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UNITED GRAND LODGE.

The March Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of England, was holden on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall, when the Earl of Carnarvon, Pro Grand Master, presided; Lord Skelmersdale, Deputy Grand Master; the Earl of Donoughmore, Senior Grand Warden, Bros. F. Pattison as J.G.W.; Sir Albert Woods (Garter), G. Dir. of Cer.; Æ. J. McIntyre, Q.C., Grand Registrar; J. B. Monckton, President of the Board of General Purposes; Hervey, Grand Secretary; S. Tomkins, Grand Treasurer; Dr. W. Rhys Williams, Assistant Grand Dir. of Cer.; and the Grand Deacons and Pursuivants were in their places. There were present altogether some 600 or 700 brethren, among whom were Lord de Tabley, W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Sir Michael Costa, Colonel Burdett, General Brownrigg, Richard Giddy, Rev. Sir J. Warren Hayes, Thos. Fenn, Hyde Pullen, Rev. C. W. Arnold, Rev. Spencer R. Wigram, S. Rawson, Rev. C. J. Martyn, Rev. R. J. Simpson, J. M. Clabon, Benj. Head, Dr. Woodman, Dr. Jabez Hogg, F. Davidson, J. E. Middleton, Wilhelm Ganz, Wilhelm Kuhe, A. H. Tattershall, Thomas Cubitt, Alderman Hadley, J. Wright, John Coutts, J. C. Parkinson, J. A. Rucker, James Glaisher, R. J. Spiers, James Mason, Joshua Nunn, H. J. P. Dumas, Capt. Platt, and Capt. S. G. Homfray.

Grand Lodge having been formally opened, Sir Albert Woods, G.D.C., announced that the Grand Master of Nova Scotia was present, and called upon the brethren to give him the customary salute. This having been done, business was proceeded with. The minutes of Grand Lodge of December, and of the Especial Grand Lodge of 3rd January were read by Grand Secretary and confirmed.

The Earl of Carnarvon then rose and said: Brethren,—Those who were present at the last Especial Grand Lodge will remember the various arguments by which I introduced the subject which now comes before you, to your attention. It would be quite unnecessary for me now to repeat those arguments. I shall therefore content myself with moving the resolutions of which notice has been given on this paper. And should it be necessary to offer any explanation I shall be quite ready to do so. The first resolution is, "That the sum of £4000 be voted to the National Lifeboat Institution, for the purpose of founding and furnishing two lifeboat stations, in perpetuity, in such localities on the English coast, as the Sub-Committee, hereafter mentioned, shall decide." I will take the resolutions separately. I beg to move that resolution.

Lord Skelmersdale said he had great pleasure in seconding the resolution. The Pro. G.M. had said himself that he had explained the matter so amply at the last meeting of Grand Lodge, that it was unnecessary to go into that again. He only hoped that the resolution would be carried unanimously.

The motion was put and carried without a dissentient voice.

The Earl of Limerick said: I am happy to be able to state, and I shall request the Grand Secretary to take formal note of it, that it may be communicated to His Royal Highness, that this resolution has passed with the unanimous concurrence of Grand Lodge. (Great cheering.) I have now to propose to you another resolution, which is simply intended to give effect to the first. "That a sub-committee, consisting of the M.W. the Pro. Grand Master, the R.W., the Deputy Grand Master, and the R.W. the Senior Grand Warden, be appointed to confer with the Secretary of the Royal National Life Boat Institution, with full powers to arrange all matters as to locality, details, &c." I apprehend that there is comparatively little difficulty in this part of our duties, but of course it is necessary that there should be some persons who should be made responsible for carrying out the details. I am quite willing to undertake the duty in conjunction with my two noble brothers, whose names stand on this resolution.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart having seconded the resolution it was put to Grand Lodge, and likewise carried unanimously, amidst cheers.

The Earl of Carnarvon: Lastly, brethren, I have to ask you to give your consent to a resolution, which will record, I trust, for ever, in this our solemn meeting place, that memorial which we have decided to erect to the event which had given the Craft so much satisfaction. I do not doubt that it will be possible at once to combine in that memorial tablet all that is necessary in the way of recording the details, and also of adding one more embellishment to this hall. I ask, therefore, of Grand

Lodge, permission—and it will not cost a very large sum—but the permission to arrange for a memorial tablet, which shall in proper form and shape record the event in which we have all taken so deep an interest. (Hear, hear.) I have therefore to move "That a memorial tablet be erected in Grand Lodge in commemoration of the event."

General Brownrigg, Prev. G.M. for Surrey, seconded the motion, which was also put and carried unanimously with the same general expressions of cordiality.

The Earl of Carnarvon again rose and said: Brethren, I have to make at once an announcement to you, and to ask you to agree to a resolution on the same subject. Since we last met in this hall its walls have been graced with one more portrait. It is a very fitting sequel to the vote to which we have unanimously agreed this evening. (Hear, hear.) Brethren, in this hall there are ten compartments; those ten compartments are now full. Each of those compartments holds the portrait of one who in his day has been honoured, respected and dear to the Craft. Many of them represent members of our own Royal Family, the relations of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, our present Grand Master. For some time the tenth compartment has been vacant, and now in an auspicious hour it has been filled, and a picture, not unworthy of the subject, and not unworthy of the place, fills that compartment. (Hear, hear.) It has been painted by an eminent painter; it has been presented to Grand Lodge by a well-known and honoured lodge, the Lodge of Friendship; and my duty is to move that that picture henceforth be formally accepted and hung in that particular place, and that the cordial thanks of this Grand Lodge be given to our brethren of the Lodge of Friendship for this worthy and by us highly prized present. (Cheers.) I shall go through the form of asking for a seconder, but I am confident that such a proposition as I now make will be carried by universal acclamation. (General Brownrigg here approached the Earl of Carnarvon and made some observations to him.) The Earl of Carnarvon continued,—I have been very fitly reminded to add to what I have already said that the painter who has so worthily exhibited his art upon that canvas is himself a member of the Lodge of Friendship, and by that very fact adds, I think, an additional value to the picture we are now accepting. I have, therefore, to submit to you the following resolution: "That this picture, painted expressly for the purpose by Bro. Louis Desanges, a member of the Lodge of Friendship, be accepted, and that the cordial thanks of this Grand Lodge are due and are hereby offered to the Lodge of Friendship for this very acceptable present." I beg to move that resolution. (Hear, hear.)

Lord De Tabley seconded the motion, and he had great pleasure in doing so. More particularly had he satisfaction in seconding the resolution as he was himself a member of the Lodge of Friendship, and he was only happy to think that the picture redounded to the credit of those fraternal feelings of the brethren which were so acceptable to Grand Lodge. (Hear, hear.)

The motion was unanimously adopted.

Bro. R. F. Gould, P.M. 92, rose to propose the election of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as Most Worshipful Grand Master for the year ensuing, and in doing so said:—Having had the honour to nominate the Grand Master, it now becomes my privilege to follow up the nomination by proposing in due form, and in accordance with ancient custom, the re-election of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales to the high office which for two years he has filled with so much grace and dignity. As I am conscious that the brethren must be awaiting with a very natural impatience, the moment when they can, by acclamation, give expression to the feelings, which are dominant in our hearts, I shall trespass upon their attention for a few seconds only, but however inadequate I may feel myself to the duty I am attempting to discharge, I believe myself to be, though but a humble member of the rank and file, yet for the time being, the spokesman both of Grand Lodge and the Craft, and I think it would be considered unbefitting, if the occasion were allowed to pass by without their being manifested the most hearty recognition and most sincere appreciation of the vast and unprecedented stride which Masonry has made within the two past years, during which it has been the happiness and the pride of the Craft to be under the genial sway of His Royal Highness. I may be permitted to assure our Royal Grand Master, that by graciously consenting to remain at our head, a further incentive will be supplied to us all, to maintain and uphold the dignity and high importance of Masonry, so as in all respects to merit a continuance of that illustrious patronage, which we one and all so heartily welcome and appreciate.

The motion having been seconded, His Royal Highness was unanimously elected, and Sir Albert Woods then declared the fact, announcing the Prince of Wales by all his titles. The customary salute was thereupon given.

Bro. Pearce, P.G.S., proposed the re-election of Bro. Samuel Tomkins, Grand Treasurer. He rose with pleasure to propose it, and also with confidence, knowing full well that the mention of the name of their Very Worshipful Samuel Tomkins would be welcomed in Grand Lodge with favour. It was quite unnecessary for him to dilate for one single moment on the long series of brilliant and useful services Bro. Tomkins had performed to the Craft, and he should therefore content himself with proposing his re-election.

Having been seconded, the motion was carried amidst loud applause.

Bro. Samuel Tomkins, in returning thanks for his re-election, said he thanked the brethren very heartily for the honour they had conferred upon him by re-electing him as Grand Treasurer. He had now had the honour of serving them for many years, and every year he had

seen the growing numbers and prosperity of the members of the Craft. He trusted this might long continue, and he hoped that under the guidance of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales they would see Masonry attain a higher and more influential position than ever it had had before. (Cheers.)

The following grants made by the Lodge of Benevolence were then confirmed:

A brother of the Lodge of Nine Muses,	235, London	£100 0 0
A brother of the Union Lodge, 129, Kendal		£200 0 0
A brother of the Angel Lodge, 51, Colchester...		£50 0 0
A brother of the New Forest Lodge, 319, Lymington...		£50 0 0
A brother of the Apollo University Lodge,	357, Oxford	£150 0 0
A brother of the Lodge of Peace and Harmony, 60, London		£150 0 0

Bio. John B. Monckton, President, brought up the following report of the Board of General Purposes, and on his motion it was taken as read, and ordered to be received and entered on the minutes.

The Board of General Purposes beg to Report that it having come to their knowledge that the Tyndall Lodge, No. 1363, Chipping Sodbury, had been guilty of Masonic irregularity by passing and raising brethren at shorter intervals than the period prescribed by the Book of Constitutions, the Board investigated the circumstances, and, in result, ordered that the brethren in question be duly re-obligated and their certificates withheld until that be done; and, further, that the lodge be fined one guinea for the offence.

The Board further report the investigation by them of a similar Masonic irregularity on the part of the Royal Alfred Lodge, 1028, Alfreton, a brother having been raised in such lodge at a shorter interval than prescribed by the Book of Constitutions, and that in result they have ordered the brother in question to be re-obligated, and his certificate to be withheld until that be done; and further that the lodge be fined one guinea for the offence.

Signed, JOHN B. MONCKTON,
President.

Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.,
20th February, 1877.

To the report is subjoined a statement of the Grand Lodge Accounts at the last meeting of the Finance Committee, held on Friday, the 16th day of February, 1877, showing a balance in the hands of the Grand Treasurer of £699 19s. 2d.; and in the hands of the Grand Secretary, for petty cash, £75; and for servants' wages, £96 15s.

Bro. Monckton said that some of the brethren might be disposed to think that the fines inflicted in the above cases were, as had been suggested, rather lenient than otherwise, but he hoped Grand Lodge would think that the board had erred on the right side. They had received explanations in the cases, and they found that the mistakes made by the brethren arose more from ignorance of the Masonic law than from wilful Masonic irregularity. Grand Secretary had been instructed to warn the brethren very strongly as to their conduct in future, and he hoped it would have a beneficial effect.

Bro. Peter De Lande Long seconded the motion, which was put and carried.

The report of Bro. R. P. Harding having been adopted, Grand Lodge proceeded with the appeals. The first was an appeal of Bro. Edmund Waller, M.D., the then W. Master of St. Peter's Lodge, 442, Peterborough, against the judgment of Bro. Butler Wilkins, Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire, relative to dissensions which have arisen in the lodge, arising chiefly on the subject of the powers and privileges of the W. Master.

Bro. McIntyre, G. Registrar, in stating the case to Grand Lodge, said that this appeal arose out of occurrences that took place at two meetings of the lodge of which Dr. Waller was W.M. at the time, and it was a case which required some consideration; but he thought upon the whole Grand Lodge would come to the conclusion that the decision of the Deputy Provincial Grand Master in this instance should be upheld. He did not say that the reason given by the Deputy P.G.M. for arriving at his conclusion was exactly that at which he (G.R.) would have arrived at; but he thought when Grand Lodge had heard what really took place, it would say the D.P.G.M.'s judgment should not be overruled. The first complaint arose with regard to a meeting of the lodge when the ceremony of raising had to be performed. Dr. Waller, before the lodge met, asked a P.M. of the lodge to perform the ceremony for him. The D.P.G.M. seemed to have thought that Dr. Waller, in making that request before the lodge was held, erred, and was not acting within the scope of his authority. So far the D.P.G.M. was wrong, and in this opinion which he (G.R.) held, no doubt brethren who had been used to the working of the Craft would concur; because if a brother was to be asked to perform a ceremony, which should be performed efficiently and well, timely notice should be given to him to get the ceremony up. In his opinion Dr. Waller did that which was right. Dr. Waller mentioned in the ante-room what he had done, and Bro. Buckle, who was the Senior P.M., stated, when Dr. Waller asked him to take the S.W. chair, that he would do the raising. Bro. Buckle claimed the right. They referred to the Book of Constitutions, which certainly on this point was as clear as possible. The part they referred to was, "That should the Master die, or resign, or be incapable of performing his duties," the S.W. should summon the lodge, and the Senior P.M. should take the chair, and in the absence of P.M.'s of the lodge the S.W. should rule it. He thought there was a misapprehension on the part of a great many brethren as to what was the

meaning of that law. If the W.M. should die there was no question that the I.P.M. should take the chair; but the great question turned on the words "be incapable of performing his duties." His (G.R.'s) idea of it was, that it meant physical incapacity; it did not mean that the W.M. was not able with accuracy and precision to perform the whole of the ceremonies. If that were to be the case he was afraid a great many brethren who had passed the chair might not go through with verbal accuracy. (Laughter.) It must mean incapacity, through being insane, or placed under some duress, or physical incapacity, through illness, which prevented his being present in the lodge. But if the Master could be present in the lodge, and could occupy the chair, this law did not apply to him. He had a right to preside over the lodge, and to call upon any brother he chose, who was a member of the lodge to perform the ceremonies. (Hear, hear.) The brethren in this instance seemed to think that it was absolutely necessary that the words should be spoken by the brother who occupied the chair. This was a mistake. If the W.M. occupied the chair he might call any brother to stand at his pedestal, or place him anywhere he liked in the lodge, and commission him to repeat his ceremonies, and the words spoken by that brother were the words of the W.M. But Bro. Buckle having said that if the W.M. did not perform his duties he should seem to have thought that this ceremony was to be performed from the chair. The W.M. left the chair, Bro. Buckle occupied it, and performed the ceremony, and the W.M. protested against what was done. The minutes were entered by the Secretary in the usual way, but after the minutes were entered, it appeared that the W.M. made an interlineation in them. As the words originally stood Bro. Buckle objected to any brother performing the ceremony unless it was performed by the W.M. The words interlined were that he insisted on performing that duty. The minutes were put for confirmation at the next meeting, and the W.M. did not state that he had caused the interlineation to be made; and afterwards when it was discovered that it had been made there was a very angry discussion, and very strong language was used on both sides, some brethren threatening to make a complaint against the W.M., and the W.M. threatening to make a complaint against them. A question arose about a brother of another lodge, and that led to an angry discussion also. Then came a proposition that a testimonial should be given to the Secretary. The W.M. rose and objected to it, and stated as his reasons that the Secretary was inefficient and inattentive, and he refused to put the resolution. The D.P.G.M. did not seem to have found that the W.M. did leave the chair. He refused to leave the chair, and when the time came for closing the lodge there was no answer to his gavel and he had to close the lodge down proprio vigore. Then he made a complaint to the D.P.G.M. who examined witnesses on one side and the other. There was a complete conflict of testimony between the W.M. and one or two of the brethren. Ultimately the D.P.G.M. having the brethren before him, heard their testimony, and seeing their demeanour was more likely to come to a just and proper conclusion than this Grand Lodge could come to. Grand Registrar then read the D.P.G.M.'s finding, and concluded by saying he did not think Grand Lodge should disturb it. The W.M. in some of the things he did was amenable to censure. Bro. Buckle did behave in a very insubordinate way to the Master, and when censuring the W.M. of the lodge, the D.P.G.M. should have extended his censure to Bro. Buckle, who seemed to have stood too rigidly on his privileges, and to have thought more of them than of assisting the W.M. in the duties of his office. There had been a departure from the principles of Freemasonry. Members of lodges, officers, or past officers, ought to consider this; they were not to stand upon their strict rights; strict rights were the most arrant injustice. Let every brother see that by giving way a little he would be doing his duty in carrying out the principles of Freemasonry. He felt compelled to move that the decision of the D.P.G.M. should be confirmed; but at the same time he thought that the D.P.G.M. should have censured some others who deserved it. (Hear, hear.)

Dr. Waller said there was an error in one point of this matter—as to his making an alteration in the minutes. He did not make it after the minutes were entered in the minute book. The Secretary called on him with an abstract or outline of the minutes. The alteration was made in what he thought was the draft.

The Earl of Carnarvon said: Brethren,—The question that I put to you is, that the decision of the D.P.G.M. shall be affirmed. It is unnecessary for me in any way to add remarks of my own. The Grand Registrar has explained with such extreme clearness, and taken so much pains and trouble in mastering the case in all its details, that I have no doubt Grand Lodge will be satisfied with the conclusion which he has so satisfactorily and painstakingly arrived at. You have heard a few words from Dr. Waller; and I would merely remind you that the point discussed is a question of fact which it is impossible for this Grand Lodge of course to go into. They must be content to accept the facts in the formal and official way in which they come before them, viz., as presented by the statement of the Deputy Prov. Grand Master and checked by the statement of the Grand Registrar. I think that Grand Lodge may feel that they are acting justly and fairly in this case, in agreeing to the motion of our Grand Registrar; and at the same time Dr. Waller may feel that he is not incurring any very heavy censure, it is a censure lightened and divided among others; and I trust the mere moral of this appeal will not be lost sight of, as has been put by the Grand Registrar that in questions such as these, which will from time to time arise, as every Provincial Grand Master, and as every member of provincial lodges must know, constantly arise, that there

should be a feeling of fraternal co-operation and goodwill among the brethren, and that they should not, as Grand Registrar says, stand upon their extreme rights, but help each other, and even to accept with Masonic forbearance any little inequalities or irregularities which they may conceive they are subjected to. The motion, therefore, which I shall put to you is, "That the decision of the Deputy Provincial Grand Master for Northamptonshire be upheld."

The motion was carried nem. dis.

The next appeal was exceptionally peculiar, being none other than an appeal of Bro. the Rev. William D. Hobson, of the Tynwald Lodge, No. 1242, Douglas, Isle of Man, against a resolution of the Board of General Purposes, declining to interfere between himself and Bro. John A. Brown in a complaint submitted to them in a matter not relating to the Craft. The Board being the inculpated parties, their President, Bro. John B. Monckton, brought the matter up, not to move the resolutions, but to state the facts. In laying them before the Grand Lodge, Bro. Monckton said that Bro. Hobson, although absent, would no doubt read what was going to be said, and when he did so he would most likely feel that he had not been dealt with other than Masonically. The appeal in this case differed from other appeals. It was not an appeal between two Masons on Masonic affairs, nor was it a complaint against a decision on a matter in dispute; it was simply an appeal from the Board, who having a complaint before them, felt that they had not jurisdiction to deal with it. To this Bro. Hobson demurred, and he denied the opinion of Grand Lodge on the point. If Grand Lodge thought the Board ought to entertain the complaint, they would have to take up the papers again. He should not conclude by moving anything, but leave the matter in the hands of Grand Lodge. The circumstances were simply these: Bro. Hobson and Bro. Brown were both members of the Tynwald Lodge, Bro. Hobson being Chaplain of the lodge. Bro. Brown, though not the proprietor, was the responsible publisher of a newspaper called *The Isle of Man Times*, in which, last year, an article appeared reflecting very strongly on Bro. Hobson, not as a Mason, but rather as a clergyman having something to do with some schools in the Isle of Man. He opposed the steps taken by the School Board, and the article in the newspaper charged Bro. Hobson with twisting figures. Bro. Hobson did not take an unwise course, but brought an action against the publisher. On the case coming on for hearing, Bro. Brown instructed his counsel to apologise, explain and retract, and the action was withdrawn, and there, as Bro. Hobson said, the matter would have ended, if Bro. Brown had taken no further step. Bro. Brown thought it right for the honour of his paper to put in an article afterwards, in which he explained away his former explanation, in other words he seemed to say that want of legal proof induced him to withdraw and apologise. He (Bro. Monckton) did not know what the laws of the Isle of Man were, but Bro. Hobson did not again seek the redress of the law, but laid the matter before his lodge, who by a majority declined to interfere. He then brought it to the Board of General Purposes, and the Board having considered very carefully the *prima facie* statement, were of opinion that in accordance with the Book of Constitutions they had no right to interfere. From this opinion Bro. Hobson now brought his appeal to Grand Lodge, and it was only right to say that he gave three reasons in support of his appeal. The Book of Constitutions in three places touched upon such a subject. Bro. Hobson had quoted his authority correctly when he said that all differences and complaints that could not be accommodated in a regular lodge were to be taken to the Board of General Purposes. That was repeated in p. 6, but it was qualified in 108. Brethren on the Board well knew that any private matters, like money questions and domestic questions, were brought before them, but brethren were told that unless it was Masonic the Board could do nothing with them; they could not restore money, or a wife, or anything else. He thought, in all fairness to Bro. Hobson, the substance of his complaint, according to p. 18 of the Book of Constitutions, being that a complaint by one brother against another brother of a lodge could be brought before the Board, it was right to express his own opinion that if they entertained matters which had nothing to do with Masonry the Board would have more than enough to do.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart rose to move the confirmation of the resolution of the Board, but he was superseded by Bro. James Mason, who moved that the appeal be dismissed. He said the matter raised a question of considerable importance, and therefore was not lightly to be dealt with. The ancient charges enjoined upon Masons a very excellent principle, that they should, as far as possible, abstain from legal proceedings one against the other, and that they should endeavour to bring all their differences to a happy end. The quotation from the Book of Constitutions made by the worthy President showed one grand thing, that if complaints were brought before the Board of General Purposes, the Board had authority to deal with them. But it was not compulsory upon them to deal with these matters, and very rightly they exercised their jurisdiction and treated trivial matters in the way they ought to be treated when they were not outside Masonry. (Cries of "Vote, vote.") But there might be things that were not strictly within the laws of Masonry. (Renewed cheers, and cries of "Vote, vote.") There were very many questions of very great importance to Masons, which might be adjudicated upon. ("Vote, vote.") There were many questions—"Vote, vote," allow him to say, brethren, and he had the right of free speech, and it was un-Masonic to interfere with a brother when speaking—it was the G.M. in the chair alone who could stop him. ("Vote, vote.") This practice of interrupting a brother was not consistent with

Masonry. There was a great principle involved in this question. (Vote, vote.) A Mason might have a right to bring before his lodge a matter, he might have a right to appeal to individual brethren outside Freemasonry, and he might have a right to appeal to the Board of General Purposes, and it was the right of the individual member, and it was the right of the Board of General Purposes to discuss those matters. Here was an affair which ought to be dealt with outside Freemasonry, the Board of General Purposes declined to interfere. He moved that the appeal be dismissed.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart seconded the resolution, which was put and carried unanimously.

Bro. the Rev. Henry John Hatch, W.M. 160, then moved "That a committee, consisting of the Present and Past Grand Officers, the Provincial Grand Masters, and such other members of the Craft as the said committee shall, in their discretion, deem fit from time to time to add to their numbers, be appointed to consider what steps should be taken to promote the building, either on the Thames Embankment, or in some other conspicuous part of London, of a Masonic Temple, which, while offering more extended accommodation for the present requirements of Grand Lodge, shall be at once worthy of the rank, wealth, and increasing importance of Freemasonry; an ornament to the chief city of the world, and a lasting memorial of gratitude to the G.A.O.T.U., not only for the safe return from India of our M.W. Grand Master His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, but for the success of his visit in eliciting and confirming throughout that vast territory a feeling of universal loyalty and attachment to the Imperial rule of England."

"That such committee shall be invested with full powers to procure plans and estimates for such a building; shall consider the best means of raising the necessary funds; and shall continue to act and report to every succeeding Grand Lodge, until the Grand Lodge shall think proper to discontinue the said committee."

He compared the condition of Masonry now with what it was 100 years ago, and argued that the present Grand Lodge was not large enough to meet the growing demands of the Craft, which now required greater accommodation. There were only 200 lodges and about 6000 Masons in existence 100 years ago; now there were 1660 lodges and probably 400,000 or 500,000 Masons. Means were adopted then for erecting the present building, and care was taken to provide sufficient room for the brethren. He submitted that the same thing should be done now.

The motion not being seconded fell to the ground.

Bro. Benjamin Mallam, P.M. 108, withdrew his motion "That a sum of money be given out of the funds towards the funds of the Alexandra Orphanage, sufficiently large in amount to allow of the committee to place one of the blocks of the buildings apart for the use of infant orphans of Freemasons."

Grand Lodge was then closed in due form.

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

NEPTUNE LODGE (No. 22).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Guildhall Tavern, on Thursday, the 22nd ult., at 3.30. There were present Bros. E. F. Storr, W.M.; G. Phythian, S.W.; T. White, P.M., as J.W.; J. Wilcox, P.M., Treas.; T. R. Eames, P.M., Hon. Sec.; E. W. Shove, as S.D.; T. P. Collings, J.D.; G. B. Gates, I.G.; W. C. Greaves, Org.; W. Neats, W.S.; Past Masters Goodwin, Batty, Harcourt, Norman, Waterall, Crawford, and Partridge; and many other brethren, including several visitors. The lodge having been opened and the minutes of the previous lodge confirmed, Bro. Partridge, I.P.M., in the absence of the W.M., raised Bro. Sargent to the Third Degree. The W.M. then assumed the chair, and having resumed, the lodge ballot was taken for Mr. E. Hollandt as an initiate and Bro. H. Povey as a re-joining member, both of which were unanimous. Bro. Slater was then passed to the Second Degree, and Mr. Hollandt initiated, Bro. Muggerridge delivering the charge. The Treasurer then announced the death of Bro. Joseph Ashwell, P.M., who had been a member of the lodge upwards of twenty-two years, and it was decided that the Hon. Secretary should write a letter of condolence to the surviving members of the family. The lodge having been closed, the brethren adjourned to banquet, when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given from the chair. Bro. Henry Phythian, P.P.G. Sec. Middlesex, returning thanks for "The Visitors."

LION AND LAMB LODGE (No. 192).—This lodge met on the 1st inst., at the Cannon Street Hotel, for the purpose of installing Bro. Edward Jones as W.M., in succession to Bro. Cohu, and for performing the other lodge work. Bro. Cohu presided. Bros. Chas. Arkell, S.W.; E. Jones, J.W.; J. G. Marsh, P.M., Secretary; H. Legge, S.D.; F. Fellowes, J.D.; W. P. Rickwood, I.G.; S. T. Lucas, D.C.; E. King, P.M., Steward; Hosgood, P.M.; G. Abbott, P.M.; G. Newman, P.M.; C. J. Sparrow, R. J. Dart, G. F. Quinton, Thos. Perrin, Thos. Gardener, R. Stubington, G. Taylor, E. Hunton, E. J. Kellaway, J. Curle, W. Medwin, R. E. Bright, Geo. Borer, H. Child, J. T. Belfrage, R. H. Goddard, T. Hampton, R. Clark, W. F. Poulton, H. Davis, W. H. L. Davies, H. A. Carter, T. Fisher, J. Cook, S. Fitzjohn, W. Alfatt, B. Perkins, T. Barker, J. Larkin, J. Copelin, C. W. Benson, T. Agutter, W. Regan, S. Haynes, A. J. Sutherland, J. Kent, Chas. Cann, W. Figs, C. E. Scholes, E. C. Alfatt, S. Edwards, W. Darnell. Visitors: W. Worrell, P.M. 766; F. Van Raalte, 917; F. G. Barns, 796; S. Rosenthal, P.G.S.W. Middx.; W. Davies, 1259; W. Lusby, 1259; J. Linsell, P.M. 211; R. Pinkney, 177; W. Stephens, P.M. 1363; T. Beard, P.M.

101; C. B. Grover, 185; J. R. Williams, 766; J. Fowler, 1158; J. B. Bruning, 1489; G. W. West, 1247; J. Murch, 27; W. Mitchell, 717; H. Massey, P.M. 619 (*Freemason*); M. Hornsey, 73; R. W. Stewart, P.G.D. England; C. A. Walter, 865; Dudley Rolls, P.M. 12; A. May, 1358; G. Clark, 177; A. Martley, 156; T. B. Yeoman, 1460; H. Dunn, 28; A. Cotton, 1613; A. B. Lipscombe, 15; H. B. D. Dawn, W. C. Hollands, W.M. 1321; S. Lazarus, P.M. 53; W. Palmer, 177; J. Wandley, 1381; G. Everett, P.M. 177; J. H. Turner, W.M. 1185; E. G. Legge, 1196; D. M. Dewar, P.M. 1415; J. J. Moore; J. R. Foulger, W.M. 1613; W. H. Morgan, 1305; G. T. Wilson, 569; H. Sebley, 247; S. Watkins, P.M. 212; J. Wenland, 1076; J. Taylor, 298; and W. Simmons, 871. The W.M. passed Bro. W. H. L. Davies to the Second Degree, and afterwards installed Bro. Edward Jones, J.W. and W.M. elect, as Worshipful Master for the current year. The Board of Installed Masters was unusually numerous, and on the board being closed the brethren below the chair were admitted, and after the customary salutes the following brethren were appointed to office: Bros. Henry Legge, S.W.; F. Fellows, J.W.; J. G. Marsh, P.M., Sec.; W. T. Rickwood, S.D.; S. T. Lucas, J.D.; H. Child, I.G.; E. J. Kellaway, D.C.; W. H. L. Davies, Org.; E. King, P.M., Steward; and G. Smith, Tyler. Bro. George Newman was invested as Treasurer in the absence of Bro. George Kenning. The Treasurer gave notice of motion that £10 be given to the widow of a deceased brother, £10 to the Benevolent Institution, and £10 to the Muggeridge testimonial. The addresses having been delivered, some minor matters were disposed of, and the brethren then closed the lodge and adjourned to an excellent banquet. Afterwards the customary toasts were duly honoured. The W.M., in giving the toast of "The Queen," said he would not waste the time of the brethren by dilating upon her merits, so well and universally known, but would content himself by saying that as a Queen we honoured and obeyed her, and as true Englishmen we revered and loved her. In giving the toast of "The Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," the W.M. said how thoroughly the Prince had endeared himself to the heart of every Mason was well known to them all; how highly and efficiently he had discharged the duties of his high office was universally acknowledged; and while he was ever ready to forward the interests of the charities of our Order, he had handed down a name to posterity as one of the highest ornaments of Freemasonry. The toast of "The Pro Grand Master, &c.," followed, and Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, P.G.D., was called upon to respond. In doing so he said the brethren would all agree with him that it was most important that everything and every institution in the world should have a head, and it was so with Freemasonry. They had at the present moment a noble head of their lodge, and they were proud to see Bro. Jones in the chair. Carrying their thoughts higher they were proud of the Prince of Wales as the head of Freemasonry, and he thought he might, without fear of contradiction, say that no Grand Master had been so beloved as the Prince of Wales; no Grand Master had Masonry so much at heart, as was evidenced by the numerous warrants he had granted for new lodges, though at the same time he had not scattered them broadcast. Speaking for the Grand Officers, who had the true sympathy of the brethren, they had the well-being of the Craft at heart; they were always proud to come among the brethren, and to tell them so. He was proud to come to this lodge, and see such an unprecedented gathering, who had met not only for the sake of the Prince of Wales, but for the sake of the W.M. They had all come to do him credit, and as one of the Grand Officers of England he (Bro. Stewart) said, "Prosperity to the Lion and Lamb Lodge." He hoped this would not be the last occasion he would have the pleasure to come and see them. He hoped that the new lodges would be told that the old lodges, started years before they were born, were well supported, and had never forfeited their honour and glory. Not only as a Grand Officer of England, but as a representative of the Institutions, he returned sincere thanks to the brethren, and wished the lodge success. The W.M. announced that the charity-box had yielded £2 18s. 6d. The W.M., in proposing "The Health of the Visitors," stated that the lodge was honoured that evening with the largest number of those brethren that had ever graced their board. Bro. Rosenthal was the first to respond, and in the course of his remarks said he was sure the brethren would never regret having placed Bro. Jones in the chair. He had had the honour and pleasure of knowing him many years, and he was quite proud that night to be his visitor. They would find that everything Bro. Jones took in hand he would carry out, and thereby do honour and credit to the lodge. He would never turn back either in working or in charity. He had met him in several lodges and in assemblies of the higher degrees. His hand was always on the right side; his pocket was always ready; and this showed he had a good heart. A man that had a good heart must be a good man. Bro. Lazarus also replied, and informed the brethren that he was made a Mason fifty-four years ago, on the 18th March, 1823. Although he had seen a good deal of the ceremonies and of Freemasonry generally in his time, it was the greatest pleasure he had ever witnessed to find that the Heir Apparent to the throne of England took such a great interest in Freemasonry; besides which, two of his brothers were now members of the Order, and one of them a Provincial Grand Master. Bro. Dudley Rolls also replied. It was the first time he had visited this lodge. Unfortunately the pressing emergency of his private avocations prevented his coming so early as he could have wished, but he had come soon enough to witness the hearty reception which the lodge gave their visitors. Bro. D. M. Dewar likewise responded. Bro. Cohu, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M." He said it gave him great

pleasure to propose it, and he knew it would be heartily received by the members of the Lion and Lamb Lodge. He (Bro. Cohu) had vacated the chair that night after having occupied it for the usual time. It had afforded him a great amount of pleasure to occupy the chair, and he was sure Bro. Jones would feel the same amount of pleasure as he had, and have the same amount of support from the brethren. From what they had seen of Bro. Jones they would know he was worthy of the position he was occupying at the present time. The W.M., in reply, said he felt in rather a strange position in having for the first time to respond to the toast of "The W.M." Hitherto he had had some one in the position of W.M. to address; now he seemed to want some one. When he was at the other end of the room he commenced with saying "W.M." But although he was in this new position he nevertheless thanked the brethren very cordially for the kind and hearty manner they had drunk his health. It would always be his earnest endeavour to promote the prosperity of this lodge. He had always endeavoured to do so since he was first initiated in the Order. It had been his highest ambition to reach the proud position in which he had been placed that evening. His next greatest ambition was to make himself worthy of it; and he trusted that at the termination of his year of office the brethren would one and all be satisfied with what he had done for the lodge, and with the way in which he had performed his work. Should he only be enabled to do that, it would be the proudest moment of his life when on retiring from the chair he should have the pleasure of installing his successor, and saying to him that he was placed in the chair with the good wishes of the brethren as hearty as those which had been accorded to himself. He would conclude by saying that everything that lay in his power, both abroad and at home, he should do for the prosperity of the Lion and Lamb Lodge. (Hear, hear.) The W.M. next gave "The Health of Bro. Cohu, I.P.M., Installing Master." How well and excellently he had done his work in the installation ceremony all the brethren could bear witness; how well and ably he had performed his work throughout the year all the brethren of the lodge knew. It was therefore unnecessary to say more to the brethren on the subject. The toast having been most warmly received, Bro. Cohu said he had very great pleasure in responding to the toast. If he had worked the installation to the satisfaction of the brethren they gratified his wishes, and more than that. From the time he went into the chair he looked upon it as his duty as W.M. to instal his successor. The installation ceremony he had not taken as he had every other ceremony, for in those ceremonies he had been between two stools; but the installation ceremony he had taken from one friend only. He had had plenty of friends to coach him up, but he told them he had seen enough of variations in working, and he would rather take it from one friend only. He thought the time had come for one system only to be worked—the most universal working, which would be very much to the benefit of all Masters of lodges. Bro. Cohu concluded by thanking the brethren for drinking his health. The W.M. then proposed "The P.M.'s." Knowing, as they all did, that without good Masters they could not have good working, he thought he could safely say that in the Lion and Lamb Lodge they had as good a set of P.M.'s as any lodge in London. They had all proved themselves excellent workers in their time, and during their years of office. Bro. Cohu, the I.P.M., had surprised all the brethren by the quiet and effective way in which he had done his work. Bro. Cohu, in the course of his reply, said he should always have much pleasure in rendering assistance to the Masters of the lodge, and he was proud to take his rank as a Past Master. The W.M. afterwards proposed "The Masonic Charities," and made an apology for the absence of the three Secretaries. They all knew how valuable the Masonic Charitable Institutions were. He had himself had the pleasure of going over each of the institutions, and seeing for himself how well they were conducted. They were a credit to the Craft, and they all knew how munificently the Lion and Lamb Lodge supported them. This year they had the honour of sending a Steward to the festival of the Benevolent Institution; he himself intended to represent the lodge at the Girls' Festival, for which institution the lodge had a candidate in the child of an old P.M., Bro. Cates. He felt certain they would come forward, one and all, and do what they could for that charity, as they must endeavour if they possibly could to get the child in this time. Bro. Smith or Bro. Kenning would most thankfully receive their votes. Bro. Fellows would represent the lodge at the Boys' School Festival, and they knew he would be a most efficient Steward. With his name he would couple the toast. Bro. Fellows replied. He had had the honour and pleasure of representing the lodge at the Benevolent Institution festival two years, and he was very well pleased with the result. He had the honour of going up for the Boys' School, of the value of which they were all well aware. He had this advice to offer to Freemasons. With a thorough appreciation of the value of the Masonic Institutions, he had a desire that they should be supported to their utmost, and that the brethren should subscribe individually to them; but, let them not give a guinea to those institutions if a pair of boots was wanted at home. The brethren knew that nearly £13,000 had just been collected for the old men and women. A few years ago only £500 was collected at a festival, and the contrast was so marked that no one could help observing the immense spread there must be in the extension of the Order. Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, P.G.D., wished to add a few words to the observations of Bro. Fellows. He had served 17 Stewardships altogether and on Wednesday he had the pleasure of going down to Croydon to pay the old men and women their annuities. Formerly they received but £15 each, but now the old men get £40 a year, and the old women £36. It was

perfectly true, as stated by Bro. Fellows, that formerly the Benevolent Institution got but £500 at a festival. At that time they invested two-thirds of the subscriptions, but shortly the subscriptions went rapidly up to £3000, and they were then told that it would never be larger. Thanks to the energy of Bro. Binckes, the Secretary of the Boys' School, who was the pioneer of the brethren, who got large subscriptions, they went on increasing. Bro. Binckes advocated the cause, not only of the Boys' School, but of the other Institutions. When that was done he (Bro. Stewart) had the courage to say they should invest no more. Some brethren opposed it, but he carried the point, and they agreed to give the old men £25 and the old women £20 a year. Since then, thank God, he had been able to carry his proposition for a yet larger increase, and the old men had now £40 a year, and the old women £36. In addition to that, they had now 100 more annuitants on the funds of the Institution. He was proud to say that the subscription to the Institution this year was much larger than ever it had been before. In the Boys' and Girls' Schools similar progress had been made. The number of girls had been increased from 100 to 150, and the boys from 60 to 180. Of the latter Institution he might say they wished to increase the number further still. He was on the committee, and he could tell the brethren that they were not going to lead them into a speculation. He would show the committee that they could give accommodation for 120 more boys; but the brethren must give them the means of supporting them by opening their purses more. They must not deceive themselves by thinking that they had done their work; there was yet more to do. They must give the children a thorough education. They had hitherto acted nobly; but having put their hand to the plough they must not look back. (Cheers.) The W.M., in giving "The Masonic Press," said the brethren all knew how ably the *Freemason* was conducted, and they liked to see the doings at their meetings recorded in its columns. He felt certain from what he knew of the way in which Bro. Massey performed his work, that what had passed that evening would be faithfully laid before the brethren next week. Bro. Massey having acknowledged the compliment, the W.M. gave "The Musical Artists," for whom Bro. W. Worrell, P.M. 766, acted as sponsor. "The Treasurer and Secretary" was the next toast, to which Bro. J. G. Marsh replied. "The Officers" followed, and this having been duly responded to, the Tyler gave the concluding toast, and the brethren settled down round the Master's table, and spent the remainder of the time in harmony and conversation. During the interval between the different toasts the brethren were entertained with some agreeable singing by Madame Worrell-Duval, Miss Emma Buer, Mr. Arthur J. Thompson, and Bro. Thurley Beale. Mr. J. Turle Lee was pianist, and the arrangements were under the direction of Bro. William Worrell. The W.M. presented the lodge with a valuable harmonium.

CHAUCER LODGE (No. 1540).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Bridge House Hotel, Southwark, on Wednesday, 28th February. Bro. J. C. Mason, W.M., opened the lodge. The minutes were read and unanimously confirmed. Ballots, taken separately, proved unanimous in favour of the admission of Messrs. Frederick Mayer and Elias Ricardo. The W.M., Bro. J. C. Mason, in an able and correct manner, raised Bros. C. S. Hodges and H. Ward to the Third Degree, and initiated Messrs. Frederick Mayer and William Joseph Harrison into Freemasonry. Bro. T. I. H. Wilkins, P.M., took the chair, and initiated his friend, Mr. Elias Ricardo, doing the work in his usual efficient manner. Bro. J. C. Mason, W.M., resumed the chair. Some formal business having been disposed of, the lodge was closed and adjourned until April. The arrangements of the forthcoming ball, to be held under the auspices of the lodge, were completed, and it promises to be a great success. There were present, besides those named, Bros. E. S. Stidolph, S.W.; W. J. Kemp, J.W.; the Rev. Hatch, P.M., Chap.; F. Walters, P.G.J.D. Middlesex, P.M., Sec.; C. W. Hudson, S.D.; H. Faija, J.D.; A. J. Hawkes, I.G.; C. Graham, D.C.; and others. The visitors were Bros. G. Read, P.M. 511; T. Perridge, P.M. 79; and C. G. Rushworth, W.M. 1309. There was not any banquet.

KILBURN LODGE (No. 1608).—The fourth regular meeting of this young and very flourishing lodge was held on Monday, the 26th February, at the Queen's Arms Hotel, Kilburn, in the spacious hall newly erected by Bro. T. Hartley for the express use of the brethren. There was an unusually large muster to witness the excellent working for which this lodge has already become famous. Bro. John Palmer, P.M. 27, the esteemed W.M., occupied the chair, the other officers being Bros. G. Kiallmark, S.W.; C. Brewer, J.W.; Geo. Everett, P.M. 177 and 1381, Treas., acting I.P.M.; J. W. Cuff, S.D.; Geo. Fitchett, J.D.; G. H. Goody, I.G.; A. H. Wilson, Steward; W. Beaven, Org.; and C. Thomas, Tyler. Amongst the visitors were Bros. W. Watson, P.M. 23; F. Harrison, P.M. 27; H. S. Goodall, P.M. 78; J. Warner, P.M. 23; J. Lawrance, P.M. 901; J. Reinhardt, 23; A. Jacobs, 493; H. Hawkins, 180; E. R. Shervill, P.M. 23; S. P. Hyatt, 1314; W. J. Wettenhall, 201; H. S. Joyce, 1158; W. S. Keats, 1348; and E. H. Burton, 73 and 333. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the following six brethren were passed to the Second Degree, viz., Bros. W. Peech, Sidney Smith, James Wittingham, Harry T. Smith, — Meredith, and W. Blackbourn. The ceremony was performed in the W.M.'s usual impressive manner, whilst his admirable rendering of the Lecture on the Tracing Board elicited the warmest encomiums from all present. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to a splendid banquet, provided in Bro. Hartley's well-known excellent style. The preliminary toasts having been given and

duly honoured, the acting I.P.M., Bro. Everett, said the very gratifying task now devolved upon him of proposing the next toast of the evening. He need not remind them that this was a bumper toast, nor need he ask them to drink to it deeply, because he was sure that they would do so of their own accord. From the fact of his having possession of the Master's gavel, and also from the fact of its being the only toast he was privileged to propose at that festive board, they could easily divine that he alluded to the health of their Worshipful Master. He could say, without any flattery to the worthy occupant of the chair, that the Kilburn Lodge was exceedingly fortunate in having for its first Master one so able and so earnest in all that appertained to Freemasonry as Bro. Palmer. He had held a long and distinguished career in the Order, he had been a staunch upholder of its honour and its dignity, and a firm supporter of its charities, and although he had attained so high a position in the Craft, they still found him, night after night, attending their Lodge of Improvement, encouraging by his presence those who might be desirous of following in his footsteps; and emulating his good example; whilst the knowledge that in him they had one so well able to afford them instruction, and so willing to impart it, gave them that confidence to persevere, which was in all things so essential to success. The toast was received with great cheering. The W.M., in reply, said the enthusiastic manner in which they had responded to the toast was to him quite unexpected, and although it was not strictly Masonic, the man could not be mortal who would not feel proud at its reception. He could only thank them, which he did most heartily, and assure them that it was a great pleasure to him to occupy the high position of their W.M., and to feel that he was held in such esteem by the brethren. The W.M. next gave "The Visitors." He said the Kilburn Lodge prided itself on its hospitality, they were always glad to receive visitors, and would at all times do their best to make them comfortable. Bros. Warner, P.M.; Harrison, P.M.; and others responded on behalf of the visitors. "The Masonic Charities" were next given, coupled with the name of Bro. G. Kiallmark, S.W., who had acted as Steward at the late festival of the old people's institution, held at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Kiallmark, in responding, said he felt it a great honour to have his name associated with so noble a toast as that of the Charities. He was proud to say that with their kind assistance he had been enabled to take up no less a sum than £117, and that the Kilburn Lodge, although only in the first year of its existence, stood tenth highest on the list of subscriptions amongst the London lodges. He was further pleased to say that, with the exception of a sovereign or two, the whole amount had been subscribed by the lodge and its members, and the manner in which it was done was most gratifying, for in no case had he to solicit a single member—he simply made the announcement that he was about to represent the lodge as Steward, and it all came forth voluntarily. He felt that he could not sufficiently express his thanks for the support they had given him, and with regard to his position as S.W., although he undertook the office with a certain amount of diffidence (that having been his great drawback through life), their kind and considerate treatment of him was fast overcoming it, and he hoped soon to acquire that confidence which Bro. Everett had stated was so necessary to the proper performance of its functions, and those higher duties to which he hoped shortly to attain. He again thanked them most sincerely. The W.M. said the S.W. having had his name coupled with the last toast, he would now give them an opportunity of drinking "The Health of their worthy J.W., Bro. Brewer," who had taken so active a part in the formation of the lodge, and who was most indefatigable in his exertions to promote its welfare. The toast was received with enthusiasm. Bro. Brewer said he desired to thank the W.M. for the kind manner in which he had proposed the toast of his health, and the brethren for the very cordial way in which they had received it. He was proud to hold office in so rising a lodge and under so able and distinguished a Master. He was glad to find he had thus far given satisfaction; it would be an incentive to him to endeavour to achieve greater things, and with their kind assistance he hoped he should succeed. The W.M. then gave "The Treasurer and Secretary," complimenting those officers on their great usefulness in the lodge, and paying a high tribute to their skill and ability. Bro. Everett, in thanking the brethren, said that with so excellent a Master, and such an able and painstaking Secretary, he had little to do but take care of their funds, but he hoped they would keep him well employed at that. Bro. Brooks, Secretary, thanked the W.M. for his kindness in proposing his health, and also for the flattering manner in which he had spoken of him in connection with the duties of his office. There was necessarily a good deal to do in the formation of a new lodge, but he had received many useful hints from the Treasurer, which had been of great service to him, and he was gratified to find that he had discharged his duties thus far so much to their satisfaction. The toast of "The Officers" followed, and was ably responded to by Bros. Cuff, Fitchett, and others. Then came "The Organist," replied to by Bro. Beavan, and last, though not least, that of the worthy host, Bro. Hartley. Some excellent harmony was contributed by Bros. Hyatt, Beavan, F. Brewer, Burton, and others, and the Tyler's toast concluded a most enjoyable evening.

BIRMINGHAM.—St. Paul's Lodge (No. 43).—A meeting of the above lodge, the oldest in the Province of Warwickshire, was held on Monday, the 26th ult., at the Masonic Hall, under the Mastership of Bro. S. Sinauer, supported by a goodly number of brethren. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The ballot was then taken for Mr. H. J. Altman, of Frederick-street, Birmingham, which proving unanimously in his favour, was initiated into the mysteries and privileges

of ancient Freemasonry by the Worshipful Master, in such an able manner as to draw forth the plaudits of the whole of the brethren present. Visitors present: Bros. A. J. Altman, I.G. Aldersgate Lodge, 1657, London, and S. Hoffmann of Liverpool. The brethren then adjourned to dinner, when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and duly acknowledged. Some vocal music having been given, the Tyler's toast closed a very enjoyable evening.

GREENWICH.—St. George's Lodge (No. 140).—The last meeting of this old and distinguished lodge, which was founded in 1765, was held at the Trafalgar Hotel on Wednesday, the 21st ult. Amongst those present were Bros. Wallace, W.M.; Blackmur, S.W.; Bell, J.W.; Noak, Treas.; Tattershall, P.M., Sec.; Loughborough, S.D.; Dennant, J.D.; Brown, I.G.; Turner, P.M.; Johnson, P.M.; Jardine, P.M.; and W. Jordon, Org. Amongst the visitors we noticed Bros. Blackmur, 13; Dosell, 79; G. Tedder, 111; Sears, 209; Harvey, 871; Trill, 1320; Le Cree, 1320; T. C. Walls, J.W. 1381, &c.; Dr. Smith, 1538; Armstrong, J.W. 1593. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, some minor business was transacted, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet. The toasts of "The Queen and the Craft," "The M.W.G.M.," "The P.G.M., the D.G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Past and Present," were given briefly and pertinently from the chair and duly honoured. Bro. Jardine, the father of the lodge, in proposing "The Health of the W.M.," said he felt he had something interesting to say to them, because he (the W.M.) had been introduced by him into Freemasonry. He (Bro. Wallace) would discharge his duties both to the satisfaction and credit of the lodge, which lodge for "working" could challenge favourable comparison with any in the vicinity of London. In conclusion he wished the W.M. a successful year of office, and he hoped that under his sway the proceedings of No. 140 would be characterised as they always had been by that "love and harmony" which should at all times prevail amongst the brotherhood. The W.M., in response, said that it afforded him great pleasure to reply to the warm greeting that had been given him that evening. Bro. Jardine, in proposing his health, had used such kind words, that he felt quite discomposed by his paternal eulogy. It would be his highest ambition to do that which would at all times meet with their universal and favourable recognition. He did not think that the harmony of the lodge was likely to be upset, nor that the fraternal atmosphere would in any way be disturbed, but that he would be well supported by them all, and as a return for that kind feeling he would do all he could to make the proceedings a success. In proposing "The Health of the Visitors," the W.M. said that the theme of the toast afforded a great pleasure to him, and which gratification he was sure they would all participate in. Upon so dull an evening in the lodge it was very flattering to have such a goodly array of visiting brethren. He was of opinion that visiting in Freemasonry was one of the greatest pleasures the Craft possessed, because the brethren thereby had an opportunity of contrasting the different systems, which "working," however, had but one common end, and these visits often led to the making and cementing of many Masonic friendships. With so large an array of visitors it was not possible at that late hour for them all to reply. He should therefore couple the names only of Bros. Blackmur and Dosell with the toast, because he also believed that too much public speaking at assemblages of that kind was not only a tax upon the speakers but upon their hearers. This toast having been received with excellent fire, Bros. Blackmur and Dosell briefly replied. In giving the next toast the W.M. said it was one of special moment to the St. George's, that of "The Past Masters," who had made the lodge what it was. It was now in a very prosperous condition, but it was not always so, and it was well that they should know that it was owing to the exertions of some of the Past Masters that that satisfactory position was brought about. The good ship "St. George," had to be got off the rocks, and by the strength and energy of several of the Past Masters it was done, and she now floated in smooth waters. In conclusion, the W.M. said that as Bro. Scard, the I.P.M., whose year of office had been a very successful one, was not present, he should couple the toast with the name of their revered Bro. Jardine. After the brethren had most enthusiastically responded to the toast, that brother suitably acknowledged it. The proceedings were enlivened by the instrumental, dramatic, and vocal contributions of Bros. Jordon, Brown, Johnson, Walls, Tedder, Blackmur and others. The toasts of "The Treasurer and Secretary" and "The Officers" having been given and acknowledged, the Tyler's toast was called, and the brethren separated.

BEDFORD.—Stuart Lodge (No. 540).—The above-named lodge held its regular monthly meeting at the lodge-rooms, Swan Hotel, Bedford, on Wednesday evening, Feb. 28th, when there were present Bros. Col. Stuart, W.M.; Capt. Green, I.P.M.; W. Finlison, P.M., S.W.; Allan, J.D.; Thody, I.G.; Alderman Sergeant, P.M., Treas.; Dr. Prior, P.M., Sec.; Piper, Org.; Alderman S. R. Bull, P.M., Stwd.; G. Reynolds, Tyler; with the following P.M.'s:—G. P. Nash, Cookson, and Billson; and Bros. Stafford, Alderman Carter, Whittaker, Harris, Lambie, and others; and visiting brethren Hewens and Benham. The lodge having been opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. Ayres was raised to the Third Degree. The ceremony was impressively performed by the W.M., in which he was ably supported by the various officers of the lodge. Other business having been disposed of, and a resident of Bedford proposed for initiation at the next meeting, the lodge was closed, and twenty-six brethren sat down to an excellent supper, and spent a most enjoyable evening.

STOKESLEY.—Cleveland Lodge (No. 543).—

The monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Monday evening, Feb. 26th, at the Golden Lion Hotel, but was only thinly attended, owing to the severe weather, many of the members living at a good distance from the place of meeting. The following members officiated, either in their own offices or for those who were absent:—Bros. James Coulson, W.M.; Benjamin Richardson, P.M., as S.W.; George Markham Tweddell, as J.W.; William Sharpe, S.D.; Thomas Unthank, as J.D.; J. H. Handy-side, P. Prov. G.J.W., Sec.; Richard Watson, P.M., Treas.; John Rontree, as I.G.; and William Harrison, Tyler. Bro. Thomas Fenney having passed an excellent examination as E.A., was passed to the degree of F.C. Bro. Francis Wrightson was balloted for and unanimously elected as a joining member. A candidate was then proposed to be balloted for on the following lodge night, and the meeting was adjourned till the Monday nearest the full moon in March, emergencies excepted.

BANBURY.—Cherwell Lodge (No. 599).—The members of this lodge held their twenty-fifth anniversary at the Red Lion Hotel on Monday 26th ult., when Bro. the Rev. J. Spittal was installed W.M. for the ensuing year, the ceremony being performed by Bro. R. Havers, P.G.D. of England, with his accustomed ability. The newly-installed W.M. afterwards invested his officers as follows:—Bros. J. Potts, I.P.M.; the Rev. A. Ayton, S.W.; G. A. Hardacre, J.W.; R. Havers, P.G.D., Treas.; E. J. Hartley, P.M., Sec.; T. W. Holland, S.D.; C. H. Pemberton, P.M., J.D.; W. Chamberlin and T. Fowler, Stewards; R. C. Humfrey, I.G.; and T. Moss, Tyler. The brethren afterwards dined together under the presidency of the W.M., who was supported by Bro. R. Bird, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master; Bros. Rev. H. Adair Pickard, P.M. of the Apollo University Lodge, Oxford; H. C. Risky, P.M.; R. Havers, P.G.D.; the newly-installed officers, and others.

ECCLES.—Victoria Lodge (No. 1345).—The annual meeting of this lodge was held at the Cross Keys Hotel, on Wednesday, the 21st ult., for the purpose of installing the newly-appointed W.M., Bro. E. Lowndes. The lodge having been opened in the usual form the retiring Master, Bro. Rudman, presented, and the Installing Master, Bro. Buxton, P.M., assisted by Bros. P.M.'s Gillman, Toulson, Brooks, and Rudman, performed the interesting ceremonies of placing Bro. Lowndes in the chair of K.S., and investing the officers of the lodge for the ensuing year, the whole being conducted with that Masonic ability for which this lodge is known and appreciated. At the close of the ceremony, the brethren, to the number of 44, adjourned to a banquet provided by Bro. Pearson, under the judicious and able inspection of his wife, Mrs. Pearson, to whom the thanks of the brethren were due for her exertions in rendering them that comfort and enjoyment for which she is noted. A pleasant and agreeable evening was spent, the visiting brethren largely contributing thereto by their social and musical qualities.

BOOTLE.—Bootle Lodge (No. 1473).—The annual celebration of St. John's festival, in connection with this excellent suburban lodge, took place on another patron saint's day (St. David's), the 1st instant, at the Town Hall, Bootle, near Liverpool, and the high position which this Masonic combination of brethren holds was clearly shown by a very large and highly influential gathering. There were about seventy brethren present at the interesting proceedings of the afternoon, and the admirable working shown by all concerned was of the most instructive and interesting kind. The lodge was opened before three o'clock by Bro. J. W. Turley, P.P.G.J.D., the retiring Worshipful Master, and he was ably supported and assisted in the succeeding initiation of two candidates, Messrs. Woodcock and Fraser, by Bros. H. Wyatt, I.P.M.; T. D. Pierce, P.M. 823; Richard Roberts, S.W.; J. Duncan, jun., J.W.; S. E. Ibbes, P.P.G.S.B., Treas.; W. H. Clemmey, Sec.; J. C. Paterson, S.D.; R. Hough, J.D.; F. J. Mortleman, I.G.; J. Lecomber, S.; J. Stott, S.; and W. Blake, Tyler. The members of the Bootle Lodge present were Bros. H. Molyneux, P.M. 823; F. F. Young, W. Smith, P.M. 1235; C. Batley, C. Padley, jun.; J. Woollam, J. J. Durant, H. J. Meandy, J. W. Hill, W. Humphrey, R. Brown, P.M. 241; A. Ruthven, J. Sharp, J. F. Dowling, W. J. Rice, J. M. Jones, T. M. Wells, P.M. 580; and I. Platt. The list of visitors included the names of Bros. H. S. Alpass, P.G. Sec.; J. W. Baker, P.M. 241; G. V. Blaikie, I.G. 152; S. Haynes, P.M. 823, 1547; Dr. C. Swaby Smith, I.P.M. 1380; G. H. Samuell, 1182; J. P. Bryan, 203, 1035; J. G. Bayley, J.W. 216; T. Fozzard, P.M. 1035; A. Barclay, 1182; R. Barton, 1035; R. Stezaker, 1182; T. Evans, W.M. 1570, P.M. 1356; J. Lunt, P.P.G.D.C.; A. Winkup, P.M. 667, Councillor; J. A. Forrest, W.M. 1547; J. H. Parker, S.W. 1547; C. H. Jordan, 903; P. Maddox, P.P.G.S.W.; J. Wells, P.M. 580; G. Morgan, P.M. 1035; C. Waterson, 1035; W. Hughes, 1013; T. W. Kellor, 721; the Rev. Dr. Hyde, 1086; J. F. Newell, P.M. 1035; and Barton, 440 (Canada). The chair of Installing Master was taken by Bro. H. S. Alpass, P.G. Sec., who proceeded to place Bro. Richard Roberts in the position of W.M. in a very effective manner. Bro. Turley also assisted in an admirable style in the ceremony, and the whole of this section of the principal portions of the day's proceedings must have given entire satisfaction to the numerous gathering of the fraternity. The following were the officers appointed to assist the W.M. during his year of office: Bros. J. W. Turley, I.P.M.; Sam. E. Ibbes, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., Treas.; J. Parlan M'Arthur, P.M., D.C.; John Duncan, jun., S.W.; W. H. Clemmey, J.W.; J. C. Paterson, Hon. Sec.; R. A. Hough, S.D.; F. H. Mortleman, J.D.; J. Lecomber, I.G.; S. Stott, S.S.; T. F. Young, J.S.; J. P. Bryan, Org.; and W. Blake, Tyler. "Hearty good wishes" were given to the new W.M. from brethren representing about a dozen lodges. After the business portion of the proceedings, a sumptuous banquet was served in the council chamber by Bro. J. Dowling, of the Derby

Arms Hotel, whose catering was of the best kind. Bro. Richard Roberts, W.M., presided, and he was supported by the whole of the prominent members of the Order who were present at the installation proceedings. The W.M. gave the toasts of "The Queen," "The Grand Master of England, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family," and "Our Masonic Rulers, Supreme and Subordinate," in a remarkably vigorous and congenial manner, with brevity, and yet with a freshness of ideas which delighted every one. Bros. H. S. Alpass, in responding to the last-named toast, said he had never heard these toasts given with so much efficiency, nor in such well-chosen and vigorous language. With one exception, all the male members of the Royal family and many of the leading statesmen of the country were now the principal members of our Order, as they had been in all ages. Any brother who referred back to Masonic history would find that certainly during the last two centuries there have scarcely been any men of mark and position who had not been Freemasons. The clergy had also joined largely in our assemblies of late years, and any one who had studied the customs of the people would find that in Masonry the social habits of the brethren in the lodges had also changed for the better, the one, two, three, and four bottle men having become extinct, and they now dined together as gentlemen. In conclusion he highly complimented the officers and brethren on the excellent position of their lodge, and the admirable way in which the business was conducted. "The West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution" was proposed by the W.M., who said that this charity had caused many a poor widow's "heart to sing for joy." He was also pleased to find that, mainly through the exertions of Bro. J. P. M'Arthur, P.M., the largest contribution from West Lancashire to the recent festival was sent up by the Bootle Lodge. Bro. R. Brown, P.M. (Hon. Sec. to the W.L.M.E.I.), replied to the toast, and pointed out with much force that though the invested capital of the West Lancashire Lodge was large the claims were greatly increasing, in consequence of the growth of Masonry. He therefore urged the brethren to continued liberality on behalf of their own noble Charity. Bro. M'Arthur also responded to the toast. "The Installing Masters" was responded to by Bro. J. W. Turley, I.P.M. Other toasts followed, and during the evening a very handsome dining-room timepiece was presented to Bro. J. W. Turley, P.P.G.J.D., I.P.M., to mark the esteem of the brethren after his year's services in the chair; and the W.M., in making the presentation, referred to the uniform ability and amiability which had characterised Bro. Turley during his occupation of the Master's chair. The presentation was briefly acknowledged by Bro. Turley. An excellent musical programme was given by Bros. Waterson, Queen, Hobart, Child, Forrester, and Hough, the accompaniments being played by J. P. Bryan, Organist.

LIVERPOOL.—Dramatic Lodge (No. 1609).—The ordinary monthly meeting of this young and thriving lodge took place on Tuesday week at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, and was attended by about fifty or sixty brethren, amongst whom were several P.G. Officers. The lodge was opened at 2.30 prompt by Bro. Joseph Bell, W.M., supported officially by Bros. B. B. Marson, P.G.S., P.M.; J. W. Chapman, S.W.; L. Courtenay, J.W.; A. Woolrich, Treasurer (also acting as Secretary in the absence of Bro. H. Saker); Joseph Skeaf, P.G.O., Org.; W. Sandbrook, J.D.; J. Atkinson, I.G.; A. Collinson, S.; and J. Pyer, S. The members included Bros. W. Savage, Dr. Whittle, Keet, Walters, Cooke, Shrapnell, Cotton, Emery, Lablache, Roberts, Hill, Carter, Hillyard, Fritz, Ray, Cappel, Buck, Beldon, Lowe, and others; and the visitors were principally represented by Bros. S. A. Alpass, P.G. Sec.; Collins, P.P.G.J.W.; D. S. Davies, W.M. 216; J. W. Baker, P.M. 241; E. O. C. Rothwell, P.M. 1356; G. Hulse, 216; I. Jacobs, 724; and others. Bros. I. Levy, Barnes, and Turvey were unanimously elected joining members, and Messrs. G. Crouch, Parker, and Avans being also duly elected, and in attendance, were initiated into the privileges and mysteries of the ancient Order. Bros. J. F. Carter and S. Fritz having been examined as to their efficiency, were subsequently passed to the Fellow Craft Degree, the chief work in both sections being most efficiently performed by Bro. Bell, W.M. The assembled brethren subsequently adjourned to the old lodge-room, where banquet was served, and the rest of the evening was spent in social enjoyment, songs and recitations being given by Bros. L. Courtenay, J.W.; R. J. Roberts, J. Hill, Turvey, Cooke, and A. Woolrich, Treas., the harmonium accompaniments being played by Bro. J. Skeaf, P.G.O.

WALTHAMSTOW.—The Beaconsfield Lodge (No. 1662).—The first meeting of this lodge took place at The Chequers, Marsh-street, Walthamstow, on Saturday, the 3rd March, 1877. The minutes of the consecration and installation meeting were read and confirmed, after the lodge had been opened in the First Degree. Several brethren were balloted for, and unanimously elected members, their names having previously been handed in. Five gentlemen were initiated. The lodge was closed in due form, and adjourned until the first Saturday in April. Amongst the visitors were Bros. Carter, Francis, Allison, Field, Bare, Brown, Varley, Simms, Fisher, Laverack, Claridge, &c.

INSTRUCTION.

DUKE OF CONNAUGHT LODGE (No. 1524).—At the meeting of this Lodge of Instruction, held at the Havelock Tavern, Albion Road, Dalston, on Wednesday, the 28th ult., there were present, Bros. Anshell, W.M.; Dignam, S.W.; J. Larkin, J.W.; Robinson, S.D.; B. Meyer, J.D.; C. Larkin, I.G.; Fieldwick, Preceptor; and Bros. Brown, Polack, Spencer, C. Ferrar, Brasted, Bowner, H. Meyer, Shackleton, Poole, O. Dietrich, Delafous, and Streton. The lodge was opened in

due form with prayer. Minutes of last lodge meeting read and confirmed. The initiation ceremony was rehearsed by Bro. H. Meyer as candidate. The W.M. then vacated the chair, which was afterwards occupied by Bro. H. Meyer, who worked the First, Second, Third and Fourth Sections of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Delafous was elected as joining member. Bro. Dignam was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. A cordial vote of thanks was voted to Bro. Anshell for the very able manner he had discharged the duties of W.M. The lodge was closed and adjourned to Wednesday, the 7th inst., at 8 p. m.

Ancient and Accepted Rite.

TRURO.—Cornwall Rose Croix Chapter.—The annual meeting of this young and flourishing chapter was held at the Masonic Hall, Truro, on Tuesday, the 28th ult., Col. J. W. Peard, 30°, M.W.S., in the chair. There was a fair attendance, but not so many as usual, in consequence of the numerous candidates waiting for "perfection" being deferred for a special assembly this month. The chapter was honoured with the attendance of the Ill. Bro. Lieut.-Col. H. E. Doherty, C.B., Dep. Insp. Gen., 33°, for the Western District, who received a very hearty reception from the members. The Ill. Bro. Sir Frederick Martin Williams, Bart., M.P., 32°, P.M.W.S., who was present, was most warmly received, and on the proposition of Ill. Bro. Hughan, 30°, the members passed a vote of congratulation, to be recorded on the minutes, as it was the first time the worthy baronet had attended the chapter since his accident. In fact, there was not any chapter held in November, partly in consequence of the sad misfortune which had befallen that distinguished member of the Rite. The Rev. George Ross, M.A., was installed as the M.W.S. for the ensuing year by the retiring M.W.S., and on the completion of the ceremony the respected M.W.S. appointed the following brethren to the offices named:—Col. J. W. Peard, 30°, I.P.M., W.S.; Nicholas James West, H.P.; Edward Dixon Anderton, First G.; and Charles Truscott, Second G. Ill. Bro. Truscott, 30°, was also appointed Recorder, having acted in that capacity from the commencement of the chapter. Ill. Bro. General Doherty, 33°, paid a well deserved compliment to the Recorder in open chapter, which was endorsed by all the members. Frederick William Dabb was re-elected the Treasurer; John Farran Penrose, 30°, G.M.; Edward Trewbody Carlyon, R.; William Mason, First H.; John James Taylor, Second H.; William Lake, C. of G.; John Thomas, D.C.; Alfred Luke, C.; Thomas Hicks, A.; John Hocking, jun., O.; and William Rooks, Sentinel. By desire of the members, the Ill. Bro. Hughan, 30°, then delivered an extempore address respecting the history and character of the degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Rite, and traced their origin as far as possible, according to facts and evidence submitted to the chapter. Bro. Hughan expressed his belief that the Craft and the Ancient and Accepted Rites were the only two out of the many systems in connection with Freemasonry which contained the elements of permanency, taking the term "Craft" to include the "three degrees," the Mark, and the Arch. Bro. Hughan's remark, that he thought if the Royal Solomon had been alive during the Masonic period he would have declared "of making degrees there is no end," caused a little amusement, but generally the lecture was "crammed full" of valuable facts; and on its conclusion, the chapter passed a hearty vote of thanks to the enthusiastic Masonic lecturer. The banquet was held at the Red Lion Hotel, presided over by the Rev. George Ross, M.A., the present M.W.S.

Red Cross of Constantin.

PREMIER CONCLAVE.—The March meeting of this conclave was held on Tuesday last, instead of Monday, the regular day of meeting, at the Freemasons' Tavern. Present: Sir Knight H. A. Dubois, G.A. Treas., M.P.S.; Rev. Dr. P. H. Ernest Brette, Eusebius; R. W. Little, J. T. Moss, T. B. Yeoman, Sir Fredk. Martin Williams, M.P., Col. F. Burdett, Joshua Nunn, C. F. Hogard, George Kenning, Cubitt, Thielley, Howe, Cockle, Parker, Mason, Kingston, Hammerton, Robinson, Mercer, Mather, Dr. Harrison, Dr. Woodman, Macartney, M.P., Hubbard, Green, H. Pullen, Stedwell, Clarke, Groom, Rev. Hall, Rev. F. K. K. Harford, H. C. Levander, and others. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, and several brethren were balloted for and installed into the Order. The election was then proceeded with for the M.P.S. for the ensuing year, when Sir Knight P. H. Ernest Brette was unanimously elected to fill that important position. The annual assembly of the General Grand Conclave was then held, Sir Fredk. M. Williams, M. Ill. Grand Sovereign, in the chair. The annual report of the Executive Committee was read, Col. Francis Burdett was unanimously elected and enthroned as Grand Sovereign for the ensuing three years, the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland was unanimously elected Grand Viceroy; the Grand Council and Grand Senate was then elected. The Sir Knights dined together, the usual toasts being proposed and duly acknowledged. A selection of music was performed under the direction of Sir Knight Henry Parker, Grand Org., assisted by Madame Worrel Duval, Miss Scott, Bros. Stedman and Tinney.

The consecration of the Croydon Lodge of Mark Master Masons, No. 198, took place on Friday at the Greyhound Hotel, Croydon. The ceremonies of consecration and installation were performed by V.W. Bro. F. Binckes, Grand Secretary. The officers appointed were Bros. George Yaxley, P.G. Steward, W.M.; John Close S.W.; and J. K. Pitt, J.W.

GRAND LODGE OF IRELAND.

The following are the officers of Grand Lodge for the year 1877: M.W. Bro. His Grace the Duke of Abercorn, K.G., G. Master; R.W. Bros. Robert William Shekleton, Deputy G. Master; Marquis of Headfort, Senior G. Warden; Lord Dunboyne, Junior G. Warden; Robert Warren, D.L., G. Treasurer; Viscount Bernard, G. Secretary; The Rev. John James Macsorely, and the Most Rev. Lord Plunket, Bishop of Meath, G. Chaplains; W. Bros. the Hon. David R. Plunket, Q.C., M.P., Senior G. Deacon; Alderman Joseph Manning, Junior G. Deacon; George A. Stevens, G. Sup. of Works; Theophilus E. St. George, G. Director of Ceremonies; George Moyers, LL.D., G. Steward; Harry Hodges, G. Sword Bearer; Charles Ogilvie Grandison, G. Organist; Humphrey Minchin, M.B., G. Inner Guard; Samuel B. Oldham, Deputy G. Sec. and Treas. Bros. Archibald St. George, Assistant G. Sec.; Samuel G. Downes, G. Tyler; Edward Batchelor, Assistant G. Tyler.

The following are the officers of the Dublin lodges for the year 1877: G.M.L., W. H. Jones, W.M.; Rev. D. D. Jeremy, S.W.; James R. Carroll, J.W.; 1, W. G. Barrett, W.M.; John W. Houghton, S.W.; Wm. A. Curwen, J.W. 4, R. A. Hayes, W.M.; George Drury, S.W.; Alfred Deaker, J.W. 6, J. Wakefield, W.M.; D. Howe, S.W.; R. S. Swan, J.W. 12, Capt. W. H. Newenham, W.M.; Capt. Wills-Sandford, S.W.; F. V. Chapman, J.W. 25, J. Galloway, A.M., W.M.; J. F. Moore, A.M., S.W.; H. P. Nolan, M.D., J.W. 27, Capt. M. S. Brownrigg, W.M.; J. Hemsley, S.W.; W. D. Stoker, M.D., J.W. 33, T. J. S. Casey, W.M.; J. M. Ross Todd, S.W.; H. Fitzgibbon, M.D., J.W. 50, G. O'Keefe, W.M.; W. R. Maguire, S.W.; W. Rigby, J.W. 53, G. W. Cooper, W.M.; R. L. Worthington, S.W.; S. Hill, J. W. 75, E. R. Wonfar, W.M.; J. Girardin, S.W.; R. Thomline, J.W. 92, H. E. Flavell, jun., W.M.; J. Browne, S.W.; W. Smith, J.W. 100, E. S. Marr, W.M.; B. Ferenbach, S.W.; T. Coster, J.W. 120, C. R. Macnamara, W.M.; W. Weathercup, S.W.; M. W. Shee, J.W. 125, W. D. Sharpe, W.M.; G. Mitchell, S.W.; J. Shaw, M.D., J.W. 126, W. Cowen, W.M.; Thos. Rice, S.W.; John G. Krantzke, J.W. 141, P. Poe, W.M.; Hugh Galbraith, S.W.; John G. Gibbon, J.W. 143, A. St. George, W.M.; F. Harding, S.W.; J. W. Copland, J.W. 153, H. E. Phillipson, W.M.; G. Holwey, S.W.; T. W. Fair, J.W. 158, F. D. Lewis, W.M.; H. M'Dowell, S.W.; J. F. Jones, J.W. 171, J. F. Evans, W.M.; H. Price, S.W.; W. F. Hill, J.W. 225, W. Hall, W.M.; G. W. Shannon, S.W.; G. Bradshaw, J.W. 227, A. Edwards, W.M.; A. P. Foster, S.W.; I. Cole, J.W. 232, R. W. Harley, M.D., W.M.; W. Wood, S.W.; J. Simpson, J.W. 238, R. Rainsford, M.D., W.M.; R. J. Donohoe, S.W.; W. Whyte, J.W. 245, H. T. Dockrill, W.M.; M. A. Toomey, S.W.; T. Panter, J.W. 250, F. R. Pim, LL.D., W.M.; J. T. Atkin, W.M.; J. H. Minchin, J.W. 261, D. Thacker, W.M.; P. L. Peacocke, S.W.; W. Comyns, J.W. 357, J. H. Luby, LL.D., W.M.; B. Gildea, S.W.; R. O'B. Furlong, J.W. 494, F. A. Barlow, W.M.; D. T. Knox, S.W.; F. A. Butler, C.E., J.W. 500, M. J. Bloom, W.M.; J. A. Rockett, S.W.; R. S. Houghton, J.W. 620, J. Orpin, W.M.; Capt. W. B. Neville, S.W.; W. L. Beaty, J.W. 666, T. Saunders, W.M.; R. H. Carson, S.W.; C. J. Sidford, J.W. 728, S. N. Hutchins, W.M.; F. Le P. Trench, S.W.; T. A. McCammon, J.W. 730, T. Meredith, W.M.; A. J. Lindsay, S.W.; M. S. L. Seaward, J.W.

The following are the officers of the Grand Chapter for 1877:—Hon. Judge Townshend, LL.D., K.; Charles Capel Macnamara, Deputy; Theophilus E. St. George, H.P.; Charles A. Cameron, M.D., C.S.; John Fox Goodman, C. of H.; George Hill Major, Sup. of Tal.; Rev. Joseph A. Galbraith, F.T.C.D., Royal Arch Captain; George J. Norman de Arcy, Captain of Scarlet Veil; Rev. Benjamin Gibson, Captain of Purple Veil; John Hodges, Captain of Blue Veil; Rev. Louis A. Le Pann, LL.D., Chaplain; Maxwell C. Close, Treasurer; Samuel B. Oldham, Registrar; Robert W. Griffin, LL.D., Janitor.

JEWISH FREEMASONS AND THE GRAND LODGE OF GERMANY.—At the last regular meeting of the Joppa Lodge, No. 188, the question of the exclusion of all but Christians from Freemasonry was brought before the members. The petition to Grand Lodge, from the Montefiore Lodge, No. 1017, was submitted to the brethren for signature. After a short discussion it was decided that the question should be referred to the Committee (of which Bro. Lewis Alexander, P.M., is the chairman) organised for the same purpose. A copy of the petition will appear in our next.

ILLUMINATED MASONIC ALMANACK FOR 1877.—Owing to the immense demand for this almanack, a further supply is being prepared, and will be ready shortly. Early application is very necessary. Address, enclosing two stamps, Publisher of *Freemason*, 198, Fleet-street, London.

A Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons for the Province of Middlesex and Surrey will be held at the Masonic Hall, Air-street, Regent-street, on Wednesday week, the 21st inst. Grand Lodge will be opened at six o'clock.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Safety amidst danger.—Surrounded on all sides by the cause of diseases (especially if the old proverb hold, "As the day lengthens, the cold strengthens") man must keep up constant watch if he would retain or recover his health. These purifying Pills present the most certain and effectual means of removing all noxious matters from the blood, at the same time that they regulate any disordered action which their presence has induced, and particularly preserve against congestion, irritation, and inflammation of the throat and its lining membrane extending through the lungs. The harmless and strengthening balsams of which Holloway's Pills are composed render them peculiarly well adapted for the young and delicate, who can with impunity only bear tender treatment.—ADVT.

TO ADVERTISERS.

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

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

NOTICE.

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

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

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

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

TO OUR READERS.

The FREEMASON is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the United Kingdom, Post free, 10/6.

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

NEW POSTAL RATES.

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

Answers to Correspondents.

The following lodge reports stand over:—Faith, 141; Ivy Lodge, 144; St. David's Lodge, 679; Phoenix Lodge, 904; Salopian Lodge of Charity, 117; Ranelagh Lodge of Instruction, 834; Jersey Red Cross Conclave, 8; also a letter from Magnus Ohren.

We shall publish next week the resolutions of Montefiore Lodge, with a copy of the petition. The length of Grand Lodge report has prevented it appearing this week.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

"The Freemasons' Calendar, Oxfordshire." "Masonic Directory of the City of London, Canada." "Australian Freemason."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

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

BIRTHS.

COBB.—On the 3rd inst., at Dalby-square, Margate, the wife of A. B. Cobb, of a son.

CONDER.—On the 4th inst., at Middleton Lodge, Bognor, the wife of the Rev. A. Conder, M.A., of a daughter.

GORDON.—On the 4th inst., at Laurel Villa, Shepperton, the wife of S. M. Gordon, of a son.

PHIPPS.—On the 4th inst., at Luptons, Brentwood, Essex, the Lady William Phipps, of a daughter.

WILSON.—On the 10th ult., at Tower-hill, Sierra Leone, the wife of Bro. Capt. H. G. Wilson, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

ALLEN—MOLLER.—On the 1st inst., at St. Peter's, Hammersmith, Edward, son of J. W. Allen, of Ashchurch Villa, Shepherd's-bush, to Matilda Elizabeth, daughter of the Chevalier Johannes Moller.

HEBERT—PEMBERTON.—On the 22nd ult., at West Bromwich, Staffordshire, John Benbow, son of J. B. Hebert, of Edgbaston, near Birmingham, to Myrrha Devon, daughter of the late G. A. Pemberton.

DEATHS.

BOYCE.—On the 3rd inst., at 41, Gray's Inn-road, Mr. William Boyce, aged 74. Australian papers please copy.

GLENDINING.—On the 28th ult., at Lausanne, Sidney Glendining, Esq., aged 41.

WELLS.—On the 4th inst., William Rutter, son of J. Wells, of Manor House, Merton, in his 13th year.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, MAR. 10, 1877.

THE CONTEST IN FRENCH FREEMASONRY.

Bro. Hubert tells us in the last number of the *Chaine D'Union*, that the proposed erasure of belief in God and the Immortality of the Soul, has raised among the French lodges, "un debat des plus vifs." Bro. Hubert, who like us, objects to the change, or rather revolution, maintains that, as some have stated, this teaching of French Freemasonry only dates from 1849. He, at page 109, brings forward evidence, however, that the declarations contained in section No. 8, of the Constitution (now sought to be expunged) have only been as he well puts it,—"l'enregistrement," "la manifestation," "la constatation pur et simple de la croyance universelle, acceptée, enseignée et exigée par la Francmaçonnerie en tous les temps et dans tous les pays, sans aucune exception." He mentions the well-known work, "Histoire, Obligation, et Statuts de la Confraternité des Franc Maçons," published by Francois Varrentrapp at Frankfort A.M., 1742, which in fact are more or less a translation of the old English Constitutions of 1723 and 1738, and which simply reproduce necessarily our English working. The same teaching had been previously put forth in the "Constitutions, Histoire, Lois, Charges," &c., published at the Hague, translated from the English by T. Kuenen 1741. In the "Histoire des Francmaçons," in the two editions of 1745, both of which we possess, the same distinct teaching is laid down. In 1785, in the "Essais sur la Francmaçonnerie," published at "Latopolis," by Andreon, the author of which is F. B., we find these words: "Religion—Le Francmaçon croit en Dieu et il agit conformément à cette croyance; il rend à l'Être Suprême le double culte de son adoration, le culte interieur et l'exterieur. Delà les mœurs pures qui doivent caractériser le vrai Francmaçon." We will only add that we are well satisfied that no French brethren, supporting this hurtful innovation, can prove that at any period since 1732 downwards, French Freemasonry has ever officially taught anything but what is in exact conformity with the declarations of our own Grand Lodge as the doctrines of Universal Freemasonry.

THE EXCLUSION OF HEBREWS.

There can be no doubt that this question is widening in extent, just as it is most important in its general and particular bearings on the teachings and progress of Anglo-Saxon Freemasonry. It is most needful, however, that no side issues should be raised, and no mistaken position assumed, by those who are claiming the rights of Masonic toleration, and we think it well to issue a warning note on the subject, as in the hands of unwise partizans, or on the assumptions of illogical minds, we may find obstacles where all should be an easy victory, and "breakers ahead" where all should be plain smooth sailing. If the battle is to be fought on the assumed deistic or theistic teaching of Freemasonry alone, that, we apprehend, is a false issue, a mistaken argument. Freemasonry is, no doubt, theistic, not deistic, in itself. But it is not only so. There has always been, and there always will be, a Christian school in Masonic symbolism and didactic exposition, and within proper bounds such has a right to be considered. All that Freemasonry proclaims (without any bye-question) is, that it receives all proper applicants for its light and privileges, except atheists and libertines—all, that is, who are good citizens, good men, not breakers of the law of the land, not mixed up with plots or conspiracies, and who accept the fatherhood of God, the brotherhood of man. Now it is most important to bear this in mind, often forgotten, because Anglo-Saxon Freemasonry, at any rate, goes no further and says no more in its preliminary conditions, its, so to say, public basis of admission. Within the lodges,

in our well-known ritual, such teaching may be said to be expanded, and beautifully expanded, to this effect, that Freemasonry avows belief in a Personal God, in a future state, in an immortal soul, and in a resurrection of mankind, and in a great, a holy, an Infallible Judge. It has been contended that the teaching of religion and of Christianity may be pushed much further, and educed more distinctly, and the Royal Arch Ritual may, perhaps, be advanced in favour of such implied if not authoritative teaching. But this is, after all, more of opinion than dogma, more of individual teaching than official acknowledgement. To the Hebrew mind, undoubtedly, Freemasonry has very special attractions, but we agree with one of our Hebrew correspondents, that as they concur with the teachings of Freemasonry, and can come under its conditions, they have as much a right, on the principles of Freemasonry, as any other body of men or religionists to be admitted. We also object to make it any question as between Hebrews and Christians. That is not the point at issue. It is, indeed, true that the exclusion of Hebrews in Germany seems to be a relic of an older teaching of intolerance, and to be the reflection of a destructive wave of so called limited and Christian exposition, which swept over the shore of Craft Masonry, and brought with it confusion instead of order, and discord instead of peace. On the grounds, then, of Masonic toleration, and on the principles of Craft Masonry, the exclusion of the Hebrews is alike unjust, impolitic, and in our opinion untenable, and we trust soon to hear that by wise concessions the last remains of intolerance and exclusiveness have been removed. But in the ardour of our sympathies, and the sense of injury, let no inharmonious chord be struck, as otherwise as always happens in controversies in which sectional feelings and mere denominational views crop up, the effect undoubtedly will be to throw back for some years the satisfactory solution of a most important question, which, we feel sure, may be well left to be settled by the sense of justice, fair play, toleration, and true liberality, which are the characteristics, we fain would hope of all sound Craft Masonry at home and abroad.

PROPOSED INCREASE OF THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

It will be seen by a statement in another column, that the remarks we ventured some time back to make on this most important subject are fully borne out by the report of the House Committee of the Boys' School, presented to the General Committee on Saturday last. We took exception, in all deference, to the estimate of £10,000 for 100 boys, as fragmentary and imperfect, and now we note, if we understand the report, that in order to accommodate 120 boys extra at Wood Green about £22,000 will be required. We would venture to suggest to the authorities that they shall convene a special General Court of the Boys' School, at which a detailed report, with the architect's plans and estimates, should be laid before the meeting, as if the necessity of an increase be proved, and the proposed alterations commend themselves to the views of the supporters of the School, and come before them recommended by the Committee, we have no doubt that our liberal Craft will at once respond to the call, and meet the necessities of the case. But in order to procure unanimity and zealous action, it is necessary, above all things, that all should be, as they say, "ship shape" and clear and plain before the subscribers.

THE SCOTTISH FREEMASON.

Our zealous publisher has started a new Masonic paper, for the information and on behalf of our Scottish brethren. There can be no doubt that the members of our Order in the "Land of Cakes" are quite able to support a paper of their own, if only they will. We wish this new Masonic venture all the success it deserves. We notice *The Scottish Freemason* in another page.

THE QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

Owing to our going to press early on Thursday, we shall defer any remarks on the proceedings of Grand Lodge until next week.

THE BALANCE SHEET OF THE IRISH GRAND LODGE.

We have received from a kind correspondent in Ireland, and carefully studied the official return of the Irish Grand Lodge. We are glad to note the prosperity of our Hibernian sister Grand Lodge, though we are struck with the fact that so influential a body has so little funded property, apparently. The credit side of the Grand Treasurer's Budget is made up as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Balance to credit	1272	0	6
In D.G. Secretary's hands	90	1	11
Annual dues	372	6	7
Passing candidates at Committee...	258	5	0
Certificates and registry	904	18	8
New warrants and affiliations	187	9	2
Collections at Grand Lodge and charity fees, &c.	256	19	5
Contributions, rent of lodges, and High Grades, &c.	754	5	8
Deposit receipt carried to account	750	0	0
Interest of Masonic Hall shares ...	0	10	0
Banker's interest	5	2	9
Sale of publications	133	18	5
Capitation for Dublin lodges	571	15	0
Dispersations and Fines	44	14	0
Sundries	0	12	6
Committee dinners	165	0	6
Other small items.			

In all..... £5817 0 10

	£	s.	d.
Per contra—by charity orders	194	10	0
Rent of Masonic Hall	600	0	0
Taxes, &c.....	166	13	11
Salaries to G. Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Clerk, Tyler, Assistant Tyler, Hall Porter, &c.....	1051	4	0
Printing, &c.....	223	4	0
Coals and gas	250	12	3
Committee dinners	149	18	6
Postage	66	9	6
Repairs	216	1	1
Petty charges.....	45	6	1
Grants to the two Orphan Schools	200	0	0
Deposit receipt	750	0	0
Purchase of house	1000	0	0
Balance in bank for General Account	489	8	10
For Charity Account.....	415	18	3

£5817 0 10

We confess that we do not quite understand one or two points. What does the item "Passing Candidates at Committee, £258 5s." mean? Can any good Irish brother tell us? Again—how do the items, "For dinner receipts and dinner payments," amount to exactly the same in the General and Charity Account? Is it a repetition, or a coincidence Hibernice? If the deposit of £750 is made annually, practically there is yearly a balance of receipts for the close of 1876 over expenditure in round numbers of £2000. Would it not be as well, however, to separate for clearness the two funds, as some of the items appear to be "duplicated," so to say, and render the balance sheet not so lucid or business like as it well might be. For curiously enough, while three of the items of the Charity Fund appear in the general account, one of the items does not, and no clue is given as to the fund, from which the "Grand Lodge Grant" is made of £200. We are a little afraid, from this account, that the Provincial Lodges in Ireland, pay no capitation or benevolent fees, a very great mistake. The weakness of Scottish Masonry is to be found in the fact, that the lodges make no actual capitation payments annually compulsorily, as in our Grand Lodge, and until that is the case, the finances of any Grand Lodge will hardly be what they should be. We say this in no carping spirit of criticism or fault-finding, but with most sincere good wishes for the progress and prosperity of our good Irish brethren, and the Grand Lodge of Ireland.

Original Correspondence.

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

THE MASONIC GIRLS' SCHOOL.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Before another festival of the Masonic Girls' School takes place I should like to ventilate through your columns a matter which appears to me of vital importance. I allude to the absurdity of giving the scholars an education which only fits them for governesses, a class which is at present sadly overstocked.

At the last festival (1876), at which I was present, Lord Carnarvon presided, and speaking of this school expressed the astonishment and pleasure he and Lady Carnarvon felt at the proficiency the scholars had attained in French and German, and the high-class education afforded them. Being of a somewhat practical turn of mind I wrote on a piece of paper, "Can the girls make a suet pudding or boil a potato?" and sent it across the table to a brother I knew, who gave it to one of the House Committee, who most courteously gave me some details of the management of the school. He subsequently introduced me to the matron, who in reply to my enquiry admitted that there were no means at her disposal whereby instruction in the art of cookery could be afforded. She informed me the house was kept in order and the clothes made by the girls, &c. I ventured to remark that that seemed hardly sufficient, and that general domestic knowledge and usefulness could not be acquired by learning to turn down a row of beds to a hair's breadth, or sweep a floor, and that the rough edge of life had to be taken off by making the best of old garments rather than making new.

My notion was, and so I told our brother and the matron (to both of whom I beg to express my warmest thanks for their courtesies), that it was a serious defect in any eleemosynary establishment to instruct children above their rank, and at the same time to fail to give them that practical, common sense, every-day life education, which was essential for their own well-being, as also the houses of which they by-and-by might become the mistress.

A question may be asked, From what class of society are these girls gathered? The answer given is an analysis of the list of candidates. Take, for instance, that for the last October election.

PROFESSIONS.—Major-General, Surgeon, Engineer, 2 Solicitors.

TRADES.—4 Licensed Victuallers, Confectioner, Ironmonger, Carriage Builders, Color Merchant Iron Merchant, Tobacco Factor, Printer, Job Master, Draper, Copper Smith, Bookseller, 2 Jewellers, Brass Founder, Woollen Manufacturer, Merchant, Land Agent, Auctioneer, House Decorator.

CLERKS AND GENERAL.—Manager, 2 Brewers' Travellers, 3 Clerks, Relieving Officer, Quarter-Master, Sergeant-Major.

[Some of the above descriptions are very vague].

For a child to become a candidate her father must have been in needy circumstances. Had he lived his daughter would have been fairly educated, had thrown upon her the care of the family clothing and the duties of arranging and cooking the family meals; and thus become domesticated and useful, and fit to be the wife of a person requiring that his better half should indeed be a "help-meet" rather than a "speaking doll."

I wish particularly to guard against the idea that I am adverse to a liberal education, or one even affording high accomplishments. Most distinctly do I say and mean, that "these things ought the House Committee to do, and not to leave the others undone."

I presume the House Committee are not so entirely above the run of ordinary mortals but they wish their daughters to be taught to assist in the management of their households, to cut out and make their own garments, tidy a house, "make a suet pudding or cook a potato," either for their own table or the poor; not because they may be required to do it, but that when the time comes for them to have establishments of their own, they may be able, by good management, and winning, and educated manners, to make their homes so bright, joyous, and comfortable that their husbands may have no desire to run off to clubs and other places for comforts they would not otherwise get at home.

Why then should these hundreds of children be cast out upon the world with no more knowledge of "ways and means" than a child from the workhouse, and so become, probably, more a curse than a blessing to a husband?

I trust that the Masons of England will join me in endeavouring to induce the rulers of this institution to see the urgent necessity of having the girls under their care taught the great lesson of practical domestic economy in all its branches.

I venture to write on this subject, as I think it of vast interest to the community, and, as a guarantee that I am acting conscientiously and in good faith, I have no hesitation in signing my name.

I am, Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

HENRY C. TOMBS.

P.S.G.W., P.G. Sec.,

P.G.S.E. Wilts, P.M. and P.Z.

P.S. To show that I feel some interest in our charities I may say that I took up for my two Stewardships last year £318, and that could not be obtained without hard work, as well as hearty co-operation from the brethren of my province.

[We insert this letter, but we do not agree with our esteemed correspondent, as we consider the education im-

parted in the Girls' School to be thoroughly practical and sound. After some experience of the subject, we do not know its equal anywhere in this or any other country. No doubt our Bro. R. W. Little will see this letter, and probably reply to it, as he is so well able to do.—Ed.]

MEETINGS OF COMMITTEES OF OUR CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Would it not be well if the brethren were generally and regularly reminded in some way of the meetings of the General Committees? The result of the present system is that few remember the day of meeting, and that fewer still attend.

Yours fraternally,

A LIFE GOVERNOR.

HISTORICAL ACCURACY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

As a Mark Mason, I am anxious to ask you a question or two with reference to one or two statements in the last printed report of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons.

It is there stated, page 1, that "there is probably no degree in Freemasonry that can lay greater claim to antiquity than those of Mark Man or Mason, or Mark Master Mason."

Allusion is made in the same page to a report of a committee of Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland in 1865, which states that from "time immemorial, and long before the institution of the Grand Lodge of Scotland (in 1736), what is now known as the Mark Master Degree was wrought by the operative lodges of St. John's Masonry."

A statement is added, that in "1598, Wm. Schaw, Master of Works [to King James VI., orders the marks of all Masons to be inserted in their work."

Hence the implied and quasi-proven contention is, that the present Mark system and that of the Operative Mark Masons is identical, or that the latter is a continuation of the former.

Now what I want to know, is the present system either identical with, or a confirmation of, the old Mark system?

I am under the impression that the present Mark system is quite modern, and, at the outside, an adaptation of an older system. But even this is not quite clear, for I have been credibly informed that in older warrants the modern Mark Masons "hailed," so to say, not from operative Mark Masons, but St. Mark.

Can Bro. W. J. Hughan, or D. Murray Lyon, or any of our Masonic pundits throw any light on the question, and tell us what is the known earliest Mark warrant, for instance, and if there be any truth in the statement that such old lodges were dedicated to St. Mark?

We live at a time when Freemasons, like others prefer historical truth and certainty to the "on dits" of careless historians, to the semi-fabulous assertions of too credulous students. I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

A MARK MASON.

MASONIC QUERIES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir, and Brother,

I quite agree with "Rough Ashlar" that much valuable space is taken up in your paper by questions answered beforehand by the published laws of Masonry, and I confess my inability to see the value of his suggestion that a cheap edition of the Book of Constitutions should be published, when any number can be had at 1s. 6d. per copy.

I cannot agree that with the present minimum fee for initiation any lodge can plead poverty as an excuse for not handing to each initiate a copy of the Constitutions, as well as of the bye-laws of the lodge, and I go further and assert that the ritual is not complied with unless both books are actually handed over to him for perusal at his leisure. I am glad to say I know of no lodge possessing only one copy of the Book of Constitutions.

Yours fraternally,

F. L. E. J.

THE EXCLUSION OF JEWS IN GERMANY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

The Montefiore Lodge has sent round to all the lodges a request to sign an enclosed petition to the Grand Lodge of England respecting the "obnoxious law" existing in Germany, by which Jews are not admitted in Freemasonry.

There must be an error somewhere.

Last month we have been informed that the Lodge of Joppa have appointed a committee to inquire into the matter respecting one of the German Grand Lodges having such a law. Now the Montefiore state in their circular that the three German lodges do not admit Jews in Masonry. Who is right?

It is a pity that the Jewish lodges in England, who are a very powerful body and good Masons, should not first agree on how to act.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, fraternally yours,

E. P.

STAMPS ON RECEIPTS FOR LODGE DUES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

At the last meeting of the City of London Lodge (901), Bro. Secretary Alder asked me whether it was necessary to use receipt stamps in Masonic Lodges, as he had been informed that it was not. I said certainly you must, as in all other business matters, give a stamped receipt for all monies of £2 and upwards. A P. M.

present said he was an older Mason than me, that Masonic lodges were exempt from using receipt stamps, and that I knew nothing about it. I thought that the sooner the error was corrected the better for the Craft. I therefore wrote the Secretary of the Inland Revenue on the subject, and enclose you his reply, which, for the general information of lodges, it will be as well to print. I am at a loss to understand upon what grounds such an opinion could be for one moment entertained by A.P.M.

I remain, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,
W.M. SNOWDEN,
I.P.M. and Treas. Duke of Connaught, 1558.
[COPY.]
Inland Revenue,
Somerset House, London, W.C.,
1st March, 1877.

Sir,

In reply to the enquiry contained in your letter of the 20th ultimo, I am directed by the Board of Inland Revenue to acquaint you that the Schedule to the Stamp Act 1870 (33 and 34 Vic. cap. 97) imposes a duty of one penny upon all receipts given for, or upon payment of money amounting to £2 or upwards, and that receipts for payments made to or by Masonic lodges are not exempted from the charge.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

FRED. B. GARNETT, Secretary.

Mr. W. Snowden.

CONSECRATION OF THE BEACONSFIELD LODGE, NO. 1662.

The consecration and installation ceremonies took place at The Chequers, Marsh-street, Walthamstow, on Saturday, the 24th ult., the consecrating officer being Bro. John Hervey, G.S., P.G.D., &c., who was assisted by Bros. Joshua Nunn, P.G.S.B., &c., as S.W.; W. T. Howe, P.G.P. Middx., &c., as J.W.; H. G. Buss, P.G.J.W. Middx., &c., as D.C.; and W. Stephens, P.M., as I.G.

The lodge was opened in the three degrees, and the anthems were sung by Bro. Upward and several brethren.

The brethren of the new lodge were then arranged in order, and the Secretary then read the petition and warrant from Grand Lodge.

An oration on the nature and duties of Freemasonry was delivered by the Consecrating Officer, Bro. J. Hervey, G.S., which was listened to with very great interest and attention by the brethren present, and concluding by reading some very appropriate verses.

The lodge was then constituted, and Bro. Walter T. Christian was installed as the first W.M.

The newly-installed W.M. having been saluted in ancient form, invested his officers as follows, viz.: Bros. W. Groome, S.W.; W. H. Brand, J.W.; Fredk. Hallows, Hon. Sec.; C. T. Saunders, S.D.; T. Franklin, J.D.; A. Oldroyd, I.G.; T. Upward, Org.; G. Brown, D.C.; J. H. Cambridge, W.S.; and J. Gilchrist, Tyler.

The furniture and the room were well arranged, and the whole of the ceremony was performed in a manner rarely equalled. Several propositions were given to the Secretary for initiation, and the names of several brethren as joining members. Heartly good wishes were given to the W.M. and success for the future of the lodge.

After the lodge was closed the brethren, to the number of thirty, sat down to a banquet and dessert à la Russe. The wine and viands were of first-rate description, and gave great satisfaction. Grace having been said, the W.M. proposed "The Queen and the Craft." After the National Anthem had been sung, "The Health of the M.W.G.M." was given and enthusiastically received. This was followed by God Bless the Prince of Wales. The W.M. next proposed "The Pro G.M.," which was heartily received, and then followed "The D.G.M., and the other Grand Officers," which met with a hearty cheer. Bro. Joshua Nunn replied for them in a very suitable speech. The next toast was "The Consecrating Officer" (the Grand Secretary, Bro. John Hervey), which was heartily and warmly received by the brethren present. Bro. Hervey replied, thanking the brethren for the reception he had met with from the Beaconsfield Lodge, and said he felt sure, by the working which he had seen, and the brotherly love and unity which existed amongst members, the lodge was bound to prosper, and at the same time wishing it every success, and stating that he should come down and have another look in shortly to see how the work was going on. He then concluded by proposing "The Health of the W.M.," who in return proposed "The Officers of the New Lodge." He said he felt quite sure that with such assistance as he had had that day, and also knowing how they could all work, he felt quite confident that the lodge would be second to none in the manner in which all the duties would be carried out. The S.W., J.W., and S.D., replied in a few appropriate sentences. The next toast was "The Visitors," which was replied to by Bro. Buss, with a few very kind words and wishes for the success of the lodge, and thanking the brethren for giving them all such a cordial and hearty reception. This was followed by the toast of "The Host, Bro. W. G. Hallows," whose catering was pronounced by all present to have been perfect. The host returned thanks in a few appropriate words. During the course of the evening several of the brethren contributed to the happiness of the meeting by singing a few songs, which were well received. Altogether the new lodge has been opened under the most favourable auspices, and there is every reason to congratulate the founders and joining members upon the success that has so far attended it. The following visitors were present, viz.: Bros. Barford, P.M. 55; Downing, P.M. 20; Lyall, P.M. 773; W. Steadman, P.M. 754; Rumsey, P.M. 206; Mackey, P.M. 861; Lecch, P.M. 861; Townsend, P.M. 820; Rev. C. J. Ste-

vens, 813; Davies, I.G. 1309; Carter, 1507; St. Alphonse, S.D. 108; Badkin, S.W. 1365; Warman, W.M. elect 15; Wilson, 1228; Taylor, 1598; Lake, 1471; Grist, 1482, 1637; Field, 1602; Trebeck, 1445; Evenet, 1426; E. A. Wells, 15; Tolliss, 1185; Claridge, 1598; E. Brown, 1598; Laverack, 917; Baxter, 1421; Bare, 1598; M. Christian, 860; C. B. Payne, P.M. 27; G. T. The next meeting was called for Saturday, the 3rd inst.

WHAT GOOD DR. VAUGHAN'S LECTURE HAS DONE.

Dr. Vaughan's misrepresentation of Freemasons has done the Order in New South Wales no harm but good, for "The Exposure of Dr. Vaughan's Ignorance of Freemasonry," by Bro. Dr. Beg, has contributed not a little to add fresh "accessions" to Masonic ranks. Gentlemen who had halted between two opinions for years have now cast in their lot with the Brotherhood; and others are in a state of preparation for entering the Masonic Sanctuary. Besides old Masons appear to have renewed their youth. Their youthful Masonic zeal has returned upon them, and

"Made youth younger and taught life to live."

So much for Dr. Vaughan "hectoring" about Freemasons. We hope that he has since found that he is not "Infallible." His "own people," we are afraid, are "annoyed and displeased" at their Archbishop's retreat and defeat; but, no doubt, they comfort themselves with

"The best may slip, and the most cautious fall;

He's more than mortal who ne'er erred at all."

The Archbishop, however, is bound to produce "the oath of allegiance" he has taken, and to answer "the seven questions" put to him by the D. Grand Chaplain, E.C.

In the meantime it is gratifying to know that brethren of the different Constitutions have shown great unanimity and enthusiasm in reference to the lecture of their brother the D. Grand Chaplain, for lodges have sent their congratulatory addresses and brethren their tokens of fraternal esteem to him, for which the lecturer returns his cordial thanks. Various lodges have ordered large supplies of "Dr. Vaughan's Ignorance of Freemasonry Exposed," for gratuitous distribution among non-Masons, that "the good of Freemasonry" may be promoted. By the way, we have just heard that Dr. Vaughan intends delivering another lecture justifying his conduct in bringing "charges" against our Order. We wait longingly for such an oration, and we hope it will appear in *extenso* in *Sydney Morning Herald*.—*Australian Freemason*.

MASONIC BALL IN LIVERPOOL.

The brotherly spirit and enterprise which have marked the members of the Lodge of Israel, No. 1502, since its consecration some time ago at the Masonic Hall, Liverpool (where the meetings are now held), were apparent in a large degree in connection with the second annual ball of the lodge, which took place on Wednesday evening, the 28th ult., at the Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool, an admirable place for festive purposes, as was the generally expressed opinion of every one present. As on the first occasion, the ball was in aid of the Benevolent Fund of the lodge, which has been instituted by the brethren of 1502, for the purpose of assisting, when needed, the aged and indigent members, and giving timely help to the widows and children of deceased brethren connected with them. Although the fund has been only little more than a year in operation, the sum in the hands of the Treasurer already amounts to upwards of £80, and there is every probability that this amount will be increased to upwards of £100 as a result of the present year's festive gathering. In founding the fund the officers and brethren have shown a noble example, which is well worthy of very general imitation, as the wisdom of providing for the proverbial "rainy day" applies to societies as well as to individuals. As yet there have been no claims on the resources of the fund, but no one knows how soon it may be taxed to give timely aid to some poor brother upon whom distress has come without warning, and when least expected. The gathering of Wednesday week was of a most distinguished kind, the principal Jewish and Christian families in Liverpool and its neighbourhood being represented among the brilliant assembly. Amongst the 160 guests present we observed Bros. M. Hart, W.M.; A. J. Henochsberg, I.P.M.; R. Robinson, P.M.; A. Jones, S.W.; S. Schönstadt, J.W.; I. de Frece, Treas.; I. Woolf; A. Hart; Professor Prag, Chaplain; A. Lyons, M. Prensian, H. M. Silver, S. J. Henochsberg, and others. The other visitors included Bros. A. S. Levy and Aaronsberg (Wardens of the Old Hebrew Congregation); P. Barnett, President of the New Hebrew Congregation; Henry Gabriel, Treasurer of the New Hebrew Congregation; Bro. Hoffnung, Mr. Benas, Bro. D. Saunders, 1609; Mr. Fineberg, Bro. S. Payne, Q. Ballard, Bro. W. M. Chudley, P.M. 241; Bro. A. Vandyke, 241; Bro. J. Busfield, 216; and others. The whole of the brethren, with few exceptions, appeared wearing the jewels and insignia of the various ranks in different Orders, and the general effect was therefore very striking. The arrangements were admirable, and therefore there was no hitch in the pleasant evening's proceedings. Bro. M. Hart, W.M., was the chairman of the ball committee; and the duties of captain of an indefatigable band of Stewards were admirably performed by Bro. A. J. Henochsberg, I.P.M.; Bros. S. J. Henochsberg and A. Hart were the M.C.'s, Bro. H. M. Silver, the Secretary, and Bro. A. Lyons, the Treasurer of the ball. Excellent music was provided by Mr. Martin's band, and during the evening a sumptuous supper was served to the guests under the personal direction of Bro. Ludlow, the excellent secretary and manager of the hotel.

FREEMASONRY IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

DEDICATION OF A NEW MASONIC HALL AT GLEN INNES.

On Thursday, 9th November, the brethren of Glen Innes Lodge, 1569, E.C., met for the purpose of dedicating their new hall. Thursday had been set apart by them for performing this interesting ceremony, it being the anniversary of the birthday of our Grand Master, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, which they considered a most suitable occasion for them to show their loyalty to their beloved Sovereign, and her son, the Heir Apparent. The hall is a very fine brick building, having a neat stuccoed front. The hall itself is 45 by 28 feet, with a lofty dome roof, lit by a lantern surmounting it. There are two ante-rooms in front, facing East-street, and a refreshment room and other offices in the rear; the ground on which it is erected being the gift of Bro. F. Schedel, of this town, who also was the contractor for its erection. A number of brethren visited from the surrounding districts and the neighbouring townships of Tenterfield and Inverell, among whom were the W.M., Bro. Hindmarsh, and some of the officers and brethren of the Inverell Lodge. There were altogether about fifty brethren in attendance. The lodge was opened at high noon by Bro. James Munro, W.M., who said they had met to "dedicate a hall or lodge to God and Masonry;" he felt highly pleased that as W.M. he had not only the honour of being deputed by District Grand Lodge to lay the foundation-stone of this hall, but also of taking a principal part in the ceremony. He would mention that the programme would be carried out under the direction of Bro. P.M. Towner, who had kindly consented to act as Director of Ceremonies on this occasion, and he felt assured that his name would be a sufficient guarantee that it would be conducted strictly in accordance with ancient Masonic usage. The hall was then handed over to the W.M. by the contractor, and accepted in due form, the W.M. stating that the skill and fidelity displayed in the execution of the trust bestowed on Bro. Schedel had secured the entire approbation of the lodge, and he sincerely prayed that the edifice might continue a lasting monument of the taste and spirit of the founders. A procession was then formed of the officers, all the other brethren remaining in their places standing, and waiting to perform the "Dedication Ode," during which, at intervals, the W.M. solemnly dedicated the Hall severally to "Masonry," "Virtue," and "Universal Benevolence," accompanied by Grand Honours, and followed by a solemn invocation, given by the Chaplain; at the conclusion of which the Chaplain (Rev. J. H. Johnson, B.A.) delivered an oration to the following effect:—

Worshipful Sir, Officers, and Brethren,—It gives me great pleasure to address you on this most interesting occasion. The hall which has been consecrated to-day with so much solemnity and reverence is a building well fitted for the purpose of Masonry in general, and the requirements of the lodge in particular. The religious observances of this consecration are well calculated to make us feel the all-prevailing presence of the Great Architect of the Universe. As the minister of God, I feel it my sacred duty, with all affection and earnestness, to implore you ever to remember that the eye of God follows you in every place and occupation, and when you remember this truth, it will surely have the power of retaining you from offending against His holiness and purity. Fortified by the sense of His continual presence and protection, we can make our request known to Him firmly persuaded that His ears are ever open to the prayers offered to Him by His loving people. Our God is indivisible, incorporeal, and eternal. He has been called by a great writer the "Eternal Now, the same yesterday, to-day, and for ever." As obedient servants to the Most High, we are exhorted to be one in heart and soul and affection. God is not divided; and, brethren, we must be united; our success is certain if we bear this in mind. I feel very grateful for this opportunity of recording my sense of the character of Freemasonry as promoting all the principles of morality and virtue. Masonry, as we all know, has a tendency to make us better fathers, better husbands, better brothers, and better members of society in general. It inculcates the holy virtue of Faith, by which we believe that He is the rewarder of those who diligently seek Him. I would therefore earnestly and affectionately entreat you to exercise yourself diligently in prayer, ever remembering that without faith your prayers will be of no avail; and however ably the words may be formed, unless the heart accompanies them, they will be but a mockery in the eyes of the Almighty. Hope—a sister virtue—is urged upon us more urgently by the principles and tenets of Masonry. It enlivens us in our devotions and encourages us by its invisible power to trust that the promises of God may become our certain inheritance; it fills the future with ineffable brightness, and bridges over the waters of death; so that believers on earth and in heaven become one family. My beloved brothers, let not your hope fail you under the presence of earthly trials and difficulties; their stress may be great upon you, but the power of Omnipotence being on your side, they will all vanish. The greatest of all these virtues is Charity. Upon this our noble Order speaks most distinctly and forcibly. The duty of relieving distress among our own brethren is one that commends itself to our holiest and best feelings. The exercise of charity towards each other does not necessarily consist in relieving the bodily wants and necessities of others; but in that holy affection which we owe to one another as the children of the Most High, who inhabit the same world, breathe the same air, and are similarly maintained from day to day by his Providence. Charity will always think the best of others, whatever the world may say, and cement the union of mankind by the holiest of ties; in short, the bond of charity is hailed to bind us together in one com-

munion. I feel it my imperative duty as your Chaplain to speak boldly and publicly concerning an attack made on Freemasonry by one high in authority. I need not say to you, my brethren, who are acquainted with the true principles of our ancient Craft, that the most outrageous charges of atheism, immorality, and treason, are wholly unfounded and baseless; we can only conclude that these charges are made by one who is entirely ignorant of a subject on which he so rashly ventured. Brethren, I, as a minister of God, and a member of the Order, give my unqualified denial to them all, and I say they are false and uncalled for. As to our loyalty, no Order can surpass us, and allow me to express on your behalf our fealty to our beloved Queen, whose subjects we are (may she yet reign long and happy), and may God continue to shower down upon her His kindness and mercy. As a proof of our loyalty, monarchs, princes, and persons of the highest rank have in all ages belonged to our Order, and promoted its interests. Were we otherwise than loyal, we might ask—would the Heir Apparent to the British throne have become a Freemason, and consented to fill the chair as our Grand Master? Brethren, on this the anniversary of his birthday, let us, in God's most holy name, wish him all happiness and prosperity.

On the conclusion of this able address, of which the above is only a sketch, a grand anthem was performed. And here it may be mentioned that the whole of the musical portion of the programme, which formed a very important one, was, with the assistance of a good choir, and the advantage of having visiting Bro. Best to preside at the harmonium, carried out most admirably. Bro. P. M. Downer in a few applicable remarks, dwelling especially on the bold refutation made by the worthy Bro. Chaplain against the base and unfounded invectives which had been so unwarrantably hurled against the Order by Dr. Vaughan, proposed—"That a vote of thanks be accorded to Rev. Bro. Johnson, for the able and suitable address which he had so kindly and fraternally delivered on this auspicious occasion," which was carried by acclamation.

W. Bro. Hindmarsh, W.M. of the Inverell Lodge then presented, on behalf of himself and the officers and brethren of that lodge, Bro. J. T. French with a very handsome gold Masonic jewel, in recognition of the very valuable services rendered by him to the Inverell Lodge, at and since its formation. Bro. French, in thanking the W.M. and brethren of the Inverell Lodge, said "that in doing what he had done, and done with pleasure, he considered he had only been performing a duty he owed to the Craft; he should always be proud in being privileged to wear so handsome a jewel, so fraternally bestowed upon him. The lodge then closed, the whole of the brethren expressing their delight and satisfaction at the way in which the ceremony had been carried out by W.M. Bro. J. Munro, and his officers, to whom the greatest praise is due. It is such ceremonies as these that tend to raise the esteem of the beauties of the Order in the minds of the younger Masons. The brethren then repaired to the Royal Hotel, where an excellent luncheon had been provided for them.

THE BALL.—The lodge-room was soon transformed into an elegant ball-room, very neatly decorated with festoons of evergreens and flowers, Masonic emblems, and numbers of flags, a notable feature being a very handsome Prince of Wales's feather over the W.M.'s canopy; also, most prominently displayed, was a life-like oil-painting of Bro. P.M. Downer, executed by Bro. Donald Wagner, of this town, and in a spirit of fraternal feeling presented by him to the lodge. The portrait is a most truthful and excellent one, and does the highest credit to the artist. Although there were about one hundred persons present, the hall was not at all crowded. Dancing commenced punctually at nine o'clock, and was continued until long after daylight; everyone seemed so thoroughly to enjoy themselves that the night passed away imperceptibly. The ladies, who were dressed with the most exquisite taste, appeared to have made up their minds to be completely happy; and a more enjoyable evening, or rather we might say night, could not have been spent. Herr Wirth's band discoursed excellent music. Bros. S. Ashton and H. Lewis, the M.C.'s, did all in their power to make everything go smoothly. The refreshments during the whole of the evening, provided by the Glen Innes Campagnoni, Mr. John Noonan, were all that could be desired.

The 9th November, 1876, will long be remembered, not only by the brethren of the Order, but also by their fair sisters. Both socially and financially it was an immense success. The balance, which will be something considerable, will be handed over to the Building Fund.

Reviews.

THE SCOTTISH FREEMASON, No. 1.

We like the appearance and matter of this "interesting little" Masonic "stranger" very much indeed. It is very well printed, got up, and arranged, and reflects equal credit on its publisher, editor, and printer. The time has clearly arrived when the Scottish Freemasons should have an organ of their own, as the Scottish Masonic intelligence cannot (such is our impression) be fairly or properly dealt with without more space than an ordinary Masonic journal can afford to supply. The Order in Scotland is a very intelligent, influential, and estimable body of men, and we trust that brighter days are opening out for them, and that they may rise to the proper level, alike of their own duties and the wants of Freemasonry. We have no doubt that the financial position of the Grand Lodge has greatly affected their general contentment and prosperity, and when that is put straight, as we trust soon will be the case, Scottish Freemasonry will come at once "to the fore." The *Scottish Freemason* will, we venture to think, assist in this good work, and aid towards this desirable end. We con-

gratulate our estimable and energetic publisher on his seeking to establish in Scotland an indigenous Masonic journal, and we hope, as we believe, that supported by Scottish energy and good will, this new literary venture (one, by the way, of a most effective and readable character) will meet with the success it so well deserves. The *Scottish Freemason* has our "heartiest good wishes," and we feel convinced that it has before it a course of prestige and prosperity.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The General Committee of this Institution met on Saturday last at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. W. F. Collard Moutrie occupied the chair. Among the other brethren present were Bros. Henry Browne, Benjamin Head, Capt. John Wordsworth, J. G. Chancellor, Jesse Turner, S. Rosenthal, J. W. Dennison, J. C. Dwarber, John Symonds, William Mann, A. Durrant, Robert B. Webster, Henry W. Hunt, F. Adlard, Rev. Dr. Morris (head master), W. Hyde Pullen, H. Massey (*Freemason*), and F. Binckes, Secretary.

After the reading and confirmation of the minutes of former meeting a slight discussion arose on some of the business then done. Afterwards the report of the special House Committee was brought up, which stated that the proposition for accommodating 120 boys extra in the Institution had been submitted to them, with the question of increasing the buildings at Wood Green, and that after examining the plans for these buildings they found that the probable outlay which would be incurred in erecting these buildings would be about £22,000.

The petition of Mrs. Belmore, the widow of the late George Belmore, the actor, for placing one of her children in the Institution, was read, and the boy having been examined in reading was placed on the list.

Bro. H. G. Warren gave notice in writing of motion for the Quarterly Court in terms similar to that given by him at the General Committee of the Girls' School, on the 2nd February, for increasing the amount of securities for the Secretary and clerk.

Bro. John Symonds said that if Bro. Warren had been present he had intended to suggest to him that the amounts should be fixed by the Courts, and that they should be struck out of the laws.

Bro. Binckes read a letter from the solicitors to the Institution, stating that, in conformity with the resolution passed at the last meeting of the General Committee, they had deposited the securities of the Institution with the bankers, Messrs. Willis, Percival, & Co., 76, Lombard-street, and now forwarded a list of those deeds to the Secretary.

The committee having sat an hour, adjourned.

The adjourned meeting of the Special House Committee appointed to enquire into the best method of extending the Institution by adding further building to the present school-house at Wood Green, sufficient to accommodate 120 additional boys, was held at Freemasons' Hall on Saturday last, when there were present Bros. Henry Browne, W. F. Collard Moutrie, Benjamin Head, Captain J. Wordsworth, and F. Binckes, Secretary. Other plans were laid before the committee besides those laid before them at the meeting the week previously, and having been considered, it was found that the probable outlay which would be incurred by erecting the proposed new buildings would be about £22,000. It was resolved to report this to the General Committee and Quarterly Court, and the committee then adjourned.

From the Class list of the Cambridge Local Examination (Christmas, 1876) just out, we are enabled to give the results as far as concerns our Boys' School. They are exceedingly satisfactory. The number of candidates was 28, and 26 have passed. Of these 26 there were 25 juniors, and 1 senior. Of the 25 juniors, more than half (14) gained a place in the honour list—2 in the 1st class, 3 in the 2nd class, and 9 in the 3rd class.

The quality of the work done in the school is testified to by these figures, and there is no need of any comment.

The following is a complete list of the successful candidates:—

SENIOR.—1 passed, R. Bryant.
JUNIORS.—1st Class: 1, Parker; 2, Green. 2nd Class, 4, Bowler; 5, Sage; 6, Pawley. 3rd Class: 7, Uwins; 8, Newman; 9, Markin; 10, Rose; 11, Grimes; 12, Heaviside; 13, Doswell; 14, Widdowson; 15, Watkins. SATISFIED THE EXAMINERS: 16, W. Sparkes; 17, Pinson; 18, Harding; 19, Tayler; 20, Battye; 21, Booser; 22, Warr; 23, Moon; 24, Whyatt; 25, A. Bryant; 26, W. White.

THE "SCOTTISH FREEMASON."—The first number of this new organ for the Craft has just been published, and promises fair to be a success. It is got up in first-class style, clearly printed on excellent paper. In addition to accounts of Masonic proceedings in different parts of the country, detailed reports are given of festivals and other meetings in a form such as the brethren have not been favoured with for a considerable time past, and at a length which they could not expect in ordinary newspapers. The leading principles are ably set forth in an article entitled "What is Masonry?" and some fine "Lines to the Craft" are given from the pen of Bro. F. B. Covell. There is also the first instalment of a Masonic tale, entitled "The Broken Emblem," and other items for the benefit of those who, although belonging to the neutral world, may read the journal, so as to learn what their Masonic friends have been doing.—*Glasgow News*.

Masonic and General Tidings.

The annual grand vocal and instrumental concert will be given in aid of the funds of the Metropolitan and City Police Orphanage, on Friday, the 23rd inst., at St. James's Hall. Among the eminent vocalists announced to appear, we notice Mr. Sims Reeves, Bro. Lewis Thomas, Madame Edith Wynne, and Miss Emily Mott (daughter of Bro. Superintendent Mott). The concert will commence at 8 p.m.

ROYAL ARCH MASONRY, PROVINCE OF QUEBEC, CANADA.—At a late emergent convocation, held in the City of Toronto, Province of Ontario, the M.E. the Grand Chapter of Canada unanimously recognised the recently established Grand Chapter of the Province of Quebec, of which M.E. Comp. Graham, of Richmond, P.Z., is 1st Grand Principal.

The Lord Lieutenant of Ireland held a chapter of the Order of St. Patrick on Saturday night in Dublin Castle for the installation of the Duke of Manchester, R.W.P.G.M. Northamptonshire, as a Knight Companion of the Order. The imposing ceremony was witnessed by a very large assembly.

On Monday night, at the Lodge of Joppa, London, Bro. Davis, of lodge of Israel, Birmingham, stated that the endeavour now being made by English lodges to obtain the removal of the exclusion of non-Christians from Freemasonry by the German Grand Lodge had the hearty sympathy of the brethren at Birmingham, as well as the Provincial Grand Master of Warwickshire, the brethren of Plymouth, and the Earl of Mount-Edgcombe, Provincial Grand Master for Cornwall. He had no doubt all lodges in England would unite with Lodge Montefiore in petitioning the Grand Lodge on the subject.

We understand that the Provincial Grand Lodge of Suffolk will be held on Friday, the 29th June, at Hadleigh, under the presidency of the popular Prov. Grand Master, Lord Waveney.

In a congregation held at Oxford on Saturday last the degrees of Bachelor of Divinity and Bachelor of Arts were conferred on Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Donoughmore, S.G. Warden.

THE SOCIETY OF ANCIENT BRITONS.—Thursday being St. David's Day, about a hundred gentlemen dined together at Willis's Rooms, in celebration of the 162nd anniversary of the Honourable and Loyal Society of Ancient Britons. Lord Dynevor occupied the chair, and amongst those present were Sir Alexander Wood, the treasurer of the society, Mr. C. W. Wynn, M.P.; Mr. C. Stepney, M.P.; Bro. Sir George Elliot, R.W.P.G.M. South Wales; Mr. J. C. Kenyon; Mr. Charles Shaw, Mr. Cecil Morgan, Mr. E. Rhys Wingfield, and Bro. J. C. Parkinson. The charity, which is known as "The Welsh Charity School," was first established in 1715, its objects being then modestly confined to the payment of premiums on the apprenticeship of two boys, one from South Wales and the other from North Wales. Afterwards a school was established at Clerkenwell-green, which was removed first to Gray's-inn-road, and afterwards, in 1857, to Ashford, in Middlesex, and the number of children now in the school is 130 boys and 70 girls, 2516 boys having since the foundation been admitted upon the establishment and wholly maintained in the house, of whom 1133 have been apprenticed. The noble chairman in proposing the toast of the evening, "Prosperity to the Society of Ancient Britons," pleaded earnestly for increased support to the institution, and subscriptions were subsequently announced to the amount of nearly £900, including £105 from the Queen, £105 from the chairman, in addition to £10 10s. annually, and 50 guineas each from Earl Powis and Bro. Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, R.W. Prov. Grand Master North Wales and Shropshire.

A change has, within the last few days, taken place in the old established firm of Waterlow and Sons (Limited). Arrangements have been made by which it will in future be carried on by Messrs. Waterlow, Brothers, and Layton, at the old premises, Birchin-lane, Cornhill. Bro. Alfred T. Layton, who is well known to many members of the legal profession, having been engaged in the various departments for many years, is also a distinguished Mason.

PROVINCE OF SOUTH WALES.—H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., has delegated to Bro. Aeneas J. McIntyre, Q.C., Grand Registrar, the duty of installing Bro. Sir George Elliot, Bart., M.P., as Provincial Grand Master of South Wales, Eastern Division. The ceremony will take place at Aberdare on the 4th proximo, and the brethren who have charge of the arrangements for the occasion expect upwards of 1000 visiting brethren, a large proportion being Grand Officers. The Installing Master will be assisted by Sir Albert Woods (Garter), Grand Director of Ceremonies. The new vicar of Aberdare, Bro. Rev. W. W. Jones, M.A., the successor to the late Canon Jenkins, will give a special service in the parish church of Aberdare. Aberdare has been selected from its being situated midway between the important Masonic centres of Swansea and Cardiff, and on account of its abundant communication by railway with all parts of the principality and the adjacent provinces. The brethren are very popular in Wales, and the appointment of Sir George to this important position has been long expected. Bro. Sir George Elliot has held the position of Deputy Grand Master of Middlesex, achieving that position after being the W.M. of the Bard of Avon Lodge, formerly a Warwickshire lodge, held at the famous Red Horse at Stratford-on-Avon, and now held as a summer lodge on the banks of the broader Thames.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, March 16, 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, MARCH 10.

- Lodge 108, London, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
 " 173, Phoenix, F.M.H.
 " 176, Caveac, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
 " 1328, Granite, F.M.H.
 " 1361, United Service, Greyhound Hot., Richmond.
 " 1426, The Great City, Cannon-st. Hot.
 " 1607, Loyalty, Alexandra Palace, N.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.
 Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
 Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-sq.
 Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-rd.
 Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, S.W.

MONDAY, MARCH 12.

- 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.
 " 136, Good Report, Cannon-st. Hot.
 " 193, Confidence, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
 " 222, St. Andrew's, Inn's of Court Hot.
 " 1366, Highgate, Gatehouse Hot., Highgate.
 " 1571, Leopold, Woolpack Tav., Bermondsey-st.
 Chap. 22, Mount Sion, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
 " 1118, University, F.M.H.
 Rose Croix Chap. Holy Sanctuary, 33, Golden-sq.
- 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 T'wn.
 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.
 London Masonic Club, 101, Queen Victoria-street.
 West Smithfield, New Market Hot., West Smithfield.
 Leopold, Woolpack Tavern, Bermondsey-street.
 London Masonic Club, 101, Queen Victoria-st.

TUESDAY, MARCH 13.

- Lodge 46, Old Union, Cannon-st. Hot.
 " 96, Burlington, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
 " 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.
 " 228, United Strength, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
 " 235, Nine Muses, Long's Hot., Bond-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.
 Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.
 Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
 Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
 Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
 Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
 Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
 Prosperity, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
 Constitutional, Wheatheaf 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.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14.

- Com. R.M.B.I., at 3.
 Lodge 9, Albion, Regent M.H., Regent-st., W.
 " 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.
 " 820, Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond.
 " 1017, Montefiore, F.M.H.
 " 1306, St. John of Wapping, Gun Tav., Wapping.
 " 1503, Francis Burdett, Albany Hot., Twickenham.
 Chap. 1260, Hervey, F.M.H.
 " 1305, St. Marylebone, Brit. Stores, St. John's Wood.
 Mark 144, Grosvenor, Cafe Royal, Regent-st., W.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.
 Confidence, Blue Anchor Tavern, Coleman-street.
 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.
 Royal Jubilee, 81, Long Acre.
 Langthorne, Swan Hot., Stratford.

THURSDAY, MARCH 15.

- Lodge 23, Globe, F.M.H.
 " 49, Gihon, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
 " 55, Constitutional, Inns of Court Hot.
 " 63, St. Mary's, F.M.H.
 " 169, Temperance, White Swan, High-st., Deptford.
 " 179, Manchester, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
 " 181, Universal, F.M.H.
 " 733, Westbourne, Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
 " 813, New Concord, Rosemary Branch, Hoxton.
 " 1139, South Norwood, Public Hall, South Norwood.
 " 1278, Burdett Courts, Approach Tav., Approach-rd.
 " 1287, Great Northern, F.M.H.
 " 1365, Clapton, White Hart Tav., Clapton.
 " 1475, Peckham, S.M.H.
 " 1507, Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.
 " 1512, Hemming, Lion Hot. Hampton.
 Encamp. E., Observance, 14, Bedford-row.

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.
 Finsbury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Milbank.
 Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
 The Great City, M.H., Masons' Avenue.
 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, MARCH 16.

- Lodge 6, Friendship, Willis's Rooms, King-st., W.
 " 143, Middlesex, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
 " 201, Jordan, F.M.H.
 " 1589, St. Dunstan's, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
 Chap. 92, Moira.
 Encamp. 6, St. George's, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
 " 48, Kemeys Tynte, 33, Golden-sq.
 " 74, Harcourt, Greyhound Inn, Richmond.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.
 Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
 Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
 Belgrave, Constitution, Bedford-st., Covent Garden.
 Unions Emulation (for F.M.H.), 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, Prince's Hall, 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, March 17, 1877.

MONDAY, MARCH 12.

- Lodge 314, Peace and Unity, Militia Mess R., Preston.
 " 721, Independence, Eastgate-row, Chester.
 " 1021, Hartington, Customs Buildings, 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.
 Egerton Mark Lodge, 165, Bedford House, Rock Ferry.
 Walton Red Cross Con, 66, St. Lawrence's School, Livrpl.
 Derby L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, MARCH 13.
 Lodge 241, Merchants', M.H., Liverpool.
 " 1250, Gilbert Greenall, M.R., Warrington.
 Chap. 537, Zion, M.R., Birkenhead.
 " 613, Bridson, M.H., Southport.
 Stanley L. of I., 241, Great Homer-st., Liverpool.
 Liverpool Red Cross Con., M.H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14.
 Lodge 281, Fortitude, Athenæum, Lancaster.
 " 1094, Temple, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 1356, De Grey and Ripon, 80, N. Hill-st., Liverpool.
 " 1547, Liverpool, M.H., Liverpool.
 Chap. 1345, Victoria, Cross Keys Hot., Eccles.
 Neptune L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, MARCH 15.
 Lodge 203, Ancient Union, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 343, Concord, Militia Mess R., Preston.
 " 425, Cestrian, M.H., Chester.
 " 605, Combermere, Seacombe Hot., Seacombe.
 " 1299, Pembroke, Rawlinson's Hot., West Derby.
 Chap. 249, Mariners, M.H., Liverpool.
 Encamp. Wm. de la More, M.H., Prescott.

FRIDAY, MARCH 16.
 Duke of Edinburgh L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
 Hamer L. of I., Liverpool.
 Encamp. Jacques de Molay, M.H., Liverpool.

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