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GRAND FESTIVAL.

The Grand Festival of Ancient and Accepted Masons of England was held on Wednesday evening, at Freemasons' Tavern. Before the Festival, Grand Lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, for the appointment and investiture of the Grand Officers for the ensuing year. Grand Lodge was very numerously attended, there being about 600 of the brethren present. The Most Worshipful the Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, was not present, he having recently gone to the East for the benefit of his health. His place, however, was occupied by the Most Worshipful the Pro Grand Master, the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, who was supported on his right by the Deputy Grand Master, Lord Skelmersdale, and on his left by Dr. Hamilton, the District Grand Master of Jamaica. The Grand Officers of the year were in their places, viz., the Right Hon. the Earl of Donoughmore, S.G.W.; the Hon. William Warren Vernon, J.G.W.; Rev. Robert Spencer Wigram, and Rev. Charles William Arnold, Grand Chaplains; Samuel Tomkins, Grand Treasurer; Aeneas J. McIntyre, Q.C., Grand Registrar; John B. Monckton, F.S.A., President of the Board of General Purposes; John Hervey, Grand Secretary; Ernest Emil Wendt, Grand Secretary for German Correspondence; Lieut.-Col. Thos. Birchall, and Thos. W. Boord, M.P., Senior Grand Deacons; Edward J. Barron, and J. March Case, Junior Grand Deacons; F. P. Cockerell, Grand Superintendent of Works; Sir Albert W. Woods, *Garter*, P.G.W., Grand Director of Ceremonies; William Rhys Williams, M.D., Asst. Grand Director of Ceremonies; W. Francis Nettleship, Grand Sword Bearer; Wilhelm Kuhe, Grand Organist; E. P. Albert, Grand Pursuivant; S. G. Foxall, Asst. Grand Pursuivant; and C. B. Payne, Tyler. Among the other brethren present were the Earl of Shrewsbury, Lord Tenterden, Lord De Tabley, Captain Platt, James Glashier, the Rev. C. J. Martyn, the Rev. Sir J. W. Hayes, Thomas Fenn, S. Rawson, J. M. Clabon, Raynham W. Stewart, Major Shadwell Clerke, Capt. N. G. Philips, Colonel Somerville-Burney, Ex-Sheriff Hutton, Cameron Churchill, P.M., P. Prov. G. Reg. Oxon. (Northern Bar Lodge); and H. Massey (*Freemason*).

Grand Lodge having been formally opened, Grand Secretary read the minutes of last Grand Lodge as far as related to the election of the M.W.G.M.

These having been put and confirmed, Lord Carnarvon said: It is now my duty to proceed, in the name and place of His Royal Highness the Grand Master, to the appointment of the Grand Officers for the ensuing year. I have in the first instance to announce that H.R.H. has been graciously pleased to appoint me Pro Grand Master for the ensuing year. (Loud applause.) I have next to announce that H.R.H. has been pleased graciously to appoint my noble friend Lord Skelmersdale as Deputy Grand Master. (Renewed applause.) There is only one other point which I may take the opportunity of mentioning to Grand Lodge, and that is the regret which His Royal Highness the Grand Master feels at being unable to be present here to-day. He is unavoidably, as you are all aware, detained abroad at this moment. Brethren, there is yet one other point to which I wish to direct your attention. Grand Lodge is honoured to-day by the acceptance of the offices of Senior and Junior Grand Wardenship by His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, and His Royal Highness Prince Leopold. (Cheers.) I regret greatly, and Grand Lodge will regret equally, that neither of these two illustrious Princes can be here to receive the badges and symbols of the office which they have undertaken. The Duke of Connaught is in Ireland, and H.R.H. Prince Leopold, I am afraid, is at this moment suffering so much from indisposition that he is unable to attend; and therefore it will be necessary that they should receive the insignia of their office from the hands of some other brethren.

The customary salutes were then given to the Pro Grand Master, after which Lord Skelmersdale was re-invested and saluted as Deputy Grand Master. The Earl of Donoughmore and the Hon. W. Warren Vernon were then invested as proxies for the Duke of Connaught, S.G.W., and Prince Leopold as J.G.W.

The other brethren appointed and invested were Bros. the Rev. Charles W. Arnold and W. Lake Onslow, G. Chaplains; Samuel Tomkins, re-elected G. Treas.; A. J. McIntyre, Q.C., re-appointed G. Reg.; John Hervey, re-appointed G. Sec.; E. E. Wendt, re-appointed G. Sec. for German Correspondence; Capt. N. G. Philips and Peter De L. Long, Senior G. Deacons; H. C. Tombs and E. J. Morris, Junior G. Deacons; F. P. Cockerell, G. Supt. of

Wks.; Sir Albert W. Woods (*Garter*) re-appointed G. Dir. of Cers.; F. Robinson, Assist. Dir. of Cers.; Geo. Toller, G. Swd. B.; C. E. Willing, G. Org.; H. G. Buss, Assist. G. Sec.; S. G. Foxall and W. T. Howe, G. Purst.; and C. P. Payne, re-appointed G. Tyler.

On investing Bro. Tomkins the Earl of Carnarvon said he had to congratulate him on the appointment, but he had to congratulate still more Grand Lodge on the re-election of so worthy a brother. To Bro. McIntyre he said it was his grateful duty to declare that the services he had rendered to Grand Lodge were many and great. To Grand Secretary he said (the cheers being exceedingly hearty), that it was a satisfaction to feel that on his re-appointment the expression of Grand Lodge was more eloquent than any words he (Lord Carnarvon) could bestow, and he congratulated him heartily. To Capt. Philips he said it was a very great pleasure to him that an old schoolfellow of his should have obtained this appointment. When Bro. H. G. Buss was invested amid loud cheering, Lord Carnarvon said to him, it was his duty now to confer on him the collar of Assistant Grand Secretary. He entered upon a new office. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the Grand Master, had been pleased to create, or rather he should say, to revive an office, which he doubted not Bro. Buss would discharge well, as he was sure he had hitherto discharged his other duties faithfully. The business of Grand Lodge had shown that tendency to grow which was not inseparable from the increase of an institution so great as Freemasonry; and it had been found justly necessary to re-inforce the staff of Grand Secretary's office. He doubted not that the Grand Lodge would find in Bro. Buss a good and worthy Assistant Secretary, and he congratulated him most heartily on the appointment. Lord Carnarvon, after the other appointments had been made, said he had to announce that the Grand Master had appointed Bro. Albert to take the rank and wear the clothing of a P.G. Purst.

Grand Secretary then read the following list of Grand Stewards for the year: Bros. Charles Edwd. Smith, 58; A. A. Bristow, 14; C. O. Barker, 29; R. Gooding, 1; E. P. Deacon, 2; H. A. Bennett, 4; Major H. Scriven, 5; E. J. F. Fawcett, 6; J. P. Probert, 8; T. A. Macey, 21; C. Martin, 23; A. H. Henry, 26; G. H. Savage, 46; Capt. J. Wordsworth, 60; W. Surr, 91; A. Bell, 99; Thos. Donithorn, 97; and F. H. Goldney, 259.

Before closing Grand Lodge Lord Carnarvon said: Brethren, nothing now remains but for me to close this Grand Lodge, the business being transacted; and I take this opportunity to express to you a matter of very sincere personal regret to myself, that at the last moment when and after I had fully hoped, and made up my mind to be present at the banquet, I am called away by official business, against which it is perfectly vain to struggle. I shall therefore, unfortunately and sorely against my will and my expectation, be obliged to absent myself immediately after the Grand Lodge is closed. I have only the satisfaction to know that my noble friend and brother, Lord Skelmersdale, will take my place, and discharge my duties as efficiently as I could have done myself.

Grand Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to a sumptuous banquet provided by the Grand Stewards, and supplied by Bro. E. Dawkins, the manager of Freemasons' Tavern. All the arrangements were perfect, and reflected the greatest credit on the Board of Grand Stewards, who were Bros. F. S. Knyvett, 58, President; Dr. Edmund Nash, 14, Treasurer; Arthur J. R. Trendell, 29, Hon. Secretary; Thos. T. Smith, 1; Dr. W. Hope, 2; B. C. Veley, 4; J. C. Havers, 5; Winthrop Mackworth Praed, 6; J. L. Geiger, 8; Robert Berridge, 21; John Boyd, 23; Thos. C. Tatham, 26; William Kingsbury, 46; John C. Chancellor, 60; Henry John Reynolds, 91; George Marshall, 99; William George Cusins, 197; and Gabriel Prior Goldney, 257.

After the banquet the customary toasts were proposed. Lord Skelmersdale, in giving the toast of "the Queen," said that her Majesty was Patroness of the Order, and she always acted up to the greatest of its precepts, charity. There was never a charitable case which came under her Majesty's notice to which she did not give a ready response; as witness the great mining accident in South Wales the other day, when she telegraphed to know how those poor men were going on; and ministered to their aid. If she did not belong to the Order as a member, she was one of them in heart.

Lord Skelmersdale then gave "The Health of H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, and the other Members of the Royal Family," and that of "H.R.H. the M.W.G.M." He said he took the liberty of coupling these two toasts, not on account of time, but because this was the first occasion on which they had the opportunity of including two other members of the Royal Family otherwise than the Prince of Wales in Grand Lodge. The brethren had been told by the Pro Grand Master the reason the Grand Master was not present; and the brethren all regretted his absence; but when they knew that he had gone abroad for the benefit of his health, and that being abroad was doing him good, they would not regret his absence. The Princess of Wales was also abroad, but he hoped we should soon see her bright, genial face again amongst us. Her Royal Highness had endeared herself to us, he believed, more than anyone thought it possible for any one woman to do. Not to dwell any longer on this subject, he would only add that it was a great day for Freemasonry when they saw three Princes of the blood Royal occupying the three first chairs in Grand Lodge. They were not present, but that was not their fault. The Duke of Connaught was now occupied with his duties in Ireland, and it was utterly impossible that he should have come to-day among the brethren, and he believed he would be in London only for ten days this season. Prince Leopold likewise was not present, for the reason that he was not in that state to take any liberty with his health. The brethren all wished his health was in better order. Although these two Princes were not present they both had their

hearts in Masonry, and both wished themselves with the brethren.

Lord Skelmersdale, in proposing "The Health of the R.W. the Pro Grand Master," said the brethren had seen in Grand Lodge how sorry his lordship was to leave them, and for his (Lord Skelmersdale's) own part he knew Lord Carnarvon had the fullest intention to be present. It was only within a very short time before the opening of Grand Lodge that he found it would be impossible to remain. There was no better Mason in England, no man who more thoroughly had Freemasonry at heart and who wished to do good to it and encourage it in every possible way.

Lord De Tabley, proposed "the Health of the R.W. the Deputy Grand Master."

Lord Skelmersdale in reply said it gave him great pleasure to be present, but at the same time great pain, for he had made up his mind to sit still, enjoy a good dinner, hear some good speeches and some good singing, and have nothing to say. But he was placed in the position of chairman suddenly, and he had nothing to do but to ask the brethren's forgiveness for his short-comings. He had little to say about himself, but what he would say was that he congratulated the brethren presiding and the Craft generally on the way in which the Order was progressing and increasing. He knew it in more ways than one. He knew it in his own province of West Lancashire where it had become almost unwieldy. He knew it in Grand Secretary's office, because he had to sign his name a great many times, and Bro. Hervey's postage bill must be very large. The brethren knew they were prosperous, and they showed that they felt it by the munificent gift they made the other day to the Life-boat Institution that would be a lasting record of the gratitude of the Freemasons of this country for the safe return of the Prince of Wales from a foreign country. He was happy to-day that the Committee appointed to confer with the Secretary of that Institution as to the site of the lifeboats would very soon make their report, and he would say without hesitation that the places selected were those which he thought every one would agree were the best suited for the placing of lifeboats. Coming unprepared for the position of Chairman it was difficult for him to make a Masonic speech, but he might say that the brethren would not differ from him when he said that he thought that with increase of brethren throughout the country they ought also to see a progressive increase in their charities. The brethren would say he was reading them an oft-told tale, and he believed he had spoken on the same subject before; but it was one he had at heart, and he would never stand up in that hall, or any other Masonic place in the world, without saying a word about charity. He had said before that Her Majesty took great interest in everything that was charitable, and he might say of Freemasons that without charity Freemasonry was nothing. They were a grand and magnificent body, increasing day by day; therefore let them see that their charities increased also day by day. His lordship after again thanking the brethren for the toast they had drunk, gave "The Health of the Grand Lodges of Scotland and Ireland," and coupled with it the name of Bro. Laurie, Grand Master of Nova Scotia.

Bro. Laurie, in reply, said he was an old English Mason himself, but had gone abroad in the course of his duties, and at the request of a large number of Masons in one of our colonies, where a new Grand Lodge was lately established, had accepted the position of Grand Master. The matter of forming Grand Lodges had come before the brethren, and finally they came to the conclusion that it was best to encourage it. The R.W.D.G.M. had spoken about the increase of Masonry at home. He (Bro. Laurie) could tell them a great deal about the increase of Masonry on the other side of the Atlantic. It had been his duty and his pleasure to visit Grand Lodges in America. He had seen 8000 in one state of the Union, and 25,000 present at the dedication of a Masonic temple. That was in one state, the State of New York, and the other states had something like a proportionate number. Masonry was strong and very progressive on that side of the Atlantic. Referring also to the fact of recognising Colonial Grand Lodges, it was, he believed, following the policy which was politically followed by our government in giving self-government to the colonies. Instead of their being opposed to the mother country they felt that they had the hearts of Englishmen, and they were a group of children growing round their parent, and willing to take a share when need be in the burdens of the Empire. And so it was Masonically, and in the Grand Lodge over which he had the honour to preside, the lodges held fast to the register of the Grand Lodge of England; they had their number from their own Grand Lodge, but they preferred more—he was staking his own authority when he said so—the number they held on the register of England. He could only say he should do his best to keep them to that duty. With that view, with their desire to build up Masonry, to perpetuate in English colonies the holding fast their allegiance to England, our Queen and our old country, as Masons as well as citizens, they would always strive.

Bro. W. W. Beech, M.P., proposed the toast of "The G. Wardens and other Grand Officers, Past and Present." It marked an auspicious era in the annals of Freemasonry when the Royal Princes were appointed as Grand Wardens of Grand Lodge. He hoped it would be an incentive to additional interest on their part in Masonry. He would say "May Freemasonry flourish under their auspices." They had been told the great English Princes were promoters of the order; but never he thought in the more palmy days of Freemasonry were two Princes made in one day recipients of office in Grand Lodge. He trusted that those appointments would have one effect at least on the outer world, and particularly that section of it who were traducers of the Order, might be convinced that there could be nothing very essentially mischievous in a society of which the Heir Apparent was placed at the head, and in which two of his brothers were glad and

proud to take high office. Let the brethren then drink their health with all enthusiasm. As they were unfortunately not present, he would couple with the toast the name of the Earl of Donoughmore, P.G.W. His lordship was connected with the Sister Isle, but still he had the interest of Freemasonry so much at heart that he presided at present over a lodge in this metropolis with conspicuous ability.

The Earl of Donoughmore, P.G.W., in responding, said there was one reason why he should not make a long speech, he felt very much like the old year which was going out to make room for the new. However, it was a proud position for a man to be the predecessor of such exalted persons who were now in the S.W. and J.W. chairs. It was a different thing to speak for the Past Grand Officers because he was a very young Past Grand Officer now, and very likely they would not like to confide to him the expression of their feelings. Still, speaking for the Past Grand Officers in general, the reception given to this toast was exceedingly flattering to them.

Lord Skelmersdale proposed "The Provincial Grand Masters," whom he looked upon as generals exercising their powers under a commander-in-chief. Without the able co-operation of the Provincial Grand Masters, the Grand Master would be almost powerless. They were the officers who brought the whole system of Freemasonry into true working and kept things together. He would have coupled that toast with the name of the Senior Provincial Grand Master had he been present, but he had been obliged to retire through indisposition. Looking round the table he saw the Junior Provincial Grand Master who had just been nominated by the Prince of Wales. This was Bro. Montague Guest, who he knew to be a good and a true Mason, and one who had made the most rapid progress in Freemasonry he ever remembered, and he would couple his name with the toast.

Bro. Montague Guest, Prov. Grand Master designate of Dorsetshire, in the course of his reply said he believed the duty of a Provincial Grand Master was to promote peace and harmony in his province, as well as the cause of charity. He was convinced that the Provincial Grand Masters present had carried out this duty, and for himself he would say it would be his first object, as Prov. Grand Master, to do the same.

The Rev. C. J. Martin, P.G.C. and D.P.G.M. for Suffolk, proposed "The Masonic Charities." The Benevolent Institution at its last festival realised over £12,000, and he wished the same success for the Girls' School and the Boys' School, the former of which would have its festival that day fortnight, and the latter in June. He asked the brethren to give to the large number of applicants who were knocking at the doors, that relief which by God's mercy they were able to extend to them.

Bro. Binckes replied. Many of the brethren had been charged with attempting to press their appeals on behalf of the charities too strongly. He thought they were more than justified in doing so after the wonderfully kind observation of their presiding chief, that in every assembly he took part in and presided over, he never would permit the great cause of Masonic charity to be forgotten or overlooked. From what was said at the memorable installation at the Albert Hall two years ago, they were all justified by every means, so far as they could exercise the powers they had, to press upon the attention of the brethren the necessity of supporting more and more largely, as Freemasonry increased, those institutions whose object especially was to provide for those of the Order who needed that support which they would not obtain through any other means. To-night was not a charity festival; the brethren had simply to acknowledge the kindness and courtesy which, amidst his many duties, the president of the day had shewn in proposing this toast.

The toast of "The Stewards" was proposed by Lord Skelmersdale, who remarked that the brethren were all indebted to those brethren for the exertions they had made in providing such a successful entertainment.

Bro. Felix Knyvett, President of the Board of Stewards, responded, and said that the occasion had been so successful that it must ever be a bright spot on the Stewards' minds and in the annals of Freemasonry. They would be able to look back for years to come with pride and pleasure to this their year of office. His lordship had been pleased to couple his (Bro. Knyvett's) name with the toast, but he did not know what the Stewards would have done but for the services so worthily rendered by their Secretary, Bro. Trendell.

The brethren then joined the ladies in the Temple, where a concert was given under the direction of Bro. Wilhelm Kuhe, P.G. Org., by Miss Jose Sherrington, Miss Annie Sinclair, and Miss Helen D'Alton, and Bros. Geo. Perren, Baxter, Carter, Thornton, and Distin. Bros. Wilhelm Kuhe and Wilhelm Ganz conducted.

At the banquet Bro. Harker was Toast Master.

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

JOPPA LODGE (No. 188).—This lodge held its regular meeting at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, on the 12th inst., in place of Monday, the 2nd inst., it being Bank Holiday. The lodge was opened in due form, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The Secretary, Bro. P.M. Albert, P.G.P., was unavoidably absent, consequent on the death of his mother. Bro. Henry Hymans, S.D., acted as Secretary pro tem., and it is noteworthy that he carried out the duties with such ease and precision (for the first time), which might put many an old Secretary to the blush. Bros. Osborne, Lenzberg, and Althorp were raised to the Third Degree, and Mr. J. Thos. Burrows was balloted for and initiated into the Order, the respective ceremonies being rendered

in the most impressive and intelligible manner by the W.M., Bro. Lewis Lazarus, which could not be surpassed. There was a notice of motion in the summons by P.M. Diepenheim, that banquets be reduced for the next two or three years from four to three, so as to make a lodge fund for the future. A somewhat peculiar note was read by the W.M. from Bro. Diepenheim, asking that the motion might be deferred, as he was unable to attend. Bro. P.M. Alexander said it was his firm belief that the motion could not be entertained by the lodge, as in the absence of any bye-law to the contrary, it was clearly the prerogative of the W.M. to decide what banquets, &c., the members should have, and it was not competent in any member to dictate to the W.M. in respect to refreshments he should order for the lodge, and the motion, therefore, was trenching on the privilege of the W.M. Bro. J. S. Lyons made some remarks respecting certain members being largely indebted to the lodge, and were such members to pay their dues regularly the lodge would always be in ample funds. Bro. S. Davis said he thought Bro. Diepenheim very much out of place in attempting to interfere with the banquets, as he paid nothing towards them, being only a country member. After a little more discussion on the subject Bro. P.M. Alexander moved, and Bro. P.M. Levi seconded, "That the motion could not be entertained by the lodge for the reasons already stated," which was put to the lodge and carried unanimously. It was proposed and carried that a letter of condolence be sent to Bro. P.M. Albert, P.G.P. The lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren then retired to light refreshment, and passed an enjoyable evening.

RANELAGH LODGE (No. 834).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 10th inst., and the members met in strong force on the occasion. The lodge was opened and minutes confirmed, after which the ballot was taken for the admission of Sir C. W. Dilke, M.P. for Chelsea, which proved unanimous. The lodge being opened in the Second Degree Bro. Josey was passed. The next business on the summons was the installation of the W.M., which was admirably carried out by Bro. Knowles, whose working was perfect, and the W.M., Bro. Fish, proceeded to invest his officers as follows:—Bros. Baker, S.W.; Watson, J.W.; Thompson, P.M.; Treas.; Worthington, P.M., Sec.; Middleton, S.D.; Shaw, J.D.; Warner, I.G.; Bryett, D.C.; Ellingford, S.S.; Webb, J.S. The initiation of Sir C. W. Dilke was then proceeded with, and the candidate seemed greatly impressed with the ceremony. The W.M. presented the I.P.M. in the name of the lodge with a massive 18-carat gold Past Master's jewel, in recognition of services rendered to the lodge. The I.P.M. proposed that ten guineas each should be voted to two of the institutions; this was seconded and duly carried. The brethren then sat down to a recherche banquet, provided by Bro. P.M. Millis, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

WANDSWORTH LODGE (No. 1044).—A meeting of this lodge was held at the Spread Eagle Hotel on the 18th inst. Amongst the members present were the following officers:—Bros. P. Cooke, W.M.; J. G. Carter, P.M.; G. Howick, P.M.; F. H. Newens, P.M.; J. Kewney, P.M.; E. H. Boddy, P.M.; H. R. Jones, S.W.; W. A. Morgan, J.W.; J. Frost, Sec.; W. Huntley, I.G.; A. N. Newens, S.D.; J. B. Walker, J.D.; J. J. Holland, W.S.; and Bro. S. Steed, Tyler. There were also the following visitors:—Bros. Dr. Hugh Mackintosh, 4; G. W. Usill, 186; E. Swanborough, 1319; F. Mead, 1420; and W. F. Pether, 177. Bro. A. A. Denham was raised to the Second Degree by Bro. E. H. Boddy, P.M.—Bros. H. R. Jones, S.W.; J. G. Carter, J.W.; A. N. Newens, S.D.; J. B. Walker, J.D. Mr. Robert Walker was impressively initiated by Bro. Boddy, P.M., Bro. W. A. Morgan being in his post as J.W., and Bro. H. R. Jones, S.W. The lodge then proceeded to elect a W.M., Treasurer and Tyler for the ensuing year. Bro. H. R. Jones was unanimously elected W.M., and Bros. H. Wilson and S. Steed re-elected as Treasurer and Tyler. Bro. P. Cook, W.M., said he should resign the chair with both regret and pleasure—regret, because he knew he had not had sufficient leisure to attend to his Masonic duties as he should have liked; and pleasure, because he knew that a very worthy successor would be found in Bro. Jones. Bro. Jones ably and feelingly replied. Upon the motion of Bro. Boddy, a jewel to the value of five guineas was unanimously accorded to Bro. Cooke, the retiring W.M. A banquet followed. "The Queen and Craft" and other Masonic toasts having been given and drank, "The Health of the Initiate" followed. Bro. R. Walker replied in a humorous speech. The lodge was shortly after closed in peace and harmony. The lodge was in mourning for Bro. Robert McRae, and it was decided that a letter of condolence be sent to his widow. A banquet followed, served in first-class style by Bro. Dougherty. The usual Masonic toasts having been ably given by the W.M., "The health of the Initiate" was drunk with enthusiasm. Bro. R. Walker replied in a humorous speech. "The Officers" was followed by "The Visitors." Bro. Dr. Mackintosh, in replying for the visitors, referred to the proverbial hospitality of the Wandsworth Lodge, and notably pointed to the banquet that evening as a specimen of the cordial feeling shown to visitors.

MIZPAH LODGE (No. 1671).—This lodge held its first regular meeting on the 14th day of April, at the Albion, Aldersgate-street. Present: Bros. Nelson Reed, W.M.; David R. Still, S.W.; Walter W. Medcalf, J.W.; H. G. Buss, Sec.; James J. Avery, Treas.; W. Vilven, S.D.; F. Morgan, 1572, acting J.D.; J. Johnstone, D.C.; C. Schmidt, I.G.; and H. Shaw, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. Howe, Grand Purst.; Morton, P.M. 1056; Rogers, W.M. 1550; Stevens, J.D. 657; Russell, 1572; Watkins, 390; Perkins, 1572; Chaney, 180; Lord, 23; and others. The lodge was opened and the minutes of the consecration meeting read and confirmed; and it having

been proposed by the S.W., and seconded by the J.W., that the W.M. should act as first Steward at the Girls' festival, the sum of £10 10s. was voted from the benevolent fund to be placed on his list. There were several propositions for initiation, and the lodge closed in perfect harmony at 5.25. The brethren then adjourned to the banquet, which was served in the best style, for which the Albion is so noted. After the banquet the usual toasts were duly honoured. "The Health of the W.M." was proposed by Bro. H. G. Buss. The toast of "The Visitors" was replied to by Bros. Howe, Rogers, and Morton. The charity box was passed round, and £5 was the result. The Tyler's toast concluded a very pleasant evening.

ST. JOHN OF WAPPING LODGE (No. 1306).—The installation meeting of this influential lodge was held at the Gun Hotel, Wapping, on the 11th inst. There were present Bros. J. W. Dawson, W.M.; W. Poore, S.W.; Rae, J.W.; Hamilton, I.G.; Longstaff, Tyler. The visitors were Bros. Lacey, P.M., P.P.S.D. Herts.; Mickley, P.M. 554, P.P.S.D. Herts.; Berry, P.M.; Healey, Moss, Smith, and Benj. Wright (Freemason). The lodge was opened with solemn prayer, and Bros. Harbert, Sedgwick, and Howard, the candidates for raising, having answered the usual question were duly entrusted. Bros. Mograth and Wooding were passed to the Second Degree, and Bro. Frogley initiated into our ancient and honourable fraternity. The W.M. then proceeded to instal his successor, Bro. W. Poore, who having answered the usual questions was duly elevated to the chair of K.S. The brethren were then admitted, and the new W.M. gave a good specimen of his Masonic abilities by closing down the lodge, which was performed in a very creditable manner. Nothing more being proposed for the good of Freemasonry in general, and the lodge in particular, the brethren adjourned to banquet, which was served in Bro. Mortlock's best style, and reflects the greatest credit on his abilities as a caterer. The usual toasts and a little harmony brought a very enjoyable evening to a close.

WINDSOR.—Etonian Lodge of St. John (No. 209).—The last meeting of the session was held at the Masonic Hall, Windsor, on Tuesday, the 3rd inst. Present: Bros. C. D. Hume, W.M.; Roberts, S.W.; Schiemann, J.W.; Wilson, P.M., Treas.; Carter, P.M., P.G.D.C. Berks and Bucks, Sec.; Nicholes, S.D.; Cousins, I.G.; Tolley, P.M., P.P.G.D., Org.; Dixon, P.M., P.P.G.D.C.; McIlwhan, P.M.; Long, P.M., Evans, Radcliffe, Apted, Lancaster, Mitchiner, Crawshaw, Dore, Miller, Duffield, Stollery, and others. Visitors: Bros. Devina, 162; Blundell, 742; Hornblower, 1604; G. Hawkes, 1350; Cantrell, W.M. 1501; Bingham, P.M. 771; Willett, 771; Grisebrook, P.M. 771; Powell, P.M. 771; and others. Mr. Benjamin Hawkes was initiated into Freemasonry, Bro. Crawshaw passed to degree of F.C., and Bros. Apted, Dore, and Miller raised to degree of M.M. The whole of the degrees were worked by the W.M. in his well-known manner. Bro. Petts, of Royal Sussex Lodge, No. 342, and Bro. Whittaker, of Eden Lodge, No. 73 (I.C.), were unanimously elected as joining members. The W.M. having announced his intention to serve as Steward at the approaching festival in aid of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, the brethren unanimously voted £10 10s. towards that excellent institution, to be added to the W.M.'s list of subscriptions. After some other business the lodge was adjourned until October next.

BATH.—Lodge of Honour (No. 379).—The last meeting of the season was held at the Masonic Hall, on Monday, the 9th inst. The lodge was opened at 8 p.m. by Bro. H. Gore, W.M., supported by Bros. Cooper, P.M., acting as I.P.M.; H. C. Hopkins, S.W.; Falkner, S.W. 41, acting as J.W.; G. H. Cook, P.M. and Treas.; Dr. Hopkins, P.M., &c., by special invitation; Braham, Sec. 41, acting as S.D.; Johnston, J.D.; Baldwin, I.G.; Gazzard, Tyler; and several members. Many visitors were present, among whom may be specially noticed Bros. F. Wilkinson, W.M. 41; Captain Peel Floyd, P.M. 41; Foreckler, P.M. 25 (S.C.); Pegler, P.M.; Craig, P.M.; Bedford, P.M.; Blomfield, P.M., all of 304, Leeds. The minutes having been read and confirmed, the lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and afterwards in the third, when Bro. Bell was raised to a M.M. by Dr. Hopkins, who also gave him the traditional history, the charge, and an additional lecture upon the tracing board of the degree. The working tools were efficiently explained by Bro. Falkner. The W.M. again took his chair, and resumed the lodge in the Second and then in the First Degree. A vote of thanks to the visitors, and especially to the one who had occupied the chair, was proposed by the W.M., and carried by acclamation. This was acknowledged very neatly by the W.M. of 41, and the P.M.'s of 304, who congratulated the lodge on the style in which the ceremony had been conducted, and particularly on the lecture, to which they had listened with great interest, since it contained matter which was new to them. The W.M. explained the unavoidable absence of three candidates, one for each degree, and closed the lodge at ten o'clock.

CHIPPENHAM.—Lansdown Lodge of Unity (No. 626).—A regular meeting was held on Tuesday, the 10th inst., at the Town Hall. The chair was taken at 5.30 by Bro. Fowler, W.M., supported by Bros. Watts, as I.P.M.; Goldney, P.M.; Gale, P.M.; Milsom, P.M., acting as S.W.; and the other officers in their respective places. There was a good attendance of the members. The lodge having been opened in the First Degree, and the previous minutes read and confirmed, the W.M. opened the lodge in the Second Degree, and then announced that the ceremony of raising would be performed by Bro. Dr. Hopkins, P.P.G.S.W. for Warwickshire, and P.M. 43 and 958, who, on receipt of a telegraphic message, had come from Bath at a moment's notice for the purpose. Dr. Hopkins took the chair when the lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and Bro. Brinkworth was duly

raised by the acting W.M., who also gave him the traditional history, the explanation of the working tools, and the charge. The chair was again taken by Bro. Fowler, W.M., who brought down the lodge to the First Degree, and expressed the thanks of the lodge to the visiting brother, who had so promptly complied with the request to do the work. A slight alteration in the bye-laws, of which due notice had been given, was agreed upon, and no other business offering, the lodge was closed at seven o'clock.

BOMBAY.—Lodge Concord (No. 757).—At the regular meeting of this lodge, held at the Freemasons' Hall, Mazagon, on Saturday, the 20th January, 1877, there were present W. Bros. G. R. Henderson, W.M.; W. C. Rowe, I.P.M.; B. Robinson, P.M.; A. King, P.M.; Bros. O. Tomlinson, S.W.; J. Spiers, J.W.; F. Burdett, Treas. and officiating Secretary; H. Watson, S.D.; R. Sowden, J.D.; J. Jones, I.G.; and J. W. Seager, Tyler. Members: Bros. J. F. Grew, J. W. Watson, J. H. Boyne, S. Needs, J. Luke, J. May, J. A. De Gama, and R. Sowden. Visitors: W. Bros. T. Connell, A. Mackenzie, H. W. Barrow, C. E. Mitchell, Geo. Thomson, S. N. Cooper, Bros. J. Lyons, P. Nelson, W. Haywood, Geo. S. Purvis, L. Thomas, J. H. Irvine, H. Parker, E. Parker, J. L. Madden, A. Rule, P. Bellili, J. Jones, S. Babington, D. M. Jeejeebhoy, Rustomjee Cawasjee, Eduljee Shappoorjee, James Bushby, H. Thorpe, B. J. Stone, W. Breslanen, Framjee Dhinshaw Petit, T. C. Brennan, W. C. Taylor, H. Holmes, E. Meiffre, Thos Wood, W. Rodger, R. Brown, P. P. Jeejeebhoy, W. Saunders, Francis Ward, and several others. The lodge was opened at 6.30 p.m., and the summons convening the meeting read. The minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed, and the minutes of the last permanent committee meeting having been read, were adopted. Bro. O. Tomlinson withdrew the name of Bro. Middleton as a re-joining member. The Secretary read a letter from W. Bro. T. Leith excusing attendance. The Secretary stated that he had just received a letter regarding the widow of a deceased brother. It was referred to the permanent committee. The Right W. Bro. the Hon. J. Gibbs, District Grand Master of English Freemasonry, with his officers, being announced, were admitted, and the D.G.M. was saluted with the honour due to his high rank. The lodge having been raised to the Second Degree, the W.M. proceeded to install the Master elect, which ceremony was very ably performed, at the conclusion of which Bro. O. Tomlinson was duly proclaimed W.M. of Lodge Concord, No. 757, E.C., and he then proceeded to invest his officers as follows: W. Bro. G. R. Henderson, I.P.M.; Bros. H. Watson, S.W.; R. Ballard, J.W.; F. Burdett, Treas.; J. W. Watson, Sec.; R. Sowden, S.D.; T. W. Brownitt, J.D.; J. Luke, Steward; J. F. Grew, M.C.; G. A. De Gama, I.G.; J. W. Seager, Tyler. W. Bro. Rowe proposed, and W. Bro. G. R. Henderson seconded, the following brethren as members of the Permanent Committee: Bros. J. Spiers, J. Luke, R. Sowden, T. W. Brownitt, J. Jones, and S. Needs. Bro. T. C. Brennan was duly elected by ballot as a joining member. The D.G.M. then gave hearty good wishes to the lodge, and said he was very glad to see it working so harmoniously together. There being no further business the lodge was closed with solemn prayer at 8.10 p.m. About 70 brethren, including the D.G. Master and his officers, sat down to banquet, and an exceedingly pleasant evening was spent.

LIVERPOOL.—Everton Lodge (No. 823).—The usual monthly meeting of this numerous and well worked lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, on Wednesday, the 18th inst., when Bro. W. Wilson, W.M., presided, supported by Bros. T. Shaw, I.P.M.; W. Cottrell, P.M.; J. Houlding, S.W.; H. Ashmore, J.W.; J. W. Lunt, P.M., Treas.; J. S. Cuthbert, Sec.; P. W. Oglesby, S.D.; T. Webster, J.D.; J. Holland, P.M., D.C.; A. J. Fishlock, Org.; J. Boyle, I.G.; T. H. Carefull, S.; J. Beesley, S.; and W. H. Ball, Tyler. There were about fifty members present, and the visitors' column contained the names of Bros. H. S. Alpass, P.G. Sec.; J. Skeaf, P.G.O.; T. J. Hughes, 216; J. Busfield, 216; J. Queen, 1505; R. H. Evans, P.M. 292; J. Jacobs, 724; A. Musker, Sec. 1182; J. H. McQuistan, 241; A. Willis, W.M. 1035; R. P. France, W.M. 594; and W. H. Cooper, S.W. 1350. Two candidates were initiated and six passed to the degree of Fellow Craft by the W.M. in a remarkably effective way, and in the course of a splendid delivery of the lecture in the Second Degree he (Bro. Wilson, W.M.) referred in eloquent terms to the various specimens of the various orders of architecture to be found in Liverpool. Seven guineas were voted for the assistance of widows and orphans in distress. It was also resolved that new clothing should be provided for the officers of the lodge. Bro. Lunt, P.M., Treas., called the attention of the brethren to the death of Bro. Jacob Lloyd, formerly Treasurer of the Everton Lodge; and on his suggestion it was resolved that a letter of condolence should be sent to the widow of the deceased under her painful trial. The brethren subsequently supped under the presidency of the W.M.

LIVERPOOL.—Prince of Wales Lodge (No. 1035).—The usual monthly meeting of this influential lodge was held on Thursday evening, the 12th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, Liverpool, and was attended by an unusually large number of members and visitors. The lodge was opened by Bro. Alfred Willis, W.M., and amongst those present were Bros. J. W. Turley, P.M., P.P.G.J.D.; J. F. Newell, P.M.; G. Sculthorpe, P.M.; J. B. Bunting, P.M.; T. Fozzard, P.M.; J. W. McWean, S.W.; T. McWean, J.W.; G. Morgan, P.M., Treas.; R. R. Forshaw, Sec.; J. Whaites, S.D.; J. P. Bryan, J.D.; W. Forrester, I.G.; J. Smith, S.; and others. At the conclusion of the usual business, which included an initiation, the brethren adjourned for refreshment, a capital supper being served by Bro. Casey, and was done ample justice to by those present. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given,

that of the Provincial Grand Officers being responded to by Bro. J. W. Turley, P.M., P.P.G.J.D., after which the most interesting affair of the evening took place, viz., the presentation to Bro. J. F. Newell, I.P.M., and Bro. Bunting, P.M., and late Treasurer, of tokens of respect from the lodge. Before speaking of this it may be interesting to note the previous history of: the Prince of Wales's Lodge. Some twelve years ago it was formed as an offshoot of the "Downshire" Lodge, 594, and has gradually become one of the strongest lodges in West Lancashire. Some three years ago the lodge fell into temporary misfortune, and Bro. J. F. Newell, P.M., was elected to the chair under rather depressing auspices. His conduct gave such general satisfaction that he was re-elected, thus filling the chair for two years in succession; while Bro. Bunting, P.M., who had already filled the office of Treasurer for some years, proved a worthy coadjutor. The result has been a complete restoration to its former position; and it was in recognition of the important services rendered by these two brethren that the gifts were presented. Bro. Newell, who so efficiently filled the chair of W.M. for two years, was presented with a very handsome dining-room time-piece, of unique construction; and Bro. Bunting, P.M., whose eight years' valuable services as Treasurer of the lodge well merited the recognition, was presented with a handsome gold watch (specially manufactured by Bro. W. Johnson, Lodge 241). The W.M., in making the double presentations, spoke very highly of the zeal and ability of the late Worshipful Master and Treasurer, and wished them both long life and prosperity. Bro. Newell, in replying gave a short resumé of the history of the lodge, and congratulated the brethren on the present position and working, speaking also of the pleasure it afforded him to do anything for the Prince of Wales's Lodge. Bro. Bunting also returned thanks, and referred to the happy associations connected with his Treasurership, and also to the fact that no deserving case of distress was ever sent away from the Prince of Wales's Lodge. "The Health of the Worshipful Master" was proposed by Bro. Newell, P.M., and duly honoured. "The Past Masters" was responded to by Bro. Fozzard, P.M., "The Officers" by Bro. McWean, S.W., and by Bros. T. Foulkes and J. P. Bryan, "The Musical Brethren." The evening was enlivened by several songs, &c., given by Bros. T. Foulkes, Rees, Pladdy, Forrester, and Smith, the accompaniments being most efficiently played by Bro. J. P. Bryan. After the lodge had been closed in solemn form and harmony the brethren separated after a most enjoyable evening.

LIVERPOOL.—Temple Lodge (No. 1094).—The annual installation meeting of the members of the Temple Lodge, No. 1094, was held on Wednesday the 11th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, where there was a capital and most enjoyable gathering of the fraternity. The lodge was opened at 5 o'clock prompt by Bro. W. Healing, W.M., and the officers who supported him were Bros. R. C. Yelland, P.M., W.M. elect; Dr. J. Kellett Smith, P.M., P.P.G. Reg.; Richard R. Martin, P.M.; Wm. Crane, P.M.; A. Jarvis S.W.; Thos. G. Winstanley, J.W.; J. Wood, Treas. (Freemason); T. Marsh, P.M., Secretary P.P.G.A.D., Cers.; Thos. S. Williams, S.D.; T. Birch, J.D.; H. B. Jones, I.G.; Richard Washington, P.M., D.C.; Josh. Skeaf, P.M., P.G.O., Organist; H. Horspool, John Alexander, Stewards; Peter Ball, Tyler. The members present were Bros. Fred. J. Jeffery, Thos. Carr, Peter Reid, E. Chater, Robert Bethel, Wm. Callow, J. Callow, J. Tyson, G. B. McGachen, A. C. Doe, Wm. Jones, Richard Ingham, Alexander H. Lowe, LL.D., Thos. Durrans, H. Jones, J. Dean, David Cutchley, Dr. Joseph Spicer. The list of visitors included the names of Bros. John Asberry, 1620; James Bailey, 667; J. R. Bottomley, 1356; John Hill, 1609; Chas. Leighton, 1350; Jno. W. Turley, P.M. 1473, P.P.G.J. Deacon; Jno. Cave, 220; Peter MacMuldrow, P.M., 1299, P.G. Purst; J. Busfield, 216; A. Barnard, 249; M. Ellison, 249; Archd. Gilfillan, and others. After the transaction of some ordinary business, Bro. Dr. J. K. Smith, P.P.G. Reg.; proceeded to install Bro. Richard C. Yelland, P.M., for the second time, in the chair of W.M., a ceremony which he performed with marked ability, the charges to the officers being admirably given. The new W.M. afterwards invested his officers as follows:—Bros. W. Healing, I.P.M.; T. S. Williams, S.W.; T. G. Winstanley, J.W.; Joseph Wood, Treasurer, re-elected for the twelfth time; Thomas Marsh, P.M., P.P.G.A.D.C., Secretary, re-appointed for the twelfth time; Rev. Dr. Lowe, LL.D., Chaplain; J. Skeaf, P.G.O., Organist; T. Birch, S.D.; H. B. Jones, J.D.; J. Alexander I.G.; R. Washington, P.M., D.C.; H. Horspool, S.S.; E. J. Callow, A.S.; J. Tyson, A.S.; and P. Ball, Tyler (re-elected). In the course of the evening a handsome P.M.'s jewel was presented by the lodge to Bro. W. Healing, I.P.M., in appreciation of the excellent services he has rendered to the lodge during his year of office. The brethren subsequently sat down to a sumptuous banquet, supplied by Bro. Ball, after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given in excellent style by the W.M., Bro. Yelland. Excellent music was furnished by Bros. J. Hill, J. Busfield, A. Child, Gilfillan, T. S. Williams, and others.

HAMPTON COURT.—Era Lodge (No. 1423).—This lodge held its regular meeting on the 14th of April, 1877, at the King's Hotel. Bros. Frederick Walters, P.P.G.J.D. Middx., P.M., Sec., acted as W.M.; T. J. Sabine, P.P.G.S.B. Middx., P.M. S.W.; E. W. Devereux, J.W.; H. A. Dubois, P.G.S.D. Middx., P.M., Treas.; B. Wright, Asst. Sec.; S. Wolff, S.D.; A. F. Loos, J.D.; J. Johnson, I.G.; J. Faulkner, W. Steward; J. H. Pearson, C. Steward; J. Gilbert, P.G. Tyler Middx., Tyler. Past Masters Bros. T. H. Miller, P.P.G. Org. Middx.; J. B. Langley. The visitors were Bros. S. Frankenberg, 73; F. W. Hartley, P.M. 25; George Dore, 376. Bro. F. Walters, in the unavoidable absence of the W.M. opened

the lodge, and presided throughout the meeting. The minutes were unanimously confirmed. Ballot for joining was unanimous in favour of Bro. Thomas Fenn, 1288, and Bros. Emiel Woelcke and W. Swindlehurst were passed. An important notice of motion was given by Bro. T. J. Sabine to alter bye-laws. Bro. H. A. Dubois presided at the Festive Board.

MANCHESTER.—Lodge of Truth (1458).—Time with his mighty pinions brings round the period for work as well as rest; to carry out both these requirements (for after work comes rest) the Lodge of Truth assembled on Saturday, April 7th, at its private rooms in Newton Heath. The W.M., Bro. Batchelder, proved and opened his lodge at 3 p.m. prompt; after which the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The ballot was taken for Bro. T. H. Hall, of Boscawen Lodge, 699, as a joining member, resulting in his unanimous election. Bros. Hyams and Smith were passed to the F.C. Degree and Bro. J. H. Pearson was raised to the Third Degree. Since the last meeting a prominent member of the lodge, Bro. Tyers, P.M. and Treas., has suffered a severe loss by the death of his son, who had just arrived at the age to qualify him to embark in commercial pursuits; but the G.A.O.T.U. had in His wisdom decreed it otherwise, by calling him from the corruptible to that that fadeth not away; removed from the battle of life, by faith we doubt not he dwells in the sphere of love and light. May the bereft therefore be cheered by those words of assurance, "Not lost but gone before." It was proposed by Bro. Batchelder, W.M., seconded by Bro. Nicholson, supported by Bro. Needham and resolved, "that a vote of condolence with Bro. Tyers, in his deep grief, be forwarded to him." Instructions in accordance were given to the Secretary. A proposition was then made that Bro. Batchelder, W.M. do represent Lodge 1458 on the General Committee of the East Lancashire Systematic Educational and Benevolent Institution, which was carried unanimously. A circular letter was read from Montefiore Lodge, 1017, asking the support of the brethren to a petition, which they were anxious to present to Grand Lodge of England, relative to Freemasonry in Germany; such petition the brethren heartily concurred with; it was therefore signed by the W.M. on their behalf. Lodges 1011, 1077, 1161, and 1219 were ably represented, who tendered their respective congratulations. Business of a formal character brought labour to a close. Refreshment was then proceeded with, afterwards toasts loyal and Masonic were discussed, seasoned with good will and merriment. The Tyler's toast in due course came, reminding us of our brethren in adversity, and wishing them prosperity should they desire or deserve it, soon after this the brethren separated at a very appropriate hour, 9.30 p.m.

TWICKENHAM.—Francis Burdett Lodge (No. 1503).—A good gathering of the members of this prosperous provincial lodge was held at the Albany Hotel, Twickenham Station, on Wednesday, the 11th inst. Amongst the principal officers present were Bros. Saunders, W.M.; Knaggs, S.W.; Court, J.W.; Tomlinson, P.P.G.S.D. of Norfolk, Treas.; Wigginton, P.G. Supt. of Wks. Middlesex, I.P.M. and Sec.; Taylor, S.D.; Vaughan, J.D.; Rev. D' Orsey, Chap. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M. passed Bro. Richnell to the Second Degree. There being no other business of importance before the lodge, it was formally closed, and the brethren adjourned to a collation. The usual preliminary toasts were given briefly from the chair, and warmly responded to. The I.P.M., Bro. W. Wigginton, replied upon behalf of the Provincial Grand Officers. "The Health of the W.M." was proposed in very kind terms by the I.P.M., and having been duly honoured Bro. Saunders tersely responded. In consequence of the lateness of the hour the remaining toasts, namely, "The Past Masters," "The Treasurer and Secretary," "The Principal Officers," and "The Junior Officers," were but formally given. Bros. Wigginton, I.P.M. and Secretary; Tomlinson, Treasurer; Knaggs, S.W.; Vaughan, J.D.; and Ashley, I.G., having briefly acknowledged the above toasts, the Tyler was called upon to discharge his duty, and the brethren separated until the second Wednesday in July next.

PLUMSTEAD.—United Military Lodge (No. 1536).—The usual monthly meeting of the above lodge took place on Friday the 13th inst., at Bro. Plaisted's fine Hall on Anglesea Hill, and a large and brilliant gathering of the members and brethren of the district assembled to assist in welcoming Bro. C. Coupland, P.M. 913, P.G.J.W. for Kent, and Bro. H. Pryce, 913; who for distinguished services to the lodge, both in and since its foundation, were unanimously elected as honorary members of it. Bro. W. A. Weston, W.M., presided, assisted by the following officers:—F. G. Pownall, P.M.; G. Spinks, S.W.; H. G. Picken, J.W.; W. Murphy, Treas.; Thos. Cooper, Sec.; H. Shaw, S.D.; J. McCaffery, J.D.; D. Deeves, D.C., but who, in the unavoidable absence of Bro. Ritchie, I.G., filled that office. Bros. Wedding and Wright W. Stds.; H. Harding, Org.; and J. Lackland, Tyler. Among the visitors were Bros. T. Day, 1076; S. Goddard, P.M. 700; C. Coupland, P.M. 13; H. Pryce, 913; W. Keen, 1604; W. Harper, 1604; T. Brooks, 215; A. Cleal, 13; E. Tappenden, 781 and 700; W. Robinson, 1076; T. Hosgood, 13; C. Morris, 1331; W. Ward, 700; W. Hill, 700 and 1043; W. Neighbour, 771; T. Forrester, 1293; and C. Jolly, 913. The lodge having been opened in due form, the minutes of the last meeting were confirmed, that particular one having reference to the admission of Bros. Coupland and Pryce, as above mentioned, being received with much pleasure by all present. Bros. Thos. Stevens, C. Battery, 24th Brigade R.A., of No. 776, was accepted as a joining member, and received into the brotherhood. Battery Sergt. Major Jas. Cooke, F. Battery, 24th Brigade R.A., was, after approval, initiated into Masonry. Bro. G. Mason was then passed to the Second Degree,

and then, upon the motion of Bro. Pownall, I.P.M., two important alterations were made in the rules of the lodge, one giving admission to pensioned non-commissioned officers, who had during service held the rank of sergeant, or staff sergeants in the army and who had retired with a permanent allowance. Bro. Pownall, in his usual clear and lucid manner explained that it was originally intended so to frame the rules, but on account of some omission they excluded all but those at present holding those ranks in the army. We need hardly say that such a salutary alteration passed unanimously, as it will admit to a home in Masonry many a veteran brother who, after serving his Queen and country all over the world, may feel inclined to pass the rest of his days in Woolwich or the surrounding district. After several propositions for joining members and initiates, the lodge was duly closed, and the brethren assembled for refreshment, the pleasure of which is at this lodge much enhanced by the excellent harmony of our military brethren, and the courteous service of Bros. Welding and Wright, the Wine Stewards, who seemed devoted to their office in attending to the wants of the brethren. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were eloquently put by the W.M., and responded to as British soldiers should respond to their beloved "Queen and Craft," and Right Royal and Brotherly Prince, our noble "Grand Master." The Provincial toasts were coupled with the name of Bro. Coupland, whose reply was received with genuine enthusiasm, as it deserved, and the toast of the W.M., given by Bro. Pownall, rarely stirred the hearts of all present, and well and worthily deserved was the reception of Bro. Weston's name, who in his usual feeling and terse manner replied, taking no praise to himself, but rather attributing, not only the very existence of the lodge, but its subsequent prosperity, to the efforts of his colleagues, especially Bro. Pownall; a sentiment which met with loud cries of "No, no," but which nevertheless showed how much the merits of our Bro. I.P.M. affected the worthy W.M. He however trusted that the lodge was now founded upon the sure foundation of "Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth." After "The Health of the Initiate" had been proposed, and modestly responded to, "The Visitors" were honoured, and at the request of the W.M. Bros. Day, Goddard, C. Jolly, Cleal, Keen, and Forrester responded on behalf of their respective lodges. In giving "The Past Masters," the W.M. said they were like councillors of whom it was well to take advice in all matters, and proud might any lodge be of such Past Masters as they had. When his day came to be among them, might he be as well worthy their respect and esteem as those whose health he now had the honour of proposing. Bro. Pownall said, in reply, that he was fully aware of the kind feeling that actuated them in the hearty reception of the toast. It was a proud position to be in, more particularly in a lodge like the present one, where truth, honour, and loyalty prevailed, not only as good Masons, but as faithful servants of Her Gracious Majesty, and he hoped to see every officer present some day achieve that position. He felt proud to be the medium of introducing to the lodge, by the alteration he had that evening, by their kind assistance, made in their rules, those who had deserved well of their country in its service, and one brother, who they had received notice of to-night as a joining member was a veteran whose breast was decorated with medals, won in hard service, and who he felt sure would be a credit and an honour to the lodge. He felt proud to see Bro. Coupland sitting by his side as his colleague; he was especially proud of him, he was not only an honour to them, but his large experience in Masonry, and great influence in the province, would give them a greater éclat than ever among the lodge of the district, and at the same time aid them onward in the course they had carved out for themselves in their path to the highest goal of Freemasonry, and its noble purposes. For himself, he trusted he might long be spared to be with them, and by his conduct long to live in their affectionate regard, and remembrance. "The Health of the Officers" followed, and Bro. Spinks neatly and effectively responded, and then the Tyler's toast concluded the business of the evening.

MORECAMBE.—Morecambe Lodge (No. 1561).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on the 6th inst., in the Masonic Hall, Edward-street. There was a good attendance. Bro. Dr. Moore, P.M., P.G.S.B. of E., occupied the chair of K.S., in the unavoidable absence of the W.M. (Bro. Capt. Garnett), the I.P.M.'s chair being filled by Bro. Longman, P.M. 1051. The lodge was opened in the First Degree with solemn prayer, and the minutes of previous meeting read and confirmed. Bro. Schofield having given proof of his proficiency as an Entered Apprentice was entrusted and retired, and the lodge having been raised to the Second Degree, he was re-admitted, when the degree of F.C. was conferred upon him by the acting W.M., the working tools being presented by Bro. Duff, S.W. The lodge then resumed in the First Degree, when Mr. William Washington, for whom an unanimous ballot had been previously recorded, was initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry, the working of the degree being gone through by Bro. Longman, and the working tools presented by Bro. T. Longmire, J.W. The lodge was subsequently closed with the formalities of the Craft.

HAMPTON WICK.—Wolsey Lodge (No. 1656).—An emergency meeting of this new but prosperous lodge was held at the White Hart on Monday, the 9th inst., when there were present Bros. W. Hammond, P.P. G.D. of Middlesex, &c., W.M.; B. Sharp, P.M. 84, &c., S.W.; Bond, P.M.; Dobie, J.W.; Nuthall, Treas.; Ockenden, Sec.; Aston, S.D.; J. Hurst, J.D., W.M. 1512; and T. C. Walls, I.G. Amongst the numerous visitors were Bros. S. Hill, P.M. Canonbury; Hobbs, P.M. Hervey; Stearnmichz, P.M. 435; Kracutler, J.W. 1303; Stearns, 141; Green, 435; Bowra, 889; Beaton, 889;

Hiscock, 1512; and Kent, A.W.S. 1512. Messrs. Taylor, Jackson, Pinto, and Forge having been duly initiated, Bros. Marvin, Scott, Richer, and Featherstone were passed to the Fellow Craft Degree. Bro. Miller, 1445, was unanimously elected a joining member, and Bro. J. Hammond, P.M. Jordan, W.M. elect 1512, having been unanimously elected an honorary member, the lodge was closed. Upon the termination of the collation which followed the only preliminary toasts given were "The Queen and the Craft," "The M.W.G.M.," and "The R.W.P.G.M., Colonel Burdett." "The Health of the W.M." was proposed by Bro. Hill, P.M. Canonbury, who, in the course of his remarks, congratulated the lodge upon possessing a Past Provincial Grand Officer as their first Master. He said that no lodge need wish for a better W.M., as he (Bro. William Hammond) was thoroughly "au fait" in all Masonic duties; and in conclusion he felt confident that they would receive the toast with all the delight that he had in proposing it. This toast having been received with excellent "fire," the W.M. briefly replied. "The Health of the Initiates" came next, in which the W.M. gave the newly-admitted brethren some very excellent advice and information upon the responsibilities and principles of the Masonic brotherhood. This pledge having been duly and warmly received, the four initiates briefly acknowledged the honour that had that evening been conferred upon them, and hoped that the confidence and Masonic trust thus reposed in them would never be misplaced or regretted. "The Visitors" followed, and, as each visiting brother responded to the compliment, want of space necessarily prevents us giving their replies in detail; but suffice it to say that they all expressed themselves highly delighted with the "working" and hospitality of the Wolsey Lodge. "The Health of the Officers" came next, and was acknowledged by Bro. Sharp, S.W., for himself and colleagues.

Royal Arch.

JERUSALEM CHAPTER (No. 185).—The installation and last meeting of the season of this old chapter was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, on Tuesday, the 10th inst. There were present amongst others, Comps. Loewenstark, P.Z. acting M.E.Z.; Elsam, H.; Wagner, J.; Davage, P.Z., S.E.; Harfield, P.Z., Treas.; P. Robinson, S.N.; Mander, P.S.; T. C. Walls, 2nd Asst.; Holbrook, P.Z.; Whitley, Stewart, Davis. The visitors were Bros. H. Muggeridge, P.G.S.B.; Levy, P.Z.; and Blyth, P.S. Phoenix. The minutes of the previous convocation having been read and confirmed, the acting M.E.Z. exalted Bro. Ellborn, Zealand Lodge, to the Sublime Degree of the Royal Arch in a very careful manner. The installation ceremony was then carried out in its entirety by Comp. Muggeridge, who, although suffering from indisposition, performed the ceremony with his accustomed ability. The Principals installed were Bros. Elsam, Wagner, and Robinson, and the officers invested were Comps. Davage, S.E.; Harfield, Treas.; Mander, S.N.; Walls, P.S.; Moss (by deputy), 1st Asst.; Stewart, 2nd Asst. A vote of thanks was unanimously passed to Bro. Muggeridge for his kindness in attending to carry out the installation ceremony. The resignation of three companions having been received with regret, the convocation was closed until the second Tuesday in the month of October next, and the companions adjourned to an elegant banquet, which reflected great credit upon Comp. Dawkins, the caterer. The cloth not being removed until nearly eleven o'clock the preliminary toasts were necessarily given very briefly. Comp. Muggeridge, P.G.S.B., replied for the Grand Chapter. "The Health of the M.E." was proposed by Comp. Loewenstark in very eulogistic terms, and having been duly acknowledged by Comp. Elsam, the toast of "The Exaltée" followed, and was neatly responded to by Comp. Ellborn. "The Visitors" drew from Comp. Blyth a very able reply. The remaining toasts, viz., "The Past Principals," "The Second and Third Principals," "The Treasurer and Secretary," and "The Officers" were proposed in quick succession, and having been duly acknowledged, the companions separated.

MOUNT LEBANON CHAPTER (No. 73).—This chapter held its installation meeting on Thursday, April 12th, at the Bridge House Hotel, Borough High-street, Southwark. Present: Comps. H. A. Dubois, M.E.Z.; J. W. Baldwin, H.; John Mason, J.; T. J. Sabine, P.G.S. Middlesex, P.Z., Treas.; Frederick Walters, P.P. 1st Asst. S. Middlesex, P.Z., S.E.; J. C. Mason, S.N.; B. Isaacs, P.S.; J. T. Moss, P.P.G.R. Middlesex, P.Z.; E. Harris, P.Z.; J. H. Spencer, T. W. Clark, W. Dunham, and others. Visitors: Comps. T. Kingston, W. Porter, W. T. Lover, 176. The chapter was opened by the Principals and the Past Principals who were present. The minutes were read and unanimously confirmed. The report of the Audit Committee shewed a good balance in hand. Ballots proving unanimous in favour of Bros. S. Barney, 1567; T. Lamb, 1567; L. Samuels, 1531, Bro. L. Samuels was exalted into Royal Arch Masonry. Comp. W. Smeed, P.Z., P.P.G.J. Middlesex, installed Comps. J. W. Baldwin, Z.; John Mason, H.; Jas. Catley Mason, J. The officers invested were Comps. T. J. Sabine, P.Z., Treasurer for the third time; F. Walters, P.Z., S.E., for the fifteenth time; M. D. Loewenstark, S.N., for the third time; B. Isaacs, for the third time; W. A. Maloney, 1st Asst. S.; T. W. Adams, 2nd Asst. S.; W. T. Laing, Janitor. A vote of thanks was given to Comp. W. Smeed, for the able manner in which he performed the ceremonies. The usual five-guinea P.Z.'s jewel was unanimously voted to Comp. H. A. Dubois, the M.P.Z., for his services to the chapter. Banquet and dessert followed.

SWANSEA.—Virtue and Hope Chapter (No. 237).—On Monday the installation of the Principals

of this chapter, which is held in the Masonic Hall, Swansea, took place, the ceremony being performed by Ex. Comp. Samuel George Homfray, P.Z., D.P.G.M. Monmouthshire. The chapter having been opened in due form, the following were installed:—W. E. Brown, Z.; Jas. Goodall, H.; John Rogers, J.; W. Michell, Treas.; J. R. Davies, Scribe E.; W. Sweeney, Scribe N.; D. C. Jones, P.S.; and G. Bullerwell, S. Ex. Comp. Goodall was absent from severe illness. It was also intended to present the retiring M.E.Z., L. Tulloch, with a P.Z.'s jewel, but he was also absent. Bros. H. J. B. Lawrence, Royal Clarence Lodge, 68, Bristol; Evan Roberts, and James L. Perrin, of the Caradoc Lodge, 1573, Swansea, were balloted for and accepted. Bro. Lawrence presented himself for exaltation, and was duly exalted, together with Bro. Dr. Morgan, who had been accepted at a previous chapter. Owing to the illness of Ex. Comp. Goodall the annual banquet did not take place, being postponed till the convocation in May. The ceremony of installation was performed with marked ability, and thanks were voted to Ex. Comp. Homfray for his kindness in attending from Monmouthshire to perform it.

Ancient and Accepted Rite.

IPSWICH.—Victoria Chapter, Rose Croix.—The annual meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, Ipswich, on Monday, the 9th inst. Present: Ill. Bros. Rev. R. N. Sanderson, P.M.W.S. 30, Emma Holmes, 31, P.M.W.S.; M. Ex. Bros. Dr. Mills, M.W.S.; W. T. Westgate, P.M.W.S., Recorder; and others. The minutes being read, Ill. Bro. Sanderson was installed M.W.S. for the ensuing year. The ballot being taken, Bro. A. J. Grimwade, P.M., Virtue and Silence Lodge, Hadleigh, and F. Long, of the Stowmarket Lodge, were elected, and having received the subsidiary degrees, were created Knights of the East and West, and subsequently installed Sovereign Princes, Rose Croix. The following were appointed officers for the ensuing year: Ex. Bros. the Rev. T.G. Beaumont, Prelate; E. J. Robertson, 1st Gen.; W. Clarke, 2nd Gen.; W. T. Westgate, Recorder; F. Long, G.M.; A. J. Grimwade, Captain of the Guard; Westgate, R.; W. Cuckon, Treas.; G. Spalding, Janitor. There being no other business before the chapter, it was closed with the third point, and the brethren retired to the banqueting-room, where a suitable repast was served. The M.W.S. proposed "The Candidates," who, in responding, both expressed the great pleasure they felt at being admitted members of the Ancient and Accepted Rite. A very pleasant evening was spent, and the brethren were loath to separate.

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER.

The following is the agenda of business for Wednesday, 2nd May, 1877;—

The regulations for the government of the Supreme Grand Chapter during the time of public business to be read.

The minutes of the last Quarterly Convocation to be read for confirmation.

Installation of Principals, and appointment and investiture of officers for the year ensuing.

The report of the Committee of General Purposes:

The Committee of General Purposes beg to report that they have examined the accounts from the 17th January, 1877, to the 17th April, 1877, both inclusive, which they find to be as follows:—

To balance Grand Chapter	£414	6	0
„ „ Unappropriated Account	172	1	11
„ Subsequent Receipts	511	3	5
	£1097	17	4

By purchase of £300 Consols @ 95½ and

Commission	£288	0	0
„ Disbursements during the Quarter	204	9	10
„ Balance	425	19	1
„ „ in Unappropriated Account ...	179	8	5

£1097 17 4

which balances are in the hands of Messrs. Willis, Percival, and Co., Bankers of the Grand Treasurer.

The Committee have likewise to report that they have received the following petitions:—

1st. From Comps. Henry Penfold as Z., George Fleming as H., and George White as J., and six others for a chapter to be attached to the Pentangle Lodge, to be called the Pentangle Chapter, and to meet at the Sun Hotel, Chatham, in the County of Kent.

2nd. From Comps. Darrell H. Webb Horlock as Z., Charles Gordon Archer, as H., and the Rev. George Ross, as J., and nine others for a chapter to be attached to the Dunheved Lodge, No. 789, Launceston, to be called "The Dunheved Chapter," and to meet at the Masonic Hall, Launceston, in the county of Cornwall.

3rd. From Comps. Joseph Henry Warren, as Z., Frederick Horspool, as H., and Benjamin Barber, as J., and eleven others for a chapter to be attached to the Brent Lodge, No. 1284, Topsham, to be called "The Brent Chapter," and to meet at the Masonic Hall, Topsham, in the county of Devon.

4th. From Comps. Herbert Tritton Sankey, as Z., Charles Holthim, as H., and John Hemery, as J., and nine others for a chapter to be attached to the United Industrious Lodge, No. 31, Canterbury, to be called "The Bertha Chapter," and to meet at the Guildhall, Canterbury, in the county of Kent.

5th. From Comps. James Terry, as Z., John Anthony Winsland, as H., and Robert Griggs, as J., and six others for a chapter to be attached to the Lodge of United

Strength, No. 228, London, to be called "The United Strength Chapter," and to meet at the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, in the City of London.

6th. From Comps. John Ross Gallant as Z., William Crawford as H., and Joseph Wright as J., and six others for a chapter to be attached to the New Concord Lodge, No. 813, London, to be called the New Concord Chapter, and to meet at the Rosemary Branch Tavern, Southgate-road, Islington, in the County of Middlesex.

7th. From Comps. Charles R. Dallas as Z., Peter Scott as H., and James Wilkinson as J., and eight others for a chapter to be attached to the Lodge of Industry, No. 1485, Nowlucka, Lahore, Punjab, to be called the Progress Chapter, and to meet at Lahore, Punjab.

8th. From Comps. Christopher William Calthrop, M.D., as Z., Thomas Cooke as H., and Richard Hill as J., and seven others for a chapter to be attached to the Lodge Morning Star, No. 1439, Palampur, Punjab, to be called the Calthrop Chapter, and to meet at Palampur, Kangra, Punjab.

The prayers of these petitions being in all respects regular, the Committee recommend that they be respectively granted.

(Signed) JOHN CREATON, President.

Appeals against the judgment of the Grand Superintendent of Middlesex, suspending the Royal Union Chapter, No. 382, Uxbridge, and the three Principals thereof, for non-payment of Dues to the Provincial Grand Chapter, and for contumacy.

CONSECRATION OF THE SAMSON LODGE, No. 1668.

The Samson Lodge was consecrated on Wednesday, 18th inst., at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Henry Muggeridge, P.M., P.Z., &c., was the officer appointed by the M.W.G.M. to perform the ceremony of consecration on the present occasion, which he did in his well known faultless manner. At the appointed hour the Consecrating Officer took his position in the chair, and having appointed his assistant officers, proceeded to deliver an oration, which was listened to by the assembled brethren with profound attention.

The lodge was then consecrated in the customary form, and at the conclusion of this part of the proceedings Bro. Muggeridge vacated the chair in favour of Bro. A. D. Loewenstark, P.M., who proceeded to instal in the chair of K. S., his son, Bro. M. D. Loewenstark, and the latter invested the following brethren as the first officers of the newly consecrated lodge:—viz., J. D. Barnett, P.M., S.W.; W. H. Rudderforth, J.W.; A. Loewenstark, I.P.M.; and Treas.; Charles Osche, S.D.; Baron D. Barnett, J.D., and Sec.; Lever, I.G.; and Oberdoier, Tyler.

Before the closing of the lodge Bro. Muggeridge was voted an honorary membership, and the brethren who assisted him received the compliment of a vote of thanks.

A banquet followed, at which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and duly responded to.

A novel feature on the present occasion was the presence of several ladies.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

Most good men, except the Pope and the Editor of *Truth*, are Freemasons. The Prince of Wales is Grand Master of England, and 'tis said his two brothers are this year to be Grand Wardens. The Craft is prosperous; the Craft is powerful: it is an honour to belong to the Craft: and the world will have it that to be a good Mason you must be a good man. We need not tell our readers, so many of whom belong either to the military or naval service, that, go where they will in either hemisphere, every Mason will find a brother, one not only in name but in fact, one ready to aid him in all his laudable undertakings, and willing to bear his burdens and console him in the hour of his affliction. Now, some Masons are born with silver spoons in their mouths, marked, of course, with armorial bearings and other Masonic signs of material prosperity; but, confound it! there be wooden-ladle babies also in the Craft, and many a poor brother has to work in the quarries, while the chief architects flourish in purple and fine linen in the innermost recesses of the Temple. Among the fortunate there are few whose hearts do not warm to the unfortunate, and even among the easy-going there are few who do not recognise with pride the worth and claims of those who have proved their zeal for the brotherhood by long and faithful membership, recognised by high esteem and promotion in Masonic rank. A good old friend who had seen everything, been everything, and done everything in Masonry, once remarked, "Well, I can go no further, unless the old Earl makes me Past Deputy Provincial Grand Band of Music," and evidently sighed for more Masonic lands to conquer. "Become a Vice-President of the Boys' School," said we, and straightway he drew a cheque for fifty guineas, and entered on a new era of Masonic interest and usefulness. But we know also a brother who cannot draw a cheque for fifty pounds, and yet has been a very worthy Mason, and after paying seventy-two years' dues to the benevolent funds of his lodges, now has to seek the benevolence of his brethren to aid in his election to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution in May. Bro. Richard Barnes has subscribed to one lodge for forty-one years, has been honorary secretary to it for thirty-five years, and is now the father of that lodge. He has subscribed to another lodge for thirty-one years, and is the father of that lodge also. He has been thirty years honorary secretary of another Masonic body, and is the father of that body. Prosperous and respected as a schoolmaster for many years, he is now, at sixty-three years of age, from failing eyesight and other troubles, deprived of his means of livelihood, and with a wife and

three children, to support, is seeking an honourable retreat in the excellent institution we have named. His case is a very hard and a very deserving one; and the Editor of the *Broad Arrow*, knowing the worth and misfortunes of this worthy Mason, asks that those of his readers who have votes for the Masonic Charities unpromised, will kindly forward them to him to be used for Bro. Richard Barnes.—*Broad Arrow*.

THE SHAKESPEARE MEMORIAL THEATRE AT STRATFORD.

The first stone of the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre was laid at Stratford-on-Avon on Tuesday, 24th inst., by Lord Leigh, in due Masonic form. The theatre is situated on the margin of the Avon, within a few yards of the church where the remains of the great poet lie. The day was observed as a holiday. There was a very large gathering of ladies and gentlemen, many of whom went down from London, and for these special arrangements were made by the Great Western and London and North-Western Railway Companies. The Freemasons of the provinces of Warwickshire and Staffordshire took great interest in the event, and all the Masonic lodges of the province, as well as the Provincial Grand Lodge, of which Lord Leigh is the Grand Master, were represented. The ceremony was to have commenced at two o'clock, but it was considerably after that hour when the brethren emerged from the Provincial Grand Lodge, and in full Masonic clothing, headed by the 1st division of the Administrative Staffordshire Rifles and their band, marched to the spot where the ceremony was to be performed. On arriving at the scene Bro. Lord Leigh took up his position behind the stone, and was surrounded by the Provincial Grand Officers, Lieut. Colonel Machen, Canon Collis, the Earl of Yarmouth, Bros. Theodore Martin, Tom Taylor, Professor Leo, Henry Graves, W. Sawyer, Creswick, the Mayor of Stratford, Bros. Nason, Charles Lacy, the Rev. F. M. Beaumont, the Rev. T. N. Rigby, Bros. John Vaughan, Edmund Worrell, J. T. Collins, Provincial Grand Treas.; George Berch, Provincial Grand Sec.; and Charles E. Flower, the Chairman of the Shakespeare Memorial Association.

The Provincial Grand Chaplain, in his address, urged that refining the drama would do much, if popularised, to supersede music hall and modern objectionable amusements.

Bro. Creswick also delivered an address, in which he pointed out that provincial theatres, which formerly existed in nearly every town, afforded the preliminary training for the metropolitan stage, and that the Memorial Theatre might in this respect supply a want long felt.

A luncheon followed in New Place Gardens, when the Mayor of Stratford expressed regret that Prince Leopold could not be present, but said the time was not far distant when one Royal name at least would be associated with the project.

Sir Eardley Wilmot, M.P., proposed "The Immortal Memory of Shakespeare," and urged the propriety of his memory being venerated and honoured specially in Warwickshire, though his words were the heritage of the world.

Bro. Tom Taylor, in proposing "Success to the Memorial," considered the project had received its full baptism of disapproval from insignificant people, and that its detractors did not mean all they had said. Believing in the potency of the drama as a means of social culture, he advocated theatres in towns having even smaller populations than Stratford-on-Avon.

Bro. Theodore Martin proposed "Success to the Drama," and advocated theatres subsidised by the State for the training of actors.

UPPER NORWOOD LODGE BENEVOLENT FUND.

The concert given on Monday evening last, at the Crystal Palace, in aid of the Benevolent Fund of the Upper Norwood Lodge, No. 1586, was a most brilliant success, the spacious area of the Opera Theatre being well filled by a most appreciative audience, and the performance throughout being of the highest class. A novel and interesting feature was the division of the programme into two parts, classical and ballad; and all tastes were met in the music selected. The first half, classical, comprised two movements from a round quintet by A. Reicher, a composer too little known in England; and Beethoven's beautiful quintet for piano and wind instruments. The former was most excellently rendered by Bro. Dubrucq, oboe, and Charles Wells, flute; Clinton, clarinet; Wendland, horn; and Wetton, bassoon; and the latter not heard publicly in or near London for the last ten years, was splendidly played by the same artistes, excepting the flute, re-inforced by Bro. Henry Gadsby at the piano, the loud applause at the end of each movement shewing that the audience was fully alive to the fact that they were listening to the best music, executed in the best style, by perhaps the best quintet of performers who ever co-operated. Other members in the first part were Bro. Henry Gadsby's new setting of Thawatha's serenade in Longfellow's poem, perhaps the finest love song composed since "Adeleide," and most exquisitely sung by Bro. Barton McGuckin; Mendelssohn's "Garland," Spohr's "Rose, softly blooming," and Gounod's "Oh! that we two were Maying," tastefully rendered respectively by Bro. Stedman, Miss Frances Brooke, and Madame Worrell-Duval; and Mendelssohn's "Hunting Song," given with great spirit by the South London Choral Association. The second part introduced Bro. Geo. Perrin, who excited the greatest enthusiasm by his singing of "Mary of Argyle" and "Come into the Garden, Maud;" and Bro. George Fox, who was in splendid voice, sang "Tom Tough" in grand style. Other numbers were contributed by Bro. Barton McGuckin, whose beautiful voice and perfectly artistic style fairly entranced the listeners to Blumenthal's "Message"

and "Savourneen Deelish;" Bro. Stedman, who gained great applause by his singing "Tom Bowling;" Miss Frances Brooke who sang brilliantly Bishop's "Tell me, my heart;" Mme. Worrell-Duval whose rendering of the quaint old song "The Oak and the Ash," was most effective, and Mr. Alfred Wells, whose perfect finish and ethereal tone on the flute astonished the audience, in a varied piece off Richard-son's. The remaining pieces were Sir Robert Stewart's glee, "The Bells of St Michael's Tower," which, admirably sung by the South London Choral Association, evoked the first encore of the evening, responded by Macfarren's "Sands of Dee," and Bishop's "Chough and the Crow," which, as sung by Misses Brooke and Leopold, Bro. George Fox, and the South London Choral Association, brought the concert to a brilliant termination. We must not conclude without adding that Bros. Gadsby and James Coward were most efficient and hard-working accompanists; that Bro. August Manns, of the Crystal Palace, lent not only his powerful name, and his energetic and practical aid in superintending the musical arrangements; and that the pecuniary results must be most gratifying to Bro. W. Hopekirk, W.M. of the Upper Norwood Lodge, who took the initiative in the affair, and who, seconded by Bro. Grist, as musical director, worked most earnestly in season and out of season to bring the undertaking to a successful issue.

Masonic and General Tidings.

The installation meeting of the Ravensbourne Lodge, No. 1601, takes place on Friday, the 27th inst., at the Lewisham Board of Works office, Catford Bridge, at 4 o'clock. The brethren will dine together at the Ship and Turtle, at 7 o'clock. A report will be given in our next.

When we adopted post-cards the Japanese promptly followed suit, and in style and price copied the English system pretty closely. But now they have gone further, and reduced the price of a post-card to a farthing.—*City Press*.

Sir Charles Dilke, M.P., for Chelsea, was at the last meeting of the Ranelagh Lodge, No. 834, initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry, the ballot for his admission being unanimous.

A benefit will be given at the Folly Theatre, next Wednesday morning, in aid of the sufferers and rescuers in the late Welsh colliery accident. The whole of the receipts, without any deduction, will be applied to this purpose.

A vocal and instrumental concert in aid of the Infant Orphan Asylum, Wanstead, will be given at the Lecture Hall, Woodford, on Tuesday, May 1st, under distinguished patronage.

THE ALBERT MEDAL AND THE WELSH MINERS.—The Queen has been graciously pleased to express her Majesty's desire that the Albert Medal, hitherto only bestowed for gallantry in saving life at sea, shall be extended to similar actions on land, and that the first medals struck for this purpose shall be conferred on the heroic rescuers of the Welsh miners.

The Maybury Lodge is maintaining its high theatrical and social reputation. Mr. J. L. Toole has just been admitted a member, and Henry Neville was present at the meeting on Wednesday last to qualify himself for ballot. Mr. F. C. Hampton, the well-known and accomplished Secretary of the Conservative Club, and Mr. W. H. Cotton, eldest son of the late Lord Mayor, are the last initiates.—*Mayfair*.

ANCIENT BRITON LODGE, No. 1675.—Owing to the pressure upon our space, the report of the consecration of the above lodge (in type) is unavoidably deferred until our next.

At a recent meeting of the United Brothers Lodge the W.M., Bro. Mark E. Frost, P.G. Treas. for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, referred to a somewhat remarkable coincidence, viz., the fact that the W.M.'s of the whole of the Portsmouth lodges this year are subscribing members of the United Brothers' Lodge. The several W.M.'s referred to are, Bros. F. Court, Phoenix, No. 257; Guy, Royal Sussex, No. 342; G. Bond, Portsmouth, No. 487; E. B. C. Churchill, Gosport, No. 203; Mark E. Frost, United Brothers, No. 1069, and the Hon. C. Bourke, United Service, No. 1428.

THE SCOTTISH FREEMASON.—No. 1, Vol 1, published in Glasgow, Scotland, by Bro. George Kenning, is on our table. This new candidate for honours bids fair to be a most excellent workman. We give it a hearty welcome and wish it a long life.—*Masonic Eclectic*.

The third public dinner in aid of the funds of the Royal Albert Orphan Asylum, will be held in the Cannon-street Hotel, on Wednesday, 6th June, at which the Most Noble the Marquis of Hertford will preside, supported by Bros. the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs of London and Middlesex.

The eminent tragedian, Bro. Creswick, will take a benefit at the Gaiety Theatre on Wednesday, 23rd of May. A farewell dinner is to be given to the distinguished artist the Monday following.

The Amateur Dramatic Performance which will take place on Saturday next, at 2.30 p.m., punctually, at the Opera Comique in aid of the Boy's and Girl's Schools, will consist of "An Unwarrantable Intrusion," "The Ladie's Battle" and "Tears." Places still unlet may be obtained at the Box Office of the Theatre and at the West End Libraries. Admission to the Gallery will be by Ticket, now obtainable at the Theatre.

Mr. Walter Gosden has been appointed manager of the Inns of Court Hotel, in succession to the late Bro. Chas. Gosden.

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 stand over:—

Letters from J. Baker Ashworth; P.M. and M.W.S. Dutch Constitution; "Commemorative Lifeboat; Prov. Grand Chapter of East Lancashire.

Reports of Lodges:—Royal Albert, 907; Lord Warden, 1096; Great Northern, 1287; Hamilton, 1600; Mark Lodge, 104.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

"Sanitas Sanitatum et Omnia Sanitas," R. Metcalfe, F.S.S.; "Risorgimento;" "Le Monde Maçonnique;" "East Anglian Times;" Proceedings of the Supreme Council of A. and A. Scottish Rite, Canada; "Bauhütte;" "Yorick;" "Loomis's Journal;" "New York Dispatch;" "Bulletin du Grand Orient de France;" "Keystone;" "Nelson Daily Times."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

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

BIRTHS.

AUSTEN.—On the 22nd inst., at Wroxall, Isle of Wight, the wife of Capt. H. A. Austen, 49th (Princess Charlotte of Wales's) Regt., of a son.

BIGGS.—On the 21st inst., at Wimpole-street, the wife of G. Biggs, of a daughter, who only survived a few hours.

FITZGERALD.—On the 21st inst., at Brunswick-gardens, Kensington, the wife of G. R. A. Fitzgerald, Esq., of a son.

HOOPER.—On the 18th inst., at Bedford-street, Bedford-row, the wife of W. H. Hooper, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

BEENEY—VENESS.—On the 26th inst., at Bexhill, Wm. Beene, of Hastings, to Emma, eldest daughter of Bro. G. W. Veness, of Bexhill and Hastings.

ELIOT—NEVILL.—On the 24th ult., at St. Paul's, Valetta, Malta, John Eliot, M.A., Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, to Mary, daughter of the late W. Nevill, F.G.S., of Godalming.

DEATHS.

LANE.—On the 20th inst., at St. John's-word Park, Jane, widow of Rev. C. Lane, aged 73.

MATHER.—On the 21st inst., at North Finchley, the Rev. Robert Cotton Mather, LL.D., aged 63.

SMITH.—On the 19th inst., at Orleans-villas, Twickenham, Thomas Henry Smith, Esq., aged 66.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 1877.

THE MOVEMENTS OF OUR ROYAL GRAND MASTER.

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales arrived at Naples on board the Sultan, on the 24th, at midday, and went on shore, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, to visit Prince Humbert and the Princess Marguerita. Prince Humbert afterwards went on board the Sultan to return the visit. On the 25th their Royal Highnesses were entertained at Caserta by the Prince and Princess of Piedmont at luncheon, to which the Prussian Princes were also invited. Their Royal Highnesses leave Naples on Saturday.

THE GRAND OFFICERS FOR 1877-8.

The following are the officers of Grand Lodge for the current year, as appointed on Wednesday at the Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge:—

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G.,
&c. (re-elected) M.W.G.M.
The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon (re-appointed) Pro G.M.
The Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale (re-appointed) D.G.M.
H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught S.G.W.
H.R.H. Prince Leopold J.G.W.
Rev. Chas. W. Arnold G. Chap.
Rev. W. Lake Onslow G. Chap.
Samuel Tomkins (re-elected) ... G. Treas.
Æ. J. M'Intyre, Q.C. (re-appointed) G. Reg.
John Hervey (re-appointed) .. G. Sec.
E. E. Wendt (re-appointed) G.S. for G.C.
Capt. N. G. Philips S.G.D.
Peter De L. Long S.G.D.
H. C. Tombs J.G.D.
E. J. Morris J.G.D.
F. P. Cockerell G. S. of W.
Sir Albert W. Woods, *Garler*, (re-appointed) G. D. of C.
F. Robinson A. G. D. of C.
George Toller G. Swd. B.
C. E. Willing G. Org.
H. G. Buss Ast. G. Sec.
S. G. Foxall G. Purst.
W. T. Howe G. Purst.
C. B. Payne (re-appointed) G. Tyler.

In our next we hope to give a short account of the Masonic services of the new Grand Officers.

THE COMING REPORT OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE OF THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

The report of the House Committee of the Boys' School, with reference to increased accommodation for its numerous applicants, when finally settled, will be anxiously looked for by the subscribers to the school. We have no doubt that full justice will be done to all the important considerations involved in the general question, and that all recommendations which pass through the General Committee to the Quarterly Court will be alike marked by the great principles of caution and progress, the one object being the permanent welfare of the School. We have always supported the executive of the School, in their anxious efforts to uphold its efficiency and extend its usefulness, and we always shall, under all circumstances, as we entirely disapprove of any course of action which seeks or serves to ignore the meritorious discharge of their duties by a most painstaking and zealous body of men and Masons. But as we write to-day, as always, in the interests of the School, not of any clique or party, we think it right, as "Amici Curie," respectfully to suggest a view of the matter which we think may possibly have been overlooked in the wider range of alteration and augmentation proposed and planned. It might seem that the matter being before the House and General Committees, we were both premature and presumptuous in thus expressing any opinion on the subject, and that it is alike unfair and impolitic in any one to seek to give advice to a body, like the General Committee, perfectly competent to manage

its own affairs and develop its own opinions. But ours is simply a most friendly suggestion, and need only be taken "quantum valet." If we assume, as we think we fairly may, that some increase is needed in the Boys' School, two questions appear to come before us, first, the opportuneness, secondly, the extent of such increase. It will be borne in mind that the present situation of affairs has arisen from the proposal, which we confess we always looked upon as somewhat crude and undigested, to build a preparatory school for 100 boys, separate from the Boys' School. It was agreed at a previous Quarterly Court, "unâ voce," that the House Committee should be requested to consider the whole matter, and report to the Quarterly Court. The House Committee has reported to the General Committee, and the report has been printed, but that report has yet to pass through the General Committee before it reaches the Quarterly Court. Whatever the eventual report will be, when it is submitted to a Special Court, we cannot, of course, in any way predicate, as it may be materially altered from the one printed for the information of the Committee. But the idea of the report already mentioned seems to be to suggest the building of additional accommodation in the existing School at Wood Green so as to take in 120 or 120 additional boys, just as it is considered advisable to expend a larger or smaller sum, or rather to point out the possibility of such proceeding. But as we said before, without offence to anyone, two great questions come in when we consider the question "in extenso," viz., the opportuneness and the extent. Is it absolutely necessary to increase the Boys' School to anything like the number of boys mentioned, whether 70 or 120? Is it not rather a larger addition of inmates than the actual pressure on the School demands? For we must not, as it seems to us, lose sight of two or three points in the discussion, which deserve very serious consideration at our hands. Is it advisable to enlarge too much the eleemosynary facilities of our Order? Are we not thereby pandering to a growing evil amongst us,—the tendency to make Freemasonry a vast benefit society? And supposing that we can answer these queries favourably, must not a third question force itself upon us? Can we keep up the present high-pressure rate of support to the great charities of our Craft? While, then, we are ready to admit the need of an increase in the Boys' School, we are not quite prepared to concede that we have seen, so far, the proper remedy suggested for the growing demands for admission into the Boys' School. In our humble opinion, there is no absolute necessity for so very large an extension of the Boys' School just at present, a very inopportune season, by the way, for a metropolitan or a provincial appeal. We venture, on the contrary, to think that if the School were now increased to 200, the original number contemplated at its erection, and for which it was designed, by some additional dormitory accommodation being provided, the immediate necessity for increase would be satisfied, and matters might safely remain in "statu quo" for two or three years longer. The Boys' School has just come out of debt, it has begun to fund, and with two or three prosperous years it would be in a condition to begin building without borrowing, as by that time, if all goes well, it will probably have £15,000 or £20,000 in funded property. But now, to begin building operations involving £25,000, and probably more, of expenditure, must either land the institution again in debt, or compel a fresh special appeal to the metropolis and the provinces. It will probably be said that the dormitory accommodation cannot be increased at Wood Green even for eleven boys, and as we were also told that it was necessary to build elsewhere, because there was no possibility, on sanitary grounds, of increasing the building at Wood-green, which proves, as we considered it, to be an utter fallacy, we do not at all lay any stress upon such a statement. We feel sure that a skillful architect could devise additional dormitory accommodation for 11 boys, and then the school can be left, to do its important work, for two or three years. By that time we shall be able

better to judge the actual requirements of the school than we are now. We are among those who believe in the future of the Boys' School. We feel sure that the eventual increase to 300 will not long suffice to meet the wants of our growing Craft, and that in all probability a preparatory establishment of 100 if not 200 boys may be necessary eventually as a training school for the larger institution. But it is better to leave to the future the things and wants of the future, and utilize the present as best may be done for the improvement of our goodly school, and the welfare of our Masonic Orphan Boys. For all these reasons, and others, which we will not dilate on now, we take the liberty humbly of suggesting, that if we now increase the school to 200 boys, we shall have as much on our hands for the next two years as we can carefully attend to, and comfortably support.

BOYS' AND GIRLS' SCHOOL VOTING.

As always happens with disappointed candidates, we have complaints to deal with, with respect to those who either have not succeeded, or have been practically rejected altogether, and therefore we think it right to call attention to the matter to-day, as there is no one subject, perhaps, on which more fallacies exist, even in this age of fallacies, if illogical ones, of clap-trap appeals, "ad hominem" and "ad sentiment." We are going to lay down, in the outset, the following two laws of voting action, having had much experience in the matter:—1. That where a candidate fails, it is through the inherent weakness of the case, a want of proper "backing up" by its supporters. 2. That no really good case need be unsuccessful. For, curiously enough, the very cases often which are cited as a proof, if proof be needed, that there is a screw loose somewhere, either as regards the profession or practice of those who support particular candidates. The boy Cox, about whom our esteemed Bro. J. C. Martyn wrote to us a short time ago, (whose communications we always welcome), is a case in point. With all deference to our excellent P.G.C., had Cox's supporters only done their duty, the boy most certainly would have got in. But he has not polled up to the present time the actual repetitive votes of his professed supporters, or of his province. Had his province only duly supported him he must have been carried in long ago. Why, then, are other persons to be blamed because they do not do what the good brethren of Devonshire and his own supporters have left undone? It is idle to accuse the system of weakness or the Craft of unreason, as some do apparently in such a case as this, when, had a proper understanding been arrived at between his friends and the province, he must have been returned. The truth is, we are just now acting under a mistaken notion altogether of what the responsibility of the voting paper means, and in our haste to remedy imaginary evils, more or less, we shall probably perpetrate a lasting injustice on all future applicants for eleemosynary aid and inflict lasting injury on our charitable foundations. It is idle, and more than idle, to suppose that any two or three minds, or any committee of men or Masons, can arrive at an agreement of what is absolutely "the most distressing case." All we can expect to reach, it appears to us, is an agreement, "cæteris paribus," as to "a sufficiently distressing case" to claim our sympathies and invoke our help. It would be quite impossible to lay down any direct conditions of what constitutes the most distressing case, so as to constitute a paramount claim upon our votes. We all of us probably take a somewhat different view of the necessities of the particular applicants. Some may think a total orphan ought to have a preference over a semi-orphan. Others may consider length of Masonic affiliation a great ingredient as to the pressing nature of the application, others contend that the children of those who have subscribed to the Charities themselves should have a prior claim. Some may hold that there ought to be a condition of many years' subscription, while others may look at the number of the family, or the presence of any other member of it in the School already. And then there comes in this

further and most important question,—What is the actual position of the relatives of the orphan? It is to be greatly feared that many candidates are put forward, whom their friends ought to provide for, on this selfish ground, that as the deceased brother subscribed to Masonry, and these institutions exist, therefore he has as much right as any one else to participate in their benefits, though they could afford to educate the child themselves. Now, this, though purely human selfishness, is, we fear, not unknown in Freemasonry, and constitutes, as all are aware who have given attention to the subject, one of the most difficult problems which we have to solve, in common with our charities in general, and charity voting in particular. Hence the difficulties of coming to an abstract agreement as to the most distressing case are inseparable, and we can only arrive at a case, it appears to us, fairly worthy of our support. Any idea that such a realisation of an abstract absolute claim, could be arrived at by a close committee better than by open voting is, we venture to hold, an utter fallacy. In our honest opinion such a system can only lead, from the nature of the case, and in the infirmity of human nature, to the most intensified jobbery. We feel sure, as we have often said before, that as regards our provincial brethren at any rate, there is but one course open to them, if they wish to succeed in the elections, namely, to form Charity Committees of their own, and to select their provincial candidates for whom the aggregate of the votes of the province can be polled. We are aware that such views as these will not commend themselves to the reformers or pessimists of the hour, but they are the result of honest conviction and long experience, and, we have reason to believe, in entire accordance with the opinions of those who have had most experience in the matter. Sure we are, at any rate, that they are dictated by a most sincere desire to uphold the best interests of our great charitable educational Institutions.

THE WELSH MINERS AT PONTYPRIDD.

It is not without emotion that all Englishmen and all Freemasons will rise from the perusal of the accounts which have been flashed by the sympathetic wire for the last few days from one end of England to the other. All will rejoice to think that the lives of the five imprisoned ones have been spared, thanks, under Providence, to the heroism of their rescuers, though they will deeply regret that any lives have been lost through one of those mournful accidents to which the best regulated collieries are subject. As the *Times* most truly says:—"A scene as tragic and heroic as any that can be presented by the war now about to commence has during the last week been enacted in the depths of a Welsh Colliery. It was on Wednesday evening in last week, nine days ago, that the original catastrophe occurred. On that evening, in the Tynewydd Mine, near Pontypridd, the men were on the point of leaving their work when a roar of rushing water was heard. The men at once fled, and many of them succeeded in gaining the shaft of the mine and escaping to the surface. But fourteen men and boys were found to be missing, and volunteers at once came forward to descend the shaft. A mine of this kind is a labyrinth. From the perpendicular shaft tunnels are cut horizontally, or at gentle inclines, and from these again smaller galleries, or headings, penetrate the coal right and left. The water had broken into the mine from the abandoned workings of an adjacent mine, and, of course, it flowed rapidly into all the 'stalls,' 'headings,' and 'roadways,' until it found its level. The volunteer party at once ascertained that all the workings within a few hundred yards of the bottom of the shaft were filled with water up to the roof, and it was natural to conclude that the missing fourteen men had all been drowned. But a knocking was soon heard, as if from some men who were imprisoned behind a wall of coal; and the volunteers at once set to work to cut through this wall. In this instance the thickness to be cut through was about forty yards, and as the missing men had been without food for five days, it was most improbable they could work at their own side of the wall. All that could be done was

for relays of men to be working night and day, in narrow galleries three feet high, gradually diminishing the distance between themselves and their comrades. They had to do this, moreover, at the cost of imminent and obvious peril to their own lives. The water having once broken into the mine, it was impossible to be sure it could be kept under by pumping; and even if they reached the prisoners, it was too possible that another explosion of air might be fatal to the rescuing party, while the water within, relieved from pressure, would drown those for whom all these efforts were being made. It was a kind of forlorn hope, and the bravery which sustained it deserves as much honour as any deed of arms." The names of the men who first volunteered, and whom the *Times* calls, not improperly, "a band of heroes," may well be recorded here, their names are:—John Hughes, Isaac Pride, Daniel Owens, William Rollins, Thomas Ash, William Parsons, and Charles Parsons, all living at Porth. While remembering the workmen who braved everything the officers in command should not be forgotten, and the name of Mr. Wales, Her Majesty's Inspector of Mines, Mr. James Thomas, a veteran in coal-mining, whose age would have been sufficient excuse for keeping away, Mr. Edward Thomas, Llwyncllyn, Mr. De Thomas, Brithwemydd, Mr. David Davis, Cilylai. Mr. William Davis, Coedco. While the roar of the tempest was at its highest pitch, and the blue flame of gas flashed in the Day lamps, they stood with heroic courage with the noble band who were forcing their way towards the men beyond. On Friday at 2.30 p.m., the five sufferers who had been imprisoned this long space of time were brought safely up the surface, and are now under medical care—it is hoped they will eventually recover. All classes have been interested in this extraordinary case, from Her Gracious Majesty, always full of deep consideration even for the humblest of her subjects, to every class and condition of English women, men, and children. We are glad to be permitted in these pages to recount the gallant devotion of Welsh miners, and to express in the *Freemason* our sincere sympathy, especially with that most industrious class of our fellow countrymen, the coal miners, whose good qualities we, from long personal acquaintance with them, much better than most people, perhaps, fully recognise and appreciate. We are not at all surprised at that courage and self denial, and what the *Times* terms heroic devotion to duty, which have been evinced by these humble colliers in Wales.

IN MEMORIAM.

Many of our readers will deeply regret to note the death of Bro. Montague Scott. He was well known in metropolitan Masonry, alike in his genial qualities and his ritualistic lore, while his ready utterance and his elocutionary powers, no less than his obliging disposition, gained him a large circle of admiring friends, and by very many of our brethren his loss will be truly felt and long deplored.

WAR OR PEACE.

"Jacta est alea;" the Russian army has crossed the Pruth, and Russia and Turkey are now at war. When we next greet our readers we may have something more to say on the subject.

Multum in Parvo; or Masonic Notes and Queries.

MASONIC WORK BY W. BRO. EMMA HOLMES.

So many brethren are enquiring as to the advent of Bro. Holme's Masonic Work, and I really cannot afford the time to answer the numerous enquiries, would the author or the publishers (Bros. G. M. Tweddell and Sons), kindly state in the columns of the *Freemason* the probable time of its appearance.

Under the peculiar circumstances of its publication, I have taken a lively interest in its sale, and one friend of mine, to whom I introduced the matter (W. Bro. S. B. Ellis, W.M. 1239, Sheffield), has actually obtained over 100 subscribers for the work. "Deeds speak louder than words," and it is pleasant to find brethren, as Bro. Ellis, always ready to aid a good cause.

WILLIAM JAMES HUMAN.

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.]

EXCLUSION OF THE HEBREWS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

As I have got the words of that famous S. 165, A. 1, of the Book of Constitutions of the "Grand National Mother Lodge of the Three Globes" of Germany, which excludes all non-Christians from Freemasonry, I am very glad to translate it into English, without altering its literal sense, and to send it to you for publishing. It reads as follows:—

S. 165. "In the confederacy of the Grand National Mother Lodge only such a one can be proposed for initiation into Freemasonry who (1) professes the Christian faith, without distinction of creed."

Of the two other Grand Lodges in Berlin the "Royal York of Friendship" has repealed a similar S., but not all her daughter lodges admit non-Christians as yet; while the third Grand Lodge, the "Grand Countries Lodge of Germany," is as intolerant as the "Grand National Mother Lodge of the Three Globes," nay, more intolerant than the latter, as it never wanted to repeal its constitution as the Grand National Mother Lodge of the Three Globes several times attempted to repeal that famous S. 165, A. 1; so in April, 1873, in May, 1874, in 1875, and in 1876, the result of the last meeting I reported to you last year.

Yours fraternally,

STRAUSS,
Harmony, 600.

[Is our good brother quite right in his facts? Is not the Grand Countries Lodge the only Grand Lodge in Germany which still excludes Hebrews for want only of a two-thirds majority?—Ed.]

THE INSTALLATION ENGRAVING.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Having just returned from Paris, from superintending the Installation Engraving, permit me, through your columns, to report progress to my subscribers and the Craft generally. All the portraits, 900 in number, are now engraved, and the engraver is busily employed in putting in the effects, viz., light and shade, &c. As the Prince is not expected to be in London until the end of the first week in May, and as every day spent upon the plate will add to its value as a work of art, the engraver most particularly requested me to give him to the 8th of May to produce the first proof, which I am to place before H.R.H. This proof, although very far advanced, will not be completely finished; it will take about three weeks more to produce a final one. I may also state that in the proof that will be submitted for the Prince's approval there will still be some eight or ten vacancies for portraits, two of which are admirably adapted for two friends, and are almost the best in the entire work. These spaces will be temporarily filled up in chalk on the proof, so as not to offend the eye; but I have no doubt when the proof is seen there will be several applications for them. By the first week in June the plate will be in the hands of the eminent printers, Messrs. McQueen, of Tottenham Court-road; and subscribers will receive their copies as quickly as they are issued from the press.

Trusting this information will prove satisfactory,

I remain, dear Sir and Brother, fraternally yours,
EDWD. J. HARTY.

213, Regent-street, W.

April 24th, 1877.

P.S.—As additional expense will be incurred in engraving portraits in the present vacant spaces, intending occupiers should at once communicate with me by letter.

A DISGRACEFUL OCCURRENCE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

May I trouble you to insert the following, referring to a disgraceful occurrence at the last election for the Boy's School, in your valued paper.

At the October election for this institution I exchanged with Bro. H. Hacker 73 Boys' votes, for an equal number of Boys' votes for the April election of this year, for which I received his I O U. Bro. Hacker sent me on the 12th inst. 64 votes, and informed me that he would leave the remaining nine votes with Bro. Binckes, our esteemed Sec. of the Boy's School. On the 14th inst., I received from Bro. Binckes these nine votes and handed him in return Bro. Hacker's I O U.

To my great disgust I was informed on the 16th that this discharged I O U. of Bro. Hacker was again in circulation, and had on the afternoon of the 14th been exchanged by some unknown person against some 55 Girl's votes. It is evident that some scamp must have stolen this I O U. from Bro. Binckes's desk in his office, and then made a criminal use of it, thereby cheating a poor widow (Mrs. Ceeley) out of a large number of votes, which, however, I have promised her to make good at the next election.

I am anxious to have this mystery cleared up, and I am willing to give ten guineas to each of our Schools, if this person, who as I was told styled himself a "Brother," could be found out.

The 55 Girl's votes exchanged by Mrs. Ceeley were collected by brethren supporting the case of John Robert Gordon Ceeley; perhaps this could supply a clue to the discovery of the deceiver.

I remain, yours fraternally,

RICHD. BRANDT.
Past G. Sec. for German Correspondence.
and P.M. 99.

METROPOLITAN CHARITY VOTING.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

It appears to me that a great deal of strength is thrown away by the metropolitan brethren at the voting for the various institutions.

Would it be possible to have a Charity Committee of all the metropolitan lodges, in which each lodge should be annually represented, say of 25 members, with a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer, so that the metropolitan votes might be given to selected candidates?

This is a startling innovation, but is it not needed, and might it not work well?

Yours fraternally,

JOSEPHUS.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

The mother of the candidate No. 34 (about whose candidature you were good enough to publish my protest last week) wrote to me a day or two since, and asked me why I did not call attention to case No. 8 in the late election list, and stated that her husband was a Mason for seven years, and she had four children.

On the latter subject, of course, I only had the details furnished by such list, and any question of inaccuracy must be adjusted by Mrs. Daly and the school authorities.

As to the other point, I wrote to her the following letter, which I beg you to publish, as more fully showing the absurdity of the bye-laws regulating the nomination of girls to this Institution.

Yours fraternally,

HENRY C. TOMBS,
P.G.S.W., &c., Wilts.

[COPY.]

Mrs. Daly, 4, Burfield Terrace, Hammersmith.

Wootton Bassett, 16th April, 1877.

Madam,—I beg to acknowledge your favour in reference to my letter concerning the abuses of three children from the same family being the recipients of the benefits of the Girls' School.

I did not notice case No. 8 or I certainly should have alluded to it, though I don't see how the mother of No. 8 can have "two children in the Institution," and the third a candidate, when she is stated in the voting paper to have only two children dependent on her, except those in the School are not reckoned.

You will, I doubt not, give me credit for not desiring to give pain to you, or anyone else who has had the misfortune to lose one so near and dear to them as a husband.

The postscript to my letter explained clearly my object was to write against the "principle" not the "individual."

Will you look at the case as the mother of say No. 2 does:—Three children; father 24 years a Mason; no children elected; this the fifth election, with only the barest possibility of an election being obtained.

Or the case of No. 52:—Twelve children; father 4½ years a Mason.

Believe me, madam, it is a gross and sad injustice that bye-laws should sanction such a candidature as your third child. You have two already in the School.

Is it to be permitted that the mother of No. 52 is to have all her twelve children educated in Masonic Schools? If not, where is the limitation to commence?

If you were the mother of No. 2 would you like such a thing to be possible, to your great detriment?

Your good sense and kind motherly feeling for others will speak to your own conscience that such a state of things simply means unjustifiable laxity on the part of the managers, and a gross disregard of the interests of the general body of candidates.

I don't blame you for getting all your children educated in the Girls' School, if such a thing is possible to be sanctioned or winked at, or shall I say disregarded or overlooked, by those in authority.

With every respect, believe me, madam, your obedient servant,

HENRY C. TOMBS,
P.S.G.W. Wilts.

[We publish these letters at Bro. Tombs's request, but we think it rather a pity that he did not send us Mrs. Daly's letter, as we always think it well to have all the correspondence before us. As regards particular cases of election we call his attention to a leader on the subject to-day.—Ed.]

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I am desired by Mrs. Johnson to ask you to express her sincere thanks to the brethren, through your valuable paper, for the support received on the 14th inst. in gaining a place for her little child, M. A. Johnson, No. 5 on the list, in the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours truly and fraternally,

E. CHAMBERLAIN,
P.M. 1232, and P.G.S. of W.
Lincolnshire.

Eastgate House, Bourn, Lincolnshire.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—At the change of seasons many persons feel oppressed without knowing why they are so—they are aware something within them is wrong, though they cannot detect the defective organ. A few doses of these powerfully purifying and eminently cooling Pills will restore regularity to every part of the system—will cast out all impurities lurking in the frame, and will thoroughly expel the last traces of disorder, however hidden the disease may be—however obscure its cause. With Holloway's medicine relief is insured without risk; erroneous action is rectified without disturbing natural regularity, health is re-instated, and with it return the cheerful feelings which unmistakably to the recent invalid that all within is right again.—ADVR.

CONSECRATION OF THE ADELPHI LODGE, No. 1670.

On Saturday last the Adelphi Lodge, No. 1670, was consecrated at the house occupied by the Crichton Club, 4, Adelphi-terrace, Strand, and a brother who has made his mark in Masonry by the excellence of his working while occupying the chair of W.M. in the Thames Valley Lodge, No. 1460, was installed the first Worshipful Master of the latest addition to the list of London lodges. It was with great pleasure the numerous brethren who assembled on this occasion saw the merits of this brother recognised by the Most Worshipful Grand Master granting the warrant for the Adelphi Lodge, with Bro. Llewellyn Jones as the W. M. designate, and they also hailed with additional satisfaction the circumstance of the warrant bearing the sign manual of the M.W.G.M. himself. That the lodge will highly appreciate its warrant there is no doubt, as the members are all most worthy Masons, and are anxiously solicitous for the well being of the Order.

The following is a complete list of the brethren present at the consecration: Bros. John M. Gibson, J. Llewellyn Jones, E. W. Chetwynd, Douglas Cox, G. Mc. A. Low, W. A. Tinney, W. W. Stevens, Ralph Thomas, R. W. Dunn, Harry Western, G. F. Thomson, B. Gallon, Wilford Morgan, 34; Alfred Caint, 1556; H. Massey (Freemason), J. N. Chamberlin, P.M. 131; James J. Joseph, J.W. 1420; J. T. Pidditch, J.D. 1420; R. T. Pigott, D.C.L., S. W. 11; Nelson Reed W.M. 1671; G. C. Searle, Organist 1572; James Weaver, P.P.G.O. Middlesex; John Green, P.M. 27; John Hervey, G.S.; Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C.; Charles B. Payne, G.T.; W. T. Howe, Grand Pursuivant; H. J. Gibbs, 657; Rev. Parkins, P.M. 84; Charles Coote, P.M. 1319; Harry F. Cox, I.G. 1319; H. G. Buss, Asst. Grand Sec.; J. J. Avery, Prov. G. Treas.; Devon; and Roger Cutler, J.W. 231.

The lodge was consecrated by Bro. John Hervey, Grand Secretary, who was assisted by Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, Past Grand Chaplain, as Chaplain, and Bro. H. G. Buss, Prov. J.G.W. Middlesex, as Director of Ceremonies. The S.W. chair was occupied by Bro. W. T. Howe, Grand Purs., and the J.W. chair by Bro. Jas. Weaver, P.P.G. Org. Middlesex. Bro. John Green, P.M. 27, acted as I.G. On the procession entering the lodge Bro. Geo. C. Searle, Organist 1572, played his Installation March, and during the ceremony musically accompanied the various portions, in which he was assisted by the following musical brethren:—Wilford Morgan, Robert Gallon, W. H. Stevens, Nelson Reed, and Alfred Caint.

The lodge having been opened in the different degrees, Bro. Hervey said: Brethren, it always gives me pleasure when I have an opportunity of performing the ceremony which I am called upon to do to-day, especially when I am so well supported, which I am, by my rev. brother on my right, because I know that when he is present I can always look for consistent support, and that if I fail in any material point I shall be supported by him and put right. Brethren, we have again met for the purpose of consecrating a lodge, and I trust that this lodge, when consecrated, will so carry out its duties and so set an example to the world, that it may not be a reproach hereafter to the Grand Master that he has delegated the power of initiating, passing, and raising Masons to men who do not know how to perform and carry out those duties. We are now, brethren, progressing very rapidly—I hope not too rapidly; but unless the brethren who are entrusted with the duties of Freemasonry carry out those duties as they ought to do, it would be far better that we go much more slowly, and that our pace was not so rapid; and I may say one other thing, that Freemasonry is a society which contains very excellent precepts, and if those precepts are not properly carried out I do think that those who endeavour to undertake the duties of office in lodges are traitors to that which they undertake, and that they are derelict from the duties which they ought to perform. We are told very frequently of the various duties which devolve upon us as Masons, and when we undertake to perform those duties in every ceremony which we go through, different excellences are pointed out to us, different things which we ought to study and to perform as our duties to Freemasonry; and unless we do carry those out, and unless we let the principle of Freemasonry permeate through everything that we carry out in our general duties, we are not acting as we ought to do, and we are not doing that which we have undertaken to perform. Brethren, I have frequently on these occasions impressed upon those with whom I have come into contact the necessity of being cautious as to whom they introduce into the Craft. I will not say more upon the point to-night, because I feel that it does not always do to harp upon the same theme; and although it is a point which I very strongly insist upon as one that we ought to carry out, yet still I do not want to weary you by again reiterating that which I have so frequently before said; but I do trust that this lodge will so carry out its duties as to merit that distinction which the Grand Master had delegated to it; and I hope that when in future years we look back to the 21st of April, 1877, we shall look back to it with pleasurable feelings, as having introduced into our society a body of men who will carry out the duties of Masonry, not only well but excellently; and I would impress upon the brethren of this new lodge, and especially on the officers of it, the necessity of a due performance of their duties, the necessity of being punctual in attendance when the W.M. calls upon them to attend the lodge at a certain time, because if one or two brethren are absent it is a sort of dislocation of the whole machine; the W.M. may be in his place and so may the Wardens, but if the Deacons are not present as well, then the first difficulty arises, that there is nobody to take their duties, and that the Master cannot proceed with the work in the manner which he ought to do. So again with the Wardens—if they are not in their places the Master is again placed in

a difficult position, and it is not only the Wardens and the Deacons, but with the other officers of the lodge. In each office there is a certain duty to perform; it is not a very lengthy one, and surely through the year the members have an opportunity of attending lodges of instruction, and may get up that little and perform it well. I do not know any more painful display than when a Deacon is piloting a candidate round the lodge room, to see that he does not know what he is about, that he takes him to the right when he ought to go to the left, and "vice versa." Certainly, if there be officers upon whom the W.M. ought to depend it is upon the Deacons. I am sure, sir, the officers whom you will have to appoint to-day will be such as will support you in the arduous duties you will have to perform; and I do trust that the recommendation I have now made to them to be punctual in their attendance to get up those duties which devolve upon them in each office, so that when the lodge is opened it may work as a whole, and that the machinery of the lodge will not be disturbed by the inefficiency or the absence of the officers. Brethren, I will not say anything more, because presently the rev. brother on my right will address you in a much more eloquent strain than I can venture or hope to do; but if any little truth which I can lay before you is of the slightest use, if it induces one of the junior officers to come when he might say, "No, I have got something to do; I have got another letter to write," then I think I have done some good. Again, I think that if brethren undertake office in a lodge they should not have "another letter to write;" they should so arrange their business that they can perform their duties as Masons. Not that I for one moment would recommend brethren to neglect their own business for the sake of Masonry—no man ought to do that; if he does so he is not performing the duty of a Mason, because he is devoting that time which ought to be devoted to the support of himself and his family for that which has frequently been called a luxury, for a luxury it is, and therefore a man ought not to neglect the ordinary duties of life for Freemasonry; but I think he should so arrange his work, both Masonic and private, as to make them combine, and not neglect either for the purpose of performing the duties of the other. (Cheers.)

The ceremony of consecration was then proceeded with, and the oration was delivered by

Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C., who said: W.M., Wardens, and brethren,—In Holy Writ we observe that places have been often intended by Almighty God to bring to the knowledge and remembrance of His people certain remarkable events. It is not without significance that to-day we are met in an old region of London, named Adelphi. It is a happy coincidence that this term, especially meaning brothers and brotherhood, should form the situation of a new lodge in this 19th century. It carries us back to former days in our own land, and, as I have already observed, it carries us back still further, to ancient days in another. I thought, therefore, as I came into town to-day, that this word might be a keynote to a few thoughts for yourselves and myself on an occasion like this. Brotherly love is a very common term amongst us Masons; I would to God that that word should always rule our hearts and acts in Masonry as well as in the world. And perhaps if I say, and say without fear of contradiction, that such brotherly love, to be true, to be steadfast, and to be permanent, must be based upon the love of God, I am only uttering a very great commonplace—a mere truism. We find recorded in one of the Prophets a question put by one who was enquiring what he could do to please the Lord; and he proposed to give a "thousands of measures of oil," nay to give his "first-born for his transgression, the fruit of his body for the sin of his soul;" but he was told by the prophet that he need do no such thing, that he need not make such sacrifices as these; but he was only to do three simple things—grand words to be written on every Masonic lodge as well as upon the tablets of our hearts—he was told, "What doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?" Brethren, I cannot but feel upon an occasion like this that the recollection of these three sentences from the Sacred Volume may form very apt subjects of meditation. I will very briefly allude to each. "To do justly." Alas! how many of the "wars and rumours of wars" in this our world, how many of the private feuds which disturb society, how many of the family broils which eat away domestic happiness, may be attributable to the want of that simple virtue, justice. "To do justly." There can be no brotherly love without it. To do justice even in the common matters of trade, in our daily business and avocation, whatever that may be, is no trifling part of the prosperity of the State or the happiness of ourselves. I observe, and have heard from the mouths of many of those who have dealt with each other, how exceedingly difficult it is to be just and yet to live. I cannot but feel that if there be a God above us whose essential attribute is justice, the man who does "justly" in his ordinary matters of business must in the long run be the prosperous and the happy man—the prosperous as well as the happy man—for it "has the promise of the life that now is as well as that which is to come." And in society constantly, not a day of our lives passes but we have an opportunity of showing that nice discernment between what is just and what is unjust which may lead to the happiness of others as well as of ourselves. Well has the old dramatic poet said, "Be just and fear not," and well, also, has the old Latin author said, "Fiat justitia ruat coelum." But we are told, also, that we must "love mercy." Need I say, brethren, how constantly we have an opportunity of showing this virtue? We have an opportunity in our own families continually of showing kindness and tenderness; and we have not a few allusions in Holy Writ to the necessity there is for those who are placed at the head of households showing a tender and kind care for those who are

placed by God under their charge. And what holds good of the head of the family holds good of the head of the firm, of the head of the establishment in trade, of the head of every body of men over whom we may be placed. To show kindness and mercy, to endeavour always to do the pitiful, the kind, the courteous act, instead of the self-sufficient, the proud, the unkind, the contumelious—surely this forms a very main part in brotherly love, and amongst us Masons in particular. What would Masonry be without it? It would, to use a very common expression, be "Hamlet without the principal character." We have our noble Charities; God grant we may never cease to support them. And every Mason is bound, according to his ability, to let that be part of his Masonry; and not only to support those Charities, but, I venture to say also especially to London Masons, to see those Charities, to be able in some measure to realize that which we have the blessing and the happiness to have and to uphold. And so I have always tried to impress upon the brethren that it is highly desirable that they should take a happy holiday, and do themselves the luxury of going to see those Charities, and see the children and the old people in happiness and comfort. And, brethren, inasmuch as these two virtues must stand upon some basis, inasmuch as the building must have a foundation, I contend that we shall not "do justly," and not "love mercy," at least permanently and as a habit (for every person may be just by fits and starts, and merciful by fits and starts), unless it is founded upon the love of God, and unless we "walk humbly with" that God. And why is it that the prophet tells us to "walk humbly with thy God?" Doubtless there were many men in ancient days, as in these, that held a high head, and by trusting to their strong arm, or by trusting to their great reason, walked proudly beneath the great canopy in which the great Father and Governor of the world sits supreme. Brethren, it is an awful thing when men use that power and reason, that health and strength which God gives, to walk proudly before their God. I am satisfied that such a feeling as this, if it have place in any of our hearts, can never lead to true mercy to others or justice to our brethren, and I believe if the God we serve and worship were one of those terrible gods which some of the heathen worship, and which are supposed to inflict vengeance continually upon their creatures, we should not attempt to walk proudly, but to walk humbly and softly enough. Let us then when we have strength devote it to His service. If we have reason let us never cloud it with anything like intemperance; but use that reason in His great high service, as well as in that of our brethren and ourselves. Thus, according to that beautiful charge, too seldom given to us now, because we have so much to do, we should do our duty to God, our neighbour, and ourselves; thus will our brotherly love be founded upon a sure and lasting basis, and then, whatever may be the shades of difference which may separate us in the outer world, we can always contribute the beautiful colours of the rainbow to act on one another, and whatever the storms be that come across our families, our houses, our neighbourhoods, or our lodges, we shall see the rainbow with the smile of God coming to cheer us with that "hope which fadeth not away," and the Adelphi Lodge amongst the rest shall form part of the excellent band that is marching along the course of time to the course of improvement, and is helping to raise according to its ability human kind to the great image which it has lost, and to the blessed and happy lodge to which we all hope to come.

The rev. brother sat down amidst hearty cheering. The lodge was then duly consecrated, and Bro. John Llewellyn Jones was installed W.M. The following brethren were invested with their collars of office: Bros. Robert Gallon, S.W.; Harry Western, J.W.; R. W. Dunn, Treas.; William Shakespeare Webster, Sec.; Graeme Mc. A. Low, S.D.; W. H. Stevens, J.D.; Douglas Cox, I.G.; and E. W. Chetwynd, D.C.

After the work of the lodge was completed Bros. John Hervey, the Rev. R. J. Simpson, and H. G. Buss were elected honorary members of the lodge, and votes of thanks to them and Bros. W. T. Howe, James Weaver, and Green, who had taken the chairs of S. and J.W. and the office of I.G., for performing and assisting in the work of consecration.

Bro. Hervey acknowledged the compliment on behalf of himself and Bros. Simpson and Buss, and hoped they might visit the lodge again, say, in twelve or thirteen years' time (laughter); and each of the other brethren responded individually for himself.

Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Caledonian Hotel, hard by, where a choice banquet was awaiting their arrival.

After the banquet the usual toasts were proposed in regular order.

The Rev. R. J. Simpson, in responding to the toast which included "The Grand Officers," said: I thank you very heartily on behalf of the Grand Officers, Present and Past, for the compliment that you have paid them in drinking this toast with such kindness and enthusiasm. I know that my excellent friend on my left (Bro. Hervey) will have to return thanks for another toast, and therefore I am not surprised, perhaps, that I should have been selected, as being senior by accident to himself, to return thanks for this toast. It is no use my speaking of Lord Carnarvon or Lord Skelmersdale, because to "paint the lily" is an exceedingly delicate operation, and one that is likely to cast more responsibility on the artist than the object. I shall not attempt, therefore, to say more than this, that I think we are very happy in possessing such men as rulers in our Order. We have to thank you very sincerely for the kind welcome you have given us this day, and the hospitality which you have shown us in the Adelphi Lodge, and also for the compliment which you have paid us in electing us

as honorary members of this lodge. I hope, with my friend, that we shall visit it again; but as he is a young man, and talks of fourteen years, I will venture to talk of fourteen months, and hope that in fourteen months I may have the pleasure of seeing you again. Brethren, I think we may fairly say that to-night, looking at the working of this lodge, and looking at the men who have been selected to be its rulers, the present lodge appears to very much fall in with the Darwinian theory—I mean of natural selection. (Laughter.) The officers appear to be, as far as we have the benefit of judging, as naturally the officers of a lodge as could well have been selected. But I venture to say that there is another point in this matter which is not to be lost sight of. There is an evolution of species—of Masonic species, of course. I take it, notwithstanding the way we are denounced in some high quarters, we are a species of monkey; and the link which seems to me to be established between the last Master and the first Master—by the Prince of Wales, the major, and the Prince of Wales the minor—is remarkable, if I may judge of the likeness there seems to be along the 1670 generations, or links, or whatever else they may be called, a certain remarkable continuity. (Great laughter, occasioned by the reference to the strong facial resemblance between the W.M. and the Prince of Wales.) Brethren, I thank you very much to-night for having listened, as you have very kindly done, to the address of the Chaplain on this occasion; and I was very much tempted, while speaking of that even-handed justice and that nice discrimination which should characterise us all, to say there is one instance which I think is known to all Masons, and that is of one who, whether a Mason be the Prince of Wales, Lord Skelmersdale, Lord Carnarvon, or the humblest Masons amongst us, is always ready with the same kindness and affability, the same obliging, and good and cheerful temper, to minister to our wants, to answer our most unreasonable questions, and to be ready on all occasions to give us his kind aid—I mean our Grand Secretary. (Hear, hear.) But I resisted the temptation because I do not like praising him too much; he gets too much conceited. (Laughter.) Brethren, I have ventured also to depart from the ordinary landmarks of the Order in addressing you, as I have had the privilege of addressing other lodges on the occasion of consecration, and instead of addressing you an oration upon the principles of the Order, I have only ventured to throw off a few desultory remarks upon some point which I have happened to get into my mind. At the same time I trust that there may be a consistency even in that. A late bishop of this diocese had two archdeacons who delivered charges upon these two different subjects: the composition of a sermon was the subject which one archdeacon chose, and extramural interments was the subject of the other; and some persons remarked to the bishop how varied were the subjects which his archdeacons chose. The bishop said "Not at all, I think they are remarkably alike," and upon the questioner expressing his astonishment the bishop said, "Well, after all, they are very near; one is on composition, and the other on decomposition." (Laughter.) Well, I am very much afraid that many of the addresses we give have a certain sameness in them; at the same time we are assured of this, we are amongst brethren and amongst friends, who will make all allowances for our shortcomings, and will give us in charity the best sympathy for our deeds, and will try to get and extract the most benefit from them. (Cheers.)

The W.M., in proposing the toast of "The Consecrating Officers," observed upon Bro. Simpson's remark, that it was very difficult to say anything new in response to Masonic speeches, that it was much more difficult to suggest anything new in proposing Masonic toasts. A man might by accident say something new, and if he did it should be taken advantage of. A proposer was not in that happy position, and he asked the brethren to make up for his deficiency in proposing this toast by the heartiness of their response to it. He, however, felt it his duty to say one or two words. He was sure all the members of the lodge wished it might become a credit to Masonry, that it should not only be known as the first of the name, but also a thoroughly brotherly lodge in every respect. They owed a deep debt of gratitude to the Consecrating Officers for the excellent manner in which they had done their work. The W.M. then named all the brethren who acted as officers at the consecration, and said they had set an example that evening which it would be very judicious to follow, and if they would come to the lodge as often as they pleased he hoped they would not be ashamed of the working; that they might say, "Well, you may be young people, but you are learning to trot very nicely, and you have nice straight legs." (Laughter.)

Bro. Hervey, in reply, said: There is a saying, "Know yourself." I thought I did know myself, and I thought I was a very modest man until I was assured by my next door neighbour (the Rev. R. J. Simpson) that it was quite the contrary. ("Hear, hear," from the W.M.) Well, I, of course, if Bro. Simpson, the Grand Chaplain, affirms that I am not a modest man, and the Master of the lodge ejaculates "Hear, hear," must of necessity give way and plead guilty to being anything but a modest man. Well, sir, if I be not a modest man, at any rate I have enough assurance, whether modest or otherwise, to thank you and to thank the brethren most sincerely for the toast which has just been so cordially proposed and received; and I can only say this, sir, that if I had to do the whole ceremony of consecration myself I do not think I could have done it so well as I have done it if I had not been so efficiently supported by those brethren who are now standing up with me. I am afraid when we take credit for ourselves we frequently ignore those who assist us over the stile, and we forget that those who have been in connection with us in any difficult undertaking have given us aid which we could very ill have spared in bringing the affair to

a successful issue. Now, sir, if the ceremony of consecration this night has gone off well, I am sure I may say, in the name of my brethren, who are all standing up on my right, that we rejoice that such has been the case; we are glad indeed that our combined efforts have produced a salutary effect, and we are glad indeed that we have been enabled justly and properly to launch the Adelphi Lodge into existence. (Cheers.) Having said so much, and having thanked you sincerely for the cordial manner in which this toast has been proposed and received, I would ask the brethren to charge their glasses and drink a toast that I propose with great pleasure for their acceptance. I do not think you will gainsay what I am about to say, that the W.M. has gone through the opening of his career in a very creditable manner. He has, fortunately for himself, had a little preliminary study in a small country lodge on the banks of the Thames. He has so far made use of his opportunity, that he has shown you to-night what he can do, for what he did was well done. He closed the lodge in an admirable manner; he showed that he was not at a loss in the performance of any of his duties, and I am quite satisfied that he will make use of his opportunity at the first meeting of the lodge, and show you what he can do in the initiation. But I mentioned that in the early part of the evening, and I mentioned it again just now that one brother cannot do the whole work of the lodge, and I am glad to see on the present occasion that the Master is supported by officers of the province, who have shown by the combination they have made this evening that they will carry out the duties that have been assigned to them, and that the W.M. when he presides for the first time in this lodge will not be deserted by his officers, but that they will be prepared to support him in every office which he has conferred upon them, and that they will produce an effect on the candidates when they are introduced to the lodge which cannot be surpassed. And I would urge upon you again, and I am sure you will excuse me for doing it, that the introduction of a candidate decides his Masonic life. It depends entirely upon the effect which is made upon him on his initiation whether he becomes a good Mason, whether he will adhere to the Craft, or whether he will leave it in disgust and say, "I was made a Mason certainly, but I left Masonry because its ceremonies appeared to be trivial, and its officers were incompetent." Well, brethren, we have no need to apprehend anything of that sort in this lodge. We may look forward to the work being well done; to the officers supporting their Master, and the Master not requiring from his officers more support than they ought to give him. Our excellent friend the Chaplain has already alluded to the meaning of the word Adelphi, and it does not need any further explanation from me, but I may say that I am sure the brethren will feel they are bound together not only by the name of the lodge, but by those Masonic feelings which every Mason ought to maintain, which every member of a lodge ought to maintain towards all the other members. I think it is mainly from the want of tact on the part of some Masters that differences in lodges are not smoothed over; many differences might be arranged by the possession of a little tact, and I am sure that there will be no want of tact on the part of the Master of this lodge.

The W.M. having replied, The Treasurer gave "The Health of the Visitors," to which Bro. Buss replied. "The Treasurer's Health" was also proposed, as was also that of the Secretary; and the other officers having replied to their toast, Bro. Longstaff gave the Tyler's toast, which concluded the list, and the brethren separated.

Bros. G. C. Searle, Wilford Morgan, Gallon, Stevens, Nelson Reed, and Caink contributed to the enjoyment of the evening by singing a pleasing variety of songs.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The Special Committee of Subscribers to this Institution met on Thursday afternoon, at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. Benj. Head in the chair. The other brethren present were Bros. H. Browne, Thos. W. White, Griffiths Smith, T. F. Pocock, Joshua Nunn, A. H. Tattershall, Rev. J. N. Vaughan, Major Finney, J. G. Marsh, Dr. Woodman, Dr. Ramsay, Hyde Pullen, Rev. Dr. Morris, Captain J. Wordsworth, Raynham W. Stewart, H. A. Dubois, H. Massey, (Freemason), J. A. Rucker, Peter De L. Long, Herbert Dicketts, F. Binckes, W. Paas, R. B. Webster, J. W. Faulkner, H. Venn, W. F. Kidder, Thos. Kingston, Pierce Egan, Thos. Bull, John Boyd, and R. W. Little, Secretary.

A grant of £15 was made to one girl (Clara Bindon) leaving the Institution and going to learn a business at Clifton.

The following brethren were nominated for the House Committee for 1877-8:—Bros. Boyd, Browne, Dubois, Head, Nunn, Long, Peters, Rucker, Griffiths Smith, Tattershall, Rev. J. M. Vaughan, Thos. W. White, Faulkner, Hyde Pullen, Raynham W. Stewart, Captain Wordsworth, and A. H. Diaper.

The following brethren were nominated for the Audit Committee for 1877-8:—Bros. Chancellor, Dicketts, Kingston, Levander, Levy, Marsh, Roebuck, Webster, Mather, Bailey, Mason, and Paas.

Dr. Ramsay gave notice of the following motion:—"That in the opinion of this Committee the accommodation provided for the officials of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls at Freemasons' Hall is totally inadequate for the increased and increasing labours which they have to perform, and that it be referred to the Board of General Purposes to ascertain what better accommodation can be provided."

The Committee then adjourned.

Obituary.

BRO. MONTAGU SCOTT.

Bro. Montagu Scott, who died at his residence at Fulham, on Saturday, the 14th inst., was the son of Dr. James Scott, M.D., of Woodhall, in Lincolnshire, and he was admitted into the law in 1845, and for over thirty years served it with unremitting attention, and a kindly generosity to his clients. Early in life he followed his father's footsteps in Masonry, and became initiated in the Lodge of St. James's, No. 765. There he went through every grade, and was retained in the chair for two consecutive years. He became a companion of the Caveac Chapter, of the Domestic Chapter, and was one of the founders of the Carnarvon Lodge. In 1873, at the annual meeting of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution (the Prince of Wales in the chair) in recognition of his energy in raising funds for the aged Freemasons and widows of Freemasons, he was presented with a handsome testimonial; he also received a gratifying acknowledgment of his labours, from the Lodge of St. James's. His illness commenced on the 2nd of the month, and he only lingered on until the 14th, but if it be true, that to live in the hearts of those we love is not to die, then Bro. Montague Scott has not yet passed from among us, for many years must pass away before the interest he took, not only in his own lodges but in Masonry generally, can be forgotten. He was interred on Saturday last in the Brompton Cemetery, and in accordance with his own wishes the funeral was strictly simple, and notwithstanding the inclement weather, there was a large attendance of brother Freemasons and members of his late Rifle Corps, the 40th Middlesex.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, May 4, 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, APRIL 28.

Lodge 1293, Burdett, Mitre Hot., Hampton Court.
Red Cross Con. 6, Roman Eagle, Anderton's Ho. Fleet-st.

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, APRIL 30.

Lodge 79, Pythagorean, Ship Hot., Greenwich.
" 1615, Bayard, 33, Golden Square.
Chap. 188, Joppa, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.

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 Town.
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-rd.
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-st.
West Smithfield, New Market Hot., West Smithfield.
Leopold, Woolpack Tavern, Bermondsey-st.

TUESDAY, MAY 1.

Colonial Board, at 4.
Lodge 18, Old Dundee, Bridge House Hot.
" 171, Amity, Ship Hot., Greenwich.
" 765, St. James's.
" 1257, Grosvenor, Westminster Hot., S.W.
" 1259, Duke of Edinburgh. C. of G. Hope Tav., E.
" 1261, Golden Rule, Regent's M.H., Air-st., W. &
" 1298, Royal Standard, Wellington Club, N.
" 1472, Henley, Three Crowns, Woolwich.
" 1549, Abercorn, Abercorn Hot., Gt. Stanmore.
Chap. 507, United Pilgrims, Horns Tav., Kennington.
Mark Lodge 1, St. Mark's, M.R., 1, 2 and 3, Little Britain.
K.H.S. Sanctuary, No. 1, Mount Carmel, F.M.T.

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.
Islington, Coopers' Arms, Silver-st., Falcon-sq.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 2.

Grand Chapter, at 7.
Lodge 1491, Athenæum, Athenæum, Camden-rd., N.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Confidence, Whittington, Moor-lane, Fore-street.
Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
La Tolerance, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Mount Edgcombe, 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.
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.
Lewis, King's Arms Hot., Wood Green.
Royal Jubilee, 81, Long Acre.
Langthorne, Swan Hot., Stratford.

THURSDAY, MAY 3.

Lodge 10, Westminster and Keystone, F.M.H.
" 27, Egyptian, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 45, Strong Man, M.H., Masons' Avenue.
" 231, St. Andrew's, F.M.H.
" 554, Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
" 1155, Excelsior, Sydney Arms, Lewisham-rd.
" 1445, Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., E.
" 1539, Surrey Masonic Hall, S.M.H.
Chap. 174, Sincerity, Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars.
Precep. 127, Bard of Avon, 33, Golden-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Libury, 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, MAY 4.

Chap. 3, Fidelity.
" 8, British, F.M.H.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Constitution, Bedford-st., Covent Garden.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-rd.
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 Coutts, 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.
Earl of Carnarvon, Mitre Hot., Gouldborn-rd., N. Kensgtn.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, May 5, 1877.

MONDAY, APRIL 30.

Lodge 148, Lights, M.R., Warrington.

TUESDAY, MAY 1.

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

WEDNESDAY, MAY 2.

Lodge 1013, Royal Victoria, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1061, Triumph, M.H., Lytham.
" 1335, Lindsay, 20, King-st., Wigan.
" 1354, Marquis of Lorne, M.R., Leigh.
" 1403, W. Lancashire, Com. Hot., Ormskirk.
" 1620, Marlborough, Derby H., Tuebrook, Liverpool.
Mark Lodge, 65, West Lancashire, M.H., Liverpool.
Downshire L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
De Grey and Ripon L. of I., 80, N. Hill-st., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, MAY 3.

Lodge 249, Mariners, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1473, Bootle, Assem. R., Bootle.
Chap. 758, Bridgewater, M.H., Runcorn.
Harmonic L. of I., Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, MAY 4.

Lodge 1375, Architect, Didsbury Hot., Didsbury.
" 1387, Chorlton, M.R., Chorlton-cum-Hardy.
" 1505, Emulation, M.H., Liverpool.
Hamer L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

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