

CONTENTS.

United Grand Lodge 493
 REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS:—
 Craft Masonry 494
 Mark Masonry 494
 Red Cross of Constantine 495
 Ancient and Accepted Rite 495
 Provincial Grand Lodge of Devon 495
 Provincial Grand Lodge of North and East Yorkshire 495
 Provincial Institution for Boys 495
 Royal Masonic Institution for Girls 495
 Royal Masonic Institution for Girls 495
 Masonic Archaeology 496
 Prince of Wales' Visit to Glasgow 496
 The Bulgarian Atrocities 497
 The Antiquity and Objects of Freemasonry 497
 The Fluctuations of Masonic Literature 498
 The Irish Masonic Orphan Institutions 498
 North and East Yorkshire 499
 An Insult to Freemasonry 499
 A Charge against the French Freemasons 499
 The Last Quarterly Communication 499
 CORRESPONDENCE:—
 The Masonic Press 410
 A Little Friendly Gossip on some of the Topics of the Day ... 410
 Reviews 410
 Royal Masonic Institution for Boys 411
 The Model Subscriber 411
 Masonic and General Tidings 412
 Masonic Meetings for next Week 412
 Advertisements i. ii. iii. iv. v. vi

UNITED GRAND LODGE.

The Quarterly Communication of United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England was held at Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday evening, the R. W. Colonel Burdett, Provincial Grand Master for Middlesex, as Grand Master; the R.W. the Right Hon. the Earl of Donoughmore, S.G. Warden; the R.W. the Hon. William Warren Vernon, J.G. Warden; the R.W. Richard Giddy, District Grand Master for Griguland; the R.W. Samuel Rawson, Past District Grand Master for China; the R.W. Hugh D. Sandeman, Past District Grand Master for Bengal; the R.W. Henry Murray, District Grand Master for China; the R.W. John Havers, P.G.W.; the R.W. Capt. Wm. Platt, P.G.W.; R.W. Sir Albert Woods (Garter), G.D. of Ceremonies, P.G.W.; the V.W. Rev. S.R. Wigram, V.W. Rev. Charles John Martyn, P.G. Chaplain, as Grand Chaplain; the V.W. Charles Wm. Arnold, G. Chaplain; V.W. Rev. Sir John Warren Hayes, Bart.; V.W. Rev. Robert James Simpson, P.G.C.; V.W. Aeneas John McIntyre, Q.C., Grand Registrar; V.W. Samuel Tomkins, Grand Treasurer; the V.W. John Hervey, Grand Secretary; W. Lieut.-Colonel Thos. Birchall, S.G. Deacon; W. Thomas, William Board, M.P., F.S.A., S.G. Deacon; W. E. J. Barron, J.G. Deacon; W. John March Case, J. G. Deacon; W. Lieut.-Col. John Creaton, P.G.D., W. Dr. Jabez Hogg, P.G.D.; W. Henry Browne, P.G.D.; W. Samuel Leith Tomkins, P.G.D.; W. Brackstone Baker, P.G.D.; W. J. E. Saunders, P.G.D.; W. Raynham W. Stewart, P.G.D.; W. Chas. Aug. Marton, P.G.D.; W. Richard Havers, P.G.D.; W. John Anthony Rucker, P.G.D.; W. J. Percy Leith, P.G.D.; W. Joseph Charles Parkinson, P.G.D.; W. Robert Grey, P.G.D.; W. Thomas Fenn, P.G.D.; W. F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., P.G.D.; W. Frederick Pepys Cockerell, G. Sup. Wks.; W. Wm. Rhys Williams, assist. G.D.C.; W. Richard J. Spiers, P.G.S.B.; W. Hyde Pullen, P.G.S.B.; W. James Mason, P.G.S.; W. Joshua Nunn, P.G.S.B.; W. Wilhelm Kuhe G. Organist; W. Eleazer D'Albert, G.P.; W. Samuel G. Foxall, Assist. G. Purst.; W. John Emmens, P.G.P.; W. William Ough, P.G.P.; W. John Coutts, P.G.P.; W. C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P.; W. Thomas, Cubitt, P.G.P.; and W. John Wright, P.G.P., were also present, besides General Brownrigg, as D.G.M.; Major Finney, John Constable, Captain Phillips, F. Adlard, Thomas W. White, F. Binckes, C. F. Hogard, George Kenning, H. A. Dubois, J. H. Wynne, Herbert Dicketts, B. H. Swallow, H. G. Buss, S. Rosenthal, W. J. Murlis, James Terry, W. Dodd, D. W. Pearse, Dr. J. E. Carpenter, Massey ("Freemason"), and about 300 other brethren.

Grand Lodge having been formally opened Grand Secretary read the minutes of the Quarterly Communication of 7th June, which were put by the Grand Master in the chair and confirmed.

Bro. Joshua Nunn moved, and Bro. McIntyre seconded that the report of the Lodge of Benevolence for the last quarter be received and entered on the minutes, and this having been adopted,

Bro. Joshua Nunn moved, and Bro. Raynham W. Stewart moved the adoption of the recommendation of the following grants:—

A brother of the St. George and Corner Stone Lodge, No. 5, London...	50	0	0
" " of the Crystal Palace Lodge, No. 742, London...	50	0	0
The five orphan children of a late brother of Lodge of Truth, No. 644, Bombay	50	0	0
The widow of a brother of the Lodge of Perfect Friendship, No. 376, Ipswich	50	0	0

These were all carried unanimously. Bro. McIntyre, G.R., moved, and Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, P.G.D., seconded, that the Report of the Board of General Purposes, which had been printed and circulated, be taken as read. Bro. McIntyre said he moved it in the absence of the President of the Board (Bro. J. B. Monckton) from town. The motion having been adopted,

Bro. McIntyre said there was no substantive motion arising in the report, and he therefore moved, to be in proper form, that it be received and entered on the minutes.

Bro. Brackstone Baker seconded the motion, which was then put and carried. The report was as follows:—
 Report of the Board of General Purposes, to the United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England:

The Board of General Purposes beg to report that their attention having been directed to an application dated 24th May, 1876, from the Lodge of Love and Honour, No. 75, Falmouth, for the usual Grand Lodge Certificate for

the Tyler, who was initiated so long ago as the 8th of April, 1861, and to certain letters in which it was stated that the said brother was initiated without the necessary dispensation required by article 9, page 86, Book of Constitutions. The board, after due consideration, although none of the brethren then in office are now members of the lodge, felt that the lodge—as a lodge—must be held responsible for such a grave irregularity on the part of its former officers, but at the same time did not treat the offence with the severity which would under the circumstances have been extended to it. The board therefore simply ordered that the lodge should pay a fine of one guinea, and that the Grand Secretary should be empowered to issue the certificate on payment thereof.

The board desired especially to direct the notice of the Masters and Secretaries of lodges to article 26, page 69, of the Book of Constitutions, attention to which would at once prevent annoyance to their successors, and the necessity of an appeal to the executive of Grand Lodge.

(Signed) PETER DE L. LONG,
 Vice-President of the Board.

To the report is subjoined a statement of the Grand Lodge accounts at the last meeting of the Finance Committee, held on Friday, the 11th day of August instant, shewing a balance in the hands of the Grand Treasurer of £3328 16s. 5d.; and in the hands of the Grand Secretary, for petty cash, £75; and for servants' wages, £96 15s.

Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C., then rose to move "That in accordance with the resolution passed at the last Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge the following brethren constitute a Special Committee to consider the best mode of perpetuating in some charitable form our thankfulness to Almighty God for the preservation and safe return from India of our Most Worshipful Grand Master, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and report thereon to Grand Lodge:—Bros. Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M.; Earl of Donoughmore, S.G.W.; the Hon. W. Warren Vernon, J.G.W.; Lord Leigh, Prov. G.M. Warwickshire; Lord Tenterden, P.G.W.; J. M. P. Montagu, D. Prov. G.M. Dorset; J. Havers, P.G.W.; Aeneas J. McIntyre, Q.C., Grand Registrar; Jabez Hogg, P.G.D.; Erasmus Wilson, Deputy M. No. 2; Octavius H. Pearson, W.M. No. 10; Nathan B. Headon, W.M. No. 1426; Baxter Langley, W.M. No. 1423; Macrae Moir, P.M. No. 66; Edwin March, W.M. Grand Steward's Lodge; Rev. Robert J. Simpson, P.G. Chaplain, with power to add to their number." In doing so he said: M.W. Acting Grand Master, and brethren, in laying the motion of which I have given notice—you have a copy in our notice paper before you—before Grand Lodge, I wish to lay down for myself three rules for my guidance, rules which I hope may be approved of by the brethren, and, if it be not impertinent, I may add, I hope, may be followed by other speakers. The rules are, first, that I shall be exceedingly brief in my speech (hear, hear) in the next place that I shall abstain from any allusion to persons or the press; and thirdly, that I shall as little as possible, even touch upon the transactions of the last Grand Lodge, save and except so far as they necessarily are connected with the motion which I am about to lay before you. Mr. Frank Buckland remarked in a recent letter upon a very interesting subject, that heat and tranquillity were necessary for the cultivation of oysters. I am quite sure that there was on the last night of our meeting too much heat, and too little tranquillity. I trust to-night that we shall realise both these conditions, but rather in a different sense to the heat to which I have alluded. I trust the heat to night will be the warmth of brotherly love which will shape itself to the public good, and I trust that the tranquillity will mark our discussion which alone can lead to a calm and a just decision. (Hear hear and applause.) It will be in the recollection of Grand Lodge that the resolution was passed on our last night of meeting, to the effect that a committee should be appointed for an object specified in that motion. (Hear hear.) As a natural sequence to that resolution, and in order to keep upon the lines of business I now venture to lay before you the names which I have the honour to propose on that committee for your approval or otherwise. I am not at all sure, M.W.G.M., that it would not have been for the interests of Freemasonry, and of the great object which we have in view that no particular member of Grand Lodge, however experienced, however high in the Craft, or otherwise, should have proposed any definite scheme upon this subject, but that it would have been far more advisable, and consonant to the dignity of the subject, that in the beginning a committee should have been appointed to carry out this great object. (Hear, hear.) That was, unfortunately, not done. I am myself an offender, as well as others in this respect, and, therefore, I plead guilty, being a party to not having thus dealt with this subject. But I cannot conceal from myself that as the amendment which was proposed, and which eventually became a substantive motion, was drawn up on the spur of the moment, in the midst of the discussion, so it was immediately intended to ward off what many of us considered—whether rightly or wrongly—a great imminent danger. That object has been attained. Whether rightly or wrongly, thus it is; and it now, I understand, is the opinion of a great number of the members of this Grand Lodge, that it might be convenient not to proceed with the committee, but to take some more definite course. (No, no.) Of course it is quite open to this Grand Lodge to-night, if it pleases, to reject the motion which I have the honour to propose, and in any way to rescind the casual motion which was made upon the last night of meeting. (No, no: it had been carried.) Very good. If Grand Lodge, however, expresses itself to that effect, I myself will be prepared to bow respectfully to it. If not, then I venture to propose this committee as containing the names of brethren highly esteemed in the Craft, except it be one who "holds the wooden spoon" at the end of it, (laughter), and I think they are brethren also who, if they are to choose theirs, or to add to their number, will add brethren of the

Grand Lodge who will be likely to carry out the objects we have in view. I trust that if this committee is appointed it will come to an unanimous recommendation which will be at once worthy of the solemn and exalted object we have in view, and that they will be likely to confer a lasting benefit and true dignity upon our Order. I submit, M.W.G.M., without comment at present, the resolution which I propose. (Great cheering.)

Bro. Edward Cox, P.M. 637: M.W.G.M., I shall be most happy to second the resolution.

Bro. F. A. Philbrick, P.G.D.: M.W.G.M.—On an occasion of this kind, with respect to the subject before Grand Lodge, I am sure we have one feeling—the unanimous feeling which was expressed at the last meeting of the Grand Lodge, namely, that whatever be the mode in which we may give an expression of our gratitude, the occasion was one which demanded a commemoration from the Craft. As to the method which that commemoration was to shape itself, that was settled by the resolution of the last Grand Lodge, which has been confirmed on the minutes to-night, by being referred to a Committee. That committee has now been nominated by our Bro. Simpson, and I venture, on an occasion of this kind, to say that I trust no remark I may make may interfere with the unanimity with which the Grand Lodge will proceed. In form I am compelled to move an amendment. In substance I believe I am bound to call attention to that which I am sure has been an unintentional omission, and which, I for one, should be very disappointed unless it be accepted by our Bro. Simpson, as a part of his resolution. There are certain great names omitted in the resolution. I will not criticise the names upon this Committee, because the names are those of brethren who may fairly represent the whole interests of the Craft, and who, both from their personal merits—but rather, I would put it, from their official position—are entitled, both by their position and experience to be on a committee of this kind. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) There is the Prov. Grand Master, Lord Carnarvon, a name, I am sure, as popular as any known Mason. I forbear to mention personal matters, but there is the Grand Treasurer, our respected and popular Grand Treasurer, who has borne office for many years. There is the President of the Board of General Purposes: there is the President of the Colonial Board, Bro. Rucker; there is the President of the Board of Benevolence, who, unfortunately is absent to-night from circumstances under which we all sympathise with him. I do not suppose there will be any difficulty at all about that. Holders of these great offices, the illustrious Masons whose names I have mentioned, should be added to this council to carry out the object which we all have at heart. I left out my excellent friend our Bro. Sir Albert Woods, but I beg now to suggest his name, and to move these additions as an amendment to our rev. brother's motion. (Hear, hear, and applause.)

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, P.G.D.: I second the amendment; but I think there has been with our Bro. Philbrick a great omission, and I allege that if you were to carry out the last part of the resolution of our Bro. Simpson, there ought to be those who were connected with the charities: the House Committees ought to be added (No, no, and uproar.)

Bro. S. Rawson, P.D.G.M. for China: I rise to a point of order. (Confusion.)

Bro. Raynham Stewart: You should put those men on who for years have been tried by your brethren, and who know and can give the best advice as to the mode of carrying out the plan.

Bro. S. Rawson: I rise to a point of order. Bro. Stewart: I will propose if this committee be carried—(Chair, cheering, and confusion.)

Bro. Rawson: I rise to a point of order. This is not an amendment at all. The original motion as proposed by our Bro. Simpson has power to add to their number. (Hear, hear, and applause.)

Bro. Simpson: May I be permitted to explain? I merely wish to say—I want only to make a single observation. In answer to Bro. Philbrick's observation, I wish to say that my great difficulty was in putting down the names of other brethren who were as worthy as, if not more worthy than, those on the list, and that I was anxious to leave to Grand Lodge itself to originate by such propositions as Bro. Philbrick's the full constitution of the committee. (Hear, hear.) I was anxious to put down as few names as possible only as a nucleus, and leave it to Grand Lodge rather than myself to put in others. (Hear, hear.) I accept these names at once.

Bro. Dr. Jabez Hogg, P.G.D., said he interposed with considerable diffidence, but it occurred to him from what fell from a number of speakers at the former meeting that there was a considerable number who disapproved of this committee of Bro. Simpson's altogether, he himself was not antagonistic, notwithstanding he had an amendment to his motion. By that amendment he really wished to bring about a good feeling in Grand Lodge. The brethren wished to commemorate their thankfulness in a way which would be worthy of this Grand Lodge. Feeling that there was a difference of opinion, he had ventured to submit a motion to his Bro. Simpson, but unfortunately being out of town and unable to communicate with him in time for the meeting of the Board of Masters, he placed his notice on the agenda paper that he might not be out of order that evening. It appeared to him that there would be a difference of opinion in the appointment of the committee. He agreed with Bro. Simpson's principle.

Bro. James Mason, P.G.S.B., rose to order, and was met with cries of "Sit down," and some confusion.

Dr. Hogg continued. He thought they might confirm a principle on which the committee was to sit and deliberate a principle that might be acceptable to Grand Lodge.

The Acting Grand Master said he must remind Dr. Hogg that Grand Lodge had already agreed to a committee. The only question now was of whom it should be composed.

Dr. Hogg would most readily and respect fully

merely wished to explain that in putting his amendment on the paper he wished to restore a better feeling with regard to the committee, and thought it could be done by confirming the principle upon which it should be asked to sit and deliberate. He was happy to withdraw his amendment.

Bro. J. Wynne thought that before the committee was appointed they should give the brethren an opinion of what they intended to do. (Oh, oh, and laughter.)

The Acting Grand Master was in the course of putting the resolution to Grand Lodge, when

Bro. Baxter Langley rose and said that to some extent he believed that the feeling of Grand Lodge was that though the main feeling of the brethren would go with the general tenour of the motion, there yet was an anxiety widely expressed that the motion should have some more definite form, and that Grand Lodge should know previously, or form some idea of the direction in which that committee was to act. (Cries of no, no.) That feeling was deepened, he believed, by the fact that Bro. Simpson affixed to his motion an addendum, a sort of motion for retreat; if he (Bro. Baxter Langley) might call it so, in which he indicated distinctly his intention to propose a vote for the Boys' School.

The Acting Grand Master—That is not before the committee.

Bro. Baxter Langley quite agreed that that was not before Grand Lodge, but it was upon the agenda paper, and those who had read the agenda paper could not exclude it from their minds. He felt that whatever Grand Lodge did this committee should act with the same freedom of beneficence to all the Masonic Charities, and it was with that desire and with a sincere wish that he should not inflict a long speech upon the brethren that he ventured very respectfully to move the following as an amendment:—"That in order to perpetuate in some appropriate form—"

The Acting G.M.: I beg your pardon. The only amendment you can move is that the motion be rescinded. The motion for a committee is now passed, and the resolution is that these names form the committee. You can only move that it be rescinded; but if it is passed it will then be in your power to bring your present proposition before the committee, or to this Grand Lodge when the report of the committee comes up.

Bro. Baxter Langley suggested that his amendment should be added as a rider to the motion. In that sense it was an amendment.

Bro. Brackstone Baker, P.G.D., would venture to make an observation. He presumed that this Grand Lodge was governed by the ordinary rules of deliberative assemblies. When a motion was before a meeting and seconded they had to deliberate on that single motion, and no other than the substantive motion before them. If after that was adopted any other suggestion or addendum was proposed it was put as an "instruction." At present the only motion before this Grand Lodge was whether the committee be appointed with the names stated or not, with the addition. That was the only question before Grand Lodge.

Bro. Baxter Langley: It is an addition to the motion.

The acting G.M.: The names are proposed as an addition.

Bro. Baxter Langley: I propose an addition to the motion, then.

Bro. McIntyre, G.R.: The original motion was carried at last Grand Lodge. There is no original motion before this Grand Lodge except the nomination of the Committee. Grand Lodge on the last occasion decided that this should be considered and reported only a committee. Grand Lodge to night has confirmed that resolution of Grand Lodge, and therefore the committee is appointed now with full power to report to Grand Lodge. Everything that our worthy and excellent brother has said might well come up as an amendment on the report of the committee when the committee make their report; but at present everything is relegated to the committee to consider; to take any evidence they think proper, and take advantage of all knowledge which they possess, and then bring up a satisfactory report, I hope, with recommendations thereon. I hope, before the committee do that, they will take care that what they intend to report shall be submitted to the Board of Masters, and that it shall be known throughout the Craft, so that every opportunity shall be given to every brother to bring up a substantial resolution as an amendment to what the committee may recommend. But at present Grand Lodge having referred it to the committee, clearly you ought to have the result of their deliberations before you give an instruction on matters we know nothing about. (Hear, hear.)

Capt. J. E. Curtis: There is one important body of officers overlooked, and that is the representatives of the provinces. We cannot overlook the fact that the whole of the Masonic body is not confined within the limits of the City of London, or within the limits of those who are constantly in the habit of attending Grand Lodge. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) I beg, therefore, to propose that Provincial Grand Masters be added to the committee, and to report to Grand Lodge at next meeting.

The amendment having been seconded,

Bro. McIntyre said that for his own part he should have gone still further and added the Deputy Provincial Grand Masters. He thought provincial brethren deserved as much to be represented as the London brethren. (Great cheering.) Perhaps Bro. Simpson would accept the suggestion.

Bro. Simpson: M.W.G.M., I accept the proposition.

The motion was then put and carried unanimously amidst vociferous cheering, and Grand Lodge was closed in due form and adjourned.

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

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

STAR LODGE (No. 1275).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Ship Hotel, Greenwich, on Friday, 1st inst. Bro. J. F. Limebeer, W.M., opened the lodge. The minutes of the meeting held in June were read and unanimously confirmed. The report of the Audit Committee was received and adopted. It showed, as usual, that a large sum was in hand. The ballot was unanimous in favour of the admission of Mr. Leonard Van Boolean. The W.M. raised Bros. J. Turnbull and C. Bibra to the Third Degree. He installed Bro. H. J. Green, S.W. and W.M. elect, as W.M., the addresses being given by Bro. Joseph Smith, P.G.P., P.M. and Treas. The officers appointed are Bros. R. W. Williams, S.W.; C. W. Williams, J.W.; the Rev. G. R. P. Colles, Chaplain (reinvested fourth time); J. Smith, P.G.P., P.M. (the father of the lodge), Treas. (reinvested for seventh time); F. Walters, P.G.J.D. Middx, P.M., Sec. (reinvested for eighth time); W. B. Woodman (W.M. 1559), S.D.; W. Kipps, J.D.; E. W. Chetwynd, I.G.; A. Tisley, D.C.; S. Marketis, Steward; J. Gilbert, P.G. Tyler Middx, Tyler (reinvested eighth time). Bro. H. J. Green (P.M. 1538), the W.M., initiated Mr. Leonard Van Boolean into Freemasonry. All the work was well done. Bro. L. Van Boolean proposed his father, Bro. Mark Van Boolean (late of the Mount Lebanon Lodge, Massts., U.S.A.), as a joining member. Bro. M. Van Boolean is a Mason of 40 years' standing. It is always pleasurable to see fathers present when their sons are initiated into Freemasonry. Some candidates were proposed for initiation. The lodge was closed, and adjourned until Friday, Dec. 1st, at four p.m. Banquet followed. The usual toasts were given. Bro. J. J. Sinclair, I.P.M., had a Past Master's jewel of the usual value given to him. The musical arrangements were under Bro. W. Kipps, J.D., Organist to several lodges, and his successful efforts to please were well appreciated. There were present besides those named Bros. W. Ough, P.G.P., P.M.; E. J. Hogg, P.G.S., P.M.; H. Keeble, P.M.; W. E. Williams, W.M. 1538; J. S. Leaper, T. Gilloch, C. Marr, C. H. Dye, W. P. Tong, E. Searle, L. H. Williams, and others. Amongst a large number of visitors we noticed Bros. E. W. Hubbuck, P.G.S., P.M., &c.; J. G. Marsh, P.P.G.P. Middx, P.M.; F. R. Vine, P.M. 173; G. T. Fox, P.M. 73; T. Schmidt, P.M. 127; C. G. Rushworth, W.M. 1309; C. F. Poupard, W.M. 1446; W. Hilton, P.M. 780; E. W. Wise, P.M. 1158; T. Parker, P.M. 34; F. B. Williams, P.M. 780; C. W. Wise, P.M. 1158; T. Parker, P.M. 34; F. W. Williams, I.G. 162; T. Sutton, 102; W. Gibbs, 1538; F. Lewis, 188; H. M. Thomas, S.D. 134; J. Burford, 173; and several others whose names we were unable to ascertain.

PUNJAB.—The Ravee Lodge (No. 1215, E.C.)—This lodge held its usual monthly meeting on Monday, the 17th July, at the Masonic Hall, Lahore. Present: Bros. Warmington, W.M., D.G.P.; Chetham, I.P.M., Treas., D.G. Treas.; G. Davies, P.M., D.G. Sec.; Bull, S.W., P.D.G.P.; Donaghey, J.W., D.G. Stwd.; J. Davies, Sec.; Masson, S.D.; Jackson, J.D.; Rosamond, I.G., D.G. Stwd.; Reed, Tyler; Jessawalla, P.D.G.P.; Siddie, Gillon, and Pace. Visitors: Bros. Charde, 1394; Porter, 1483; Lemarchand, 1485; and Byramjee Ruttomjee. Lodge was opened at 8 p.m., and minutes of the June meeting confirmed. The report of the Permanent Committee was received and carried. Ballot was taken for initiation of Dr. Brij Lall Ghose, of the Mayo Hospital, which proving clear he was admitted into the mysteries of ancient Freemasonry by the W.M., the obligation being taken on those extracts from the "Veddas" which are in accordance with the tenets of the Brahma-Soomaj, the candidate being one of the elders of that body. The lecture was given by the Junior, and the charge by the Senior Warden. Bros. Hurst and Byramjee Ruttomjee were admitted as joining members. The W.M. requested the Secretary to read the resolution anent the I.P.M.'s photograph and jewel, carried at the January meeting, which having been done, the W.M. called the attention of the brethren to the result of Wor. Bro. Chetham's compliance with the first paragraph just read, which hung on the south wall, and congratulated them on having obtained so true a portrait to add to the Past Masters of Ravee. It now remained his pleasing duty on their behalf to carry out the other part of the resolution, and considered it one of the most agreeable duties he has yet been called upon to perform. He highly complimented Bro. Chetham in having been successful in obtaining the approval of the whole lodge while in the E. chair. Placing the jewel on the I.P.M.'s breast, the W.M. trusted he would look upon it as a slight acknowledgment of the good faith and ability he had shown whilst Master, and as an outward visible sign of that inward feeling of regard and esteem with which his name would ever be held in Ravee. Bro. Chetham, as the hour was somewhat advanced, said he would now only record his most sincere thanks, but should thank them more fully later in the evening. Bro. Brij Lall Ghose having given notice of his desire to be passed to the Second Degree at the next meeting, if found proficient, lodge was closed in P.H. and B.L. at 9.45 p.m. The brethren then adjourned to refreshment (not unneeded, considering the thermometer had been standing over 90° throughout the evening), and on the removal of the cloth the several toasts of obligation were given and duly honoured. The W.M. then proposed "The Health of the I.P.M., Bro. Chetham," in the warmest and most appreciative manner. The toast was received with a heartiness that showed the sentiments ex-

pressed found an echo in the feelings of every brother present. Bro. Chetham said: W. Sirs and Brethren,—In rising to return thanks for the toast which you have just drank, I must confess I did not anticipate such an ovation as you have been pleased to accord, and it is therefore the more welcome to me. When at the close of 1874 you did me the honour to elect me as your W.M. for the year 1875, I resolved to use my best endeavours to carry on the duties of the high and responsible office of the E.C. to the satisfaction of the lodge, and to do all in my power to maintain the high reputation which our lodge had attained under the respective Hiram's of our several predecessors, and you can imagine how pleased I was when Wor. Bro. Warmington, shortly after assuming the chair as my successor, intimated to me that the lodge had unanimously voted me a Past Master's jewel, and my photo for the lodge, for this action on your part was an assurance to me that my services as a ruler in the Craft had met with your approbation. And now, Worshipful Sirs and brethren, I have only to thank you most heartily for the very handsome jewel just presented to me, and which you see on my left breast; and I need hardly add that I am proud to wear it, and it will ever (if such a thing be necessary) remind me of Ravee, my mother lodge, and its many members with whom I have been for so many years so happily associated; and before I end, brethren, I must not forget to thank you for the kind manner in which you responded to the toast of my health, and more especially Bro. Warmington, for the eulogistic terms in which my health has been proposed. "The Health of the Initiate" followed, the W.M. expressing his pleasure in being able to welcome among them so distinguished a member of social reform and the medical profession. In reply, the doctor, in a few words, thanked the lodge for the honour done in admitting him a member, and trusted he should prove a Mason worthy of their choice, by regulating his course of life in accordance with the beautiful precepts he that night had given him. The toast of "The Visitors," given by the W.M., was responded to by Bros. Rosamond and Charde. "The Health of the W.M. and Officers" was drunk. The evening closed with the Tyler's toast and the chorus, Happy to meet, sorry to part, happy to meet again—again; oh! happy to meet again.

INSTRUCTION.

LEWIS LODGE OF INSTRUCTION (No. 1185).—This new and rapidly increasing Lodge of Instruction has been enabled (in spite of removals and members visiting the sea-side) to hold on its way and add to its numbers. On each night of meeting there has been a good attendance of brethren. On the 12th ult. Bro. Turner, Worshipful Master elect of the mother lodge, presided, and on the 9th inst. Bro. Thomas Goodfellow, of the Domestic, 177, occupied the chair. In each case it was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously, that a vote of thanks be presented to the Worshipful Master for the very efficient manner in which he had presided, and that the same be recorded on the minutes. Bro. J. W. Berrie occupied the chair on the 16th ult., and worked the Second Degree, Bro. Samuel Johnson acting as candidate. The last named brother has made great proficiency under the able preceptorship of Bro. Thomas Vesper, P.M., whose energy and zeal in pushing young men forward is worthy of the highest praise. Bro. Thomas Goodfellow having presented the Lewis Lodge of Instruction with a very handsome box of working tools (which were his own workmanship), it was proposed by Bro. J. W. Berrie, W.M., seconded by Bro. Samuel Johnson, and carried unanimously, that a vote of thanks be presented to him, and recorded on the minutes, for the handsome present he had made the lodge; it was also remarked that Bro. Thomas Goodfellow was calculated to make a very useful working member of the Craft. Bros. Tayler and Bone (promising officers of the mother lodge) were unanimously elected joining members of this Lodge of Instruction, and it was mutually regretted that they lived too far away to be constant attendants. On the 23rd ult. there was a very small attendance, there being only six present, but Bro. John Walker, of the Egyptian Lodge, No. 27, and Bro. H. B. Dunn, of the Sincerity, 174, and Finsbury Park, 1288, making their appearance casually, Bro. J. Walker was unanimously requested to take the chair, which he did, and in a most efficient manner performed the duties which devolved upon him to the entire satisfaction of the brethren present. This was testified by a vote of thanks, which was recorded on the minutes of the lodge. A notice was given by Bro. George Newman that on the next assembling he should move that the night of meeting of this Lodge of Instruction be changed from Wednesday to Thursday, so that it should not clash with that of the Finsbury Park Lodge of Instruction, and the brethren of the north of London might be enabled to support this Lodge of Instruction, which is the most northerly now

Mark Masonry

ST. MARK'S LODGE (No. 1).—The September meeting of the above lodge was held on Tuesday, the 29th ult., at the Masons' Hall Tavern, Bro. the Rev. P. H. Ernest Brette, B.D. Grand Chaplain, in the chair, supported by Bros. Charles Horsley, J.W., W.M. elect; H. C. Levander, H. A. Dubois, Stephens, Simmons, Cubitt, Wilkins, W. T. Howe, George Newman, Newton, E. Thiellay, and George Kenning. Visitor: Bro. Smith, 52. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. H. C. Levander, then installed Bro. Charles Horsley as W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. Horsley appointed and invested his officers. The Treasurer read the report of the Audit Committee. The lodge being closed the brethren retired to dinner. The usual toasts being ably proposed by the W.M., and responded to in a most enthusiastic manner. A valuable gold jewel was

presented to Bro. Rev. P. H. E. Brette for his valuable services to the lodge. Bro. Brette replied in a very able and feeling speech. A jewel was also presented to Bro George Kenning for services rendered to the lodge.

Ancient and Accepted Rite.

TRURO.—Cornwall Rose Croix Chapter.
—This chapter met at Truro on Tuesday week, and being the first Masonic assembly of any kind in the town since the decease of Bro. Solomon, P.M., &c. (who was a member of the chapter), the M.W.S. in the chair, Sir Frederick Martin Williams, Bart., M.P., 33°, very feelingly referred to the loss which Freemasonry had sustained in the death of their sincerely lamented friend and brother. To know Brother Solomon was to respect him, and his name was quite a "household word" in the province. His accurate tastes and opinions were sought after from all parts, for he was a man of no ordinary ability, and his judgment was especially sound and reliable. Had the funeral partaken of a Masonic character he would certainly have attended, without regard to his personal convenience, and so would some hundreds of brethren also, who would have been ready to shew their respect for the deceased by accompanying his remains to their "earthly resting place." In the absence of Colonel Peard, the M.W.S., he moved the following resolution, which on being seconded by Bro. Hughan, 30°, P.M.W.S., &c., was unanimously carried by the various representatives of the Province who were present:—"That it is with heartfelt sorrow that the Cornwall Rose Croix Chapter, Truro, receives the announcement of the decease of the Worshipful Bro. Thomas Solomon, J.P., P. Prov. S.G.W. of Cornwall, whose long and faithful attachment to the Craft ended only with his life. The members of the chapter, in the death of their distinguished brother, are called upon to mourn the loss of a man of uprightness and integrity, of more than ordinary ability, and a most useful citizen; whose firm affections for the fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, steadfast adherence to its teachings and principles, and the dignity and fidelity with which he filled the high offices and discharged the important trusts committed to him deserve the most honourable mention and a lasting record." The minutes were read by Bro. Charles Truscott, 30°, who is a model Recorder, to whom the chapter is much indebted for its success. Three candidates were perfected by Bro. Sir F. M. Williams, Bart., M.P., 33° (who has never missed a meeting since the Chapter was formed) assisted by the well-known Bro. Hughan, the "friend in need" of the chapter. The attendance was fair, and amongst the members were Bros. E. D. Anderton, Second General; Rev. W. H. Bloxome, M.A.; William Lake, D.C.; Rev. George Ross, M.A. (who had come many miles to be present; and W. Grey and T. J. Smith. The members passed a resolution to refrain from "perfecting" any candidates at the next meeting, as they hoped Bro. Hughan would favour them with a history of the Ancient and Accepted Rite for the information of all concerned, and especially for the instruction of the newly-admitted brethren.

Red Cross of Constantine.

ORIGINAL OR PREMIER CONCLAVE OF ENGLAND.—The September meeting of the above conclave was held on Monday, 4th inst., at the Cafe Royal, Regent-street, V.E. Sir Knt. Henry A. Dubois, G.A., Most Puissant Sovereign, Treasurer, in the chair, supported by Sir Knts. Rev. Phillip H. Ernest Brette, Joshua Nunn, P. M. Holden, H. C. Levander, R. Wentworth Little, Colonel Peters, E. H. Thellay, W. H. Hubbard, George Kenning, J. Mason, J. G. Marsh, H. H. Shirley, and others. Visitor: Sir Knt. Smith. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Sir Knt. Little informed the conclave of the very kind and hearty welcome accorded to the deputation from the Premier Conclave by the Edinburgh Conclave, No. 1, on the occasion of the enthronement of Sir Knt. Col. Burdett in Edinburgh on the 21st ult. Sir Knt. Little proposed, and Sir Knt. Levander seconded, that Sir Knts. Ramsey, Tracey, Mercer, and Brown, all of the Edinburgh Conclave, No. 1, should be elected honorary members of the Premier Conclave, No. 1, which on being put to the meeting was carried with acclamation.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF DEVON.

The annual Provincial Grand Lodge of Freemasons of Devon was held on Thursday, the 31st ult., at Southmolton, the Right Worshipful the Rev. John Huyshe, M.A., P.G.C., Provincial Grand Master, presiding. There was a very large gathering of brethren, the Three Towns being largely represented. The following Prov. Grand Officers were present:—L. P. Metham, P.G.D., D.P.G.M.; W. G. Rogers, P.G. Sec.; Rev. W. Whitley, G. Chap.; W. S. Pasmore, G. Treas.; H. H. Haycock, S.G.D.; S. Willoughby, G.S.B.; D. Attwood, G. Purst.; S. Jones, P.P.S.G.D.; V. Bird, P.P.G.T.; J. Brown, P.P.G.P.; H. M. Body, P.G.S.; J. Gould, P.G.D.C.; H. C. Diston, P.G.C.; J. Wood, P.P.A.G.D.C.; Rev. T. W. Lemon, P.P.G.C.; S. B. Colston, P.G.S.; S. Chapple, P.P.A.G.D.C.; J. Edwards, P.P.G.O.; C. Leigh, P.P.G. Sec.; T. B. Harvey, P.P.G.D.C.; J. B. Gover, P.P.C.D.C.; F. H. Woodforde, P.P.S.G.W. Somerset; J. Mills, P.P.G.O.; P. D. Michelmore, P.G.S.; W. H. Elphinstone, P.P.J.G.W.; J. G. Shanks, P.P.J.G.W.; J. Harper, G.G.S.; J. Tanner-Davey, P.S.G.W.; W. Cole, P.P.G.P.; J. Way, P.P.G. Tyler; D. Attwood, P.G.P.; W. R. Woodman, P.G.S.B. England; J. Edwards, P.P.G.O.; Rev. T. Russell, P.P.G.; C. Oxon, P.P.J.G.W.; C. J. Harland, P.P.J.G.D.; W. H. Barker, P.G.R.; J. Dand, P.P.G.S.B.; W. Oram, P.P.G.D.C.; B. Stark, P.P.G.O.;

J. H. Tonkin, P.G.S.; J. M. Hifley, P.P.G.A.D.C.; L. E. Westcott, P.P.G.S. Wks.; W. Browning, P.P.G.D.C. There were also present Immediate Past Masters R. G. Bird, Sec. 1550; J. Rendle, Sec. 1247; J. G. Johnson, 1402; T. Higgs, 106; J. Murch, 1099; W. E. Warren, 1358; Past Masters T. Goodall, 954; E. Roseveare, 1099; J. May, 223 and 159; D. Watson, 328; S. Loram, 1443; W. Knott, 372; G. T. Barry, 248; F. J. Pratt, 1396; W. T. Pilditch, 156; J. J. Drake, 1396; J. Hill, 251; J. Hancock, 251; C. Godtschalk, 1255; J. T. Shapland, 421; W. H. Gillman, 1099; H. Woodgate, 847; A. Lethbridge, 159; J. T. Widgery, 421; J. A. Kingdon, Treas. 421; J. F. Long, 59; J. E. Curteis, 189; R. B. Twose, 105 and 155c; R. Lake, 1135; W. J. List, 251; W. Britton, 251; T. Ebsworthy 251; R. H. Watson, 710; W. H. Brewer, 251; E. Furse, 421; W. F. Quicke, 49; G. Evans, 1181; A. Thomson, 39; W. Manning, 421; W. Haynes, 106; G. F. England, 1332; J. Orchard, 161; J. P. Phillips, 223; J. Baxter, 954; H. Cole, 1091; Worshipful Masters: J. L. Towner, 272; E. Hawke, 159; W. H. Terrell, 202; E. Tozer, 112; J. Gould, 1099; B. Barber, 1254; G. S. Richardson, 1212; S. G. Hearle; 1255; J. C. Fly, 1247; F. Day, 241; H. Stork, 1396; C. Edmunds, 444; W. H. Thomas, 70; J. Pigott, 328; W. E. Williams, 1125; D. Box, 156; J. H. Toms, 1091; J. Rowe, 1332; J. B. Royers, 1550; W. Harries, 1205. Senior Wardens: J. W. Avery, 156; J. H. Stephens, 159; H. Bailey, 202; H. Sharland, 1125; J. G. Bickle, 1212; W. S. Walter, 1099; W. H. Rickard, 954; W. Boyle, 251; J. Woodman, 444. Junior Wardens: T. Gibbons, 1205; J. Andrews, 159; R. Marshall, 202; J. Read, 847; H. H. Arnold, 1009; J. R. Dugdale, 954; R. P. Morrison, 251; B. J. Fisher, 444; J. Stocker, 39; W. G. Lacey, 106; W. Header, 105.

The lodge having been opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous lodge meetings having been read and confirmed, the Secretary, Bro. Rogers, P.P.G.S.W., read the report, which showed that there are forty-six lodges in Devon, with 2350 members. The report was very favourable, inasmuch as the whole of the lodges had made their annual returns, and £268 6s. 6d. had been received from these lodges.—The Treasurer, Bro. Pasmore, read the financial report, which showed the receipts for the year to be £473 14s. 1d. Out of the money received £52 10s. 0d. had been given to the Devon and Exeter Hospital, £105 5s. 0d. to the Fortescue Annuity Fund, £26 5s. 0d. to the Masonic Boys' School, and 10 other gifts to relatives of deserving brethren, £61 0s. 0d. These amounts, with sundry expenses in working the province, left a balance of £170 14s. 3d. in the hands of the Treasurer. The Fortescue Annuity Fund showed that £256 4s. 11d. had been received, and £262 2s. 5d. expended, leaving a balance due to the Treasurer of £5 17s. 6d.

Bro. Gover read the report of the Committee of Petitions, which presented the most favourable aspect yet shown.

Bro. J. E. Curteis proposed, and Bro. Godtschalk seconded a proposition that £100 should be given to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Fund. This was carried unanimously.

The following officers were appointed and invested for the following year:—

- J. E. Curteis, 189 P.G.S.W.
- J. Harper, 251 P.G.J.W.
- Rev. H. Lansdale, 421 P.G. Chap.
- Rev. Noel Plate P.G. Chap.
- J. J. Avery, 1550 P.G. Treas.
- F. Day, 421 P.G. Reg.
- W. G. Rogers, 112 P.G. Sec.
- H. M. Body, 1332 P.G.S.D.
- C. Godtschalk, 1255 P.G.J.D.
- S. B. Colston, 248 P.G.S. Wks.
- J. A. Orchard, 164 P.G.D.C.
- J. H. Tonkin, 282 P.G.A.D.C.
- P. D. Michelmore, 1138 P.G.S.B.
- W. Quicke, 39 P.G.O.
- W. Haynes, 106 P.G. Pur.

STEWARDS: D. Watson, 328; G. Evans, 1181; F. J. Pratt, 1396; J. T. Goodridge, 1358; J. P. Phillips, 223; C. Stribling, 70; J. May, 159.

At the request of the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Metham delivered a very impressive oration to the brethren, which, we hope, will soon be printed and distributed in all the lodges of Devon.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF THE NORTH AND EAST RIDINGS OF YORKSHIRE.

A Provincial Grand Lodge was held by special appointment, in the Central Hall, Redcar, on the invitation of the Marwood Lodge, No. 1244, on Wednesday, the 2nd day of August, 1876. There were present the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, R.W. Provincial Grand Master, on the Throne; W. Bro. John Pearson Bell, Esq., M.D., J.P., Past Grand Deacon of England, 57, Deputy Provincial Grand Master; the Present Provincial Grand Officers many Past Provincial Grand Officers, the Worshipful Masters, Past Masters, and Wardens, of the various lodges in the province, and others.

The Provincial Grand Lodge having been opened in due form, and with solemn prayer, the Prov. Grand Secretary read the minutes of the last Provincial Grand Lodge, held at Hull, on the 6th October, 1875, which were confirmed.

Letters of apology for absence were received from W. Bro. Sir James Meek, P.P.S.G.W.; W. H. Porritt, P.J.G.W.; H. O. Piercy, P.P.J.G.W.; J. H. Handyside P.J.P.G.W.; J. Brooke, J.P.G.D.; and E. Mason P.J.P.G.D.

The Prov. Grand Secretary then read the report of the

Board of Benevolence, showing that the board had that day voted the sum of £10 to Bro. Thos. Shaw, of the Old Globe Lodge, No. 200. The report was unanimously confirmed.

The Prov. Grand Treasurer read his annual balance sheet, which, having been audited by the W. Masters of the Humber and Lennox Lodges and found correct, was unanimously adopted.

The W. Deputy Prov. Grand Master then, in accordance with notice given, moved: "That this Provincial Grand Lodge, with the view of affording increased and continuous support to the Masonic Charitable Institutions, strongly recommends, that every member of the Craft in this province do voluntarily agree to subscribe for that purpose the sum of sixpence per quarter. Such sum to be charged in, and paid with, his usual quarterly payments to the Secretary of the lodge to which he may belong, and to be used for the benefit of such of the central Masonic charities as the majority of the members of his lodge may, from time to time, determine." The resolution was seconded by W. Bro. J. W. Woodall, P.S.P.G.W. A long discussion followed, in which the Prov. Grand Secretary, W. Bro. Bro. Balmford, P.P.G.O., Dr. Walton, P.P.G.S.B., J. B. Thompson, P.M. 1244, P.P.G. Reg., Durham, and J. Thompson, P.G.S.B. Charity Representative, took part. The motion was carried unanimously.

The W. Prov. Grand Treasurer then, in accordance with notice given, moved: "That the best thanks of this Provincial Grand Lodge be tendered to the Investigation Committee, appointed by the Prov. Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire, for their excellent report on the financial condition and state of tuition in the Boys' School; and this Provincial Grand Lodge expresses a hope that their exertions will be continued." The Prov. Grand Treasurer disclaimed any intention of attacking Bro. Binckes, whom he believed to be a thoroughly efficient and valuable officer. The bad management complained of was the result of the negligence of the House Committee, who were quite incompetent to conduct the affairs of the school, &c. He then read a number of extracts from the published reports of the institution to establish the statements made in the report of the West Yorkshire Committee. The motion was seconded by W. Bro. Balmford, P.P.G.O., supported by W. Bro. Dr. Pyburn, P.M. 1010, and carried. The Prov. Grand Secretary was requested to notify the resolution to the Investigation Committee.

The various lodges in the province, all of which were represented, then communicated. The returns showed the total of 1599 subscribing members.

The R.W. Provincial Grand Master then appointed and invested the following brethren as Provincial Grand Officers for the ensuing year, (with the exception of the Prov. Grand Treasurer, who was re-elected by the Provincial Grand Lodge:—

- Hon. W. T. Orde Powlett, W.M. 123 Prov. S.G.W.
- William Waller, P.M. 1244 Prov. J.G.W.
- Rev. Wm. Buswell, M.A. 1244 Prov. G. Chaplain.
- James Pyburn, M.D., P.M. 1010 Prov. G. Reg.
- Michael Charles Peck, P.M. 1040 ... Prov. G. Sec.
- John Sutherst, W.M. 561 Prov. S.G.D.
- Henry Preston, P.M. 57 Prov. J.G.D.
- Thomas N. Marwood, P.M. 312 Prov. G.S. of Wks.
- Richard Geo. Smith, P.M. 734 Prov. G. D. of Cer.
- James S. Moss, W.M. 312 Prov. G. Swd.Br.
- Charles H. Hunt, 250 Prov. G. Org.
- John Ward, 236 Prov. G. Purst.
- Thomas Crier, 57 Prov. G. Tyler.

Six Provincial Grand Stewards to be nominated by the Royal, Camalodunum, Londesborough, Kingston, Sykes, and Marwood Lodges.

The R.W. Provincial Grand Master then addressed the Provincial Grand Lodge, congratulating the province upon its prosperity and unanimity. He remarked with pleasure the great increase of the Craft in the Province: last year they had 1570 subscribing members, this year would doubtless exhibit a large accession of numbers, as warrants had been issued for the formation of three new lodges—the Handyside, No. 1618, at Saltburn, which would be constituted August 3rd, the Eboracum, No. 1611, at York, on the 7th inst., and the De la Pole, No. 1605, at Hull, on the 5th October. His lordship observed that he intended to constitute the two first-named personally, and invited the attendance of all then present. The R.W. Prov. Grand Master also stated that having received an invitation from the Lennox Lodge, he purposed holding the Provincial Grand Lodge next year at Richmond, when he trusted to be favoured with the company of a large assembly of the Craft.

The R.W. Provincial Grand Master then proposed a vote of thanks to the brethren of the Marwood Lodge, and especially to Bro. Waller, the I.P.M., for their excellent arrangements for the accommodation of Provincial Grand Lodge, which was seconded by the W. Dep. Prov. Grand Master, and suitably acknowledged by Bro. Waller, P.J.G. Warden.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed in due form, and with solemn prayer.

A banquet, at which the R.W. Provincial Grand Master presided, was subsequently held at the Coatham Hotel when a very large number of brethren dined. Due honours to the Craft were observed, and a most enjoyable evening was passed.

The installation meeting of the Panmure Mark Lodge was held on Monday last, at the Balham Hotel, Balham, when Bro. Daniel Trusler was installed W.M. by Bro. Thomas Poore. A full report will appear in our next.

The foundation stone of the New Poor House and Lunatic Asylum, Greenock, and the New Harbour, Ayr, will be laid with Masonic honours by Bro. Sir Michael R. Shaw Stewart, Bart, Most Worshipful Grand Master Mason of Scotland. The former on the 12th inst., and the latter on the 19th inst.

MASONIC ARCHÆOLOGY.

The study of Masonic Archæology is one of the most interesting of pursuits. For in one sense it is still a "terra incognita" to most of us. The school of earlier Masonic students and writers which began with Anderson and closed with Oliver had their merits no doubt, but hardly come up to our ideal of what is requisite for the real unravelling of the twisted skeins of Masonic Archæology to-day. They were a little too hasty in induction and too easy in acceptance. They did not sufficiently dig and delve beneath the surface. They accepted *ex parte* statements, and listened too credulously to the traditional authority of the past. That is to say, they did not analyze or sift the conflicting legends of the Order, they did not subject to the crucial test of careful criticism statements and authorities they found, ready made to their hands. Anderson, and Preston, and Hutchinson were all writers of great merit and industry, and though Anderson and Preston accepted the Legend of the Guilds, they did so rather on the authority of the Guild tradition and Operative constitution than on that of any other explanation of their history. Hence their abiding value to us. They clearly knew of no knightly origin of Freemasonry, no hermetic grades. At least if they did, they are singularly silent on the subject. If Hermetic Masonry existed in their time it seems odd that they did not allude to it, and we are inclined to think that if evidence can be adduced of the actuality of Hermetic Masonry in 1721, for instance, it will rest on that Rosicrucian use of Masonry which has at times largely marked, more or less, the descendants of Rosencrantz. But the history of the guilds is after all, as our oldest writer puts it, the history of Freemasonry. Oliver who leant to that theory during the greater portion of his literary labours, in his old age became a quasi convert to the High Grade and Hermetic theory, and appeared to question the antiquity of Craft Masonry. Later studies and more recent students have, however, made it pretty plain, that at the present moment, three main views occupy the minds of Masonic students, though they actually are somewhat antagonistic to each other. The one is the pure guild theory, which goes back from the revival of 1717, to mediæval and early guilds, to Saxon guilds and Roman guilds, and then link on Freemasonry with Hebrew and Phœnician Sodalities, with Greek and Egyptian associations, and to some extent with the mysteries. Then there is the view of Lessing and others, including Nicholai, that our Freemasonry, is, so to say, Bateman, or Ashmolean, the product of an Hermetic Society, but absolutely separate from the operative Orders, and whose great era is the revival of 1717. Then there is the theory of Buchan and others, that Freemasonry is only the adaptation and revival of operative usages, and that its origin as a purely speculative Order dates only from 1717. There is a school of Masonic writers, which seems still to cling to an Hermetic origin, to that view partially adopted by some German writers, that there was an Hermetic Society, from which Masonry has come down to us, and that the true solution of Masonic history is, after all, to be found in the High Grades. We think we may dismiss from our consideration the knightly theory of the Chevalier Ramsay, as we are not aware that we have any writer now, English or foreign, who really believes in Templarism, as the explanation of Freemasonry. What the connection of the Templars with Freemasonry, if any, was, has got yet to be shown. We confess that we still hold that there was a connection, though, such as it was, in our opinion, it came from the Guilds to the Templars, not from the Templars to the Guilds. The idea once entertained that the Templars brought back Freemasonry from the secret sodalities of the East, we believe to be historically untenable, and opposed to the actual feelings and relations of those days. We see then what a field is opened out to the Masonic archæological student, how wide, how diversified, how interesting in itself, and though people like to laugh at "Dry-as-dusts," and criticize the discussions of antiquaries, and even doubt the value of such studies, we

feel sure that they are both innocent and elevating, useful and commendable. We all of us like to know the true history of what concerns us, at least if we are thinking, not merely ruminating, animals, and the history of Freemasonry has a peculiar charm for the Masonic student, inasmuch as it appears to him to be the history of an universal Order, takes him back through the lapse of ages, to link him on to mighty epochs, and wonderful centuries of the past, and to bring him into contact, so to say, with the actual progress of civilization, and the arts, of all that dignifies, all that lightens up the life and the struggles of man. The larger view of the pure guild history of Freemasonry naturally takes us back straight away to the past; our evidences are to be sought in the muniment rooms of the great, and the collections of cathedral chapters, in the archives of the British Museum, and in extant, but so far unknown and unedited MSS. What an amount of information may yet be lying, for instance, unknown of in those many hundred rolls, containing returns from the various guilds tempore Richard 2nd, of which Toulmin Smith has printed only a few, but those making us longing to see all printed. In respect of the guild theory, there is no limit to the amount of evidence yet to be unearthed and brought forward, as the patient enquirer turns up one old MS. after another, from some dusty corner, some long neglected receptacle, and the hidden evidence of years long since dead and gone, speaks to us in its simplicity and clearness, with irresistible power. And this work is yet in its infancy, remember. So far, for instance, the fabric rolls and expense rolls of only some half-dozen of our cathedrals have been brought out for publication, and even the Tanner MSS., in the Bodleian, which contain the expenses of St. Paul's, under Sir Christopher Wren, are practically unknown. Still the documents exist, and are decipherable, and time and patience may yet give us a perfect insight into that guild life, which played such an important part in the domestic and national history of England for so many years, and did so much for the noblest of all arts, Architecture, both for the glory of God and the good of man. But here begins the real difficulty of our whole enquiry, the one "Crux," so to say, in all the studies of Masonic archæologists and all the treatises of Masonic historians. Given all this in, so says Objector, what do you gain? Well, we cannot give an answer to-day, as it would be all too long, but we propose in our subsequent papers to consider critically the three various views, or perhaps after all four views of Masonic history, and to note the difficulties attendant on each. Not one of them all is free from objection, and even all the results of Masonic archæology, however true and trusty, will, we fear, at the utmost and the best, be only after all a realization of what is possible and probable, not of what is absolutely true or incontestably proved.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

OXFORD LOCAL EXAMINATION, MAY, 1876.

At the last Oxford Local Examination three boys were successful in passing the senior examination, and obtained the title of "Associate in Art," viz., W. Beaumont, aged 16, August 26th 1876; R. Bryant, aged 16, January 27th, 1877; W. R. Parker, aged 16, February 4th, 1878.

These boys passed in honours the Junior Cambridge Local at Christmas, 1875. They, therefore, did not begin to prepare for the Oxford examination until after the Christmas holidays, and had less than four months to work up the special subjects. These same lads also passed some of the science and art examinations.

All three examinations came within the first nine months of Dr. Morris' appointment to the head mastership.

The Phœnix Lodge, No. 914, at Port Royal, Jamaica, which was established specially for naval and military brethren on the station, has completed a new convenient Masonic Hall. A warrant for the formation of a Royal Arch Chapter has also lately been granted to it. Masonry is flourishing on the Island.

We hear on good authority that the price paid by the proprietors of "Lloyd's Weekly News" for the "Daily Chronicle and Clerkenwell News" was over £30,000. The transaction was conducted through the agency of Mr. W. D. B. Johnson (C. Mitchell and Co.), of Red Lion Court, Fleet-street.

THE PRINCE OF WALES' VISIT TO GLASGOW.

The Lord Provost, in moving the adoption of the minutes of the magistrates' committee, said all present would be highly gratified at the fact that the Prince of Wales had consented to come to Glasgow, somewhere about the middle of October, to lay the foundation stone of the New Post Office. His lordship had found in several quarters that it was believed the work in hand was the mere adding of a wing to the old buildings, whereas, the fact was the whole structure was to be taken down, and an erection both ornamental and commodious built. (Applause.) The pillars in front would all be of polished granite, and he thought the Government were deserving of thanks for giving them such an elegant and useful Post Office, and in a style altogether which they could not get from any previous Government, however much they had fought for it. Regarding the Prince of Wales' visit he had the honour after the receipt of the correspondence contained in the minutes, to apply to his Royal Highness to ascertain if the Princess was to accompany him. He also wished to know if his Royal Highness desired to lay the foundation stone with Masonic honours, and suggested a review of the volunteers on the occasion, a proceeding which would gratify them very much. He offered in the event of the Prince remaining in Glasgow over the night to give up his house for his use. His lordship had since received in reply the following very gracious letter:—

"Marlborough House, Pall Mall, S.W.,
August 26, 1876.

"My Lord Provost,—Having laid your letter before the Prince of Wales, I am directed to acquaint you that the Princess of Wales will accompany His Royal Highness in his visit to Glasgow. (Loud applause.) In reply to your query, whether it would be agreeable to the Prince to have the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the new Post Office conducted with Masonic honours, His Royal Highness considers that it is not desirable that the usages of the Masonic Institution should as a rule form part of the public ceremony on an occasion like the present, and would prefer that they should not be part of the programme you have submitted. It is most agreeable at all times, the Prince bids me say, for His Royal Highness to meet the volunteers, whether in England or in Scotland, but the assemblage of any considerable portion of them for a review necessarily involves some arrangement and inconvenience. His Royal Highness will therefore forego the gratification which a review of the volunteer forces in Scotland would otherwise have afforded him. His Royal Highness greatly appreciates your kind offer of placing your house and servants at the disposal of the Princess and himself, and had their Royal Highnesses remained at Glasgow a second day they would have gladly availed themselves of it. I have the honour to remain, my Lord Provost, your very faithful servant,

(Signed) "W. KNOLLYS."

A Glasgow paper says:—"We understand the Lord Provost, feeling that the citizens would be greatly disappointed should the Prince of Wales visit the city to lay the foundation stone of the new Post Office without Masonic honours, and without reviewing the Volunteer force, communicated with his Royal Highness on the subject, through Mr. Marwick, the Town Clerk. Mr. Marwick, and Mr. Carrick, the City Architect, had a personal interview with his Royal Highness at Abergeldie Castle, on Monday, the 4th inst., and made known the loyal desires of the citizens, and we are happy to state that the Prince has graciously expressed his willingness to lay the foundation stone with Masonic honours, and also to review the Volunteers on the occasion of his visit. His Royal Highness will be accompanied by the Princess of Wales, and several of the Royal children.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

On Monday, August 28th, the boys of the Royal Masonic School to the number of 175 went, by the kind invitation of Mr. T. B. Smithies, to his house at Earham Road, Wood Green, where they were regaled with a very substantial tea provided for them, under Mrs. and Miss Smithies' hospitable arrangements.

As the evening turned out very wet the boys had to be kept under cover of a very spacious tent until the hour for them to return. The time, however, did not pall on their hands, nor did they lack amusement. Mr. Smithies who knows how to tell a good tale to boys, told some capital stories, entertaining and instructing his youthful audience for more than an hour.

Mr. Smithies takes an interest in short-hand writing, and advised the elder boys to devote a little time to its study. As an encouragement, he offered to give two prizes to be competed for annually.

Dr. and Mrs. Morris, and daughters, were present, together with Mr. Jenkinson and Mr. Brocklehurst.

Mr. Smithies is not a Mason, but he most kindly invited Bro. Durrant (the W.M. of the Wood Green Lodge) and his wife to meet his young guests.

Three hearty cheers were given by the boys to their host before leaving.

WEST SMITHFIELD LODGE, No. 1623.—The consecration of this lodge will take place on Thursday next at the New Market Hotel, King-street, Snow Hill, at half-past two o'clock punctual. The ceremonies will be performed by V.W. Bro. John Hervey, Grand Secretary, the officer appointed by the M.W.G.M., assisted by the W. Bro. Col. Creton, P.G.D.; Bros. W. Ough, P.G.P.; H. Bro. Buss, P.M., P.G.J.W. Middx.; and the Rev. P.M. Holden, P.G.C. Middx. Joseph Smith, P.G.P.; T. W. Adams; and G. S. Elliott are the principal officers designate. The indefatigable Bro. Frederick Walters, P.G.J.D. Middx., P.M., &c., is the Secretary pro tem.

THE BULGARIAN ATROCITIES.

At a meeting to protest against the Turkish atrocities in Bulgaria, at Nottingham, Mr. Saul Isaac, M.P., one of the members for the borough, moved a resolution, and read the following letter from Mr. Bourke, Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs:—

Coaltown, Haddington, N.B., Aug. 27.

"My dear Sir,—I am not all surprised that your constituents should be shocked and indignant at the accounts which have recently reached England of the dreadful deeds which have been perpetrated in Bulgaria. You are aware that the Government have remonstrated in the strongest terms with the Porte upon the subject, and have told them that these events have had the effect of alienating the country from Turkey in a manner which may prove disastrous to the Ottoman Empire. For my own part I care not how serious the insurrection was, which was fomented by foreigners, or how sanguinary were the intentions and facts of the insurgent Christians. The carnage and devastation by which it was suppressed cannot be justified, and reflects shame upon the Government under which these events took place, and infamy upon the actors in the dreadful crimes which have been perpetrated. I believe that our Ambassador at Constantinople has never lost an opportunity of doing everything that diplomacy can do to arrest the bloodshed and to secure punishment for the guilty. But the Russian and Austrian Ambassadors, in common with Sir H. Elliott, were not informed of the atrocities which had taken place until the worst was over. You may be quite sure that the Prime Minister and Lord Derby feel as indignant at these events as any other two men in the country, and mean to act in accordance with those feelings; but heart-rending as the Bulgarian massacres have been, we must all recollect that English statesmen are not the rulers of Turkey, and cannot use physical force in the internal provinces of the Empire upon a few days' notice of the danger. The first duty of English statesmen is a regard for the interests of this country; but Turkey knows as well as you do that the Government of England will never support tyranny, oppression, or cruelty, wherever it may be found, and that, as the Queen of England treats her Mahomedan subjects with justice and mercy, we have a right to demand from the head of the Mahomedan faith similar treatment for the various Christian races who live in the territories of the Sultan.—Believe me, very faithfully yours, ROBERT BOURKE."

BUDGET OF THE COURT OF CHANCERY.—The accounts of the Paymaster-General of the Court of Chancery from the 1st of September, 1874, to the 31st of August, 1875, with the report of the Controller and Auditor General thereon, was a few days ago presented to Parliament. It is an exceedingly interesting document; from it we learn that the sums dealt with are enormous, and every year increasing. On the debtor side of the account we find £15,743,378 19s. 3d. as the amount of cash, and £71,508, 116 12s. 6d. the amount of the securities (exclusive of foreign currencies), or in round numbers over £87,000,000. On the creditor side a balance of £4,590,890 2s. 11d. cash, and £64,639,853 12s. 3d. securities (exclusive of foreign currencies), or about £69,000,000 in court on the 31st of August, 1875. It appears that the bulk (£46,732, 358 12s. 11d.) is invested in Consols, the remainder in Reduced Three per Cents., New Three per Cents., Bank stock, India stock, Metropolitan Consolidated stock, Exchequer Bills, preference stock, and debentures of the leading railway companies, &c. American securities amount to 437,876 dols. 4c. and Indian to 37,20,638r. 4a. A statement of the boxes and other miscellaneous effects remaining in the Bank of England to the account of the Paymaster-General contains among other curious items the following:—A box containing small articles of jewellery; three chests (date 1867); a box containing documents of title, jewels, trinkets, watches, and personal ornaments; foreign bonds and securities belonging to the estate of a person of unsound mind; five chests and one box containing plate and jewellery to a like account; a box (dated 1868), with diamond necklace, coronet, and earrings; a bag of clipped money, &c. (date August 1776); a debenture dated 1799; a box marked "Securities for legacies," two assignments of five tallies, &c. Next follow the accounts of the National Debt Commissioners as to funds transferred to them under the Court of Chancery Funds Act, 1872. It appears that the Commissioners have dealt with large sums of cash and stock belonging to the suitors, and that a balance of £1,286,110 13s. 7d. remains in hand. The report of the Controller and Auditor General contains some observations or suggestions adopted since the last account was presented, and proceeds to give some statistics. The number of causes, &c. (32,687), shows an increase of 860 over the preceding year; number of draughts paid 46,005, against 45,625 last year; number of transactions by the deposit account, 13,883, or 2,482 less than last year. This is accounted for by the limit being fixed at £10 instead of £3; amount of money on deposit, £1,073,284, as against £883,886—a considerable increase. The report concludes with some general observations and suggestions, from which it appears that the Controller has been in communication with the Chancery Paymaster as to dormant accounts, a list of which ought long since to have been published in pursuance of the Rules under the Court of Chancery Funds Act; the reason assigned for the delay in making this list public is that the current business of the office is so heavy.

A Special General Court of the Governors and subscribers of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls will be held this day (Saturday), at twelve o'clock precisely, at the Freemasons' Hall. Further particulars may be found in the advertisement which appears on the front page.

THE ANTIQUITY AND OBJECTS OF FREEMASONRY.

The tendency to venerate ancient institutions is doubtless one of the chief attractions of Masonry. It is not a plant of yesterday, but a tree whose mossy trunk and giant growth speak to us of past ages. Kings have participated in its ceremonies, and men greater than kings have adorned its annals. If, however, its only merit was age, its destiny would be decay. Age alone contains no principle of its morality, and if Masonry had nothing but its ancient origin to recommend it there would be no sound reason to expect that it would survive, much less that it would grow. There are talismanic words implied in its organization—"liberty, equality, fraternity"—terms grossly abused, but in the Order of Free and Accepted Masons full of real and practical significance; because one of its first lessons is resistance to despotism, both ecclesiastical and civil, and the instinctive antagonism between Masonry and ecclesiasticism is the most emphatic testimony to the spirit of personal liberty, which is one of the distinguishing traits of the Order. Equality, not by lowering, but by elevating to a common platform, where all meet on the level, with equal rights and duties, and equal claims to mutual respect, if faithful to the obligations voluntarily assumed. Fraternity, in whose bonds the most ancient and inveterate prejudices are melted in the solvent of brotherly intercourse, the heirs of the most ancient civilization join hands with the missionaries of the youngest civilization, and Hebrews and Gentiles, Celt and Saxon, men of the most diverse origin and nationality, meet in the interchange of kindly offices and furnish some evidence of the possibility of the attainment of a true brotherhood of man.

These are grand lessons, imperatively taught by its origin and history; but they are all. It teaches the force of associated action, the inestimable value of union in a good cause, the superiority of harmony over discord, and the power of combined benevolence. It furnishes, too, a noble and inspiring lesson of the worth and dignity of labour, because in the toil of Operative Masonry, which reared in the Middle Ages some of the grandest edifices ever conceived by human genius, and in the migrations of architects and builders from place to place, where such works to be executed, the Order of Free and Accepted Masons had its growth and development, if not its origin, and the whole spirit of its precepts and ceremonies is to exalt and dignify that intelligent labour which has adorned all civilized lands with monuments of its skill, only less majestic and enduring than the granite monuments reared in the beginning by the hand of the Great Architect and Father of all—devout reverence for whose being, and filial trust in whose Providence is taught from first to last in every stage and degree of progress in the mysteries of the Order.

Like all human institutions, while it has these and other uses, it is not absolutely free from abuse. Its obligations do not release a man from his duties of citizenship, if properly regarded. Nor can they conflict with those duties to any extent whatever. A judge on the bench deciding cases; a jury in the jury-box, sworn to look only at the law and at the evidence; a witness on the witness-stand sworn to tell the truth—the whole truth, and nothing but the truth; a voter, bound upon his honour and conscience to cast his ballot for the most worthy candidate for his suffrage—will find no embarrassment in the discharge of these high duties from any Masonic obligation; nor will any intelligent Mason, of any creed, find in Masonry a substitute for religious faith. It is only in its perversion that these things could ever be found. Its true spirit is to incite to greater fidelity in the discharge of every duty—religious, political and social—and thereby to aid in establishing upon more lasting foundations that noble edifice of civil and religious liberty, reared by the toil and sacrifices of our father and which it devolves upon us to preserve and transmit to posterity.—Ex. Gov. Haight, Cal.

DEPOPULATION OF FRANCE.—A correspondent in "L'Explorateur" calls attention to some remarkable results of the slow rate of increase of the population of France. He refers to the statement of the Roman Catholic Bishop of Wellington, New Zealand, that British emigration to that colony is at present going on at the rate of at least 30,000 yearly, and to the fact that the population of the colony is now 300,000, exclusive of Maories. Had New Zealand been a French colony, as at one time it was nearly becoming, the European population would probably have been counted by hundreds instead of thousands. In support of his statement the writer refers to the Marquesas, to Mayotte with its admirable roadstead, to Nossi Bé, the gateway to Madagascar, and other French possessions. It has already become a question whether these islands, of which France took possession about 1840, must not be abandoned. The native population is becoming extinct, and no Frenchmen can be induced permanently to settle. "Our flag," the writer states, "will shelter only solitudes. This impotency of our race shows itself daily in many ways. We are stationary, while all surrounding nations are spreading themselves out and adding to their territory. Thus, it has been calculated, on the basis of the proportion of births and deaths, in what time the various European countries double their population, and the following is the result:—Norway, 51 years; Austria, 62; England, 63; Denmark, 73; Sweden, 89; Germany, 98; and France, 334 years! Moreover, this last figure, humiliating as it is, places us in a somewhat better light than we really deserve, for France receives yearly a certain number of immigrants, who, attracted by the pleasant climate and agreeable manners of the people, settle among us and become in time French families; they escape, as far as they can, at least, from the law which otherwise

prevails. It is, then, by the number of French youths to whom this law applies that we are able to form an estimate of the really national population. The following are the numbers of Frenchmen who in recent years have reached the age of 20 years—In 1873, 303,810; in 1874, 296,204; in 1875, 283,768; in 1876 the number does not exceed 277,000. If our race is becoming degenerate and extinct, how can it stock the colonies? It is sought to explain this decrease by asserting that the years just mentioned correspond, so far as births are concerned, to the epoch of the Crimean War. Would to God it were so; but are the French in the habit of marrying at the age of twenty years? French journals insist sometimes, perhaps, more than is justifiable, on the emigration of the German population to escape the military régime to which the country is condemned. The fact is certain; but what is not less certain is that the population of the German Empire does not suffer any diminution. It is then an excess which goes off like a swarm of bees, and which carries over all the earth the language, the manners, and the interests of Germany. Our inferiority is thus clearly demonstrated, and the cause is a mystery to no one; it is an inevitable consequence of the compulsory subdivision of heritages. To those who doubt this, it will be sufficient to observe that the comparative sterility of marriages is in France an evil peculiar only to those who have possessions, and does not touch those who are without heritage. Artisans, workmen, all who live from day to day, do not dread having a family; the patrimonial inheritance suffers no injury, as it would do in the cases of well-to-do families. But the decline of the French population is not the only injurious result of the forced partition of heritages. There are other evil results, such as the indefinite parcelling out of landed property and the ruin of small heritages by law expenses. These evils have become so great that Government is beginning to think of a remedy. May the secondary facts not keep out of sight the main fact of all—the appalling sterility of the French."

ROYAL PORTRAITS.—The parishioners of Greenwich are very dissatisfied at the fate of four pictures formerly hung in the parish church of St. Alphege—portraits of Queen Elizabeth, Charles I., Queen Anne, and George I. Becoming in lapse of time dingy and faded, they were stowed away as lumber in the organ loft of the church, and ultimately sold by the churchwardens. The portrait of Queen Anne went to the Painted Hall, Greenwich, for the sum of £10, the permission of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty having been obtained to pay that sum for it. The portraits of Queen Elizabeth, Charles I., and George I. were sold to a general dealer named Dyer, living in New-cross, for £20 15s., and were subsequently sold by him at a profit of 50s. to Messrs. Pratt, of New Bond-street, who are restoring them. The portrait of King George represents the King in full coronation dress, the heavy ermine cloak being thrown back in front, revealing a rich close-fitting dress, while round the shoulders is a massive chain, from which is suspended the prancing horse of Hanover. On the table beside His Majesty are the crown and sceptre, the King's hand grasping the ball and cross. In the background is a view of the south end of Westminster Abbey. The value of this picture is stated to be over £500. The portrait of Charles I. was 10 feet square, and is supposed to be the work of Sir Peter Lely. The painting represents the King in a prayerful attitude, and is believed to be even more valuable than that of George I. How the paintings became the property of St. Alphege, Greenwich, is not known, but all the monarchs mentioned were associated with Greenwich. Queen Elizabeth made the Palace her favourite summer residence. Charles I. passed much of his time at the "House of Delight." Queen Anne built one of the wings of Greenwich Hospital, which still bears her name, while George I. landed at Greenwich on his arrival from Hanover. A committee appointed by the Vestry is investigating the subject, and trying to get the portraits back again. It is thought that there will be no difficulty in accomplishing this so far as regards the Admiralty, and the opinion of Dr. Spinks, Q.C., has been taken with regard to the other paintings, the question being raised as to whether, being church property, a sale could be negotiated without a special faculty from the bishop.

ROYAL GIFT.—The Prince of Wales has manifested his approbation of the admirable arrangements made for his journey from Portsmouth to London on the occasion of his return from India by presenting Mr. Knight, the manager of the London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway, with a full-sized portrait of himself and the Princess of Wales, accompanied by the following letter:—"Marlborough House, Pall Mall, S.W. Dear Mr. Knight,—The enclosed portraits are sent to you by desire of the Prince of Wales, which His Royal Highness hopes you will accept as a small souvenir of his long acquaintance with you; as also an expression of His Royal Highness's appreciation of your constant readiness to secure his comfort and punctuality, &c., whenever he has had occasion to travel on the railway in his charge. I am, yours sincerely, Arthur Ellis, Lieutenant-Colonel. To Mr. J. Knight, General Manager, London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway, London-bridge."

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Rheumatism and Rheumatic gout are the most dreaded of all diseases, because their victims know that they are safe at no season, and at no age secure. Holloway's Ointment, after fomentation of the painful parts, gives greater relief than any other application; but it must be diligently used to obtain this desirable result. It has been highly commended by rheumatic subjects of all ages and of both sexes, for rendering their attacks less frequent and less vigorous, and for repressing the sour perspirations and soothing the nerves. In many cases, Holloway's Ointment and Pills have proved the greatest blessings in removing rheumatism and rheumatic gout which has assailed persons previously and at the prime of life.—ADVT.

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.

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 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.

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 communications stand over:—"Rusticus Urte;" Reports of Lodge of Truth, 1458, Newton Heath; Laying the Corner Stone of Holy Trinity Church, Ashton-under-Lyne.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

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

BIRTHS.

- BOURNE.—On the 1st inst., at Bellefield, Limerick, the Lady Marion Bourne, prematurely, of a son, stillborn.
CUMMINS.—On the 27th ult., at Larherne, near St. Columb, Cornwall, the wife of Captain Turner Cummins, 4th Cavalry, Hyderabad Contingent, of a son.
ISAAC.—On the 2nd inst., at Gloucester-place, Portman-square, the wife of Frederick S. Isaac, Esq., of a son.
MARSHALL.—On the 30th ult., at Oak Bank, Lamberhurst, Kent, the wife of John J. Marshall, L.R.C.S., of a son.
MORROW.—August 29th, at 5, Walmer-terrace, Victoria-Road, Great Crosby, the wife of Bro. I. G. Morrow, Lodge 1380, of a son.
SHRAPNELL.—August 28th, at 171, Canning-street, Liverpool, the wife of Bro. P. Shrapnell, Lodge 1609, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

- BAGGE—ODELL.—On the 2nd inst., at St. Michael's and All Angels, Notting-hill, John Henry Bagge, of Ardmore House, High Sheriff for the County Waterford, Ireland, to Harri te Isabel Maria, younger daughter of the late E. Odell, Esq., of Carriglea, county Waterford.
BISHOP—DAVIS.—On the 2nd inst., at the British Consulate, Leghorn, George Bishop, Esq., of Meadow-bank, Twickenham, to Caroline Félicité, second daughter of Dr. Davis, LL.D., of Florence and Tunis.
MARKHAM—PECKHAM.—On the 2nd inst., at Tottenham, William Markham, of Canonbury, to Alice, daughter of Robert Peckham, of Tottenham and Doctors'-commons, solicitor.

DEATHS.

- BROWN.—On the 1st inst., suddenly, at Tenby, Edwin Brown, manager of the Union Bank, Burton-on-Trent, aged 57.
CORRY.—On the 1st inst., at Shardloes-road, New-cross, London, James Robert, infant son of William Longman Corry, aged 3 months.
DAVIES.—On the 3rd inst., at Llanwrtyd Wells, the Rev. Edward Reed Davies, rector of Cathedine, Breconshire.
DIXON.—On the 4th inst., at London Hospital, Mr. Perry B. Dixon.
HALFORD.—On the 1st inst., at Kensington, Ellen Halford, third daughter of the late George Halford, Esq.

COSMOPOLITAN MASONIC CALENDAR.

W. Masters and Secretaries are earnestly requested to forward to the publisher, at the Offices, 198, Fleet-street, E.C., particulars of the place, days, and months, of meeting of their respective lodges, chapters, and other Masonic bodies, for insertion in the issue of the Calendar for 1877.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1876.

THE FLUCTUATIONS OF MASONIC LITERATURE.

In an article from a Transatlantic contemporary which we transferred to our pages last week, we had to listen to a melancholy tale of Masonic literary failures. Serial upon serial had appeared and vanished, we were told, and for some great or grand reason, the apathy of the Craft in America, as regards Masonic journalism, is, to say the least of it, very remarkable and very inexplicable. But so it apparently is, and it is hopeless for us on this side of the "little duck pond," to try and explain the cause and "raison d'être" of a state of things, no doubt most deplorable in itself, and which is permitted to exist among 600,000 Freemasons, but of which no American contemporary has so far, we believe, offered any satisfactory explanation. It is so because it is so, seems to be the only solution offered of what appears to us in England to be a Masonic riddle. We trust that better days are in store for Masonic literature in the United States, and that a fair return may yet be made to the efforts of the literary aspirant, and the laborious endeavours of the Masonic editor, though the history of English Masonic literature is not on the whole a prosperous one, and many have been its fluctuations in past years, the "Freemason" has no cause to complain of either the apathy of the Craft, or the lukewarmness of its friends. From first to last it has been cheered by the active sympathy and support of a constantly increasing circle of subscribers, and though in the best interests of Masonic literature we might wish that a larger proportion of our numerous Order favoured us with their kind patronage, we feel how much we gratefully owe to a support which has never wavered, and to a friendly feeling which has never grown cold. At this moment ours is a weekly increase, alike of direct subscribers and of public patronage, and we have every reason to believe and to know, that we represent in all we say week by week the bonâ-fide sentiments of a large portion of our educated and cultivated fraternity. We always seek to speak plainly, and to uphold the leading principles of Freemasonry, to which a long apprenticeship has endeared us, and with which some Masonic services have bound us with enduring ties of affection and interest. To suppose that we can please every-one is impossible, but as we seek to be straightforward and sincere, considerate and courteous to all, we have never appealed, and we never shall appeal, we know, in vain to the fraternal feelings of a large circle of readers, to credit us with honest intentions, and to believe in the reality of our public professions. We are pleased to note how often our leaders are reproduced in the Transatlantic Masonic papers and magazines, and as we always write to Freemasons, and for Freemasons alone, and we have the satisfaction of possessing the confident assurance, that the views we venture to express from time to time commend themselves alike to the sympathies of the most thoughtful, and the approval of the most intelligent amongst us. Never at any time, we have reason to know, did the "Freemason" stand higher in the opinions of reading Masons, of Masonic students and archæologists at home and abroad, and we shall endeavour to keep it up to its high mark as a Masonic paper of true Masonic teaching and fair literary merit. No efforts on our part will be spared to make it worthy of the support and approval of our ancient and honourable Craft, and, judging from its past history and its present success, our labours will not be difficult, since the generous confidence of an Order makes every duty light, and all responsibility a pleasure. Our worthy publisher has a right to feel not a little proud, both of his own sacrifices, and the growth of the "Freemason." A good deal of the success of the "Freemason" is owing to the singularly straightforward way in which he has conducted it, from its origin to this hour. It is his own paper, remember, paid for by his own purse, dependent on no committee,

subsidized by no real or suppositious company. Its shares have all been taken up, as they are all held by himself alone. From the first, he has opened the pages of the "Freemason" to free discussion, to archæological research, to earnest communications and honourable criticism! A "fair field and no favour," he has advocated for himself and for all alike. But one thing the "Freemason" has been remarkable for, the absence of that detestable system of vulgar personality which is a disgrace to any public paper, but above all to a Masonic journal. The "Freemason" has always held itself above those grovelling considerations of personal enmity, which so debase and so destroy the true character of every Freemason, and never has, and never will, allow its pages to be prostituted to the purposes of faction, the baneful scurrility of open personal attack or cowardly inuendo. It is most sad to note at times into what abysses of twaddle, sheer twaddle, bad grammar, low abuse, and too evident vulgarity of tone, temper, and sentiment, the hateful and un-Masonic tendency to personality will lead some writers, especially those who are unable to pen anything really worth reading. Personality is always a proof of weakness and of a bad cause, not unfrequently of a base disposition and a vulgar mind. No good end that we can see has ever yet been gained, nor do we believe will be gained, by personality, because, as a general rule, it is the "refuge of the destitute," and only resorted to either when things are looking desperate, or when some personal feelings or private concerns have stirred up the hidden malignancy of humanity. From all such debasements of journalism the "Freemason" will studiously in the future as in the past and present hold itself aloof. Commercially speaking, we feel sure that no paper or periodical can be successful which is carried on, whether for trade purposes or individual animosity, and whose only aim appears to be blatantly stupid and vulgarly personal. No doubt still as of old, as in Mr. Slurk's days, the "ungrammatical twaddler" is to the fore, and it is a painful infliction on the human patience and the human intellect to have sometimes the mournful necessity imposed on it of wading through a composition which is characterized from first to last by everything which is offensive to good taste, to grammatical construction, and common courtesy, to say nothing of the higher considerations of good feeling, morality, and truth. But we do not wish to prolong these remarks, as we are only anxious to point out that the "Freemason" will always be free from such gross blemishes in respect of the true character of Masonic journalism, and such a violent burlesque on the principles of Freemasonry. We do not believe in the profession of the man whose practice is the very reverse of his profession. Why should we believe in that of the Freemason who outrages in the full swing of his vindictive violence, every principle of Masonic justice, fairness, decency, and duty. The "Freemason" never has condescended to take notice, and never will, of the open assailant, just as it disregards and despises the surreptitious traducer. It goes on its way regardless whether it pleases or displeases, is popular or unpopular, is agreeable or disagreeable, inasmuch as it seeks to "do the right and speak the true," it asks for no consideration, and deprecates no criticism, but simply commends itself to the public opinion of the Order, and relies on the consistent and conscientious support of its great fraternity and its many friendly readers.

THE IRISH MASONIC ORPHAN INSTITUTIONS.

We have received and read with pleasure the reports of the "Masonic Female Orphan School, Dublin," and of the "Masonic Orphan Boys' School, Dublin." On the principle of "place aux dames" always, we will begin with the former of these two most useful and well managed institutions. The Female Orphan School has now 44 inmates, who appear to be progressing very well indeed in all the departments of a good, sound, useful, and valuable education. The financial position of the school is very satisfac-

It has in round numbers from dividends, £390; official and individual annual subscriptions, £1016 17s. 6d.; life donations £668; annuity from Grand Lodge, £100; receipts of annual meeting, £360 18s. 4d.; Masonic Ball, £50; and small items £56 18s. 8d.; in all, including balance of previous year, £1158 5s. 11d., £3800 1s. 1d. The expenditure is as follows:—Salaries and wages, £209 14s. 3d.; furnishing, &c., £367 14s. 8d.; visiting teachers, £237 4s. 0d.; provisions, £579 6s. 0d.; clothing and repairs, £182 1s. 5d.; books, &c., £101 18s. 0d.; coals, gas, and chandlery, £75 4s. 1d.; apprentice and outfit fees, £55 10s. 8d.; medicines, &c., £29 5s. 2d.; small expenses, about another £100; investments, £1005 5s. 0d.; and balance at bankers, £825 12s. 2d. The funded stock of the school now consists of £9682 2s. 1d. This report is highly satisfactory, and we can say the same as regards the Masonic Orphan Boys' School. That has now 23 inmates, who also educationally seem to be in thorough efficiency. Its financial report is also encouraging, especially when we remember that it was only established in 1868. It began the year with a cash balance of £896 16s. 9d. It has received £253 10s. 0d. donations; annual subscriptions, £507 2s. 7d.; dividends, £436 8s. 2d.; and small sums, £5 16s. 6d.; in all £1801 4s. 0d. It has, per contra, paid for maintenance, education, and clothing of pupils £903 6s. 8d.; outfits and fees, £30 11s. 5d.; salary of Assistant Secretary, £60; small sums, £7 17s. 4d.; and, having invested £323 12s. 6d., has an available balance of £476 16s. 1d. It has now £8059 12s. 1d. invested capital, and has before it a good promise of utility and activity. We almost wonder that our good brethren in Ireland do not have an annual festival on behalf of this most useful institution. We think, that had they, as we have, an annual festival for the Boys' School they might gain a great accession of income, and increase the benefits of this needful institution. Still, it is only in its youth, and it will reach, let us hope, a hale maturity and a green old age.

NORTH AND EAST YORKSHIRE.

We have perused a printed report of the proceedings of the Provincial Grand Lodge of North and East Yorkshire, which we publish elsewhere, with mingled feelings of astonishment and amusement, and to say the truth, no little indignation. As a general rule, it is not the custom in the provinces to print the report of the proceedings of the last Provincial Grand Lodge until the next is summoned; at least, such is not the normal habit of Provincial Grand Secretaries, though of course we admit there are, and may be, exceptions to the rule. And of course we freely admit also, that what is the custom of one province may not be that of another. In West Yorkshire, for instance, the agenda paper of the approaching quarterly meeting contains the minutes of the previous assembly. And this, we think, is by far the best course. There is, probably, some reason for this hasty and unusual publication, and we fancy it may be found in the very unwise resolution moved by P.G. Treasurer Hollon, and carried, apparently, without one voice of dissent by our good brethren at Redcar. We are deeply sorry for such erratic proceedings in the cause alike of Masonic truth and honour, fair play, and constitutional principles of Freemasonry. In the first place, the motion is founded on the report of the Investigation Committee of West Yorkshire. We have pointed out more than once that such report is unreliable for many reasons, the chief being its ex parte character. We say distinctly, and we challenge contradiction, that no one brother was examined who knew anything at all about the school except Bro. Winn, and he is avowedly a pure partizan of the dismissed head master. Bro. Tew knew nothing about the school confessedly, and as for Bro. Pegler's statistical calculations, and the tabular statements drawn up according to the "suppressed pamphlet," by Bro. Booth, of Halifax, they are, in our opinion, utterly valueless in respect of the controversy. Bro. Pegler's opinion of the cost rests upon no acquaintance with such schools as the Boys' School, and are all through

coloured by a fallacy, that because a given school anywhere educates for so much, therefore the Boys' School is to do it for so much. All who have had to do with education know well, that no lower, unsound, retrograde view of the requirement of education can be evinced by any one, except indeed by those who are utterly ignorant of the subject, or uphold a mistaken theory respecting that great duty of education about which they talk so pretentiously. We would ask, who else was examined by the so-called Investigation Committee who could throw any light upon the subject? We pause for a reply; and we shall be really glad to know who did really give evidence, as we have often asked the question before, and no one has condescended to reply to it. No minutes of evidence have been printed, as far as we know, and unless the suppressed pamphlet is as untruthful in fact as it was un-Masonic in its libels, the Investigation Committee based their reports on the pamphlets formerly distributed broadcast, the evidence of Bros. Tew and Winn, the tabular statements of Bro. Booth, and the invaluable statistics of Bro. Pegler. So much as to the report itself. In respect of the evidence of the printed reports alluded to by Bro. Hollon, we cannot profess to understand to what he alludes. It seems very perverse in 1875 to raise a question as to expenditure which had been incurred without any animadversion, five years at the least previously, and about which no complaint had ever been made, and anything more thoroughly unjustifiable than to start a "hare" of undue expenditure after the accounts have been closed and settled, we have never heard of. As regards the incriminations of unusual and extravagant expenditure, they are out of place, as such complaints ought to be made in the legal courts of the Boys' School, not in Provincial Grand Lodge meetings, which are constitutionally incompetent to entertain such questions. We recommend the General Committee of the Boys' School to treat all such expressions of opinion as utterly "ultra vires," and simply appeal to and trust in the good sense and Masonic principles of the Craft at large. But we are deeply concerned for the honesty of our common character as Freemasons to note the Jesuitical charge of "venue," and of attack. The whole proceedings arose out of a personal attack on Bro. Binckes, in connection with Bro. Perrott's removal; now it is stated forsooth, it is not Bro. Binckes, but the House Committee which is blamed. We beg to protest, in the name of many brethren in all provinces, against this unseemly and unjust attack on the House Committee. It is really too bad. If any complaints exist as to the expenditure of the Boys' School generally, some brother should manfully bring forward a motion on the subject at the Quarterly Court. If any honest feeling exists as to the general administration of the School, let it be expressed in a regular and befitting way. But we object to these random statements, and this meaningless agitation in the best interests of the Boys' School. But we repeat, if any one has a real complaint let him openly make it. But during the recent un-Masonic agitation, reckless charge and general vituperation could hardly further go. Whether any grounds exist for any of the extraordinary allegations which have been made openly and surreptitiously, we cannot tell until they are honestly placed before a competent court. But they will prove to be, we fancy, more or less, the product of a heated imagination. In the suppressed pamphlet it was insinuated that either Bro. Binckes or this very Committee, the "powers that be," had appropriated a few shillings of a savings' bank account; and now we are gravely assured by a brother whose right and qualifications to express such an opinion we both deny and doubt, that the House Committee is utterly incompetent to perform its duty. All this is wrong, most discreditable, dirty and un-Masonic, and shows how the agitation fostered and by whom these incriminations are continued against the Boys' School. Nevertheless, we feel sure, that these questionable proceedings will be condemned at once by the great good sense of our fraternity, and meet both as they well deserve in some form or other, the outspoken condemnation and reprobation of our honourable and high-minded Craft.

A CHARGE AGAINST THE FRENCH FREEMASONS.

We thought it only fair to our brethren in France to call the attention of our esteemed Bro. Caubet, the Grand Secretary of the Grand Orient, to a charge made against the French Freemasons on the alleged somewhat questionable authority of a certain well-known M. Naquet of encouraging "free love" and illegal marriages. We believe that it is an entire calumny, and we shall await with interest Bro. Caubet's reply to our friendly and fraternal enquiry.

AN INSULT TO FREEMASONRY.

We take the following from the "Thanet Guardian" of September 2nd. We shall allude to it next week:—"On Thursday afternoon the Watch Committee of the Borough of Margate met for the purpose of appointing a Superintendent of Police in succession to Mr. Compton. There were six applicants; and we understand that the choice of the committee fell upon Sergeant Romanis, who has had twelve years' experience in the City police. We have been informed that each candidate was asked whether he was a Freemason, and that on one answering in the affirmative, the Mayor stated that the answer was fatal to his candidature. Of course we are merely quoting information that has been communicated to us, the meeting being private, but we can scarcely understand why the fact of being a Freemason should of itself be a disqualification."

THE LAST QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

We reserve all remarks upon this meeting until our next, as owing to the time we go to press on Thursdays it is not possible for us to do more than give the proper report of the proceedings by our own reporter, which is always accurate, and can always be depended upon. All the Craft will read with pleasure the admirable suggestion of our worthy Bro. the Grand Registrar, happily carried, as only fair to the provincial brethren.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

A full report of the proceedings at the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of the new North-east Wing, Large Hall, &c., at the Institution, Battersea Rise, will appear in our SECOND EDITION, which will be ready early Saturday morning.

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 MASONIC PRESS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—
Much controversy seems to be going on about the "why and wherefore" of the apathy of the Masonic reading public, and the non-support of the Masonic press. I will therefore venture to point out to you to-day what, in my humble opinion, are the real causes of the apathy and indifference of the Craft in this respect. In my humble opinion, one of the great hindrances to a general support of the press by the Craft is the "personality," often bitter, always disgraceful, which characterizes so many Masonic writers. I do not think that the "Freemason" can fairly be accused of yielding to this vicious influence, as I know you, Sir, have declared war, so to say, against all personality. But still in past times, and at the present time, (and in saying this I know I speak the sentiments of many good brethren), the personality of Masonic writers indisposes many brethren from taking much interest in Masonic literature. It is curious that it should be so, and yet none are so personal as Freemasons when they once begin to write.

I have perused, very often with astonishment, mingled with regret, the lucubrations of Masonic journalists, and the "barbed arrows" of Masonic correspondents. Nothing more derogatory to Freemasonry, or more discreditable even to humanity, has ever been put forward in print than some of the so-called essays and elaborate attacks on others, which may sometimes be seen by the curious in Masonic Journalism. Indeed, it is not too much to say, that some Masonic writers seem to wish to convince the world

that they can be, if they like, the most uncharitable, the most untruthful, and the most malignant of mortals.

Nothing is too bad for them to say or to insinuate against a brother, for any or no cause at all.

And when to this personal malignity, and violence of utterance, you add the grossest impertinence, or the most grotesque "check," one feels one has said enough to point out why Freemasons say, "Oh! I won't take or read that paper, because there is nothing in it but gross personality and vulgar violence."

It is sad to think what a lasting injury is inflicted on Freemasonry by the thoroughly unkind and uncourteous language, and even detestable personality, of those who call themselves "brethren."

Indeed, it makes many believe that "Freemasonry" is a system both of idle profession and hypocritical pretence. Certainly the Freemasonry of such persons is a "mockery, a delusion, and a snare." But as the poet sang of old, "jam satis est" on this disagreeable topic. Another cause of Masonic holding back in respect of Masonic journalism is the obvious incapacity often of editors. It is not enough because a man says he will be an "editor" that, therefore he is fit for the post. It requires some knowledge of men and books, some reading, some observation, some little common sense, and above all a fair and tolerant spirit, to enable any one to fill such a post satisfactorily. In Masonic literature this is especially so. To take any one, say a new-fledged Mason, and set him to write about Freemasonry is as absurd as if you were to make a youth fresh from the university the editor of one of the leading papers in the metropolis. Or if you select a person who is not up to his work, ere long the result is too plain in "blunders and botheration," as the Irishman said. The history and teaching of Freemasonry can only be written upon by those who have studied the subject, *bonâ fide*, and originally. Ask Bro. Hughan, and he will say, I venture to think and assert confidently, that to suppose you can edit a Masonic journal with cribbed details or second hand information, obtained from cheap handbooks and the like, is the very height of absurdity. The history and archaeology and dogmata of Freemasonry, to be fully explained and dilated upon, require an accurate acquaintance with the leading principles, and the actual facts, above all, of Masonic archaeology and history. Such cannot be acquired by "cramming," but demand their clear and full realization, both by original research, and personal investigation. And another cause of Masonic indifference is the absolute bathos and twaddle of the weekly dose served out to us, "usque ad nauseam." It is a painful trial for the human intellect, it is a grave strain on editorial patience, as well as on Masonic forbearance, to have to wade through the hopeless ineptitudes, and childish follies, of some pseudo-journalists. The English is rowdy, the grammar is defective, opposed to every rule of Lindley Murray, and when you get to the end of the paragraph or article, you rub your eyes, like one of the "sleepers awakened;" you want to know what it all means, you are dazed and bewildered by this plethora of rubbish and this farrago of twaddle, unmitigated twaddle, sheer nonsense, without coherence, meaning, or object, and lucky for you if it is no worse even than twaddle. And then there is this further fiction. You have to deal with a literary opponent is a pure open controversy. You state your case carefully, manfully, fairly—all in vain. Argument is not his "forte," so you have to meet abuse, the vulgar insinuation, the unscrupulous Jesuitism, and the directly personal abuse of the incompetent and the "ignoramus." Who, then, can afford to waste the time devoted to literature in conning over such balderdash? Life is really altogether too short to permit any one to give up its golden moments to the perusal of dreary disquisitions, ungrammatical sentences, drivelling ignorance, and unconscionable impudence. I have written strongly, because we have a great and a growing evil to remedy, and because I feel sure that as there is, they say, a cause for everything here, I have hit, in my humble opinion, on the real cause of that holding back of so many persons in respect of "Masonic literature" per se. I may be wrong, but if so, I shall be glad to be set right, and in the meantime am, Yours fraternally,

A VETERAN.

A LITTLE FRIENDLY GOSSIP ON SOME OF THE TOPICS OF THE DAY.

BY PHILANTHROPOS.
(Written Especially for the "Freemason.")

No. 4—EDUCATION.—Continued.

The opportune publication of the Privy Council of Education enables me to place some figures before my readers, which I think will be neither tedious nor uninteresting.

The Report for 1875 is a very striking one in many particulars. One of these, not the least so, being the fact that it gives us an idea of what work has been done within a limited space of time, by the School Boards, and also points out fairly and truly what the denominational system has really effected.

It is well to remember here, as the Report properly points out, "that what had been done by the 31st of August, 1873, was mainly effected by voluntary effort, but since that date School Boards have made considerable additions to the School supply of this country."

What, then, do these official statistics tell us in 1875, of the status of education in England and Wales in respect of elementary schools? In the year ending August 31, 1875, the inspectors had visited 13,217 day schools in England and Wales, containing 19,245 departments under separate teachers, and containing accommodation at eight square feet of superficial area per child, for 3,146,424 scholars. There were on the school register the names of 2,744,300 children, of whom 983,995 were under seven

years of age, 1,668,054 were between seven and thirteen, and 92,251 above thirteen.

Of these scholars, 2,221,745 were present on the day of inspection, while 1,837,180 were on an average in daily attendance throughout the year. Of these children 613,215 having made the requisite number of attendances were qualified to bring grants to their schools—471,323 without individual examination, and 1,141,892 on passing a satisfactory examination in reading, writing, and arithmetic; 975,583 were actually presented for such examination, and 572,781 passed the prescribed test without failure in any of the three subjects.

There were also a large number of schools examined by the inspectors, who received no Parliamentary grants, and in which 57,196 scholars were present on the day of inspection. The night schools examined during the year were 1,392 in number; 48,392 scholars above twelve years of age were, on an average, in attendance each night; 43,734 scholars were qualified for examination by having made the required number of attendances during the night school session. Of these, 35,353 were actually examined, and out of every 100 scholars so examined, 87.95 passed in reading, 70.55 in writing, and 59.21 in arithmetic. To this estimate, be it noted, no allowance is made for "private venture" elementary schools, of which many exist, or independent "dame schools."

It appears that there was on the 31st August, 1875, accommodation for 3,146,424 scholars.

The Registrar-General, in his report on the Census of 1871 (Vol. IV., p. xii), states "the number of children of the school age, 3 and under 13, as defined by the Education Act is, of boys 2,687,631, of girls 2,686,670; the numbers of the two sexes are nearly equal, and they comprise 51,374,301, or 23 per cent., nearly one-fourth of the population." If we deduct one-seventh as being the children of a class above that commonly found in public elementary schools (Report of Education Department for 1869-70, p. xiv.), the remainder, 4,606,544, is the number of children, from 3 to 13, for whom elementary education fails to be provided in our schools; but if we assume that each child goes to school for only 7 years out of the 10 of its proper school life, there ought to be 3,224,580 children under daily instruction in efficient schools.

There does not then seem to be that great want of accommodation which some educational empirics have loudly asserted to exist, and if we could only fill the old schools, and the new schools now in the process of erection, the "supply" would really equal the "demand."

"We find" the Report continues, "that the schools in England and Wales, visited by the inspectors, for the purpose of annual grants, which provided in 1869 for 1,705,944 scholars, or for 8.34 per cent. of the whole population, were in 1875 sufficient for 3,146,424 scholars, or 13.13 per cent. of the estimated population. An addition of room, in aided schools, for 1,380 480 children in six years is satisfactory, and shows that accommodation in efficient schools is increasing in a much more rapid ratio than the population of the country. But much remains to be done before the three millions and a quarter of children who ought to be daily under instruction can be provided for in schools whose efficiency is tested by the yearly visit of one of your Majesty's Inspectors."

"The increased accommodation to which we allude has been supplied in several ways. 1. In the five years ending on the 31st of December, 1875, building grants to the amount of £286,597 have been paid by the Education Department, on the completion of 1,011 schools affording new or improved accommodation for 255,037 scholars. These grants have been met by voluntary contributions to the amount of £1,190,401. "Of the 3,342 cases in which building grants were sought in 1870 1,726 applications had been approved by the 1st of April, 1876; 378 had been rejected; 1,223 had been withdrawn, and 15 are still in progress towards approval. In 1,910 cases grants have been awarded, of which 1,463 have been paid. It is estimated that about 300,000 additional children will be efficiently provided for when our last grants to these new or enlarged schools have been paid. As these schools must be conducted as public elementary schools, they will all come under inspection, and must be placed under the charge of certificated teachers. "2. In the case of a large number of schools which have been enlarged or improved, without Government aid, certificated teachers have been appointed, and annual grants applied for on their behalf. No fewer than 1,538 acting teachers attended the examination for certificates held at Christmas, 1875, and the success of 1,359 of these teachers will bring annual grants, annual inspection, and we trust increased efficiency to their schools."

And inasmuch as in 1875 accommodation was provided by 1136 Board Schools for 336,400 scholars, and 227,285 were in average attendance, the increase in the accommodation in voluntary schools since 1869 has therefore amounted to 993,980 places (or 56.3 per cent.), while the average attendance has increased by 546,896 (or 51.4 per cent.)"

Whatever then may be said against "denominationalism," it seems to be doing its duty manfully in the present as in the past in respect to education.

As regards the Board Schools, the following is the official statement:—In the year ending 31st of August, 1875, the number of Board Schools increased from 838 to 1,140; while the accommodation in these schools rose from 245,508 to 387,227, and the average attendance from 142,017 to 231,381.

"The Report of next year will probably show a still greater increase in the supply of schools provided by the School Boards, which have been established throughout the country, either (1) compulsorily, when we have ascertained the existence of a deficiency, which is not, and will not be, met without the aid of rates, or (2) voluntarily, in the case of districts which desire either to meet a deficiency which they acknowledge, or to enforce the attendance of

children at schools already at work, and sufficient for their respective wants.

"So that the addition to the school provision of the country, when the schools last in course of erection and enlargement at Michaelmas last are completed, through the agency of School Boards, will have been 454,054 children, at a cost of £4,639,244, or £10 4s. 4d. per head.

As regards the effect of the compulsory clause of the Education Act the Report proceeds to tell us as follows:—

"BYE-LAWS.

"By the 1st of May, 1876, bye-laws for enforcing the attendance of children at school had been sanctioned by your Majesty, in accordance with the terms of the Act of 1870, on the application of the School Boards—1, London, with a population of 3,266,987; 2, 103 municipal boroughs 5,342,753; 3, 533 civil parishes 1,921,271—total 10,531,011.

"By this it appears that compulsory attendance at school is now the law for 46 per cent. of the whole population of England and Wales, and for about 82 per cent. of the whole borough population."

"The provisions of the last Education Act will, we trust, both directly and indirectly, tend, by a gentle compulsion, to send many children to school who are now prematurely condemned to toil, or absent through the connivance and selfish indifference of their parents.

In respect of teachers the Inspectors found 20,940 certificated teachers at work in the aided schools which they visited, while the 40 training colleges, from which the supply of such teachers is mainly recruited, were attended in 1875 by 2,975 students. These students, with a few exceptions, and 1,538 acting teachers, were examined for certificates in December, 1875, and in the following week 3,194 candidates for admission to the 1579 vacancies declared in the training colleges were examined; of these, 2,347 were successful, and 1,530 are now in the first year of their residence, along with 1,477 students of the second year.

In 1869 there were only 12,027 certificated masters and mistresses in England and Wales, but up to August 31st, 1875, they were estimated, as we have seen, at an increase of 8,000 in round numbers, and by December 31st, 1875, it was estimated that their numbers would reach 21,952. Of course this increase is still going on.

From the statements of the report, it would seem as if the Council of Education was looking forward to a normal staff of 30,000 teachers, as necessary for the elementary schools in this country.

The points on which the Report speaks in a tone of dissatisfaction in respect of this grand array of elementary educational work are, 1. in want of regularity of attendance of the scholars; 2. the large number of absentees on the day of inspection; 3. the failure of such a large proportion of the examined—in the subjects and "standards" appointed; and 4. the non-appearance in school at all of large numbers who ought to be there.

But all these defects are remediable, and certainly not discernable; and the simple fact that we have well nigh accommodation for "ALL OUR CHILDREN WHO CAN ATTEND THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS" is in itself most cheering to all friends of education, and should be an answer to the exaggerations of alarmists, and the wild figures of those who have made, unhappily, education a battle field for party and for sect.

There is school accommodation being provided now which will actually exceed the many requirements of school accommodation for 3,224,580 children, and all that in respect of accommodation apparently remains to be done seems to be, by proper statistical calculations, to keep the needful accommodation up to the normal increase of population, so as never again to allow the school accommodation in our country to be behind the actual percentage of the school age. Here I stop to-day. I shall next week enter into the question of the prospects of education in the elementary schools generally, and I propose to conclude these remarks with some considerations as to the result of two apparently opposing systems of education going on "pari passu" amongst us.

Reviews.

A GRAPHIC AND POPULAR DESCRIPTION OF THE COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD. Illustrated by Robt Brown, M.A., &c.—Cassell, Petter, & Galpin.

We have received Part I of this new and interesting work, and we have perused it with much of pleasure and approval. It is, we think, likely to become very popular and deserves, we venture to add, all of public patronage. For it is, in our opinion, an admirable commencement of a most useful and much needed work. Printed in a clear and very readable type, it is most effectively illustrated and we feel quite sure that the many admirable engravings will serve to commend this new "geography," so to say, to the attention of the young, and the appreciation of the old. There is, after all, no science much more charming in itself than geography, nor one, strange to say, so much neglected. Yet geography, is as we once remember hearing an old and valued friend of ours say, a "mine of interest and pleasure to the thoughtful mind." How true are his words. As Longfellow so beautifully pens it,—

I read what other bards have sung
Of lands beyond the sea;
And the bright days when I was young
Come thronging back to me.

In fancy I can hear again
The Alpine torrent's roar,
The mule bells on the hills of Spain,
The sea at Elisnore.

I see the convent's gleaming wall
Rise from its groves of pine,

And towers of old cathedrals tall,
And castles of the Rhine.
I journey on by park and spire,
Beneath centennial trees;
Through fields with poppies all on fire,
And gleams of distant seas.
I fear no more the dust and heat,
No more I feel fatigue,
While journeying with another's feet
O'er many a lengthening league.
From them I learn whatever lies
Beneath each changing zone,
And see when looking with their eyes
Better than with mine own.

Messrs. Cassell have evidently found out a "want" of many at the present day, and we trust that the "demand" for this new and interesting publication may equal the "supply." We can safely recommend it to the attention and perusal of our many readers.

A "MEMORIAL" edition of "Walbran's Guide to Ripon and Fountains Abbey."—A. Johnson and Co., Ripon; Simpkin, Marshall, and Co., London.

"This work is a fitting monument to one of the most zealous yet most retiring of modern archaeologists. To the late Mr. Walbran the romantic district which includes within its bounds the splendid remains of Fountains and of Bolton Priory, the quaint old city of Ripon, with its cathedral church of St. Peter and St. Wilfrid; the time-honoured Spa of Harrogate, the hall and monuments of bygone Marmions, Markenfelds, and Nortons, was holy ground whose history and remains he never wearied of exploring, to correct whose chronicle he would ransack entire muniment-rooms, or read, as he once did, word by word (to see that nothing had been overlooked), the catalogues of MSS. in the Museum and Bodleian Libraries. In the present edition of his most popular work—the 'Guide,' for which every visitor to Ripon or Harrogate owes him gratitude, carefully revised by the Rev. Canon Raine and Mr. Fowler Stephenson, and enriched with much additional matter, and a highly interesting memoir by Mr. E. Peacock—a host of brother antiquaries have lent their aid to make the volume as nearly perfect as may be. There are fresh papers on new features in the district, such as the church at Studley and the Vyner Memorial Church at Skelton—additional notes on the results of further researches—e.g., the account of the Maison de Dieu Hospital at Ripon, the appendix on the Cathedral Library, the suggested corrections in the plan of Fountains Abbey, especially with reference to the respective quarters of the monks proper and the conversi, and a number of new illustrations, from various contributors, of sites and buildings and antiquarian remains. 'Guide,' in fact, is a term too modest for a book which for exactness, sober good taste, and resolute exclusion of everything exaggerated or superfluous, is quite a model of what a bit of county topography ought to be."

So speaks our contemporary, the "Graphic," and most fully do we endorse everything our contemporary has so well and properly said.

We, who knew Mr. Walbran very well indeed in "auld lang syne" and who were privileged to work a good deal with him and spent many pleasant days with him in congenial archaeological pursuits—we know better than most what was the extent of the knowledge of the student, and the unpretending nature of the man. In some matters, in many departments of archaeological research, he was quite "facile princeps," and we have often deeply admired and (as we say it, we regretfully recall his friendly acquaintanceship to-day,) that correctness as to minute details, that wonderful intuition and sagacity almost unerring, whether as to the age of a MS., or the meaning of an Archæism, which in him were very remarkable.

We are glad to note the kindly review of the "Graphic," and to be able to add our humble and personal testimony to its absolute correctness, and we commend the work, which we know well, and which is a thoroughly reliable one, to the notice and patronage of our brethren and the public.

HAND AND HEART.

This popular magazine continues its progress, and we are glad to hear, with much success. It is thoroughly recommendable, and is very pleasant reading indeed.

OUR YOUNG FOLKS.

This juvenile periodical, with its tales of wonder, and fascination, and awe, still keeps the prosperous tenour of its way, and, we have reason to believe, commends itself to that love of the wonderful and the weird which is such an ingredient of admiration and gratification to the enquiring mind of youth. Some people object to this pandering, as they say, to the love of the marvellous in youth, but, on the whole, we are inclined to think that for youth the tales which please youth are advisable, the more so, as with maturity the charms and tastes of youth must pass away.

A.F.A.

A few of the coins which were lately found near Jerusalem have been secured by Mr. John Lornie, F.S.S., Kirkcaldy. The find was a small one, and consisted of shekels, and half shekels of Judea, which was considered the most interesting of all ancient coins. They are silver of the Great High Priest, Simon Maccabæus, and have the cup of manna on one side, and on the other the budding rod, with the legends in Hebrew. The date is also in Hebrew—viz., year one, being the first year of the Pontificate of Prince Simon, or 144 years B.C. Notwithstanding their great age, the coins are in fine preservation, both sides being perfectly legible.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The General Committee of this Institution held their monthly meeting on Saturday, the 2nd inst., Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, V.P., in the chair. There were also present Bros. Lieut.-Col. Creaton, Henry Norman, H. Browne, Joseph C. Parkinson, H. W. Hunt, Charles Coote, W. F. C. Moutrie, Jesse Turner, D. M. Dewar, Capt. Phillips, S. Rosenthal, Robert Kenyon, Capt. J. Wordsworth, H. Browne, S. Rawson, Hyde Pullen, H. Massey ("Freemason"); C. F. Matier, Leopold Ruf, F. Adlard, H. Whitford, Major Shadwell H. Clerke, Dr. Ramsay, Wm. Roebuck, T. K. Kent, A. Durrant, Wm. T. Raymond, J. W. M. Dosell, D. W. Pearse, H. Young, and F. Binckes, Sec.

On the motion of Bro. R. Kenyon, seconded by Bro. H. Browne, a grant of £20 was made to an ex-pupil for his advancement, the circumstances in his case being exceptionally favourable for such a grant. Out of the £13,000 collected at last festival, when Lord Leigh presided, the sum of £5000 was ordered to be invested. The next and only other business to be transacted was the consideration of Bro. C. F. Matier's motion that Bro. Binckes' salary should be raised by £100 a year, whereupon Bro. F. Binckes withdrew from the room.

Bro. Matier said that in bringing on this motion he should not trouble the brethren with any lengthy comments, but would simply lay before them the reasons he had for introducing the subject. Looking at the immense increase of the Institution since 1861, when Bro. Binckes was entrusted with the Secretary's duties—considering that its income in that year was but £2477 9s. 2d., that in 1875 it was £12,246 16s. 5d., that it was larger still in 1876, and that there was a prospect of its being far more in 1877—as there had not been an increase in the Secretary's remuneration, he thought it incumbent on the brethren to recognise his labours. An increase in remuneration ought to accompany an increase in the results of those labours. His second reason for submitting this motion to the brethren was that under the original arrangement with Bro. Secretary he had £200 a year with the addition of a commission; and if that arrangement had been adhered to he would not have received simply the £200 (which was calculated on an income very much different from that of the Institution at the present time) but something like £550. His third and greatest reason which he believed would also be the weightiest with the brethren, was that by giving Bro. Binckes some tangible acknowledgment of his services in the way of increase in his salary they were at the same time passing a vote of confidence in him, and putting at rest what he would call, with the permission of the chairman, the atrocious attacks which had been made on the Institution, the House and Audit Committees, and the executive officers. By passing this resolution they would be giving the Institution their best support; they would be shewing the House and Audit Committees their unreserved confidence in them; and the Secretary would be receiving something tangible which would enable him to tell his traducers, who had accused him of robbery and theft, that the brethren had the greatest confidence in him. He concluded by moving in terms of his notice.

Bro. Robert Kenyon said he certainly agreed with Bro. Matier in a great many of the observations that he had made, but he must say he would rather that Bro. Matier should have confined himself to the merits, the abilities, and the worth of Bro. Binckes. He had read the report of the meeting when the subject above referred to was discussed, though he was not present on the occasion, and it was then anticipated, supposed, and hoped that there would have been an end of all the heartburnings between the different sections of the brethren. He (Bro. Kenyon) had hoped that Bro. Matier would only have spoken of the merits of Bro. Binckes alone. He might tell the brethren that he should support this motion; but he should support it on the merits of Bro. Binckes alone. He knew those merits well, for he had been acquainted with Bro. Binckes a great number of years, and had watched the progress that had been made in the Institution through him. He knew very well, and so did every brother round the table, that there were as good fish in the sea as ever came out of it; but the brethren had got in Bro. Binckes a fish out of the sea; they had a gentleman in Bro. Binckes, and they should place him beyond the reach of any temptation. He believed him to be a truthful, honest man, or he would not support this motion at all. But he would wish Bro. Matier to withdraw (and he believed he would withdraw) his remarks about the atrocious attacks, because he did not think they were consistent with the harmony of Masonry. Whether he withdrew them or not, he (Bro. Kenyon) would support Bro. Binckes in this motion. He thought he deserved this recognition of his services, and that the brethren ought to support a man who could place himself at the head of an institution and get £13,000 and more subscribed at one meeting. Bro. Binckes had done a great deal of good for the Boys' School, and this they all confessed; he deserved the support of all of them; and as far as he (Bro. Kenyon) was concerned, he should give him his unqualified support on this occasion. (Hear, hear.) He begged to second the motion.

Bro. Jesse Turner, as one of the oldest Auditors, had felt a great grief when Bro. Binckes and the Auditors were put before the world in a very unkind, ungracious, and un-Masonic position. Very prejudicial statements were made with respect to them. Men like himself, who had spent a life time in the City of London, valued character above all things. The remarks which had been made respecting Bro. Binckes and the Auditors were carried out and supported by observations which really went beyond the bounds of common parlance. It was something very alarming at the meeting which took place upstairs. Col. Ridgway, who was a very able man, went through the accounts, and when the meeting was held he produced his report, which showed that as far as the auditors, the House

Committee, and Bro. Binckes were concerned, theirs was a fair, clear, and honest statement. As far as the auditors and committee were concerned, and he (Bro. Jesse Turner) personally, they were absolved of any shortcomings, and they were not affected. But not so Bro. Binckes: his character was his daily bread. Taking away his character was like taking away the character from a clergyman or a doctor; it was their stock-in-trade. He thought that the brethren could not do better than manifest their confidence in Bro. Binckes in some form; the vote proposed a very good form; and he trusted it would be passed unanimously. (Cheers.)

Bro. C. F. Matier said he should be very glad, in deference to the wishes of Bro. Kenyon, to withdraw the words "atrocious attacks."

The Chairman said he rose with very great pleasure to endorse all that had been said on the subject under discussion. He would put the motion of Bro. Matier to the brethren, and he hoped they would come to a unanimous vote.

The motion was thereupon unanimously carried amidst loud and prolonged cheers.

Bro. Binckes was then admitted, and was received with renewed cheering.

The Chairman, addressing Bro. Binckes, said it was his pleasing duty to inform him that Bro. Matier's motion had been carried unanimously.

Bro. Binckes in reply said he assured the Chairman and brethren that on the last occasion when an increase was made in his remuneration he expressed his thanks as honestly and warmly as he could. He did not at that time expect any further increase would be made; but as some good, kind friends had taken into consideration what they believed to be service honestly rendered, and duties faithfully performed to the Institution, he was pleased to find himself again in the receipt of an addition to his remuneration. He need scarcely say how much that pleasure was enhanced by hearing from the Chairman that there was no difference of opinion among the brethren on the subject. He begged that no one present would gauge the amount of gratitude he (Bro. Binckes) felt by the poverty of his expression. He valued this vote not only for the increased means perhaps of enjoyment it might be the means of affording, but he looked upon it, and he could not help regarding it as in some respects and to some extent, at all events, a tangible, palpable expression of their continued confidence in him in answer to slanderous accusations that had been scattered broadcast throughout the Craft; because if the brethren had for one single instant credited or given belief to those statements he did not think any one of them sitting round that table could conscientiously have passed the vote which had just been come to. He, therefore, not only regarded it as a matter of personal feeling towards himself, but as he had just said a tangible method the committee had, who had had an opportunity of watching his career for sixteen years, of giving their answer to those accusations which he at one time thought might not only tend to ruin his own prospects but seriously to interfere with the interests of the Institution. He was glad to find that in no respect had they achieved the former, and he was more gratified to find that they had not—at all events, if they had at all, to a very small extent—interfered with the latter. He did hope that this would be taken as a mark of approval on the part of those best able and most competent to judge of the manner in which this Institution was conducted, whether by himself or by the committees. (Cheers.)

Bro. J. C. Parkinson proposed, and Capt. Wordsworth seconded, that the increase in Bro. Binckes's salary take effect from 1st January, 1876.

The motion having been carried unanimously, a vote of thanks to the Chairman was passed, and the chairman said he was very much pleased that it had fallen to his lot to see the motion in favour of Bro. Binckes carried unanimously.

The proceedings then terminated.

THE MODEL SUBSCRIBER.

"Good morning, sir; Mr. Editor, how are the folks to-day? I owe you for next year's paper, I thought I'd come and pay. And Jones is agoin' to take it, and this is his money here; I shut down lendin' it to him, and then coaxed him to try it a year.

And here's a few items that happened last week in our town.

I thought they'd look good for the paper, and so I just jotted them down.

And here's a bushel of russets my wife picked expressly for you;

A small bunch of flowers from Jennie, she tho't she must do something, too.

And now you are chuck full of business, and I won't be taking your time,

I've things of my own I must tend to—good day, sir, I believe I will climb."

The editor sat in his sanctum and brought down his fist with a thump,

"God bless the old farmer," he muttered, "he's a regular jolly old trump."

And 'tis thus with our noble profession, and thus it will ever be still;

There are some who appreciate its labour, and some who perhaps never will.

[The above little jeu d'esprit, we may observe, is purely American. We should not object to have many such zealous friends for the "Freemason." But we regret to have to state, that though we may have very excellent supporters and constant and consistent correspondents, such a model subscriber is so far not only "like angels" visits, few and far between," but we have never greeted him in the flesh. If he will only call at 198, Fleet-street, we can guarantee him a hearty welcome from the publisher, and an equally warm one from the Editor.]

Masonic and General Tidings.

Bro. the Rt. Hon. the Marquis of Hartington, M.P., R.W.P.G.M. for Derbyshire, has consented to take the chair at the 212th anniversary festival of the Scottish Corporation, of which H.R.H. the Prince of Wales and His Grace the Duke of Rothesay is president, on St. Andrew's Day, Nov. 30, respecting which his lordship says:—"I think there is now little doubt that I shall be in England on Nov. 30, and that I shall be able to attend the Scottish Corporation dinner on that day."

THE BULGARIAN PEASANT RELIEF FUND.—Mr. G. Rose Innes has given notice of the following motion for the next meeting of the Court of Common Council for the City of London:—"That a sum of two hundred guineas may be granted out of the City's cash to the Viscountess Strangford's Bulgarian Peasant Relief Fund."

AN EIGHTPENNY POSTAGE STAMP.—For the convenience of persons corresponding with India and Australia, via Brindisi, postage stamps of the value of 8d. will be issued. They can be obtained at post-offices throughout the country on and after the 1st inst.

A great fire has occurred at St. Hyacinthe, in Canada. Nearly six hundred buildings were destroyed, one hundred families are rendered homeless, and the loss is estimated at two millions of dollars.

Another lodge will be added to the already long list of those in West Lancashire by the consecration of the Marlborough Lodge, No. 1620, next Wednesday afternoon, the 13th inst., at Derby Hall, Tirebrook, Liverpool. Bro. W. Woods, P.M. 1182, is the W.M. designate, and there is every prospect that the latest addition to the long roll of lodges will prove both prosperous and honourable to the fraternity at large.

On Tuesday evening there was a presentation of a gold chain and badge of office to the Mayor and Corporation of Warrington by Lady Greenall, wife of Bro. Sir Gilbert Greenall, member for the borough. The chain is of most elegant description, of solid gold, bearing the arms of Lancashire and Cheshire and those of Sir Gilbert Greenall, together with arms and motto of the borough.

A handsome aquarium, which has just been completed by the Great Yarmouth Aquarium Society (Limited), was formally inaugurated on Tuesday last, at Great Yarmouth, by Bro. Lord Suffield. The aquarium has been erected near the Britannia Pier.

Bro. E. M. Adams, who has been secretary to the successive managements of Cremorne Gardens for the space of a generation, took his benefit at that establishment on Wednesday evening, having provided special attractions for the occasion.

THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT.—At eleven o'clock on Thursday night H.R.H. the Prince Arthur left Edinburgh by the East Coast express for London en route for Austria. The duke was received at the station by his brother officers of the 7th Hussars, with whom he cordially shook hands before leaving. It is understood that on his return from Austria H.R.H. will proceed to take command of the Rifle Brigade, of which he has been appointed colonel.

The unfortunate gentleman, Bro. John Johnes, of Dalaucothy, Llandilo, who was recently murdered by his butler, formerly held the position of Provincial Grand Master for the Western Division of South Wales. He was succeeded after about ten years' service by Sir Pryse Pryse on the 12th of July, 1867.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of the Province of North Wales and Shropshire was held at Wrexham on the 5th inst., under the presidency of the R.W.P.G.M., Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart., M.P. The lodge was held in the new Masonic room of the local lodge, the Square and Compass, No. 1336, in the Public Hall. Several items of business were transacted, and the annual election of officers proceeded with. The post of R.W.P.G.M. was again conferred upon Sir Watkin; and in place of the late Lord Harlech, Bro. Bulkeley Hughes, M.P., was elected Deputy P.G.M. The members then proceeded in procession to the parish church, where Divine service was held, and a sermon preached by P.G. Chaplain, the Rev. A. L. Taylor.

The King of Sweden presented Madame Christine Nillson with the Swedish civil order, "Pour le Mérite." The decoration consists of a gold medal, with the inscription, "In sui memoriam," surmounted by a Royal Crown richly set with brilliants.

The annual Provincial Grand Lodge for the Province of Somerset will be held in the Town Hall, Bridgwater, on Friday, the 22nd inst., at half-past 1 p.m.

Bro. Jas. Batchelder, Professor of Music, a few days ago, forwarded to H.R.H. Prince Leopold, R.W.P.G.M. Oxford, a copy of his new Masonic song, "Friendship, Love, and Truth." He has since received a letter from His Royal Highness, thanking him for the same.

The consecration of the Clive Lodge No. 1575 took place on Tuesday week, at Market Drayton in the presence of upwards of ninety brethren, including the R.W. P.G.M., Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart., M.P. An account of the proceedings is unavoidably crowded out.

At a special meeting of the Edinburgh Conclave, No. 1, held in Freemasons' Hall, George-street, Edinburgh, on Monday, the 31st ult. Bro. Lord Inverurie, M.M. Mary's Chapel, No. 1, was admitted and installed as a Knight of the Red Cross of Rome and Constantine, and at a meeting of the Grand Council, held immediately thereafter, his lordship was duly consecrated as a Viceroy, and afterwards enthroned as a Sovereign of this illustrious Order.

RECIPROCITY.—"Will you lend father your newspaper, sir? He only wants to read it?" "Yes, my boy, and ask him to lend me his dinner—I only just want eat it!"

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.
For the Week ending Friday, September 15, 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, SEPTEMBER 9.

Lodge 1361, United Service, Greyhound, Richmond.
" 1423, Era, King's Arms Hot., Hampton Court.
" 1446, Mount Edgumbe, Swan Tav., Battersea.
Chap. 1293, Burdett, Mitre Hot., Hampton Court.
Mark Lodge 144, Grosvenor, Caledonian Hot., Adelphi.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

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

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11.

Lodge 1366, Highgate, Gatehouse Hot., Highgate.
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, SEPTEMBER 12.

Lodge 167, St. John's, Holly Bush Tav., Hampstead.
" 548, Wellington, White Swan Tav., Deptford.
" 1269, Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.

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, Camomile-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.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13.

Com. R.M.B.I., at 3.
Lodge 13, Union Waterloo, M.H., Wm.-st., Woolwich.
" 87, Vitruvian, White Hart, College-st., Lambeth.
" 1228, Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone.
" 1503, Francis Burdett, Albany Hot., Twickenham.
Chap. 1260, Hervey, F.M.H.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Confidence, M.H., Basinghall-st.
Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
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, London Wall.
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.
Lewis, King's Arms Hot., Wood Green.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14.

Lodge 1076, Capper, Marine Hot., Victoria Docks.
" 1288, Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., N.
" 1321, Emblematic, Tulse Hill Hot., Tulse Hill.
" 1471, Islington, Cock Tav., Highbury.
" 1558, Duke of Connaught, Surrey M.H.
Chap. 72, Royal Jubilee, Horns Tav., Kennington.
" 619, Beadon, M.H., Masons' Avenue.

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

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15.

House Com. Boys' School, at 4.
Lodge 975, Rose of Denmark, White Hart Hot., Barnes.
K.T. Preceptory 6, St. George's, Albion Tav., City.

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.
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.
Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, September 16, 1876.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11.

Lodge 314, Peace and Unity, Militia Mess R., Preston.
" 1021, Hartington, H.M., C.H.B., B-in-Furness.
" 1350, Fermor Hesketh, M.R., Liverpool.
" 1398, Baldwin Castle, Dalton-in-Furness.
" 1496, Trafford, Northumberland Hot., Old Trafford.
Chap. 148, Elias Ashmole, C.R., Warrington.
Mark Lodge 165, Egerton, Bedford House, Rock Ferry.
Derby L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12.

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

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13.

Lodge 281, Fortitude, Athenæum, Lancaster.
" 1052, Callender, P.H., Rusholme.
" 1094, Temple M.H., Liverpool.
" 1356, De Grey and Ripon, 80, N. Hill-st.
" 1547, Liverpool, M.H., Liverpool.
Chap. 1345, Victoria, Cross Keys Hot., Eccles.
Neptune L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14.

Lodge 216, Harmonic, Adelphi Hot, Liverpool.
" 333, Royal Preston, Vic., Garrison Hot., Fulwood.
" 477, Mersey, M.R., Birkenhead.
" 1035, Prince of Wales, Kirkdale, Liverpool.
" 1182, Duke of Edinburgh, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1213, Bridgewater, Cross Keys Hot., Eccles.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15.

Chap. 220, Harmony, Garston Hot., Garston.
Precep. Jacques de Molay, M.H., Liverpool.
Duke of Edinburgh L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, September 16, 1876.

All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11.

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., Kirkinilloch.
" 503, St. George, Oddfellows' H., Helensburgh.
" 541, Marie Stuart, M.H., Crosshill.
Chap. 76, Abbey, 8, High-st., Paisley.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12.

Lodge 230, St. Barnabas, Black Bull Hot., Old Cumnock.
" 413, Athole, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 419, Neptune, 35, St. James-st., S.S., Glasgow.
" 426, Prince of Wales, M.H., Renfrew.
" 441, Glasgow, 22, Struthers-st., Glasgow.
" 543, St. John, M.H., Dalmuir.
" 579, St. Bryde, M.H., Uddingstone.
Chap. 17, Greenock, M.H., Cathcart-st.
" 69, St. Andrew, 25, Robertson-st., Glasgow.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13.

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

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14.

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

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15.

Lodge 31, St. Mary's Coltness, Com. Hot., Wishaw.
" 306, St. Thomas, 90, Wellgate-st., Larkhall.
" 321, St. Andrew, R.A., Public Hall, Alexandria.
" 360, Commercial, 30, Hope-street, Glasgow.
" 408, Clyde, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 471, St. John, Stane Inn, Shotts.
" 496, St. Munn, Ardnadam, Kilmun.
" 551, Clydesdale, Royal Hot., Larkhall.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16.

Lodge 512, Thortree, School House, Thornliebank.
" 524, St. Andrew, M.H., East Kilbride.
" 544, St. Andrew, M.H., Coatbridge.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, September 16, 1876.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11.

Lodge 145, St. Stephen, St. James's Hall, Writers' Court

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12.

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

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13.

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

Chap. 1, Edinburgh, F.M.H., St. John's-st.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14.

Lodge 8, Journeyman, M.H., Blackfriars-st.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15.

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