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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

**VITRUVIAN LODGE (No. 87).**—A regular monthly meeting of this old-established lodge was held at the White Hart, College-street, Lambeth, on the 13th inst., P.M. C. S. Jolly officiating for the W.M. (who was unavoidably absent), and was well supported by the whole of the officers. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and duly confirmed, the lodge was opened up to the Third Degree, and Bros. Huntly, Terry, and Isaac were raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M., after which Bros. Conford and Baker were passed to the degree of F.C. On the lodge being resumed to the First Degree, Messrs. Shotton, Bragg, Harris, and Waterer having been proposed in open lodge at a former meeting, were balloted for, the election in each case being unanimous, and were then initiated into the mysteries of our ancient Craft. The working of Bro. Jolly was excellently done, and although (as will be seen) there were three raisings, three passings, and four initiations, the whole of the ceremonies were gone through without a hitch. After some minor business, the lodge was closed in due form. No banquet followed on this occasion.

**YORK.**—York Lodge (No. 236).—The annual meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, Duncombe Place, York, on Monday evening, the 18th inst., the principal business before it being the installation of Bro. William Cowling, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., the Worshipful Master, elect for the ensuing year, which will be the most important event in the history of the lodge since its formation. Within the next few months the lodge will complete the 100th year of its existence, the same having been constituted by the Grand Lodge of England in June, 1777, and as it is contemplated shortly to celebrate the centenary of the lodge in a manner commensurate with its high reputation and worthy of the ancient city with which it is associated, a special interest was attached to the installation of the W.M. elect on this occasion, as was evidenced by the large number of brethren and visitors from other lodges who were in attendance. The ceremony of installation was performed with much ability by Bro. Ralph Davison, P.M., after which the W.M. (with the view of the proceedings attendant upon the proposed celebration being most effectively carried out) appointed and invested the following distinguished members of the lodge as his officers for the year, viz.: Bro. Sir James Meek, P.M., P.P.G.W., Senior Warden; Bro. Wm. Benson Richardson, P.M., P.P.G.W., Junior Warden; Bro. the Rev. H. V. Palmer, P.M., P.P.G.C., Chaplain; Bro. Wm. Lawton, P.M., P.P.G.R., Treasurer; Bro. Joseph Todd, P.M., P.P.G.O., Secretary; Bro. John March, P.M., P.P.G.W., Senior Deacon; Bro. Chas. Smith, P.M., P.P.G.D., Junior Deacon; Bro. Ralph Davison, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., Director of Ceremonies; and Bro. Thomas Smurthwaite, P.M., P.P.G.W., Inner Guard. Bro. George Kirby was also appointed Assistant Secretary; Bro. Camidge, P.P.G.O., Organist; Bros. Tissiman and Garbrett, Stewards, and Bro. Redfear, Tyler.

**HEYWOOD.**—Naphthali Lodge (No. 266).—This lodge held its annual installation meeting at the Masonic Hall, Heywood, on Thursday, December 7th. The lodge was opened in due form at 2.30 p.m., by Bro. John Partington, W.M. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the auditors' report and balance sheet for the past 12 months was submitted and accepted, showing the lodge to be in a healthy and prosperous condition. The lodge was then opened in the Second and Third Degrees, and the W.M. raised Bro. Abraham Eastwood to the sublime degree of a M.M. A Board of Installed Masters having been formed, Bro. Joseph Hardman, S.W. and W.M. elect, was presented by Bro. Partington, W.M., and was inducted into the chair of K.S. by the Installing Master, Bro. Albert Wolstenholme, P.M., P.J.G.D. The very satisfactory manner in which the Installing Master performed his duties is deserving of the highest praise. The working tools in the several degrees were presented to the newly installed W.M., and the brethren saluted him in ancient form. The W.M. appointed the following brethren as officers for the ensuing year; and they were duly invested by the Installing Master, Bro. Wolstenholme, P.M., P.J.G.D., viz.:—Bros. Jno. Partington, I.P.M.; John Thomas Dawson, S.W.; Sam. Clegg, J.W.; James Mills, P.M., P.G.S.B., Treas.; Richard Gerton, P.M., Chap.; James Fenton, Sec.; Richard Rigby, S.D.; John Kay, J.D.; Edmund Manock, I.G.; B. C. Crossley, Org.; Wm. Henry Kershaw, D.C.; Oswin Brown, Tyler; James Collinge, S.S.; and Robt. A. Bridge, J.S. The addresses to the W.M. and his officers were given with a very impressive effect by Bro. Jno. Cass, P.M. Heartly good wishes were accorded from the P.G. Lodge of East Lancashire, Harmony 288, Relief, 42, Harmony, 298. The lodge was closed in due form at 6 p.m., and

the brethren adjourned to a splendid banquet, most ably served by Bro. Griffiths, of the Queen Anne Hotel. The customary toasts followed, in all fifteen in number, and were most ably proposed and responded to. A splendid musical entertainment was given in the course of the evening, songs, glees, recitations, and pianoforte solos being interspersed throughout, and a most pleasant and enjoyable St. John's was successfully brought to a close.

**BIRKENHEAD.**—Mersey Lodge (No. 477).—A meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Rooms, Argyle-street, on Thursday evening, the 14th inst. Bro. Adams, the W.M., presided, and there was a very large attendance of brethren. Three candidates having been initiated, the lodge proceeded to the election of Master for the ensuing year, when the suffrages of the brethren were given in favour of Bro. J. Pulford, the Senior Warden. Bro. Donald Fraser, the I.P.M., was unanimously elected Treasurer. A Past Master's jewel was voted to Bro. Adams, the retiring Master. The installation will take place in January.

**BRECON.**—Brecknock Lodge (No. 651).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on the 11th inst. at 6.30, at the Masonic Hall, Brecon, Bro. T. D. Roberts, W.M., presiding. The first business was the election of officers for the ensuing year, and the choice of the brethren unanimously fell on the following:—W. M. Bro. Richard Webb, Treas., P. Prov. G.P.; Treasurer, Bro. D. W. Jones Thomas; Tyler, Bro. Serjt. Major Orlopp. Ballot was then taken for Mr. William Games, who, having been approved, was duly initiated in an impressive manner by the W.M. The W.M. brought under the notice of the lodge the case of an old and respected member and Past Master of the lodge and Past Provincial Grand Officer, who, from circumstances of unforseen misfortune, was now reduced to poverty and distress, and on the proposition of Bro. Herbert Chas. Rich, P.M., seconded by Bro. Richard Webb, W.M. elect, the sum of ten guineas was unanimously voted for his relief with a warm expression of sympathy with him in his distress. It was announced that the installation of the W.M. elect would take place on the 8th January. The lodge was then closed in ancient form.

**WOOLWICH.**—Nelson Lodge (No. 700).—The regular meeting of the above lodge took place on Wednesday, the 20th inst., at the Masonic Hall, William-street, when, notwithstanding a steady downpour of the "bothering rain," a goodly assembly of the brethren gathered together to assist and enjoy the working for which the lodge is so justly celebrated. The W.M., Bro. T. Butt, took the chair at 7 p.m. precisely, the following officers being present:—Past Masters, T. Ward, I.P.M.; J. Rowland, G. Crawford, and C. Hobson; Bros. Waters, S.W.; A. Woodley, J.W.; F. J. Dawson, P.M., and Treas.; J. Henderson, P.M. and Sec.; C. Cooke, Org.; J. Warren, S.D.; J. Wilkins, J.D.; E. B. Hobson, I.G.; W. McCoy, D.C.; and B. Norman, Tyler. Among the visitors were Bros. W. Weston, W.M. 1536; Capt. C. Phillips, P.M. 13 and 1536; G. Spinks, S.W. 1536; H. G. Picken, J.W. 1536; T. D. Hayes, J.D. 913; W. B. Lloyd, S.D. 913; S. Long, 913; W. E. Douglas, 552 and 1463; Donolly, 1536 and 706; T. Hooper, 1536; and C. Jolly, 913. The lodge having been duly opened, a ballot was taken for Mr. G. H. Hill, and after approval that gentleman was most impressively initiated into Masonry. Bro. Andrew was then passed to the Second Degree, and Bro. Wilson received the benefit of the Third. Nothing could be more effective than the solemnity and precision with which the whole of the work was carried out, Bro. Cooke's ability as an organist conspicuously aiding in the ceremonial. The lodge was then resumed, the report of the committee appointed to revise the bye-laws of the lodge received, and after a short discussion, passed, with but few alterations, the most important being the alteration of the payments of lodge dues, making them quarterly instead of monthly, as formerly, and a slight rise in their value, the lowering of the fee for joining members from £3 10s. to £3 3s., and the alteration of the installation from June to July. A vote of thanks having been passed to Bro. McCoy for his services as Sec. to the Committee, a reply from that brother concluded the business, and the lodge having been closed in due form, most of the brethren adjourned to Bro. Francis's hostelry opposite, where a cold collation awaited them. The brethren then reassembled in the Hall, where refreshments were served, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and honoured. In proposing "The Health of the W.M.," Bro. Ward briefly drew attention to the able manner in which he carried out his duties in the chair, and in reply the W.M. said he once again, and for the last time this year, thanked them for the great cordiality they had shown him in his position as head of the lodge; he had tried to carry out its duties to their satisfaction, and trusted in the forthcoming year they might all be as united and pass as comfortable a one as the last (Cheers). "The Health of the Initiate" was then proposed and responded to. Bro. Weston, W.M. 1536, replied for the Visitors, and in so doing spoke of the close relationship and good feeling that existed between the "Nelson," and the "United Military," which made it a pleasure to receive a brother of the "Nelson," or to visit the lodge; indeed, the general good feeling among all the lodges of the district showed that Masonry with them was something more than a name. (Cheers.) In the name of the visitors he thanked them for their toast (Cheers). The toast of the Past Masters followed, and in the course of his remarks the W.M. evidenced the unwearied exertion made by them for the prosperity of the lodge, by drawing attention to their efforts to frame a code of laws suitable to their circumstances, and of the happy issue of those efforts that night. They were always ready to render assistance and advice to any one of the brethren; more particularly were their services eminent in assisting to carry out properly the duties of the chair.

(Applause.) P.M. Rowland, the Senior P.M. of the lodge in reply, said it seldom fell to the lot of the Senior Past Master to respond to that toast in the presence of the I.P.M., but Bro. Ward had upon this occasion placed it in his hands, and he thanked him for it. He must congratulate the W.M. upon the manner in which he filled the honourable position to which he had been elected (Cheers.) The officers were a credit to his judgment and to the lodge. The Past Masters felt proud of being as it were of the father of such a lodge, and he felt sure none of their children would ever want for either advice or assistance. He thanked the W.M., and after wishing him and all the brethren a merry Christmas and happy new year, trusted that the same love and harmony which now existed would ever continue in the lodge. Bro. C. Hobson rose and regretted the absence of Bro. C. Norman, P.M., which was attributable to domestic affliction, and he conveyed to them Bro. Norman's apologies and best wishes. The toast of "The Officers" followed, and Bro. Woody responded, and then the Tyler's toast concluded a memorable and happy old year to the Nelson Lodge.

**CHESTER.**—Lodge of Independence (No. 721).—At the meeting of this popular lodge on Monday evening, the 11th inst., under the presidency of Bro. J. J. Tunnah, the W.M., the Senior Warden, Bro. W. Mathews, was elected Master for the ensuing year. The installation will take place in January. The brethren voted a Past Master's jewel to Bro. J. J. Tunnah, the retiring W.M.

**TWICKENHAM.**—Francis Burdett Lodge (No. 1503).—An excellent gathering of this prosperous lodge was held at the Albany Hotel, on Wednesday, the 13th inst. Amongst the principal officers present were:—Bros. W. H. Saunders, P.G.S. of Surrey; W. M. Knaggs, S.W.; Court, sen., J.W.; Taylor, S.D.; Vaughan, J.D.; W. Wigginton, P.G. Supt. of Wks. Middlesex, &c., I.P.M., Sec.; Tomlinson, P.M., P.P.G.S.D. of Norfolk, Treas.; C. Horsley, P.P.G.R. of Middlesex, D.C.; Birchell, P.M. The minutes of the installation meeting in November last having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken upon behalf of a gentleman for initiation at the next meeting, and the report of the committee appointed to consider the advisability of altering the month of meeting was read and unanimously adopted. The meeting in future will be held on the second Wednesday in the months of February, April, July, October, November, and December. The lodge was shortly afterwards closed, and the brethren adjourned to a collation. The visitors were Bros. Corben, P.M., and Elliott. Upon the removal of the cloth the toasts of the "Queen and Craft," "H.R.H. the M.W.G.M.," "The Past and Dep. Grand Masters and the rest of the Grand Officers, Past and Present," were given by the W.M., prefaced by a few pertinent remarks. In proposing "The Health of the R.W.P.G.M. of Middlesex," the W.M. made an excellent speech in honour of Bro. Colonel Burdett. The toast of "The D.G.M. and the rest of the Prov. Grand Officers, Past and Present," followed. Bros. Wigginton and Horsley replied by thanking the W.M. for the complimentary manner in which he had mentioned their names in connection with the last toast. They said that they were proud at holding grand rank in so important a Masonic province as Middlesex and under so distinguished and popular a chief as Bro. Colonel Burdett. "The Health of the W.M." was proposed by the I.P.M. in most felicitous terms. The W.M., in very feeling language, having briefly acknowledged the compliment paid him by the I.P.M., then proposed "The Health of the Visitors," in which he expressed the pleasure he felt, and should always feel at being in a position to dispense the hospitality of the "Francis Burdett" to their visiting brethren. This toast having been duly honoured was acknowledged by Bro. Corben. The remaining toasts "The Past Masters," "The Treasurer and Sec., and the Officers" followed in quick succession and were severally acknowledged. The Tyler's toast, at ten o'clock, terminated the proceedings which were throughout eminently successful.

**LIVERPOOL.**—Prince Arthur Lodge (No. 1570).—The first annual installation meeting of this lodge was held at the lodge-room, North Hill-street, Foxth Park, Liverpool, on Tuesday afternoon, the 19th inst. Bro. H. S. Alpass, P.G. Sec., the W.M., presided at the opening of the lodge, supported by Bros. T. Evans, P.M. 1356, S.W.; A. Morrison, J.W.; S. Hinks, Sec.; R. Roberts, S.D.; H. Worthington, I.G.; W. W. Thomas, S.; P. Larsen, Tyler; J. Lawson, J. Jones, J. Corkhill, J. Webster, J. Selbey, S. E. Ibbes, P.P.G.S.B.; A. R. Webster, J. H. Davies, J. Kenwright, and others. The visitors included Bros. B. B. Marson, P.G.S.; J. Skeaf, P.G.O.; J. Bell, W.M. 1609; T. Boswell, Sec. 594; H. Marshall, 673; E. Johnston, P.M. 203; R. Brown, P.M. 241; A. Woolrich, Treas. 1609; R. Wilson, P.P.G.S.B.; J. W. Turley, P.P.G.J.D.; J. R. Bottomley, 1356; J. Holder, 1182; T. Nickson, S.W. 1356; T. Marwood, P.J.G.W.; and Major Horner, P.G.S.W. After the minutes had been confirmed, the W.M. proceeded to pass a brother to the Second Degree, and then concluded his year of office by installing Bro. T. Evans, S.W., as the W.M. for the ensuing year. The following officers were then invested:—Bros. H. S. Alpass, P.G. Sec., I.P.M.; S. E. Ibbes, P.P.G.S.B., D.C.; A. Morrison, S.W.; Saml. Hinks, J.W.; Robert Roberts, Sec.; H. Worthington, S.D.; G. H. Thomas, J.D.; Thomas Mair, Treas.; W. W. Thomas, I.G.; and P. Larsen, Tyler. A recherche banquet was subsequently served by Bro. W. Vines, P.M. 220, of the Canton Hotel, which gave universal satisfaction. The W.M. gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, and in submitting "The Prince of Wales," he said it must be a great satisfaction to the brethren of the Craft to find His Royal Highness devoting so much of his valuable time to the interests of Freemasonry. Bro. Major Horner, P.G.S.W. West Lancashire, responded to the toast of "Bro.

Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M., and P.G.M., and his P.G. Officers" (a toast given with much felicity by the W.M.), and in doing so said that lodge had been most fortunate in having Bro. Alpass as its first W.M., as his name was a household word all over the province. Bro. Alpass, in giving "The Health of the W.M., Bro. T. Evans," spoke of his many excellent qualities as a Mason, and said that the members of the Prince Arthur Lodge would quite agree with him when he said that they had had a most successful, harmonious, and agreeable year, which he was certain would again be the case during the second year of the lodge's existence. He (Bro. Alpass) never had greater pleasure than in occupying the chair of that lodge, as it was so easily governed; and he was quite certain the brethren would have equal pleasure in sitting under the new W.M.'s rule. The W.M., in response, said he felt flattered by the terms in which Bro. Alpass had spoken of him in the presence of so many distinguished Masons. He assured the brethren that he would strive to have the welfare of the lodge at heart, and follow the example so worthily set him. The W.M. then proposed the toast of "The Immediate Past and Installing Master, Bro. H. S. Alpass, P.G. Sec.," and in doing so expatiated on the ability and fine brotherly feeling which had marked his conduct in the W.M.'s chair. They would all bear him out when he said that Bro. Alpass was a Master indeed, a Master in the true sense of the term; a wise counsellor, and yet a genial friend. To him they almost entirely owed the success of the lodge, and it was therefore only fair that the brethren should recognise his active services in connection with it, amid the multifarious duties which he had to perform. The W.M. then presented the I.P.M. with a solid silver teapot for Mrs. Alpass, and with a handsome Past Master's jewel for himself. Bro. Alpass, in response, said that during 30 years' residence in Toxteth Park he had filled several public positions, and been subject to severe criticism; and he felt it a very great honour indeed when his brother Freemasons named him as the first W.M. of the new lodge. The results had greatly exceeded his anticipations, and he really felt, after a long experience in Masonry, he had never been a member of any lodge where there had been so much unanimity and good fellowship. They had all been like a united family, and the year he had just served as W.M. would be remembered by him to his very latest hour as one of unmixed pleasure. Bro. Alpass concluded by thanking the brethren in the name of his wife and his own name for the very valuable gifts presented to him. Several other toasts followed, and a very enjoyable evening was spent.

### Royal Arch.

**BATH.—Royal Cumberland Chapter (No. 41).**—The most important meeting of the year was held at the Masonic Hall on Tuesday, Dec. 19th, at 4.30 p.m., when the chapter was opened by E. Comp. Jas. Parfitt, Z.; R. Carey, H.; Rubie, P.Z., acting as J. There were also present the following P.Z.'s:—T. B. Moutrie, Treas.; Dr. Hopkins, Keene, Reeves, Jelley, Geo. Parfitt, Wilton, Mitchell; General Doherty, 53, as a visitor. Among the companions afterwards admitted were Hill, E.; Hearne, N.; Brown, P. Soj.; as a visitor, Chas. Pegler, 14, 304, 837, West Yorkshire; and many members of the chapter. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The accounts of the Treasurer as audited were passed, and a cordial vote of thanks for his great and successful efforts in collecting arrears was carried by acclamation. The sum of £10 was voted to the funds of the Masonic Benevolent Institution, to be placed on the list of General Doherty, as a Steward of the charity. A ballot was taken for the Principals, and other officers, for the next year, as proposed at the last meeting, with the following result:—Thompson, Z.; Carey, H.; Hill, J.; Moutrie, Treas.; Hearne, E.; Brown, N.; Young, P. Soj.; Falkner and Williamson were appointed Assist. Sojs.; and Bigwood, Janitor. The M.E.Z. requested E. Comp. Dr. Hopkins to perform the ceremonies of installation of Principals, who, having declared all offices vacant, and dismissed the companions below the Principal chairs, complied with the request. The three ceremonies having been completed, the companions were re-admitted, and the Installing Principal directed the customary salute, and proclaimed the Principals. The M.E.Z. then invested the other officers as before named. It was proposed and seconded by E. Comps. Jelley and Jas. Parfitt, P.Z.'s, and carried by acclamation, "That a vote of thanks be accorded to E. Comp. Dr. H. Hopkins, P.Z. 328, 597, 710, for the ready and willing service he has at all times rendered to the chapter, and for the impressive and efficient way in which he has performed the ceremonies of installation," for which a due acknowledgment was made. Votes of thanks were also passed to the Principals of the last year, and to the visitors for the sanction of their presence, which were acknowledged by E. Comps. General Doherty and Pegler, the latter especially commenting on the harmony and kindly feeling which appeared to him to prevail in the chapter. E. Comp. Dr. Hopkins gave notice of a proposed alteration in one of the bye-laws, with a view to bring it more in accordance with Masonic custom, and to remove an inconvenience which at present exists. The new Principals returned thanks for the honour which had been conferred upon them. The chapter was closed at seven o'clock, and the companions adjourned to the Castle Hotel for a banquet, which was all that could be desired as regards the provision made by the host and the Stewards, and the social feeling that prevailed.

**JERUSALEM CHAPTER (No. 185).**—An meeting of this chapter was held in the Freemasons' Tavern on Tuesday, the 12th inst. There were present Comps. Loewenstark, P.Z., acting M.E.Z.; Elsam, H.; Wagner, J.; Robinson, N.; Davage, P.Z.; S.E.; Mander, P.S.

Bond, 1st A.S.; Walls, 2nd A.S.; Holbrook, P.Z.; Bentley, Janitor. The visitors were Comps. B. Sharp, P.Z. 84; Walton, 13. The minutes of the previous convocation having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken on behalf of Bros. Hurst, W.M. 1512, and Davies, Mount Edgcombe, and having been declared unanimous, those brethren were duly elected. The arduous and impressive ceremonial was ably performed by Comp. Bernard Sharp, in the unavoidable absence of Comp. W. Hammond, M.E.Z. The chapter having been formally closed the companions adjourned to an excellent banquet, which was presided over by Comp. Loewenstark. The customary loyal and Royal Arch toasts having been given, "The Health of the absent M.E.Z., and his Deputy that evening" was duly proposed and drank. Comp. Loewenstark having briefly replied, proposed in fitting terms "The Healths of the Newly Elected Companions," which toast having been received with excellent fire, Comps. Hurst and Davies replied. The former stated that he had for some time past experienced a desire to enter the ranks of Royal Arch Masonry, and he was exceedingly pleased to think that he had selected the Jerusalem for that purpose. In conclusion he expressed himself highly impressed with the working of the ceremonial. Comp. Davies having addressed the companions in similar terms, the acting M.E.Z. proposed "The Health of the Visitors." In introducing this toast he particularly paid a high compliment to one of their visitors, Comp. Sharp, who had undertaken the duties of M.E.Z. that evening, and had discharged them in a manner that had left nothing to be desired. Comp. Sharp, in reply, briefly said that he was deeply gratified to think that he had been of any service to the chapter that evening in the absence of their M.E.Z. The work of Royal Arch Masonry was always to him a "labour of love," and he was proud that the Acting First Principal had done him an honour by requesting him to undertake the duties of the chair, which he had endeavoured to carry out to the best of his ability. Comp. Walton also replied. "The Health of the Second and Third Principals" followed, and gave Comps. Elsam and Wagner an opportunity of addressing the companions at length. The toasts of "The Past Principals," "The Treasurer and S.E.," and "The Officers" followed, and were briefly acknowledged by the companions honoured. During the proceedings some excellent vocal selections were given, and the companions separated until the second Tuesday in February next.

**BARNSTAPLE.—Chapter of Loyalty and Virtue (No. 251).**—This chapter held its usual quarterly meeting on the 21st inst., at the Masonic Hall. A large number of the companions attended, it being the day appointed for the election of the officers of the chapter for the ensuing year, and the transaction of other important business. The following were present: Comps. W. H. Brewer, Z.; W. Britton, H.; J. T. Shapland, J.; W. C. Oliver, Scribe E.; W. J. List, Treas.; C. S. Willshire, J. Harper, J. Hancock, T. Ebsworthy, J. Brewer, J. N. Brewer, W. Curtis, T. Hancock, Wm. Young, J. Herbert, E. Holmes, A. Bodley, of Chap. 112, and others. The following are the newly appointed officers for the year ensuing:—W. Britton, Z.; J. T. Shapland, H.; W. C. Oliver, J.; J. Brewer, Scribe E.; W. Boyle, Scribe N.; W. J. List, Treas.; E. Holmes, P.S.; T. Hancock, 1st A.S.; W. Young, 2nd A.S.; J. Edwards, Org.; and H. J. Hancock and A. Bates, Janitors. The companions afterwards dined together at Mrs. Marsh's, Golden Lion Hotel, whose catering was, as usual, first class, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

**LIVERPOOL.—St. John's Chapter (No. 673).**—The annual meeting for the installation of chiefs and investiture of officers took place at the Masonic Hall, Hope Street, Liverpool, on Wednesday, the 13th December, at which there was a large attendance of members and visitors. The minutes having been confirmed, Comp. Thomas Clark, P.Z., proceeded to instal in his usual excellent and impressive style the following companions, viz., Comps. John Thornton, M.E.Z.; Martin Corless, M.E.H.; and Thomas Roberts, M.E.J. Comp. David Jackson was then invested as S.E.; J. K. Digges, S.N.; and Henry Burrows, for the fourth time, P.S. The M.E. Chiefs then exalted Bro. Strang, of the Emulation Lodge, No. 1505. A vote of thanks was ordered to be recorded on the minutes to Comp. T. Clark for his services as Installing Chief. The chapter having been duly closed, the companions sat down to an excellent banquet, prepared by Comp. Ball, when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, the toast of the evening, that of the M.E.Z., Comp. John Thornton, being proposed by Comp. Wm. T. May, P.Z. 673, 208, and 580, who, in doing so, dwelt on the great pleasure he experienced in assisting at the installation of his old friend, and referred to the circumstances of Comp. Thornton being one of the oldest Masons in Liverpool, having been initiated in 1832, the founder of two lodges, the first being St. John's, 673, in which lodge, as W.M., Comp. May was initiated as a Mason by Comp. Thornton, and who returned the compliment by exalting Comp. Thornton in St. John's Chapter on the first night of its existence. The toast was most cordially responded to, and Comp. Thornton returned thanks in his usual felicitous style. After a pleasant evening, spent in a truly Masonic manner, the companions separated at an early hour.

**HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.**—Few persons are so favoured by circumstances as to be fortified by nature as to enable them to pass unscathed the sore trials of an inclement season. With catarrh, coughs, and influenza everywhere abounding, the ointment, diligently rubbed upon the chest, checks the worst assaults of these maladies and securely wards off more grave and dangerous diseases of the throat and lungs. The truth of this assertion must remain unquestioned in the face of thousands of unimpeachable living attestors, who have personally derived the utmost possible benefit from this simple treatment when their present sufferings were appalling, and their prospects most disheartening. Both remedies act admirably together.—ADVT.

### Scotland.

**GLASGOW.—Lodge St. John (No. 33).**—The annual meeting for election of office-bearers of this lodge, the most ancient in the province of Glasgow, was held on Tuesday evening, the 19th inst., within their hall at No. 213, Buchanan-street. The retiring W.M., Bro. Daniel M. Nelson, presided, and there was the largest attendance of members, of the lodge chiefly, that has been seen in the hall since the memorable meeting of last year, when Bro. Nelson was elected to the chair. The lodge having been opened, the chairman stated that he had that afternoon had a very agreeable and also a very melancholy duty to perform. The first was to preside at the initiation into the Order of the Rev. Dr. Dobie, of Shamrock-street U.P. Church, and the second to be called to the bedside of an old and worthy member of the lodge, Bro. Dick, senior, as to whom he was sorry to say that there was not seemingly the least chance of his ever being among them again. Under these circumstances he would simply ask them to join in an expression of sympathy with their worthy Secretary (Bro. John Dick), necessarily absent, and a proposition that record of the same should be noted in the minutes of that meeting. Bro. Dunn (acting Secretary) then read the minutes of last regular meeting (5th inst.), and also of an emergency meeting held on 14th inst., at which latter Mr. James Dunbar and Mr. William Thomson, were initiated into the Order, and as members of the lodge, at the hands of Bro. William Bell, P.M. It was then proposed by Bro. John D. Young, Sub. Master, and seconded by Bro. Peter Brownlie, S.W., that [Mr. Alexander Stevenson be made a member of the Order and of the Lodge St. John at next regular meeting. The election of office-bearers for the ensuing year was then proceeded with. For the chair, as already recorded, two brothers had been nominated, namely, Bros. William Kyle and Robert Dalzell. The latter, however, in a few words, gracefully put, announced his retirement from the contest in favour of Bro. Kyle, who was thereupon and consequently elected to the office of W.M. The other offices were filled up as follows:—D.M., James Sellars; S.M., David Horne; S.W., Peter Brownlie; J.W., James Kyle; Treas., John Ferguson; Sec., Wm Cochrane; S.D., Alexander Feddie; J.D., Hugh Tennent; Bible Bearer, Robert Craig; Architect, J. L. Cowan; Jeweller, Thomas A. Tennent; Grand Marshal, James F. Pollok; P.G. Steward, R. D. Samuels; S.S., George Galloway; I.G., Jas. Duthie; and Tyler, Alexander Young. The offices of Chaplain and Director of Music, respectively, were, by unanimous consent, left open in the meantime for the acceptance of Bros. Rev. Dr. Dobie and James B. Dunbar, as soon as the said brethren shall have received the degree of Master Mason. At the close of the election, the Chairman (Bro. Nelson) in a few words expressed the gratification he felt at the peaceable and orderly manner in which it had been conducted. He then brought before the meeting the case of a widow of a deceased brother Mason, though not a member of Lodge St. John, but which, after strict personal investigation, he had found to be a truly deserving one, and a worthy instance in which the cardinal element of Masonry, namely, charity, might be illustrated; the result being a subscription round, at which the sum of £5 3s. was collected on the spot. Thereafter, Bro. Thomas J. Smillie, P.M., in eloquent terms, paid a merited tribute to the services of the retiring W.M., Bro. D. M. Nelson. He said that, in his opinion, the members of Lodge St. John, No. 33, could not part on this occasion without expressing their high appreciation felt by every brother of the lodge of the labour and services rendered by their retiring W.M., not only inside but out of the lodge, to promote its welfare and prosperity. He believed that he simply spoke the voice of the lodge when he cordially and unanimously thanked him for his labours, and that an expression of their feeling in this respect should be recorded in the minutes of that meeting. In conclusion, he (Bro. Smillie) hoped that their retiring W.M. would in the future enjoy every happiness—socially, domestically, and fraternally. Bros. Wm. Bell, P.M., and John D. Young, S.M., each spoke a few words in corroboration of what Bro. Smillie had stated, after which Bro. Nelson briefly, and with evident feeling, replied to the compliments that had been paid him. He said that, while a year ago he felt proud at being elected to the chair of St. John's Lodge, he felt even more proud now on being able to say that the period of his office had been passed by him with perfect pleasure and satisfaction. He had during that period made many friends, and if he had made any foes he was sorry for it; and he felt that as far as in him lay he had done the best in his power during his tenure of office to maintain the prestige of his mother lodge. The speaker then sat down amidst unusually loud and long-continued cheering. Owing to the length of time occupied by the election and other business, the lodge was duly closed without being put under the jurisdiction of the J.W. At a special meeting of the lodge, held in the afternoon, the Rev. John Dobie, D.D., and Mr. James Menzies, merchant, Bath-street, were initiated into the Order by Bro. Wm. Bell, P.M., assisted by Bro. D. M. Nelson, I.P.M.

**GLASGOW.—Lodge St. George (No. 333).**—The election and installation of office-bearers of this lodge took place in St. Mark's Hall, 213, Buchanan-street. The following is the list for the ensuing year:—Bros. James Findlay, W.M.; Alexander Thomson, P.M.; James Forsyth, D.M.; Robert Anderson, S.M.; Thomas Hill, S.W.; Robert Fairbairn, J.W.; Andrew Dunn, Treas.; Archibald McIntyre, Sec.; Archibald W. Taylor, S.D.; John Findlay, J.D.; John Winton, Chap.; James Gowans, S. Steward; William McLeish, J. Steward; James K. Adams, Standard Bearer; Hugh McIntyre, Jeweller; George Kinnaid, Architect; George Cranston, P.G. Steward; Archi-

bald M'Intyre, junior, M.C.; George Thomson, Inner Guard; and W. G. Hickson, Tyler. The election having been concluded, the brethren appointed to the respective offices were duly installed by Bro. Thomas Halkett, 102. The annual report as to the condition of the lodge was exceedingly satisfactory in every way, there being in the finance department a balance of over £107 to their credit in the bank.

**ARDROSSAN.**—Lodge Neptune Kilwinning (No. 442).—The annual meeting of this lodge has just taken place, under the presidency of Bro. Frank Goodwin, W.M. The W.M., who has occupied the chair for six years, announced his determination not to accept the office again, and nominated Bro. James Robertson to fill the vacant chair. Thereafter the following appointments were made amid manifestations of the greatest unanimity:—Bros. James Robertson, W.M.; Frank Goodwin, P.M.; John Robertson, D.M.; Charles Adair, S.M.; William Henry Bickerton (*Freemason*), 972, E.C., 33, and 360, S.C.; Proxy Master; William Reid, S.W.; Archibald Bell, J.W.; William Ross, Treas.; Thomas M'Nidder, Sec.; Wm. Wylie, Chap.; Walter Hocks, B.B.; James M'Geachen, S.D.; Thomas Paton, J.D.; William Marshall, S.B.; John R. Robertson, D.C.; William Tait, S.S.; Samuel Hunter, J.S.; Daniel Fullerton, D.M.; John Vance, I.G.; Henry Barr, Tyler. Thereafter Bro. John Robertson, one of the auditors of the lodge accounts, made a statement, from which it appeared that there was a balance of £20 3s. 9d. in favour of income, and a net balance at present at the credit of the lodge of £122 17s. 9½d. The auditors' report was unanimously adopted.

**FRANC-MACONNERIE A JERSEY.**  
From the *Chronique de Jersey*.

L'Adresse suivante a été prononcée par le Secrétaire à l'occasion de la réception de deux candidats dans la Loge "La Césarée," No. 590, le Novembre 30: (A. Schmitt).

"T.T. CC. FF., vous voilà désormais Membres d'une Grande Famille qui s'étend d'un bout à l'autre de l'Univers, et qui met au premier rang parmi ses devoirs cette Fraternité dont le nom que je viens de vous donner l'est l'emblème le moins équivoque.—La société dans laquelle vous venez d'entrer, est plutôt célèbre que bien connue, et le seul point sur lequel ses amis et ses adversaires ont toujours été d'accord, c'est qu'il reconnaissent tous qu'elle crée entre ses membres des liens d'étroite solidarité, de secours et de protection mutuels, qui suivent le Franc-Maçon dans tous les événements de sa vie et partout où il porte ses pas.

"Mais aussi ce titre de Franc-Maçon doit indiquer chez celui que le porte, un esprit libre, droit, élevé, exempt de préjugés, un caractère tolérant, un cœur compatissant à toutes les misères de notre prochain.

"Recevoir dans notre sein de la Grande Famille Maçonnique des hommes pénétrés de leur devoirs envers eux-mêmes et envers la Société,—les initier à nos mystères et à nos symboles; les compter désormais comme des ouvriers travaillant au triomphe des principes de morale, de civilisation et de charité,—à la propagation de tout ce qui est juste, beau et vrai; n'est-ce pas là un des plus consolants spectacles auxquels il nous soit donné l'assister? Pour nous, T.T. CC. FF., c'est toujours avec émotion que nous assistons à ce glorieux et solennel Bap-tême qui fait entrer de nouveaux Membres dans le sein de ce puissant culte humain, qu'on nomme la Franc-Maçonnerie. Examinons scrupuleusement l'Initiation Maçonnique; la chose en vaut la peine, et de cet examen ressortira la vérité qui précède.

"Lorsque nous avons à faire un Franc-Maçon, nous procédons par voie de renseignements et d'informations. Nous demandons alors à nos Frères et à nos amis non-Maçons ce qu'ils savent sur les antécédents de l'homme qui est sur le point d'entrer dans nos rangs. Nous désirons savoir comment il comprend les devoirs de fils, d'époux, de père, de citoyen, s'il est laborieux, s'il est honnête, sobre et moral. Si, par nos informations, nous parvenons à nous assurer qu'il sait honorer, respecter et pratiquer le travail, obéir à la loi morale, nous l'acceptons,—nous le repousserions, au contraire, s'il paraissait enclin à faire du parasitisme et à mépriser la vertu, l'honneur et la morale.—Aussi la première condition que nous exigeons d'un Franc-Maçon est la droiture. La Franc-Maçonnerie ne veut pas des triomphes achetés par des moyens illicites. Droiture dans la vie privée, droiture dans la vie publique: telle doit être notre règle invariable dans toutes les occasions, dans toutes les circonstances.—La deuxième condition exigée de lui est l'intelligence, parce que la Franc-Maçonnerie ne veut pas de soldats aveugles qui marchent quand on leur dit: Marche:—qui frappent quand on leur commande: Frappe:—Tous ses adeptes ont une mission à remplir; mais il faut qu'ils la comprennent et qu'ils sachent bien s'ils veulent s'y consacrer.

La troisième condition de notre ancienne institution est; d'aimer Dieu, son pays, sa famille et son prochain. Oui, T.T. CC. FF., dans nos Temples, nous apprenons à adorer le Grand Architecte de l'Univers, à glorifier Sa puissance et Sa sagesse infinies, par le culte de la raison dégagée des entraves de la superstition; nous y apprenons aussi à vaincre nos passions et nos vices qui dégradent l'âme,—à chasser de notre cœur la haine, l'envie et l'égoïsme, ces immenses plaies des sociétés modernes. La Franc-Maçonnerie, bien comprise, doit tout rapporter à l'intérêt général, et son sentiment personnel doit s'absorber dans l'amour de l'humanité,—car elle veut l'affranchissement du corps par le travail, l'affranchissement de l'intelligence par l'instruction, et le triomphe de l'âme sur la matière.

"Oui, mes T.T. CC. FF., nous voulons le règne de la Fraternité productive et créatrice et, par la Fraternité, l'Union de tous les hommes entre eux et de chaque Maçon avec le beau, le vrai et le juste. Nous désirons que la Franc-Maçonnerie soit un phare et non une ombre, une

réalité et non une espérance. Nous voulons tirer la lumière de dessous le boisseau et la porter dans la civilisation, afin qu'elle éclaire aussi bien le cerveau d'un Mahométan, d'un Hindou, d'un Persé, d'un Juif, que celui d'un Chrétien, pour qu'elle y féconde l'idée qui y repose un germe.

"Vous voyez donc devant vous un vaste champ d'activité commune dans laquelle chacun de nous aura sa part et à laquelle chacun devrait participer pour qu'il y ait des fruits pour tous.—Quelle que soit la place que nous occupons comme ouvriers, que ce soit sur le seuil du Temple ou à l'Orient, chacun de nous devra contribuer suivant ses forces à notre œuvre commune. Et comme dans tous les phases de la vie, celui là seulement est digne de nos égards, qui, dans toutes les circonstances, les plus petites comme les plus grandes, remplit son devoir, nous ne devons considérer comme un Franc-Maçon digne de ce titre, que celui qui, pour les travaux, quels qu'ils soient, de la Loge, apporte sa pierre et l'ajoute aux pierres de ses Frères, pour que le tout adienne une œuvre commune et solide.

"Admirateur de Pythagore, je dirais volontiers à chaque récipiendaire: aïssan

"N'oublie jamais le respect et la reconnaissance que tu dois à la mémoire des bienfaiteurs de l'humanité,—qu'ils soient pour toi des demi-Dieux. Sois humble, dévoué, fidèle, plein de tendresse au sein de ta famille et ne choisis pour amis que les hommes de bien,—apprends à combattre, à dompter et à vaincre tes folles passions,—sois sobre, actif, prudent,—évite la colère,—en public et en secret ne te permets jamais rien de mal—cherche avec persévérance la vérité et pratique la vertu et surtout sache respecter en toi l'humanité.

"L'attention soutenue que vous m'avez paru donner aux devoirs et préceptes que je viens d'indiquer, me fait espérer que vous saurez apprécier, à sa juste valeur, l'excellence de notre Institution, qui a pour base les grands principes: Amour fraternel, secours mutuels et vérité, et qui vous imprimerez dans votre cœur en caractères ineffaçables la maxime "de la Vérité, de l'Honneur et de la Vertu."

[TRANSLATION].

FREEMASONRY IN JERSEY.

The above address was delivered by the Secretary, Bro. A. Schmitt, on the occasion of the reception of two candidates in the lodge "La Césarée," No. 590, November, 30th, 1876.

Very dear brethren,—You are henceforth members of a great Family, which extends from one end of the Universe to the other, and which places in the first rank of its duties that Fraternity, of which the name I have just given to you, is the least equivocal emblem.

The society into which you have just entered is rather celebrated than known, and the only point on which its friends and its adversaries have always agreed is, that they all imagine that it creates among its members links of close "solidarity," of assistance and mutual protection, which follow the Freemason through all the events of his life, and wherever he directs his steps.

But, also, this title of Freemason ought to indicate in him who bears it a free, upright, elevated, spirit, exempt from prejudice, a tolerant character, a heart compassionate for all the sufferings of his neighbour.

To receive into the midst of the great Masonic family, men penetrated with a sense of their duty towards themselves and towards society, to initiate them into our mysteries and our symbols; to remember them henceforth as labourers toiling for the triumph of the principles of morality, civilization, and charity, and for the propagation of all that is just, beautiful and true; is not that one of the most touching spectacles in which it can be given to us to assist? Very dear brethren it is always with emotion, that we assist at that glorious and solemn ceremony, which admits new members into the fold of that powerful earthly human Order which we call Freemasonry.

[Our readers will perceive that we have here taken a little liberty with the original French. But we cannot allow that such expressions, in any way represent the new teaching of Anglo Saxon Freemasonry. We are not a religion—we cannot be called a "culte" properly, and the use of the word "Baptism" is very objectionable, and lays us open to many animadversions, and much complaint.—Ed.]

Let us exercise seriously the Masonic Initiation, the subject is worth the trouble and from the examination will issue the truth, which exists a priori!

When we have to make a Freemason we proceed by way of notice and information. We ask then of our brethren and of our non-Masonic friends, what they know of the antecedents of the man who is on the point of entering our ranks,

[We do not quite understand what this enquiry among non-Masons means.—Ed.]

We desire to know if he understands the duties of a son, a husband, a father, or a citizen, if he is industrious, is he honest, sober and moral. If by our information we are able to assure ourselves, that he knows how to honour, respect and practice labour, to obey the moral law, we accept him; we should reject him on the contrary, if he appeared inclined to a merely animal life and to despise virtue, honour and morality. Accordingly, the first condition that we demand of a Freemason is rectitude.

Rectitude in private life, rectitude in public life, such ought to be our invariable rule on all occasions and under all circumstances.

The second condition demanded of him is intelligence, because Freemasonry does not wish to have blind soldiers who march when it is said to them "March!" who strike when they receive the command, "Strike!" All its adepts have a mission to fulfil, but it is necessary that they under-

stand it, and that they themselves know well if they wish to devote themselves to it. The third condition of our ancient institution is to love God, our country, our family, and our neighbours. Yes, very dear brethren, in our temples we learn to adore the Great Architect of the Universe, to glorify His infinite power and wisdom by the worship of reason, freed from the fetters of superstition. We also learn there to conquer our passions and our vices which degrade the soul, to expel from our hearts hatred, envy, and egotism, those huge wounds of modern societies.

Freemasonry, well understood, ought to refer everything to the general interest and its personal sentiment ought to be absorbed in the love of humanity, for it wishes the emancipation of the body by toil, the emancipation of the intellect by inspiration, and the triumph of the soul over matter.

Yes, my very dear brethren, we desire the reign of fraternity, the union of all men among themselves, and of every Mason, with the beautiful, the true, and the good. We desire that Freemasonry should be a Pharos, not a shadow, a reality, and not a hope.

We wish to draw the "light" from under the "bushel," and to introduce it with civilization, in order that it may enlighten the brain of a Mahometan, a Hindoo, a Roman, a Jew, as well as those of a Christian, that it may render fruitful the idea, which there reposes in germ.

You see then before you a vast field of common activity, in which each one of us has his part, and in which each one of us ought to share, in order that we may have profit for all. Whatever be the place which we occupy as "Craftsmen," whether it be at the threshold of the Temple, or in the East, each one of us ought to contribute according to his strength to our common work, and also in all the phases of life, he alone is worthy of our regard, who in all circumstances the least as well as the greatest, fulfils his duty, we ought only to consider him worthy of the name of Freemason, who for the work of the lodge, whatever it may be, brings his stone, and adds to the stones of his brethren, in order that the whole may arise a common and solid work.

Admirer of Pythagorus, I would willingly say to each newly received brother, never forget the respect thou owest to the benefactors of humanity, let them be to thee, "familiar on thy lips as household words."

Be humane, devoted, faithful, full of tenderness in the bosom of thy family; choose only as friends men of worth; learn to combat and subdue thy foolish passions; be sober, active, prudent; avoid anger; in public and in private permit no evil to thyself; seek with perseverance the truth, and practice virtue, and above all, know how to respect humanity thyself.

The sustained attention that you have appeared to me to give to the duties and precepts which I have just pointed out to you, makes me hope that you will know how to appreciate at its just value the excellence of our Institution which has for its base the grand principles "Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth," and that you will impress upon your heart, in ineffaceable characters, the maxims, "Truth, Honour and Virtue."

PRESENTATION AT NEWTON.

Bro. F. J. Pratt, who has for several years occupied the post of station-master at Newton, was on Saturday, evening last presented with a handsome silver tankard filled with sovereigns, in recognition by his friends and many travellers over the South Devon Railway of his uniform courtesy and attention to the comfort of passengers. The presentation was made in the presence of a number of the leading men of Newton, by Dr. Atkinson, who remarked that Bro. Pratt had fulfilled the duties of his office with satisfaction to them all. For himself, he offered the recipient his sincerest congratulations. Very few men received such a substantial testimonial; there were still fewer who received it so deservedly. The tankard bore the following inscription:—"Presented, with a purse of sovereigns, to Mr. F. J. Pratt, by his numerous friends, as a token of their respect, of his uniform civility and attention as station-master at Newton." In receiving it, Bro. Pratt mentioned that he had been connected with the South Devon Railway for a period of nearly twenty years, and during that time he had endeavoured to the best of his ability to study the interests of the passengers and attend to the wants of the company's customers. It had always been a pleasant and easy task, but still he had always endeavoured to carry it out to the fullest extent, and in most cases he believed he had given satisfaction. He had furthermore endeavoured to instruct, his staff to be civil and courteous to the public, and he considered by doing that, and by doing it conscientiously, he had been acting with justice to his employers. He had been for nine years among the people of Newton, and had to thank them for their kindness towards him, and many of them for their lasting kindness. He felt that he did not altogether deserve so handsome a present, but he would endeavour more and more to please, and to do what he possibly could to assist and convenience, not only the people of Newton, but all those who travelled over the railway. He particularly thanked Mr. H. Stooke, Mr. P. Simmons, and Mr. R. Day, for having worked so arduously in getting up such a handsome testimonial.—The Rev. G. T. Warner, in thanking the committee generally for their efforts, remarked that the testimonial was fully deserved by Mr. Pratt for the excellent manner in which he had acted towards the public, and the way in which he had watched over the interests of the company, never having sacrificed the interests of his employers for the benefit of his friends. This was where the greatest credit lay, and he was sure it would give satisfaction to the company to hear that they had in Bro. Pratt a faithful servant—one who did his duty to them, and after them, to his friends.—*Western Daily Mercury*, Dec. 16th.

## 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.]

## MASONIC DECORATIONS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I have been somewhat surprised, and at the same time amused, at a resolution which, from a report in the *Freemason* of the 23rd of December, appears to have been passed at a meeting of the Carnarvon Lodge, No. 1642, by which it was determined, on the part of the lodge, to beg the Pro Grand Master (the Earl of Carnarvon) to grant a dispensation for a jewel to be struck to commemorate the consecration of Lodge 1641, to be worn by the founders. Now, Sir, as an old member and Past Master of a lodge, I am entirely at a loss to understand upon what ground this extraordinary application is based, as I am not aware that the ushering into existence of Lodge 1642 was anything of more importance to the Order than any similar event which has taken place for the last 50 years, or that there is any peculiar benefit likely to accrue from the name of "Carnarvon" that it has assumed. My Masonic experience has led me to believe that all promotion shall be the reward of merit, and those only shall wear our complimentary jewels who have done good suit and service in our lodges, and have really earned the honours they enjoy; but what suit and service have the "founders" of the Carnarvon Lodge (an institution only a few months old) ever performed to entitle them to have a jewel specially struck and worn by them to perpetuate the knowledge of that important event? It is common in all lodges to reward the W.M. with a complimentary jewel on his retirement, but then generally he has worked for it step by step, filling the different offices from I.G. to W.M.; but with respect to the Carnarvon Lodge, no such merit attaches to the "founders," for they have leaped into office without any trouble at all. If the mere fact of calling a lodge after some high officer of the Order is to be the groundwork of a claim to have a jewel specially struck to decorate the "founders," we shall soon have them ad nauseam, and it is to be hoped that the Earl of Carnarvon has too sound a knowledge of his duties as Pro Grand Master to yield to such an absurd request.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

AN OLD P.M.

P.S.—If there is to be a Carnarvon dispensation, of course Lodges 708, 804, 1572, and 606 will each put in a prior claim.

BRO: BURGESS AND THE MARK GRAND LODGE.  
To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

The continued injustice of Mark Grand Lodge authorities induces me again to ask your permission to call public attention to my case.

It will be remembered that at the dictation of "the Order of the Temple," (a society which repudiated its Masonic title) the Mark Grand Lodge (a Masonic body) eighteen months ago expelled me from the Mark Degree, and that this was done without previously summoning me to appear before the Mark Grand Lodge to answer any charge, and therefore in direct defiance of the Constitutions, which are supposed to be a safeguard against oppression and injustice; and that to this day I have failed in my endeavours to obtain from the Mark authorities any statement of the nature of the Masonic offence which by expelling me they induce people to suppose that I have committed.

On the 6th June last the General Board reported to the Mark Grand Lodge that they were quite unable to do anything further in my case in consequence of my having, as they allege, used strong language. I do not think that any terms can be too strong to apply to their conduct. If their report made on the 6th June last is correct, how is it that they summoned me on the 5th June to attend on the 6th before Mark Grand Lodge, "to show cause why sentence of expulsion should not be recorded and enforced against me?" They could not evade the home-truth of my reply, dated the 5th June, that, having been already expelled a year before, and the expulsion having been recorded and enforced by its publication by their agent, "a Mark Master," it was a little late to ask me a year afterwards to show cause why I should not be expelled, and that it was clearly for them in common honesty to show me cause why they have violated the Constitutions, and expelled me. So they carefully omitted all mention to Grand Lodge of their summons and my answer. There can be no doubt about the strength of my argument, in whatever language it may be couched. Nor can there be any doubt that their report was a deliberate misrepresentation.

On the 4th of December, 1876, finding that Mark Grand Lodge was to meet on the 6th, I again addressed the Mark Grand Secretary, pointing out to him that misrepresentation had been made by the General Board to Mark Grand Lodge on 6th June last; and asking if any members who may have availed themselves of the published permission to peruse the correspondence would be so good as to inform me from it what Masonic offence I committed justifying my expulsion by Lord Limerick and the Rev. Mr. Portal in June, 1875, and why I had not been duly summoned to answer before Mark Grand Lodge a charge by my enemies of such offence, instead of being condemned and sentenced without trial; and stating that the real cause of the expulsion was personal spite on the part of certain "Knights," whose repudiation of the title Masonic I had as a Mason, and as an enemy to imposture, objected to. I also said that I should be happy to show, to any gentleman who might apply to me, the reasons of my withdrawal on the 8th August, 1874, from

membership of the Masonic Order of the Temple. Why does Bro. Binckes suppress all this from Mark Grand Lodge under the pretence that it is merely "an attack upon brethren of distinguished position?" It is clear that the authorities of the Mark Degree do not wish the truth to come out. It is also, I think, a novelty in Masonic morality to accuse a man of attacking "brethren of distinguished position" because he wishes to defend his own character from their malicious aspersions.

Again, in as public a manner as possible, I ask Lord Limerick and the Rev. Mr. Portal, what Masonic offence am I alleged to have committed against the Mark Constitutions? and why did they expel me, or procure my expulsion, without first summoning me before Grand Lodge and giving me an opportunity of facing them? Were they afraid to face me? I have told the Rev. Mr. Portal plainly that the truth shall come out, no matter how much he and Lord Limerick try to suppress it. I have stated, and I again state, that the Mark Constitutions have been ridden over rough-shod by the rulers of that Degree, and all the arguments in the world cannot disprove this statement of fact.

It is no discredit to have been expelled on account of the personal dislike of "brethren of distinguished position" to a man who forms his own opinion without consulting them and their personal likes and dislikes; but as a Mason I cannot help feeling that great discredit is thrown upon Freemasonry by the fact that personal animosity, and not right, or truth, or justice, is now the guiding rule of a Masonic body.

Faithfully yours,

CHAS. J. BURGESS.

P.S.—Since writing the above, I have heard that the cause for supporting which as a Mason I have been persecuted by "distinguished" Mark Masons has been gained. The anti-Masonic Masons are defeated. The prefix "Masonic" is at last recognised as the proper title of the would-be "Knights of the Order of the Temple." The travestie of justice called the "Tripartite Treaty" is at an end. An "Encampment" is to be called an "Encampment." Perhaps some day a "spade" will actually be called a "spade" in the Masonic Order of the Temple. It is now a matter of indifference to me whether the "brethren of distinguished position" (who have been beaten) continue their persecution. Right has won the day against them, and I am well satisfied with having suffered for the cause of right.

## IRISH H.K. TEMPLARY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

It is with extreme pleasure and instruction I have perused Sir Knt. Col. W. B. McLeod Moore's address in this month's *Masonic Magazine*. At page 345 he states, "It appears to me that the origin and progress of Templary in Ireland has never been fully looked into." Annexed I send you a copy of a printed circular issued on 30th January, 1806, which gives shortly the information required.

The warrant referred to is dated 27th October, 1779, and is at present in the custody of the Irish Chancellor. From the original lodge minute book (in my possession) it appears that the first time the H.K. Templar Degree was conferred was on 1st May, 1780.

The only known copy of the Book of Constitutions of the early Grand Knight Templars' Encampment is in possession of Bro. Commander Charles Scott, R.N., J.P., Strathroy, Omagh. "The Most Excellent Sublime Commander Bro. John Fowler" referred to was a member of the First Volunteer Lodge of Ireland, No. 620, having joined that lodge on the 27th February, 1792, and continued a subscribing member of it until his death, on the 25th day of January, 1856. He was D.G. Master of Ireland from 1814 to 1825, and on his ceasing to be D.G.M. was appointed D.G. Sec., which office he held until shortly before his death.

Yours fraternally, JAMES H. NEILSON.

5, Upper Mount-street, Dublin,  
22nd Dec., 1876

"At a meeting of the Grand Kilwinning Chapter of High Knights Templars of Ireland, the Most Excellent Sublime Commander, Bro. John Fowler, on the throne, the following address was unanimously agreed to, and ordered to be printed and transmitted to all the Masonic lodges in Ireland:—

"Brother,—The Grand Kilwinning Chapter of High Knights Templars have seen a printed paper issued by the Grand Lodge of Ireland, containing sundry statements of accounts and resolutions, with which we interfere not; but we cannot avoid expressing our surprise and astonishment at some observations used in allusion to the degree on which we meet, wherein it is asserted, that Knights Templars' Encampments were hitherto held in this kingdom without any authority to appeal to in matters of regulation, or power to redress in cases of complaint and grievance; and again, that the Grand Knights Templars Encampment shall be invested with as full power and authority over Encampments of Knights Templars and Masons of that degree as is exercised by the Grand Lodge of Ireland over the warranted blue lodges, &c.

"We are the more astonished at these assertions and resolutions, coming from the quarter from which they emanate, when we reflect that, almost to a man, every one of the persons concerned in said publication were raised to the Degree of High Knight Templar in our Encampment, and under our warrant, granted by and holden from the Royal Mother Lodge of Kilwinning of Scotland, the true source from which any legal authority could be obtained, as every one the least conversant in the Masonic history of these kingdoms and Knights Templars' Masonry must know. This warrant is signed by the Earl of Eglington, the then Grand Master, and the rest of the

Grand Officers, in the year 1779, and was always acknowledged and acted under by the said persons since their admission until June last, when disappointment in the events of the annual election of officers determined a few of those brethren to send in their resignation, and on the very next meeting of the Grand Lodge the very seceders from our chapter send in a petition to the Grand Lodge to take under their superintendence the whole Order throughout Ireland, without any other authority than what they themselves might assume, which petition was referred to a committee consisting for the most part of the petitioners themselves!

"We state facts. We enter into no controversy—we attribute no motives—we issue not our mandates with domineering authority; but, in the true spirit of brotherly affection we endeavour to guard against error, to promulgate truth, and thereby to open the eyes and enlighten the understanding, feeling ourselves imperiously called upon to support our unalienable rights, and the dignity of our sublime Grand Chapter.

"We agree with the writers of said paper, that the poison of misrepresentation works most at a distance, to prevent which, therefore, we trouble our country brethren with this statement. In the metropolis, where we are known, and our conduct as a chapter can be best appreciated, we are respected, as is best proved when, with every exertion used by the disappointed, not a dozen could be drawn off, out of between seventy and eighty members registered on our books.

"Our Grand Chapter is held by virtue of the full powers granted us by the Royal Mother Lodge of Kilwinning, as expressed in the body of our warrant, under which authority warrants have been issued by us, and acted upon in various parts of the kingdom. And as a proof that the superintending and controuling power has been always exercised by us, we must bring to the recollection of certain of these seceding brethren a dispute in the adjustment of which they themselves assisted (thank God, the only one hitherto) between two Knights Templars, and to the adjudication of which the brothers concerned paid implicit obedience.

"We deprecate, as much as men can do, anonymous or violent publications; they are unbecoming honest men, much more good brethren, but we cannot compromise our dignity, or succumb to assertion, which we trust we have proved\* to be unfounded. But for these reasons we would be silent, as we have been for a series of years past (our conduct the best comment on our actions), nor would we now obtrude ourselves on our brethren but that the interests of our Order are struck at by sideward insinuations, generally worse than open attack. We, therefore, conceive it a duty, not to be overlooked, to transmit to our successors and to posterity unimpaired, those rights, immunities, and powers, which have been from undoubted and authentic sources entrusted to our care.

"We want not to make proselytes, we interfere not with any brother's opinion, we leave to their own good sense the examination and consideration of these facts, always happy in the friendly intercourse of our brethren, and ever ready to confer on those who prove themselves worthy a participation of those rights we are empowered by proper authority to grant, to enable them to obtain admission into all regular Knights Templars Chapters and Encampments, wheresoever situate; the uniformity of whose proceedings and exact correspondence with the fundamentals of our Grand Kilwinning Chapter are best exemplified by the facility with which our certificates are received, not only in Europe and the East and West Indies, but on the continent of America, where precision and particularity with respect to the true principles of the Order are carried to the highest degree of perfection.

"Signed by order,

"A. NUGENT,

Secretary and Register.

"Applications for warrants and all other communications respecting the Order are to be addressed to the Secretary and Register, 49, Mecklenburgh-street.

\* "The documents to support this statement are in the archives of the chapter, ready for the inspection of such Knights Templars as choose to examine them."

"King, printer, No. 2, Westmoreland-street."

## MASONIC QUERIES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I shall feel greatly obliged to any brother who will answer the following questions:—

1. Why is no provision made in the Constitutions for filling the vacant chair, when any officer, from S.W. downwards, dies, &c., during his year of office?
2. What is the usual practice in the oldest lodges under such circumstances?
3. "The Tyler may be removed at any time by a majority, &c." Can a successor be appointed in the same way?
4. The W.M. is entitled to three Taus on his apron. Is it ignorance or design that constantly attaches them upside down, so as to look like three Levels?
5. What is the origin and date of the Ritual employed in opening a Board of Installed Masters?

W.M.C.N.

## CARTHAGE.

To the Editor of the "Times."

Sir,—Your correspondents in their letters published on the 7th and 14th inst. on the subject of Carthage appear to have fallen into the mistake of confusing the Roman with the Phœnician colony, Nova Carthago with the city of Dido and Hannibal. It seems probable that the sites were not identical. Appian, I believe, states that the Romans took care to avoid the ancient site; and even without his testimony we might have supposed it to be so. The curse of Scipio, and the failure of the colony under C. Gracchus (a failure attributed to the effects of that

course), were not likely to be disregarded by the superstitious Roman.

Since, then, the later city occupied the space between Cape Carthage and Goletta, we may infer that the ancient city embraced the northern part of the peninsula.

Be this as it may, the ruins to which your correspondents refer are those of Nova Carthago, founded by Julius and Augustus Cæsar at least half a century after that piece of theatrical attitudinizing attributed to Marius. This is the city rendered famous by the swords of Genseric and Belisarius; by the pens of Tertullian, Cyprian, and Augustine; the city desolated, not by Scipio, but by the Saracenic Caliphs. Yet the ruins are extremely interesting. The long and splendidly-built range of vaults usually considered to be cisterns, but which I cannot help thinking were granaries destined for the storing of "quicquid de Libycis veritur areis" (a view strengthened by another similar series of vaults nearer the Marsa Railway) are a striking example of Roman public works. The aqueduct, too, is a fine one. But is there sufficient to repay excavation?

Diggings on a small scale have been carried on by the French, and the Curator of the Chapel of St. Louis turns up annually a few specimens of Roman handicraft and a few of Saracenic or Vandal calligraphy which he sells as Phœnician inscriptions. There is in the precincts of the chapel one of the most beautiful mosaics I ever saw. It was probably the floor of the tank of some "impluvium," for it represents fish, shell-fish, and molluscs. The harmony of colouring and the tender and delicious tones of gray represented by these stones would be a marvel even on canvas. Unfortunately, the surface is bulging, and each time a bucket of water is dashed over it, and the broom of the merciless Arab attendant is brought into play, a few tesserae, as the Curator remarked to me, come out.

Treasures similar to this may be discovered, and even fine statues, or the copies of fine statues, among the ruins of the second capital of the West, and the French, it is said, are about to try and dig them out. But what are the relics of a city founded at a period of debased art likely to render up in comparison with the tombs and temples of Asia Minor, the priceless marbles of Olympia, or the unique relics of pre-historic Mycenæ?

I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,  
Morton-hall, East Retford. W. H. MASON.

FREEMASONRY IN AMERICA.

To the Editor of the "Northern Echo,"

Dear Sir,—

In your report of "the annual dinner of the Darlington lodges of the Order of Druids," held December 20th, I find the chairman, Mr. Henry Fell Pease, making the startling statement that "he had recently been in America," and that "he was very much struck at hearing many people, and Christian people, speaking in strong terms against the working" of what I for one regard as the best society in existence, the Freemasons. Amongst the other objects to which, according to Mr. Henry Fell Pease, Freemasonry in America is said to be prostituted, not only is it used "for political purposes, but for favouritism in various ways—in giving a brother a situation, or in covering his crime, or in helping him in some cases to the committal of that crime, and on this account there was a strong feeling against it." Will Mr. Henry Fell Pease kindly inform us in what part of America he found this strong feeling? and what crimes the American Freemasons were charged with helping to commit, or "covering" from detection when they had been committed? Should any lodge in America merit the stigma, I can confidently assure your numerous readers, in the name of my brother Freemasons across the Atlantic, that speedy justice will be done in the matter, but no inquiry can be instituted on so vague a charge.

I am, dear Sir, yours truly,  
GEORGE MARKHAM TWEDDELL.  
Rose Cottage, Stokesley, Dec. 21, 1876.

We are indebted for the reprint of the consecration of the St. Cecilia Lodge in our last to the Brighton and Sussex Daily Post.

A juvenile fete to celebrate the festive season was held on Thursday last at the Surrey Masonic Hall. A short report will appear in our next.

RAMSGATE has been long known as one of the most popular and healthy seaside resorts in this country, especially during Summer and Autumn. Its claims also as a winter residence ought not to be overlooked, especially when we consider that in the Granville, at St. Lawrence-on-Sea, it possesses one of the finest and best appointed hotels in the world. With its southern aspect and beautiful grounds surrounding it, this hotel is particularly suited as winter quarters for those who cannot stand the severity of our climate during the seasons of frost and snow. Every convenience, comfort, and luxury is provided in this hotel, which was designed with singular taste and skill by the late celebrated architect, Mr. Welby Pugin. Nothing seems to have been overlooked. The sanitary arrangements are perfect. There are baths of many kinds provided—Turkish, ozone, and others. Strict attention is paid to the cuisine department. The charges are very moderate, especially when we consider the character and standing of the hotel. There is a skating rink, a grand billiard-room, and an American bowling alley. And in order that those whose avocations will not allow of a long visit to this delightful and healthy-going place, arrangements have been made with the South Eastern Railway Company to run a first-class private and special express train every Friday afternoon from London, the same train returning on Wednesday morning. This is an undoubtedly great convenience, as well as a novelty in hotel enterprise, and ought to succeed.

Review.

We have received from Messrs. Collingridge a copy of their *City Diary and Almanack* for 1877, being the fourteenth year of publication. It will be found of very great value to City business men, containing as it does, in addition to the usual almanack information, the names and addresses of the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, Sheriffs, &c., and other useful information, forming a complete guide to the various offices of the Corporation and the City of London generally.

FREEMASONRY IN SOUTH AFRICA.

A Masonic conference, which was attended by the representatives of nearly every lodge in the eastern districts, has been held at Grahamstown, for the purpose of considering a letter which had been received from the Grand Lodge of England, recommending the district to select one of its most able men for the office of District Grand Master for the Eastern Province of South Africa. The conference took place in the Albany Lodge, No. 389, and out of 20 lodges on the roll 13 were duly represented. Bro. C. J. Egan, M.D., M.A., of King William's Town, and P.M. of British Kaffrarian Lodge, No. 853, was nominated and recommended to the Pro Grand Master Earl of Carnarvon as the designate of R.W. District Grand Master for the Eastern Province of the Cape of Good Hope.

ORDERS OF THE TEMPLE AND MALTA.

The following has been forwarded to us for publication:—

PROVINCE OF LANCASHIRE.

Chancery, 43, Drake-st,  
Rochdale, Dec. 14, 1876.

Dear Sir Knight,

By command of Sir Knight Albert Hudson Roysds, Grand Commander of this province, I have great pleasure in forwarding you copy of a letter received by him from the Province of Dorset.

I also send you herewith copy of the notices given by our respected Provincial Grand Commander, all of which were, after a hard and determined fight, carried and made law, so that the title of the Order now is "The United Masonic Religious and Military Orders of the Temple, and of St. John of Jerusalem, Palestine, Rhodes, and Malta." Past rank is restored, and the names are now, "Encampment," "Eminent Commander," "First and Second Captain," &c., or, in the words of the Acting Grand Master, the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot, "as you were."

I have to request that you will cause this letter to be read to the Knights at the next meeting of your Encampment.

I am, Eminent Sir Knight, yours truly,

WILLIAM ASHWORTH,  
Prov. Chancellor.

Proposed by Sir Knight A. H. Roysds, Provincial Prior, Lancashire; seconded by Sir Knight Thomas Birchall, Constable of that Province, and Past Grand Chamberlain:—

"1st. That in the Clause entitled 'Title of the Order,' the word 'Masonic' be inserted between the words 'United' and 'Religious.'

"2nd. That the Statutes headed 'Rank and Precedence' (pages 19 and 20, Statutes of the Convent General) be expunged, in order that the Past Rank of the various officers and their right to bear the insignia thereof may be restored and recognised as formerly.

"3rd. That whenever throughout the said Statutes the words 'Preceptory' or 'Preceptor' shall occur, such words be expunged, and the words 'Encampment' or 'Encampments,' be inserted in lieu thereof, and in like manner, wherever the words 'Preceptor' or 'Preceptors' shall occur, the same be expunged, and the words 'Eminent Commander' or 'Eminent Commanders' (as the case may be) be inserted in lieu thereof, so that the changes in the designations of the meetings and offices of the Order may be abolished, and the previous titles restored.

WESTFIELD HOUSE, near BATH,  
9th December, 1876.

My dear Provincial Grand Commander,—

In the name of the Sir Knights of the Province of Dorset, I beg to offer to yourself, and the Sir Knights of Lancashire, my hearty and sincere thanks for their co-operation and support. Where all came so nobly to the front, it would be invidious to name any one in particular, yet, I cannot but feel how deep a debt of gratitude we owe to your Deputy; Sir Knts. Ashworth, Alpass, and those who have borne the burden and heat of the fight in a greater degree than many who could only give their invaluable support by presence, vote, and sound sense. We shall have to clinch the well-driven nail, and then, I hope you and I may live to see the Order as we have seen it in former days.

Will you cause this recognition of the services of the Sir Knights under your command, by those of the small, but loyal Province of Dorset, to be made known.

With every fraternal good wish, believe me, dear Provincial Grand Commander, yours sincerely,  
CHAS. JNO. VIGNE,  
Prov. Grand Commander, Dorset.

Over the north of Scotland a great snowstorm raged on Tuesday night, stopping the entire railway traffic in the Highlands. The train from Inverness to Edinburgh was caught by the storm while it was on the top of the Grampians, and became completely snowed in. Up till late on Wednesday night the train, with its freight of passengers, had not been reached by the bands of men sent to cut their way through it.

ESPECIAL GRAND LODGE.

The following circular has been issued from the Grand Secretary's Office:—

"United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, K.G., &c., &c., &c., M.W. Grand Master. "R.W. Sir and Brother,—

Your attendance is required at an especial Grand Lodge, to be holden at this place on Wednesday, the 3rd of January next, at Six o'clock in the evening, to receive and consider the report of the Special Committee appointed by Grand Lodge on the 6th of September last for the purpose of recommending the most appropriate mode of recording the thankfulness of the Craft for the safe return of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Most Worshipful Grand Master, from India, and if approved, to recommend that report for adoption at the next Quarterly Communication.

The Grand Lodge will be opened at seven o'clock precisely.

By command of the M.W. Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon,

JOHN HERVEY, G.S.

Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.,  
23rd Dec., 1876.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The monthly meeting of the General Committee of this Institution was held on Thursday afternoon at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. Joshua Nunn, P.G.S.B., in the chair. The other brethren who attended were Bros. Griffiths Smith, E. H. Finney, H. Potter, F. Binckes, John A. Rucker, Col. Creaton, Thomas W. White, John Boyd, R. B. Webster, H. Massey (*Freemason*), Thomas Massa, F. G. Baker, W. Bailey, C. F. Matier, Henry John Stephenson, William Stephens, J. M. Wike, and R. W. Little, Secretary.

The senior clerk's salary was raised to £140 a year, and the junior clerk's to £50 a year.

Several petitions were received; one was rejected, one deferred, and one accepted, subject to information being obtained.

The Chairman reported that there would be twelve vacancies for next election in April. There will be fifty-four candidates.

The proceedings closed with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

Masonic and General Tidings.

A MASONIC BALL will be held in the Corn Exchange, Wakefield, on Friday, January 12th, under the patronage of W. H. Gill, Esq., Mayor of Wakefield, Pro S.G.W. West Yorkshire; Lieut.-Col. Sir Henry Edwards, Bart., R.W. Prov. G.M. West Yorkshire; T. W. Tew, Esq., R.W.D.P.G.M. West Yorkshire; Bentley Shaw, Esq., Prov. G. Sup. R.A.M. West Yorkshire; L. R. Starkey, Esq., M.P., P.P.G.W. West Yorkshire; T. K. Sanderson, Esq., M.P.; G. H. Westerman, Esq., P.P.G.W. West Yorkshire; Capt. Wordsworth, P.P.G.W. West Yorkshire; W. H. B. Tomlinson, Esq., P.P.G. Reg. West Yorkshire; Edward Green, Esq., P.M. 154; Col. J. C. D. Charlesworth, P.M. 495; Edward Simpson, Esq., Col. J. Hulme Holdsworth, Heaton Cadman, Esq., Joseph Shaw, Esq. The W.M.'s, officers, and brethren of the three lodges, Unanimity, 154, Wakefield, 485, and Sincerity, 1019, intend holding the above ball, when the co-operation of brethren of other lodges is earnestly invited.

On Friday, the 22nd inst., the Duke of Marlborough, the newly-appointed Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, presided at a meeting held at Woodstock, in aid of the restoration of the parish church. The Bishop of Oxford Lord Randolph Churchill, M.P., and the High Sheriff of the county were amongst the speakers.

The Earl of Mar and Kellie, and Lord Balfour of Burleigh, have been elected representative peers of Scotland, to fill the vacancies created by the death of the Marquis of Tweeddale and of the Earl of Leven and Melville.

LORD BEACONSFIELD AND MR. GLADSTONE.—On the 21st inst. Lord Beaconsfield completed his 71st year, having been born on Dec. 21st, 1805; and Mr. Gladstone completed his 67th year yesterday, his birthday being Dec. 29th, 1809.

ALDERSGATE.—THE ALDERMANIC GOWN.—The sudden death of Mr. Alderman Besley has created a vacancy, in connexion with which the names of several gentlemen have been mentioned, amongst them being those of Bro. John Derby Allcroft, Bro. Sheriff East, Mr. Deputy Fowler, Mr. Charles Maw, M.A. G. Sims, and Mr. John Staples. Bro. Allcroft, when waited upon by a deputation at once declined to be put in nomination on finding that the time required for the performance of an alderman's duties would, in the event of his election, leave but little for his important work as Treasurer of Christ's Hospital, and various reasons were assigned by other gentlemen for not wishing to stand. The general feeling of the ward in the course of a few hours, showed strongly in favour of Mr. Staples, and a requisition signed by a majority of the electors has been presented to that gentlemen, who has accepted the invitation, and as, under these circumstances, his election is certain, the ward will be spared the turmoil of a contest.—*City Press*.

A handsome drinking fountain has been erected in Drogheda as a "token of respect and esteem" in which Mr. Benjamin Whitworth, M.P., is held in the city.

## NOTICE.

With the next number of the *Freemason*, January 6th, 1877, will be given a Supplement, containing Title-page and Index for the Volume of 1876.

## 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.

ADVERTISEMENTS should reach the Office, 198 Fleet-street, London, by 12 o'clock on Wednesdays.

## NOTICE.

To prevent delay or miscarriage, it is particularly requested that ALL communications for the "*Freemason*," may be addressed to the Office, 198, Fleet-street, London.

## 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, 10/6.

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 Thirteen 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.

## Answers to Correspondents.

Father Foy's letter received will be attended to.

Polish National Lodge unavoidably deferred until next week, which we hope our kind correspondent will excuse.

A report of the Montefiore Lodge will appear next week.

Bro. Green's little work will be noticed next week.

BOOKS RECEIVED.—"Digest of the Elementary Education Act;" "Dick Radclyffe and Co.'s Catalogue;" "Key-stone, Philadelphia;" "Ladies' Treasury;" "La Fenice."

## Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

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

## BIRTHS.

GODFREY.—On the 23rd inst., at The Lodge, Harne Bay, Mrs. T. Godfrey, of a daughter.

JOHNSON.—On the 23rd inst., at Albion-street, Hull, the wife of C. H. Johnson, of a son.

TUDOR.—On the 21st inst., at Leeswood Hall, Flintshire, the wife of Lieut. O. P. Tudor, R.N., of a daughter.

## MARRIAGES.

TUDOR—SHARP.—On the 16th inst., by licence, at the parish church of St. Marylebone, Walter, son of T. Tudor, of Manor-road, Wickham Park, to Florence, daughter of F. W. Sharp, of Blomfield-road, Maida-hill.

WHITELOCK—WHITTLE.—On the 25th inst., at St. George's Church, Camberwell, by the Rev. Samuel Smith, Frederick Whitlock, draper, to Caroline Whittle, both of Castle Cary, Somerset.

## DEATHS.

DAVIES.—On the 24th inst., at Devon-street, Liverpool, aged 66, Bro. Arthur Davies, P.M. 1264, S.E. Chapter 249.

DIXON.—On the 22nd inst., at Green Park, Bath, Georgina Wilhelmina, daughter of Capt. M. Dixon, R.N.

JACKSON.—On the 23rd inst., at Hucknall Torkard, Notts, the Rev. Luke Jackson, in his 90th year.

PUGH.—On the 21st inst., at Eastbourne, J. H. Pugh, Esq., of Offord-road, Barnsbury Park, aged 69.

SHARLAND.—On the 26th inst., at Newcastle-on-Tyne, Bessie, the only beloved daughter of James Sharland, formerly of New-cross, aged 15 years.

TAYLOR.—On the 22nd inst., at Hillfield, Addlestone, Mary Anne, wife of W. Taylor, aged 59.

## The Freemason,

SATURDAY, DEC. 30, 1876.

1876.

We propose to give a Masonic Summary for 1876, though we fear that it will appear somewhat dull and monotonous. After the excitement of the evening is over, it is not always cheerful to find ourselves amid the "debris" of the banquet of yesterday, and many things which we like much at the time often pall on the taste subsequently. Still, as it has been represented to us that our brethren desire to have a record for the year, leaving merely politics and profane history out of the question altogether, we confine ourselves to a simple chronological statement of our *Freemason* record for 1876. We do not propose to go further, or, as they say, to "travel out of the record." If any then find the reading too heavy for them, or not easy to digest, all we can recommend them to do is not to peruse it at all, and though it has taken us no little time and trouble to put it together, it perhaps may appear to some too long to journey over, and too uninteresting to wade through. "De gustibus non est disputandum," and so to all courteous readers, and kindly patrons, we submit this Masonic record of our little world, as depicted in the passing pages of the *Freemason*, in all humility, and yet with all goodwill to them, with this last *Freemason* of 1876.

JANUARY opened with a complimentary Masonic banquet to Bro. Samuel Homfray, Newport, who had reached his 80th year, and had three sons Masons, the eldest the worthy D.P.G.M. for Monmouthshire, and G.D.C. In this month Professor Tyndall called attention to the absurd claim of the Church of Rome to control and supervise science. The De Grey and Ripon Chapter, 1316, was consecrated in Liverpool, and the centenary of St. Thomas's Lodge, at the Cannon-street Hotel, was celebrated. From America came the tidings that Bro. Henry C. Fox, of the Covenant Lodge, 456, under the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, had presented to the lodge 5,000 dollars, or £1000, as a tribute of his affection to its members, and Freemasonry. The *Masonic Magazine* for January contained an animated engraving of the Honble. Mrs. Aidworth, the "Lady Freemason." All Freemasons were much gratified by the enthusiastic reception accorded to their Royal Grand Master, the Prince of Wales, in India. We heard frequent accounts in this month of the advance of our Order in Canada, the United States, and Australia, and we received the report of the consecration of the Emerald Hill lodge, Victoria, before one of the largest gatherings of Australian Freemasons ever known. The Twelfth-night re-union for the girls of our Masonic Institution was a great success. It was in this month that the Craft heard with great satisfaction of the nomination of H.R.H. Prince Leopold to the Provincial Grand Mastership for Oxfordshire. The Annual Masonic Ball in Liverpool, in aid of the Funds of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution, was most numerous attended, and was very successful. We were informed in this month also of the consecration of the Royal Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 1555, at Penang. The brethren at Sheffield gave a most successful ball at the Cutler's Hall on the 7th of January, and shortly after Bro. J. Bathurst Graver Browne, W.M. of the Doric Lodge, also offered a very magnificent entertainment at Morley Hall to the brethren of his lodge. In this month Monsignor Nardi, in Rome, made an attack on the Order, which he denominated in England a "Goose Club," and declared the fraternity a focus of revolution and socialism out of England. The Craft had to deplore in this month the loss of Bro. W. Romaine Callender, a very worthy and distinguished brother, D.P.G.M. for East Lancashire, and M.P. for Manchester. His memory will long remain green and fresh in the affections of his Lancashire brethren and the Order generally. The centenary of the Lodge of Prudent Brethren

was held at Freemasons' Hall, and the Cestrian Chapter, No. 425, was consecrated at Chester. In this month the Crown Prince of Denmark presided at a meeting of the Grand Lodge of Denmark.

FEBRUARY opened with some irregular and regrettable proceedings with reference to the Boys School, which had taken place in West Yorkshire, but to which we will not further allude. In East Lancashire, a local educational benevolent institution was formed, and its rules drawn up and agreed to. The St. James Lodge No. 1579, was consecrated at Enfield, under our worthy Bro. Col. Burdett, Prov. G. M. of Middlesex. Our distinguished Bro. Sir W. W. Wynne, Bart., P.G.M. for North Wales, and M.P., was warmly welcomed at Malta by the brethren of St. John and St. Paul's Lodge, 349, at the Masonic Hall, Valetta. On February 9th, the anniversary festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution was held at Freemasons' Hall under our popular and distinguished Bro. Lord Skelmerdale, D.G.M., when the amount of £9,174 10s. 6d. was announced by its excellent and energetic Secretary, Bro. J. Terry. The New Cross Lodge, 1559, was consecrated in this month at New Cross, by Bro. James Terry, and the Dee Lodge, 1576, at Park Gate, by Lord De Tabley, P.G.M. for Cheshire. Park Gate is about midway between Chester and Birkenhead, and there was a very numerous muster of the Cheshire brethren on this occasion to meet their popular Prov. G.M., and to assist in so good a work. From China there came the news in February of the annual meeting and festival of the District Grand Lodge in China, and we also heard of the 89th communication of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania in their noble hall at Philadelphia. The Centenary festival of the St. Andrew's Lodge, 231, took place at Freemasons' Hall, also in this month. The Fitzroy Lodge, 569, attached to the Hon. Artillery Company, gave one of their successful balls at the Armoury House, Finsbury. The St. Dunstan's Lodge, 1589, Arderton's Hotel, was also opened by Bro. James Terry, assisted by a distinguished circle of brethren and visitors. The installation meeting of that well-known Lodge, the Apollo University Lodge, Oxford, 357, took place on the 22nd, when in the presence of one of the most numerous and influential gatherings ever witnessed, H.R.H. Prince Leopold was installed W.M. of that famous lodge. The speeches delivered were very striking and effective, His Royal Highness, who discharged all his duties admirably, was most enthusiastically received, and the brethren spent a never-to-be-forgotten evening. On the day following, Wednesday, the 23rd February, His Royal Highness Prince Leopold was also installed, in the Sheldonian Theatre, P.G.M. of Oxfordshire, before a numerous gathering, seldom equalled in our Masonic history, whether in the high rank of many of those present, or their eminent services to Freemasonry. All the proceedings were admirably carried out, His Royal Highness made a most favourable impression on all, and the memorable assembly closed with a graceful act of recognition of the long services of Bro. R. J. Spiers, D.P.G.M. for Oxfordshire. The installation of His Royal Highness as Prov. Grand Master will long be remembered by the loyal brethren of the Province of Oxfordshire. In this month we had to deplore the demise of our worthy and esteemed Bro. Farnfield, who died on the 27th. His eminent services to the Craft as A.G.S. are well known to all Freemasons, while his kindly nature and obliging disposition had made him many friends.

MARCH.—Bro. Woodford, who, under the pseudonym of "Masonic Student," has long devoted himself to the study of Masonic archæology, succeeded on finding the long missing Wilson MS. Constitution mentioned by Preston, and which was in the collection at Cheltenham of Sir Thomas Phillips. Bro. S. B. Ellis, a rising young Masonic archæologist, and Bro. Nixon, of Sheffield, assisted Bro. Woodford in tracing where the Wilson MSS. were. A curious discussion arose this month as to whether Pio Nono was a Freemason. On the whole, the evidence is unfavourable to such a supposition, though we fancy that it is more than probable that, in his younger days of liberalism

and friendship with Mazzini and others, he was admitted into some one of the Italian secret societies. We think that it is a great reflection on Freemasonry to attempt to uphold evidence which is entirely "manufactured for the occasion," so to say, and rests on no reliable foundation. During this month three boys from the Boys' School passed the Cambridge Local Examination in honours, the only ones in this class of those examined at the London main centre. One also passed in third class, nine satisfied the examiners; fourteen, in fact, out of eighteen candidates sent up, passed. A correspondence began this month about a spurious French lodge in London, "Les Philadelphes et la Concorde Reunis," alike repudiated by the English Grand Lodge, and the Grand Orient of France. March saw the consecration of the Royal Naval College Lodge, No. 1593, at Greenwich, by Bro. Rev. Thomas Robinson, P.P.S.G.W. Kent, and P.P.G.C. Cumberland. Our able Bro. Professor R. Kalley Miller was installed as its W.M. The Upper Norwood Lodge, No. 1586, was also consecrated in this month by Bro. H. E. Francis. The Abbey Chapter, No. 1225, was also consecrated at Barrow-in-Furness. In France the Lodge "Orion," of Gaillac, through some fictitious sentimentality, openly, notwithstanding the warning of Bro. St. Jean, defied, so to say, the constitution of the Order, and the "Conseil de L'Ordre," very properly suspended it. We wish we could think that things Masonic were prospering as with us, amid our friendly and lively neighbours of "Outre Manche." The Chapter of Rose Croix, at Gibraltar, gave a very magnificent ball to Bro. H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, who was on duty at "Old Gib," which was numerously attended, and was a great success. The Musgrave Lodge, 1597, was opened and consecrated at Staines, by Bro. Col. Burdett, P.G.M. for Middlesex. The consecration of the Royal Commemoration Lodge, 1585, took place with great eclat at Putney by Bro. James Terry, and we also heard of the consecration of St. Bryde Lodge, 579, Scottish Constitution, at Uddington, Lanarkshire, by Bro. Provost J. C. Forbes, of Hamilton, D.P.G.M. of Lanarkshire. We had to deplore in March the loss of a very worthy and hardworking Metropolitan brother, John Newton Tomkins; and also of a Kentish brother of some Masonic celebrity, Bro. Benjamin Thorpe. During the month many Roman Catholic attacks on Freemasonry were brought before the Craft, some violent and vulgar, some childish and impertinent. The old Craft heeds them not, but moves on majestically and straightforward, neither "turning to the right hand or to the left."

APRIL.—The consecration of the Wanderers' Lodge, though reported in April, took place actually on March 29th, at Freemasons' Hall, by our esteemed G. S., Bro. John Hervey, before an assembly from all parts of England, the lodge being for convenience of our military brethren. The meeting and movement appeared to be a great success. Two Royal Arch Chapters were consecrated the same day by that excellent Mason, Bro. John Huyshe, P.G.M., and Grand Superintendent of Devon. The one was the Dundas Chapter, 1253, the other the Devon Chapter, 1235. A new Masonic Hall at Exeter, long needed, was at last completed; a move in the right direction, and one bound up as much as anything else with the permanent well-being of our English Craft. Bro. Kenning struck a very admirable commemoration medal to perpetuate the installation of our Royal Grand Master, which was much admired, as it deserves, for it is an excellent work of art. English Numismatology is very weak, and all such praiseworthy efforts deserve to be recorded. A very important meeting of the Governors and Subscribers of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys took place in the large Hall of Freemasons' Tavern, on the 10th April, nearly two hundred brethren attending the meeting. The main cause of the gathering was a notice of vote of confidence in the executive and Bro. Binckes, P. Prov., moved by Bro. Woodford, P.G.C., and S.G.W. for West Yorkshire, in answer to pamphlets published and suppressed, and an unwise agitation and an unmasonic attack. After an animated and, at times, excited debate, and a very able speech from Bro. Gill, the worthy

Mayor of Wakefield, in opposition to Bro. Woodford's view, the original motion was put to the meeting, and carried nearly unanimously, a strong proof, if proof be needed, that the Craft generally disapproved of a factitious agitation, unwise in itself, unjust to the Executive and Secretary of the Boys' School, and hurtful to the Institution. Our gallant and energetic Bro. Colonel Creaton, had carried a resolution at the Quarterly Court of the Girls' School, for the enlargement of the buildings, and his propositions were warmly supported by a large and decisive majority. It was clear that his proposal obviated many difficulties, and prevented any chance of excessive expenditure, greatly to be deprecated in the best interests of the School. We heard from Scotland this month, with much pleasure, of the laying with Masonic honours by P.G.S.W. Sheriff Steel, and the Prov. G.L. of Dumbartonshire, of workmen's houses, at Clyde Bank, Dalmuir, Scotland. The Skelmersdale Lodge, 1599, was consecrated this month, at Mason's Hall, Mason's Avenue, Basinghall-street, by Bro. James Terry, before a numerous gathering of the brethren. The same energetic brother also consecrated in March the Ley-Spring Lodge, 1598, at Leytonstone. In Lincolnshire, Bro. W. H. Smyth, D.P.G.M., consecrated the Hamilton Lodge, No. 1605, at Alford, in his province. On the arrival of our Grand Master at Malta on the 6th, on his homeward route, the Chamber of Commerce at Malta presented an address to him, to which he made a gracious reply. In this month the Lodge of Truth, No. 521, Huddersfield, had a very successful social gathering. The Annual Festival was held at Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday, April 17th. Under Lord Carnarvon, and subsequently under Bro. Col. Burdett, all passed over most happily, though the absence of the G.M. was much regretted. The brethren of Lodge Carnarvon, No. 804, having long wanted a "local habitation," in addition to a "name," resolved to erect, from the design of Bro. Triggs, a convenient and comely hall at Havant. Bro. W. B. Beach, the able P.P.G.M. of Hampshire, with a large muster of the Provincial Grand Lodge, laid the foundation stone of the new building in March. Subsequently the brethren had a very successful banquet, in which some excellent Masonic addresses were made. The Surrey Masonic Hall was opened to our "sisters," a very important portion of the Masonic family, let us not forget, by a numerous attended ball. Bro. Samuel Poynter delivered a very fraternal and truly Masonic ode, well worth re-perusal, on the occasion. The hall was Masonically dedicated, as our readers will remember, by Lord Skelmersdale, July 13th, 1875. The Provincial Grand Lodge of Derbyshire paid a visit on the 16th of April to the Phoenix Lodge of St. Ann, Buxton, 1235, which event was an "alba dies," for all the parties concerned in this truly Masonic meeting. We think the idea a good one per se, and like Captain Cuttle are glad to "make a note" of it. We have to deplore in this month the death of Bro. Sir John Cordy Burrows at Brighton, and of the Hon. Walpole, P.G.M. for Norfolk.

MAY.—The Sir Hugh Myddelton Lodge, as reported in the *Freemason* of the 6th, was consecrated April 29th, at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, by the G.S., Bro. John Hervey, in his usual workmanlike and truly Masonic style. The Grand Master appointed Lord Suffield as P.G.M. for Norfolk, in succession to the Hon. F. Walpole, M.P. A needless question was raised during some Masonic ceremonies at Gibraltar, while our Grand Master was there, at the opening of the new market, whether our Chaplains were to act, if some higher ecclesiastical authorities were present. There could but be one reply, and one rule: our own Chaplains act for us, be they who they may. Bro. Col. Creaton carried, very properly and seasonably, an increase in the allowances to our annuitants, for which his name will be "blessed," as they say among them, just as his "personnel" among his brethren generally, is always in good repute and truly respected. Bro. S. B. Ellis brought forward a scheme for a Masonic Library at Sheffield, which seemed to be admirably conceived, warmly supported, and for which we hope all possible success. Sir Henry Edwards,

the worthy P.G.M. for West Yorkshire, paid a visit, with Lady Edwards, to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, May 8th, and distributed the prizes, and expressed his earnest approval of all that he saw in that admirable Institution. On the 9th of May he presided at the anniversary of the Girls' School, when the goodly sum of £8214 16s. rewarded the energy of the Stewards, and the efforts of Bro. R. W. Little. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales landed at Portsmouth on Monday, May 11th, when, having met the Princess of Wales and his children at sea, he was received with a thoroughly English and loyal reception. His advent in London was also warmly and enthusiastically greeted, and among all classes of society who rejoiced in the safe return of the Prince of Wales, the English Craft was certainly not the least interested. The *Freemason* contained a full and admirable account of our Royal Grand Master's arrival and welcome at Portsmouth, and of his return to the metropolis, and his reception at Covent Garden Theatre. A very important question was raised in the *Freemason* this month—"Has the Church of Rome a moral right to excommunicate Freemasons?" There can, we apprehend, be but one answer to such a query, namely, in the negative, except we are prepared to concede to a spiritual body to-day powers which it clearly has not, and cannot claim. A very interesting presentation took place to Sir Frederick M. Williams, Bart., by the Rose Croix Chapter, in May. The Bayard Lodge was consecrated during this month, May 17th, by Bro. the Earl of Limerick, Prov. G.M. Bristol, in the presence of a very influential gathering of our brethren. Bro. Sir M. Shaw Stewart, G.M. of Scotland, with the Grand Lodge, laid the foundation stone of the new Blind Asylum, at Craig Millar, on the 22nd, with all Masonic ceremonies, and before a large assemblage. The institution was afterwards formally opened by the Lord High Commissioner. The foundation stone of a new Masonic Hall at Galashiels, was also laid in May by Bro. Inglis, P.G.M. of Peebleshire and Selkirkshire. During May our Royal brother the King of Hanover, paid a visit to the Queen and Royal Family.

JUNE.—At the Quarterly Communication of June 7th, Bro. Havers proposed that the Order should offer a suitable recognition of our beloved Grand Master's return, and that Grand Lodge should vote £2000 to the St. Alban's Restoration Fund and £2000 to St. Paul's. We shall always think that this was alike a reasonable and a Masonic proposal, and shall always regret that any opposition was made to it, as the arguments against it were purely "ad hominem," inasmuch as, if they appealed to anything at all, except a little clap-trap, it was to the great principle of Masonic selfishness. In saying this we only maintain the liberty of expressing our honest conviction and opinion, and do not deny to others the right of coming to an entirely opposite conclusion, but we should not be honest Masons or men, if we did not say what we really felt, and feel still about that "vexata quæstio." An amendment was moved by our Bro. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C., practically to refer the whole matter to a committee, which amendment was carried. We still are of opinion that our Order lost a grand opportunity, and as honest chroniclers of the past twelve months we take the liberty of repeating our often expressed opinion, which subsequent occurrences have not modified or shaken, but have rather strengthened and confirmed. The Lewis's Chapter, No. 1185, was consecrated on the 10th of May by E. Comp. John Hervey, G.S.E., assisted by a large circle of eminent companions. H.R.H. Prince Leopold was exalted in the Apollo University Chapter on the 27th May, at the University Masonic Hall, Oxford. The Liverpool Dramatic Lodge, No. 1609, was consecrated by Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M., in the Masonic Hall, Liverpool, before a very numerous and influential gathering of the Craft, and amid much very commendable Masonic enthusiasm and good feeling. The Hamer Chapter, No. 1393, was also consecrated in June at Liverpool, by Comp. R. Wylie, P.Z., and the ceremony seems to have been very effectively performed. The Masons in Sheffield laid the foundation stone of a new Masonic Hall at Sheffield on the 23rd of May by the hands of

our esteemed Bro. Dr. Bartolomé, one of the oldest Masons in West Yorkshire, but for some reason no account appeared of the same for a month subsequently. It is in the *Freemason* for June 24th. All passed over most satisfactorily, and we wish all success to this good work. The Llanidloes Lodge, 1582, was also consecrated in June by our worthy and respected Bro. Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart., M.P., D.G.M. for North Wales, amid an unprecedentedly large and enthusiastic gathering of the brethren. The arrangements were admirable, and the speeches most effective. The anniversary meeting of the Boys' School took place at the Alexandra Palace on the 20th, when nearly 700 ladies and gentlemen assembled under the presidency of Lord Leigh, P.G.M. for Warwickshire. The festival was a success, and greater credit is due to Bro. Binckes alike for his "coup d'œil" and his "coup de maître," in respect of the gathering at the Alexandra Palace. £12,700 was announced at the meeting, but since that the actual amount has exceeded £14,000, so that the whole amount of our charities for 1876 has risen to above £32,000. The meeting was a very happy and pleasant one, and a practical reply to that perverse system of personal attack, which might, had it not been for the good sense of Freemasons generally, have severely damaged the school.

JULY.—The Cripplegate Lodge, No. 1613, was opened, as reported in the *Freemason* of July 1st, by Bro. James Terry, at the Albion Hotel, Aldersgate-street, and everything seems to have gone off, as usual under his able presidency, with singular good feeling and success. In the *Freemason* of July 8th appeared the report of another consecration by Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart., P.G.M. of North Wales, the very day after his consecration of the Llanidloes Lodge. This lodge, the Cydewaen Lodge, No. 1594, was duly opened and dedicated by him at Newtown, where he was surrounded by a most enthusiastic gathering of the brethren. The monument to Bro. Graden was unveiled on the 1st July in the Nantwich cemetery, which had been erected by his brethren to commemorate his long and valuable services to Freemasonry. The proceedings were very interesting. We heard from Scotland of an impressive Masonic demonstration at Rossie Priory, where the brethren of East Perthshire and others assembled in goodly numbers to do honour to Lord Kinnaid, P.G.M., when they were most kindly entertained by Lord and Lady Kinnaid. In the *Freemason* for July 15th, appeared a very remarkable pamphlet, which the D.P.G.M. of West Yorkshire had thought fit to issue. The Prov. Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire met at Huddersfield, and there, despite one or two perverse attempts to keep up and fan the flame of discord, the great good sense of the West Yorkshire brethren prevailed, as they all evidently wished to put an end to unseemly language and unmasonic proceedings. Having said our say honestly, we made our bow decorously, in, as we humbly venture to conceive, the best interests of the Craft in general, and of West Yorkshire in particular. The West Middlesex Lodge, No. 1612, was consecrated on July the 15th, by Bro. John Hervey, G. Sec., and the ceremonies were very interesting. His remarks, always worth perusal, were very weighty and appropriate. Our worthy Bro. Sutcliffe, of Grimsby, an old West Yorkshire Mason, issued a circular with reference to the painful question of the pamphlets, &c., but though we have been compelled, as the chroniclers of the year, to explain what led up to the meeting of April, yet we wish to be understood as suggesting, as Bro. Gill so well put it at Huddersfield, that these discussions should close. It is impossible in our record of the year to pass them over, and it was not right to do so, but we have written all that we have written in good spirit, fraternal feeling, and above all, with hearty good wishes for the Boys' School, and our West Yorkshire brethren. The Masonic Knights Templar in America held during the Exhibition a grand Centennial Reunion in Philadelphia, which was a wonderful success and a very effective demonstration. The Exhibition at Philadelphia not being purely Masonic, hardly comes within our programme, but we congratu-

late our brethren there alike on its great interest and its happy results. The question of the Lodge Philadelphes et Concorde Reunis again cropped up, but it became quite clear that whatever the body might be or call itself, it was not a legal Masonic association, and English brethren could not safely or properly attend its meetings. In this month our Dutch brethren celebrated, we believe, the sixteenth anniversary of their Grand Master's rule—Prince Frederick of the Netherlands. Some of us may remember a remarkable speech made by our Imperial Bro. the Crown Prince of Germany amid a most brilliant gathering of Masons.

AUGUST.—On the 6th of August Bro. the Duke of Abercorn, G.M. of the Irish Freemasons, received a fraternal address at the Masonic Hall, Tuckey-street, from the Provincial Grand Lodge of Munster, headed by Lord Bernard, his distinguished brother, who was warmly received by 200 brethren, gave an equally fraternal reply, in his wonted effective and genial manner. In August we had again to deal with a papal encyclical, but yet after all the question may fairly be asked, what does it all signify? Bigotry against Masonry is not confined, however, to the Roman Catholics, as we hear from America of the cry of some utter fanatics of Protestant denominations "Down with Masonry!" Idle clamour! useless aspiration! At Guernsey, in August, the foundation stone of a proposed memorial to Admiral Lord de Saumarez, was laid with Masonic honours, by Bro. Gillemore, P.D.P.G.M., in the presence of the Governor, General the Honorable St. George Foley, and his staff, and Bishop Bryan, and a large number of the clergy. Chester Cathedral was opened also in August, the Freemasons in Chester munificently contributing to several portions of the needed restoration. The Royal Kensington Lodge was consecrated on Friday, the 11th August, by Bro. Hyde Pullen, P.G.S.B., with great effect, the addresses subsequently given being very striking. The Eboracum Lodge, 1611, was consecrated at York, August 7th, by Lord Zetland, D.G.M., amid much genuine Yorkshire loyalty and good feeling. The Ecclestone Lodge, 1624, was consecrated by Bro. Hyde Pullen, on the 16th August, when a large number of brethren and visitors assembled to do honour to the occasion. The work and addresses were thoroughly good. The Tredegar Lodge, 1625, was consecrated on August 16th, by Bro. John Hervey, G.S. This lodge, intended for the convenience of brethren at the East End, has apparently every prospect of great promise and usefulness before it. The reports of the Dublin Orphan Schools, admirable institutions, issued this month, gave us much hope for their future usefulness, and also to the Craft in Ireland.

SEPTEMBER.—The Quarterly Communication was held on the 6th of September, and Bro. R. J. Simpson's Committee with some essential and needed additions, were carried unanimously. On Thursday 7th, the foundation-stone of the new wing of the Girls' School was laid by Bro. Colonel Creaton; a very interesting ceremony, and admirably carried out. A charge was brought in this month against the French Freemasons, of encouraging surreptitious marriages, which charge, Bro. Caubet, G.S. of the Grand Orient of France, declared to be a "canard," and a calumny. During this month the Margate Watch Committee made Freemasonry a bar to appointment as Chief Constable. Such a proceeding is as silly as it is un-English and unjust. We have heard no more of it, so we must trust that they are ashamed of themselves. The West Smithfield Lodge was consecrated in King-street, Snow Hill, by Bro. John Hervey, and in the presence of a large and important assemblage of brethren. Bro. the Rev. P. M. Holden gave a very fine oration. By a return it seems that in twelve months the pupils of our Boy's School have attended three examinations, that of the Cambridge local examination, the examination of the Society of Science and Arts, and the Oxford local examination. We congratulate Dr. Morris, and wish him success in his arduous labours. On September 16th, the new lodge buildings of the Carnarvon Lodge, No. 804, were dedicated by Bro. W. W. Beach, the Prov. Grand Master. We recorded the laying of the foundation stone in April last, and

now the work being completed, Bro. Beach and the Provincial Grand Lodge of Hampshire were requested to open them formally, the meeting was very numerous, and everything passed off to the satisfaction of the brethren, and let us trust the stability of Freemasonry in that important district.

In OCTOBER we have to record what we always are glad to do, the commencement of a new Masonic Hall at Redruth, and the opening of the Aberdeen Masonic Hall. The consecration of the Kilburn Lodge by Bro. Terry, took place this month, as well as the consecration of the Friends in Council Chapter, No. 1385, by Bro. Major-General Brownrigg, Prov. Grand Master and P.G. Supt. Surrey. The visit of our Royal Grand Master to Glasgow was remarkable in that it brought out so unmistakably the feeling of the Scottish people for the House of Brunswick. He reviewed the volunteers and laid the foundation stone of the Glasgow New Post Office, and his Royal Consort and himself were everywhere received with enthusiastic demonstrations. The gathering of the Masons was very fine indeed, numbering about 8000, and everything passed over happily and well. It will be a day long remembered by all who were present.

On the 2nd of NOVEMBER, the Canterbury Lodge, 1635, was consecrated by Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M., at the Hall, Golden-square. Bro. the Rev. J. Robbins, D.D., was then installed first W.M., and all passed off with much gratification to a numerous assembly. The Earl of Carnarvon Lodge, No. 1642, was consecrated by Bro. John Hervey, G.S., in the midst of a numerous assembly of Provincial Grand Officers and visitors and brethren. A full report of the proceedings appear in the *Freemason* of the 11th November. Bro. John Hervey's remarks were most seasonable and effective, and the brethren passed a very pleasant evening. Our esteemed Bro. Murlis is the first W.M., and is surrounded by a most zealous staff of Officers, including Bro. the Rev. C. Darby Reade, Chaplain, and Bro. Gordon, M.P., S.D. Bro. John Hervey on the 11th, consecrated the Crichton Lodge, No. 1641, at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New-road, and gave, in some excellent remarks of his, a friendly warning to the Grand Orient of France, which, by a perversity peculiar to Continental Masonry, is bent apparently on raising a burning question, which will set Freemasonry, so to say, in flames, from one end of the world to the other! For the Grand Orient of France has now remitted to the lodges the question, whether the existence of God and the immortality of the soul shall be recognized by the French Constitution at all. Much idle waste of time, and great logomachy at the least, are involved in such sterile discussions, independently of the fact that such a proceeding stirs up the consideration of first principles, and may lead to very serious consequences. If the Grand Orient of France erases these words from its constitution it closes the door of communication between it and the English Grand Lodge, inevitably, in our humble opinion. The consecration of St. Andrew's Lodge, Gorleston, Suffolk, took place with great ceremonial on the 13th November, Bro. Lord Waveny, P.G.M. for Suffolk, consecrating the lodge, and presiding at the large gathering with his customary urbanity and ability. A lady Freemason was made in a lodge recently at Pesth, a Countess Hädick, and the Grand Orient of Pesth has declared the act "null and void." We think that it ought to have suspended the lodge, as there is much doubt of its power to declare such an act "null and void." It is far better, in our humble opinion, to treat it as a purely exceptional case. On the 12th November H.R.H. the Grand Master installed Lord Suffield, P.G.M. for Norfolk, before a very large assemblage of the brethren. His Royal Highness had previously taken part in a meeting at St. Andrew's Hall, for the benefit of the infirmary, where he spoke as usual most effectively. All the proceedings went off with the greatest success, and every satisfaction was expressed by the brethren. The annual festival of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement took place on Friday, the 23rd November, when probably the largest number of brethren ever known

on such an occasion assembled together. Lord Carnarvon presided during part of the proceedings in lodge, and presented a handsome inkstand to Bro. Hervey, our excellent G.S., thirty years Treasurer of the lodge. Bro. Lord Limerick presided at the banquet. All the proceedings reflect the greatest credit on those who arranged them, and testify to the life and prestige of the Emulation Lodge. The foundation stone of new Masonic buildings at Chacewater was laid by the Boscawen Lodge, No. 667, in the last days of November. The proceedings were very remarkably interesting. A very important Special General Committee of the Girls' School took place on Monday, November 27th, Col. Creton in the chair, when the recommendation of the Committee was adopted by a large majority, after discussion, to appoint an additional clerk, and abolish the office of the collector. The inadvisability of the old arrangements had long been felt, but such was the respect felt for our good old Bro. Muggeridge, that no one, to use a common expression, "would bell the cat." When, however, that worthy brother resigned his office through ill-health (no fault was ever imputed to him in the matter of the arrangement), it was felt that it was better to raise the question, and the result is, we think, a wise reform. For Bro. Muggeridge all Freemasons feel the greatest regard, and we sincerely trust that he may long be spared to enjoy his "otium cum dignitate." He has been one of the most hardworking and zealous, and useful members of our Order. The Kennard Chapter at Pontypool was consecrated on the 13th November, by Bro. Captain S. G. Homfray, P.G. Standard Bearer of England. The Era Chapter was consecrated at Hampton Court, by Col. Burdett, P.G. Supt. for Middlesex; a large number of companions having got together, a most enjoyable Masonic evening was spent. Bro. J. C. Parkinson, P.G.D. of England, was most warmly received by the brethren of the Grand Orient of Rome, as mentioned in the *Freemason* for November 18th. He has published a most interesting account of the proceedings in the *Masonic Magazine* for January, and the Christmas number of the *Freemason*, and quite disposes of the allegations made against the Grand Orient of Rome.

DECEMBER.—The Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge took place on the 6th. It was not very long or very important, though two appeals were settled, and our Grand Master, the Prince of Wales, was put in nomination for the Grand Mastership, amid the acclamations of the brethren. Bro. Clabon was re-appointed President of the Lodge of Benevolence, to everybody's satisfaction. The foundation stone of the new hospital at Wakefield was laid by Bro. Colonel C. D. Charlesworth with Masonic honours, and in the presence of the Wakefield Lodge and a large assemblage of the public.

During the last twelve months, the meetings of Grand Chapter have been merely formal meetings for the transaction of needed business, though, as we have noted from time to time, Royal Arch Masonry seems happily progressing amongst us. We are among those who hope that the day will come when every lodge will have a Royal Arch Chapter attached to it. We never could understand that policy which seemed to seek to throw cold water on Royal Arch Masonry.

The *Freemason* has issued a Christmas number, which has had a great success, and is a striking proof of its prosperity and progress.

We have to deplore, in the last month of 1876, the death of Bro. Wylie, P.P.G.R. for Lancashire, formerly its active P.G. Sec., and one of the most generous and devoted Masons in that distinguished Province.

It will be noticed by those who have had the patience and good taste to read this summary, how closely we have stuck to our "text," how entirely we have followed our brief. We might say a good deal of the progress of the Craft in other lands, but we prefer to dwell upon what has actually come before us, in our hebdomadal pages. Amid much of intolerance and ignorance, and childish prejudice, and perverse bigotry, it is gratifying to note how the Craft is moving on alike abroad and at home. Wherever we cast our eyes to-day, there we see a lodge, there we

find brethren and new Grand Lodges, like the Grand Orient of Egypt, are moving up in all directions. To that body we wish all success, as its last public official act has been one of great courage and division to the cause of Masonic truth and right, in that it openly declines any approval of the contemplated innovation, to use no other word, of the Grand Orient of France.

We confess that we are not favourable to the multiplication of Grand Lodges, and we trust that the good sense of our brethren of the English Constitution in New Zealand and the Cape of Good Hope, will keep them from any such unwise step, any such untoward result as, when there are no grievances, drifting away from the old mother Grand Lodge. If brethren of the Irish and Scottish Constitutions have grievances, let them settle them, but why our own English brethren, who have none, are to throw off their allegiance to the Grand Lodge of England, we cannot for the life of us conceive, except for the un-Masonic clap-trap of "Change." The progress of the Craft in the United States is very remarkable, and their statistics are quite startling. We offer them all hearty good wishes. In Germany a contest has sprung up as regards the National Grand Lodge, and some of its regulations. While we sincerely regret the exclusion of our Hebrew brethren, we yet do not feel warranted in going so far as to say that that Grand Lodge is to be ostracised by other Grand Lodges.

Let us hope that by some wise concessions, this matter, so long a "vexata quæstio," may be peacefully adjusted, as we are quite sure of this, that no better Masons exist than our brother Hebrew Masons; none who are so willing to conform to the requirements, and act up to the principles of Freemasonry.

As we have said before, the proceedings in France cause much anxiety, as at present we can hardly predicate either their actual limit or possible result. Let us hope for the best. On the continent generally Freemasonry is flourishing, despite difficulties of position and locale, and in face often of overweening spiritual intolerance, and every opposition and direct persecution.

We may add to this summary—this general statement—that the finances of Grand Lodge are most flourishing, but that the claims on our benevolent fund continued very heavy. Indeed, he must be a superficial observer of the position of Freemasonry, and the tendencies of the times, who does not regard with much anxiety, the beneficial aspect of the case, which commends itself to many minds, as regards Freemasonry. Many ignore it, many desert it, they do nothing for it, and then after ten or fifteen years' non-Masonic life, in an hour of adversity they recollect the old Order, and ask for relief, and are relieved. But such is not a satisfactory condition of affairs, and reminds us of "bees and drones," and though none are so keenly alive perhaps to sorrow and want as Freemasons, open is their heart, as well as their hand, to melting charity, yet true charity does after all begin at home, and we must be just before we are generous. This is not said to discourage aid, but to commend caution, and some needful limit to a somewhat indiscriminate system of application and of succour.

Our record is finished for 1876, in some respects monotonous enough, perhaps, though it seems to be an unfailling record of material prosperity and the consecration of new lodges. Indeed, the advance of the Craft suggests not a few considerations and some warnings. And if amid that striking result of Masonic life which the pages of the *Freemason* have presented week by week, we note, as we must needs do, as the year has passed away, some records of human infirmity and earthly littleness at times, why should we Freemasons expect to be free from the unavoidable conditions of mortality? As 1876 has however closed so peaceably and well for our English Craft, let us hope that 1877 may witness all that we most can wish, for the Order in general, and for our brethren in particular.—"So mote it be."

A NEW YEAR'S PRESENT.—A copy of the "Cosmopolitan Masonic Calendar, Diary, and Pocket Book" for 1877, bound in silk, price, post free, 3s. 8d.; roan, gilt edges, elastic band or tuck, post free, 2s. 2d.—[Advt.]

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.  
For the Week ending Friday, January 5, 1877.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

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

MONDAY, JANUARY 1.

Lodge 12, Fortitude & Old Cumberland, Ship & Turtle.  
" 25, Robert Burns, F.M.H.  
" 72, Royal Jubilee, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.  
" 144, St. Luke's, M.H., Basinghall-st.  
" 188, Joppa, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.  
" 1319, Asaph, F.M.H.  
Mark Lodge 139, Panmure, Balham Hot., Balham.

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, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.  
Constitutional, Wheatsheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.  
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.  
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.  
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone.  
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.  
St. John of Wapping, Gun Hot., High-st., Wapping.  
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 2.

Colonial Board at 3.  
Lodge 101, Temple, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.  
" 172, Old Concord, F.M.H.  
" 765, St. James's, Bridge House Hot.  
" 1298, R. Standard, Wellington Club, Upper-st., N.  
" 1381, Kennington, Surrey Tav., Kennington Oval.  
" 1472, Henley, Three Crowns Hot., Woolwich.  
Mark Lodge 1, St. Mark's, M.R., 1, 2, and 3, Little Britain.

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 Hot., Church-rd.  
Marquis of Ripon, Pembury Tav., Amherst-rd., Hackney.  
Loughborough, Warrior Hot., Brixton.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3.

New Year's Entertainment R.M.B.I., Croydon.  
Grand Lodge—Special Meeting.  
Lodge 511, Zetland, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-street.  
Chap. 55, Constitutional, Private Rooms, Leytonstone.

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 Edgumbe, 19, Jermyn-st., St. James's.  
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.  
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anclery.  
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.  
Langthorne, Swan Hot., Stratford.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4.

Lodge 45, Strong Man, M.H., Masons' Avenue.  
" 192, Lion and Lamb, Cannon-st. Hot.  
" 227, Ionic, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.  
" 231, St. Andrew's, F.M.H.  
" 538, La Tolerance, F.M.H.  
" 554, Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.  
" 1360, Royal Arthur, Club, L.H., Wimbledon.  
" 1445, Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., E.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.  
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.  
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.  
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.  
Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Milbank.  
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.  
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.  
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.  
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.  
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.  
Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5.

New Year's Entertainment R.M.I. Girls.  
Lodge 890, Hornsey, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.  
Chap. 3, Fidelity.

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.  
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.  
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, The Castle, Holloway-rd.  
Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.  
Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.  
St. George's, Globe Tav., Greenwich.  
Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.  
William Preston, Feathers Tav. Up. George-st., Edgware-rd.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, January 6, 1877.

MONDAY, JANUARY 1.

Lodge 113, Unanimity, Bull Hot., Church-st., Preston.  
" 1045, Stamford, T.H., Altrincham.  
" 1051, Rowley, M.R., Athenæum, Lancaster.  
" 1264, Neptune, M.H., Liverpool.  
" 1380, Skelmersdale, Queen's Hot., Waterloo.  
Everton L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 2.

Lodge 178, Antiquity, Royal Hot., Wigan.  
" 673, St. John's, M.H., Liverpool.  
" 995, Furness, M.T., Ulverston.  
" 1384, Equity, Walker's Com. Hot., Widnes.  
" 1476, Blackpool, Clifton Arms Hot., Blackpool.  
Chap. 203, St. John of Jerusalem, M.H., Liverpool.  
Merchants' L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3.

Lodge 703, Ellesmere, Royal Oak Hot., Chorley.  
" 1013, Royal Victoria, M.H., Liverpool.  
" 1061, Triumph, M.H., Lytham.  
" 1335, Lindsay, 20, King-st., Wigan.  
" 1354, Marquis of Lorne, M.R., Leigh.  
" 1403, W. Lancashire, Com. Hot., Ormskirk.  
De Grey and Ripon L. of I., N. Hill-street, Liverpool.  
Downshire L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.  
Harmonic L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4.

Lodge 249, Mariners, M.H., Liverpool.  
" 1473, Bootle, Assembly Rooms, Bootle.  
Chap. 758, Bridgewater, M.H., Runcorn.  
St. John L. of I., M.H., Runcorn, Liverpool.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5.

Lodge 680, Sefton, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.  
" 1375, Architect, Didsbury Hot., Didsbury.  
" 1387, Chorlton, M.R., Chorlton-cum-Hardy.  
" 1505, Emulation, M.H., Liverpool.  
Duke of Edinburgh L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, January 6, 1877.  
All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, JANUARY 1.

Lodge 124, Kilwinning, Union Tav., Ayr.  
" 129, St. Mirren, 5, Moss-st., Paisley.  
" 138, Operative, Blue Bell Hot., Ayr.  
" 237, St. John, Masonic Arms, Girvan.  
" 332, Union, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.  
" 581, Plantation, Craigiehall-st., S.S., Glasgow.  
Chap. 53, Dumbarton, Elephant Hot., Dumbarton.  
" 119, Rosslyn, 25, Robertson-st.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 2.

Lodge 33, St. John, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.  
" 68, Doric Kilwinning, 44, Church-st., Port Glsqw.  
" 73, Thistle and Rose, 213, Buchanan-st., Glsqw.  
" 87, Thistle, 30, Cathedral-st., Glasgow.  
" 173, St. John Kilwinning, M.H., Largs.  
" 177, St. James, Old Monkland, M.H., Coatbridge.  
" 406, St. John Dalziel, M.H., Motherwell.  
" 433, St. Thomas, Eglinton Hot. Dalmellington.  
" 437, Govandale, M.H., Portland Buildings, Govan.  
" 442, Neptune, M.H., Princes Lane, Ardrossan.  
" 497, St. John, Brewery Lesser Hall, Catrine.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3.

Lodge 0, Mother Kilwinning, M.H., Kilwinning.  
" 4, Glasgow Kilwinning, 221, Dumbarton-rd.  
" 21, Old St. John, M.H., Lanark.  
" 86, Navigation, Navigation Arms Hot., Troon.  
" 117, St. Mary, M.H., Douglas-st., Partick.  
" 126, St. Andrew, George Hot., Kilmarnock.  
" 128, St. John, M.H., Shettleston.  
" 166, St. John, M.H., Airdrie.  
" 198, Royal Arch, King's Arms Hot., Maybole.  
" 202, St. Clements, Com.H., Croft-st., Kilmarnock.  
" 233, Hamilton, Spalding's Hot., Hamilton.  
" 331, St. Peter, Portland Arms, Galston.  
" 354, Caledonian Railway, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.  
" 571, Dramatic, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow (3 p.m.).  
Chap. 87, Shamrock and Thistle, 12, Trongate, Glasgow.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4.

Lodge 11, St. John, King's Arms, Maybole.  
" 22, St. John Kilwinning, George H., Kilmarnock.  
" 27, St. Mungo, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.  
" 149, St. Andrew, Masonic Arms, Irvine.  
" 157, St. John Kilwinning, M.H., Beith.  
" 165, Royal Arch, King's Arms, Ayr.  
" 290, Blair, White Hart Hot., Dalry.  
" 320, St. John, R.A., M.H., Ardrossan.  
" 370, Renfrew County Kilw., 8, High-st., Paisley.  
" 465, St. Andrew, 69, Garngad-rd., Glasgow.  
" 547, Stewart, M.H., Kilsyth.  
Chap. 114, Baron of Renfrew, M.H., High-st., Renfrew.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5.

Lodge 7, Hamilton Kilwinning, M.H., Hamilton.  
" 114, Royal Arch, M.H., Cambuslang.  
" 116, Royal Arch, Council Hall, Rutherglen.  
" 135, St. James, Crown Inn, Tarbolton.

Lodge 156, St. Barchan, Masonic Arms Inn, Kilbarchan.  
" 175, St. John, St. John's Hall, Greenock.  
" 215, St. Andrew, M.H., Strathavon.  
" 217, Cumberland Kilw., Old T.H., Port Glasgow.  
" 242, Houston St. Johnston, Cross Keys, Johnston.  
" 275, Shamrock & Thistle, 22, Struthers-st., Glsqw.  
" 335, Argyle, Drill Hall, Dunoon.  
" 360, Commercial, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.  
" 408, Clyde, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.  
" 459, Kelburne, Cumbrae Hot., Millport.  
" 512, Thorntree, School House, Thornliebank.  
" 551, Clydesdale, Royal Hot., Lanark.

Chap. 112, Paisley, St. Mirren's Hall, Paisley.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6.

Lodge 458, St. John, Wilson's Hall, Busby.  
" 544, St. Andrews, M.H., Coatbridge.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, January 6, 1877.

MONDAY, JANUARY 1.

Lodge 429, St. Kentigern, Royal Hot., Penicuik.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 2.

Lodge 5, Canongate and Leith, 86, Constitution-st.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4.

Lodge 97, St. James, M.H., Writers'-ct.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5.

Lodge 291, Celtic, Ship Hot., E. Register-st.

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## IMPORTANT NOTICE:

### GRAND CHRISTMAS PREMIUM ENGRAVING.

THE LONDON FINE ART ASSOCIATION

have concluded arrangements by which each Subscriber to this week's *Freemason* will be entitled, upon the terms stated below, to receive one copy of a

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### DUNCAN GRAY,

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The subject of the Picture is one which has been pronounced by both English and Continental Connoisseurs to be one of the finest efforts of probably the greatest of Scottish Painters, and neither trouble nor expense has been spared to produce an Engraving worthy of a work at once so masterly and renowned.

Immortalised as the subject has been by Burns' beautiful lines, any detailed description of the Engraving is perhaps rendered unnecessary.

The moment which the Artist has seized for portraying so grand a subject upon canvas is that, to quote Burns, when—

Duncan fleech'd and Duncan prayed,  
Ha, ha, the wooing o't;  
Meg was deaf as Ailsa Craig,  
Ha, ha, the wooing o't.

The expression of nonchalance depicted in Maggie's face is only realized by glancing at Duncan's disconsolate and cast-down look.

Father and Mother are standing by, evidently endeavouring by their parental persuasion to intercede upon the lover's behalf, and even Duncan's faithful hound looks up with an overflowing anxiety for his Master's cause.

The half-open doorway is filled with the merry faces of three girls, who seem especially delighted at the love scene which they are secretly observing.

The above will be the first of a series of Engravings of WILKIE'S WORKS,

which will be published in connection with the

LONDON FINE ART ASSOCIATION,

and every care and attention will be bestowed upon the Works to render them worthy of such

CELEBRATED PAINTINGS.

The school with which

WILKIE, COX, AND TURNER

were so closely associated is no doubt that which English taste has pronounced to be the most acceptable and popular.

It is in fact open to question whether at any time there has been such a demonstrative feeling in favour of any one style as has been shown in connection with pictures by the above celebrated artists.

Unfortunately, the worth of our greatest painters has never been thoroughly appreciated during their active career, and it is generally when the painter is no more that the true value of his marvellous productions is discovered.

It will be the endeavour of the London Fine Art Association to produce Engravings of works which accord with the taste above described, and the present will be the first of a number of Engravings which will be published from time to time.

It is important that early application should be made for

DUNCAN GRAY

by those who wish to become possessed of the whole set of Engravings which will be published, as after the date mentioned below it will be too late to send for a copy of the above celebrated Work.

It will be a matter of great convenience if Post-office orders could be enclosed instead of stamps; but although the Association make this a favour it is not by any means imperative.

The Engraving, which is 16in. by 22in., has never previously been published under the usual retail price of One Guinea.

INSTRUCTIONS.—Each applicant must cut out the Premium Voucher printed below, and enclose it, together with the Fifteen Pence in Postage Stamps, or Post-office Order (the latter much preferred), to

HENRY STANLEY,

THE LONDON FINE ART ASSOCIATION,

148 Strand, W.C.,

in return for which one copy of the above Engraving will be remitted, securely packed and post free, to any part of the United Kingdom.

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| PREMIUM<br>VOUCHER, | DUNCAN GRAY. | ONE COPY. | For the | London Fine Art<br>Association, | 148, Strand, W.C. | HENRY STANLEY. |
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IMPORTANT NOTICE.

With each application the above Voucher, which will be available until the 12th January, 1877, must be enclosed, and as the Premium Voucher for the above Engraving will not appear again in the *Freemason*, early advantage should be taken of the present occasion