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ESPECIAL GRAND LODGE.

An especial Grand Lodge was held on Wednesday evening, at Freemasons' Hall, to receive and consider the report of the Special Committee appointed by Grand Lodge on the 6th September last, on the most appropriate mode of commemorating the thankfulness of the Craft for the safe return from India of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Most Worshipful Grand Master. The Earl of Carnarvon, Pro Grand Master, presided; the Earl of Donoughmore, S.G.W.; Bro. F. Pattison, as J.G.W.; the Right Hon. Lord Leigh, Prov. G.M. for Warwickshire, as D.G.M.; Lord De Tabley, Prov. G.M. for Cheshire, as Past G.M.; the Right Hon. the Earl of Limerick; Herr Wilhelm Ganz, as G. Org.; General Brownrigg; Dr. W. Rhys Williams; Sir Albert Woods (Garter), G.D.C.; Samuel Tomkins, G.Treas.; John Hervey, G.S.; Æ. J. McIntyre, Q.C., G.R.; Capt. Platt, P.G.D.; H. Grissell, P.G.D.; Rev. A. B. Frazer, P.G.C.; Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G.C., Dep. Prov. G.M. Suffolk; Rev. Sir J. Warren Hayes, P.G.C.; Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C.; Rev. C. W. Arnold, G.C.; Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, P.G.C.; Hugh D. Sandeman, P. Dist. G. Master, Bengal; Samuel Rawson, P.D.G.M. China; J. M. Clabon P.G.D.; Rev. J. E. Cox, D.D.; T. W. Boord, M.P., G.D.; James Glaisher, P.G.D.; J. A. Rucker, P.G.D.; Thomas Fenn, P.G.A.D.C., P.G.D.; Joshua Nunn, P.G.S.B.; A. J. Duff Filer, P.G.S.B.; Brackstone Baker, W. S. Whitaker, S. Rosenthal, E. P. Albert, Thos. Cubitt, Joseph Smith, C. A. Cottelbrune, Joseph Wright, H. G. Buss, W. Dodd, Raynham W. Stewart, John Constable, Dr. Baxter Langley, Dr. Carpenter, Rev. G. R. Portal, R. J. Spiers, J. Lewis Thomas, W. F. C. Montrie, Israel Abrahams, Griffiths Smith, F. Davison, W. Smith, C.E.; Thomas W. White, W. Clifton Crick, J. Bingham, J. Tickell, Geo. Snow, W. J. Murlis, Geo. Everett, Robert J. Chappell, C. F. Hogard, Samuel Poynter, and Massey (*Freemason*) were among the other brethren who were present, who numbered altogether above 600.

Grand Secretary, after lodge was opened, read the circular convening the lodge.

Lord Carnarvon then directed Grand Secretary to read the report of the Special Committee.

Grand Secretary thereupon read the following report:—

The Committee have carefully considered the matters submitted to them, and beg to report as follows:—

1st. That the sum of £4000 be voted for the Royal National Lifeboat Institution for the purpose of founding two lifeboat stations in perpetuity, and in such localities on the English coast as the sub-committee hereafter mentioned shall decide.

2nd. That a Sub-Committee, consisting of the Most Worshipful the Pro Grand Master, the Rt. Worshipful the Dep. Grand Master, and the Right Worshipful the Senior Grand Warden, be appointed to wait on the Secretary of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution, with full powers to arrange all matters as to locality, detail, &c.

3rd. That a memorial tablet be erected in Grand Lodge in commemoration of the event.

The Earl of Carnarvon then rose, and was received with loud and long-continued applause. He said, Brethren—as you all know well, my general duty in this chair, and my general desire when I am there, is to discharge simply the duty of a speaker, so to say, in this Grand Lodge. I desire as a rule to offer no personal opinion and to influence in no degree the resolutions to which you may ultimately come. My general duty, to which I desire to confine myself is, so to regulate the order of your proceedings that they may be conducted with that propriety and that dignity which befits this, the general and the great meeting in which the whole of Freemasonry in England is represented and finds its voice. (Hear, hear.) This evening, under very exceptional circumstances, I pass beyond that limit, and take upon myself, as the Chairman of a Special Committee appointed by you, to make a special and exceptional recommendation to this Grand Lodge. And I am quite certain, from my long experience in Grand Lodge, that I shall not—that I need not ask you to give me, under these exceptional circumstances, all that cordial support which I have invariably met with at your hands, and which on such an occasion as this I am entitled I think, to ask for. (Hear, hear.) Brethren, you appointed at the last Grand Lodge a Special Committee to consider a difficult, and I may even add a delicate question, which you referred to it. That committee met. I was naturally in the chair; and I wish in the first instance to do simple justice to that committee when I say that no enquiries could have been fuller, no discussions could have been more exhaustive, no attention could have been more patient, than that which the committee gave to this question. No doubt they were a committee which represented, I think, very fully the opinions of the Craft. Each separate question was raised by them; each separate opinion that could find favour with the Craft, either in its general body or in its individual sections, was fully brought forward and discussed; and I have now, as the Chairman of that committee, to present you with the resolutions which embody, in fact, the report which you have heard read by the Grand Secretary. And first let me state, brethren, that the cause of your attendance here together is due simply and solely to myself. I felt, and felt strongly, that in a matter of this sort, of this importance, and where, as I am free to confess, a course exceptional and unusual is proposed—I felt that it was due to the Craft that every conceivable opportunity of discussion should be afforded—that the fullest publicity should be granted, and that no one should have a right hereafter to say that that course which was unusual in itself was adopted without the full knowledge and the full sanction of the Craft as represented here in Grand Lodge. (Hear, hear, and applause.) And this has been the reason, and this must be my excuse, why I have put you to the inconvenience and trouble of meeting me here in an especial Grand Lodge for you will see that the resolution which you will adopt to-night is simply a resolution recommending this matter to the next Grand Lodge, and further, after and beyond that Grand Lodge, affording still an opportunity of a confirmation of the minutes for any subsequent reconsideration. I sincerely hope that there will be no division of opinion on this subject. (Hear, hear.) I do not ask it for myself, though I am entitled to look for your support (cheers), but I ask it in consideration of the importance of this question, and, above all, of the illustrious person in whose name and for whose sake we are now proposing it. (Hear, hear.) Brethren, it is not so long since His Royal Highness made that most remarkable progress through India that I need recal any of its special incidents to you; it is doubtless fresh in your minds how His Royal Highness passed through the length and breadth of that wonderful—I might almost say that fabulous—Empire which it is the boast and the glory of the English crown to hold as its own. You will remember how he passed from one native State to another; how the whole pageantry, so to speak, of Indian pomp was unrolled before him; and how he, the first of English Princes, became acquainted, as it were, both with the public and

the private life of the great chiefs of that vast dependency. (Great applause.) It was not merely a matter of private interest, and of legitimate curiosity; he fulfilled, from my point of view, a great public duty (hear, hear); he learned a lesson that no books, that no public offices, that no documents, could possibly have taught him; he saw the inner life of India; and he returned more fitted to advise, more fitted to govern, than when he left these shores. (Hear, hear.) He discharged a great public duty, and he discharged it well. And when he returned to this country he met with a welcome and a reception such as no Prince of Wales ever met with before. (Cheers.) From one end of the country to the other there ran a thrill of congratulation that he had been preserved through all the difficulties and the perils of that long journey, and that he had been restored to us, as we truly hope, for the good and the welfare of this country. And if that was the welcome throughout the length and breadth of the land, nowhere was it more strongly felt, nowhere was it more heartily expressed, than it was among the Freemasons of England. (Hear, hear, and great cheering.) Brethren, our object to-night is to find some means by which we can, so far as we are concerned, erect a memorial of that successful progress of our illustrious Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and at the same time record our thankfulness to the Great Architect of the Universe that it has pleased Him to preserve H.R.H. through all those perils and difficulties and restore him back to us in England. (Hear, hear.) Now, brethren, there is no difficulty, I venture to think, so far as the mere question of finance is concerned. (Hear, hear.) Happily for us, unlike almost every other society—happily for us, this difficulty does not exist. Our funded property affords us the means of being just and even generous. (Hear, hear.) Our annual surplus is not less than £3000 a year; on this head, therefore, there is no difficulty. The difficulty rather is, according to a French proverb, the embarrassment that proceeds from an excess of wealth. Our difficulty is to select the object to which our money should be appropriated. Well, brethren, all of you who were present at the Grand Lodge when this question was discussed will remember that there was considerable division of opinion. Those who were members of the committee over which I had the honour to preside will remember also that there was much division of opinion among us in the first instance—though I wish to record emphatically here, this remark, that ultimately we were unanimous in our opinion. (Hear, hear, and great cheering.) Brethren, there are many different schemes, all of them admirable in themselves, which might be proposed for this object. It was proposed here in Grand Lodge to devote a certain sum to the restoration and decoration of certain old churches that were more or less connected with Masonry. It was proposed at another time to devote a certain portion to the foundation of scholarships. (Hear, hear.) It was proposed also—and I own that the proposition found for a long time great weight with me—it was proposed to appropriate it to the Charities. (Hear, hear, and general applause.) Brethren, I perfectly understand that cheer, and I heartily sympathise with it. Had I seen my way to propose to you to devote this money to the Charities I should have been the first to have come forward and give my voice in favour of it. (Hear, hear.) But it was not from want of consideration, it was not from want of predilection for that course that I have come to a different conclusion. You will observe that if you were to appropriate this money to the Charities you must appropriate it at least in one of three ways:—either you must create a new Charity—(cries of "No, no")—which found, let me say, a great many, and many zealous, and many able advocates—or you must appropriate it to one of the old Charities exclusively—"No, no"—or you must divide it among the three old Charities. (Cheers.) And I venture to observe that those are the only three courses which were possible if you dealt with it for the Charities. Well, so far as the foundation of a new Charity is concerned, I see already that Grand Lodge feels how great would be the difficulty. (Hear, hear.) I

need not go into that argument. Again, I feel equally certain that Grand Lodge would not be prepared to devote this sum of money, whatever it may be, exclusively to one single Charity. (Hear, hear.) That I see equally. Then there remains only the last course, which is to divide it amongst all three equally. Now, brethren, observe what would be the consequence of that. It could be but a small—I will even say a paltry—sum that you could distribute to each. You would fritter away that which may be a grand and lasting memorial—(hear, hear)—amongst the Charities. (Great cheering.) There could be nothing permanent, there could be nothing special in that. And, brethren, I would go further, and entreat you, in the name of and for the sake of those Charities, not to adopt what I should think so fatal a course as that. (Loud applause). Brethren, the charities of this great Order are among the highest honours that we can show in our Masonic Crown. (Hear, hear). When any one of those charities needs money, what is done? We appeal to the Craft, and we get what we want. (Cheers). Brethren, I would venture to state my own personal case. Two years ago, I filled the chair at the festival of the Boys' School. I believe on that occasion over £13,000 was realised. (Hear, hear). Do you mean to tell me, or to tell anyone else, that the Boys' School needs the paltry addition of £1500 or £2000? (Hear, hear) scraped together out of another circumstance and another occasion, with which it has no definite connection, in order to give it funds? Why, I know perfectly well, if the Boys' School needs funds we have nothing to do, but, as I did on that occasion, to appeal to the Craft at large for what we want. (Great applause). Brethren, I therefore say, in the name of these great charities, do not do them the wrong and the injustice of applying this money to them or in any way stopping the fountain, the free-flowing fountain, which runs in their behalf. (Cheers). Brethren, I cannot sufficiently remind you on this particular point, that our object to-night is not to find money for any one of our great Masonic Charities, but it is to record a particular event in the history of this country and in the history of Masonry, in which our Grand Master went out to India, discharged a great public duty, and returned here to the hearty and full satisfaction and amongst the unanimous welcome of the whole Craft. (Loud and long continued cheering). Well, then, brethren, if that be so (and I think you have gone along with me so far), let me ask you what are the objects to which we should look in this particular case? They are, to put them very briefly, first of all, that any memorial which we create, so to speak, on this occasion, should be special and definite; secondly, that it should be lasting, and more than lasting, that it should be permanent; thirdly, that it should be somehow inseparably connected and bound up with some great object of charity; fourthly, that it should range even beyond the limits of the Craft, and it should for once in a way embrace in its great compass the whole nation (cheers); and, lastly, I would ask, as quite supplementary, but which still I think comes from us gracefully, that it should be such an object as that in which His Royal Highness has been known to take a lively interest, and in which he has himself taken an active part. Brethren, if you can find any one object which comprises all these different conditions, I think you will not have done amiss, you will not have gone far astray, you may be satisfied that you have, so far as it is given to human knowledge and human wisdom to do so, solved a problem which was not before solved. Well, now, the proposal I have to make to you on behalf of the committee is simply this: it is that we should establish—not for a few years, not at the mere sport of the wind and waves, to be worn and torn away, and to disappear after a time, even after a brief career, but to last in perpetuity, and to record so long as the waters wash the shores of Great Britain, the intention and the purpose of this Grand Lodge—that we should establish two lifeboats in honour of the return of the Prince of Wales. Brethren, I have gone carefully into the matter, and I find that by an arrangement with that most admirable and patriotic Institution, the Life Boat Association, it is in the power of this Grand Lodge to found

no less than two life-boats in absolute perpetuity. (Hear, hear, and loud applause.) The cost of a lifeboat will interest Grand Lodge, and therefore I will give them the figures. The cost of a lifeboat is assumed to be £550. The transport of it, with certain other incidents, to the place where it is to be maintained, is set down at £150. There are contingencies. It is then necessary to erect for it buildings so that it may be permanently housed from decay. That represents the sum of £350 more. In all, £1000. But there then comes the question of maintenance; and the maintenance cannot be put at much less than £70 a year; in other words about £2000 additional, assuming money at 3½ per cent. You perceive therefore that at that rate two lifeboats would cost no less than £6000. But if you adopt those figures it is clear that the cost of two lifeboats would amount to no less than £6000. But, by private communications which I have had with the Lifeboat Institution, they, whose operations of course extend over a very much larger area, can afford it at a cheaper rate than we could if we undertook to supply two lifeboats for ourselves. They are therefore willing to pledge themselves on the strength of their whole funds for £1000 to maintain each lifeboat. Therefore the cost of one lifeboat being assumed to be £1000, and the maintenance in perpetuity being another £1000, it will be possible if Grand Lodge agrees to this vote of £4000, for the two lifeboats to be maintained for ever and a day, in honour of the Prince of Wales' return from India. (Great cheering). Brethren, I am not at all surprised at the liberality of the Life Boat Institution in this matter. At the same time I venture to say to Grand Lodge, it is a very satisfactory bargain for us to have made, and one which I, for my part, cordially recommend to Grand Lodge. Now, brethren, I am quite aware, as every one must be, that as regards this memorial of the safe journey and return of His Royal Highness, there may be—there are perhaps—many opinions (hear, hear). One person would like one thing; another person would like another. I would merely put it to them, that each person be content in this matter to forego to a certain degree his own individual opinion. (Hear, hear.) We are met together for a great purpose; we have no private and no selfish interests or objects in it. Let us endeavour for once to act with absolute and entire unanimity. (Loud and prolonged applause.) I think that the foundation in perpetuity of these two lifeboats does satisfy all the conditions at least which I mentioned to you. It is something special and definite; it is something lasting and permanent; it is unquestionably charitable (hear, hear, and applause); it is national as well as Masonic; and no one can doubt that His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales has taken the liveliest interest in it, because, on one occasion at least, he presided at the great anniversary of the Institution. (Hear, hear). Brethren, it is possible that it may be said that in this recommendation we are venturing out of the beaten track, and that we should confine ourselves exclusively to something Masonic. Well, let me remind those who think so that even on board of many a ship, labouring in many a gale, there may be many a brother Mason. (Hear, hear, and cheers,—which lasted for some time.) Those who have heard the howling of the wind during this last week, while we have been enjoying the festive season; those who still more have listened to the touching service in many of our churches, "For those who are in peril at sea,"—still more, those who under such circumstances have had father or mother, brother or sister, relation or friend, on board those ships, will feel that such a grant as I now ask you to make does not really fall beyond the circle of Masonry. (Hear, hear.) Brethren, it is true that in a certain sense such a vote as this appeals beyond Masonry to the whole outward world; and I for one rejoice when, once in a way, exceptional as it is in this case, we can put forth a hand to the outer world—that we can show that we are united to it by common ties of humanity and sympathy; that we can give the lie to the calumnies which have been so often urged against our Order, that it is a mere selfish body, actuated by selfish motives and selfish feelings. Brethren, I rejoice to give a practical proof in

refutation of such a vile calumny as that. (Hear, hear.) It is said sometimes that Masonry is a mere benefit society. We who know its principles better; we who see its workings more intimately, know that there is no truth whatever in such a representation; and I venture to think those who to-night record by their vote their assent to this proposal will have done a great and signal service to English Freemasonry throughout the whole of the world. (Cheers.) Brethren, I have but one more word to say, and it is this: this proposal may be better, may be worse; I believe it to be one of the very few proposals which could be made that on the whole comprises all the conditions that I have mentioned, and which recommends it alike to Freemasonry and to the objects which it has in view. But I venture to put it to this Grand Lodge that this vote should be absolutely unanimous. (Hear, hear.) I trust sincerely that there will be no one single voice raised in opposition at least to this. Under ordinary circumstances I court criticism; I rejoice in criticism; but I will ask you, having remitted this in a certain sense to a committee, that committee having given the fairest, the fullest, the most impartial consideration they can to it, I would ask you to forego as far as you conscientiously can the individual desire, which I admit is perfectly legitimate in every one, and if possible give it a cordial and unanimous approval. Brethren, I ask this not for the sake of the committee, not for the sake of the chair from which I now address you, but specially for the sake of the particular object we have in view, and for the illustrious person, our Grand Master, with whom that object is indissolubly connected, and for whose sake I would not have, if it was possible, the slightest difference of opinion on the subject.

(The noble lord was greeted with loud and prolonged applause on resuming his seat.)

Lord Leigh, Prov. G.M. for Warwickshire in seconding the motion said he had not the slightest idea when he came to the hall that evening from the country, that he should have had the honour to do so, but owing to the absence of the Dep. G.M., which they all regretted very much, the duty was placed in his hands. The resolution had been proposed so ably, so feelingly, and so exhaustively by the Pro Grand Master that he confessed he was pleased to have the honour. His task was an easy one; the Pro Grand Master having so fully, ably and feelingly gone into the whole subject. Although he would have to say but very few words the brethren must permit him on his own part, and on behalf of the province over which he had the extreme honour of presiding for some 26 years past. (Cheers). To express the great pleasure it had given him to hear the resolution that had been proposed, and which emanated from the committee which was formed to take into consideration this very important subject. He entirely and completely agreed with the remark that the Pro Grand Master had made towards the end of his admirable address when he said he rejoiced to think the Freemasons stepped beyond Masonry in the proposed memorial in honour of the return of their illustrious Grand Master to this country after his long voyage. He rejoiced with the P.G.M. that the proposition went a little beyond Masonry. He quite agreed with the Pro Grand Master that this was an unusual subject and that they ought to show the great world beyond Freemasonry that they were capable of stepping out of Masonry, and associating their great body with the outer world. The three great Masonic Charities were ably supported, and if they wanted more support they did not require a paltry £3000 or £4000. He also entirely and completely agreed with the Pro G.M. when he said that there were some Masons on the ships at sea: but he went beyond the Pro Grand Master, and said there were thousands and tens of thousands of our brethren on the broad seas, that required their assistance, and therefore he appealed to the brethren to support most cordially the proposition of the Pro G.M., as he could not conceive a more English mode of assisting charity, than for the Masons of a great maritime country like England to assist their brethren on the seas. He might add, on behalf of himself, and he might say on the part of his own province, which comprised a very large

number of Freemasons, that he believed they all most cordially agreed with the proposition that had been made. (Loud applause.)

Bro. W. R. Marsh here rose to speak, but was met with general cries of "Vote." The Pro Grand Master appealed to the brethren to hear Bro. Marsh, but trusted that in anything that brother might say he would have the good feeling to say nothing which would lead to any discussion. Bro. Marsh then proceeded, expressing his surprise that after what had taken place in the Grand Lodge in September, the present resolution should have been proposed. He objected to it, and would move at once, as an amendment, that £1500—

Bro. Æ. J. M'Intyre, G.R., said this could not be done, as notice of motion must be given at the Board of Masters. Bro. Marsh might move a direct negative, that the motion be not affirmed, or that it be referred to the Special Committee to re-consider their report.

Bro. Marsh, after some few remarks, moved that this matter be referred back.

Bro. Baxter Langley, amidst strong marks of dissent, seconded the amendment, and after passing a high compliment to the Earl of Carnarvon for the way in which he had introduced the original motion, and the eloquence with which he had supported it, stated that the brethren knew nothing of this motion before they came into the hall. He had not met with a single brother with whom he had conversed who did not condemn the proposition of the committee. He then advocated the cause of the charities, and said that schemes had been suggested for benefiting them. He thought that a permanent memorial would be a scholarship for the Boys' School, a new wing for the Girls' School, or a new wing for the Benevolent Institution. He then explained that although he was a member of the Special Committee he knew nothing about the recommendation, because he was not able to attend. (Laughter.)

After some remarks from Grand Registrar, the Rev. R. J. Simpson, and the Rev. J. E. Cox, Bro. Marsh withdrew his amendment, and Bro. Baxter Langley withdrew his seconding of it.

The Earl of Carnarvon said: Brethren, I shall make of course no comment on what has passed, but I shall fitly, I think, express the feeling of this Grand Lodge, when I say that they appreciate the good feeling which induces both the worthy brethren who have lately spoken to withdraw from moving this amendment. It is, therefore, my duty to submit to the Grand Lodge the following resolution, which I trust may be recorded as having been unanimously passed,— "That this report be now received and adopted, and that the scheme which it proposes be recommended for adoption to the next Quarterly Communication.

The motion was carried unanimously.

The Earl of Carnarvon: I have to state that I request the Grand Secretary to take formal note of it, that this resolution has been accepted unanimously.

Grand Lodge was then closed in ample form.

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

OLD CONCORD LODGE (No. 172).—The installation meeting of the Old Concord Lodge was held on Tuesday evening, at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. George Hockley, W.M., presided. He was supported by all his officers and a very large body of Freemasons. Bro. Harris was first raised to the Third Degree; after which Messrs. Thomas John Lewis, John Richard Doubleday, and E. Richmond Farrow were separately initiated. The ceremonies were performed by the W.M., who, with all his officers, discharged the duties most admirably. The ceremonies had the assistance of musical brethren, who gave great impressiveness and grace to them. Bro. John Emmens, P.M., P.G.P., then ascended the chair and installed Bro. Ward, W.M. elect, as Master of the lodge. After his installation, Bro. Ward, in investing Bro. George Hockley as I.P.M., addressed that brother, and said that though he felt the high honour of being Master of the lodge very much, he nevertheless regretted that the lodge would be deprived of having such an excellent W.M. as Bro. Hockley had proved himself to be. It was, however, a satisfaction to him to know that in the performance of his duties he would have on his left hand so able a brother to assist him when he wanted that assistance as the Immediate Past Master. Bro. Hockley thanked the W.M., and said that whatever assistance he could render to the W.M. he should give with the greatest

pleasure. The officers were afterwards appointed: Bros. Alfred Dottridge, S.W.; W. P. Goosey, J.W.; Hancock, Treas.; John Emmens, Sec.; Gaubert, S.D.; Hoadley, J.D.; Gladwell, I.G.; George King, P.M., D.C.; and C. T. Speight, Tyler. Before the lodge was closed the W.M. presented a splendid Past Master's jewel to Bro. George Hockley, and in doing so said it was one of the first duties that devolved upon a Master who was newly appointed like himself, and one of the most pleasing duties he had to perform during his year of office, to present in the name of the lodge to their I.P.M. the jewel which had been awarded to him for the services he had rendered to the lodge during that year of office. He was quite sure that no remarks on his part could increase the pride which all the brethren felt in their I.P.M. They would all agree that the zeal, the assiduity, the courtesy and the gentlemanly demeanour that Bro. Hockley had shown during his year of office had been a pleasure not only to themselves, but to every visitor who had come to that lodge. Bro. Hockley had carried out his year of office in a most satisfactory manner to the brethren; and it must be a proud moment to himself when in the name of the Old Concord Lodge Bro. Hockley was invested by the W.M. with that jewel he now placed on his breast. He trusted Bro. Hockley would keep it in remembrance of his having successfully worked the lodge for the past year, and that he would not feel greater pride in any other jewel he might wear. (Hear, hear.) Bro. Hockley in acknowledging the gift said he could assure the brethren that it was no mere figure of speech on his part when he said that he could scarcely find words (in fact, he could not find words) sufficient to express his gratitude for this last and crowning mark of the brethren's favour. He felt like a man who had undertaken a journey, and who at last had arrived at his destination, only with this difference, that some men undertook journeys under very arduous and difficult circumstances; but he could say that his journey, if they would allow him to use the simile, in that lodge from the time that he was Inner Guard to the present moment had not been of a difficult kind, for it had been one of the most pleasing description, indeed, it had been so from the time he was initiated six years ago! for he had enjoyed—and he believed he enjoyed now—the confidence and esteem also as he went on of every brother in that lodge. They had given him repeated proofs of it. He had in his turn to the best of his ability, and with their kind consideration in overlooking a little fault in the first instance—he had been enabled to accomplish the height of his ambition—to occupy the chair of his mother lodge. As the W.M. had said he hoped he would not feel greater pride in any other jewel he might wear, he could only say that he possessed no other jewel than this, and he desired to possess no other. He should transmit it to his posterity in the hope that they would attempt to become in due course what he considered every man might be or should be—a good Mason. Although he had passed the chair of this lodge he should in no way, if the Great Architect of the Universe gave him health and strength, dissociate himself from it. During the next year he should endeavour to the utmost of his ability to give the W.M. every assistance that lay in his power. He knew perfectly well that there were times when, however capable a Master was of performing his duties, a word, or some little assistance thrown in, might be gratefully received by the W.M. Such would be his place. He would always, on every occasion he possibly could, be on the W.M.'s left hand, and anything else he could do to advance the interests of this lodge he would do to the utmost of his ability. For this last mark of the brethren's favour, and every other they had shown him during his Mastership of the lodge, and in every office he had filled, he returned them his hearty and sincere thanks. (Cheers.) The lodge was afterwards closed, and the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet provided by Bro. Dawkins, manager of the Freemasons' Tavern. The toasts were subsequently proposed. Bro. S. Rawson, P.D.G.M. of China, responded for the Grand Officers, and in the course of his speech stated that in his many years' experience he had never seen the Entered Apprentice's Degree worked with more effect by all the officers, from the I.G. up to the W.M. He would like to pay a compliment to one officer in particular. He had never in his life seen the office of Junior Deacon more beautifully performed than it had been by Bro. Gaubert. Bro. Cooper Smith, P.J.G.D. for the province of Oxford, replied for "The Visitors," and the other toasts were afterwards duly honoured. In the course of the evening a beautiful musical entertainment was given, the artistes being Miss Jessie Royd, and Bros. Henry Parker, Stedman, and Thurley Beak. Among the brethren present during the evening were Past Masters Bros. Gurton, Holland, Jackson, Dixon, Silk, Morrin, Vorley, Geo. King, Emmens, Hockley; and visitors Bros. Cooper Smith, Prov. G.J.W. Oxford; Walker, 862; Gallant, W.M. 813; Crauford, W.M. Union Lodge, Margate; H. Massey (Freemason), besides a very large company of other visitors.

MONTEFIORE LODGE (No. 1017).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday evening at the Masonic Hall, Air-street, Regent-street. The W.M., Bro. Blum, presided, and initiated Messrs. Sampson, Samuel and Aaron Marks. The J.W., having undertaken the office of Steward of this lodge for the next festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, the lodge voted the sum of fifteen guineas to be placed, in the name of the lodge, on his list. The lodge was then called off, and on its resumption, Bro. S. V. Abrahams, P.M., installed Bro. Victor M. Myers, S.W. and W.M. elect, as W.M. for the year ensuing. The officers appointed were Bros. Blum, I.P.M.; Gulliford, S.W.; J. Lazarus, J.W.; Salomons, S.D.; Hochfeld, J.D.; Lewis Jacobs, Treas.; E. P. Albert, G.P., P.M., Sec.; Ellis, I.G.; Matthias Levy, D.C.; Davis, Steward; Simmons, Wine Steward; and George Smith, Tyler. Before the business of the

lodge was concluded, Bro. S. V. Abrahams, P.M., rose and said that he had a very pleasing task to perform. He had been requested, in the name of the lodge, to acknowledge the admirable manner in which the I.P.M. had performed the duties of his office for the past year. He had every satisfaction in making that acknowledgment, because he knew that it was not his own words only that he expressed, but that they were endorsed by the sincere feelings of all the brethren of the lodge. The brethren, anxious to evince to the I.P.M. the regard they had for himself personally, and the manner in which he had discharged his duties, had asked him (Bro. Abrahams) to present to him a jewel as a token of their esteem, which he might wear as a reminder of the efficient performance of his duties. The jewel did not represent in value the feelings which the lodge entertained towards the I.P.M., because it would have been a difficult matter to have a jewel which would properly express it; but, as he knew, Bro. Blum valued the sentiments of the lodge not by the weight of gold or the number of diamonds, but rather for the good fellowship which was evinced by asking his acceptance of the jewel. He knew Bro. Blum would receive it in the true and Masonic manner in which it was given, as a slight acknowledgment of the way in which he had conducted the business of the chair. He (Bro. Abrahams) had been asked to make the presentation, and he could not but congratulate Bro. Blum on having passed through a year highly successfully, particularly so, in more ways than one. They had had the opportunity of initiating into the Order many highly worthy men, who hereafter would shine in the Craft and be truly deserving of any high position they might attain to. In addition to this he might be permitted to say that Bro. Blum's entrance into the chair was marked by an act of charity on the part of the lodge, by giving, as far as it could, assistance to the institutions of the Order. On his leaving the chair the brethren had the happiness of saying they could again assist the Masonic institution; and this was a result most satisfactory to the brethren. Words of flattery and adulation would be unpalatable to Bro. Blum, but if he (Bro. Abrahams) was wanting in any way in expressing what ought to be done on an occasion like the present, Bro. Blum would not attribute it to a want of intention but to a want of ability. The brethren had expressed in presenting that jewel much more than he (Bro. Abrahams) could say, and more than the most eloquent man could express, but he requested to be allowed to say that he hoped the brethren would have the pleasure of seeing Bro. Blum for many years to come. In placing the jewel on the breast of the recipient he felt that, although the jewel might shine itself, there was a jewel beneath, which shone much brighter—a truly Masonic breast. (Cheers.) Bro. Blum in replying said: I fully appreciate the honour you have conferred upon me to-night; and really I do not think I am able to express my feelings at this moment; but be assured that whatever I have done towards this lodge I have done with a true heart and with the fullest intention to give every satisfaction to you. When I first accepted the office—the high office I may say—you so generously conferred upon me, I promised that I should do my best according to my ability to satisfy you; and I am sure if I have succeeded in that I am retiring with the utmost pleasure. The honour and the good fellowship which you have shown me to-night, expressed by our Past Master Abrahams so ably, really overpower me; and though this might be the proper place I am not fit to respond to those able words in proper form at this moment, but I am sure were I to speak for hours I could not express more than I shall in these few words—brethren, I fully acknowledge the honour you have done me, and I thank you. (Hearty applause.) The lodge was shortly afterwards closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet at the Café Restaurant Royal. The customary toasts followed. Bro. Thomas Feun, P.G.D., and Bro. E. P. Albert, G.P., responded for "The Grand Officers." The W.M. in proposing "The Initiates," said that those brethren had already evinced their practical feeling of Freemasonry by contributing handsomely to the Benevolent Fund of the lodge. Bros. Marks and Samuel replied, and Bro. Blum proposed "The W.M.," and stated with what pleasure he had seen that brother gradually go up the ladder of promotion till he reached the highest honour the lodge could bestow on any of its members. The W.M. having replied, Bro. Blum's health was proposed by the W.M., and Bro. Blum in replying observed: I said before in the lodge that I was somewhat at a loss to respond to the words which P.M. Abrahams spoke in my favour. I am afraid I am in a somewhat similar position at this moment, for you, brethren, have almost excelled him in flattering me. I have done no better than others. I am sure I have done nothing else but my duty. You, brethren, appointed me to that elevated position which I have occupied for twelve months, and I am sure no man ever felt more proud of that position than I did during the time I occupied the chair. But at this present moment, when I have passed it, I feel that though it was somewhat of a trouble, that trouble was a pleasure to me, because I knew that every brother would forgive any shortcomings, as they promised me the first night. If it had not been for the very judicious selection of my officers and the very eminent assistance which I have received from my Immediate and other Past Masters I could never have fulfilled the duties as ably as I have done. This is an occasion when I may publicly announce to them my grateful thanks for their able assistance rendered to me during my year of office; and I know that whatever I may say now is not sufficient to express what I feel. You have evinced your good will towards me by presenting me with a beautiful jewel. Believe me, this will be a sweet recollection to me as long as I shall live. I shall always, if I am in this or any other country, remember that this has been presented by the members of the Montefiore Lodge from their esteem and good will towards me. And let me assure you, once

and for all, that I shall always do my best to maintain and uphold the dignity of the Montefiore Lodge. Allow me to resume my seat by returning you my most sincere thanks, W.M., for proposing in such an eloquent manner my health, and you, brethren, for responding to the same in such a cheerful manner as you have done, one and all. (Cheers.) The other toasts were then proposed and responded to, and the brethren shortly afterwards separated. An excellent selection of music was given in the course of the evening by Bro. Grove Ellis, Bro. Grove Ellis, jun., Mr. Field, and the Misses Fanny and Clara Perfit.

GUERNSEY.—Doyle's Lodge of Fellowship (No. 84).—The usual meeting for the installation of the W.M. for the coming year was held at the Masonic Hall, Guernsey, on the 27th ult. The members having at a former meeting decided that they could not entrust the management of this lodge to a more courteous or more capable director than their present excellent W.M., Bro. Captain Haighton Wilkins, a re-election resulted, and necessarily therefore the installation ceremony of the 27th ult. was of a purely formal character. After a few appropriate remarks from the W.M., Bro. Captain Haighton Wilkins proceeded to name his officers. The selection was a very judicious one, and the well-known character and utility of the brethren so chosen is a guarantee for the successful working of the lodge for the next year. Bro. C. K. Corbin was named S.W.; Bro. Captain Corbin, J.W.; Lieut.-Col. W. M. Jones, S.D.; J. W. Ozanne, J.D.; and Bucktrout, I.G. The appointments of Treasurer and Secretary continue in the hands of our long and steady supporters of the interests of this lodge, namely, Past Masters Bros. J. Guilbert and F. Clarke. After the lodge was closed the brethren repaired to Bro. Gardner's Hotel on the Esplanade, where a splendid banquet was served, to which some forty of the brethren did ample justice. Amongst the brethren present at lodge and banquet we noticed Bros. James Galliene, P.D.P.G.M.; G. F. La Serre, P.D.G.M. Central District of Canada, and Past Grand H. of Canada; Balfour Cockburn, 31°, and P.D. G.S.W. of Gibraltar; Past Masters Stickland, Randall, Martin, Colonel Guerin, Inman, &c.

SOUTHAMPTON.—Royal Gloucester Lodge (No. 130).—The brethren of this lodge celebrated the festival of St. John on Wednesday, 28th December, when their Senior Warden for the past year, Bro. Robert Sharpe, Past Provincial Grand Organist, was installed the Worshipful Master for the year ensuing. Despite the exceptionally wet weather and the Christmas holidays, a goodly number of the brethren attended, the Board of Installed Masters numbering twelve, and including two of the oldest Past Masters of this ancient and influential lodge. The ceremony of installation was performed in the most impressive manner by the Grand Secretary of the Province of Hants and the Isle of Wight, and one of the Past Masters of the lodge, Bro. Le Feuvre, who at the close received the cordial thanks of the brethren for his very efficient and skilful working. Bro. Sharpe invested his officers as follows:—Bros. C. J. Phillips, S.W.; C. W. A. Jellicoe, J.W.; Rev. E. Y. Nepean, Chaplain; J. E. Le Feuvre, P.M., Treas.; J. R. Weston, P.M., Sec.; J. Cole, S.D.; Jennings, J.D.; H. M. Pike, Organist; Robertson and Obree, Stewards; Biggs, Tyler; and Headland and Vare, Assistant Tylers. In thanking the lodge for their confidence, the W.M. said: In placing me in the very proud position of W.M. of this old and flourishing lodge you have conferred upon me an honour which I esteem and value most highly. To-day, I may say, I have attained through your kindness the summit of my Masonic ambition, for I cannot conceive any position in the Masonic world on which a brother can look with more longing eyes or greater pride than that of W.M. of a lodge with such a past history and present influence as that of the Royal Gloucester. I am not unmindful of the very great and grave responsibilities incurred by me in undertaking the duties of this chair; at the same time, with the assistance and support which has been so kindly promised me on every hand, I am hopeful of being able to carry out those duties in such a manner as not to forfeit your confidence and esteem. My earnest desire shall be to promote the prosperity of the lodge and the comfort of its members, and if I fail in any particular—believe me, failure shall only emanate from the head and not the heart—I have confidence in the belief that I shall not appeal in vain to your forbearance and consideration. The lodge subsequently voted £10 to one of the Masonic Charities, and a Past Master's jewel to Bro. W. Hickman (son of the Deputy Provincial Grand Master) in recognition of his services as W.M. of the lodge during the year just closed. At the banquet, which was served later in the evening by Bro. Dartnall, the customary toasts were given. Bro. Ogden, of the Beaureper Lodge, Belper, 787, and Bro. Geo. Passenger, jun., S.W. of the Southampton Lodge, 394, responding to that of "The Visitors;" Bro. C. A. Dyer, the W.M. of the Peace and Harmony Lodge, 359, acknowledging "Sister Lodges;" and P.M. Abraham, the Mayor of Southampton, responding for "The Past Masters." In acknowledging the toast of "The Worshipful Master," Bro. Sharpe said: the duty before him was one of such great responsibility that he failed to think of words which would adequately convey his gratitude to Bro. Hickman, the I.P.M., for the kindness which had prompted him to speak so generously of him, the W.M., and to all the brethren for the cordiality with which they had received the toast. There was one thing for which at the outset of his year of office he asked them to pardon him for not doing, viz., the perpetuation of those flights of oratory with which the lodge had been favoured from the chair during the past few years. He was painfully conscious of his own utter weakness and inability as an orator, and he hoped they would in this respect accept deeds in lieu of words. If the same unani-

mous goodwill and brotherly kindness was manifested towards him in the future as at the present, he had no doubt they would have a fairly prosperous and withal a happy year, which he heartily wished them one and all. During the evening several songs were sung, including, by Bro. Senior Warden, a Masonic song, composed on the occasion of the centenary of the lodge several years since by the Worshipful Master, to words by his father-in-law, Past Master G. M. Passenger, P. Prov. G.S.W.; nor must the masterly performances of the W.M. on the fine harmonium of the lodge be forgotten, as among some of the pleasanter memories both at this and other Royal Gloucester gatherings now through some years.

HANLEY.—Menturia Lodge (No. 418).—The St. John's Festival of this lodge was held on the 17th ult. Lodge was opened in due form, in the lodge-room at the Mechanics' Hall, by Bro. Pitchford, the retiring W.M., and that brother, with the assistance of Bro. Taylor, P.P.S.G.W., and Bro. Montford, installed, with the ancient ceremonies Bro. James Wain as W.M. of the lodge for the ensuing year. The newly elected W.M. afterwards appointed the following as his officers:—Bros. Thomas Ashworth, S.W.; John Beardmore, J.W.; Spencer Lawton, S.D.; Titus Jones, J.D.; W. J. Carr, I.G.; John Bromley, Steward; the Rev. Joseph Westbury, Chaplain; Stringer, Organist; Thomas Bickley, P.M., P.G.J.D., Treasurer; Fred Brandon, Secretary; James Montford, P.M., D.C. The banquet was served at the Queen's Hotel, in Bro. Gofton's exquisite style. After the banquet, the loyal toasts were given from the chair, and were musically supplemented, Bro. Taylor singing the solos. The principal Masonic toasts were also given from the chair. Bro. Rogers (Birmingham), who was received with considerable applause, proposed "The R.W. the Earl of Shrewsbury, P.G.M.," mentioning that on the occasion of the installing of Bro. the Prince of Wales, the Earl had placed his house in Dover-street at the service of the Staffordshire brethren. At the *dejeuner* a table was allotted to each lodge in the province, and vehicles were provided to convey the Staffordshire brethren to the scene of the great ceremony. The toast was given with Masonic honours, vigorously led by Bro. Rodgers, as father of the lodge. The song, "The fine Masonic Brother," was sung by Bro. Greatbach. Bro. Montford proposed "The R.W.D.P.G.M. and the rest of the P.G. Officers, Past and Present," several of whom, he observed, were present. At this stage, Bro. Rodgers, being forced to leave to catch a train, was treated to a hearty round of cheering, which he feelingly acknowledged, congratulating the lodge on its present evident vitality as compared with its state in the far away past. The glee "Mynheer Van Dunk" was capably sung by Bros. Taylor, Montford, Brandon, and Wain on the brother's departure. Bro. Bickley acknowledged the toast of "The P.G. Officers." Bro. Marsh also responded. Bro. Pitchford, the Past W.M., proposed "The W.M.," whom it had been a satisfaction to him to install, and who he was quite sure would maintain the dignity of the office. Bro. Wain, in responding, said he hoped to maintain the dignity of the lodge and its prestige, and at the end of his year of office to resign the office as untarnished as he found it. Bro. Crapper proposed "The Visiting Brethren," to which several brethren responded. Bro. Bradford proposed "The Host, Bro. Gofton," alluding in congratulatory terms to Bro. Gofton's recent marriage. Bro. Gofton, in responding, said he had recently entered another lodge, the lodge of matrimony, and had just returned from a short consequent holiday, but he could assure the brethren that nearly the whole time he had been absent he had had that day's banquet on the brain, and was gratified to learn that it had given satisfaction. Bro. Hales, proposing "The I.P.M.," said the thanks of the lodge were due to Bro. Pitchford for the exertions he had put forth during his year of office. Bro. Pitchford, responding, said he had as Master discharged the duties to the best of his ability, and though he was conscious of many failures, he carried out of office many pleasant reminiscences of his official year. Bro. Hamshaw proposed "The Officers of the Lodge," and the toast was acknowledged by the S.W. Bro. Percy proposed "The Masonic Charities," observing that Menturia stood second to no lodge in the province in respect of support of the charities. Bro. Taylor, in responding, said that the lodge numbered something like a score of life subscriberships, and whoever had been instrumental in securing this result might feel proud, for their charities stood first and foremost of charities in the world. Some complained that too good an education was imparted in their schools; they, however, did not regard the children as waifs and strays, but as children of gentlemen, and treated them accordingly, the education given being above that of any other charity. But in this province, besides supporting the school and other general charities of the Order, they were now supporting and educating at home thirteen fatherless children of the province, besides otherwise assisting the widowed mothers. The Tyler's toast, proposed by Bro. Palmer, closed the programme. In the course of the evening, songs were contributed by Bros. Brandon, Mountford, Taylor, and White.

BEDFORD.—Stuart Lodge (No. 540).—The Christmas meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, Dec. 27th, when there were present Bros. Col. Stuart, P.G.S.W. England, W.M.; Wilkinson Finlison, P.M., S.W.; Capt. Colburn, J.W.; Coombs, S.D.; Allan, J.D.; Thoby, I.G.; Reynolds, Tyler; Dr. Prior, P.M., Sec.; Alderman Sergeant, Treas.; Alderman Bull, Steward; Rev. C. Breton, B.C.L., R.D., Chap.; Capt. Green, I.P.M.; and other brethren to the number of nineteen; seventeen of whom sat down after labour to a very good supper. The routine business having been disposed of, the I.P.M. read a communication that he had received when W.M. from the Luton, Leighton-Buzzard, and

Dunstable Lodges, stating that those three lodges had passed a resolution in favour of petitioning Grand Lodge to create Bedfordshire a province, and asking the Stuart (Bedford) Lodge to co-operate with them in this object. After some discussion it was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously that the question should be referred to a committee, consisting of the P.M.'s and officers of the lodge, which should report upon the whole subject to the lodge at some future meeting. The general feeling seemed opposed to the measure, but the brethren deemed it better to obtain more information before coming to a definite conclusion upon so important a subject.

Mark Masonry.

ST. MARK'S LODGE (No. 1).—The January meeting of the above lodge was held on Tuesday last, at the Masonic Rooms, Little Britain. Present: Bro. Charles Horsley, W.M.; E. H. Thicllay, S.W.; Thomas Cubitt, P.M.; H. C. Levander, P.M., Treas.; George Kenning, P.M., Sec.; T. Burdett Yeoman, P.M.; George Newman, W. E. Newton, and John Gilbert, Tyler. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The candidate for advancement was unable to be present. There being no other business, the lodge was closed in due form.

Scotland.

AUCHTERADER.—St. John's Lodge (No. 46).—This lodge celebrated the festival of St. John on Wednesday, 27th ult. In the evening the brethren met in their lodge, where they formed themselves into a procession, and headed by the band of the 15th Perth Rifles and a number of torch-bearers, marched through the town. There having been no procession by the Masons for a long number of years, their turn-out on Tuesday night attracted much attention. It was no easy task for the processionists to march through the "lang toun" amongst deep snow. Lately a large number of new members joined the society. A business meeting was afterwards held, and the following appointed office-bearers:—Messrs. P. Malcolm, P.W.M.; Josiah Smitton, P.M.; John Sinclair, D.M.; Andrew Miller, G.M.; Dr. M'Fee, G.W.; T. Caw, J.W.; Robert Miller and David M'Ewen, Stewards; A. G. Reid, Secretary; James Smitton, Treasurer; George Mailer, jun., J.W.; George Mailer, sen., Chaplain; David Martin, Tyler; and James M'ulloch, Hall-keeper. The brethren afterwards dined together.

BEITH.—St. John's Lodge (No. 157).—The annual festival of this lodge was held on the evening of Wednesday, 27th ult. Bro. Wm. Grey, W.M., occupied the chair. The brethren were pleased to receive a deputation of the Royal Blues, from Kilbirnie, headed by Bro. M'Queen; a deputation from Blair Dalry, headed by Bro. Thorburn; and a deputation from the Mother Kilwinning, headed by Bro. Wylie. The brethren, with a display of lighted torches, preceded by the instrumental band, escorted the W.M. from his residence to the lodge-room. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been given and responded to, the evening was spent in toast, song, and sentiment, and selections by the band were given at intervals.

JOHNSTONE.—Houston St. Johnstone Lodge (No. 242).—This lodge celebrated the anniversary of St. John on the 27th ult., in the Cross Keys Hotel, which belongs to Mr. David Stevenson. There was no public promenade with music. The weather was very inauspicious. The brethren spent the evening very felicitously.

GRANGEMOUTH.—Zetland Lodge (No. 391).—The annual festival of St. John was celebrated by this lodge on Wednesday night, the 27th ult., in the Royal Hotel. Previous to the banquet the following office-bearers were installed:—Bros. James Kennedy, W.M.; James Baxter, P.M.; Andrew Taylor, S.M.; Eml. Christensen, D.M.; William Peddie, S.W.; E. Voigt, J.W.; James Walls, Sec.; George Young, Treas.; Thomas Osborne, S.D.; John Houston, J.D.; Theo. Dunkel, S.S.; George Palmer, J.S.; Peter Buchan, B.B.; Rev. A. Falconer, Hon. Chap.; John Gibson, Bard; John Lawson, Architect; Iver J. Klovberg, Foreign Correspondent; S. Selstrim, I.G.; George Wilson, Tyler. The usual loyal and patriotic toasts followed, and also songs from several of the brethren. A very pleasant evening was spent.

EDINBURGH.—Lodge Caledonian (No. 392).—The brethren of this lodge met in the Albert Street Hotel, Hanover-street, Edinburgh, on Wednesday, 27th December, 1876, for the election and installation of office-bearers for the ensuing year. There was a very large attendance of the brethren, and all the Past Masters were present, except one. The lodge was opened by Past Master Bro. Donald Swanson, and, after the office-bearers who had been previously nominated had been elected, he conducted the installation of the Right Worshipful Master, Bro. Robert Bryce. The newly elected and installed W.M. then proceeded to install the remainder of the office-bearers in the following order:—Bros. A. D. Cairns, P.M. and Treas.; Donald Swanson, D.M.; Geddes Calder, S.W.; William Archibald, J.W.; Robert Lumdsen, Sec.; Rev. A. Stewart Muir, Chaplain; John Macpherson, S.D.; Robert Steele, J.D.; W. B. Brodie, Architect; Jas. Gray, 1st Std. Br.; Wm. Donaldson, 2nd Std. Br.; John Gray, G.S.; J. Breckenridge and J. Kirk, Stewards; Charles Robertson, Bard; Alexander Peacock, B.B.; R. M. Kerr, Physician; A. Burnet Reid, I.G.; David Young, Tyler. Committee—Bros. W. W. Wotherspoon, P. R. Haddow, David Sang, Robert Cumming, C. J. Paton, William Marshall, A. R. Macqueen, John Fletcher. The installation ceremonial having been concluded, the

lodge was closed, and the brethren having unclotted, repaired to the banqueting-room, where a sumptuous dinner was in waiting for them. Justice having been done to the good things, they proceeded to the robing-room, and being again duly clothed, re-assembled in the lodge room, when the lodge was again opened by the W.M. for the purpose of receiving deputations, and of sending deputations to the various lodges of the city, as is usual on the Festival of St. John the Evangelist. The usual routine toasts having been disposed of, deputations were sent out, and those from other lodges received, the brethren at the head of which gave brief congratulatory addresses. At a later period of the evening a deputation appeared, headed by Bro. Donald Macgregor, M.P. for the Leith Burghs; and it was proposed by the R.W. Master, Bro. Bryce, that as Bro. Macgregor had done good service in the Craft he should be affiliated a member of the Lodge Caledonian, which motion, having been seconded by Bro. Chalmers J. Paton, Past Master, was unanimously agreed to. The lodge being called from refreshment to labour, Bro. Macgregor advanced to the altar and was duly affiliated. During the evening a number of very pleasant songs were sung and recitations given. The lodge was closed in due form by the W.M.

ROTHESAY.—St. John's Lodge (No. 392).—This lodge celebrated their anniversary on Wednesday, 27th ult., by a supper in the Victoria Hotel, Bro. Alexander Duncan, W.M., presiding. About 50 brethren were present, and a very harmonious evening was spent.

MILLPORT.—Lodge Kelburne (No. 459).—At the meeting of this lodge on St. John's-night, the following brethren were elected office-bearers for the ensuing year, namely:—Wm. Wishart, W.M.; Matthew Swan, P.M.; Rev. H. H. Richardson, D.M.; Dr. McGowan, S.M.; John Cunningham, S.W.; James McConnochie, J.W.; William McGraw, D.C.; James Ross, Treas.; John Jowill, Sec.; Alex. Gibb, S.D.; James Paterson, J.D.; Wm. Orr, B.B.; John McLaughlin, S.B.; Wm. McLaughlin, I.G.; Thos. Hunter, Tyler; Alex. Houston, J. Montgomerie, J. Pattison, and Wm. Dickson, Stewards. The installation was unavoidably postponed, on account of the indisposition of Bro. Wm. Wishart, the new W.M., who was seriously injured by being blown off the roof of his house during a severe storm which occurred about a month ago. The lodge having been closed in ancient form, the brethren adjourned from labour to refreshment. It was intimated that the lodge would shortly receive an official visit from Bro. Charles Dalrymple, M.P., and other officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge. A committee was appointed to make arrangements for giving them a hearty reception. It may be mentioned that the Rev. H. H. Richardson has been elected P.G. Chaplain, and Alexander Hunter, P.G.J.D. Both are members of the Lodge Kelburne.

Ireland.

DUBLIN.

On Saturday last, previous to the meeting of the corporation, the Liberal members held a meeting, pursuant to a circular which had been issued, to consider what steps should be taken to censure the Lord Mayor for having recently entertained in the Mansion House sixty gentlemen at a private dinner, to which a Masonic character has been attributed. The circular represented the question to be one of vital importance to the Liberal interests. After prolonged deliberation, the meeting determined to permit the Lord Mayor to leave the Mansion House uncensured. Among those present were at least three brethren.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The annual new year's entertainment to the inmates of the Asylum at Croydon was given on Wednesday last, and, in spite of the very bad weather, several of the friends and supporters of the Institution made the journey, in order to assist in giving the old folks a day's enjoyment. Among the ladies and brethren who attended were Bro. Dr. Strong, honorary surgeon of the Institution; Mrs. Strong; Bro. James Terry, P.M., Prov. G. Dir of Cets. Herts., Secretary of the Institution; Mrs. Terry, Master J. E. Terry, Miss Terry, Bro. John Newton, W.M. 1607; Bro. Wallington, P.M. 860; Bro. W. Cook, J. Killick, C. Gibson, E. G. Legge, Treasurer 1607; C. H. Webb, 174; Baldwin, Mrs. Baldwin, Bro. W. Lane (Collector), Mrs. Lane, Bro. W. H. Main, P.M. 860, and Mrs. Main; Bro. R. H. Halford, J.D. 228; Mrs. Halford; Bro. R. Pearcey, 228; Miss Pearcey; Bro. C. Reepe, Bro. H. Massey (Freemason), Mrs. Massey, Bro. J. Stock, S.D. 1178, Mrs. Stock, Mr. Robinson, and Mrs. Cooksey.

The proceedings commenced at two o'clock, when the whole party of visitors and inmates sat down to a splendid repast, consisting of Christmas cheer. The hall was beautifully decorated with emblems of the season, among which were the "Merry Christmas," "A Happy New Year," and "Welcome." There were also some Masonic devices on the walls, and wreaths of artificial flowers. The flowers and choice plants on the table were lent by Dr. Strong, who took the head of the table, having on his left Mrs. Terry. Bro. Terry took the vice-chair, and the visitors assisted in ministering to the comforts of the old people. All the provisions were presented by some of the visitors. Mrs. Strong presented the plum puddings, Mrs. Terry the mince pies, and Bro. Terry the turkeys and fowls.

After the dinner, the inmates of the asylum were presented with packets of tea and tobacco, given by Bro. W. Hale, of Drury Lane; and Bros. Legge and Webb presented each inmate with a quart bottle of fine whiskey.

Bro. Fowler, 754, sent a case of Lorne whiskey, and Bro. James Hill, S.W. 228, a case of cherry brandy.

After dinner the ladies paid a series of visits to the annuitants' residences, took tea with them, and kept them cheerful till the entertainment of the evening commenced.

At seven o'clock they all assembled in the hall, where the company were treated to a display of dissolving views, the expense of which exhibition was defrayed by Bros. Halford, Pearcey, Reepe, and Stock.

During the interval between the two parts of the exhibition the company were regaled with cake and wine. The whole of the arrangements, which gave general satisfaction both to the annuitants and visitors, were ably conducted from beginning to end.

Mrs. Cooksey presided at the piano, which was played at intervals during the evening, and Miss Terry as she always does on these occasions, delighted the company with some choice performances of vocal music.

The dissolving views showed different scenes in old and new London, and were wonderfully faithful productions. After having been shown old and new London, the visitors were taken by surprise by an exact representation of the asylum in which they were then sitting, and the closing piece was a likeness of Bro. James Terry, the Secretary, on the appearance of which the company immediately struck up, "For he's a Jolly Good Fellow."

In the course of the evening Bro. Norris, the Warden of the Asylum, presented to Dr. Strong, in the name of the inmates, a handsome gold lever hunting watch, which had been subscribed for by the annuitants. The following inscription in the case of the watch explains the presentation: "Presented by the residents in the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, Croydon, to Henry John Strong, Esq., M.D., in grateful appreciation of many acts of loving kindness evinced by him as honorary surgeon for thirteen years, during which time he faithfully and assiduously ministered to their comforts and alleviated their sufferings in every way. 3rd January, 1877." The presentation was accompanied by a neat little speech, in which Bro. Norris set forth the many particulars in which the annuitants were indebted to Dr. Strong. There was also presented to the Doctor a handsome mahogany case for microscopical objects, with a somewhat similar inscription to that on the watch. There was also presented to Mrs. Strong a beautiful gold locket, with her monogram on it in burnished gold. Both Dr. Strong and Mrs. Strong acknowledged the gifts in appropriate terms. A vote of thanks was awarded to the founders of the feast, and Bro. Terry's services were acknowledged by a vote of thanks. In the course of his reply Bro. Terry informed the company that he had received from the province of West Lancashire a very handsome donation to defray the expenses of the entertainment of that day; and he was informed that Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M., was amongst the contributors to this donation.

The brethren and ladies returned to town late in the evening, after wishing all the inmates of the Asylum a "Happy New Year."

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The first meeting of the Board of Stewards for the forthcoming festival of 12th February, was held on Thursday, in the Board-room, Freemasons' Hall. The brethren present were Bros. S. Rawson, Geo. Lambert, W. Hale, G. Verry, G. M. E. Snow, S. Rosenthal, Joseph Tanner, J. M. Case, Rev. R. J. Simpson, H. R. Cooper Smith, Rev. W. Taylor Jones, S. G. Foxall, J. W. Baldwin, Jas. Faulkner, W. J. Ferguson, G. H. Wright, C. W. Gray, Geo. Roper, James Shilcock, Walter Wellsman, W. Hicks, S. H. Webb, C. J. Livett, A. Durrant, J. M. Lockwood, John P. Probert, Geo. Corble, Chas. H. Turner, F. Pendred, John S. Merick, J. Knight, J. Hassock, Chas. Daniel, Col. H. Somerville Burney, C. Creecy, Chas. W. Clark, Joseph Clever, Robt. Grigg, Nelson Reed, J. Hutchinson, Robert E. Stevenson, W. Knight, J. T. Robertson, H. Higgins, Thos. Smith, Thos. Hastings, Samuel H. Rawley, W. S. Cantrell, W. Toye, Robt. Secker, Geo. J. Row, E. H. Thiellay, B. Carter, Capt. W. Reg. W. Williams, H. A. Stacey, Geo. R. Saper, and S. R. Lambie.

Bro. Terry announced that the 14th of February, which day the Prince of Wales had appointed for the festival, being Ash Wednesday, that was pointed out to Prince Leopold, who had consented to take the chair, and His Royal Highness altered the day for the festival to Monday, the 12th.

Bro. J. M. Case, J.G.D., was elected president of the Board; S. Tomkins, G.T., Treas.; and James Terry, Sec. Bro. Terry said he had already 220 stewards. The board then settled the bill of fare for the festival with Bro. Dawkins, the manager of Freemasons' Tavern. The price of the ladies' tickets was fixed at 10s. 6d. each; the gentlemen's tickets one guinea. Authority was given for printing 750 tickets; to be sent to each steward. Twenty complimentary tickets were authorised. Directions were given for applying to the Board of General Purposes for the use of the Temple. The Steward's fee was fixed at two guineas. Thirty guineas were authorised to be disbursed for music. The Musical Committee was appointed, Bros. H. M. Levy, S. Rosenthal, C. J. Livett, and Martyn being elected, Bro. Case being president of that committee. The toasts of last festival were arranged to be on the programme for this year. The board then adjourned to the 29th inst. at 4 p.m.

"Twenty years of the Life of a City Buyer," which will be full of home and continental incidents, is in the press.

Masonic and General Tidings.

Her Majesty the Queen has been graciously pleased to confer the Grand Cross of the Star of India on Bro. H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught and Strathearn.

A presentation was made at Sandringham on Monday, the 1st inst., to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales by the clergy and tenantry of the estate, "in commemoration of his safe and happy return to his country home, after a most successful visit to British India." The casket, specially designed and manufactured by Bro. Emanuel, of the Hard, Portsea, is in the *repoussé* style, and of oriental character, depicting scenes connected with the Prince's visit, and bears his portrait. The presentation, which took place at the hall, was made by the Rev. Wm. Lake Onslow on behalf of the donors, who were present on the occasion.

The Archbishop of Canterbury proposes to leave Addington Park for three weeks. Letters for his Grace to be addressed to the Chaplain, Lambeth Palace. All communications respecting the vacant diocese of Truro to be addressed to the Vicar-General's Office, Doctors'-commons.

The Town Council of Southampton have resolved to support the memorial to the Government for the establishment of the India Museum upon the Thames Embankment.

We are given to understand that a prose work will shortly be published with the somewhat strange title of "Peregrinations in Hell." Two D.D.'s of the Church of England will write the preface.

We understand that Bro. T. Burdett, Yeoman is about to publish his Masonic and other poems, by the request of many brethren. It is his intention to devote the profits to the Masonic Charities. We wish him success.

The Quarterly Meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire will be held in the Masonic Hall, Leeds, on Wednesday, the 10th January.

We think it right to state that the translation of the "Symbol Tafel," which appeared in our Christmas number, is taken from a paper in the Bauhütte by Bro. Dr. R. Schoener.

Sir Hugh Myddelton Lodge of Instruction, No. 1602, meets every Friday evening, at 25, King Edward-street, Liverpool-road, N., at half-past seven. Bro. W. H. Lee, W.M. 975, P.M. 1524, has been elected Preceptor.

The first meeting of the Great Northern Lodge of Instruction, No. 1287, was held on Thursday evening, at the Berwick Arms, Berners-street, Oxford-street, and was well attended. The new lodge will meet regularly every Thursday evening, at eight o'clock.

BELGRAVE LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.—In our late notice of the removal of this lodge from the Lyceum Tavern, 354, Strand, and the consequent opportunity afforded brethren for establishing one or more lodges in this central locality, the name of the Proprietor was inadvertently misspelt. Our attention having been called, we correct same by stating that Bro. Charles Cann, 192, is the Proprietor.

WALTERS TESTIMONIAL.—A final meeting of the committee took place on Saturday last, at the offices of Dr. Baxter Langley, and we are happy in being able to state that the amount subscribed has already reached the handsome sum of £170. The testimonial will assume the form of a purse, and the presentation will take place at Anderton's Hotel on Saturday, the 27th inst.

CIVILIZATION OF AFRICA.—We learn that the Prince of Wales has declined, on advice, to accept the presidency of the British committee intended to co-operate with the association formed under the presidency of the King of the Belgians for the purpose of promoting the exploration and improvement of Africa.

Mrs. Brassey, relict of the late Mr. Brassey, the railway contractor, and mother of Bro. Thomas Brassey, M.P. for Hastings, died at the Victoria Hotel, St. Leonards, on Wednesday afternoon.

A special meeting of the members of the Eastern Star Lodge of Instruction will be held on the 15th inst., to determine on the future of the lodge.

EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES.—One of those gatherings, marking the interest taken by some of our large firms, in catering for the amusement and instruction of their employes, took place on Wednesday evening, the 3rd inst., at Messrs. Oetzmann & Co.'s, the well-known house furnishers, of Hampstead-road, in connection with the mutual improvement society and library established on the premises, when a lecture was delivered to an audience of about five hundred, in one of their large show-rooms, by the Rev. Jackson Wray, entitled, "The Wisdom of Aesop." The lecture, which is one of the course delivered to the Young Men's Christian Association at Exeter Hall, is full of the mirth and wisdom of the old fabulist, and well adapted to the occasion and the present season.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Few persons are so favoured by circumstances or so 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.

NOTICE.

With the present number of the *Freemason*, is 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 herefore 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 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.

REMITTANCES RECEIVED.

	£	s.	d.
Allen, M. Canada, (P.O.O.).....	0	13	0
Baker, H. T., Trinidad (P.O.O.)	0	12	0
Braithwaite, H., West Indies (P.O.O.)	0	17	0
Bunting, W. F., New Brunswick (P.O.O.).....	5	0	0
Bushell, J., New South Wales (P.O.O.)	2	0	0
Cox, F., India (P.O.O.).....	0	12	0
Francis, W. H., San Francisco (P.O.O.).....	0	13	0
Hendry, H., New Zealand (P.O.O.).....	0	3	6
Hill, W., New Zealand (P.O.O.)	0	12	0
Jackson, G., New York (P.O.O.).....	1	4	0
May, J. J., New York (P.O.O.)	0	15	0
St. John's Lodge, Araluen (P.O.O.)	2	3	0
Victoria in Burmah Lodge (Draft)	2	6	8
Wilkinson, B.G., Japan (Draft)	1	8	0

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.

The following reports and other communications stand over.

Chaucer Lodge, 1540; Polish National Lodge, 534; British Union Lodge, 114; Southport Lodge of Unity, 613; Albany Lodge, 151; Union Lodge, 52; Unanimity Lodge, 102; Joppa Lodge, 188, Juvenile Fête and Ball, Surrey Masonic Hall.

Report of Stockport Lodge is too long for our now crowded columns.

Consecration of the Starkie Lodge, No. 1636, next week.
Masonic Queries.—"A. T." next week.

Reports of the following Scotch Lodges to hand:—0, 34, 7, 20, 30, 50, 76, 129, 581, 592.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

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

BIRTHS.

HARKNESS.—On Nov. 28, the wife of F. Harkness, Deputy-Commissioner, Fta, Bengal, of a son.

RAYNER.—On the 2nd inst., at Abbot's-road, Kilburn, the wife of W. S. G. Rayner, Esq., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

WEST—JUKES.—On the 1st inst., at Christ Church, Crouch-end, Frederick West, of North-hill, to Caroline Augusta, daughter of the Rev. A. Jukes, of Highgate.

DEATHS.

BRASSEY.—On the 3rd inst., Mrs. Brassey, mother of Bro. T. Brassey, M.C.

FRANCIS.—On the 27th ult., Bro. W. H. Francis, Trwa. Lodge 1276, at Liscard.

HUGO.—On the 31st ult., at the Rectory, West Hackney, Thomas Hugo, M.A., priest and rector, aged 57.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, JAN. 6, 1877.

THE NEW YEAR.

With the new year we beg to offer to our many readers, in all parts of the known world, our hearty good wishes for a happy new year and as they say, "many of them." The passage of time has ever been a favourite theme for the moralist and the sentimentalist, as well as for the serious philosopher, or the impressive teacher. Indeed it is, we think, almost impossible for any one, unless entirely deadened to every sense of general or personal teaching, of external or internal impressions, not but to feel often much moved by the remembrance of the flight of time, the departure of an old year, the advent of a new one. For time has a deep and abiding interest for us all alike, inasmuch as it constitutes the span and the limit of our own little evanescent life. As we look back to-day in our minds on the "years that are past," as we count each yearly calendar which makes up our own humble chronicle, as we survey the onward march of events, and the changes and perturbations of the world in which we live, we see how swiftly time has sped away, amid those hurrying years which we have called our own. We were young and active, and hale and strong, but yesterday, as it were, in the panorama of life, and now we are weak and weary, tempest-tossed and time-tried old men to-day. Youth and maturity have yielded to the tottering steps of age, and our sands are running out apace. For us the change from the old to the new year must have many awakening considerations, may have some special and lasting concern. And even those of us on whom no signs of decrepitude or decadence as yet appear, to whom life is still given in ample measure, and in happy powers, even they must feel, we think, that every new year has a personal message full voiced if loving for them. We do not propose to preach a sermon, and therefore we will merely add, without too much of sentimentality, that each new year reminds us necessarily of the old—of old friends, old days, old scenes, old dreams. It is a very curious fact, alike in our human physiology and our human psychology, that we are none of us the same as the years pass over our heads. We seem to be so; we go about our wonted duties; we eat, sleep, speak, move, act like other men, and yet for us all a change, often imperceptible, is coming on us year by year. But amidst all this tendency to physical and moral change, remember, one thing ever clings to us all—the humanity of our being. For us, unless we are hopeless unbelievers, or dreary materialists, this world has ever a two-fold interest, in that it calls us for a time to a passing present, in that it is the pathway to another and a better, and an eternal existence. The friends we love, the hopes we cherish, the affections we prize, the home we count so dear, the pleasant attractions which surround our pathway, and make life so welcome and so enjoyable to us all, in its purest aspects—in all these things we have a most living interest and concern, even though we know that they are at the best but "passing shadows" which fall upon "this fitful scene." Still, without them life would not be life. Wanting them, man would know neither happiness nor hope, neither refreshment nor rest here. And within due bounds, not only is our regard for these earthly ties and sympathies allowable, most allowable, but some of the best emotions of man's nature come from this full play of the tidal waves of love, tenderness, devotion, reverence, affection. And if, as we said before, they, alas! "perish with the using," if they still are earthly and decaying, yes, and dying all, yet there lingers with them the breath of primeval innocence, there resides in them a germ of eternal growth and fruition. Yes, Hope, like a meteor star, and with uplifted hand, points ever through this world to the next, from time to eternity, amid blighted hopes and faded hours, and broken hearts, and haunting sorrows, to that far off land, where the "wicked cease from troubling," where the "weary are at rest," and where all that was good and true, and beautiful

here, is destined to adorn and beatify we humbly hope and believe the eternal destiny of our moral being. What a wonderful thing, then, is Time, how full of temporal responsibilities, how pregnant with immortal aspirations. If today we look back on past hours with a sigh, remembering faded years, and parted friends, if we regard the new year with mingled feelings of doubt and fear, as ignorant of what remains for us behind Time's mysterious veil, we still can learn, in faith and trust, to look on, through all these outer signs and things, to that greater future, when all shall be made plain and enduring for evermore. Each new year tells us that we have reached another milestone on our journey, another turning on our road. How much longer we shall travel on who of us all can say? Leave, then, we must, and leave we will, the future pathway of our feet to the infinite goodness and wisdom of the G.A.O.T.U., and amid the tumults of time, the revolutions of the world, the progress of years, the passing away of those we love, amid the inevitable changes and chances of this most mortal state, we as faithful Craftsmen can commit, without a fear or hesitation, all our plans and hopes and joys and longings, and our future and present life to the good Providence of an Eternal God.

TIME AND CHANGE.

It is impossible, though we be purely Freemasons, and in no sense of the word, however remote, politicians, that we cannot but feel deeply interested in those general events of public life which the old and new year bring before us all. Without expressing opinions, we still can deal with facts, and these facts, in our view, are very weighty ones, indeed! We leave 1876, and enter on 1877, in the midst of anxious solicitude for the peace of Europe. A cruel war has devastated some fair provinces, and deeds of license and barbarism, always evoked by the ruthless genius of war, have made humanity shudder, and left us a tale of horror which other generations will denounce and deplore. In the interest of Peace, all Europe seems at last agreed, and we can only trust that by some well-adjusted measures the Conference at Constantinople will secure the pacification and good government of Bulgaria and the Herzegovina, and the tranquil progress of Serbia and Roumania. Not only this, but we, who that in Turkey itself identical rights may be meted out to all creeds and classes, and that good government and uncorrupt legislation may be the heritage of Mussulmans and Christian and Hebrew equally. It is impossible but as Freemasons we should desiderate the prevalence of peace, and fervently pray that in the great cause of civilization and humanity, the sword will be sheathed which has wrought such havoc amid an innocent and suffering people, and that for the future any repetition of the dreadful atrocities which have afflicted us all alike so greatly, may become an utter impossibility in the history of man. May our hopes and wishes all be realised, alike humanitarian and Masonic in the New Year, now before us, and may Peace, with its benign blessings and brighter progress, efface the sad memories of the past year, and restore hope and safety to now desolated and ravaged regions, and give relief to Europe, and spread good will amongst mankind.

BRO. CAUBET'S REMARKS ABOUT BRO. HERVEY.

In the *Monde Maconnique* for December occur the following, in our opinion, very foolish remarks of Bro. Caubet at page 346. Having given the able and seasonable speech of our distinguished brother the Grand Secretary in extenso, Bro. Caubet says, after a good deal very little to the purpose:—"Thus we are warned. If the French Masons do not get rid of the unbelievers who are among them, if they do not make a sufficient provision of Bibles, (there exists in England a society which will furnish them at the cheapest price), they must expect to be excommunicated by English Masonry, and the United Grand Lodge of England will have nothing for them but contempt, perhaps worse, so long as Bro. Hervey is the all-

powerful Grand Secretary." Now, we wish to say at once, that Bro. Caubet, in writing in this way, commits a grave "betise," to use a French expression, and shows alike bad manners and an un-Masonic temper. It is this overhand bullying position, assumed by a bellicose party in the Grand Orient, that all Anglo-Saxon Masons object to and protest against. Let Bro. Caubet rest assured that Bro. Hervey represents the unanimous feeling of all Freemasons in this country, for it is quite clear that Bro. Caubet is little aware how very much the unwise proceedings of the Grand Orient of France have alarmed all sincere Masons, who are zealously attached to their good old Order. These proceedings, let him bear in mind, are regarded by all thinking Masons as a miserable playing into the hands of the Ultramontane faction, by the folly and restlessness of an able but advanced party, which is resolutely bent on fulfilling Bishop Dupanloup's prophecy, and declaring French Freemasonry before the world "Sans Dieu." We have heard lately of the "Morale sans Dieu," now we are to have "La Maçonnerie Sans Dieu," severed, from that profession of faith in the G.A.O.T.U. which is an universal formula of Freemasons, and a necessary pre-requisite of admission all through the world into our religious and Masonic brotherhood. We would earnestly advise Bro. Caubet, in all good will, to change his tone when he speaks again of one so highly respected as Bro. Hervey is amongst us, and to listen to his warning words while there is yet time. The English Grand Lodge is not at all likely to excommunicate French Freemasons or any one else, and no one has a right to speak in its name, or say what it will do, or what it will not do, until it acts "proprio motu," and "proprio vigore." Bro. Hervey, who is not only the most clear but the most cautious of speakers, did not profess to address his brethren officially, but only as Bro. John Hervey. It is needless to add, not only how weighty always are his words, replete with sound good common sense and Masonic teaching, but how much they are valued by his brethren all. We who doubt, as does Bro. Hervey, if the Grand Orient deliberately removes the words relating to the existence of God and the immortality of the soul, from its formula, whether English, Scotch, Irish, Canadian, or American Freemason will enter its lodges. The isolation spoken of by Bro. Behr and others, in the Grand Orient will become assuredly a "fait accompli," for French Freemasonry, and we therefore hope, that, before it is "trop tard," the dominant party in the French Grand Orient will see the great un wisdom of the step they have taken. We thank Bro. Hervey for his courageous and seasonable observations, and we feel sure that there will be but one sentiment of approval of and agreement with Bro. Hervey by all who heard them, by all who have perused them, by any who now read these humble remarks of ours.

THE STATISTICS OF MASONRY.

The statistics of Freemasonry are very interesting to the Masonic student, and though it has been said that you can prove anything by statistics, yet despite the sarcasm of some, and the objections of others, they are very important adjuncts to all proper studies of civilized life, just as they point out to us, to a great extent at any rate, the true condition of peoples and the onward progress of the world. It has occurred to us that it would not be an uninteresting topic on this our first issue of the New Year, if we called attention to the desirability of Masonic statistics generally. It would be a very good thing, we shall all agree, if we could have a synoptical view of the statistics of our great Masonic family. We are not aware, however, of any authoritative list of the number of English, Scotch, or Irish Masons, or of our dependencies, and therefore all that we can put forward at present is but a quite approximate calculation at the best. It is just possible that we might from the provincial returns obtain an account of all our brethren in the provinces, but we are not aware of any metropolitan returns, nor do we know of any Scotch or Irish returns, or Colonial returns. In

West Yorkshire, indeed, we know that there are 63 lodges and 3047 brethren, and, as we said before, we might no doubt easily multiply these returns. If the West Yorkshire returns may be taken as an average representation of lodge strength amongst us that would give us a little under 50 members per lodge. Whether this average is a little too high or a little too low is, we think, an open question. As at this moment we are well forward to 1700 lodges, under the English Constitution, we fancy that we are not far wrong if we consider 100,000 to represent the members of our English Constitution. Some, however, say that the numbers range much higher. We doubt it. In Scotland there are 506 lodges nominally, (not all, we fear, in Masonic life), and in Ireland 1014 is the last on the list, though many intervening lodges are dormant and wanting. It is therefore difficult to speak positively, but we fancy that about 20,000 in each country will represent the actual Masonic members. Some think this estimate too high. We shall be glad to have, therefore, correct returns. In India, for instance, as a proof of the difficulty of the question, we believe that there are lodges under the three Constitutions, though the exact number is not so far accurately made out. As an approximate numeration, we understand that there are between 90 and 100 warranted lodges in India proper, and the adjacent eastern countries. In the United States and Canada the following seem to be reliable statistical returns.—

	LODGES.	MEMBERS.
Alabama	300	8,805
Arkansas	300	9,413
British Columbia	10	275
California	201	11,463
Canada	313	15,934
Colorado.....	27	1,204
Connecticut	120	15,131
Dakota	6	...
Delaware	27	1,167
District of Columbia	24	2,764
Florida	54	2,164
Georgia	300	15,168
Idaho	10	285
Illinois	735	40,468
Indiana	447	27,584
Indian Territory	4	131
Iowa	306	17,214
Kansas	124	6,146
Kentucky	586	21,594
Louisiana	155	6,991
Maine.....	178	19,139
Manitoba	8	...
Maryland	172	5,575
Massachusetts	210	26,107
Michigan	331	26,031
Minnesota	104	5,967
Mississippi.....	307	11,205
Missouri	445	22,822
Montana	20	656
Nebraska	40	2,268
Nevada	18	1,345
New Brunswick.....	30	2,209
New Hampshire	89	7,712
New Jersey	138	12,013
New York	740	80,701
North Carolina	350	12,069
Nova Scotia	70	3,295
Ohio	498	30,698
Oregon	66	2,071
Pennsylvania	501	38,137
Prince Edward Island	8	...
Quebec	37	2,704
Rhode Island.....	30	4,069
South Carolina	175	7,435
Tennessee	485	17,994
Texas	215	17,959
Utah	10	365
Vermont.....	100	8,396
Virginia State.....	233	9,306
Washington Territory	25	713
West Virginia	119	2,236
Wisconsin	200	10,153
Wyoming	4	232
Totals	10,215	595,108

In France there are 298 lodges under the Grand Orient, and in all probability about from 20,000 to 30,000 Masons. There

is also the Grand Lodge of Misraim and the A. and A. Rite, so that it has been said that there are in France from 50,000 to 60,000 Masons of all categories. We think the number exaggerated. In Belgium the lodges only number 7, and there are about 1200 brethren. In Holland there are about 80 lodges, and it is said from 6000 to 9000 brethren. In Germany there are, we believe, under the 8 Grand Lodges and 5 independent lodges, in round numbers altogether about 330 lodges and about 37,000 brethren, but when we come to consider the Grand Lodges of "Alpina," Hungary (2), Denmark, Sweden and Norway, Spain, Portugal, Greece, the Grand Orient of Egypt, Peru and Brazil, Venezuela, Liberia, the several bodies in Italy, the Argentine Republic, Columbia, South Africa, Hayti, Mexico, New Grenada, we see the need of reliable statistical returns. We shall be most happy, then, to receive any returns that our readers and brethren are kind enough to send us, and to publish them carefully in the *Freemason*. We think all will agree with us that the time has come when we should be able, without exaggeration or error, to point with just confidence to the correct "numbering" of our great Masonic family in all parts of the known world.

ESPECIAL GRAND LODGE.

We are unable to do more than record in another page the proceedings of the Special Grand Lodge on Wednesday evening. We shall devote a leader to the important subject next week.

RETURNS OF OUR CHARITIES.

We call attention in another column to an "outside" article representative of the result of our Masonic charitable exertions for 1876, and, though we have alluded to the subject before, we deem it so important and interesting to the brethren that we shall advert to it again next week.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The annual Twelfth-Night entertainment to the children who remain in the school during the Christmas holidays, was given on Friday evening. We shall give a full report of the proceedings in our next issue, as they took place too late for the present number of the *Freemason*.

Reviews.

THE HISTORY OF THE PIANOFORTE. By EDGAR BRINSMEAD.—Cassell, Petter, and Galpin.

We have perused this little book with much pleasure. It gives us a great deal of interesting information on a subject about which few of us know much. Remembering to what a pitch of excellence the pianoforte has reached among us, will it surprise some of our readers to hear that it is a very modern invention? But we recommend our brethren to purchase the little book for themselves; we can guarantee them a pleasant hour of reading, a good deal of information, kindly told, about what "a fellow ought to know."

DIGEST OF THE ELEMENTARY EDUCATION ACT. By BRO. H. MARTIN GREEN.—Shaw and Sons.

We can conscientiously recommend this carefully compiled Digest of the Elementary Education Act, by Bro. Green to the notice of all who are interested in that most important question. It contains a great deal of valuable information in a very little space, and will be a great help to all who dislike to wade through the sections of an Act of Parliament, and rather distrust their own power to understand the technicalities of our legislative English. As these sometimes puzzle our judges, they may well alarm those who are not lawyers, and we therefore thank Bro. Green for his useful manual, which we commend to the notice of all who have anything to do with school-boards in particular or education in general.

EAST ANGLIAN HAND-BOOK. *Argus* Office, Norwich. We received this annual hand-book last year, and can repeat our favourable opinion and commendation of it this. It will be especially interesting and useful to agriculturists, and we think we can fairly predict for it a large circulation. We wish it all success.

SCOTTISH MASONIC CALENDAR FOR 1877.

Our publisher has put out this useful little Calendar, price 3d., by post 4d., for our brethren in the "Land o' Cakes." It is very well arranged and printed. It ought to have a large sale, and every member of the fraternity in Scotland ought to buy one at once. "Verbum sat sapienti latomo."

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.]

STAFFORDSHIRE MASONIC BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I am almost afraid that the report I forward [in another column] may be rather late, but still I shall be much pleased to have it inserted in your next issue, if possible. Our association has now been established six and a half years, and the success it has met with may, if reported in your valuable paper, be the means of similar ones being formed. When we established it we numbered five members, and our anticipations led us to hope we might ultimately reach fifty members, and we now number over three hundred, and we are still increasing, and we are now making from fifty to sixty life subscribers per annum to the various Charities in London; besides which we are now partially educating thirteen children at home with their mothers, who we cannot hope to get into the schools in London. This we do from a separate fund, called the Benevolent Fund, which is nearly all subscribed by the lodges and chapters of the province. As Vice-President, I shall be pleased at any time to give any information as to our method and rules to any brethren who are anxious to form a similar association.

Yours fraternally, T. TAYLOR.

WASHINGTON.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Permit me to say that in 1859, when President of the Mess Committee of Her Majesty's 46th Regiment of Foot, then stationed at Mooltan, in the Punjab, I had charge of an old Bible, part of the property of the officers of the regiment, in which it was recorded that it was the identical book on which Washington was made a Mason.

I understood that there was formerly a lodge in the regiment; that all the lodge paraphernalia had been captured in the American war, but restored to the regiment by the commander of the enemy's forces; that they were again captured by the French in the West Indies, and that this Bible only escaped.

Some years ago, when the 46th Regiment was stationed at Everton, this Bible was carried in a Masonic procession in Liverpool, and much veneration paid to it on account of its reputed connection with Washington.

An old officer of the regiment has written an account of the Bible, and I believe that a copy is in the library of the A. and A.R., at Golden Square.

Yours fraternally, CHAS. J. BURGESS.

MASONIC TOKENS, BY BRO. HUGHAN.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In the *Masonic Magazine* for January, 1877 (the New Year number) I have, as you know, an article on Masonic Tokens, with several capital illustrations. Would you kindly have it reprinted in the *Freemason*, as a fitting supplement to the correspondence on the subject, which occurred some months since. I am quite certain it would interest many of your readers.

Fraternally yours, WM. JAMES HUGHAN.

[We should like to do so much, but at present the overwhelming mass of current Masonic news forbids us the hope of doing so.—Ed.]

THE GRAND MASONIC INSTALLATION PICTURE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Doubtless the subscribers to the grand historical and Masonic picture now in preparation by our esteemed Bro. Hart, W.M. 1201, will be satisfied, as I am, with the explanation as to the delay afforded by the artist and engraver, but inasmuch as some of the subscribers will not see the *Freemason*, and as several even of your readers might overlook the letters from Bro. Hart on the subject, may I suggest that he either sends a marked copy of the *Freemason*, or a reprint of the letters in question, to every subscriber, so that all may know why the picture cannot be finished as early as was originally intended and promised. We are all anxious to see it, but are ready to make all allowances for a work of such magnitude.

Fraternally yours, WM. JAMES HUGHAN, P.G.D.

THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION AND THE PROVINCE OF DEVON.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Observing in your issue of the 23rd ult. a letter from Bro. Charles Godtschalk, relative to some remarks that had been made at a meeting of the Committee of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution concerning the support given by our Provincial Grand Master and the Province of Devon to that noble institution,

I can fully bear out the letter of Bro. Godtschalk, that the Freemasons of Devon, as well as its esteemed Provincial Master, are alive to the wants of our aged brethren. I will just state what the Sun Lodge, No. 106, Exmouth, has done. At the festival in 1873, Bro. W. H. Peters attended from this lodge as Steward, subscribing £10 himself; two other subscriptions of £10 each were entered on his list. The Sun Lodge being an annual subscriber of £1 to the Male Fund, and £1 to the Female Fund, remitted this year £5 to the Male Fund as a first instalment for a governorship, and £1 to the Female Fund. In 1874 the second instalment of £6 was paid, and the annual subscription of £1 to each fund. I likewise for-

warded the sum of £39 as subscriptions from members and friends of the Sun Lodge, one brother—A. B. Webber—paying £5 in addition for a life governorship. In 1875 the lodge subscription of £2 was paid. In 1876 I forwarded £18 from members and friends, and the usual £2 from the lodge, thus making together in four years the sum of £104, for which we had an annuitant two quarters, £18, and the widows, nine quarters, £40 10s., together £58 10s. The present year 1877 we shall follow in the same way, for at our installation on the 10th instant we intend to subscribe for another life governorship, after which the Sun Lodge will have three life governors to the Male and Female Fund, and three life governors to the Male Fund only amongst its members, which I think must show that although the Freemasons of Devon draw largely, they are also liberal supporters of the Institution.

I am, Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,
ALFRED A. CARTER,
P.M. and Secretary 106.

Exmouth, Jan. 1, 1877.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Now that the Grand Conclave, after deep thought and consideration, have decided that they are a Masonic body, or, as I take it, an imitation got up by Masons who have been practising an imposture for above a century, I should like to ask the energetic body who have obtained this decision what they have to do with the Order of Malta, who have a branch here? I merely ask the brethren, as an historical student, to consider the anomalous position in which they are placed, for I wish no quarrel with the Order since they have abrogated the un-Masonic and triply unjust Tripartite Treaty.

JOHN YARKER.

FREEMASONRY IN AMERICA.

To the Editor of the "Northern Echo."

Dear Sir,—

I notice that some remarks which I made at the Druids' dinner the other evening, relative to Freemasonry in America, have been commented upon by a correspondent in your paper, and, as I also hear, by other Freemasons of this town. I wish, therefore, to repeat what I said on that occasion, viz., that I have no wish to say a word against any kindred society, besides which I had no opportunity whatever of judging how far certain accusations brought forward by those with whom I conversed were capable of proof, but what I wished to show was that such a society as that of the Druids would keep itself above suspicion by having nothing whatever to do with politics or any matters foreign to the legitimate business of a friendly society. As I before remarked, I know not what faults may be fairly attributed to American Freemasons, but I think no one will doubt but that in this country they are worthy of all respect, and perform their important duties in a manner most creditable to themselves as a body; and, although those who accuse them appear sincere in their own views, it is highly probable a want of knowledge leads to incorrect assumptions. In conclusion, I desire to apologize to the Freemasons if I have said anything tending to annoy them, and thanking you in advance for giving me space for this letter.

I remain, yours truly,

HENRY FELL PEASE.

Brinkburn, Darlington, Dec. 28th, 1876.

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE—No. 1.

ELECTION OF W.M.

WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN.

The election of W.M.'s of lodges is so often conducted contrary to the Book of Constitutions that I have taken that subject as No. 1 of the series on Masonic Jurisprudence. Nominations are clearly illegal, although very many bye-laws provide accordingly. The laws of the Grand Lodge are quite clear and distinct respecting the mode of procedure, namely, that the Master is to be elected at the one meeting and (provided the minutes be confirmed in respect thereof) installed at the next assembly of the lodge, according to the bye-laws of the lodge. Nominations of Masters are never alluded to in any way, and for the sufficient reason that they are not only unnecessary, but positively opposed to the instructions laid down for our guidance. I know of several lodges, whose bye-laws provide for the nomination of a Master (say) in November, the election in December, and the installation at the third meeting, making thus three meetings before the installation has been completed.

Now, as all the Past Masters and Past Wardens, as well as the W.M. and Wardens, are eligible for election as Master, evidently to nominate one or more brethren at the meeting (say) in November, and in December to proceed only to ballot for those so nominated, to the exclusion of all others, is illegal, because in direct opposition to the laws of the Grand Lodge, which plainly declare that all are equally eligible.

I have the highest authority for stating that the nomination of brethren for the office of W.M. before the meeting of the lodge at which the election of W.M. is to take place, and then at such period of election only submitting the names of the nominated brethren for election, is illegal. At the time of election every member of the lodge has a right to vote for any brother who is duly qualified to serve the office of Master in that lodge. Every member of the lodge who is a P.M. or Past Warden who has served the office of Warden for one year in an English lodge, is eligible for the office of Master.

I fraternally invite the attention of Provincial Grand

Masters, and Provincial Grand Secretaries especially, to this important subject, as should the nominations be persisted in after any member of a lodge has given notice of their illegality, it will be competent for such brother or brethren to object to the election of the W.M. so nominated, and undoubtedly his protest would be supported at head-quarters. The bye-laws being approved by a Prov. Grand Master cannot set aside the rights conferred by the Book of Constitutions in any respect whatever. I suggest the following as the method of election, so as to secure simplicity and certainty.

ELECTION OF W.M.

The W.M. shall be elected on the regular lodge night in _____ . The mode of electing the W.M. shall be as follows:—The Secretary shall supply every member present qualified to vote with a printed or written list of all the brethren eligible for the office of Master. Each member so qualified shall place a X or other distinctive mark opposite the name of the brother for whom he desires to vote, and drop the paper (when folded) in the balloting box, and the member having the greatest number of votes shall be declared duly elected. An absolute majority of those voting is not essential, the first ballot being final unless the votes are equal, when should the presiding officer decline to give a casting vote the ballot must be again taken.

STAFFORDSHIRE MASONIC CHARITABLE ASSOCIATION.

The sixth annual meeting of this association was held on Dec. 12th at the Queen's Hotel, Hanley, under the presidency of the R.W.P.G.M., Bro. the Earl of Shrewsbury. The majority of the lodges in the provinces were represented, and this was regarded by the Committee as an indication that the brethren are zealous in support of the Masonic Charities, nearly half the brethren in the province being subscribers to one or other of the excellent institutions supported by the Order. A ballot was taken for twenty-five subscriberships, in accordance with rule, and some routine business followed. The dinner was of the "Queen's" type, the R.W.P.G.M. presiding. After the loyal observances, "The Staffordshire Masonic Charitable Association" was given and warmly honoured. Bro. F. Derry (Handsworth), in proposing "The Masonic Charities," met the argument for Masonic charities stopping at home, the support of that argument being that the general Masonic charities were expensively managed. By the frequency of this accusation, he had been led to make close inquiry. He had heard it said that 60 and even 70 per cent. had been expended in managerial cost, but, after inquiry, he did not hesitate to contradict the charge of excessive managerial expenditure. He had taken steps to ascertain the exact per centage of cost of management as compared with the total income, and he was pleased to be able to assure the brethren that the Benevolent Institution, which was divided into two parts—one for old men, the other for old women—only cost five and a fraction per cent. for management, and when it was recollected that there was a "must" in connection with the payment of certain officers, he regarded that as by no means an extravagant rate. Then, again, in the Girls' School, the rate was 8 or 8½ per cent. Before complaining, brethren should obtain data, and make allowance for the circumstance that there was no funded property to rely on. As to the schools, he could challenge comparison with similar institutions. In the Girls' School, the cost for lodging, clothing, maintenance, and superior education was only £36 per head per annum. The cost per head per annum in the Boys' School was something higher—the total cost being about £43 per head. His hope was that the brethren would take more interest in their institutions, so that they might be sure—as they would be—that every penny was advantageously expended. Bro. Thomas Taylor (Hanley) asked permission to supplement the remarks of the proposer of the toast by referring to the class of education in the Masonic schools. His own knowledge of this—derived from personal observation was that the education was superior. English, French, Italian, German, and music were taught, and it had been a positive treat to him at one festival to listen to the music contributed by boys of the school. Bro. Bromley (Hanley) responded. Bro. Hales (Hanley), proposing "The Vice-Presidents," said there was a feeling in the minds of many that £43 per head was a higher rate than generally they could afford to expend on the education of their own children. He associated with the toast the name of one who had displayed much of patience and energy on behalf of the Masonic Charities—Bro. Taylor. Bro. Taylor responded, assuring the company that he was proud of the success that had followed his efforts. Bro. Marsh, P.P.S.G.W., proposed "The Committee," which was acknowledged by Bro. Huer, of Manchester.

THE MASONIC INSTITUTIONS.

During the year just closed the total receipts of the three Masonic Charitable Institutions amounted to £39,335 7s. 6d. Of this sum £15,359 5s. 4d. was received by the Boys' School; £12,540 15s. 7d. by the Benevolent Institution; and £11,435 6s. 7d. by the Girls' School. These are the largest totals ever yet reached, and the aggregate amount exceeds that of former years by some £7,000. Great efforts are being made by the Secretaries of the Institutions to obtain in the present year even a larger total, and they come before the Craft with an excellent plea that the claims on their Institutions are daily increasing. The Benevolent Institution in the past year paid £8,972 in annuities to aged Masons and widows; the Boys' School maintains, clothes, and educates 189 boys; and the Girls' School 162 girls. These figures, however, do not represent a fixed maximum, but are constantly increasing.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.
For the Week ending Friday, January 12, 1877.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6.

Gen. Com. Boys' School at 4.
Lodge 1572, Carnarvon, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 1622, Rose, Surrey M.H.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

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

MONDAY, JANUARY 8.

Lodge 5, St. George's and Corner Stone, F.M.H.
" 29, St. Alban's, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 59, Royal Naval, F.M.H.
" 90, St. John's, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 193, Confidence, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 1366, Highgate, Gatehouse Hot., Highgate.
Chap. 22, Mount Sion, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
" 1118, University, F.M.H.
" 1571, Leopold, Woolpack Tav., Bermondsey-st.
R.C. Con., 2, Plantagenet, Regent M.H., W.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.
Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domatic, 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.
West Smithfield, New Market Hot., West Smithfield.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 9.

Lodge 46, Old Union, Westminster Palace Hot.
" 166, Union, Westminster Palace Hot.
" 180, St. James's Union, F.M.H.
" 198, Percy, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 211, St. Michael, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 548, Wellington, White Swan Tav., Deptford.
" 917, Cosmopolitan, Cannon-st. Hot.
" 933, Doric, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 1604, Wanderers', F.M.H.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Upper Norwood, White Hart Hot., Church-rd.
Marquis of Ripon, Pembury Tav., Amherst-rd., Hackney.
Loughborough, Warrior Hot., Brixton.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10.

Com. R.M.B.I., at 3.
Lodge 9, Albion, Regent M.H., Regent-st.
" 11, Enoch, F.M.H.
" 13, Union Waterloo, M.H., Woolwich.
" 15, Kent, F.M.H.
" 87, Vitruvian, White Hart, College-st., Lambeth.
" 147, Justice, White Swan, High-st., Deptford.
" 238, Pilgrim, 101, Queen Victoria-st.
" 749, Belgrave, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 781, Merchant Navy, Silver Tav., Limehouse.
" 1017, Montefiore, F.M.H.
" 1306, St. John of Wapping, Gun Tav., Wapping.
Chap. 1260, Hervey, F.M.H.
" 1305, St. Marylebone, Brit. Stores, St. John's Wood
Encamp. 129, Holy Palestine, 33, Golden-sq.

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., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.
Lewis, King's Arms Hot., Wood Green.
Langthorne, Swan Hot., Stratford.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 11.

Lodge 19, Royal Athelstan.
" 91, Regularity, F.M.H.
" 206, Friendship, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 263, Bank of England, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 534, Polish National, F.M.H.
" 657, Canonbury, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 860, Dalhousie, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 879, Southwark, Park Tav., Southwark Park.
" 1076, Capper, Marine Hot., Victoria Docks.
" 1288, Finsbury-park, Finsbury-park Tav., Holloway.
" 1321, Emblematic, Tulse Hill Hot., Tulse Hill.
" 1425, Hyde Park, 1, Craven-rd., W.
" 1457, Bagshaw, Bald-Faced Stag, Buckhurst Hill.
" 1471, Islington, Cock Tav., Highbury.

Lodge 1558, Duke of Connaught, Surrey M.H.
" 1599, Skelmersdale, Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue.
Chap. 73, Mount Lebanon, Bridge House Hot.
" 140, St. George's, Globe Hot. Greenwich.
Rose Croix Chap. St. George, 33, Golden-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
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.
Great Northern, Berwick Arms, Berners-st., Oxford-st.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 12.

Lodge 134, Caledonian, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 157, Bedford, F.M.H.
" 177, Domatic, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 1420, Earl Spencer, Northcote Hot., Wandsworth.
Encamp. D., Mount Calvary, F.M. Tav.

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, Bell and Anchor, Hammersmith-rd.
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.
Sir Hugh Myddelton, 25, King Edward-st., Liverpool-rd., N.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, January 13, 1877.

MONDAY, JANUARY 8.

Lodge 292, Sincerity, M.H., Liverpool.
" 314, Peace and Unity, Militia Mess R., Preston.
" 721, Independence, Eastgate-row, Chester.
" 1021, Hartington, H.M., C.H.B., B.-in-Furness.
" 1350, Fernor Hesketh, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1398, Baldwin Castle, Dalton-in-Furness.
" 1496, Trafford, Northumberland Hot., Old Trafford.
Chap. 148, Elias Ashmole, C.R., Warrington.
Derby L. of 1, M.H., Liverpool.
Red Cross Con. of 1, M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 9.

Lodge 241, Merchants', M.H., Liverpool.
" 1250, Gilbert Greenall, M.R., Warrington.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10.

Loege 281, Fortitude, Athenæum, Lancaster.
" 1052, Callender, P.H., Rusholme.
" 1094, Temple, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1356, De Grey and Ripon, 80, N. Hill-st.
" 1547, Liverpool, M.H., Liverpool.
Chap. 1345, Victoria, Cross Keys Hot., Eccles.
Neptune L. of 1, M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 11.

Lodge 216, Harmony, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.
" 333, Royal Preston, Vic., Garrison Hot., Fulwood.
" 447, Mersey, M.R., Birkenhead.
" 786, Croxteth United Service, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1035, Prince of Wales, Kirkdale, Liverpool.
" 1182, Duke of Edinburgh, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1213, Bridgwater, Cross Keys Hot., Eccles.
Chap. 220, Harmony, Garston Hot., Garston.
Mariners' L. of 1, M.H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 12.

Lodge 1289, Rock, Bedford House, Rock Ferry.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, January 13, 1877.
All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, JANUARY 8.

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

TUESDAY, JANUARY 9.

Lodge 230, St. Barnabas, Black Bull Hot., Old Cumnock.
" 413, Athole, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 419, Neptune, 35, St. James-st., S.S., Glasgow.
" 426, Prince of Wales, M.H., High-st., Renfrew.
" 441, Glasgow, 22, Struthers-st., Glasgow.
" 543, St. John, M.H., Dalmuir.

Lodge 556, Clydesdale, 106, Rose-st., S.S., Glasgow.
" 579, St. Bryde, M.H., Uddingston.
Chap. 17, Greenock, M.H., Cathcart-st. Greenock.
" 69, St. Andrew, 25, Robertson-st., Glasgow.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10.

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

THURSDAY, JANUARY 11.

Prov. G.L. of Glasgow, 213, Buchanan-st. (for election).
Lodge 109, St. Marnock, Crown Hot., Kilmarnock.
" 203, St. John Operative, Olive Hall, Airdrie.
" 334, St. John, Castle Inn, New Cumnock.
" 557, Blantyre Kilg., Craig's Hall, High Blantyre.
" 570, Kenmuir, Balgray Hall, Springburn.
Chap. 50, Glasgow, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 12.

Lodge 18, Dumbaron, Church-st., Dumbaron.
" 147, Cadder Argyle, M.H., Chryston.
" 153, Royal Arch, M.H., Cogan-st., Pollokshaws.
" 170, Leven St. John, Black Bull Inn, Renton.
" 427, St. Clair, M.H., Cambusnethan.
Chap. 144, St. Rollox, 69, Garngad-rd., Glasgow.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, January 13, 1877.

MONDAY, JANUARY 8.

Lodge 145, St. Stephen, St. James's Hall, Writers-court.
TUESDAY, JANUARY 9.

Lodge 1, Edinburgh, Mary's Chapel, Waterloo Hot.
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10.

Lodge 2, Canongate Kilwinning, M.H., St. John-st.
Chap. 1, Edinburgh, F.M.H., 98, George-st.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 11.

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

FRIDAY, JANUARY 12.

Chap. 56, Canongate Kilwinning, St. John-st.

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