyed in a steam launch and in pleasure boats across the lake to the house. A sumptuous luncheon had been provided in some adjacent building by Miss Davies, of the Plascoch Hotel, Bala, to which the company sat down, the chair being taken by Sir W. W. Wynn, President of the Association. Amongst the guests were Bros. Bodenham, Newport; Spaul, Oswestry; Captain Williams, Bala; Horatio Jones, Shrewsbury; R. King, Shrewsbury; Dr. Brookes, Wellington; W. Boucher, Shrewsbury; Vaughan Williams; Evan Morris, Wrexham; Owen, Wrexham; Salmon, Chester; Parmeter, Bala; Jones, J.P.; Capt. Anwyl; Dr. Jones, Bala; the Rev. David Evans, rector of Bala; Captain Jones; Woodcock; Anwyl, Bala; Passingham, Bala; Attwell, Llangollen; Lloyd, Bala; T. Williams and W. Williams, Bala; Owen, Bala; and others. A hearty attack was made upon the provisions that had been most bountifully provided, and at the conclusion of the luncheon it was announced that no formal toasts would be proposed.

The half-yearly meeting for business was then held, Sir W. W. Wynn presiding, and, amongst other business, a life subscription to one of the London charities was voted to Mr. Spaul, of Oswestry, in recognition of his exertions in promoting the interests of the association. Life subscriptions to one of the London charities were also awarded by ballot to the following gentlemen:—Bros. Roff King, Lodge 601; John Barber, 601; Attwell, 1369; E. Bunney, 117; Evan Morris, 1336; J. Craston, 117; R. Waters, 117.

A sum not exceeding ten guineas was voted towards the education of a boy named Head, the son of a Mason, during the current year, and it was unanimously resolved that the next half-yearly meeting should be held in Shrewsbury in December next.

Votes of thanks were then passed to the sub-committee for carrying out the arrangements for the picnic, and to Bro. Bodenham for acting as Treasurer, after which the proceedings closed with a cordial vote of thanks to Sir W. W. Wynn for his kindness in presiding, and for throwing open his house and grounds to the visitors. The band of the Bala militia was present during the afternoon, and enlivened the scene with a variety of dance music, which also found amusement for the lovers of dancing, who mustered somewhat numerous. Sir Watkin's steam

launch, and several pleasure boats, were placed at the disposal of the guests, and were extensively used. The whole party were conveyed across the lake in boats to meet the 7.15 train at Glanllyn Station, and thus the picnic, which had been very delightful throughout, was brought to a close.—Oswestry Advertiser.

CONSECRATION OF THE CYDEWAEN LODGE, No. 1594.

The day following that of the consecration of the Llanidloes Lodge (an account of which appeared in the "Freemason" of the 24th ult.) the R.W. Bro. Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, P.G.M., held another special Grand Lodge in the public rooms at Newtown, to formally constitute the above-named lodge.

The visit of Sir Watkin to this town was taken advantage of by the inhabitants generally to testify their regard to him, and to prove that they heartily participated with the rest of the principality of North Wales in the feelings of joy and gladness on his return to England in restored health.

On his entrance into Newtown the preceding evening he was greeted with the cheers of assembled crowds; the church bells were rung, and his progress through the streets was beneath several triumphal arches, decorated with evergreens and flags, and streamers bearing words of welcome, the most conspicuous among the latter being "A hearty welcome to Sir Watkin, the Prince in Wales;" "Long live the Prince in Wales;" with the Welsh mottoes, "Eryr Eryrod Eryri," "Heb Ddu heb ddm, Duw a digon." From every house, from the lofty buildings of Bro. Pryce Jones and others in the principal streets, to the lowly cottages in the bye streets, were displayed, more or less pretentious tokens of the general feelings of joy and of welcome towards this popular nobleman, whose honoured name has ever been sufficient to call forth from the warm hearts of the Welsh feelings of enthusiasm and veneration.

A large number of brethren, many of whom had come from the extreme points of this widely-spread province, assembled in the public rooms in Newtown at one o'clock. Bro. Goldsbrough, P. Prov. G.S.W., appointed Bro. Wm. Cottender, P.M. 998, and W.M. of 1582, and Bro. E. T. Morris, W.M. 998, as Wardens pro tem.; and Bros. George Owen, P.M. 1124, P.P.G. Dir. of Cer., and James Salmon, P.M. of the Sir Watkin Lodge, P.P.G.S.B. of Cheshire, to assist as Past Masters. The musical arrangements were most ably and effectively carried out by W. Bro. J. Boucher, of Shrewsbury, Prov. G. Org., assisted by Bros. Danville, P.M. 152; Hazlitt, W.M. 1432; Rascoe, 268; and Miller, 268.

The R.W. Provincial Grand Master, with the Provincial Grand Lodge, entered the lodge-room in procession, amidst the loud plaudits of the assembled brethren, Bro. Boucher playing a grand march during the procession, and until Sir Watkin had taken his place on the throne.

The R.W.P.G.M. opened a P.G. Lodge, the business of which being concluded was closed in due form.

The ceremony of consecration was then proceeded with, and at the conclusion the V.W. Bro. Frederick Britton, P.M. 850, P.P.G.J.W. of Derbyshire, was presented by the V.W. Bro. W. H. Spaul, Prov. G. Sec., as the Master designate of the lodge, and was duly installed W.M. by Bro. Goldsbrough.

The W.M. then invested Bro. Goldsbrough as Past Master, and closed the Board of Installed Masters.

On the re-admission of the brethren, Bro. Frederick Britton was proclaimed with the customary honours in the respective degrees. He then invested the following brethren as the officers for the year:—Bros. Danily, S.W.; Gilbank, J.W.; Pryce Jones (unanimously elected), Treasurer; E. R. Morris, Secretary; C. Morgan, S.D.; A. Ikin, J.D.; R. Parry, I.G.; J. Barnard, Tyler.

The W.M. addressed the R.W. Prov. Grand Master, thanking him on behalf of the members for the honour he had conferred upon them by his personal attendance at the consecration of the Cydewen Lodge, and congratulated him upon his return to England in renewed health.

The R.W.P.G. Master thanked Bro. Britton and the brethren of the lodge for their kind

feeling towards him, and expressed his regret that he had not been able to consecrate the lodge sooner:

The W.M. proposed a vote of thanks of the lodge to Bro. Goldsbrough for the very able and effective way in which he had conducted the ceremonies of consecration and installation, and proposed that Bro. Goldsbrough be elected an honorary member of the lodge.

The proposition was seconded by Bro. Danily, Senior Warden, and carried unanimously.

Bro. Goldsbrough having thanked the W.M. and brethren for the honour they had conferred upon him,

Several propositions for candidates for initiation and as joining members were made.

"Hearty good wishes" were expressed on behalf of the lodges represented by the brethren present, and the lodge was closed in ancient form, and adjourned.

The brethren were then formed into a procession by Bros. J. Salmon and G. Owen, and they proceeded through the main streets of the town to St. David's Church, where Divine service was performed by the Rev. J. Williams, Rector of Newtown, and the Rev. Wynne Jones, Vicar of Llanllwchaearn.

On the entrance of the procession into the church Bro. Boucher played a solemn and grand march, composed by him for the occasion, and dedicated, by permission, to the Provincial Grand Master. A collection was made on behalf of the local charities. On the close of the service the brethren returned in procession to the Elephant Hotel, where they partook of an excellent banquet, provided under the direction of Bro. and Mrs. Turner, the proprietors of the hotel. The W.M. occupied the chair, supported on his right by the R.W. Bro. Sir W. W. Wynn, the P.G. Master, and on his left by V.W. Bro. T. W. Goldsbrough, P.P.G.S.W., also by the undermentioned brethren, to the number of sixty:—V.W. Bros. J. B. Hooper, P.P.G.W.; W. H. Spaul, Prov.G. Sec.; J. Peters, P.G.S.W.; W. Blakeway, P.G.J.W.; W. Bros. Alex. Walker, P.G.S.D.; G. W. Woodley, P.P.G.S.D.; Jas. Salmon, P.G.S.B. Cheshire, W. T. Banks, P.G.S.B.; George Owen, P.P.G. Dir. of Cer.; J. B. Boucher, P.G., Org; D. P. Owen, P.P.G.P.; W. Gurney, P.P.G.S.D., Hereford; W. Russell, P.P.G.D.C.; Major R. J. Sisson, P.G.S.; William Collender, P.G.S.; G. Ward Verry, P.M. 554; T. R. Morris, W.M. 998; W. Withy, P.M., P.Z. 998; H. Dunville, P.M. 152; E. Hamer, W.M. 1072; E. B. Smith, W.M. 1432; Thomas Rutter, P.M. 998; John Corbett, W.M., 1477; Samuel Hazlett, W.M. 1432; Bros. Pryce Jones, 998, Treas. 1594; J. Danily, 998, S.W. 1594; E. R. Morris, 998, Sec. 1594; J. Sides Davies, 998; N. Gilbank, 998, J.W. 1594; John Kitto, 1072; C. Morgan, S.D. 1594; F. Parmeter, 1369; — Roscoe, 268; J. Miller, 1357; J. Anderson, 998, I.G. 1594; A. Ikin, J.D. 1594; Alfred Taylor, 1432; W. A. Davies, 1072; W. H. Williams, 1072; T. H. Hodge, 537; John Hughes, 1432; John Maclardy, 1432; J. Barnard, 998, T. 1594; Alfred Taylor, 1432; William Griffiths, 1432; and other brethren whose names we have not received.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given by the W.M., and heartily responded to by the brethren.

In proposing "The Health of Sir Watkin Williams Wynn," Brother Britton remarked that the R.W. Grand Master had not been absent from the consecration of any one of the new lodges formed in his Province since he had presided over it (now nearly a quarter of a century), and the brethren of the "Cydeuaen" Lodge rejoiced to see him on the present occasion, restored to health. The W.M. said that with the toast he would also join that of "Lady Williams Wynn." The toast was received with the utmost enthusiasm and duly honoured by the brethren.

Sir Watkin, in reply, said, "I mentioned to you in the lodge-room, and I re-iterate it now, that I am [extremely sorry I could not attend to consecrate your lodge sooner, and I tell you again to-day, as I told you at Llanidloes yesterday, that I do not like opening a lodge by deputy, in a rising and prosperous district, and in a town where I first came to command your Yeomanry and where I have spent so many

happy days. I must take this occasion to thank the brethren for the very kind reception they have given me to-day. I have more lodges to open in the Province, and I trust many of you whom I see here will assist me in doing so. In the name of Lady Williams Wynn, I return you her thanks. She lived many of her early days in those northern countries where Masonry is as much looked up to and carried out as it is in this, our happy island. I may take this opportunity to express my regret that the Prince of Wales will not be able to come amongst us in July. After his journey to India and his late illness his doctors recommend him not to fatigue himself more than he can help. I beg again to thank you for your kindness in looking over my shortcomings. As time is short, will you now allow me to give you the toast of the evening, 'Prosperity to this Lodge,' the foundation of which, with the assistance of Dr. Goldsbrough, we have laid to-day. I trust the foundation will prove to be a solid one, and that it may continue to be one of the prosperous lodges in this Province. You have got, what I am very glad to see coming amongst us, many Masons from other Provinces to preside over you. Your Worshipful Master comes from a town where they tried to teach me Latin and Greek, and I am very glad to look on him as a neighbour, here. I give you 'The Health of the Worshipful Master of the Cydeuaen Lodge, and Prosperity to him.'"

The W.M., in reply, said he felt deeply grateful to the Provincial Grand Master for the honour he had done him in proposing his health and prosperity to the Cydeuaen Lodge.

All felt the deep interest that Sir Watkin took in Freemasonry, a proof of which was in his not allowing a new lodge in his province to be consecrated by deputy, but had himself attended on every occasion; that he (the W.M.) greatly rejoiced, and felt sure he was only expressing the feelings of all the brethren present, at the return of the Provincial Grand Master to England in renewed health, and that it gave the members of the lodge great pleasure to have him with them on so auspicious an occasion. He felt it to be a great honour to have been selected by his brethren as the first Master of the lodge, and trusted he might be found equal to the task, and he would do his best to promote the best interests of Masonry in the district.

The W.M. proposed "The Health of the Visiting Brethren," for which Bro. Gurney, P.P.G.S.D. of Herefordshire returned thanks.

The next toast proposed by the W.M. was "The Health of the Consecrating Officer, Bro. Goldsbrough," expressing in highly complimentary terms the way in which the ceremonies of the day had been carried out by him, and again thanking him for the services he had rendered to the Cydeuaen Lodge.

Bro. Goldsbrough acknowledged the compliment paid him by the W.M. and the brethren present, and assured them he highly appreciated their great kindness.

The W.M. proposed "The Health of the Officers of the Lodge," to which Bro. Danily, S.W., and Bro. Gilbank, J.W., respectively replied.

Several other toasts were proposed during the evening, among which was "The Health of Bro. Pryce Jones (of Dolern), Treasurer of the Lodge," and the W.M. observed that the best thanks of the brethren of the lodge were due to their esteemed Bro. Treasurer for the hospitality he had shown to the R.W. Provincial Grand Master.

Bro. Pryce Jones said he felt only too glad to do anything in the interests of Freemasonry, and of Newtown generally, and as he had the honour of entertaining the Prince in Wales at Newtown, he hoped to see the day when the Prince of Wales would come amongst them.

The W.M. said that the thanks of the brethren were justly due to Bro. and Mrs. Turner for the very excellent dinner they had provided for the brethren.

The final toast was given, and the brethren separated at an early hour after an evening spent in a truly fraternal and enjoyable manner.

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MASONIC CEREMONY AT WOOLWICH.

The monument erected by the brethren of the Province of Kent, more particularly those of Woolwich and Plumstead, to the memory of the late Bro. J. Graden, who, after many years good work for Masonry, died in harness, was unveiled on Saturday last at the Woolwich Cemetery in Wickham-lane, Kent, in the presence of a large and influential gathering of the Craft, many ladies being present. The monument stands just within the gates, and is in the form of a high and ornate Maltese cross, designed by one of the most eminent architects of the day, whose name we have been requested to omit, but who may well be proud of such a noble work of art. The front tablet of the plinth bears the following inscription:—"John William Graden, P.M., P.Z., P.P.G.D., and P.P.G.S. Kent, who died on the 9th March, 1875, at Woolwich, aged 57 years, erected in commemoration of long and eminent services to the Craft by the Union Waterloo, Nelson, Florence Nightingale, and Pattison Lodges, the Union Waterloo and Pattison Chapters, and numerous brethren."

Among the brethren present were Bros. Coupland, P.M. 913, and P.G.S. Kent; Tongue, P.M. 913, and P.P. G.W. Kent; Henderson, P.M. 13, &c.; Dawson, P.M. 700; Cledsdaie, P.M. 706; Davies, P.M. 13; McDougall, P.M. 913; C. Hobson, P.M. 700; Bickerstaff, P.M. 700; Carnelly, W.M. 13; Pownall, W.M. 1536, and W.M. elect 13; T. Vincent, W.M. elect 913; W. Weston, W.M. elect 1535; Hastings, S.W. 829; Spinks, J.W. 1536; Day, 1076; Jessup, Treas. 913; Butler, J.W. 913; Hayes, S.D. 913; Chapman, I.G. 913; Syer, Sec. 13; D. Davies, 913; Upperton, 913; Jarvis, 913; Day, 913; Bonnett, 913; Mabbett, 913; Widgery, 913; Palmer, 913; Bignall, 2; Ruddock, 1201; Jacobs, 13; Cleal, 13; Sturgeon, 13; Harris, 13; Osgood, 13; McCollough, 700; McCaffery, 700 and 1536; Fisher, 700; Buckland, 700; Beaver, 700; Sweeting, 700; Triptree, 1326; Richards, 1326; Taylor, 1526; Smith, 1536; Farr, 1546; Wedding, 1536; Thompson, 1546; Tappenden, 700; Norman, 13; Green, 1076; C. Jolly, 913.

The banquet at which the committee and several friends were present was a superb and recherche affair reflecting undivided credit upon both the taste and resources of Bro. B. Plaisted, in whose fine hall it was partaken of. Bro. Coupland presided, supported on either side by Bro. Bignall, 2, the architect, and Bro. Ruddock, 1201, the sculptor of the memorial, Bro. J. Henderson in the vice-chair. Upon the cloth being removed,

The Chairman said although this was was not strictly a Masonic meeting they must never forget to pay honour to "The Queen and the Craft," nor was the toast unhonoured. "His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, G.M. of England," was most loyally and enthusiastically toasted, and then the chairman gave the toast of the occasion, namely, "The Designer of the Memorial," coupled with the name of their esteemed Bro. Bignall, the architect, who upon every occasion had shown them the greatest kindness and given them every assistance that laid in his power. As to the designer, whose lofty position in the artistic world they might have thought would have utterly precluded him from being able to attend to their wishes, he, the chairman, and he felt sure they would never forget his kindness. The memorial was a noble one, and would not only perpetuate the good work in life of him who had gone before, but would for ever stand an evidence of the talent and genius of its exalted designer. (Loud cheers.)

Bro. Bignell, in reply, thanked them for their kind and flattering mention of the designer, as well as for the reception he had that day received from the brethren. He assured them that not only the designing, but the carving, the form of the letters, even down to the utmost minute, had the earnest attention and supervision of the designer. As for himself, he had been deeply impressed by the beautiful service and touching oration delivered by the Rev. G. Chaplain, and he ventured to say it was one that would never be forgotten by him or them. In conclusion, he thanked them for their kind recognition of both the designer and himself. (Loud cheers.)

The next toast was that of "The Sculptor of the memorial, Bro. Ruddock," who, in reply to a well-earned enlogium from the chair, and hearty reception from the brethren, expressed his warmest thanks, but disclaimed any honour, the whole of which he gave to Bro. Bignell, who he declared would not have passed a single line that was wrong or a letter the least out of place. (Applause.)

The Chairman then gave "The Health of Bro. Hill, P.G.C.," who had come all the way from Faversham to be present and carry out the ceremony of the day, and thought nothing could better show their appreciation for Bro. Hill's services than to carry out in some way the beautiful aspiration uttered by him to-day over the memorial of Bro. Graden, "That out of this might come some good thing." (Applause.) He trusted that desire might be carried out, it could only be done by the united action of the whole of the lodges and chapters in the district, and he left it for their earnest consideration it would be a pleasure to their good Bro. Hill and an honour to themselves. (Cheers.)

Bro. Henderson then in glowing terms proposed "The Health of the Chairman," who, in reply, assured them that as their chairman he felt it to be an honour any one might be proud of. (Cheers.) He felt sure that from what they had seen to-day the subscribers to the memorial would acknowledge that their money had been well and worthily spent. (Hear hear.) They had all been to a deal of trouble and anxiety to see the work fully accomplished, and now that it was so he felt they had left a work that would be a credit not only to themselves, but to their brethren of the future. (Cheers.) They had done honour to the memory of a most distinguished Mason, and left for all an example that from W.M. down to the

youngest Mason, it would be well for them to emulate or at least endeavour to do so. (Applause.)

Bro. Reilly then proposed the health of Bro. Pownall, the Hon. Sec. to the Committee, and in so doing did justice to that brother's zeal and assiduity in the cause, without which he declared the great success would not have been achieved. He felt that the committee would take some ulterior steps to show their appreciation of his arduous and onerous duties, but now he would ask them to do him honour by drinking his health. (Loud cheers.)

Bro. Pownall briefly replied by saying he felt sure the Lodge, Chapter, and Subscribers would never have cause to regret doing honour to one who in his life had done so much for Masonry in the district. (Applause.)

Bro. Rignall and Ruddock now retired and left the hall amid continued cheering and clapping of hands by the brethren. Bro. Ruddock kindly leaving two guineas to the fund. Bro. Pownall then proposed the health of the Committee, coupled with the name of Bro. Dawson, who honestly believed the committee had done their best in bringing their work to a satisfactory issue. Bro. McDougall's health and services as clerk of works was then acknowledged and responded to. Bro. Henderson, the vice-chairman, in response to his health, spoke of the great increase in Masonry during the last twenty-six years. Bro. Tongue responded for the warm reception of his and Bro. Shorn's name, and assured them that it was a labour of love on both their parts, and a lively acknowledgment of the Press, especially the "Freemason," coupled with the name of Bro. C. Jolly, concluded the business of the day.

MASONIC DEMONSTRATION AT ROSSIE PRIORY.

A few months ago the Provincial Grand Lodge of Perthshire (East) was resuscitated under the auspices of the Right Hon. Lord Kinnauld, K.T., who is Provincial Grand Master. His lordship has always taken a great interest in Masonry, and at considerable trouble and inconvenience has shown his desire to meet the wishes of the brethren, and to restore to good working order the various lodges in the province. As an acknowledgment of his lordship's labours in this respect the brethren of Perthshire (East) resolved to pay their Right Worshipful Grand Master a complimentary visit at his palatial residence of Rossie Priory, on Saturday, being the festival of St. John the Baptist. A good number of the brethren, with their wives, families, and sweethearts, left for Inchture at noon.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was opened in due and ancient form in the Inchture Hotel by the Right Worshipful Substitute Grand Master, Bro. Dr. William Cowan; after which the brethren were marshalled by the Director of Ceremonies, Bro. Adam M'Kenzie, and, headed by the Fechny Industrial School band, they marched two by two to Rossie Priory, a distance of two miles. The acting officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge were William Cowan, Substitute Provincial Grand Master; J. Hutchison, Grand Chaplain; John Chalmers, Acting Senior Warden; George Hutton, Acting Junior Warden; A. P. Kelt, Sec.; Dow, Senior Deacon; Robert Lees, Junior Deacon; Hugh Thomson, Architect; John Baird, Jeweller; Thomas M'Gregor, Bible Bearer; W. M'Lennan, Treasurer; Adam M'Kenzie, Director of Ceremonies; Wm. Fletcher, Sword Bearer; W. Bryson, Director of Music; John Stephen, Standard Bearer; G. Ramage, Steward; John Stewart, Inner Guard; and David Cochrane, Tyler.

Although the turn-out was not so large as might have been expected on such an occasion, this was satisfactorily accounted for,—the battalion drill on the South Inch, among other things, preventing many of the brethren from attending to do honour to the Worshipful Provincial Grand Master.

On arriving at the main entrance of Rossie Priory the brethren formed in line, and Bro. Dr. Cowan ascended the steps and read the following address:—

"To the Right Hon. Lord Kinnauld, K.T., Past Grand Master Mason of Scotland, and Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Perthshire (East): Right Worshipful Sir and Brother,—We, the members of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Perthshire (East), accompanied by the members and brethren of the lodges in the province, take the opportunity this day (the Festival of St. John the Baptist)—a day always highly esteemed, and held as a holiday, among Freemasons—to assemble and unite together at your residence to pay you a complimentary visit, as a mark of our respect and esteem for you as our Provincial Grand Master. You, Right Worshipful and respected Sir and Brother, have been long held in high esteem among men and Masons for your private virtues and public worth. Early in your life, and now somewhat over forty years ago, you were selected by the Craft Masons of Scotland to fill the very high and important trust of M.W. Grand Master Mason—the highest post which it is in the power of the brethren of Scotland to bestow on a worthy brother. You filled that office with dignity and effect, and with satisfaction to all, for some years prior to the election of our late lamented brother, His Grace the Duke of Athole. Since that time you have been commissioned by the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and have held for many years the office of Grand Master of the Craft in this province, which, though less extensive in its sphere of operations, is no less important to the proper and satisfactory working of the Craft as a whole than the Grand Lodge of Scotland itself. This office you have also filled to the satisfaction of the brethren, the numbers present on this occasion bearing ample testimony to the fact. In the discharge of the duties of your high office you have ever been held in the highest esteem and respect for your uniform courtesy and kindness to one and all with whom you came in contact, and you have always shown the most anxious desire to carry out the wishes of the brethren, to

promote the interests of the Craft, and to raise Masonry to that dignity and importance which it deserves, as being a social and moral institution of the highest value in the world, tending to bind men of all nations and creeds in one common and sacred band—a society of friends and brothers. It is unnecessary here to do more than briefly allude to your high position as Lord-Lieutenant of this large and prosperous county, and to the various useful offices you fill in other capacities, and which you have honourably, usefully, and efficiently held during very many years of a long life—or to your position as a landlord in one of the most beautiful and fertile tracts of country in our native land, and in which your benevolence and kindness, your private worth and excellence of character, as a man and a Christian, and your zeal, energy, and perseverance in originating, improving, and extending in everything that tends to improve the physical condition and elevate the intellectual capacity of man, have been so many years conspicuous. We need only point to those beautiful farms, and happy homes, and smiling faces, we see around your princely dwelling, to show that you are at once a nobleman in the true sense of the word, a Christian, and a Mason. Yours has been a life well spent in the daily performance of good and useful works. In conclusion, we now wish Lady Kinnauld (whose Christian graces are so well known) and yourself a long continuance of life, health, and happiness, to enable you for years to come to carry on your good works. In the name and on behalf of the Provincial Grand Lodge and the lodge in the Province of Perthshire (East), we subscribe ourselves,—J. B. Brown-Morrison, Depute Provincial Grand Master; Wm. Cowan, Substitute Provincial Grand Master; William MacLeish, W. Senior Grand Warden; John Chalmers, R.W.M. Scoon and Perth, No. 3; John Young, R.W.M. St. Andrews, No. 74; George Hutton, R.W.M. Royal Arch, No. 122. Dated at Rossie Priory, Inchture, this 24th day of June, 1876. William Cowan, Officiating Grand Sec."

Bro. Lord Kinnauld then said—It is with very great gratification, as you may imagine, that I receive this visit from the Right Worshipful Substitute Master, officers, and brethren of the lodges connected with that part of the country over which I have the honour to preside—of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Perthshire (East). I take it as a very great compliment paid to me in the capacity of Provincial Grand Master, and I learn that you are all ready, shoulder-to-shoulder, to help me, as long as I have the honour to fill that office, in promoting the best interests of the Craft. This address, I cannot but say, I receive with heartfelt thanks. At the same time, I cannot but say that I wish the concluding part had been couched in less glowing terms. I am afraid it is the too partial feeling of the brethren towards me that has caused some of the expressions there to be, however gratifying, somewhat painful. You have alluded to the long time which I have been permitted by Providence to live, and, looking back over these long years, I cannot but feel that there are many, many things which I could have wished undone, and many things which I could have wished had been better done; but this I can truly say, that ever since it has pleased the Divine Architect of the Universe, in his Providence, to bless me with such a helpmate as you see here—(Hear, hear, and applause)—as counsellor and guide, I have endeavoured, with her assistance, to do my duty in that state in which it has pleased the Great Architect of the Universe to place me. (Applause.) That helpmate has, indeed, taught me to look to higher things,—to hope and remember that I may some day be an inmate of that temple not made with hands,—that temple of which the one our great founder established on earth is merely the symbol. I do, therefore, feel peculiarly gratified at this visit of the Masonic lodges connected with this province, and I do earnestly hope that, as long as I may be spared, I may be encouraged to do my duty not only towards those lodges and that Craft with which I have been so long connected, and in whose well-being I have always taken the greatest interest. I look upon this day as one that will not be soon forgotten, either by myself or her ladyship, who has been alluded to, and who has shared with me so many of the trials and sorrows, and at the same time the blessings, of this life. In her name, and in my own name, I most earnestly thank you for your visit, and I also thank the Great Architect of the Universe for smiling upon us in such a beautiful day; and I trust you will all enjoy yourselves, and as long as we are spared may we meet as brethren of the Craft to which we belong. (Applause.) It is true (that, owing to that secret which cannot be divulged even to those nearest and dearest to us (a laugh), we are looked upon with some suspicion (laughter), but there is one thing, we are united in love, that great Christian principle of love, and we, as Masons, are bound, in whatever circumstances we are placed, to assist each other with true Christian benevolence. (Applause.)

Three cheers were then given for Lord Kinnauld, and three for Lady Kinnauld; after which the company were shown over the magnificent apartments in Rossie Priory, his lordship rendering this privilege all the more enjoyable by his interesting descriptions of the various objects of interest.

In the course of the afternoon lunch was served to the brethren and their lady friends in a large marquee erected in one of the parks. The Right Worshipful Grand Master, Lord Kinnauld, presided, and Bro. Chalmers, R.W.M. Scoon and Perth, discharged the duties of Croupier.

The Chairman proposed "The Queen," and "The Three Grand Lodges of Scotland, England, and Ireland," which were heartily responded to.

The Croupier proposed "The Worshipful Grand Master, Bro. Lord Kinnauld." He considered himself highly honoured indeed in having the privilege of proposing this toast. He was exceedingly sorry that the brethren did not appear to be so enthusiastic as they ought to have

been; but, as had been explained to his lordship, circumstances were against them, but he hoped the next time they came to Rossie Priory there would be a far larger turn out. (Applause.)

The toast was enthusiastically responded to.

Bro. Lord Kinnauld, in reply, said he assured them that it was not a mere form of speech when he said how sincerely he felt the kindness which they had shown to him in coming to visit him. It had been explained to him that circumstances had prevented many who they knew intended to come—(hear, hear)—but when they considered that this was the first attempt of the kind, as it became known it would be more largely patronised. He hoped, when it was reported that they had spent such a fine day, if he were spared to hold the office in Perthshire (East) which he was so proud to hold, he would see many more of the brethren visiting Rossie Priory. (Hear, hear, and applause.) He was sure they would say he had given them as hearty welcome as any Mason or neighbour could give (hear, hear), and he could only trust that next year he would see a very large and influential gathering of the Craft. (Applause.) They saw on his left one of the most enthusiastic of Masons (Bro. Dr. Cowan), and he hoped Bro. Cowan would continue his good work, so that Masonry would soon assume that position it formerly had in Perthshire, and that they would next year have a larger gathering at Rossie Priory. (Applause.)

Bro. George Hutton proposed "Prosperity to the Lodges in the Province." He was sorry that on this occasion there were none of the country lodges represented, and that on one of the very best of summer days. As there was no country Master present, he coupled the toast with Bro. Chalmers.

Bro. Chalmers said he had no doubt when the brethren read in the papers the account of this visit they would be very sorry that they had not been present, and he had no doubt that in future years there would be a large turn out.

Bro. Thomson, Past Master of the Royal Arch, Perth, proposed "Prosperity to the Lodge St. Andrew (No. 74). He was sorry that the Right Worshipful Master (Bro. John Young) was unavoidably prevented from being present, as he had been one of the most enthusiastic for this visit. They all knew that the Lodge St. Andrew had been admirably conducted, and had been looked up by some of the most eminent men in the country. (Applause.)

Bro. Adam M'Kenzie returned thanks for the kind manner in which they had drunk prosperity to Lodge 74. He was exceedingly proud of having been present on the occasion of their visit to Bro. Lord Kinnauld, and the entertainment they had received from his lordship was worthy of a brother and a friend. (Hear, hear.) When he returned to his mother lodge, he would not fail to tell them of the kindness he had received. (Applause.)

Bro. Lees proposed "The Royal Arch Lodge" (No. 122), to which Bro. Hutton replied.

The Chairman then proposed "The Wives, Sisters, and Sweethearts of Masons," on whose behalf Bro. Quartermaster-Sergeant Scott suitably replied.

As the weather was most tempting for a walk over the extensive policies, the brethren then rose, and, after singing "Auld Lang Syne," proceeded to visit the gardens and grounds, and to enjoy themselves in the spacious parks.

At seven o'clock the company again met in front of the Priory, and, after giving repeated cheers for Lord and Lady Kinnauld, resumed the journey home, highly delighted with the excursion and the cordial welcome they had received from the noble lord.

RESUSCITATION OF LODGE ST. JOHN (No. 174) AT DUNNING.

In connection with the above demonstration, and to show the good work which has been commenced in the Province of Perthshire (East), it may be mentioned that, by permission of the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, a deputation from the brethren went to Dunning on Saturday, the 17th ult., in order to assist the Right Worshipful Master of that lodge, Bro. Henry Menzies, and his officers and Wardens, in restoring that ancient lodge to good working order. The deputation consisted of the following brethren:—Bros. Dr. Cowan, Substitute Provincial Grand Master; John Chalmers, W.M. Scoon and Perth (No. 3), who officiated as Provincial Grand Warden; George Hutton, W.M. Royal Arch (No. 122), who officiated as Junior Provincial Grand Warden; Robert Lees, Junior Grand Deacon; John Robertson, Grand Inner Guard; and David Cochrane, Grand Tyler. Bro. William Jones, Past Master of St. John's (174), officiated as Grand Senior Deacon. The Provincial Grand Lodge was opened in due and ancient form at four o'clock by the Right Worshipful Bro. Cowan, after which, by the request of the Right Worshipful Master of St. John's (174), that lodge was duly opened, and six new members were initiated into the First Degree of Masonry by Bro. Cowan, who performed the ceremony in a most impressive manner. Bro. Stewart (of the Kirkstyle Inn) and Bro. Howie were also affiliated to the lodge. The lodge was duly closed at six o'clock; after which the brethren enjoyed two hours in pleasant social intercourse. The brethren who visited from Perth are in hopes of revisiting Dunning soon, to assist the Right Worshipful Master in giving the remaining degrees to the new members. They also hope that, under the present rule, this ancient lodge, which at one time numbered 90 members, will soon be restored to its former prosperity. Bro. Menzies is very popular in Dunning, and he takes a great interest in the Craft; and there is no doubt that, with the material he has now to work with—men of intelligence, worth, and respectability—this will speedily be accomplished.

STAFFORDSHIRE MASONIC CHARITABLE ASSOCIATION.

The eleventh half-yearly meeting of this association was held on the 13th ult., at Alton Towers, which, by the kind permission of Bro. the Earl of Shrewsbury, Pro G.M., was visited by a Masonic party of gentlemen, accompanied by many ladies. From a report just issued by the association we learn that the Masonic charities pertaining to the province are ably managed, and the support given to the three Royal Masonic Institutions for Girls, Boys, and Aged Freemasons is of the most encouraging character. Life subscriptions to each of the above-named institutions are obtained for Staffordshire brethren by means of the Charitable Association, and the voting strength of the province is thereby considerably increased in favour of the Staffordshire candidates requiring aid. Twenty-nine of these life subscriptions were balloted for at this meeting, as follows:—Bros. Frederick Brandon, 418; Edwin Peake, 637; Frederick Arkinstall, 662, Senior Warden of 1520; Edwin Hodson, 624; James Alcock, 98; T. G. Fellow, 1520; Arthur Barnes, 1032; K. Macrae, 624; W. G. Bagnall, 662; James F. Wileman, 546; James Miller, jun., 460; George Bennion, 546; Wm. Wykes, 482; David Griffith, 460; Wm. Bentley, 98; Alfred Caddick, 662; C. Marsh, 460; Arden Hardwick, 546; Robert Plant, 456; W. R. Blair, 546; J. Clarke, M.D., 1039; J. V. Barber, 482; Charles Trigg, 1039; J. Norris, 451; Silas Gibson, 966; Edward Corn, 451; T. C. Graham, 624; T. M. Humphries, 539. The two last-named brethren served as Stewards at the festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. A pleasing feature indicative of the growth of this association is found in the fact that more than one-third of the Freemasons in the province are supporters of the Masonic Charities through the medium of this organization. Much permanent good is likely to accrue from the efforts of its promoters, whose most sanguine expectations have been hitherto fully realized. The local education of the children of deceased brethren is undertaken by the Committee of Management, in addition to the assistance rendered to the London institutions.

Masonic and General Tidings.

Monday, by command of Her Majesty the Queen, the day for holding the annual meeting of the Prince Consort's Association was altered from July 12th to Monday, the 10th inst., when H.R.H. Prince Leopold, P.G.M. Oxford, will distribute the prizes and certificates in the Home Park, Windsor.

Bro. the Rt. Hon. Lord Balfour of Burleigh, P.S.G.W., lays the foundation stone this day of the new tenement block of buildings for the Workmen's Dwellings Improvement Company (Limited), about to be erected in Disney-street, Mint-street, Borough, S.E.

A Lodge of Instruction has been formed in connection with the Derby Lodge, No. 724, Liverpool, meeting on the second and fourth Mondays in each month at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Bro. J. W. Ballard, P.M. 724, as Preceptor.

A Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of the Province of Middlesex and Surrey will be held at the Greyhound Hotel, Richmond, on Saturday, the 22nd inst. Lodge will be opened at five o'clock.

Bro. Captain R. Rankin Hutchinson has been appointed Vice-Consul of Spain and Nicaragua. Our brother is a Chevalier of the Order of Santa Rosa, and is a decoree under the German Convention.

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION.—At the forthcoming meeting at Wimbledon the proprietors of the popular "Specialité Sherry" (Messrs. Felton and Sons, of Albermarle-street) again give a purse value £20.

We are asked to announce that the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of the model dwellings in the Borough is unavoidably postponed.

Bro. Lieutenant E. J. V. Watteville has been appointed Flag-Lieutenant to the newly-appointed Commander-in-Chief on the Irish Station, Rear-Admiral Hillyar.

THE COLONIAL BOARD.—His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., has appointed Bro. Griffiths Smith, Past Grand Steward, Vice-President of the Colonial Board.

A Special Court of Governors of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution will be held on Friday next at the Masonic Hall, 22, Hope-street, Liverpool, at half-past five.

A meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Monmouthshire will be held at the Town Hall, Pontypool, on Thursday next.

We understand a warrant has been applied for, for a new lodge to be named "The Middle Temple," and to meet at Freemasons' Hall. The Masonic relevancy of the title will at once occur to each member of the Craft. Among the eminent brethren on the Bench of the Honourable Society which gives its name to the proposed lodge, who have expressed their approval of the enterprise are the Treasurer for the year, Bro. J. J. Powell, Q.C., our esteemed Bros. the V.W., the G.R., E.J., Mr. Intyre, Q.C., and Francis Roxburgh, G.C., P.G.R., F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., P.G.J.D., a member of the Inner Temple, and several other distinguished legal brethren have signified their hearty good wishes for the success of the application. Our worthy brother Samuel Poynter, P.M. 902, 1491, &c, Barrister at Law, and a member of the Honourable Society of the Middle Temple of many years' standing, is he W.M. designate.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, July 14, 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, JULY 8.

Quart. Gen. Court, Girls' School, at 12.—See advt.
Lodge 1361, United Service, Greyhound Hot., Richmond.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

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

MONDAY, JULY 10.

Quart. Gen. Court, Boys' School, at 12.—See advt.
Lodge 1366, Highgate, Gatehouse Hot., Highgate.
" 1506, White Horse of Kent, 33, Golden-sq.
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, JULY 11.

Lodge 167, St. John's, Holly Bush Tav., Hampstead.
" 548, Wellington, White Swan Tav., Deptford.
" 1269, Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Rose Croix, Oxford and Cambridge, 33, Golden-sq.
Supreme Grand Council 33°, 33, Golden-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.
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, Canonville-st., Bishopsgate.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatheaf 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, JULY 12.

Com. R.M.B.I. at 3.
Lodge 708, Carnarvon, Mitre Inn, Hampton-court.
" 820, Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond.
" 1228, Beacontree, Private Rooms, Leytonstone.
Supreme Grand Council, 33°, 33, Golden-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Confidence, M.H., Bushall-st.
Alt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bldg.-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch 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, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, Lion lon Wall.
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.

THURSDAY, JULY 13.

Lodge 1288, Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., N.
" 1321, Emblematic, Tulse Hill Hot., Tulse Hill.
" 1558, Duke of Connaught, Surrey M.H.
Chap. 554, Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
K.T. Precep. 128, Oxford and Cambridge, 33, Golden-sq.

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., Milbank.
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., Albany-rd., Dalston.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.
Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.

FRIDAY, JULY 14.

Lodge 1420, Earl Spencer, Northcote Hot., New Wndswth.
Chap. 33, Britanni, F.M. Tav.
Rose Croix Chapter, Mount Calvary, 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, White Hart, King's-rd., 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 July, 15, 1876.

MONDAY, JULY 10.

Lodge 314, Peace and Unity, Militia Mess R., Preston.
" 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.
Chap. 148, Elias Ashmole, C.R., Warrington.

TUESDAY, JULY 11.

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

WEDNESDAY, JULY 12.

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. 1345, Victoria, Cross Keys Hot., Eccles.
Neptune L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, JULY 13.

Lodge 216, Harmonic, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.
" 333, Royal Preston, Vic., Garrison Hot., Fulwood.
" 1035, Prince of Wales, Kirkdale, Liverpool.
" 1182, Duke of Edinburgh, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1213, Bridgewater, Cross Keys Hot., Eccles.
Chap. 220, Harmony, Garston Hot., Garston.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, July 15, 1876.
All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, JULY 10.

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, JULY 11.

Lodge 230, St. Barnabas, Black Bull Hot., Old Cumnock.
" 413, Athole, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 410, 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., Dalmuir.
" 556, Clydesdale, 106, Rose-st., S.S., Glasgow.
" 579, St. Bryde, M.H., Uddingston.
Chap. 17, Greenock, M.H., Cathcart-st., Greenock.
" 69, St. Andrew's, 25, Robertson-st., Glasgow.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 12.

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

THURSDAY, JULY 13.

Lodge 88, New Monkland, T.H., Airdrie.
" 109, St. Marnock, Crown Hot., Kilmarnock.
" 334, St. John's, Castle Inn, New Cumnock.
" 557, Blantyre Kilwinning, Craigie Hall, Blantyre.
" 570, Kenmuir, Balgray Hall, Springburn.
Chap. 50, Glasgow, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.

FRIDAY, JULY 14.

Lodge 18, Kilwinning, Church-st., Dumbarton.
" 147, Cadder Argyle, M.H., Chryston.
" 170, St. John, Black Bull Inn, Renton.
" 427, St. Clair, M.H., Cambusnethan.
Chap. 144, St. Rollox, 69, Garngad-rd., Glasgow.

SATURDAY, JULY 15.

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

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, July 15, 1876.

MONDAY, JULY 10.

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

TUESDAY, JULY 11.

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

WEDNESDAY, JULY 12.

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

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

THURSDAY, JULY 13.

Lodge 8, Journeyman, Blackfriars-st., High-st.

FRIDAY, JULY 14.

Chap. 56, Canongate Kilwinning, M.H., John-st.

BALL FAVOURS,

NEWEST DESIGNS.

MASONIC DEPOTS 1, 2, & 3, LITTLE BRITAIN,

BRANCHES { 198, Fleet-street, London.
2, Monument-place, Liverpool.
9, West Howard-street, Glasgow