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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

LODGE OF UNITED STRENGTH. (No. 228).

—The first meeting of this old lodge was held on the 10th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, the Old Gate of St. John of Jerusalem, St. John's-lane, Smithfield, being at this time in the hands of operative Masons. The work of amending and renovating the Old Gate and its meeting rooms have occupied Messieurs les Ouvriers so long that the members of the lodge were in hopes of taking their ease in their accustomed quarters; but the lodge had proposed one thing while the working man, what with strikes and his love of taking his ease in his inn, had disposed of matters in another way, converting the "Gate A Hoy!" of Shakespeare, the loved resting place of Dr. Johnson, the birthplace of newspaper literature, and the venerated sojourning spot of "all sorts and conditions of men," to say nothing of the thousand and one historic associations going back into the very mist of time—into a sort of builders' workshop, in all but one particular—that the workmen are not so ready to leave it as they are the places where they are supposed to labour. The W.M., Bro. Robert Griggs, provided for the emergency by arranging that his lodge should meet in Great Queen-street, and upwards of 60 brethren and visitors attended the summons. In support of Bro. Griggs were P.M.'s John White ("Freemason"), Cooper, Crump, Winsland, Bottrill, James Terry, P.G.D.C. of Herts, Davis, Robards, and Hillhouse. Among the visitors were many from Bedfordshire, the list including Bro. Hazelgrove, I.P.M., 475 (Luton), and Bro. W. Phillips, W.M. of the same lodge; Bro. C. G. Hill, W.M. of the Highgate Lodge, 1366, and J. W. Parker, an E.A. of the same lodge; Bro. Timothy, of 87; W. Crow, of the Chilton Lodge; T. Goode, of 1288; F. Howell, W.M. of 1470; W. Randall, J.W. of 1470; H. Blackwell, of 1540; R. Leach, P.M. 861; and Bro. Rosier, of 188, Joppa. The S.W.'s chair was occupied by Bro. Hill, the J.W.'s by Bro. Snare; Bro. Halford, S.D.; Bro. Killick, J.D.; Todd, I.G.; and the other officers were in their places, but Bro. Hart, the Organist, unfortunately had an enforced holiday, being divorced from the instrument he loves through the want of a key. The W.M., on the opening of the lodge, explained the circumstances which had necessitated the meeting being held where the lodge had now assembled, and the members at once voted a suspension of the bye-laws. The five brethren who were initiated at the previous meeting of the lodge were then presented, with Bro. Parker, of the Highgate Lodge, and having passed a satisfactory examination were entrusted. The ceremony was repeated again and again by the W.M., whose I.P.M. had a perfect sinecure, the Master's memory and work needing no correction even in the tiring reiteration of the ritual. The ballot was then taken for the admission of Mr. M. Mousley, and the result being unanimous, the candidate was admitted and initiated in due form. In the course of the other business it was announced that the Treasurer, P.M. Winsland, had given three guineas, in the name of the lodge, to the fund for the relief of the sufferers by the fire in Clerkenwell, and the lodge confirmed the action of the Treasurer, with thanks for his promptitude. The lodge having closed with reverent thanks to the Most High, the brethren sat down to an excellent banquet, provided in a style worthy of the reputation of the best days of the tavern, a reputation, we have reason to hope, will rise again to its lustre of former days. The W.M. proposed the usual toasts connecting the loyalty of the Craft with loyalty to the State, and spoke in his usual happy style. The initiate was welcomed among his new brethren with all honours, and made a most favourable impression. "The Health of the W.M." was proposed by the I.P.M., who expressed his thankfulness that the lodge had a Master so fitted as their Bro. Griggs. The toast was accepted with all honours, and was duly acknowledged. "The Visitors" were toasted, and the brethren had the opportunity of listening to some very excellent speeches in reply, and Bro. Howell gave an especially pleasant discourse on Masonic principles, and in the course of his remarks expressed his regret that the heavy work in a London lodge often rendered it impossible for the additional ceremonies which are promised "if time permit," as he thought that much

was taught by these parts. "The Past Masters" were then toasted, and their several merits were descanted upon. "The Officers" were toasted, and Bro. Terry, in his reply as the Steward of the lodge, made an exceedingly clever and witty speech, "roasting" one of his brother Past Masters in good-tempered fashion. The Tyler's toast ended the evening's pleasant re-union.

ST. CLEMENT DANES LODGE (No. 1351).—The first meeting of this lodge for the present season was held at 265, Strand, on Thursday, 5th inst., and as this was the occasion of the installation of the W.M., there was a good muster of the brethren as well as visitors, amongst whom were Bros. John Hervey, G.S.; Joseph Smith, P.G.P.; Edwin Lott, P.P.G.J.W. Jersey; R. Tyrnell, P.M. 179; Clemow, St. Dunstan's Lodge; T. Wingham, J.W. 25; W. F. Tubby, P.M. 11; J. W. Attwell, S.W. 334; H. Potter, P.M. 11; T. M. Lockwood, J.W. 425; and others. The lodge being opened in due form, the minutes of the last meeting and the report of the Audit Committee were read and confirmed. The W.M., Bro. Steward, then passed Bro. Osborne to the Degree of Fellow Craft. Bro. Franklin was elected a joining member. Bro. Charles J. Livett was then installed in the chair of K.S., and saluted by the brethren. Bro. Betts, P.M., was the Installing Master, and elicited the applause of the brethren for the eloquent and impressive manner in which he delivered the charges. The W.M. then invested Bros. G. Wilson, as S.W.; H. Porter, as J.W.; T. Parker, Treas.; Wm. Hilton, Sec.; J. Wigg, S.D.; Butler, J.D.; J. Perryman, I.G.; E. Barnes, D.C. The W.M. then initiated Mr. Joseph Wheeler into the mysteries and secrets of ancient Freemasonry, and other business being concluded, the lodge was closed in due form, and with solemn prayer, and adjourned. The brethren then partook of a very handsome banquet, and the cloth being removed, the W.M. gave "The Queen and the Craft," "The M.W.G. Master," "The Earl of Carnarvon, D.G.M., and other officers of Grand Lodge, Past and Present" Bros. John Hervey, G.S., and J. Smith, P.G.P., replied, and in the course of their remarks congratulated the W.M. "upon the really excellent style of his working, which had been a great Masonic treat." In giving the toast of "The P.M.'s" the W.M. took the opportunity of presenting Bro. Steward, the I.P.M., with a magnificent P.M.'s jewel, unanimously voted him out of the funds of the lodge. The other toasts were duly given and honoured, and the Tyler's toast concluded the list. During the evening Bros. Lott and Wingham (R.A.M.) enchanted the brethren with some brilliant pianoforte performances, while the W.M. and some of his officers contributed some songs and glees, which added greatly to the enjoyment of the evening. It is, perhaps, worthy of remark that although this lodge is now only commencing its sixth year, the present W.M., and the Installing Master were both initiated in it.

THE GREAT CITY LODGE (No. 1426).—The anniversary and installation meeting of The Great City Lodge, No. 1426, was held on Saturday, Oct. 14th, at the Cannon-street Hotel, and was most numerous attended. Bro. J. Hamilton Townend, W.M., presided; Bro. Seex (W.M. elect), S.W.; Stannay, J.W., and all the other officers were present, together with the following array of visitors:—Bros. T. Fenn, P.G.D., Prince of Wales Lodge, 259; John Hervey, G. Sec.; Dr. Cox, P.G. Chap.; Peacock, Loyalty, 1607; Wooton, P.M. Union and P.G.D.C. Kent; Light, Prince of Wales, 959; Field, I.P.M. Burgoyne, 902; Guggerheim, Concordia, Switzerland; T. Poore, P.M. Panmure, 720; Driscoll, P.M. United Mariners, 30; Taylor, W.M. Doric, 933; Beattie, Buckingham, 591; Nunn, Dobie, 889; Marcus, Kensington, 1381; Raymond, Royal Kensington, 1627; Partridge, W.M. Neptune, 22; Lancaster, Polish National, 534; Medwin, Lion and Lamb, 192; Reed, 1601; Kitson, Wellington, 548; Dyer, Old Union, 46; Walter, Egyptian, 27; Saul, Eclectic, 1201; Carruthers, P.M. (Mayor of Reigate), Surrey, 416; Smith, P.P.G.S.W. (ex-Mayor of Reigate), Surrey, 416; Soppett, Constitutional, 55; Hawksley, Urban, 1195; Dixon, P.M. Mount Lebanon, 73; Cottebrune, P.G. Purs. City of Westminster; Swallow, W.M., and Scott, Sec., City of Westminster; Steward, P.M. Chislehurst, 1351; Groom, Friars, 1349; Mann, P.M. 186; Oliver, P.M. Prince of Wales, 959; Noehmer, P.M. Industry, 186; Spencer, Mount Lebanon, 73; Gilbert, Industry, 186; Jonas and Birdseye, Panmure, 715; Huntley, Mount Lebanon; White and Turner, City of Westminster; Morgan, Gladsmuir, 1385; Cargill, W.M. Gihon, 49; Addriott, Marylebone, 1305; Dakin, P.M. Harmony, 580; Dyer, W.M. Industry. The lodge having been opened and the minutes of former meetings read and confirmed, the W.M. proceeded to initiate Mr. Christopher Linner Cartwright and Mr. Lughen Constantine Libersart into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry. This having been concluded, the next business was the installation of Bro. Seex as Worshipful Master. Having been duly presented and certain matters proceeded with all the brethren below the degree of Installed Master were requested to retire. A Board of Installed Masters, thirty in number, was then formed, and Bro. Seex, the W.M. elect, in due form installed as W.M. for the ensuing year. The brethren below the chair having been admitted, the new W.M. received the customary salutes, and he then appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. Stannay, S.W.; Freeman, J.W.; the Rev. R. J. Simpson, Chaplain; Headon, Treas.; Moody, P.M. Sec.; Blackie, S.D.; Catchpole, J.D.; Hamer, I.G.; Taylor, D.C.; H. Jenkins, Org.; Keble and Hook, Stewards; and Steedman, P.M., Tyler. Bro. Townend, the retiring and Installing Master, then delivered the customary addresses, and at the conclusion was warmly applauded. The report of the Audit Committee was then received and adopted. Bro. Headon, P.M., moved "That a jewel of the value of five guineas be presented to Bro. James Freeman, with the thanks of the brethren, on his resignation of the office of Treasurer,

which he has held since the establishment of the lodge." Bro. H. Thompson, P.M. ("Freemason"), seconded the motion, which was put, and carried. Several propositions having been made, the lodge was closed in due form and with solemn prayer, and the brethren adjourned to the large hall for the banquet that was to follow. About 200 sat down, the W.M. presiding, supported by the Grand Officers and the newly-initiated brethren, of whom seven were present, some of them having been admitted at a lodge of emergency held a fortnight ago. At the termination of Deacon. The toast was most cordially received. Bro. the Rev. Dr. J. E. Cox, P.G. Chaplain, said: The Worshipful Master, Wardens, and Brethren of the Great City Lodge, and those other brethren who are here present, will receive from myself, as the representative to-night of Grand Lodge, I am assured, my warmest thanks for the manner, in which they have taken notice of the toast of our esteemed Deputy Grand Master, Lord Skelmersdale, and the rest of the Officers of Grand Lodge. It is always a satisfaction to myself to have to return thanks for this toast, because, when received as it has been to-night with so many demonstrations of satisfaction, and with so much enthusiasm, it is an assurance to my mind that the Officers, Past and Present, of Grand Lodge live in your esteem, and that you are disposed by every means in your power to strengthen their hands in their efforts to promote the usefulness and the welfare of our noble and venerable Order. (Hear, hear.) I believe, amongst newly made Masons—and I may call the Deputy Grand Master a newly made Mason in comparison with myself—there is no brother in the Craft who desires more earnestly to promote its welfare, or to support its grand and benevolent purposes, and the more I see of those who are associated with him as leading members of that assembly, the more am I persuaded that the great principles of Masonry are advancing, and that they are becoming of more and more value as time goes by. (Hear, hear.) It is a great satisfaction to myself to mark the peaceful relations which at the present time exist in Grand Lodge. At the time when I first became a member of the Craft there was much division, and I regret to say, much un-Masonic feeling demonstrated therein; but those times happily have passed away, and with the peace of the present time we have also the augmentation of those great benefits which Masonry stands foremost to promote and confirm—I mean the noblest principles for the development of charity—(Hear, hear.)—not only charity in the matter of giving of that substance, with which the Great Architect of the Universe has blessed us, but in the manifestation of that noble feeling which suffereth long, and is kind, which envieth not, and which seeks to promote the welfare not only of the brethren themselves, but of society at large. (Hear, hear.) And my mind is more peculiarly directed at this moment to the matter of charity, because at this season two important events are being carried forward. On this day an election has taken place of candidates for the Girls' School, and on Monday next fifteen boys will be admitted into the kindred Institution; and with reference to the first and foremost—as it always will be in the estimation of the brethren—the Girls' School, I have been charmed to-day to see an engraving in the "Builder" newspaper, showing what is the intention for the enlargement of that Institution, and for the increase of benefit to the youthful female children of our decayed and deceased brethren; and then next I turn my attention to the Boys' School, in which my heart has been always deeply interested, and with which, without boasting—I am sure you will pardon me for saying it—I have taken an earnest and a continual interest. (Hear, hear.) At the present time, especially, I rejoice to know that a subject, which has had my consideration for at least a quarter of a century is very near its fulfilment. My esteemed and worthy brother on my left hand (Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C.), has in some degree stolen my thunder; but for that I heartily forgive him. He has had more opportunity of assisting the working out of this most important subject than I have had, but I am with him, as you are, I am sure, heart and soul in the promotion of his scheme for the establishing of exhibitions in our Universities, which shall be the means of giving that completed form of education to those children of higher intellect, who, had their parents been spared to them, or had their prosperity increased, would have had the opportunity of finishing its course by means of the highest educational privileges this land can afford. Although it has not been my province to carry out that which I so much desired myself, yet it will be my happiness to assist my worthy brother and others in the promotion of that great object, and when it shall please the Great Architect of the Universe to call me hence, nothing will be looked back upon by myself with greater satisfaction than that in my position as a Past Grand Chaplain of England, and as a Minister of the Truths of the Great Architect of the Universe, I had been enabled in some way to do something for the alleviation of the suffering of mankind. (Hear, hear.) I will not detain you at much greater length, because I have said almost as much as you can bear to hear, (No, no), and as much as I have to say; but there is one subject—of which I have been reminded by an observation of your Worshipful Master—which has quite gone home to my heart. In mentioning my name he stated that I was the Father of Grand Lodge. I cannot lay claim myself to that position, for there is one brother, and a brother clergyman also, older than myself, (Bro. the Rev. Sir J. W. Hayes), who is the Father of Grand Lodge; but I stand next to him, for I have been a member of that Grand Lodge for thirty years. (Hear, hear.) And in those thirty years you may suppose how many I have seen depart hence, whose memory is treasured in our regard, and whose works for the benefit of Masonry and mankind are registered in the Grand Lodge above. (Hear, hear.) It cannot be in God's Providence that I shall remain much longer in this sublunary

the banquet grace was well sung by Miss Jessie Royd and Messrs. Bernard, Daniel, Morgan, and Bamford. The W.M. said the first toast he had to bring under the notice of the brethren was that of "The Queen." Masonry and loyalty had ever gone hand in hand, and to show their attachment to the Queen he coupled her name with the Craft. This was followed by the National Anthem, the solo parts by Miss Jessie Royd, and it was enthusiastically applauded. The W.M. next gave "The Most Worshipful Grand Master, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales," whose renown as a Mason was known and acknowledged by all. This toast needed no explanation from him, and he was sure that it would meet with a hearty response. The toast was cordially received, followed by the solo and chorus, "God bless the Prince of Wales," with the following new verse by Bro. Hook, the Organist of the lodge:—

"True Masons greet, with one accord,
Our Master once again!
And thank the World's Great Architect,
Our prayers were not in vain.
Again our Prince amongst us,
Each loving heart now hails,
From danger now, as in the past,
God shield our Prince of Wales."

This new verse was loudly applauded. The W. Master said the next toast to which he wished to call the attention of the brethren was that of "The Right Worshipful Pro. Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon," and said he believed that his services were unequalled by any member of the Craft. Holding such a high position he was entitled to their respect and esteem, and he trusted that his health would be drunk in proper form, and with all due enthusiasm. The toast was duly honoured. The W. Master said the next toast he had to propose was a very comprehensive one, as it was "The Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, Lord Skelmersdale, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Past and Present." It was superfluous on his part to remark that the Grand Lodge was the ruling body of the Craft, and was formed of those members who had obtained distinction in it, and there was a further distinction to those who had become Grand Officers. It was composed of Past and Present Grand Officers, and they had both amongst them in the lodge that evening. He believed that there were present the oldest members of Grand Lodge, Bros. Dr. Cox, the Rev. R. J. Simpson (a member of their own lodge), Bro. Hervey, the Grand Secretary; Bro. Fenn, P.G.D.; and Bro. Cottebrune, P.G. Purs. He was proud to see them present, and he gave them all a hearty welcome. He connected with the toast the names of Dr. Cox, P. Grand Chaplain; and Bro. T. Fenn, Provincial Grand Master; but so long as I am spared I will work for Masonry, as I have endeavoured to do during the years I have been a member of the Craft, and it will be, I repeat, a satisfaction to myself when I go hence and be no more seen to die with the conviction that my name will live amongst those members of mankind, who have striven to promote the welfare and the increase of Masonry, to shew that it is the mother of civilisation, and to prove that it is the great benefactress of the human race. (Hear hear.) Bro. T. Fenn, P.G.D., said—It is rather an awkward thing at this period of the evening to be called upon to respond second to a toast, when one has to speak after so exhaustive and excellent a speaker as our excellent Bro. Cox. There is, however, one subject which he has left untouched, as probably it has not come under his immediate knowledge. The Grand Officers would be undeserving of the honour, which has been conferred on them, and of the compliment which your Worshipful Master has paid them, were they not desirous on all occasions to do all in their power, and to avail themselves of every opportunity to advance the interests of the Craft. I cannot better, perhaps, illustrate the desire which the Grand Officers appear to me always to have in that direction than by mentioning to you that on the 24th of November the annual festival of the Emulation Lodge will take place. On that occasion eight sections will be worked by eight Past Grand Officers, and the Earl of Carnarvon, our Pro Grand Master, will take the chair. The chair in the lodge will be filled by our very excellent and worthy brother Hervey. The Stewards will be also forty Grand Officers. That may be illustration enough to shew the interest which they take in the working of Freemasonry, and I am sure to a lodge which claims to have a Lodge of Instruction of its own, this must be very interesting information, and I hope to yourselves, brethren, it is equally gratifying. I feel bound to admit that perhaps it is not exactly alone love for the Emulation Lodge of Improvement that that lodge is so mixed up and so bound up with my Masonic life. I wish I could but think so; there is something else at the bottom of it. I don't know why I should not be prepared even to admit it, because I am sure you will all yourselves join in the same feeling which has predominated in myself. Our Bro. Hervey offers on his 30th year of Treasurership, and it is out of respect for him that this great meeting is about to take place. I will not detain you longer, Worshipful Master, but I cannot sit down without congratulating you on the progress you are making, and on the excellent manner in which you keep up the working of this lodge. It has afforded me, I assure you, great pleasure to be present to-night, and I hope when on any future occasion I may be asked to attend this lodge I may observe the same strict adherence to good working, with the same advance and prosperity, which I have the pleasure of congratulating you upon to-night. (Hear, hear.) Bro. Townsend, I.P.M., said the toast he had the honour to submit he felt sure would be received with acclamation when he told them that it was "The Health of Bro. John Seex, W.M. of the Great City Lodge." He had always found him most excellent in working the ritual of the lodge, and he had endeared himself to all by his genial disposition during the

time he had held the different offices since the consecration of the lodge, and the manner in which he had performed his duties must be satisfactory to every member. He felt assured that the lodge would never suffer while he filled the chair, and he hoped he might have as happy a year in it as he (Bro. Townsend) had. He asked them to drink to "The Health of their W.M." The W.M. said he felt obliged to them for their compliment, and nothing should be wanting on his part to render him worthy of the position in which, by their kindness, he had been placed, for there was a great responsibility in being placed at the head of one of the most important lodges in the City of London. In proportion to the fame and renown of the lodge, so concurrently were the difficulties and responsibilities of the W.M. He thanked them for the kindly feelings and the joyful congratulation which one and all had tendered to him. The W.M. said the next toast he had to propose was one that was always received with great enthusiasm in The Great City Lodge. They had rarely met without having one or more initiates, and on many occasions they had five. They had had two that evening, and five at a lodge of emergency held only a fortnight ago, and he believed that they would all prove true and good members. He gave "The Health of the Initiates," for which they severally returned thanks. The W.M. next gave "The Visitors," bidding them welcome, and, having read the list of them, said it would be invidious on his part to call upon any one in particular to respond to the toast. Bro. Cottebrune, P.G. Purs., Bro. Swallow, W.M. of the City of Westminster Lodge, and Bro. Dyer, W.M. of the Industry Lodge, severally returned thanks. The W.M., in giving "The Health of Bro. Townsend, I.P.M. and I.M.," said the manner in which he had conducted the duties of the chair had secured for him the esteem of the brethren, and he had then the honour of presenting him with a substantial mark of their gratitude, by placing on his breast the jewel which had been voted to him, and long might he live to wear it with pleasure, as it was the jewel of the Great City Lodge. He then attached the jewel amidst cheering. Bro. Townsend, I.P.M., said he rose with mingled feelings of regret and pleasure, regret because he ceased to be the Master of one of the greatest lodges in the City of London, and with pleasure because he knew he left the chair with the good will of the brethren, and particularly so as he had received every assistance from the present W.M. of the lodge. In that lodge they worked the Emulation Lodge ritual, whilst he was brought up in the Stability, and he wished that the two modes of working could be brought together, as he believed that they might advantageously adopt a portion of each ceremony and omit the rest. He saw that he had to return thanks as I.P.M. and I.M., and most heartily did he thank them for their kindness, and for the jewel they had unanimously voted to him. He could not say that it was the proudest moment of his life, as he gave a preference to his mother lodge, in which he had worked up to every office, from that of Inner Guard, and when he went home after quitting the chair in that lodge he thought he was in the proudest position and the greatest man in Masonry (a laugh). The next toast was "The P.M.'s," for which Bros. Headon and Stevens returned thanks. Bro. Hervey, G. Sec., in proposing "Prosperity to The Great City Lodge," said he well recollected that it was three years ago when he had the gratification, with two other brethren, of performing the ceremony of consecration and installation, when more than 200 members were assembled. On that occasion he was supported by two Wardens, one of whom was Bro. Fenn, then present, and one who was now no more, Bro. Savage, who was second to none in the Craft, and whose loss had been severely felt. With what he had seen of the working of the lodge that evening he was well satisfied, and therefore he thought there was no one better qualified to propose the toast that had been entrusted to him. He was gratified to see the prosperity of the lodge, and, therefore, he need not wish prosperity to it, as that had been already achieved, and he would add one word to the toast he had to propose, and that was "Continued Prosperity to the Great City Lodge, and might its prosperity in the future be greater than it had been in the past." The toast was heartily responded to. Some other toasts were given, and the business of the evening, harmonious throughout, was brought to a close.

DUKE OF CONNAUGHT LODGE (No. 1558).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday week, at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell. There was a large amount of business on the agenda paper, which with discussions upon the minutes and the report of the Audit Committee caused the evening's proceedings to be very much protracted. Upon the reading of the minutes the W.M., Bro. William Snowden, proposed that so far as related to the election of Bro. W. S. Cackett to be W.M. for the ensuing year, said minutes should not be confirmed, and the proposition having been seconded, a discussion ensued upon certain matters of which the W.M. complained, which, however, ended in the confirmation of the minutes. In like manner a discussion ensued on the presentation of the Auditor's report upon the accounts for the past year, which ended in a resolution not to confirm same until presented in a different form, in which they were to be printed for the use of the members. The ceremony of raising was then proceeded with, Bro. James Dann, Secretary of the lodge, being the presiding officer, who raised Bros. F. Slater, G. E. Brace, and T. C. Corfe to the Sublime Degree of a M.M. Bro. Horace Kember was passed to the degree of F.C. The next business on the paper was the installation of Bro. W. S. Cackett, S.W., the W.M. elect, who was presented to the Installing Master by his predecessor, Bro. Snowden, and having given his assent to the various requirements prescribed by the Book of Constitutions was obligated, and a Board of Installed Masters having been formed he was presented, and formally installed into the

chair of K.S. Having been proclaimed and saluted in the customary form, Bro. Cackett proceeded to appoint his officers as follows:—Bros. Thos. Sleep, S.W.; Walter Mitchell, J.W.; Snowden, P.M., Treasurer; James Dann, P.M., Secretary; Runnaces, S.D.; Chalk, J.D.; Boyton, I.G.; Power, D.C.; Taylor, W.S. When the usual orations had been delivered by Bro. Mann, who deserves the highest praise for the admirable working of all the foregoing ceremonies, and who, we understand, has worked all the ceremonies during the past year, the W.M., Bro. Cackett, resumed the lodge to the First Degree, and the ballot was taken for the following candidates for installation, viz.:—Mr. G. Le Touzel, Mr. William Allen, and Mr. J. Wallace, which being declared in their favour they were admitted and initiated into the mysteries of the First Degree by the W.M., who performed the ceremony with skill and ability. The W.M. then rose and said that he had a very pleasing duty to perform, which was to present to the I.P.M. the Past Master's jewel that had been voted him by the lodge, which he proceeded to place on his breast with a few words of congratulation and good wishes as to the future. Bro. Snowden having acknowledged the compliment, the W.M. again rose and said that he had another pleasing duty to perform, and that was to present to their worthy Secretary, Bro. Dann, a jewel which had been subscribed for by some of the brethren as some slight recognition of the obligations they were under to Bro. Dann for the services he had rendered during the past year, and the efficient manner in which he had performed the duties of his office, and other duties that did not appertain to that office. He then proceeded to attach the jewel (which was of peculiar construction combining the characteristics of a Past Master's and a Secretary's jewel) to Bro. Dann's breast, an act that was greeted with hearty applause by the brethren. There was also exhibited a handsome portrait album, which was presented to the lodge by the outgoing W.M. for the proper preservation of the photographs of the members of the lodge. Before the closing of the lodge Bro. Penrith proposed that a vote of thanks to the I.P.M. be recorded on the minutes for the handsome album with which he had presented the lodge, which was seconded by Bro. Simms, and carried. The S.D., Bro. Runnaces, proposed that an illuminated testimonial on vellum framed and glazed, should be presented to Bro. Snowden for his conduct throughout his year of office, which was seconded in three places at once, and a committee, including the names of Bro. Walter Mitchell, J.W., and about half-a-dozen other brethren, was appointed to see the resolution properly carried into effect. One initiate was proposed by the I.P.M., and after some little conversation the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet. Among the members present were Bro. Snowden, Bro. Cackett, Bro. Thos. Sleep, Bro. Dann, Bro. Walter Mitchell, Bro. Chalk, Bro. E. W. Boyton, Bro. C. E. Power, Bro. Scott, Bro. T. C. Cape, Bro. J. Dixon, Bro. F. Taylor, Bro. W. Bott, Bro. J. E. Pentridge, Bro. J. Emms, Bro. Chas. Sims, Bro. C. McIlvoy, Bro. Peach, Bro. F. Slater, Bro. F. R. Smith, Bro. Harold Kember, Bro. John Laram, Bro. John Kemp, Bro. W. Rowlands. Visitors: Bro. Geo. Adamson, P.M., 199 and 1208, P.P.G.D.C. Kent; Bro. Larham, P.M. 1539; Bro. C. F. T. Starke, 72; Bro. B. Cooke, 1297; Bro. Massey ("Freemason"); Bro. Ramsay, 1539; Bro. P. Doyson, 382; Bro. B. R. Bryant, 1329; and Bro. John Read, P.M., 88. At the conclusion of the banquet, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed by the W.M., in very few words, and were all cordially responded to. The I.P.M. proposed "The Health of the W.M.," who returned thanks and proposed that of "Bro. P. M. Dann," the Secretary of the Lodge, who in returning thanks commented on the success the lodge enjoyed during its first year, and expressed his hopes that its prosperity might continue. He also again referred to the handsome jewel that had been bestowed on him by some of the members of the lodge, for which he again thanked them. The intervals between the toasts were pleasantly enlivened with some very good vocal music from Bro. R. De Lacy (of St. Paul's Cathedral), assisted by Bro. J. Hodges (gentleman of H.M. Chapel Royal), Bro. J. Thornton (principal tenor, St. Paul's Cathedral), and Bro. Edwin Moss, also of St. Paul's. Bro. J. Read presided at the piano.

HEYWOOD.—Lodge Naphtali (No. 266).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, on the 5th inst., Bro. S. Partington, W.M., presided. The lodge was opened with solemn prayer in the First Degree, after which the minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed. Mr. A. Eastwood was balloted for, and initiated by the W.M. Bro. J. Fitton was examined, and entrusted. The lodge was then opened in the Second Degree, and Bro. J. Fitton was passed by the W.M. Bro. W. Hamilton was examined and entrusted. The lodge was then opened in the Third Degree, and Bro. W. Hamilton was raised to the sublime degree of a M.M. by the W.M., assisted by Bro. A. Wolstenholme, P.M., P.S.G.D., and the lecture by Bro. John Cass, P.M. The lodge was closed in form, and with solemn prayer, at 8.45 p.m. This lodge has taken rapid but sure strides within the last few years, it is now comfortably fixed in the new Masonic Hall rooms, within the recollection of present members it could not open and close without assistance from some other lodge; at the present time there is no ceremony but can be worked now by its own members, and the lodge stands second to none in East Lancashire for efficiency in the ritual and working of Masonry, as acknowledged by several of the prominent Provincial Officers.

DERBY.—Arboretum Lodge (No. 731).—The ordinary meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, on Wednesday, the 11th inst., when the following brethren were present:—Bros. Bennett, W.M.; Jno. Smith, P.M.; T. Roe, jun., P.M.; G. T. Wright, P.M.; F. Iliffe, P.M.; T. R. Gee, P.M., Treas.; J. C. Merry,

Scotland.

INSTALLATION OF THE P.G.M. OF LINLITHGOW.—On the 13th inst. Bro. the Hon. Peter M'Lagan, Esq., M.P., was installed as Provincial Grand Master of the county of Linlithgow by Bro. Henry Inglis of Torsonce, assisted by a deputation from the Grand Lodge of Scotland, consisting of William Officer, S.G.W.; David Kinnear, J.G.W.; John Laurie, G.S.; John Davidson, S.G.D.; P. Sinclair, J.G.D.; A. Dott, G.S.; Rev. William Bennie, Bathgate, Chaplain. A procession was formed and marched from the lodge to the Royal Hotel. Deputations were present from several lodges in the neighbourhood, and all assembled in the hall of the Working Men's Club. The lodge having been opened in Apprentice Degree, the ceremony of installation was duly performed. Bro. Inglis complimented Bro. M'Lagan on the high position he had attained, and had no doubt Masonry would benefit from having such a member. Bro. M'Lagan replied, and hoped to do his duty in a Masonic point of view as well as he had done, not only as a citizen, but as a member of the legislature of this great empire. After the installation a banquet took place. Bro. M'Lagan presided.

CONSECRATION OF A MASONIC HALL IN DUNDEE.—On Friday week a meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Forfarshire was held in Dundee, for the purpose of consecrating the new hall of the Lodge Ancient, No. 49. The Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, Lord Ramsay, presided, and amongst those present were Bros. Lord Inverurie; Sir John Ogilvy, Bart., R.W.P.D.M.; the Rev. Crabb Brechin, the Chaplain; James Yeaman, M.P.; Colonel Guthrie, of Carlogie; David Small, Bailie Drummond, William M'Donald, Alexander Kelt, and others. The charter of the lodge was read, and it may be mentioned that it dates as far back as the time of William the Lion. A cake and wine banquet was subsequently held, at which Bro. Lord Ramsay occupied the chair. A number of toasts were drunk, and a very pleasant afternoon was spent.

POLLOKSHAWS.—Royal Arch Lodge (No. 153).—On Friday, the 6th inst., the Royal Arch Lodge received its annual visitation from the Provincial Grand Lodge, Renfrewshire East. The Provincial Lodge was headed, in the absence of Bro. Colonel Campbell of Blythswood, P.G.M., by Bro. ex-Bailie Caldwell, Paisley, P.P. Substitute Master, who was accompanied by Bro. James Gilmour, P.S.W.; Bro. J. Peters, P.G.W.; Bro. Andrew Wallace, P.S.D.; Bro. Alex. M'Pherson, P.G. Treasurer, and Bro. J. Carswell, P.G. Marshal. The lodge having been duly opened by Bro. Peters, R.W.M., a careful examination of the books, &c., took place. The P.G. Substitute Master thereafter expressed the great gratification it afforded to the deputation to find such accuracy displayed in the keeping of the records of the lodge's transactions. The working of the lodge, too, he stated, was everything that could be desired. The business having been finished, the lodge was called from labour to refreshment, and a social and happy hour was spent.

GLASGOW.—Cathedral Chapter (No. 67).—By authority of dispensation from the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland, this chapter met in the Masonic Hall, 22, Struthers-street, Calton, on Tuesday, October 3rd, 1876. The chapter being constituted, Comp. James Duthie, Z., in the chair, Comp. G. Pridie, H.; Comp. D. Ronald, J.; Comp. J. Forrest, Acting Scribe N.; Comp. S. Bisland, 1st Sojourner; Comp. Mercer, of 87, 2nd Sojourner; Comp. J. Negal, 3rd Sojourner, and a number of companions present. The Holy Royal Arch Chapter was opened by the three Principals, all companions standing to order. The dispensation being read by the M.E.Z., the election of new office-bearers was proceeded with, when the following were duly elected for the year: Comps. David Ronald, Principal Z.; George Pridie, Principal H.; Samuel Bisland, Principal J.; John Mason, Scribe E.; William Hamilton, Scribe N.; James Wood, Treas.; Robert Trainer, 1st Sojourner; John Booth, 2nd Sojourner, John Negal, 3rd Sojourner; Andrew Crawford, Janitor. The only election contested was that of the Janitor by Comp. Hamilton proposing a very old member of the chapter in opposition to Comp. Crawford, who, he said, did not attend to the duties of the office himself, as he ought, but allowed his servants or assistants to do the work which he himself ought to do. Comp. Ronald spoke in support of Comp. Crawford retaining the office, and said that the companion proposed to oppose him had never been attending the chapter since he (D. Ronald) became a member. The First Principal, Comp. Duthie, said that it made no difference to the chapter whether the Janitor or his servant did the work, so long as the work was done, and that the Janitor was responsible, and that the chapter only came into contact with him, and not with his servants. The M.E.Z., after taking the votes of the chapter, declared Comp. Crawford duly elected as Janitor by a majority of four votes. There being no further business, the chapter was closed by the Three Principals, all companions standing to order.

GLASGOW.—St. Andrew's Chapter (No. 69).—This chapter met on the 10th inst. The following companions from other chapters were present, namely—M.E.P.P.Z. James Duthie, Cathedral, No. 67; M.E.P.Z. G. W. Wheeler, Caledonian of Unity, 73; M.E.P.P.Z. James O. Park, Thetis, 122; M.E.P.P.Z. J. Shields, Robert Burns, 143. The chapter was opened by Companion Thomas M. Campbell, Z.M.S.E.R.A.C. of S., when the following office-bearers were installed:—Thomas M. Campbell, M.E.P.Z.; William Harper, M.E.P.H.; Robert B. Prout, M.E.P.J.; J. H. Lash, E.S.E.; William Thomas, E.S.N.; James Blackwood, E. Treasurer; John McInnes, First Sojourner; William H. Stark, Second Sojourner; Adam Collie, Third Sojourner; William Bilsland, Superintendent of Works; John G. Allen, Captain

of First Vail; William Pascoe, Captain of Second Vail; Robert Brand, Captain of Third Vail; David Ramsay, Janitor. The ceremony was performed by the M.E.P.Z., assisted by M.E.P.Z.'s Duthie and Wheeler. The auditor's report, which was read, showed the chapter to be in a flourishing condition. A vote of thanks was passed to the visiting companions. The chapter then adjourned to refreshment. After the usual loyal and patriotic toasts, the toast of "the S.G.R.A. Chapter of Scotland" was given, and "the Provincial Grand R.A.C. for Lanarkshire," replied to by Companions Duthie and Wheeler; Thetis Chapter, and Companion Park, who replied; Robert Burns Chapter, and Companion Shields, and replied to. Companion Duthie proposed a special toast viz., "to the Prosperity of the St. Andrew's Royal Arch Chapter, 69, and the Health of Companion Campbell, its much respected Principal," and passed a high eulogium on him for his known ability as a Royal Arch Mason, being well-known to be the best demonstrator of that degree in Glasgow, if not in Scotland. He had always found him willing and able to instruct any one, as well as assist any chapter requiring his services, and this very chapter was a proof. When the meeting had been called for the purpose of ascertaining whether the chapter was to be declared dormant, he at once came forward, and, although at a great disadvantage to himself, accepted the office of Principal. This was in the month of April last. Since then he had added eleven members to the roll, and at present there are six applications for exaltation, and without saying anything more, he had much pleasure in proposing the toast, which was drunk with true Royal Arch honours. Comp. Campbell replied in a short but instructive speech, impressing on the companions the beauties of the Royal Arch, their duties in the chapter and to each other, stating that this degree was the zenith of Masonry; every one should strive to attain it and study its sublime secrets; and he was happy to state that he had fourteen candidates for the Royal Ark Mariners and Red Cross Degrees, which were the completion of the Royal Arch. The toasts of "Comps. Harper, P.M.," proposed by Comp. Park, and "McInnes, First Soj.," by Comp. Wheeler, "A. Purdie, Past S.E.," by Comp. Campbell, "The Visiting Companions," and "M.E.Z. Shields" having been given and replied to, the toast of the evening was given, and the chapter was closed in due and ancient form. The companions separated, after enjoying a very pleasant as well as instructive evening.

ARDROSSAN.—Neptune Kilwinning Chapter (No. 111).—This chapter continues to enjoy marked prosperity, under the able direction of its originator and present Z., Comp. James Robertson, whose zeal and accomplishment as a worker and ruler cannot be surpassed. The office-bearers for the year 1876-77 are as follows:—James Robertson, P.Z.; Francis Goodwin, P.P.Z.; David Goodwin, P.H.; Peter Sharp, P.J.; Thomas M'Nidder, S.E.; John Robertson, S.N.; Wm. Ross, Treasurer; Charles Adair, 1st Soj.; John Kelly, 2nd Soj.; Caldwell Anderson, 3rd Soj.; Wm. Marshall, 1st Standard Bearer; Alexander Ritchie, 2nd Standard Bearer; Henry Barr, Janitor. The auditors gave in their financial report, which was highly satisfactory.

Masonic and General Tidings.

SOUTHWARK LODGE OF INSTRUCTION (No. 879).—At this flourishing South London lodge, held at Bro. G. Freeland's, the Southwark Park Tavern, Southwark Park, the Fifteen Sections are announced to be worked on Wednesday evening next, at 7 p.m., by Bro. C. W. Kent, P.M., the Preceptor of the lodge. A treat is in store for all who care to enter an appearance.

BELGRAVE LODGE (No. 749).—Bro. Watts W.M. 1201, will work the installation ceremony at this lodge on Friday next, at 8 p.m. The lodge meets at the "Constitution," Bedford-st., W.C., under Bro. Pulsford's Preceptorship.

At the meeting of the Norwich Town Council on Tuesday last, it was officially announced that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., had signified his intention of visiting Norwich on the 20th prox., in order to instal Lord Suffield as Provincial Grand Master for Norfolk, and further, in order to be present at a meeting for advocating the claims of the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital. Bros. A. M. F. Morgan, P.D.G.M.; H. Barwell, P.G.S.; and Col. L'Estrange, P.S.G.W., have been deputed to make the necessary arrangements. The hospital has appointed the Rev. Canon Neville and Sir William Foster as a reception committee. The Town Council has resolved to appoint a committee, consisting of the Mayor and four councillors, to co-operate with the committees appointed by the fraternity and the hospital, to make arrangements for the reception of the Prince.

Bro. Sir Edward Lechmere, M.P., who has taken a prominent part in the alleviation of the sufferings of the wounded, is about to visit the seat of war in the East.

The Imperial Hotel, Holborn Viaduct, has been let to Messrs. H. J. and W. J. Roberts, sons of Mr. Roberts (Bertram and Roberts), and will be opened as soon as the furnishing of the premises has been completed.—"City Press."

A Bill-y is rather smart in defining as "The people's champion" Willing, who is willing to stick up for anybody.—"Funny Folks."

Bro. J. E. Saunders, P.G.D., will preside at a public debate upon "The Permissive Bill," to be held at the Albion Hall, London-wall, on the 24th and 31st inst.

Japan has now officially entered the International Postal Union.

SURREY MASONIC HALL.—At a meeting of the Surrey Magistrates, held at the Sessions House, on Thursday, an application was made for a music and dancing licence, and upon hearing Bro. Edward Clark, Bro. H. A. Dubois, and Counsel, the Magistrates unanimously granted the license.

Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Plunket, Grand Chaplain Grand Lodge of Ireland, has been elected Bishop of Meath by a large majority on a two-thirds vote of each other. The next in favour was Dean Daunt.

Bro. Alderman and Sheriff Hadley and his brother, Mr. Jonah Hadley, entertained the Lord Mayor Elect (Sir Thomas White) and Miss White at Craybrook Park, Ilford, on Wednesday.

The "Glasgow Herald" reports that on Saturday, workmen laying pipes in connection with the New River Supply Works discovered, about four feet beneath the surface of the Green, a beautiful Roman bowl, in a perfect state of preservation.

Mr. Sims Reeves has, it is said, accepted an offer by telegram of an engagement to sing at 50 concerts in Australia for £15,000.

The London and North-Western Railway Company have just issued a new book of rules to their servants. One new rule provides that no company's servant shall enter a railway refreshment room for the purpose of taking drink whilst on duty, on pain of dismissal.

The "Sheffield Daily Telegraph" says Messrs John Brown and Co. have successfully rolled the thickest armour-plate yet produced. It is twenty-four inches thick.

While we British are suffering from an oyster famine, our Transatlantic cousins are rejoicing over the advent of the season for their beloved bivalve. To give an idea of the immense quantity of oysters consumed in the States, the "Albany Sunday Press" states that in New York City no fewer than 4,000,000,000 are eaten in one season, and the direct oyster trade in the United States employs some 200,000 men, the capital invested being estimated at £10,000,000. An oyster famine across the Atlantic would be a real calamity.

The display which is to be made at Delhi, when on the 1st of January, 1877, Queen Victoria is proclaimed Empress, will cost £50,000 sterling.

Her Majesty has contributed 100 guineas, and the Prince of Wales £25, to the fund for the relief of the persons who suffered loss by the recent whirlwind at Cowes.

The Brighton coach left London on Saturday morning for Brighton for the last time this season, having been running very successfully since the early part of June.

The Duke of Abercorn has resigned the office of Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, and the Duke of Marlborough has been appointed his successor. The new Viceroy was born in 1822, and succeeded his father in the title in 1857. He was educated at Eton, and at Oriel College, Oxford. He represented Woodstock in the House of Commons during the years 1844-5, and subsequently from 1847 to his accession to the peerage. In 1866-7 he filled the office of Lord Steward of her Majesty's Household under the administration of the late Earl of Derby; and in 1868 he was Lord President of the Council, retiring with his colleagues in the Ministry upon the accession of that year. His Grace is a Knight of the Garter, Lord-Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum of Oxfordshire, a trustee of Rugby School, and a governor of the Charterhouse. He married, in 1843, Lady Frances Anne Emily Vane, eldest daughter of the third Marquis of Londonderry. Their eldest son is the Marquis of Blandford, who married, in 1869, Lady Albertha Frances Anne Hamilton, daughter of the Duke of Abercorn.

Mr. Manisty, Q.C., has been appointed to the vacant Judgeship in the Queen's Bench division of the High Court of Judicature.

The marriage of the Hon. Miss Palmer, eldest daughter of Lord Selborne, to Dr. Ridding, Head Master of Winchester College, is to take place at Blackmoor on the 26th inst.

On Saturday evening the Duke of Edinburgh reached Malta in her Majesty's ship Sultan from Besika Bay, and on Sunday the Duchess arrived in a Russian yacht from Smyrna. On Monday afternoon their Royal Highnesses landed at Pinto Pier, where they were received by the Governor, the naval, military and civil authorities, and a guard of honour, and proceeded, followed by thirty five carriages, through the Right Marina Gate, where the garrison saluted them, and through the Porto Reale, where a second salute was fired, to the Valetta Palace where another guard of honour was stationed. They lunched with the Governor and Lady Von Straubenze, covers being laid for fifty, and afterwards proceeded to the Saint Antonio Palace, their future residence. The weather has lately been stormy, and on Sunday Night the flagstaff on Fort Saint Elmo was shattered to pieces.

The Duke of Connaught was present at the Exhibition Palace, Dublin, on Saturday evening, at an assault of arms given in aid of the Drummond Institution for the Orphan Daughters of Soldiers. There was a large and distinguished gathering, and His Royal Highness was received with much enthusiasm. The audience stood and cheered while the Prince entered and when he left the palace. He was received by the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress. He wore the undress uniform of his regiment, and was accompanied by several of his brother officers. He appeared to take much interest in the proceedings, and conversed very freely with those around him.

I.P.M.; Jno. Brown, S.W.; T. Merry, J.W.; W. Cooper, Sec.; Sheffield, S.D.; Whittaker, J.D.; Knight, D.C.; Fraser, I.G.; Day, Tyler; Burton, King, R. Bennett, Windover, Baldock, Fowkes, Holloway, Slater, Cay, Vincent, Bower, Humber, and Webster; also Bros. Pipes, sen., W.M. 1085; Pipes, jun., Sec. 1085; and other visiting brethren. The minutes of the last lodge having been read and confirmed, Bro. Webster advanced to the pedestal, and answered the questions leading from the First to the Second Degree satisfactorily. He then retired for preparation, and was afterwards passed to the Second Degree by the W.M. Bro. Humber having answered the test questions leading from the Second to the Third Degree, retired, when Bro. Humber was re-admitted, and was raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason by the W.M., assisted by Bro. Merry, I.P.M., in ancient and solemn form. The lodge was resumed in the First Degree, and two gentlemen were proposed for initiation. The W.M. received the congratulations of the brethren, and the lodge was then closed. The brethren afterwards sat down to a substantial supper in the lower hall, and spent a very pleasant evening, the usual Masonic toasts being duly honoured. The W.M. referred to the ceremony which would take place on the 25th inst., when the foundation stone of the New Library and Museum would be laid by Bro. M. T. Bass, M.P., and called upon the members of the lodge to be present on that occasion as numerous as possible.

DERBY.—Hartington Lodge (No. 1085).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Gower-street, on Wednesday evening, October 4th. The lodge was opened at 7.45 p.m. in the First Degree. The brethren present were—Bros. S. Pipes, W.M.; J. Worsnop, P.M.; W. Heathcote, S.W.; J. O. Manton, as J.W.; M. H. Bobart, Treas.; Geo. Pipes, Sec.; T. Hills, S.D.; Josh. Heathcote, J.D.; W. M. Butterfield, as I.G.; Thos. Slinn, Tyler; Hextall, Hill, Johnson, Russell, Steele. Visitors—Bros. John Smith, P.P.J.G.W.; Thos. Roe, P.M., 802; G. T. Wright, P.M. 731; Burton, 731; R. Bennett, 731; Whitaker, 731; T. Merry, 731; A. Frazer, 731; Winton, 731; M. K. Frith, Great City, 1426; A. W. Guthrie, 711, South Africa; Josh. Dee Chorlton Lodge, 1387; Stone, W.M., 787; W. F. Hawkins, S.W. 787; Lovelock, 787; E. Marshall, 787; W. E. Webster, 787. The minutes of the last lodge being read and confirmed, the charge was delivered to Bros. Gore and Pragnell by the S.W. The examination in the test questions being gone through and answered in an efficient manner by these two brothers, they were passed to the Second or F.C. Degree, in ancient and solemn form, by the W.M. Grand Lodge certificates were presented to Bros. Johnson and Geo. Hill. The nomination of a gentleman as a candidate for Freemasonry brought the business to a close. The brethren adjourned to the banquetting-room, where an unusually excellent spread awaited them. Everything was done to render this meeting one of the best that could possibly be held, in consideration of a number of the brethren of the Beaureper Lodge, 787, paying this lodge a return visit, and to evince to them the cordial reception they received at the hands of the Beaureper brethren on the occasion of a visit to their lodge some few months ago. After the cloth was removed the usual Masonic toasts were given, and most heartily responded to. The evening was very much enlivened by suitable songs from the brethren, and brought to a close at an early hour, the whole of the brethren separating with the utmost good feeling and brotherly love.

LIVERPOOL.—Fermor Hesketh Lodge (No. 1350).—The monthly meeting of this lodge took place on the 9th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Bro. Richard Collinson, W.M., in the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, and the brethren at once proceeded to ballot for a candidate, which proving unanimous, he was properly prepared and duly initiated into the mysteries of ancient Freemasonry by the W.M. The lodge was then opened in the Second Degree, when the W.M. passed a brother to the degree of Fellow Craft. The lodge was then closed down to the First Degree, when a sum of money was voted towards the sedelia for Chester Cathedral. One of the officers then gave the following important notice of motion:—"That as a feeling for exclusiveness has arisen among the members, in order to keep the funds in a healthy state, that the initiation fees be raised from £6 6s. 0d. to £10 10s. 0d., and the subscription to £5 5s. 0d. per annum instead of £2 2s. 0d. Nothing further appearing, the lodge was closed in due form after solemn prayer by the W.M."

LIVERPOOL.—Emulation Lodge (No. 1505).—The annual installation meeting of this excellent lodge was held on Friday evening, the 6th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool. Bro. J. T. Callow, W.M., occupied the chair at the commencement of the proceedings, and he was supported by Bros. H. Nelson, I.P.M.; H. Morris, S.W. (W.M. elect); W. E. Quayle, J.W.; J. Hocken, P.M., Treas.; W. H. Corbin, Sec.; T. Large, J.D.; J. Capell, I.G.; H. Coulson, J.S.; J. Skeaf, P.G. Org.; W. H. Ball, Tyler; Rev. H. G. Vernon, P.P.G.C.; J. Purvis, R. Foote, &c. The visitors included Bros. W. Doyle, P.P.G.J.D.; Councillor Forrest, W.M. 1547; J. Busfield, 216; H. Burrows, S.W. 673; Hugh Williams, P.M. 1264; J. Hughes, W.M. 220; T. Roberts, W.M. 673; R. H. Evans, W.M. 292; T. Clark, P.M. 673; J. Pemberton, P.G.S.; R. Martin, jun., W.M. 1182; R. R. Martin, P.M. 1094; W. T. May, P.M. 673, &c. Bro. Henry Morris was most effectively installed in the chair of W.M. by Bro. J. Hocken, P.M., Treas., and the following were invested officers of the lodge:—Bros. J. T. Callow, I.P.M.; H. Nelson, P.M., D.C.; W. E. Quayle, S.W.; W. H. Corbin, J.W.; J. Hocken, P.M., Treas.; J. Capell, Sec.; T. Large, S.D.; H. Coulson, J.D.; R. Foote, I.G.; A. McKenzie, S.; H. H. Smith, S.; and W. H. Ball, Tyler. The sum of ten guineas was voted from

the funds of the lodge towards the presentation of a testimonial to Bro. J. T. Callow, I.P.M. The brethren subsequently banqueted, and the musical programme was furnished by Bros. J. Busfield, H. J. Atkinson, J. Queen, A. Child, Hobart, and Skeaf, P.G.O.

INSTRUCTION.

WELLINGTON LODGE (No. 458).—Monday night's proceedings and attendance at the White Swan, High-street, Deptford, is a proof of what can be really done at short notice, and under pressure by an energetic Preceptor, who sets his mind on a thing worth doing, it is sure to be done well. The night in question was the "Fifteen Section" night, and through the enforced absence through illness of the esteemed Bro. Secretary, the announcement was not made to the lodge until less than a fortnight before, but Bro. Preceptor Griffin put his shoulder to the wheel, and his efforts bore good fruit, the issue being that at seven o'clock on Monday evening Bro. Shaw (the most obliging man and Mason, Preceptor or otherwise, we know of), Preceptor of the Pythagorean Lodge, assumed the chair, having as his S.W. Bro. Pulsford, P.M. 1158, &c., the other offices being filled as follows: Bros. Church (J.W. 147), J.W.; Hutchings, J.D.; Gibson, I.G. Lodge having been opened in the First Degree, the Lecture was worked as follows:—

FIRST LECTURE.

- 1st Section by Bro. Bridgland.
2nd " " Gibson.
3rd " " Ernest Smith.
4th " " Brown, P.M.
5th " " Cobley.
6th " " Pulsford, P.M.
7th " " Shaw.

Lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the following was the working of the

SECOND LECTURE.

- 1st Section by Bro. Waterman.
2nd " " Hutchings.
3rd " " Church.
4th " " Beavis.
5th " " Musto.

The lodge having been opened in the Third Degree, the Sections were worked as follows:—

THIRD LECTURE.

- 1st Section by Bro. Griffin, P.M.
2nd " " Brown, P.M.
3rd " " Church.

With such a pair of nonpareil Preceptors as Bros. Shaw and Pulsford to rule, direct, and assist, it is almost superfluous to say that the work was got through expeditiously and well. The brethren assisting in the working were as nearly perfect as possible, each having been suited to his part section, save in the instance of Bro. Brown, who at short notice did double duty, and right well did he acquit himself. Bros. Wells, Southern Star Lodge, 1158, Ford, and Dana, Chislehurst, 1531, were elected joining members, and the customary vote of thanks to the W.M., officers, and brethren assisting in the workings having been proposed, carried, and responded to, lodge was closed in due form. In addition to those brethren above enumerated we noticed Bros. West, P.M.; Batt, P.M.; Davies, P.M.; Pitt, H. Freeman, Caterson, Gambrill, Lennaker, Ford, Dana, Dena, W. Porter, H. Shaw, Upton, Nevins, Butler, Glover, Williams, Thompson, Fieldson, Roper, Nell, Tewson.

HERVEY LODGE (No. 1260).—The members of the above lodge having unanimously decided to remove their lodge to so central a position as the Punch Tavern, Fleet-street, met there on Thursday, Oct. 5th, to inaugurate that event, and the opening of the winter season, by a supper, which was placed on the table in the well-known complete style of the host, Bro. F. Beeton, and after the brethren, numbering nearly twenty, had done hearty justice to it and the capital wines provided, the cloth was cleared, and the Chairman (Bro. G. Harrison, W.M. 1260) rose to propose the loyal toasts, and, prefacing his remarks with the observation that having met there on that occasion more for the purposes of conviviality and good fellowship, he should be but brief. In a few well chosen words gave "The Queen and the Craft," and "The M.W.G.M. and the rest of the Grand Officers, Past and Present," and it is needless to add that these toasts met with a hearty reception. The Vice-Chairman (Bro. Ward) then proposed "The Health of the W.M.," which was well received, and in responding to it Bro. Harrison assured the brethren that nothing had given him greater pleasure than being honoured with such a goodly attendance, which he felt sure augured increased prosperity to the lodge, and before sitting down would ask the brethren to drink "The Health of the Vice-Chairman," "than a better an one" it would be a difficult task to find. Bro. Ward, in responding, concluded a capital speech by proposing the toast of the evening, "Success to the Hervey Lodge of Instruction," which was received and drunk in a manner worthy of the lodge. Bro. G. King, jun. P.M. and Sec., replied, and assured the members present that he felt very proud of the position the Hervey Lodge had attained in the Craft, as having been connected with it at its birth, and had a great deal to do with the rearing of it in its youthful days. He was confident that at the present time it was well able to stand alone, and not unlikely would be a support and help to other younger lodges. The W.M. then gave "The P.M.'s of the Hervey Lodge," and Bro. King, sen., P.M., responded in his usual terse and cheerful manner. The vice-Chairman having proposed "The Officers," Bro. Southwood as S.W., was the first to reply, and thanking the brethren for expressions of sympathy to him during his late dangerous illness, was much pleased to find he was sufficiently strong to be among them that evening. And in a most eloquent manner he asked all the brethren there for their support and help in the forthcoming election for the Girls' School, when as most present were aware the little daughter of a late officer of the lodge (Bro. Kingcombe, I.G.) would stand

for election a second time, and as only 404 votes were polled last time, he need not inform the brethren that they would have to strain every nerve to obtain the number to ensure no further disappointment, and in response to the appeal, the brethren one and all assured him of their best support. Bros. J. Sandiland Ward and Goodacre having also responded, the W.M. proposed the toast of the visitors, and expressed his pleasure in seeing such distinguished brethren among them and drew the notice of the brethren to the special qualities of each. Bros. Baker, Withers, Radcliffe and Williams responded. The Vice-Chairman then rose to propose the next toast of the evening, that of "The Host," Bro. Beeton and his wife, Mrs. Beeton, and in the name of the brethren would express the satisfaction that was felt at the very genial way in which both had acted to ensure a pleasant meeting. Bro. Beeton responded, and expressed his thanks for the kind treatment he had received from the lodge, and added nothing in his power should be left undone to ensure the comfort and convenience of the brethren at all times. The Tyler's toast brought the proceedings to a close, and the brethren departed "each on his own way," expressing satisfaction and enjoyment at such a pleasant meeting. Among the brethren present were Bros. G. Harrison, Ward, G. King, jun., King, sen., Baker, J. H. Southwood, J. Sandilands Ward, Goodacre, Binley, Bigwood, Withers, Radcliffe, Salmon, Steward, Beeton, Williams Portway, and others.

MARQUESS OF RIPON LODGE (No. 1489).

—On Monday last the ceremony of consecration was ably rehearsed by Bro. Jas. Terry, and the installation by Bro. Wm. Stephens, the Preceptor. The meeting was fully attended, the members and visitors of the surrounding lodges appearing in full Craft clothing. Several handsome presents were made, the whole of the present furniture being the voluntary offerings of the members. We have no doubt, from the position of the lodge and the efficiency of many of its members, that it will continue to be well attended. This being the anniversary of its establishment, a very nice dinner was provided. Bro. Stephens presided, Bro. W. J. Murlis occupying the vice-chair. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts followed. Bro. Terry responded for "The Charities," giving an interesting account of the progress made, and the large increase annually accruing to the different funds of the Order; thanked the members of the lodge for their great liberality, hoping they would continue in the good work they had commenced, and that in future years their subscriptions would be, as heretofore, not less than three figures in the pounds' column. A vote of thanks to the chair and vice-chair brought this very successful meeting to a close.

Royal Arch.

BEADON CHAPTER (No. 619).—A convocation of this chapter was held on Thursday evening, Oct. 12th, at the Horus Tavern, Kennington; Comp. W. H. Green, M.E.Z., presiding. The business of the evening, after the confirmation of the minutes, was to exalt, already balloted for, Bros. Henry Thompson, P.M. of 177 and 1158, and of 1426 ("Freemason"); John Welch, of the Fidelity Lodge, 3; and James John Chapman, of the Alexandria Lodge, 1541. After this an election took place for M.E.Z. for the ensuing year, and Comp. W. Seaman, the present H., was unanimously elected to that high office. Comp. Corke was elected as H., and Comp. Wier as J. A ballot took place for S.E., and the choice fell upon Comp. W. H. Green, the retiring M.E.Z. It was agreed unanimously that a jewel of the usual value should be presented to Comp. W. H. Green, the retiring M.E.Z., for the zeal and ability with which he had discharged that office during the last two years, and a compliment was agreed to be conferred upon Comp. Angres, for his services as S.E. Some other appointments having been made, the companions retired to the banquetting room, where many good things awaited them. On the withdrawal of the cloth, after the formal toasts had been given, the M.E.Z. said there was always a most important toast to be given on such occasions, and that was to drink the health of their newly-exalted companions. They hailed their coming amongst them, as it was always the desire of the Beadon Chapter to receive an infusion of new blood, as an evidence of their progress, and at the same time it gave stability to their proceedings. With all the Royal Arch honours, he proposed "The Health of their Newly exalted Companions, Thompson, Welch, and Chapman," feeling sure that they would become worthy members of their noble Order. This toast was warmly received, and on Comp. Thompson being requested to return thanks for the other newly-elected companions, he said he regretted that the task had fallen upon him, as he was then in much the same position as he was in the Craft lodge 20 years ago at his initiation, not knowing in what exact terms he should address them in acknowledging the high honour that had been conferred upon him in being admitted to that supreme degree of Freemasonry, and he believed he might say the same of his brother companions who had gone through the ceremony with him. He felt, as they did, impressed with its importance, and he hoped and trusted that they would not prove themselves unworthy members of the degree into which that night they had been received. Some other toasts having been given the proceedings terminated at 11 o'clock, in the true spirit of Freemasonry.

A gentleman, who withholds his name, has offered, through Messrs. Agnew, a marble copy of the Venus de Milo as a contribution to the Liverpool Art Gallery, and the offer has been accepted.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The Quarterly Court of the Governors and Subscribers of this Institution was held on Saturday last at the Freemasons' Hall, Bro. Lieut.-Col. J. Creaton, Vice-patron, in the chair. There were likewise present Bros. Geo. Jeffery, E. B. Grabham, Richard H. Forward, H. Browse, George Bolton, John Boyd, J. L. Hine, C. A. Cottebrune, Isaac Wilcox, Samuel Geo. Myers, John B. White, Thos. W. White, A. H. Tattershall, R. B. Webster, E. F. Storr, Thos. James, W. H. Radley, Edward Harris, Capt. John Wordsworth, W. H. B. Tomlinson, H. A. Dubois, Thos. H. Waterworth, Alfred Partridge, Edw. Spooner, H. S. Tyerman, E. H. Hewett, H. Hacker, J. Wordsworth, Joseph Clever, John Bodenham, Dr. Ramsay, Charles Godtschalk, Geo. Phythian, Hyde Pullen, George Kenning, J. L. Russell, F. R. Eames, J. J. Berry, Thos. Francis Peacock, Charles Lacey, W. Adamson, John Johnston, Wm. Roebuck, Thos. J. Sabine, V.P., T. Davies Sewell, W. Mann, W. Buck, Joseph Smith, William Hale, Geo. Wilson, H. M. Levy, F. W. R. Vine, James Terry, John G. Stevens, J. E. Walton, Wm. Lane, Jas. Horwood, John Vaughan, Heather Bigg, Wm. F. C. Moutrie, Dr. W. R. Woodman, T. Allen, Chas. Jardine, Henry Smith, J. Hamilton Townend, Herbert Dicketts, F. G. Baker, W. Mason, George Neall, A. Weston, John Thompson, J. Jonas, B. H. Swallow, W. H. G. Rudderforth, Frederick Adlard, E. Ludworth, John Faulkner, Vincent Ambler, M.D., F. B. Davage, Brackstone Baker, Edw. Cox, H. Massey ("Freemason"), John Read, R. W. Hedges, H. G. Warren, Benj. Head, H. Muggeridge, E. S. Snell, John Emmens, Capt. Philips, F. Binckes, G. M. E. Snow, F. H. Ebsworth, Raynham W. Stewart, Alfred H. Diaper, H. Potter, D. Betts, Thos. Meggy, Chas. Greenwood, M. S. Larham, John Symonds, A. D. Loewenstark, L. Finch, Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, and R. Wentworth Little, Sec.

After the minutes had been read,

Col. Creaton said that the next business on the paper being a matter personal to himself, he would leave it to some other brother to move in it.

Bro. H. A. Dubois moved, "That instructions be given with reference to signing cheques in connection with the new buildings, and that Col. Creaton be authorised to sign such cheques as Chairman of the Building Committee."

Bro. Samuel Rawson seconded the motion.

A slight discussion, originated by Bro. J. Symonds, took place with reference to the Building Committee, which Bro. Symonds contended was only a portion of the House Committee, nominated by that body. The discussion, however, came to nothing, and

Col. Creaton said that there was no question as to there being a Building Committee, as it was resolved by the House Committee that there should be a Building Committee. At a meeting of that Committee, he (Col. Creaton) was elected permanent Chairman.

The motion was then put and carried.

Col. Creaton said the next business was the consideration of a motion, notice of which stood in his name. He believed it was well understood by all of the brethren that the Collector of the Institution, Bro. Muggeridge, had resigned his office in consequence of failing health. Bro. Muggeridge had held the office for a period of 20 years with very great credit to himself and also with very great satisfaction to the brethren. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) Now that he had become, he might say, older, and his health was failing, he (Col. Creaton) thought that the least the brethren could do was to give Bro. Muggeridge some substantial mark of their recognition of his past services. (Hear, hear.) It was quite unnecessary that he should say much to the brethren on the point, because they all knew Bro. Muggeridge as well as he did. He would therefore move, "That in consideration of the services rendered by Bro. H. Muggeridge, Collector, for upwards of 20 years, he be awarded a retiring pension of £150 per annum." (Cheers.)

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart seconded the motion, and in doing so said he had known Bro. Muggeridge's good qualities and his efficiency in the discharge of his duties. He had supported him in his election, and now felt great pleasure in seconding Bro. Col. Creaton's motion, for Bro. Muggeridge thoroughly deserved the proposed recognition of his efforts on behalf of the Institution. (Great cheering.)

The motion was carried unanimously amidst great applause.

Col. Creaton then proposed that the said pension should commence from 1st January next. (Applause.)

Bro. Muggeridge, who had left the room before the motion was brought on, was here called in, and was received with loud and long continued applause.

Col. Creaton, addressing Bro. Muggeridge, said he had very great pleasure, and he was sure every one in that room shared in that pleasure, in informing Bro. Muggeridge that the Court had unanimously carried the motion which he (Col. Creaton) had given notice of, that he (Bro. Muggeridge) should receive £150 a year for the remainder of his life as a retiring pension, and that it would commence from the 1st of January. He did not think it was necessary to ask Bro. Muggeridge to say anything.

Bro. Muggeridge, who was quite overcome with the loud cheering which followed this short address, was then assisted out of the room.

The next business was the consideration of Bro. Raynham W. Stewart's motion:

"That the office of Collector be not filled up, but that an additional clerk be appointed to assist the Secretary."

And to receive the Report of the Committee of Inquiry as to the Collectorship, if ready for presentation.

Bro. Hedges read the following report of the Committee appointed to consider the subject of the office of Collector to the Institution.

1st. That the office of Collector be abolished.

2nd. That the duties of Collector be discharged in the Secretary's office.

3rd. That a second clerk be appointed in the Secretary's office.

4th. That the salaries of the clerks in the Secretary's office be as follows:—Senior, £140; Junior, £50.

Bro. Raynham Stewart in bring on his motion said that the Committee had, without his knowing it, come to nearly the same conclusion as he had himself. He thought that the collection of the subscriptions should be managed in the office, and be under the control of the Secretary. For this purpose they should have additional assistance, because there was already a great deal of work in the office. But his great object in giving his notice of motion was that there were very many complaints that he heard from brethren of commission having to be paid on large sums of money which never passed through the hands of the Collector at all. Some £10,000 or £12,000 a year was paid in, and out of this only £2000 went through the Collector's hands. It was said upon that, by the brethren, why should they pay on the whole amount a sum as commission which might go for the benefit of the Institution? He thought that the Collector's place should not be filled up, but that additional clerks should be nominated. If £12,000 was paid into the Secretary's office there must be additional labour in making out the receipts, sending the voting papers, &c. He hoped the brethren would agree with him, and make an experiment of his plan. If it did not at the end of a twelvemonth turn out to their satisfaction, they could then alter it. (Hear hear.)

Bro. H. A. Dubois seconded the motion.

Bro. Dr. Ramsay thought it desirable that the Secretary should tell them what the sums formerly paid into his office were. No doubt they had considerably increased. What also were the duties which would occupy the proposed additional clerk while he was not collecting.

Bro. Little said he thought one of the greatest proofs of the increase of the work in the office had just been stated. In the four years ending 1872 only £21,000 had been received, of which the Collector brought in two-thirds. During the subsequent, 3½ years £33,000 had come in, and of this over £18,000 had passed direct through the Secretary's hands. He need scarcely say there was a vast amount of correspondence connected with the receipt of such a sum. The lists had to be made up, and frequently 100 receipts had to be given for the sums on one list. All this work had to be performed in the office. It had been his impression for some years past that if he were to ask Stewards to send moneys to him a large amount which was now received by the Collector would come to the office without the intervention of the Collector.

Bro. B. Head asked whether the Secretary would be kind enough to say how much he had paid for extra work last year.

Bro. Little replied that they paid for no extra work excepting for making out and sending the balloting papers, which cost £5. The other institutions, however, had the same expense.

Bro. Joseph Smith, P.G.P., thought that before they made this proposed great change they ought to know how it was made out that the salaries were to be paid to the additional clerk, how the change would work, and whether the same amount of money would be got in—whether the brethren would bring the money to the office which they were in the habit of paying the collector. For himself he did not think they would get half the money they did before. A Collector who had nothing else to depend upon but his commission was very vigilant, and would call upon brethren several times. Brethren who did not want him to wait on them would send a cheque. But if the newly-proposed official was paid a salary instead of commission he would not have the same inducement to be active. Where would all the taxes be if collectors were not employed, and how much would ever be paid if they depended on people taking them to the offices. Before he voted for Bro. Stewart's motion he wished to know what the clerk was to receive, and what were his proposed duties.

Bro. H. G. Warren thought the new step was suicidal. They had been informed that £18,000 had been paid into the office, and £14,000 to the Collector. The Collector should be paid on what he received only. If it was found that the commission on this would not pay the Collector, let it be raised to a small extent, and let all assistance be given to the office that could be given by having an extra clerk if it was necessary. This was better than doing away altogether with the Collector. Having a Collector would produce greater results than brethren were aware of. It frequently happened when a Collector called that the brother on whom he called would ask him if he knew Bro. So and So, and if he did not know him would tell him to call on such brother and mention his name to him, and ask him for a subscription because he knew he would subscribe. He (Bro. Warren) had had considerable experience in charities, and he had always seen that without a Collector they never got their money in well. For seven years he acted as honorary secretary of an institution which was started with nothing a year, and which now had £5000 a year. They employed a collector, and what was the result? He himself, as secretary, had to be out three or four mornings weekly, his mornings not being of any value to him; but that was not what they could ask the secretaries of any society to do, and especially the Secretary of a society of such magnitude as the Masonic Institutions. He believed nothing could be worse for institutions than not to have a collector. Give all the assistance in the office they liked; further, let them pay a commission to a Collector, and when the Secretary wanted additional assistance in the office, let him call off the Collector and pay him for the assistance he gave in the office. But let them not do away with the Collector. The very name on the front page of their books was an advantage, and of greater necessity than they thought for. Every one knew

the name of the Collector; but every man did not remember the name of the Secretary or the place to go to. The Collector's name came before a man three or four times in the course of the year, his card being left each time he called. Even his (Bro. Warren's) own subscriptions would not always be paid if he did not get gentle reminders, and he was not singular in that respect. He said he should conclude by opposing the motion.

Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford wished permission to say a few words on the other point which pressed upon other brethren in the same way as it did upon him. He was formerly connected with a large province which greatly supported the charities of the Order. Many of the brethren present would confirm him when he said that one of the great objections and complaints was, that where subscriptions were raised in the provinces, bona fide for the charities, a commission on them was paid to a collector in London, who had nothing whatever to do with the matter. Many brethren in the provinces gave great care and attention and spent much time in collecting money for our institutions; and after they had paid the money they were told that a commission on it was paid to the collector. (A Voice: That clearly is wrong.) If by any arrangement that could be made this (to use a vulgar expression) system of "sweating" the provincial returns could be stopped, a great deal might be said in favour of the appointment of a Collector. It appeared, however, to him, with due submission to Bro. Warren that the proposal of the Committee was good as a tentative measure. If it did not work, and the prognostications of Bro. Warren were found to be true, there would be no difficulty in going back to the old system. They might try it for twelve months. (Hear, hear, and cheers.)

Bro. John Symonds said it had been a complaint for a long time past that commission was paid on money sent direct to the office. If they would be sure of getting a Collector like Bro. Muggeridge, by all means let them have one. Bro. Muggeridge took to the collection from the interest he felt in the Institution, and the Institution benefited by it. When he took to it the subscriptions were small, but Bro. Muggeridge never complained. Now there was a growing tendency to send the subscriptions direct to the office of the Secretary. What was the result of that if they said the Collector was to have no commission on it? Why, the Collector would have to go after all the single guineas, the difficult ones to collect, and while the Institution was increasing in prosperity, the Collector would have his emoluments diminishing. He would have all the trouble of calling three or four times to the East of London to collect a single guinea; after all, the guinea might be sent to the office, and the Collector would get nothing for it. He thought this might be remedied by the entire responsibility of the collection on the Secretary. It was not intended that the proposed additional clerk should be the Collector, but that he should be for the work of the office.

A Brother said it seemed an anomaly to pay commission to a Collector for work he had not done. Bro. Warren's proposition might be altered so as to make commission payable on London sums, but not on moneys sent to the office.

Bro. Warren's idea was that commission should be paid on the sums collected by the Collector, and for this purpose it would be better to give him 6 or 7½ per cent. than 5 per cent. on money with which he had nothing to do. If the Collector was done away with, in twelve months the Institution would lose £1000. There would be no real authority if any and every clerk was delegated to do the duties of Collector. Let it be one man, and there let it stand.

Bro. Thos. W. White said that the intention of the Committee was to recommend that the collection should be put in charge of the Secretary, who was to send a clerk out to collect; in other words, to arrange for the collection.

Bro. H. Smith (West Yorkshire) said his province sent up large sums, never less than a few hundreds. Was it right they should be taxed? Let the Collector who really collected the money have 5 or 10 per cent. for it. He was in favour of the motion as a tentative proposal.

In answer to the question, Bro. Little said the Collector now received commission on four different scales, and a great anomaly was created.

The Chairman said the question now was as to the abolition of the office. The commission to be paid could be settled afterwards.

Ultimately an amendment by Bro. Joseph Smith, seconded by Bro. Levy, was carried that a committee be appointed to go into the whole subject and report to a Special Court. Bros. Raynham W. Stewart, H. G. Warren, John Symonds, Joseph Smith, W. Hale, D. Betts, Dr. Ramsay, S. Rawson, and Col. Creaton were appointed as the committee.

Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford moved, and Bro. Raynham W. Stewart seconded, that the report be made to a Special Court, and this having been carried, the election of eight girls was proceeded with.

The Scrutineers appointed were Bros. A. H. Tattershall, R. B. Webster, Thos. W. White, Major Finney, Raynham W. Stewart, J. J. Berry, Dr. Woodman, Dr. Sewell, H. C. Levander, L. S. Tyerman, S. Rawson, J. Jardine, Hyde Pullen, Capt. Wordsworth, and John Boyd.

The names of the successful candidates will be found in our advertisement columns.

Votes of thanks to the Scrutineers and Chairman concluded the proceedings.

After the ceremony of the presentation of the Elcho Shield at Guildhall on Saturday, there was a banquet at the Mansion House Station Restaurant, at which Mr. Wells, M.P., presided. The toast of "The English Eighties" was proposed by Captain Field, of the Hon Artillery Company.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The Quarterly Court of Governors and Subscribers of this Institution was held on Monday at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. John Symonds, Vice-Patron, presided. Among the other brethren present were Bros. Col. Creaton; H. Hacker, Richard H. Townend, C. A. Cottebrune, Raynham W. Stewart, S. Rawson, Dr. F. W. Ramsay, H. Levy, H. A. Dubois, Charles Goldschalk, Alfred H. Diaper, H. Browne, George A. Taylor, Wm. Stephens, G. Bolton, Edward S. Snell, John Boyd, W. H. B. Tomlinson, Capt. John Wordsworth, Henry Smith, Prov. G. Sec. West Yorkshire; Wm. Mann, the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, George Thompson, Henry C. Burt, Frederick Adler, H. Massey ("Freemason"); Edward Sewell, M.A.; G. R. Sherwill, Wm. F. C. Moutrie, Hyde Pullen, James Robins, Thomas W. White, W. H. Spaul, Wm. Lane, W. N. Lash, Henry W. Binckes, W. Hickman, D.P.G.M. Hants and Isle of Wight; Benjamin Head, John Vaughan, P.G.S.W. Warwick; Mathew Miles, John Wordsworth, 1019; James A. Birch, Isaac W. Petly, J. L. Hine, S. Rosenthal, John Sutcliffe, Henry Moore, James Terry, James Stevens, Fred. W. Smith, 58; James Waldram, H. Cowland, John Read, Dr. F. J. Lilley, F. H. Ebsworth, Edward Harris, Thomas Meggy, George Newman, Major Finney, N. B. Headon, E. H. Thielay, W. Parsons, H. Garrad, Edward Cox, John G. Stevens, Edward Moody, and Frederick Binckes, Secretary.

Events having occurred to cause three vacancies since the balloting papers were sent out, the vacancies for three additional boys beyond the twelve announced on the voting papers were declared, making fifteen boys to be elected at this meeting. After the other formal business had been disposed of,

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart moved that Bro. Captain Wordsworth, of Leeds, be elected a Trustee of the Institution. Bro. Captain Wordsworth took great interest in the Institution, and among his acts it might be narrated that he came up from Leeds as many as twenty times in the course of the year at his own expense to attend the different meetings of the Boys' School. This alone shewed that he took great interest in the Institution, and he (Bro. Stewart) did not think the brethren could better testify their appreciation of his services than by electing the brother who was one of the working bees, as a Trustee. While mentioning this he might say he hoped that Captain Wordsworth might have health and strength to discharge his duties as Trustee for many years to come the same as he had his other offices in connection with the Institution. (Hear hear.)

Bro. Levy seconded the motion.

The Chairman, after the motion had been carried unanimously, informed Captain Wordsworth of his election, and welcomed him as one of the body of which he (the Chairman) was one.

Capt. Wordsworth, in acknowledging the compliment, said he hoped he should zealously discharge his duties in his new character, and that he should do in the future as much as it had been said he had done in the past. He had been many years on the House Committee, and he trusted he should still remain on it to discharge his duties. The Institution's work was not yet finished; indeed, it was a long way from finished; and he hoped the Institution would be so enlarged as to accommodate more boys. He had no objection next year to subscribe a hundred guineas as a special subscription towards building the new school for 50 or 100 young boys opposite the present school at Wood Green. (Cheers.) The site was already purchased, and it only remained to erect the building. (Applause.)

The election was then proceeded with, and at 5 o'clock the result was announced. The names of the successful candidates will appear in our next advertisement.

Votes of thanks to the Scrutineers and the Chairman brought the proceedings to a close.

ANNUAL BANQUET OF THE STAR LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.

It was on the 5th of October, 1869, that the first meeting of this lodge of instruction, held under the warrant of the Star Lodge, 1275, under the Preceptorship of Bro. Comb, took place at the Marquis of Granby, New Cross, where ever since it has from week to week afforded profitable and intellectual entertainment to the brethren, not only in its immediate neighbourhood, but to many from afar. On Thursday week the seventh anniversary of what has proved a vast school for Masonic learning was celebrated by the annual banquet, an event of no small moment to those at least who have from Saturday to Saturday, with diligence and perseverance, met to expatiate on all that is bright and glorious to the good and true Mason. To our mind the annual banquet of a lodge of instruction is a matter of importance, inasmuch as it serves to reward the assiduous and painstaking Mason for his twelve months' labour. It likewise offers to the brethren the opportunity of showing their regard and appreciation of the Preceptor by flocking round him and thanking him through the President for his kind care and instruction in the past; and finally, it is truly an occasion when it is well for brethren to dwell together.

There was a fairly numerous gathering of the members of the lodge and their friends, over whom Bro. C. J. Hogg, P.M. 1275, &c., P.G.S., presided, having as his Vice-Presidents Bros. H. Keeble, P.M. 1275, J.W. 73, Sec. 1559, and Hon. Sec. of the Star Lodge of Instruction; and H. Green, W.M. of the Mother Lodge, 1275, P.M. 1538, J.D. 1559. Glancing round the table we noticed the familiar faces of Bros. Govan Macdonald, W.M. 1158, Preceptor; C. G. Dilley, P.M. 147, 1155, Past Preceptor of the lodge; Jobson; Speight, jun., S.W.; Waterman, J.D.; Churrah, J.W. 147; W. Simmonds, J.W.; Ernest Smith; T. Grumant; Moss; Cowley, 1559; H. Gloster,

J.W. 1531; Schultze, 13; Hartnup, 933; Tong, 73; H. Shaw, H. Jenkins. The names of the others we were unable to obtain. Masonic grace having been offered, the lodge was duly declared open in the Fourth Degree. We have had the good fortune to attend an great number of banquets, Masonic and civic, among others; hence we flatter ourselves on a judgment second to none in the matter of discerning the appreciation of "feeders." Rarely have we witnessed a more appreciative assembly, willing to accommodate themselves to whatever reigned supreme in their immediate vicinity. Our esteemed President, supported right and left by Past and Present Preceptors Dilley and Macdonald, visited with sore affliction a mighty joint of beef; far away in the west the well-knit frame of Bro. Keeble towered behind a monstrous joint of "biled swarry," whilst firmly established in the south, in the very thick of the "appreciative," ever obliging Bro. Green divided his attention between the poultry yard and pigstye, his handling of the carving knife and fork as reflecting on the fowl, being a past master-piece of skill, and made, forsooth, the brethren in his vicinity forget the pangs of hunger in their admiration for the marvellous carving transacted beneath their gaze. Leg and wing, in quick succession, bade adieu to breast and body, falling gracefully right and left beneath the fell swoop of the Green-handled knife. From "feathered fowl to bristly swine," anon the nonpareil carver deftly whisked a slice of ham, in shape the acme of gentility, in thickness as near approaching transparency as makes no matter. "Oh! it was a sight to see how Bro. Green cut ham for me," remarked a certain brother to us later in the evening. Over the sweets Bros. Hogg, Keeble, Green, Jobson, and Smith found abundant if "light" employment, and after cheese and celery had been "trifled" with becoming languor, the cloth was drawn. Now came the moment for Bro. H. L. Jenkins to distinguish himself, which he did by dispensing the juicy grape with an open hand and an outstretched arm, both far and near, Bro. Green responding with the appetising walnut.

The President having proposed in succession the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, to which it is needless to say a full and hearty reception was given.

Bro. Hogg rose and gave the toast of the evening, "Prosperity to the Star Lodge of Instruction." In doing so he dwelt at considerable length on the importance of lodges of instruction in general as a means of teaching and perpetuating the esoteric ritual of the Order, more especially referred to the immense amount of good the Star Lodge in particular, had accomplished, not only in educating its members, but in the vast help it had extended towards those excellent institutions connected with Freemasonry by means of the charitable association connected with it. He would mention—and he did so with a large amount of pride as the Treasurer of that association, that at its winding up in a few months' time they would have contributed to the Benevolent Institutions very close upon one thousand pounds. (Cheers.) Was not this a proof of the hearty co-operation of all connected with the lodge, and ought they not to be proud of the result of their endeavours? This result has in a very great measure been produced by the assiduous and indefatigable exertions of the present Preceptor of the lodge, Bro. Macdonald, whose name it afforded him great pleasure to couple with the toast. They all knew how earnestly and zealously he had set himself to work for the welfare of the lodge, and he thought that they would one and all agree with him when he said that right well had their Preceptor acquitted himself of the duties attached to his onerous office. The brethren received the toast with loud cheers, and drank to it with the warmest enthusiasm, and Bro. Macdonald upon rising to respond was met with such an ovation as for the moment to prevent his proceeding. The popular Preceptor in thanking the brethren for the hearty manner in which they had received him assured the brethren that all he had done was not half what he would have liked to have done had perfect health and circumstances permitted. From the moment of his first connection with the Star Lodge of Instruction he had taken a deep and lively interest in its welfare, and he had striven as Secretary, alike as Preceptor, to advance its interests. Since he had been elected to fill the responsible position of Preceptor he had become more than ever anxious for the future success of the lodge. There was that in the position he filled that reminded him of the responsibility clinging to his actions, in the way he conducted the business of the lodge, and above all, the manner in which he worked the ritual. No doubt the brethren present would call to mind their first impressions of Masonry as engendered by the delivery of the ritual at their several initiations. To some he had little doubt but that the beauty was in a measure lost by the feeling of nervousness that, more or less, naturally assailed them, and they failed to understand and fully appreciate at that time the beauties of Freemasonry, but a very poor idea being then conveyed to them as to what Masonry really was by the quick succession of unfamiliar words and the unskilful manner in which the W.M. may have performed the ceremony. To eliminate from the working those obscure phrases and inграмmaticisms that render it impossible even for the most astute intellect to follow the ceremony was the object of every Preceptor, and while he endeavoured to fix on his pupils one particular line of working, would not have the brethren assume that this was "Macdonald's working." On the other hand, it was essentially "Star working." Thanks to Bro. Dilley, in whose footsteps he followed, he thought that under him the working in the Star Lodge of Instruction was second to none. He had under the kind tuition of Bro. Dilley accomplished what few hoped for, but as to attaining perfection it was indeed difficult to say when such a degree could be arrived at, seeing that every day something fresh was introduced in the general working of the rituals of the Craft. He trusted that they had a happy and prosperous year before them, and that, although a

Preceptor's berth was not a bed of roses, as he had to put up with so many different tempers, he hoped that should he speak somewhat harshly to them at any time they would remember that it was for their own good and the reputation of the lodge. Bro. "Mac" sat down amidst a storm of applause.

"The Health of the President" was then proposed by Bro. P.M. Dilley, who dwelt on the long and praiseworthy services he had rendered the lodge, having since its formation on the 5th October, 1869, constantly attended its meetings. The toast was drunk amidst great applause and Bro. Hogg briefly thanked the brethren for the manner they had received the toast, and assured them that while he had health and strength it would be his pride and pleasure to support the interests of the lodge. Before resuming his seat he would ask them to drink to the health of Bro. Secretary Keeble and his Assistant Secretary, Bro. Church. He had no doubt Bro. Keeble would be able to give them a good account of their last year's work. Bro. Keeble responded in his usual neat style, and gave the following very gratifying statistics of the work of the past year. There had been 52 meetings with a total attendance of 1167, giving an average of 22½, no fewer than 55 new members having been admitted. Starting with a balance of £1 12s. 2d., they had received during the past twelve months from dues £12 7s. 6d., making a total of £13 19s. 8d., of which sum they had expended £11 8s. 0d. in Masonic charity, while the expenses of the lodge were nil. This report was very favourably received by the brethren. "The Health of Bro. Dilley, the P. Preceptor of the Lodge," was proposed by Bro. Hogg in an eulogistic speech, and Bro. Dilley, in thanking the brethren for the toast, congratulated them on their continued prosperity. The Tyler's toast brought a very agreeable evening to a close.

We must not forget to mention that Bros. H. Shaw, Church, Moss, Gloster, and H. L. Jenkins entertained the company with some capital songs.

CONSECRATION OF THE KILBURN LODGE.

The ceremony of consecrating the new Masonic lodge in Kilburn took place on Tuesday week at the lodge-room, Bro. Hartley's, the Queen's Arms. The usual forms and ceremonies were observed, and everything passed off with the most unequivocal success. His Royal Highness the Worshipful Master deputed Bro. Terry, Prov. G.D.C. Herts, to consecrate the lodge, who has performed the ceremony on no fewer than sixty-two previous occasions. He stated that notwithstanding the number of consecrations he had attended, he had never attended at one where he had met with anything so happy, or at which the whole business had been more successfully gone through. The ceremony commenced at half-past three. Bro. Carter, from the Albert Hall, and a number of gentlemen from the Chapel Royal, went through the musical portion of the ceremony, which took about two and a-half hours. At the conclusion of the ceremony of consecration, the W.M. was installed and the officers were appointed. The following is a list:—Bros. George Killmark, P.M. 291, S.W.; Charles Brewer, J.W.; George Everett, W.M. 1311, Treas.; Samuel Brooks, Sec.; James W. Cuff, S.D.; George Fitchett, J.D.; George Goody, I.G.; Alfred H. Wilson, Stwd.; and Charles Thomas, Tyler.

The brethren then sat down to a most sumptuous dinner, consisting of six courses, supplied by Bro. Hartley in the best possible style. After dinner the following toasts were proposed:—"The Queen;" "The Most Worshipful Grand Master;" "The Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master;" "The Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers;" "The Worshipful Master;" "The Consecrating Officer;" "The Visitors;" "The Masonic Charities;" and "The Officers." The musical portion of the proceedings was in the hands of Bros. Carter, Hodges, and Seymour Smith.

Within two minutes of the Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, is situated what is fairly designated "one of the sights and one of the comforts of London," The Holborn Restaurant, having under able management, now existing for some time, attained a world-wide reputation. To many of our town readers the proximity of the Holborn Restaurant to the Masonic Hall is well known, but to country and suburban friends it will serve as a landmark, to direct their footsteps to one of the first dining establishments in the metropolis, its central position by no means the least recommendation. At The Holborn every article served is of the best quality, the wines excellent, and the attendance good. Private dinners—and the establishment is equal to the serving of all and every luxury that may be desired—can be ordered, whilst the famed Table d'Hôte every evening from 6 to 8.30 offers all the attractions of the chief Parisian establishments, with the quiet and order essential to English customs. This Table d'Hôte can be enjoyed, accompanied by a selection of high class music, for the modest sum of three shillings and sixpence, and includes soups, fish, joints, entrees, &c., &c., with dessert, truly a marvel of cheapness. Luncheons are also provided at a nominal cost. There are also coffee, tea, chess, smoking and retiring rooms—in a word, all the appointments desirable for so complete an establishment. The numerous Metropolitan meetings of lodges, now commencing, cause brethren from all parts to congregate, and to many The Holborn will prove a boon, a comfort, and a delight. We would briefly add that in directing attention to 218, High Holborn, we feel assured that no visitor will regret the visit or leave disappointed.

Bro. William Sawyer, the well-known journalist, and Mrs. Sawyer, celebrated their silver wedding on Monday, when they entertained a select circle of friends to dinner at the Holborn Restaurant.

CONSECRATION OF THE FRIENDS IN COUNCIL
CHAPTER, No. 1383.

On Thursday evening this new chapter was consecrated at the rooms of the Supreme Council of the 33rd Degree, 33, Golden Square, by Lieut.-Genl. Brownrigg, Prov. G. Sup. Surrey, acting as Z; Comp. H. C. Vernon, P. Prov. G. Sup. Worcester, as H.; Comp. John Hervey, G.S.E., as J.; and Comp. Hyde Pullen, P.G.D.C., as S.E. The complete list of companions present on the occasion comprised the names of Comps. Lieutenant-General Studholme Brownrigg, C.B., the Earl of Limerick, Provincial Grand Superintendent, Bristol, H. C. Vernon, John Hervey, Dr. R. Hamilton, S. Rawson, H. D. Sandeman, General Doherty, General H. Clark, Hyde Pullen, the Hon. R. H. Giddy, Dist. G.M. Griqualand, Lieut.-Colonel, H. Somerville Burney, Capt. Philips, Major Shadwell Clerke, Major Barlow, Dr. Woodford, Lieut.-Colonel Randolph, Capt. Compton, Rev. — Ridgway, J. M. P. Montagu, D.P.G.M. Dorset, C. H. Godson, Charles Fendelow, Capt. W. F. Portlock Dadson, Christopher Atkinson, Rev. — Newnham, Capt. Leeson, and H. Massey ("Freemason"). At the termination of the ceremony of consecration, the installation of Principals of the Chapter was proceeded with, but as all the Principals were either Past or Present Grand Superintendents of provinces or districts, they were not entrusted again with the secrets of their respective chairs, but were simply placed in them. Comp. Dr. R. Hamilton, District G. Sup. Jamaica, was placed in the chair of M.E.Z.; Comp. S. Rawson, P.D. G. Sup. of China, H.; and Comp. Hugh D. Sandeman, P.D. G. Sup. Bengal, J.

The officers appointed were Comps. Hyde Pullen, S.E.; Colonel Adair, S.N.; Lieut.-Col. Burney, Treas.; Major Shadwell Clerke, P.S.; Major Barlow, First A.S.; and Lieut.-Col. Randolph, Second A.S. Several companions were proposed as joining members, and nine brethren were proposed for exaltation. Committees for the forming of the bye-laws, &c., were formed, and the resolution for the next meeting of the chapter was carried, when it was arranged that it should be held on Saturday, the 21st inst.

The chapter was then closed, and the companions adjourned to the Café Royal, Regent-street, to banquet. When this had been partaken of, the M.E.Z. proceeded with the toasts, and after giving that of "The Queen and Royal Arch Masonry," proposed with great warmth "His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, G.Z. of the Order."

Lieut.-Genl. Brownrigg in responding said he thought nothing could be more favourable at the commencement of this chapter, than the fact that the three Principals who occupied the chairs were all Past Grand Officers, and with their experience he had no doubt that they would be able to lead this young chapter to prosperity. He would not dilate very much upon the subject which the M.E.Z. had been good enough to bring before them. They all knew it was an old story that all the matters were arranged in Grand Chapter as well as in Grand Lodge with great regularity. He was old enough to remember very stormy days indeed there, but thank God that was now all over. The last time he attended Grand Lodge he had the honour of filling the chair of First Principal. The chapter then assembled at seven o'clock, and he was enabled to catch the eight o'clock train from Waterloo. From this fact the companions might easily imagine how speedily the business of Grand Chapter was settled. (Cheers.)

Lieut.-Genl. Brownrigg next proposed the toast of "Success and Prosperity to the Friends in Council Chapter," coupling with it the name of the M.E.Z. He said that by the permission of the M.E.Z. he was allowed to propose this toast, and he hoped the companions would do justice to it. He was sure that all who had been present that day must have been struck with the singular beauty of the chapter, the decorations of which in all his Masonic life he had never seen equalled. He had been brought there that day by a lady who had been invited to inspect the temple before the companions began business, and the impression made on her mind was the most extraordinary she had ever known. Of course, with that vague idea which ladies had of the Masonic Order, he did not think she at all expected to see what she saw, and he was rather curious to know when he met her again what the full effect on her vision had been. With respect to the Chapter, he thought its very name promised a success; its constitutors certainly promised it a success which hardly any chapter could have. He would not say anything more. The hearts of the consecrating officers were all with the companions of the Chapter that day, and he was quite sure all of them would join with him in drinking "Prosperity and Success to the Friends in Council Chapter," in appreciation of the way in which the Chapter was officered. (Applause.)

Dr. Hamilton, M.E.Z., in replying, said that on behalf of the other Principals of the chapter and himself, he begged to return thanks for the manner in which their health had been proposed and drunk, as well as for the hearty way in which the prosperity of the Chapter itself had been received. All he would say was that the Principals and the officers would do their very best to give it that success which had been wished for it that evening. He said he had another toast to propose, "The Health of those companions who had so kindly assisted in the consecration of the Chapter." He was sorry to say there were but two or three present who were at the consecration. He would like to have seen Comp. Hervey, their esteemed friend, at the table that evening; but other duties had called him away. At the same time they might put it on record that his name was included in that of the officers who had consecrated the chapter. With the toast he begged to couple the name of Comp. H. C. Vernon.

Comp. Vernon, in responding, said it had been a great honour to him to have been permitted to be present at this consecration as one of the consecrating officers. He could

only say that he had been exceedingly pleased with everything that had taken place, and with the conduct of affairs that day. He had never seen a consecration more completely arranged or the work better done in the whole course of his experience of some 25 years. In returning his thanks for the toast, he wished prosperity to the chapter in every way.

Dr. Hamilton, M.E.Z., then proposed "The Principal Sojourner, Major Shadwell Clerke." It might not be known to companions who were present that in a great measure the trouble and worry of getting up the chapter had devolved upon Major Shadwell Clerke. He was amply seconded by their excellent companion Capt. Philips, but it was he who, to use the old Scriptural expression "bore the heat and burden of the day." It was to his good taste they were indebted for the excellence of the arrangements they had seen that evening. In all the Chapters he had been he had never witnessed a prettier display than that of the chapter over which he had the honour to preside. He would give "The Health of their Principal Sojourner, Major Shadwell Clerke," and he would add that he was "a jolly good fellow."

Major Shadwell Clerke, P.S., responded, and said that he assured the companions he had very great difficulty in replying to such flattering remarks. He felt that he was put in an invidious position, because there were other companions who could reply very much better than himself. The two Assistant Sojourners were brimfull of eloquence; but as his name had been coupled with the toast he was obliged to say a few words. It was a very great pleasure and gratification to him to have an opportunity of putting his shoulder to the wheel in starting this chapter. He had looked forward to it some years; it was a matter of mutual congratulation to all the companions, because it completed the circle of their Masonic duties at Golden-square. They ought all to be gratified at hearing from the lips of General Brownrigg and Captain Vernon that their small efforts had met with their approval; and it should be an incentive to them to go on and carry out their labours in the way in which those companions had been kind enough to say they had begun them. As far as the officers of the Chapter were concerned, he might be their mouthpiece, and say that their future efforts should not be wanting to bring the chapter to the position of a representative chapter in ritual. On behalf of the officers of the chapter he begged to thank them very much for the excessively nice way in which the toast had been proposed and received.

Col. Randolph said it had become quite natural to him to return thanks in many Masonic bodies, and with the most sincere feelings of gratification for himself he begged to return thanks for the toast.

Dr. Hamilton M.E.Z., then proposed "The Visitors," a toast which he said was everywhere received among Masons with the greatest cordiality, because Masons always had the strongest feeling of hospitality.

The Rev. — Ridgway responded, but felt that after having enjoyed himself very much, the being called upon to make a speech was very much like a black spot on a fair skin. He hoped, however, at some future time to be permitted to come to the chapter again and experience similar enjoyment to that which had been afforded him that evening.

Dr. Hamilton, M.E.Z., next proposed "The Masonic Press." They had already gone through all the hierarchy of Masonry, but had not yet drunk that fourth estate to which they were all so much indebted. Masonry had benefited very much by the press and the publicity which it had given to their proceedings. These proceedings had been most ably put before the world by the press generally, but by no portion of it more ably or with greater faithfulness than by the "Freemason." It was a great pleasure to him that the press was represented at that meeting by the companion whom he had frequently had the pleasure of meeting in many assemblies, and he might inform the companions that all the proceedings which that companion had recorded had been faithfully and honestly committed to the world.

Comp. H. Massey ("Freemason"), said that as the order of the evening was short speeches he could not better conform to the edict from the chair than by simply thanking the M.E.Z. for the very flattering observations he had made.

Dr. Hamilton, M.E.Z., next said that there was one toast more which however did not enter into the list of the formal toasts. They had among their officers in the chapter a most excellent companion, well known to every one in Royal Arch Masonry and in the Craft at large, a companion who had done more he thought than the majority of other companions. He alluded to their veteran companion, Hyde Pullen (hear hear), and he could not at a Royal Arch meeting let the evening pass over (although perhaps he might not have been able to bring him in the ordinary list of toasts) without doing himself the satisfaction, and doing also the satisfaction to every companion present, of drinking his good health. (Cheers.)

Comp. Hyde Pullen, in reply, said it was with some diffidence he ventured to reply to this toast, and for this reason, that it had come so late that if he had had an idea or thought at an earlier part of the evening about it, it would have flown away, and become obliterated by the kindly sentiments which were being expressed. But he would thank the Most Excellent for his considerate mention of him, and for the kind words which he had used in presenting his (Comp. Pullen's) character before the companions (which he felt he did not deserve). He believed he had striven as far as he possibly could to deserve what the M.E.Z. had said of him; and he would endeavour to continue to deserve those kind expressions. He was not sorry that the M.E.Z. had asked him to reply to this toast, because it had occurred to his mind that they were met that night upon the joyous occasion of the formation of a new chapter, the success of which he was sure they would

quite understand he earnestly and ardently prayed for. Not only did he pray for it, but feeling that while he prayed for it, that prayer would be granted he saw that success must attend its operations. There was another point which had forcibly struck him, that they were strangely and curiously governed, if he might so term it, by the three Principals of their chapter. The M.E.Z. represented the West India interests; the H. represented the great district of China; and the J. represented a third large portion of the earth in the quarter of Bengal. So that really that chapter comprised a very large share of the whole habitable globe, condensed as it were in that small compass. Those companions had exhibited themselves already as leading Masons in those vast dominions, and they had met with success in each and all. When these immense domains were represented in the one small chapter surely success must attend it. (Hear, hear.) Another point he would remark upon. The night previous they had met as a body representing the whole earth itself. There were on that evening members present from all parts of the world. It was a gathering they could never forget when they considered it in this light. They had among their brethren in their own immediate circle members who had power over all the earth; and he thought they could congratulate themselves upon having met together in the manner in which they had. But especially that evening he was most grateful to the M.E.Z. for his mention of his name. He augured nothing but the most unbounded success for the chapter on account of the three Principals being Masons who had met with success in their Masonic career over the three great parts of the globe he had mentioned. This chapter must be an example to all other chapters on account of having for its three Principals Masons so distinguished as Comps. Dr. Hamilton, Samuel Rawson, and Hugh D. Sandeman. (Cheers.)

This closed the proceedings of the evening, and the companions separated at an early hour.

[The above appeared in our Second Edition of last week.]

SUPREME COUNCIL, 33°.

A meeting of the Supreme Council, 33°, was held on Wednesday, at 33, Golden-square, Capt. Philips, P.M. P.S.G.C., 33°, presiding. The other members of the Council present were Gen. Clerk, F.R.S., Dr. Hamilton, Major Shadwell Clerke, Col. Adair, Hugh D. Sandeman, Raphael Costa, S. Rawson, W. Hyde Pullen, Hon. R. W. H. Giddy, Col. Hutton, of Canada, Major Barlow, C. J. Banister, Chas. Fendelow, and C. J. Vigne, P.M. P.S.G.C.

After the formal opening of the proceedings and discussion on the affairs of the degree, the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale was advanced to the 33rd Degree.

Afterwards a meeting of the 32nd Degree took place. Capt. Philips presided, and conferred the 32° upon Gen. Brownrigg, A. F. Godson, Capt. Thrale Perkins, and Chas. Horsley.

Subsequently there was a meeting of the 31st Degree, when Capt. Philips again presided, and advanced Lord Donoughmore, 30°.

A meeting of the 30th Degree was also held, and again Capt. Philips presided. The brethren on whom this degree was conferred were Capt. Walter Hylton Jolliffe, the Rev. Ambrose Hall, Col. C. W. Jolliffe, Chas. Compton, Col. J. N. Sargent, Frederick Jennings, E. H. Thiellay, W. Roebuck, H. H. Riach, Henry Greening, Samuel Jones, and R. Kalley Miller. There were present at the meeting of the 30° the brethren who attended and who were advanced in the superior degrees, whose names are given above, besides Colonel Thos. Goddard, C. H. Gregory, Dr. Woodford, Major Molineux C. A. Newnham, Colonel Hugh Somerville Burney, and John Lambert Sim, Francis Turner, Philip Montagu, J. D. Barnes, C. H. Driver, the Chevalier E. Habicht, John Chandler, James Keene, Thomason Harrison, John Boyd, C. Harding, W. Russell, C. Hammerton, Dr. John J. Griffith, John Kirke, C. E. Willing, who presided at the organ, John Read, Colonel Hutton, 33° Supreme Council, Canada, and D. E. Pierre, 32° of the Supreme Council of Colon Cuba, were present as visitors. A banquet was subsequently given at the Café Royal, at which Capt. Philips presided, and gave the usual toasts. Most of the brethren above-mentioned were present, the company numbering altogether about sixty brethren.

[The above appeared in our Second Edition of last week.]

Obituary.

MEMORIAL TO THE LATE BRO. WM. WESCOE.

Remembering as we do the many excellent traits of character possessed by our late friend Bro. William Wescoe secretary to the Haywood Waterworks Company it is with much pleasure that we state to our readers and the public generally that on Thursday, the 21st inst., the ceremony of unveiling a monument to his memory, lately placed in the Heywood cemetery by the brethren of the Heywood Lodge, of which he was a most active member for the space of twenty years. The ceremony, was performed by the present W.M., Bro. John Partington, in truly Masonic form, who spoke in high praise of the late brother's excellencies and force of character, who, he said, was held in much esteem, not only by the brethren of his lodge, but by all with whom he came in contact. He alluded in the most touching manner to his untimely death, which, as will be remembered by many, occurred under circumstances of a painful character. The monument is a very handsome piece of work, in the form of a Masonic pedestal, on which are carved several Masonic emblems, and surmounted by an open bible and terrestrial globe. The work has been executed by Mr. James Lord, a member of the Heywood Lodge, and is exceedingly creditable.

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VOLS. 1 & 2
OF THE
MASONIC MAGAZINE

198, FLEET-STREET, LONDON.

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.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

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

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

TO OUR READERS.

The *Freemason* is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the *United Kingdom*, Post free, 10/- P.O.O.'s to be made payable at the chief office, London.

NEW POSTAL RATES.

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

TO ADVERTISERS.

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

For terms, position, &c., apply to

Answers to Correspondents.

ERRATA.—In the letter from "Another Freemason's Wife," for lowering demonstration, read "denomination." Bro. JOHN CONSTABLE.—Declined with thanks.

The following reports, &c., stand over:—Mount Lebanon Lodge, 73; High Cross, 754; Blair, 815; Eclectic, 1201; Waldram, 1327; Era, 1423; Francis Burdett, 1503; Jerusalem Chapter, No. 185.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

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

BIRTHS.

BAKER.—On the 12th inst., at Cheltenham, the wife of T. Y. Baker, of a son.

KENT.—On the 11th inst., at Trent Villa, Netherwood-road, West Kensington Park, W., the wife of John Kent, of a son.

STUBBS.—On the 13th inst., at Kettel Hall, Oxford, the wife of the Rev. W. Stubbs, M.A., of a son.

WILSON.—On the 1st inst., at Grove Hall, Knottingley, the wife of M. A. Wilson, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

BECKWITH—WADE.—On the 12th inst., at Evercreech, Somerset, H. J. Beckwith, Capt. 53rd Regt., to Kathleen, daughter of R. C. Wade, Esq., of Clonbraney, Co. Meath.

WOOD—COLENUTT.—On the 5th inst., W. Wood, jun., of Fishmongers' Hall, to Ruth, eldest surviving daughter of J. Colenutt.

WHITE—SMYTHE.—On the 10th inst., at All Saints, Maidstone, Alfred Starnes, son of A. White, of Nettledale Court, to Adeline Rimmeliou, daughter of J. Smythe, of Fairview, Maidstone.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, OCT. 21, 1876.

OUR ROYAL GRAND MASTER'S VISIT
TO GLASGOW.

The reception which the loyal citizens of Glasgow have accorded to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales our illustrious Head, has been most warm and gratifying in every respect. We have always said, that in no portion of our Order, and under no Constitution, has the Grand Master of English Masonry Grand Patron of Scottish Masonry more zealous and devoted adherents than in North Britain, and we are rejoiced to know that never has the Prince of Wales and his amiable and charming Consort been more enthusiastically welcome than in Glasgow. With Baillie Nicol Jarvie, there are few of us who, having read the accounts of the public reception and the Masonic demonstration, will not say with that excellent personage, most warmly and sincerely, "Let Glasgow flourish." It has added to its previous high prestige, by the admirable and remarkable manner in which it has taken up and carried through all the necessarily complicated arrangements which go to make up a great public ceremonial of the kind. Nothing seems to have been wanting to the occasion, everything appears to have been in perfect order and harmony, no unseemly hitch of any kind marred the pleasantness and progress of the day's proceedings from first to last; and we trust, as we believe, that such an "Alba Dies" in the annals of that great and flourishing city will have left an ineffable souvenir in the warm hearts and friendly memories of thousands. The Masonic arrangements appear to have been very complete, and reflect great credit on all by whom they were compiled. 8000 Masons are said to have taken part in the procession and gathering, and the loyalty of Scottish Freemasonry has been gallantly shown forth in the presence of their fellow citizens, nay, we may say, of the world. We congratulate the Grand Lodge of Scotland both for its able programme and goodly muster, just as we warmly felicitate our brethren, in Glasgow especially, on the success which has attended all their zealous efforts, and the complete and entire harmony of action which has resulted from their thoroughly Masonic union and sympathies. We give an account of the day and its work elsewhere, and especially a resumé of the Masonic demonstration, which, while it is in itself most creditable to our Scottish brethren, will be warmly appreciated, we know, by all Anglo-Saxon Masons. We unfeignedly rejoice to note how well and how right Royally our august Chief responds to all the many claims made upon his time and interest, whether in the routine discharge of the duties of his exalted station, or in his sympathetic appearance in many public assemblies of Her Majesty's subjects; and we trust, as loyal Freemasons, that all of good and happiness may attend on his onward and important career, and on the private and public life of himself and his gracious and gentle Consort.

THE LAST QUARTERLY COURT OF
THE GIRLS' SCHOOL.

The results of the last Quarterly Court of this interesting and important Institution must have been most satisfactory to all friends of the School. Not only was there a large attendance of Governors, but the tone and temper of the meeting were very encouraging to all who wish, by careful and progressive improvements, to keep our great metropolitan institutions up to the level of the age, and in entire harmony with the wishes and feelings of the brethren. Our old friend and excellent Bro. Muggeridge, to whom we allude in a special article, received on his retirement from the onerous duties of Collector a very hearty greeting, and the expression of a very fraternal recognition of his many and meritorious services to the School and to Masonry, and his "Honorarium" for his lengthened "Collectorship" was cheerfully and unanimously accorded. The

main question of interest for the meeting was with respect to Bro. Raynham Stewart's motion, the appointment or non-appointment of a "Collector," on which moot point a great deal, no doubt, can be said on both sides of the question. There seemed to be a general wish to have the subject thoroughly looked into by the General Committee, and, on the motion of Bro. Joseph Smith, a very good committee of nine was appointed to report to a special general meeting of the Institution. We congratulate the Subscribers and the Order on this very judicious resolution, and we feel sure, that on the report of the committee in due time, a satisfactory conclusion will be arrived at. One point, which has always been a difficult one to deal with, owing partly to "vested interests," old arrangements, customary procedure, and, to say the truth, a little good Masonic "blue tape," was, we think, clearly decided by the meeting, and a very important point it is in our humble opinion. So complicated has been the system of "poundage," for instance, that, as Bro. Little stated in answer to a question of Bro. Joseph Smith, four systems of calculation have been employed, on which the Collector was finally paid. But it is manifestly absurd, and Masonically unfair, that the Collector, living in London, should receive a poundage, be it ever so small, on sums sent direct from any lodge, or Steward, or province, to the Secretary of the Institution. It has long been quite clear, that if any such poundage was to be allowed at all, it ought to be given to the Prov. Grand Secretaries, who have great trouble, and often great responsibility thrown upon them, or even the Stewards. But we object to such a system of "poundage" altogether; it is neither business-like nor fair, and has long been a standing complaint and pressing grievance. We do not enter into the question of whether a collector be needed for the metropolitan district or annual subscribers—it may be so; but all we wish to contend for is, that he shall only be remunerated on what he actually himself pays in, and that if the services of a trustworthy Collector cannot be procured on such terms, then, that he must be paid an increased per centage on what he does bring in, together with, if need be a small regular supplemental salary, to appear as such in the accounts of the Institution. It is a very unsatisfactory method in order to give any collector a good income, and make his post worth having, that a per centage should be paid to him on sums which do not pass through his hands at all, and about which he knows nothing. We, therefore, are glad to know that the general feeling of the large meeting on Saturday last was against a continuance of such a "make-shift" system, and in favour, whether through a "collector," or "collecting clerk" in the Secretary's office, of simple "payment for results," and that an end should be put to the previous objectionable arrangement. As the matter is now before a committee, we do not think it respectful to them to say anything more on the subject, as we feel sure that it is in good hands, and will be carefully considered and fully discussed.

MASONIC ARCHÆOLOGY.

There is a view of Masonic history which has some adherents, and which we will now consider. Some have said that Freemasonry is only the result of an Hermetic association, and that as we have it, it is really based on Hermeticism. We do not agree with such a view for the following reasons. That an Hermetic society has existed for many centuries is probably true, that those who practised Hermetic arts, and studied an occult lore, may have formed themselves into a fraternity or brotherhood, we think may be readily conceded. That the "Fratres Roseæ Crucis" were in existence in the 17th century, is also, we think, incontestable. But the whole question hinges upon this, what had they to do? had they anything to do with Freemasonry proper? And this is a query very difficult indeed to answer. Some facts in the consideration of this problem crop up which are very curious in themselves, whatever their exact bearing may be on the point at issue. What is called the magical alphabet, for instance, has a very curious resemblance to many of the old Ma-

sons' marks, and many of the Masons' marks are exact facsimiles of the so-called magical letters. The well-known emblems of Freemasonry, the "Pentalpha," the "Hexapla," the "point within a circle," are well known to all readers of the Hermetic literature and no doubt many of the famous astrologers and Rosicrucians were great mathematical and geometrical scholars. But here we stop, we can go no further, and as for any direct connection we do not know how to prove it. Elias Ashmole, of whom so much has been made, as regards Hermeticism, by some German and English writers, was a "Freemason" before he became an attendant on the "Astrologers' Feast," at least we find in his diary previous to his initiation in 1646 no trace of any astrological fraternity. Hence, at the outside, the theory of a Hermetico-Masonico continuation is a very hazy one indeed. But another and still more serious question remains behind. Admitted that the Hermetic society existed, has that Hermetic society anything to do historically, positively, really, with what are termed the Theosophic or Hermetic High Grades? Are not all these High Grades an adaptation of Hermetic formulæ, the appropriation of the terminology and symbolism of a dying or defunct sodality for special purposes, and with another end? Bro. Yarker seems to hold, if we understand his words aright, that all the grades above the three first are the product of Hermeticism, or rather founded upon it. He says this, we repeat, if we understand his argument rightly, though it is not quite clear to us whether he assumes that Hermeticism and High Grade Masonry are synonymous, "convertible terms," or whether they are essentially distinct, the latter being an adaptation and imitation of the former. We are ourselves quite clear as to one fact, that the "Hermeticism" of the Dedication to "Long-Livers" has nothing to do with the Royal Arch, whatever else it may refer to, and we are disposed, notwithstanding some difficulties, to accept frankly the statement that Hermeticism existed in 1721, and was known to the Craft Masons then. But even admitting this, though it proves something, it does not prove everything. The writer of that Dedication, whoever he was, may have been a Rosicrucian, and as such considered it a higher degree, and some of the Masons of 1717 may have been Rosicrucians too, but then we have yet to learn that Rosicrucians and "Chevaliers Rose Croix" have anything in common. Such names and grades are clever manipulations or arrangements of Ramsay, and others, for distinct purposes, of an old society then dying out, for whatever may have been the case in France, certain it is that in England we can find few traces of the Hermetic grades till about fifty years after 1721. Even in France all seems to proceed from Ramsay's famous oration in 1740, and we confess that we still await with the deepest interest the evidence of an active Hermeticism in the middle of the last century, though we admit its actual existence, if "Philaethes" is to be credited, in 1721. We believe that Bro. Yarker has published a statement of an existence of a list of chapters of H.D.M. in 1743, as of "time immemorial," but we shall be glad to know where that list exists, and whether printed or in MS. If certain Chapters were at work in 1743, that is a very important fact, per se, and we therefore stop here to-day, as, before we can speak decidedly on this important question, we shall like to know what is the actual evidence, if any, of an active Hermeticism, after 1721, and before, say 1770. As regards the evidence of old rituals, all such have to be looked at by "experts," because it is not necessarily a case of "sequitur," that because a document is said to be 200 years old, it is really so. But all such questions can now be treated dispassionately, and discussed calmly and archaeologically, and we need not throw any heat into such a simple archaeological discussion.

BRO. MUGGERIDGE.

We most of us know Bro. Muggeridge, and there are few of us, we believe, who have not a very warm and friendly feeling for so good a Mason and so worthy a man. Bro. Muggeridge,

who took farewell of the Quarterly Court of the Girls' School on Saturday last, as Collector, after a faithful and meritorious service of 20 years, has retired, owing to ill-health, on a well earned pension. The entire sympathy and "hearty good wishes" not only of a large meeting, but of all the subscribers to the Girls' School, and we will add, the entire Craft, go with our esteemed and venerable brother. Few more hard-working brethren probably have ever existed in English Masonry than that well-known and untiring individual termed by some "Old Mug." Not only as the zealous and indefatigable Collector of the Girls' School is he a "grata persona" wherever he appears, wherever his familiar face presents itself, but as a skilled instructor of the Order he has rendered many and valuable services, alike to lodges and chapters and individual brethren. His name has long been honourably identified with the well known "Stability" Lodge of Instruction, and we all of us are well aware of his zeal and energy, and efficiency as a Masonic instructor, and of the urbanity and readiness with which he is always glad to impart instruction to his brethren. As he left the room on Saturday we could not help saying to ourselves, "May your old age, honest and hard-working brother, be peaceful and serene, and may yours be a happy and gentle passage through your declining years, cheered and sweetened by the kindly goodwill of friends and brethren, and gladdened and exhilarated by the ever pleasant remembrance of duties well performed, of work truly done, as well for the great Order of which you have been so faithful a member, as for your brethren of whom you have been so friendly a companion, and so sincere a well wisher." We think that all will hope, that our old friend and kindly brother may, in the good Providence of the G.A.O.T.U., receive for many tranquil years the honorarium of faithful service and the assurances of our fraternal regard.

FRENCH FREEMASONRY.

We have received Bro. Caubet's reply in the "Monde Maconique" to the question we asked, relative to the statement of irregular marriages in French Lodges. We are happy to find that it is as we expected, a pure calumny. We shall publish Bro. Caubet's letter and allude to the matter next week, and we shall also take the opportunity of calling attention to one or two questions of importance, gravely affecting, in our opinion, the present interests and future position of French Freemasonry.

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 CANT OF MASONRY.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

The writer of the article in the "Hampshire Post" under the above heading is scarcely worthy of the powder and shot with which you have annihilated him. I would not have troubled you with any remarks upon his silly and spiteful observations were it not for the description he gives to those who he chooses to say "usurp the name of Masons." He calls them "the lawyers, tailors, butchers, and tradesmen of all sorts." First of all, does the writer know the meaning of the word "usurp"? If he does he must be aware that he has made a misuse of it. But why this choice of vocations? Is it intended for a sneer, or is it written in ignorance of those who constitute the Masonic body? If it be a sneer, well, let it go for what it is worth. As Masons we look at a man's character, and not his calling, as the criterion of his excellence; and we do not think it derogatory in itself for a man to be a "lawyer, tailor, butcher, or any other sort of tradesman." If, however, this be the writer's ignorance, well, poor fellow, that he may not commit himself again let us inform him that kings, noblemen of all ranks, from dukes to country squires, great statesmen and other professional men besides lawyers are to be found amongst us; that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales is our present Grand Master, and that the worthy brother who presided at Havant the other day is neither a "lawyer, a tailor, a butcher, or any other sort of tradesman." In other words: here is a verse of an old song which our aristocratic (?) reviler probably never heard of, "Great kings, dukes, and lords, Have laid by their swords, Our mysteries to put a good grace on, And ne'er felt ashamed To hear themselves named As a Free and an Accepted Mason."

The sneering tone pervades the whole article, making palpable the animus of the writer, whilst the ignorance displayed in his notion of the class of individuals who are Masons is also shown in all that he puts forth respecting Freemasonry itself; in fact he writes of what he knows nothing about, and consequently he writes nonsense.

There is only one portion of the article which demands in any way to be treated seriously:

"Surely if exemplars were wanted it is not necessary to go further than Christ, and, disciples and apostles: This leads us to the consideration. Are Christianity and Freemasonry consonant in principle? If this be true, then surely Masonry is superfluous. If they are not so then Masonry must be mischievous."

This is one of those plausible and sweeping arguments which if sound would be irresistible. But it has too much of the "begging the question" about it. It savours too much of cant! If we were indeed followers of Christ, imbued with the spirit and the mind of Christ, we should have no need of external aids of any kind, churches, creeds, clergymen, or communions, to help us to a better life. But when we see Christianity, as exemplified by its professors, split up into rival sections, each fierce and bitter in its denunciation of the other, then surely there is room for a society, call it by what name you will, which professes no dogma, religious or political, save that of love to God and love to man, and whose action, being beneficent, is neither "superfluous nor mischievous."

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

A MASON BUT NOT AN "USURPER."

Oct. 10th, 1876.

LONG LIVERS.

Dear Bro. Kenning,—

Having read Bro. Hughan's and Bro. Yarker's letters in the last "Freemason," I think it well to send you the following few and friendly remarks.

Until I saw Bro. Mackey's paper in the "Voice of Masonry" I was not aware that Bro. Yarker had alluded to the work.

It is clear from his statement that he publicly, July 24th, 1875, mentioned "Long Livers," and gave an extract from the Dedication, and that therefore he is the first who brought the book formally and publicly to the notice of Masonic students.

It seems that the existence of the work was known some time previously to Bro. Matthew Cooke, who first mentioned it to Bro. Yarker, and from Bro. Capt. Irwin, of Bristol, Bro. Yarker received the collated extract which he made use of publicly in his book, though not mentioning the source.

The quotation in Bro. Yarker's work he appears to have obtained from Bro. Matthew Cooke.

I am free to confess, though my library is very large, and my collection of MSS. and references very extensive, yet I did not happen to know of the work, (as might well happen,) until I saw it first alluded to in the "Voice of Masonry." My studies, as you are aware, have been mainly devoted to works and MSS. on Craft Masonry, and, not being a High-Grade man myself, I have never gone out of my way to search for or acquire such High Grade works, though I have many in my possession for archaeological purposes.

But the moment I saw it, it appeared to me to be very important in two respects.

First, it shewed that the antiquity of the Hermetic connexion was greater than was often contended; and secondly, it seriously affected the current theories of Hermetic history, and for this reason. If this statement were correct, the generally received view that Hermetic Masonry was a development of Ramsay's movement in 1740 must be greatly shaken if not given up—at once—and such a fact opened out two other considerations very important for the Masonic historian.

1. What was the real connection between Freemasonry and Hermeticism? and secondly, what was the earliest trace of the existence of an Hermetic Masonry?

These points have yet to be elaborated and developed, and the matter itself has to be more closely looked into than has yet been the case.

But the Masonic history of Hermeticism will have to be re-written, as if it existed in 1721 it could not have been created after 1740.

Bro. Yarker, I note, states that in his opinion the allusions on the Dedication refer to the Royal Arch.

But such a theory is, I apprehend, utterly inadmissible for many reasons, and, like Bro. Hughan, I think the subject requires a good deal of careful consideration, and cannot be too hastily or dogmatically decided. I am much more inclined myself to believe that the terms, which are pure Hermetic jargon, like "King Pyropus," and many more, refer to a Rosicrucian confraternity, perhaps the actual "Fratres Rosæ Crucis," who did undoubtedly exist, but who are not the same as the Order of "Rose Croix."

I do not lay much store myself by the assertion of even in 1743 a list of six lodges of H.R.M., &c., existing then in London, "from time immemorial," and alluded to by Bro. Yarker, as the words, from "time immemorial," are of easy use and deceptive authority.

Would Bro. Yarker kindly tell us where that list is to be found, as just now Bro. Hughan is making a special study of the lists, and we may light upon some interesting facts.

It will be seen from what I have said, that I for one do not and cannot accept Bro. Yarker's theory of the Hermeticism alluded to, being that of the Royal Arch, and think that we have got to learn the actual connexion between Hermeticism and the High Grades. We have also, it appears to me, to learn how far what may be termed Hermetic Masonry, is actually a product of the old Rosicrucianism, or an adaptation by the mystical Masons of the later part of the last century, of the term-

inology, and vocabulary and name of a real Hermetic Society.

The subject is most interesting, and demands careful study and dispassionate consideration.

I am, dear Bro. Kenning, yours most fraternally.

THE EDITOR OF THE "MASONIC MAGAZINE."

INFORMATION THAT MAY BE USEFUL TO THE BRETHREN.

To the Editor of the *Freemason*.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Doubtless there are many of your readers who, either to enjoy a little rest and change, or for the sake of their children's education, are desirous of residing in Paris, but who find it extremely difficult to obtain reliable information as to the two great desiderata—comfort and economy.

As I should esteem it a privilege to be useful to my brethren, will you permit me to say that I shall be glad to forward to any of your readers, on application, the address of a Pension and a School (for Boys) in Paris, which from personal experience I can vouch to be excellent in every respect? The information that I desire to impart I had great difficulty in acquiring.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, fraternally yours,

J. KINGSTON, Chaplain, R.N.,

P. Prov. Grand Chaplain for Dorset, &c.

H.M.S. Cambridge, Devonport, Oct. 14th.

FEMALE FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of the *Freemason*.

Dear Sir,—

It is not that I wish to carry on any further discussion, but I cannot refrain from trying to exonerate myself in the eyes of "Another Freemason's Wife," by stating that the very last thing I could wish would be to prevent or begrudge my husband a little recreation from the toil and harass of business, and I admit, as before, a lodge is no place for a modest woman, and I quite agree with you, Mr. Editor, that there would be very great impropriety in it; but the real force of my argument is this,—If women were to band themselves in a secret manner, say no men admitted, their husbands especially would deem they had a right to know what could occupy two or three hours of their time, and would give themselves no rest till they had unearthed such a society. I am aware women bear the name of curiosity, but in such a case as I allude to we should find the men were our equal, providing they loved us, otherwise it would be immaterial to them what their wives did or how they passed their time. As to the term profane, if your correspondent reads your article on the initiation of the Countess Hadick, she will there see she is termed profane, and the men are termed blind till they are enlightened in Freemasonry. I have my doubts about your correspondent being a woman; if so, she is one by herself, as all Freemasons' wives I have come in contact with, uphold my views, and how she can converse with her husband on a subject which he is bound to conceal by the most awful vows is beyond my comprehension.

Trusting you will pardon the liberty I take in troubling you again,

Yours very respectfully,

A FREEMASON'S WIFE.

To the Editor of the *Freemason*.

Dear Sir,—

Will you kindly grant me a space in your valuable columns to most sincerely thank the "Freemason's Wife" for her letter in your issue of the 7th inst., in which she has so well described the sorrowful feelings of many of her sex, and ably expressed the sentiments of a true "lady Mason." I presume that the brethren consider that they would be sisters are not sufficiently noble minded to "exchange the sceptre for the trowel," &c., &c., but, in my opinion, more might be given to charity were the real wives of real Freemasons able to assist their husbands in the holy and good work, as they (the would-be sisters) would not require any expensive adornments to induce them to work well, and work altogether in the cause of charity, for

"It builds our quiet, as it forms our lives."

A Freemason, if he be such in word and deed, which, as your correspondent says, is pretence, fully appreciates a brother's worth if he enters heart and soul into their mutual business. Now, they cannot converse on the subject in the presence of their wives because of their secret, or pretended secret, consequently they are left to mourn in solitude their husband's want of confidence in one whom they honour.

This, and this alone, in Freemasonry is calculated, in my opinion, to make a loving, trusting wife just the reverse. Who has a greater right to enter into and share your joys and sorrows than she? Home is most certainly a good wife's place, and where ought so much rest and peace to be found as one's own fireside, after an interesting meeting for the husband, to discuss the subject predominant in the hearts of both, viz., Freemasonry?

Why will not some good Freemason who has a good wife—one, I mean, who would do honour to the Craft, give the matter his attention, and do something towards bringing happiness to the homes of many of his brethren? Trusting you will acknowledge this in your next issue.

I am, Sir, yours truly,

ANOTHER FREEMASON'S WIFE.

Ramsgate, 16 Oct.

FREEMASONRY IN GERMANY.

To the Editor of the *Freemason*.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

If your space permits, I beg you to insert the following, as it may be interesting for some of your readers. On the 20th of May there was held in Berlin

a conference of all the daughter lodges which are under the headship of the National Grand Lodge. The Lodge "Wittekind," of Minden, proposed to abolish the well known S. 165, A 1 of the constitution, which is the sort called Jews' sec. There were present at that meeting 52 members of the Grand Lodge, and 93 Deputies of the daughter lodges. The enlightened G.M., Von Etzel, was for the abolition of that famous paragraph. However, at the taking of the votes 88 were found to be for, and 57 against the proposition, and as there was not the necessary two thirds majority the proposition was rejected. Out of the 52 members of the Grand Lodge present, 23 voted Yes, and 29 No, and out of the 93 deputies of the daughter lodges, 65 voted Yes, and 28 No. The correspondent of the "Bauhütte," who related this, regretted very much such an event, and I heard, during my presence in Germany, that in consequence the Worshipful Grand Master resigned. It is indeed a sad state of things, that in such an enlightened country as Germany there should exist such an intolerance amongst Freemasons, whose first principle is, as everybody, even the outsiders, know, that every honest man is capable of becoming a Freemason quite independent of his creed; in fact, Freemasonry boasts—and this with good reason, too—of being the only universal religion in which members of all creeds can unite. But, fortunately for Germany, this middle-aged state of things exists only in some parts of North Germany, while Hamburg and other parts of North Germany, as well as the South, do not know of such an intolerance, and I have visited several important cities and towns where honest Jews are not only admitted into the Craft, but hold high offices, too, in Provincial and Grand Lodges. These lodges are more conformable in their constitutions to English lodges. But it is to be hoped sincerely that even in Berlin, at another meeting, those brethren who were against it will have been enlightened. "So mote it be."

I am, yours fraternally,

J. STRAUSS,

Chaplain of the Lodge Harmony, 600.

Bradford, Oct., 1876.

FREEMASONRY IN SOUTH AMERICA.

To the Editor of the *Freemason*.

Dear Sir and Brother,

I have seen with pleasure in your issue of April 8th last a notice from a correspondent that a lodge had at last been formed in Bolivia, called "Trabajo y Honoradez," No. 17. As W.M. I take the liberty of sending one or two items respecting the lodge, as well as the names of the office-bearers for the present year.

The Republic of Bolivia has a population of two millions of inhabitants, but up to September of last year it had not a single lodge. The few brothers then residing in the port of Autofagasta solicited a charter from the Grand Orient of Peru, obtaining which, we commenced our labours under somewhat peculiar and interesting circumstances. On the night of the first session there were present the following nine brethren, representing nine distinct nations of the world:—Bros. Luis Lichtenstein, German; E. H. Neill, English; Emile Purjo, French; José Jordan, Spanish; Antonio Magallanes, Portuguese; Luis F. Pullma, Chilian; Manuel A. Tejada, Argentine; Escipion Vernaza, Columbian; Abdon S. Ondarza, Bolivian; giving an incontestable proof of the universality of Masonry—nine members, with one exception all strangers to the country, hailing from parts widely separated, meeting to establish a new lodge.

Since then the lodge has prospered. We have 54 new members, all of whom are enthusiastic in the work, and we hope ere long to establish other lodges in the interior of the Republic.

The officers for the present year are Bros. E. H. Neill, W.M.; Hernan Puelma, S.W.; Manuel T. Alcaldi, J.W.; Apolinar Aramayo, Sec.; Pedro Latorre, Treas.; Franklin Alvarado, Orator; Ezekiel de la Pena, S.D.; Andres Cueto, J.D.

Believe me, dear Sir, yours fraternally,

E. H. NEILL.

Autofagasta, Bolivia, South America,
5th September, 1876.

THE FUNDS OF GRAND LODGE.

To the Editor of the *Freemason*.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

"An Old P.M., One, &c.," is perfectly right in two particulars:—

1. "The quotations given by 'Moneta' do not serve him"—Quite true; but I hoped that they would serve "An Old P.M., One, &c.," by affording the information that I believed he sought; surely it is not my fault if my quotations are all that the "Constitutions" have to say on the subject.

2. "Grand Lodge, before it can do as it likes with its own, must make a law to enable it to do so." Doubly true, and precisely what I said—namely, that, in the first place, Grand Lodge must legislate on every occasion that any money vote comes before it; and, in the second, that so legislating Grand Lodge acts on every such occasion precisely as seems to it to be the best.

Where, then, am I wrong, further, perhaps, than in having endeavoured to put the results of some years' study of our Constitutions at your correspondent's disposal, who seems for some inexplicable reason not to desire the information that he asked?

Faithfully and fraternally yours,

MONETA.

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

GOLDEN WEDDING OF BRO. CORNELIUS MOORE AND THE "MASONIC REVIEW."

My good friend and Bro. Moore, of Cincinnati, Ohio, has just issued the last number of Vol. XLVIII. of the "Masonic Review," and provided the Craft rightly appreciates his valuable services on its behalf, he intends to continue the publication until the 50th volume is printed, and in the hands of the subscribers.

Bro. Thomas J. Mellish (associate editor) tells us in an introduction to the number for August, entitled "Resurgamus," that "the 'Masonic Review' claims the credit of being the oldest Masonic periodical now extant." I should like to add—True Bro. Mellish! The oldest, and as truly, one of the best ever circulated. I regret exceedingly that such an interesting publication is not meeting with the favour which its long career entitles it to expect, but I hope that the contemplated anniversary of the marriage of Bro. Moore with the "Masonic Review" will incite many a brother to subscribe, and that the members of the "mystic tie," in Ohio especially, will do their utmost not only to secure the celebration of the golden wedding, but also to place the well-known magazine on a sound financial basis. Already several Masonic periodicals in other quarters have said a few cheering words on its behalf, and in order to practically exhibit the favourable opinions so widely entertained, I should like to hear that the Grand Lodge of Ohio, and all the other Grand Bodies of that State, had decided to subscribe for a copy of Volume 50 to be sent to each of their constituent lodges, chapters, commanderies, &c., &c. Why not? It may be a novel proceeding, but surely a most justifiable one under the circumstances. To the "Masonic Review" the Masons of both hemispheres are considerably indebted, not only for the reprinting of many scarce pamphlets, but beyond all, for the publication (so far) of Bro. Enoch Terry Carson's catalogue of his great Masonic Library, an enterprise which I pray that Bros. Moore and Carson will live to complete, and be long spared to issue many subsequent additions to such a useful, valuable, and unique Bibliographical/Masonic work. Bro. Moore's independence, as an editor holds honourable rivalry with his varied Masonic knowledge, and his fairness, and evenhandedness are only equalled—not surpassed—by his great love and admiration of the principles of our ancient and honourable institution. I wish him every success and prosperity, and feel assured that my fraternal sympathy and appreciation are but the expression of many thousands of Craftsmen at home and abroad who admire the man and the Mason.

WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN.

LONDON MASONIC CLUB.

A large and influential meeting of the members of this highly successful club was held on Wednesday last in the principal dining saloon, Bro. Langton, Chairman of the committee, presided, and stated that the meeting was called for the purpose of considering a communication which had been received from the directors of the London Masonic Club Company, Limited (the proprietors of the club). This communication was to the effect that the directors are about to issue some of the unallotted shares of the company. These shares, owing to the almost unlooked for success which has attended the undertaking will, in their opinion, form a safe and lucrative investment. Before offering these shares outside the club they wished to invite the members to subscribe for the same. A resolution to the following effect was then moved by Bro. Banbury, and seconded by Bro. Jarvis that, having heard the statement of the directors, and their invitation to subscribe for the shares intended to be issued it was the opinion of the meeting that such invitation should as far as possible be accepted by the members, in order that they, by thus before becoming proprietors of their own club, may have more control, and take more interest in the continued success of the club, and secure its being conducted on true Masonic principles.

It was then moved by Bro. Binckes, and seconded by Bro. Dobbing, and carried unanimously, "That the thanks of the meeting be given to the Board of Directors for their exertions in establishing this club, and bringing it to its present successful position."

Bro. T. J. Smith suitably responded.

This very pleasant, and in all respects, very satisfactory meeting was then brought to a close by a cordial vote of thanks to Bro. Langton for presiding on the occasion. [The above appeared in our Second Edition of last week.]

STAR LODGE (No. 1275).—The Fifteen Sections are to be worked at this lodge, holding its meetings at the Marquis of Granby, New Cross, under the able Preceptorship of Bro. Govan Macdonald, W.M. 1158, &c., &c., on Saturday next, the 28th inst., Bro. Shaw, the esteemed Preceptor of the Pythagorean Lodge, having consented to preside, and the chair of S.W. is likely to be filled by Bro. D. Rose, W.M. 1622, Preceptor of the Peckham Lodge. From the well-known efficiency of the Star brethren, an enjoyable evening's entertainment may be confidently anticipated. Lodge opens at 7 p.m. sharp.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Health's Defences.—None save the strongest can with impunity pass through the sudden transitions from wet to dry, from cold to muggy weather so prevalent during the late autumn and early winter months. Influenza, bronchitis, cough, sore throat, diphtheria, or quinsy will attack those most watchful of their health; but they can readily arrest those of these complaints by rubbing Holloway's Ointment twice a day upon the skin adjacent to the affected part, and by assisting its corrective action with appropriate doses of his Pills. This well-known, safe, and easy mode of treatment efficiently protects the invalid both from present and future danger without weakening or even depressing the system in the slightest degree.—ADVT

THE ROYAL VISIT TO GLASGOW.

We condense the following from the accounts contained in the "Times," "Daily Telegraph," "Standard," and "Glasgow Herald."

The commercial metropolis of Scotland—Glasgow—was en fête on Tuesday, and its large population, joined by tens of thousands from Paisley, Greenock, and all the towns of the busy West, united in giving a becoming reception to the Prince and Princess of Wales. Seldom has the sentiment of a loyal people been more heartily expressed; and not since his Royal Highness's return from India has his public appearance been marked by a more generous enthusiasm, linked to a deep-seated admiration and loyalty. The only unfortunate circumstance connected with a demonstration, which was as splendid as it was spontaneous, was the bad weather.

The occasion of the visit of the Prince was to lay the foundation stone of the new General Post Office in George-square, but the Volunteers of the West of Scotland took advantage of his presence to have a grand review. It was at one time intended to make this inspection a sort of national welcome to the Prince, but His Royal Highness had expressed a wish that there should be no such ceremonial. It was determined to make the review a local affair, and it was this military display which commenced one of the busiest holidays which Glasgow has ever experienced. The review took place in the King's Park. The troops to take part had been drawn up in column under the direction of Col. Sprut, Assistant Adjutant-General, and Captain Phipps, of the North British Staff. The parade ground was on the eastern portion of the Green, where a spacious grand stand had been erected for the representatives of the public bodies of the city. A Royal gallery, with bay window, prettily furnished, occupied the central block of the stand. There could not have been fewer than 60,000 spectators outside the barrier in the park. Arriving about half-past eleven o'clock, the Prince of Wales alighted from his carriage and mounted a charger in readiness; he wore the uniform of Colonel of the Caithness and Sutherland Volunteers, and was accompanied by Prince John of Glucksburg, in the uniform of the Royal Danish Guards.

Preceded by the brilliant staff, the Prince of Wales and Prince John of Glucksburg rode down the line of battalions of Volunteers, followed by the Princess of Wales in her open carriage; after which the troops marched past in column of regiments in the following order, the whole being under the command of General Stuart, C.B.:—First Brigade, Colonel Taylor commanding—Forfar Light Horse, 1st Lanarkshire and Ayr (combined) Artillery, 1st Renfrewshire Artillery, Glasgow Engineers; total 1350. Second Brigade, Colonel Butt commanding—1st Lanarkshire R.V., 3rd Lanarkshire R.V., 4th Lanarkshire R.V., 16th Lanarkshire R.V.; total 2550. Third Brigade, Colonel Carey commanding—19th Lanarkshire R.V., 25th Lanarkshire R.V., 31st Lanarkshire R.V., 105th Lanarkshire R.V.; total 2150; grand total, 5050. The marching was remarkably well executed. The troops then broke into columns of companies and marched past again at quick time.

While this manœuvre was proceeding the immense crowd broke through the batteries and came into the enclosure with a rush; men, women, and children were thrown down, and it appeared for a few moments as if there would be a serious accident. A halt was called by the crowd just as they pressed in on the marching troops. General Stuart sent an aide-de-camp to bring up a detachment of the 7th Hussars, and these heading the people, firmly, yet with good humour and patience, forced them back to the lines.

During the greater part of the time that the review lasted, rain fell in heavy showers, and there was no abatement in the downpour as the Royal carriages drove off from the King's Park to the residence of the Lord Provost, in Park-terrace. The streets were lined with the Volunteers, the 78th Highlanders from Edinburgh, Royal Marines, and 26th Cameronians, while detachments of Hussars, assisted by the police, kept the streets free. The

distance, which extended for nearly four miles, was thronged by an immense concourse of spectators, and it was calculated that 400,000 persons watched the Royal procession. The demonstration as the Royal cortège passed was of the most enthusiastic description.

After luncheon the Prince of Wales exchanged his uniform for morning dress and the magnificent insignia of the Grand Master Mason of England. Some 7500 members of the Craft congregated with banners, sashes, aprons, and other insignia. Marching by Woodlands-road and the West-end Park, the Freemasons proceeded to the house of the Lord Provost, at Park-terrace, and took an hour to defile past.

At five minutes past four the Prince and Princess, accompanied by Prince John of Glucksburg and the Lord Provost, and attended by their suite, took leave of Mrs. Bain, and entered their carriage.

The Freemasons closed in front of the Royal carriages, and marched towards George-square, which was reached a few minutes after five o'clock. This large open space, next to Charlotte-square in Edinburgh, contains equestrian statues of the Queen and Prince Consort by Baron Marochetti, and statues of Lord Clyde, Sir John Moore, &c.

The procession arrived at George-square at 5.45, the Freemasons, who had lined the thoroughfare and closed ranks as the cavalcade passed along, bringing up the rear. George-square was magnificently decorated with Venetian masts, flags, banners, and shields. The masts were trimmed alternately with crowns and plumes, and on the middle of each was a shield with badges or orders connected with the Prince of Wales, among them being the Star of India, St. George, St. Andrew, St. Patrick, Baron of Renfrew, Lord of the Isles, the Principality of Wales, the Duke of Cornwall, the Duke of Rothsay, the Earl of Dublin, the Earl of Carrick, &c. The various monuments in the square and the surrounding buildings were also appropriately ornamented for hours before the Royal party arrived. George-square was crowded, and though the weather was of the most depressing kind the people were remarkably patient and good-natured, occasionally varying the monotony of waiting by singing and making numerous remarks upon each other. It was almost four o'clock before the body of Freemasons came on the platform, and in a few minutes after their Royal Highnesses entered by the covered way which had been prepared for them. They were heartily cheered as they passed along, and the band struck up "God save the Queen," and afterwards "God bless the Prince of Wales."

The Royal party drove slowly into the place through the opened ranks of the Freemasons; the Prince and Princess alighted at the north end of the square, and passed thence to the covered dais, where the foundation-stone was to be laid. Having taken up a position on the dais, a few feet from the foundation-stone, the Grand Lodge of Scotland, headed by Sir Michael Shaw Stewart, Grand Master for Scotland, Lord Balfour of Burleigh, and the Earl of Mar and Kellie, as Deputy Grand Master and Senior Warden, with Bro. Laurie, Grand Secretary, drew up in rear of the stone, and facing the Royal dais, when the band of the 26th Cameronians played the National Anthem.

The brethren of the "mystic tie," who were to accompany their Royal Highnesses in procession from the Lord Provost's residence to George Square, assembled in great force in order that the foundation stone of the New Post Office should be laid with all necessary Masonic pomp and circumstance. It is seldom indeed that they turn out in such numbers and from all parts of the country; but the rain sadly interfered with the brilliancy of their sashes, banners, and flags. By previous arrangement, the different Masonic bodies who had intimated their intention of taking part in the proceedings of the day were appointed to meet in Burnbank grounds. About mid-day the brethren began to assemble, and the marshalling of the scattered lodges into a proper line of procession was a duty not easy of accomplishment, but in the course of time, through the indefatigable exertions of Bros. Apthorpe, Robb, and Cranston something like order was

obtained. Meanwhile the Grand Lodge was being opened in the Albany Academy, Cumberland Street, West Burnbank, by the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Mar and Kellie, R.W. Deputy Grand Master, who was supported on the occasion by Bro. John Whyte-Melville of Bennochy and Strathkinness, R.W. Past Grand Master; the Right Hon. Lord Balfour of Burleigh, R.W. Substitute Grand Master; Bro. Alex. Smollett of Bonhill, Provincial Grand Master of Dumbartonshire; Captain G. R. Harriott of Killiemore, Provincial Grand Master of Wigtown and Kirkcudbright; Bro. F. A. Barrow, acting Prov. Grand Master Glasgow; the Right Hon. Lord Ramsay, Prov. Grand Master of Forfarshire; Colonel Campbell of Blythswood, Prov. Grand Master of Renfrewshire, East; Bro. Hector F. Maclean, Carnwath, Prov. Grand Master of the Upper Ward of Lanarkshire; Sir James E. Alexander of Westerton, Prov. Grand Master of Stirlingshire; Peter M'Lagan, of Pumpherston, M.P., Prov. G.M. of Linlithgowshire; Colonel Mure, of Caldwell, M.P., Prov. G.M.; Bros. D. Murray Lyon, Proxy G.M. of West Indies; J. H. Neilson, Proxy G.M. of Venezuela; W. Mann, acting R.W.S.G.D.; Hay, acting R.W.J.G.W.; David Kinnear, acting G. Treas.; John Laurie, G. Sec.; Rev. Dr. W. H. Gray and the Rev. A. Thomson Grant, G. Chaplains; W. Alexander, S.G.D.; R. F. Shaw Stewart, J.G.D.; W. Officer, P.G.D.; Robert Matheson, acting Architect, supported by Andrew Kerr and John Baird, assistants; Daniel Robertson, Grand Bible Bearer; John Coghill, Grand Conductor of Ceremonies; Capt. G. F. Colt, of Gartsherrie, G.S.B.; C. W. Maxwell Müller, Grand Conductor of Music; A. T. Apthorpe, G.Mar.; W. Bryce, G. Tyler; R. Wilson, acting President, Board of G. Stewards; Chas. Mackenzie, Vice-President. Among the other members of Grand Lodge as commissioned officers of provincial lodges present were—Bros. Col. Guthrie, of Carlogie; J. Wolfe Murray of Cringletie; R. Wylie, P. Prov. G.M. of Ayrshire; Robert Wylie, P.P. G.M. and P.G. Sec.; W. R. Patrick of Trearne, S.P.G.M.; Rev. A. Inglis, P.G. Chap. Ayrshire; Wolfe Murray, D.P.G.M. Peeblesshire; Charles M'Kenzie, of The Avenue, Grand Stationer; James Nicol, Oban, P.G. Treas. Argyll and the Isles; D. Small, P.G.S.M. and W. M'Donald, P.G. Sec., Forfarshire; John Annan, Town-Clerk, Lanark, P.G. Treas. Lanarkshire; J. Scott, Mollance, D.P.G.M. Dumfries; Will. M'Ilwraith, P.G.S.W. Wigtown and Kirkcudbright; Provost Forrest, Hamilton, D.P.G.M., Mid-Lanarkshire; A. Walker, P.G.L., North Wales and Shropshire.

The Grand Lodge having been formed—the Right Hon. the Earl of Kellie presiding, and Bros. W. Mann and Hay acting as Senior and Junior Wardens respectively—letters of apology for absence were read by the Grand Secretary from the Right Hon. the Earl of Rosslyn, P.G.M.; the Right Hon. Lord Kinnaid, K.T., P.G.M.; the Right Hon. Lord Rosehill, J.G.W.; Alex. Hay, G. Tyler; F. G. Melville, President of the Board of Grand Stewards; Captain Charles Hunter, P.G.M. of Aberdeenshire, East. The acting Grand Master then adjourned the Grand Lodge for the proceedings of the day.

In the interim, deputations from the daughter lodges throughout the country were marshalled on Burnbank Grounds by Bro. Apthorpe, the Grand Marshal, assisted by Bros. Robb and Cranston. The Provincial Grand Stewards of Glasgow, having placed their services at the disposal of the Grand Lodge, were deputed to act as assistants to the Grand Marshal for the day, and very materially contributed to the successful manner in which the arrangements were carried out.

About half-past two o'clock the procession started from Burnbank in the following order, the senior lodges being in front:—

No. 0, Mother Kilwinning; 1, Mary's Chapel, Edinburgh; 2, Canongate Kilwinning, Edinburgh; 3, Scone and Perth; 3½, Glasgow St. John's; 4, Glasgow Kilwinning; 5, Canongate and Leith; 6, Old Kilwinning, St. John's, Inverness; 7, Hamilton Kilwinning; 8, Journeymen, Edinburgh; 9, Dunblane; 10, Dalkeith Kilwinning; 11, St. John's Maybole; 12, Greenock Kilwinning; 13, Torphichen Kilwinning, Bath-

gate; 15, Montrose Kilwinning; 16, Falkirk; 17, Ancient Brazen, Linlithgow; 18, St. John's Kilwinning, Dumbarton; 19, St. John's, Caper-Fife; 20, St. John's, Lesmahagow; 21, Old St. John's, Lanark; 22, St. John's Kilwinning, Kilmarnock; 24, Peebles Kilwinning; 25, St. Andrew's, St. Andrews; 26, St. John's, Dunfermline; 27, St. Mungo, Glasgow; 28, St. John's Kilwinning, Kirkintilloch; 30, Ancient, Stirling; 31, St. Mary, Coltness; 32, St. John, Selkirk; 35, St. John, Falkland; 36, St. David, Edinburgh; 38, St. Michael, Crieff; 39, Kilsyth; 40, St. Thomas, Arbroath; 41, St. Cuthbert, Kirkcudbright; 44, St. Luke, Edinburgh; 46, St. John, Auchterarder; 49, Ancient, Dundee; 50, St. John, Inverary; 51, Loudon Kilwinning, Newmills; 52, St. Andrew, Banff; 60, St. John, Inverkeithing; 62, Thistle, Dumfries; 68, Doric, Kilwinning, Port-Glasgow; 69, Alloa; 72, Kirkcaldy; 73, Thistle and Rose, Glasgow; 74, St. Andrew, Perth; 75, Dunbar Castle; 76, Royal Arch, Stirling; 77, St. Regulus, Cupar-Fife; 79, St. Andrew, Annan; 86, Navigation, Troon; 87, Thistle, Glasgow; 88, Montrose, New Monkland; 90, Forfar Kilwinning; 95, St. Ayle, Anstruther; 97, St. James' Operative, Edinburgh; 100, St. Magdalen, Lochmaben; 102, St. Mark, Glasgow; 103, Union and Crown, Glasgow; 105, St. John's Operative, Coupar-Angus; 106, Lindores, Newburgh; 107, Eskdale, Kilwinning, Langholm; 109, St. Marnock, Kilmarnock; 111, St. John, Hawick; 112, St. John, Fisherrow; 114, Royal Arch, Cambuslang; 116, Royal Arch, Rutherglen; 117, St. Mary, Partick; 118, St. Bride, Douglas; 122, Royal Arch, Perth; 124, Ayr Kilwinning; 125, St. James, Newton-on-Ayr; 126, St. Andrew, Kilmarnock; 127, Thistle, Stewarton; 128, St. John, Shettleston; 129, St. Mirren, Paisley; 132, St. Luke, Lauder; 135, St. James, Tarbolton; 137, St. John, Blairgowrie; 138, Operative, Ayr; 140, Operative, Dumfries; 145, St. Stephen, Edinburgh; 147, Cawdor Argyll, Chryston; 149, St. Andrew, Irvine; 151, Edinburgh Defensive Band; 153, Royal Arch, Pollockshaws; 156, St. Barchan, Kilbarchan; 157, St. John Kilwinning, Beith; 158, Thistle Operative, Dundee; 160, Roman Eagle; 162, St. John, New Abbey; 165, Royal Arch, Ayr; 166, St. John, Airdrie; 167, Free Operatives, Biggar; 169, Thistle and Rose, Livingstone; 170, St. John, Leven, Dumbarton; 173, St. John, Largs; 174, St. John, Dunning; 175, St. John, Greenock; 176, St. Andrew, Denny; 177, St. James, Old Monkland; 178, Scotia, Glasgow; 179, St. Mungo, Mauchline; 180, Commercial, Oban; 181, Hopeton, Bathgate; 182, Incorporated Kilwinning, Montrose; 187, St. John, Carlisle; 189, St. John, Castle Douglas; 192, St. John, Muthill; 193, St. John Operative, Rothes; 199, St. Andrew, Cumbernauld; 201, St. Thomas, Muirkirk; 202, St. Clement, Kilmarnock; 203, St. John Operative, Airdrie; 204, St. Paul, Ayr; 205, Garthland, St. Winnoch; 215, St. Andrew's, Strathavon; 216, Stowe; 219, Star, Glasgow; 223, Trafalgar, Leith; 225, Forfar and Kincarcine, Dundee; 230, St. Barnabas, Old Cumnock; 233, Hamilton; 237, St. John, Girvan; 242, Houston, St. Johnston; 244, Union, Stonehouse; 250, Union, Dunfermline; 252, St. John, Thornhill; 254, Caledonian, Dundee; 258, Quhytewoolen, Lockerbie; 261, Tweed, Kelso; 262, St. John, Galashiels; 270, Thistle, West Calder; 272, St. John, Mid Calder; 275, Shamrock and Thistle, Glasgow; 281, Charleston of Aboyne; 282, St. Andrew, Lochlee; 286, Airlie, Kirriemuir; 290, Blair, Dalry; 291, Edinburgh and Leith Celtic; 292, St. John, Rothesay; 299, Panmure, Arbroath; 304, King Robert the Bruce, Auchtermuchty; 305, St. John, Woodhall; 306, St. Thomas, Larkhall; 307, Union and Crown, Barrhead; 309, Louar, Forfar; 314, Royal Arch, West Kilbride; 317, Camperdown, Dundee; 320, St. John, Ardrossan; 321, St. Andrew Royal Arch, Alexandria; 326, Clydesdale, Lanark; 327, St. Serff, Kinross; 331, St. Peter, Galston; 332, Union, Glasgow; 333, St. George, Glasgow; 334, St. John, New Cumnock; 335, Argyll, Dunoon; 347, St. John Operative, Rutherglen; 349, St. Clair, Edinburgh; 354, Caledonian Railway, Glasgow; 360, Commercial, Glasgow; 362, St. Clair, Glasgow; 370, Renfrew County Kilwinning, Paisley; 374, St. John, Crofthead;

375, Neptune, Aberdeen; 380, St. Andrew, Daybridge; 384, Athole, Kirkintilloch; 391, Zetland, Grangemouth; 392, Caledonian, Edinburgh; 399, Royal Blues, Kilbirnie; 400, Dunearn, Burntisland; 405, Rifle, Edinburgh; 406, St. John, Dalzell, Motherwell; 408, Clyde, Glasgow; 409, Douglas, Bolness; 413, Athole, Glasgow; 419, Neptune, Glasgow; 426, Prince of Wales, Renfrew; 427, St. Clair, Cambusnethan; 433, St. Thomas Kilwinning, Dalmellington; 437, Govandale, Govan; 441, Glasgow, Glasgow; 442, Neptune Kilwinning, Ardrossan; 448, Albert, Lochee; 458, St. John, Busby; 459, Kelburne, Cumbræ; 465, St. Andrew, Glasgow; 468, Oswald of Dunnikier, Kirkcaldy; 481, St. John, Shotts; 482, Kirkliston, Maitland; 484, St. John, Slammannan; 497, St. John, Katrine; 503, St. George, Helensburgh; 505, Burns' St. Mary, Hurlford; 507, Hopeton, Leadhills; 510, Maryhill; 512, Thortree, Thornliebank; 519, Kilwinning, Stranraer; 520, St. Clair, Dysart; 524, St. Andrew, East Kilbride; 531, Abercrombie, Bridge of Allan; 532, Rothes, Leslie; 541, Marie Stuart, Crosshill; 542, Union St. Andrews; 543, St. John, Dalmuir; 544, St. Andrew, Coatbridge; 547, The Steuart, Kilsyth; 548, St. Margaret, South Queensferry; 551, Clydesdale, Larkhall; 552, Kildaton, Port Ellen, Islay; 553, St. Vincent, Sandyford, Glasgow; 556, Clydesdale, Glasgow; 557, Blantyre, Kilwinning; 565, Bonnie Doon, Patna; 566, Ferguson St. James, Dailly; 570, Kenmure, Springburn; 571, Dramatic, Glasgow; 573, Livingstone St. Andrew, Motherwell; 575, St. Ninian, Nairn; 579, St. Bryde, Uddingston; 581, Plantation, Glasgow; 588, The Callander, Glasgow; 592, Albert Edward, Polmadie, Glasgow.

It is computed that the Masons who took part in the demonstration numbered about 7730, and these, accompanied by a host of brass and fife bands, and displaying all the flags and paraphernalia of the Craft, and headed by the Mother Lodge, Kilwinning, No. 0, proceeded by Woodlands Road, Lynedoch Street, Park Street East, Park Circus, Park Street West, to Park Terrace, which was reached by the lodge in advance at 2.35, exactly 45 minutes after the Royal party entered the Lord Provost's residence. As the Masons passed his lordship's door they doffed their hats to the Royal visitors, who seemed to be both amused and interested by the proceedings. There can be no doubt that the procession contained the elements of much that was provocative of mirth when observed by those not initiated in the mysteries of the Craft. Many of the lodges were headed by bands specially engaged for the occasion. These votaries of Orpheus may all be of one mind as to the necessity for harmony in sound, but it is evident that they do not recognise the same law in regard to colour and costume. Dressed in uniforms not unlike that worn by the Hussars, or in clothing of a light shade, but which was sadly soaked by the falling rain, or it may be in uniforms which had been made when the tailor's art was not carried to such perfection as it is now—a-days, these bandsmen excited a good deal of interest and uncharitable comment. While the band of the 78th was discoursing sweetly in front of the Lord Provost's house, it not unfrequently happened that one of these local bands turned from Park Circus into Park Terrace blowing "wi' micht and main," "Hey the Bonnie Masous," and the result was a discord which grated upon the ear. The look of disgust which they exhibited when their vigorous performance was ordered to cease was amusing to the spectator. Each lodge was liberally provided with flags, banners, and devices. The tattered appearance of many of these showed their great age; some were small, and could be easily handled by one person, but others were of such magnitude that the united exertions of six and eight men could hardly keep them in an upright position. But all these attractions paled in presence of the Tyler, whose fantastic costume excited much amusement. Judging from the turn-out, it would seem as if the "oldest inhabitant" had been brought from every town in which a Masonic body assembles, decked out in a curious dress and forced to march at the head of the lodge. Some were

got up as Eastern potentates with turbans and flowing Oriental costumes, and others as spruce shepherds and trig sailors. Altogether they were the individuals who during the day divided the public attention with Royalty. From the time the first lodge arrived at the Lord Provost's door until the rear came up an hour elapsed.

It should here be stated that immediately after it had adjourned the Grand Lodge formed in order of procession. In front were the representatives of Provincial Grand Lodges, the brethren of No. 3½, who carried the working tools used in the ceremony of the day; and the office-bearers of Grand Lodge brought up the rear. Having waited at the south end of Cumberland Street till the daughter lodges marched past, Grand Lodge fell in at the extreme end of the line. In this order the vast procession moved along the route indicated, but when Grand Lodge reached Park Terrace they allowed the daughter lodges to go before while they waited for H.R.H. the Prince of Wales to join them. By the time he did so the lodges had taken up their stations, and lined the route from Woodlands Crescent to the west side of George Square. Grand Lodge moved past the Lord Provost's residence, and the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Sir Michael Shaw Stewart, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and party having joined the cortege, the Grand Lodge walked along the route already indicated, and which was lined by the Masons and their bands. Brother Bryce, Grand Tyler, headed the procession of Grand Lodge, followed immediately by the representatives of the Dumfries and Galloway Provincial Lodges, and others in due order. As they advanced, the Grand Tyler was generally recognised by the Craftsmen, and at sight of him, walking bareheaded, as he did all the way, they uncovered and received the Grand Lodge and their Royal patron with loud cheers, while the bands struck up the "Merry Masons," and other airs.

Mr. Marwick, City Clerk, then read the following address from the City of Glasgow:—

"May it please your Royal Highness,—We, the Lord Provost and Magistrates and Council of the City of Glasgow, avail ourselves of the presence of your Royal Highness and the Princess of Wales to renew the expression of our loyalty and devotion to Her Majesty the Queen. It is our earnest prayer that Her Majesty may long be spared in health and strength to discharge her high duties, and to add fresh lustre to the Crown by her personal virtues, and by the benignity and beneficence of her reign. We desire, on behalf of the citizens, to offer to your Royal Highness, and your illustrious Consort our warmest welcome to Glasgow. On the occasion of your last visit you were pleased to lay on its new site the foundation-stone of our University, an institution which during the last four centuries has fostered the taste for learning in Scotland, and provided the means of cultivating it. To-day your Royal Highness marks with a graciousness of which we are deeply sensible, your interest in our postal and telegraphic system by which the modern activity and widely extended interests of this community are sustained and developed, the human sympathies most favourable to peace and goodwill among men maintained and fostered. The rapid increase of Glasgow during the last half century has been attended with a corresponding increase in the demands upon the Post Office establishment in the city, and successive enlargements of the old building were soon found to be wholly inadequate, even for the present requirements. Under these circumstances Her Majesty's Government has sanctioned the erection of an entirely new structure, according to plans and elevations which promise to be a credit to Glasgow. That your Royal Highness has graciously consented to lay the foundation-stone of this building is regarded by the citizens as an evidence of your interest and a mark of your favour, for which they are deeply grateful. We rejoice to find that your Royal Highness has returned in unimpaired health and vigour from your eventful journey. We venture to regard this as an evidence that your constitution has not suffered from the severe ordeal through which it passed during that illness which pressed so heavily on the national heart, and made the people realize,

as nothing else could have done, how closely their affections and hopes are entwined around the Royal Family. We offer our humble and hearty thanks to the Princess of Wales for so graciously accompanying your Royal Highness on this occasion. Nowhere, we venture to say, in her Majesty's dominions is her Royal Highness more beloved than she is in this city; and it is a special gratification to its many thousands to see her in their midst with her husband and children. It is our earnest prayer that your Royal Highness and your illustrious Consort may long be spared to each other and to the nation, and that in the sweetness and sanctity of family life which it has been the inestimable privilege of both of you from your earliest years to enjoy, you may find unfailing solace amid the cares and anxieties of your exalted position. Signed in name and by appointment of the Lord Provost, Magistrates and Council of the City of Glasgow and the seal of the said city appended hereto the 17th day of October, 1876."

The Prince of Wales, in reply, said: My Lord Provost and Gentlemen—The Princess joins with me in thanking you cordially for your address, and for the welcome we have received from the ancient city of Glasgow. I sincerely appreciate the terms in which you allude to the Queen, and as her son I am greatly touched by the expressions which you make use of when speaking of the virtues for which her Majesty is so conspicuous in her public and private capacity. On a former occasion, together with the Princess, I visited your town—the most important and populous in Scotland—for the purpose of laying the foundation-stone of your new University, and we now come to perform a similar duty for your Post-office. I am always glad when I find that circumstances permit me to manifest the interest which I experience in everything relating to the material prosperity of our great manufacturing and commercial centres, and I have had much pleasure, therefore, in accepting your invitation that I should take a principal part in the proceedings of the ceremony of to-day. My expedition to the East was undertaken with feelings of the greatest interest, but high as were my expectations as to what I should witness in that wonderful country, they fell far short of the reality. I trust that the result of my visit may prove to have been of service to the many millions of my fellow-creatures in that distant quarter of the globe, and to have united yet more firmly the ties which bind our Eastern possessions with Great Britain. I venture to express the belief that in this hope I have not been entirely disappointed. One of the most intelligent of the native princes has stated, in a letter recently received from him, that one of the results of my visit has been to interest India and England in each other, and to make them understand each other, and to daily increase England's confidence in India and India's hopes in England. You refer, in connection with the presence here this afternoon of the Princess of Wales and my sons, to the domestic happiness which exists among the members of the Royal family. This allusion comes especially home to me at present, when just a year ago I was separated from all those I hold most dear to commence a long journey to a distant land: and I can assure you, gentlemen, I shall not easily forget the ordeal through which I passed on that occasion. In wishing all success to your undertaking, let me not forget to mention the name of the distinguished founder of the penny postage system, Sir Rowland Hill, to whom we are all, rich and poor, so much indebted. (Loud cheers.)

The Rev. Dr. W. H. Gray, Edinburgh, Grand Chaplain, then offered up a prayer, after which the Grand Master and other officers having duly performed the other duties, the Prince completed the laying of the stone by giving three knocks on the stone with a gilt mallet, and saying, "May the Almighty Architect of the Universe look down with benignity upon our present undertaking, and crown the edifice of which we have now laid the foundation with every success."

The ceremony over, the Royal party left the square, and drove to St. Enoch Station, whence a special train conveyed them to Blythwood House, where Colonel Campbell had the honour

of entertaining the Prince and Princess of Wales, Prince John of Glucksburg, and a distinguished party to dinner. At half-past eight a special train conveyed the Royal party from Renfrew to Kilmarnock, where they joined the Pullman limited mail to London.

In the evening the principal streets of the city were brilliantly illuminated, and at Gillmour Hill in the west, and Alexandra Park in the east, there were brilliant displays of fireworks. The University on Gillmour Hill was finely illuminated; and Sir Wm. Thomson, the professor of natural philosophy, gave a display of eclipsing light for lighthouses from the windows of his class-room.

The new building, which has been begun under such auspicious circumstances, is likely to prove adequate for the necessities of Glasgow for many years to come. It will occupy the site of the present Post Office, and a large piece of ground immediately to the east of it, and will extend from Hanover-street to Frederick-street, thus forming one half of the south side of George-square. Of course the old building still stands, as the work of the postal department must be carried on there until the eastern portion of the new edifice is completed, when the staff will be removed to it, and the remainder of the plan carried out. Judged even by external appearance the present Post Office must long ago have fallen short of the requirements of a city like Glasgow, which, besides having its immense letter carrying and telegraph business, is the postal centre for a large portion of the West of Scotland. About as much money has, we believe, been spent on extensions and alterations as would have provided an entirely new structure, but governments are slow to move when large demands are made upon them, and it is due to Lord John Manners, as Postmaster General, and Lord Henry Lennox, as First Commissioner of Works, to say that if they were not the first to recognise the postal necessities of Glasgow, they were the first to admit them in a practical sense, and to set the machinery in motion for having them met. When completed the new Post Office will cover 2500 yards. It is designed in the Italian style by Mr. Matheson, of Her Majesty's Board of Works, Edinburgh, and promises to be architecturally an ornament to the city. The principal elevation, facing George square, will have a height of 75 feet, consisting of four floors above the level of the street, and will be divided into central and flanking compartments, each pierced by an entrance in the form of arched openings, with coupled columns of Peterhead granite, supporting an entablature overhead. The external arrangements will be of the most complex kind. All the latest mechanical contrivances for the saving of time and labour will be introduced.

For the accommodation of those privileged to witness the Masonic ceremony the most extensive preparations had been made; and while it was ultimately found inexpedient to throw the enclosure of the square open to the general body of the public, as large a number of tickets were issued giving admission within its precincts as it was thought could with safety be allowed. The stone was laid at the north-east corner of the new building at the junction of South Frederick Street with the square; and around this spot a platform, measuring some 200ft. by 60ft., was laid down for the reception of the Masonic brethren and official dignitaries. On the centre of this platform a raised dais was erected for the accommodation during the ceremony of the Prince and the members of the Grand Lodge. Springing from the platform to the west, south, and east were three spacious galleries, affording sitting room for about 200 persons; while a fourth gallery erected in Cockrane Street was allotted to the members of the Choral Union, who were in attendance to sing the Masonic music.

A fund is being raised to enable an old pupil of the Masonic School, Silver Medallist and Maybury prizeman there, and Associate and Divinity prizeman of King's College, London, to complete his course of study prior to entering Holy Orders. He is recommended for ordination by the Rev. Charles Woodward, late Head Master and Chaplain of the Boys' School; the Rev. Dr. Barry, Principal of King's College; and the Rev. Dr. Plumtre, Professor of Divinity, King's College.

PEACE OR WAR.

The following paragraphs appeared in the "Times" of Thursday, but seems to be of doubtful authority:—

WAR RUMOURS (FROM THE CENTRAL NEWS).

The Government have called upon Lloyd's to supply instantly a list of all seagoing steamers capable of conveying troops, and contingent contracts for their hire will forthwith be entered into.

Lord Napier of Magdala has been ordered to hold himself in readiness at a convenient spot in the Mediterranean, from whence he may at any moment be directed to proceed with troops to Egypt.

We are in a position to state that Her Majesty's Government have determined in the present grave aspect of the Eastern Question to hold an autumnal Session of Parliament. It is understood that the non-acceptance by Russia and Servia of the proposed Armistice is the immediate cause of this decision of the Cabinet.

In view of the threatening aspects of affairs in the East, confidential orders have been given by the War Office to the Commander-in-Chief to have three Army Corps in readiness for immediate despatch to the Mediterranean.

It is stated that plans for the defence of Constantinople, prepared by the Royal Engineers and approved by the War Office, have been forwarded to the Admiral of the Fleet in Besika Bay.

THE MINISTRY.—Late on Tuesday evening summonses were issued for a Cabinet Council on Thursday afternoon at the Prime Minister's official residence in Downing Street. The Council was summoned for 3 o'clock. Telegrams were forwarded to the Duke of Richmond, at Gordon Castle, and the Lord Chancellor, at Berchin, and to Lord John Manners, the Minister in attendance on the Queen, requesting their attendance. The Earl of Beaconsfield was expected to arrive in town that afternoon from Hughenden Manor. Lord Derby has been in town some days. The First Lord of the Admiralty came to town on Wednesday from Hampshire; and the Home Secretary reached town the same night from his seat in Lancashire to attend the Council.

UNION WATERLOO LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.

—We are asked to state that the Fifteen Sections will be worked at the above lodge on Friday evening next, the 27th inst., at 7 o'clock precisely, in the Masonic Hall, William-street, Woolwich. Bro. D. Rose, W.M. 1622, P.M. 73, &c., &c., will preside. Trains leave London Bridge 5.39, 6.11, 6.29; returning from Woolwich 10.15, 11.25.

The newly created Lord Sackville has been appointed an extra Lord in Waiting, and Captain Charles Edmund Phipps, 18th Regiment, to be one of the Grooms in Waiting in Ordinary, in the room of his lordship.

The "Morning Post" hears that Mr. Van Princep is commissioned to proceed to India to paint a great historical picture of the proclamation of the Empire at Delhi. It is said that the artist is to receive 5000l. for his work and 1000l. for his expenses.

The first regular meeting of the Friends in Council Royal Arch Chapter, No. 1383, consecrated on Thursday week, will be held at the Masonic Hall, Golden Square, this (Saturday) afternoon, at 3 o'clock.

CONFIDENCE LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 193.—The Fifteen Sections will be worked in this Instruction Lodge on Wednesday next.

Bro. Captain Wordsworth was unanimously elected a Trustee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys on Monday last.

On Sunday the Princess Helena and Prince Christian landed at Dover from Germany; and after lunching at the Lord Warden Hotel, left for Cumberland Lodge, Windsor, where their children had arrived from Osborne on the previous Thursday.

The members of the Marquess of Lorne Lodge, No. 1354, will celebrate the Festival of St. John on Wednesday, November 1st, at the Masonic Hall, Leigh, Lancashire. The W.M. Elect, Bro. Dr. Hall, will be installed by W. Bro. John Bowes, P.M., Prov. G.S.W. Cumberland and Westmoreland.

The Fifteen Sections will be worked at the Whittington Lodge of Instruction Black Bull, Holborn, on Wednesday next, October 25th, by the brethren of the Constitutional Lodge of Instruction, No. 55; Bro. John Bingemann, P.M. 55, W.M. 1599, will preside. The lodge will be opened at seven o'clock precisely.

The annual meeting of the Sun, Square and Compass Chapter, No. 119, will be held at the Masonic Hall, Whitehaven, on Friday, October, 27th. The Principal Elect will be installed by E. Comp. John Bowes, P.Z., &c., Prov. G.J.W.

LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

The monthly meeting of the Lodge of Benevolence was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. J. M. Clabon, President of the Board, presided; Bro. Joshua Nunn, Senior Vice-President, and Bro. James Brett, Junior Vice-President. There were likewise present Bros. Henry Bartlett, P.M. 147; E. P. Albert, G.P.; C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P.; Samuel Poynter, W. Mann, P.M. 186; S. G. Foxall, A.G.P.; S. Rawson, Prov. D.G.M. China; William Stephens, P.M.; Wm. H. Myers, P.M.; Chas. Fredk. Hogard, P.M.; Wm. Hilton, P.M.; W. Clifton Crick, P.M. 657; B. H. Swallow, W. H. Murlis, P.M. 1489; J. H. Weston, W.M. 1536; C. T. Winterflood, W.M. 1321; John Dyte, P.M. 25; Geo. Everett, W.M. 1381; T. Whitmarsh, W.M. 1150; Hy. H. Gilling, P.M. 238; John Bingemann, W.M. 1599; Henry Smith, P.M. 302; Captain J. Wordsworth, P.M., W.M. 380; A. Durrant, W.M. 1185; T. Durkin, W.M. 72; F. Binckes, P.M. 60; John Vaughan, P.M. 74; J. L. Hine, P.M. 75; Ralph Firkbank, P.M. 167; Geo. Tims, P.M. 177; John Green, W.M. 27; Wm. Speth, jun., W.M. 183; J. R. Foulger, W.M. 1613; W. H. Kempster, P.M. 1920; J. Chambers Roe, W.M. 780; W. Burmister, W.M. 538; R. P. Davies, W.M. 1288; Joseph Pigot, W.M. 753; Thos. S. Carter, I.P.M. 403; and H. Massey, P.M. 619 ("Freemason"). Bro. John Hervey, Grand Secretary; Bro. H. G. Buss, Bro. A. A. Pendlebury, and Bro. C. B. Payne, G. Tyler, were also present.

Grants made at last lodge to the amount of £150 were confirmed.

There were fifteen new petitions for grants on the printed paper, and to these the total sum of £335 was voted. One grant was for £100, one for £50, one for £30, one for £25, three for £20, four for £15, and one for £10. One case was dismissed, one deferred, and one petitioner had died since his petition was presented.

Lodge was then closed.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, October 27, 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, OCTOBER 21.

Lodge 1185, Lewis, King's Arms, Wood Green, N.
" 1364, Earl of Zetland, Old Town Hall, Hackney.
" 1541, Alexandra Palace, Muswell Hill.
Chap. 1383, Friends in Council, 33, Golden-sq.
Mark Lodge, 104, Macdonald, M.H., Coleman-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

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

MONDAY, OCTOBER 23.

Lodge 28, Old King's Arms, F.M.H.
" 183, Unity.
" 902, Burgoyne, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 1632, Stuart, Surrey M.H.
Chap. 25, Robert Burns, 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.
Upper Norwood, White Hart Ho., Church-rd.,
Marquis of Ripon, Pembury Tav., Amherst-rd., Hackney.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24.

Audit Com. Girls' School, at 4.
Lodge 14, Tuscan, F.M.H.
" 92, Moira.
" 145, Prudent Brethren, F.M.H.
" 186, Industry, Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue.
" 205, Israel, Cannon-st., Hotel.
" 1158, Southern Star, Montpelier Tav., Walworth.
" 1196, Urban, Old Jerusalem Tav., Clerkenwell.
" 1348, Ebury, 12, Penonby-st., Millbank.
Chap. 7, Royal York of Perseverance, F.M.H.

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, Wheatshaf 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.
St. John of Wapping, Gun Hot., High-st., Wapping.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25.

Lodge 212, Euphrates, Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue.
" 507, United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H.
" 754, High Cross, Seven Sisters' Tav., Tottenham.
" 898, Temperance in the East, 6, Newby-pl., Poplar.

" 1056, Victoria, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 1415, Campbell, Mitre Hot., Hampton-st.
" 1540, Chaucer, Bridge House Hot., Southwark.
Chap. 13, Union Waterloo, M.H., Wm.-st., Woolwich.
" 435, Salisbury, F.M.H.
" 752, Prince Frederick William.
" 857, St. Mark's, Surrey 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.
Mount Edgecumbe, 19, Jermyn-st., St. James's.
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, OCTOBER 26.

Gen. Com. Girls' School, at 4.
Lodge 34, Mount Moriah, F.M.H.
" 60, Peace and Harmony.
" 65, Prosperity, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
" 66, Grenadiers, F.M.H.
" 871, Royal Oak, White Swan, High-st., Deptford.
" 1421, Langthorne, Swan Hot., Stratford.
Chap. 177, Domestic, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 534, Polish National, F.M.H.
" 766, Wm. Preston, Cannon-st. Hot.

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, Penonby-st., Millbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.
Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27.

Lodge 569, FitzRoy, Hd.-qtrs. Hon. Art. Com., City-rd.
" 861, Finsbury, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
K.F. Precep. 74, Harcourt, Greyhound Hot., Richmond.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Constitution, Bedford-st., Covent Garden.
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 Courts, 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.
St. George's, Globe Tav., Greenwich.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, October 28, 1876.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 23.

Chap. 241, Friendship, M.H., Liverpool.
Derby L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24.

Lodge 1393, Hamer, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1609, Dramatic, M.H., Liverpool.
Chap. 823, Everton, M.H., Liverpool.
Merchants' L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25.

Lodge 32, St. George's, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.
" 220, Harmony, Garston Hot., Garston.
" 724, Derby, M.H., Liverpool.
Chap. 1052, Callender, Pub. H., Rusholme.
" 1356, De Grey and Ripon, M.H., Liverpool.
Neptune L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26.

Lodge 594, Downshire, M.H., Liverpool.
" 950, Hesketh, Royal Hot., Fleetwood.
" 1032, Townley Parker, Howard's A., Whit-le-Sprng.
" 1070, Starkie, Black Horse Hot., Kirkham.
" 1313, Fermor, M.H., Southport.
Chap. 216, Sacred Delta, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1086, Walton, St. Lawrence's School, Kirkdale.
Mariners' L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27.

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

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, October 28, 1876.

All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 23.

Lodge 102, St. Mark, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 219, Star, 12, Trongate, Glasgow.
" 362, St. Clair, 25, Robertson-st., Glasgow.
" 541, Marie Stuart, M.H., Crosshill.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24.

Lodge 413, Athole, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 419, Neptune, 35, St. James-st., Kingston.
" 426, Prince of Wales, High-st., Renfrew.
" 543, St. John, M.H., Dalmuir.
" 556, Clydesdale, 106, Rose-st., S.S., Glasgow.
" 579, St. Bryde, M.H., Uddingston.

Chap. 67, Cathedral, 22, Struthers-st., Glasgow.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25.

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

Chap. 73, Caledonian of Unity, 213, Buchanan-st.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26.

Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow, 213, Buchanan-st.
Lodge 167, Free Operative, M.H., Biggar.
" 570, Kenmuir, Balgray Hall, Springburn.

Chap. 117, Govan, Portland Buildings, Govan.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27.

Lodge 51, London Kilwinning, Com. Hot, Newmilns.
" 118, St. Bride, M.H., Douglas.
" 125, St. James, Masons' Arms, Newton Ayr.
" 153, Royal Arch, Cogan-st., Pollokshaws.
" 195, St. John R.A., Lennox Arms, Campsie.
" 199, St. Andrew, M.H., Cumbernauld.
" 236, St. John, Wilsontown Iron Works, M.H., Forth.
" 244, Union, Black Bull Inn, Stonehouse.
" 347, St. John Operative, M.H., Rutherglen.
Chap. 79, Commercial, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28.

Lodge 28, St. John, Black Bull Inn, Kirkintilloch.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, October 28, 1876.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 28.

Lodge 349, St. Clair, F.M.H., 98, George-st.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24.

Lodge 151, Defensive Band, Alexandra Hall.
Chap. 40, Naval and Military, F.M.H., 98, George-st.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25.

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

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26.

Lodge 392, Caledonian, F.M.H., 98, George-st.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27.

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

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The Entrance Fee is Seven Guineas, and the Annual Subscription the like amount (payable in advance); Officers on Home Service, with the exception of those residing in London, and Country Members, Entrance Fee Four Guineas; Subscription Four Guineas, Members abroad One Guinea, until the Club (which now consists of upwards of 700 Members) numbers 1000, when the Entrance Fee will be Thirty Guineas.

The next Ballot for Election of Members will take place on the 10th October.

List of Committee, consisting of Noblemen and Gentlemen, with full particulars, may be had either on personal or written application to

Colonel W. A. M. BARNARD,

Hon. Sec. to Committee.

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