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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

FAITH LODGE (No. 141).—The last meeting of this lodge previous to the summer recess was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on the 24th ult. Amongst those present were Bros. M. Davis, W.M.; Mallett, S.W.; Dairy, J.W.; Carter, P.M., Treas.; Stuart, P.M., Sec.; Waygood, I.P.M.; Rumball, S.D.; Morrison, A.W.S., acting J.D.; Walls, A.D.C., acting I.G.; and Past Masters Hopwood, Harris, Taylor, Green, Themans, and Kennett. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M. initiated Mr. A. Aaron in his usual careful manner. A notice of motion that the subscription should be raised was then fully discussed, but upon being put, it was negatived. The petition to the Grand Master for a centenary jewel having been signed, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet, which was well served. The visitors were Bros. Parkin, P.P.J.G.D. of Derbyshire; Walter, W.M. 87; D. Davis, late 141; Masters, Doudney, 145; Pratt, 957; and Palmer, 1293, 1503. The preliminary toasts having been duly disposed of, the W.M. proposed "The Initiate," in which he said that from the great attention Bro. Aaron had paid to the ceremony that night he believed he would become a good Mason. The newly admitted brother briefly replied by stating how gratified he felt at having been allowed to enter into the ancient and honourable society of Freemasons. "The Visitors" followed, and was acknowledged by each brother present. Bro. Stuart, in the absence of the I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M.," in very flattering terms. In the course of his remarks he said that since Bro. Davis had accepted the chair there had been very great changes in the lodge. The W.M., however, had endeavoured to meet all difficulties, and also had tried to give satisfaction to them all, and he (the speaker) felt convinced that when the time arrived for the W.M. to relinquish the reins of government he would retire with the proud satisfaction of having won the "hearty good wishes" of his brethren of the Faith Lodge. The W.M., in response, said that he had a very arduous task to perform during his term of office, and that was to stint the creature comforts of the lodge. It was very hurtful to his feelings to have to do this, but the funds of the lodge would not permit him to act otherwise, and he was determined not to leave his successor in debt. He thanked the Secretary for the warmth he had displayed in proposing his health; and in conclusion he called attention to the fact that the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls would be represented at its forthcoming festival by Bro. Titley, whom he hoped would be well supported by the brethren of No. 141. The toast of "The Past Masters" was acknowledged by Bro. Stuart in a very characteristic speech. "The Officers" followed, and drew from the W.M. a very high opinion upon the relative merits of the brethren forming the official staff. This health having been duly drunk, was acknowledged in fitting terms by Bros. Mallett, S.W., and Dairy, J.W., upon behalf of themselves and colleagues, present and absent. The Tyler's toast was called at a comparatively early hour, and the brethren separated until the last Tuesday in September next. During the evening selections of harmony were given by Bros. Mallett, Walls, Leftly, Clark, and others, and Bro. D. Davis gave a reading from "The Lady of Lyons."

ROYAL OAK LODGE (No. 871).—A regular meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 26th ult., at the White Swan Tavern, High-st., Deptford. Present: Bros. J. J. Pakes, W.M.; G. T. Lunn, J.W.; William Andrews, P.M., Treas.; Frederick Walters, P.G.J.D. Middlesex, and P.M., Sec.; R. Harman, S.D.; J. G. Lehmann, J.D.; G. Harvey, I.G.; George Andrews, P.M., D.C.; H. J. Tuson, P.M., W. Steward; H. J. Fisher, Org.; J. Bavin, P.M. 147; Tyler. Visitors: J. Howe, 1326; J. R. Croft, 1326; H. Bartlett, P.M. 147; J. Evans, 797. Bro. J. J. Pakes, W.M., opened the lodge, the minutes were read and unanimously confirmed. The ballot was unanimous in his favour, Mr. Edward George Goudson Bax was initiated by the W.M. in an efficient manner; the lecture on the tracing board and the charge to the newly-initiated being given by Bro. G. Andrews, P.M. and D.C., for which he received a vote of thanks.

LODGE OF JOPPA (No. 188).—This lodge held its regular meeting at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-st., on Monday, the 7th inst. The lodge was opened in due form by Bro. Lewis Alexander, Senior P.M., in the absence of the W.M., and the minutes of the last lodge were read and confirmed. On the arrival of the W.M. a ballot was taken for the admission of Mr. Edmund Cogswell, which resulted in his favour. He was afterwards initiated into the Order. Bro. Althorp was raised to the Third Degree. A letter was read from Bro. Spiegel, J.W., stating in consequence of the death of his father, he was unable to attend the duties of the lodge. It was then proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously, that a letter of condolence be sent to Bro. Spiegel, conveying the sympathy of the lodge in his bereavement. The lodge was then adjourned till the first Monday in June, after which the brethren, including several visitors, adjourned to supper, and passed a pleasant evening.

ROYAL ALBERT LODGE (No. 907).—The installation meeting of the above lodge took place on Monday, the 16th ult., at Freemasons' Hall, when Bro. F. A. White, W.M. elect, was placed in the chair of K.S. with the usual honours. A large muster, both of members of the lodge and brethren from neighbouring lodges, attended, among the latter being Bros. E. West, P.M. 1076 and 1327, P.P.G. Officer for Herts; F. H. Miller, P.M. 901, and a.P.P.G.O. Middlesex; R. A. Wright, P.M. 505, and P.P.G.S. Herts; C. Nash, P.M. 79; E. S. Parker, P.M. 119; H. Roberts, P.M. 79; W. Nicholls, P.M. 203; W. C. Penny, P.M. 79; T. G. Day, P.M. 1076; Dr. Clarke, 255; Tyler 1625; G. Brown, 13; A. Day, 913; C. Jolly, 913; and many others whose names we could not decipher on the visitors' book. The lodge having been opened in the Three Degrees, the W.M., Bro. R. E. Stevenson, in the most impressive manner raised Bro. Strange to the Third Degree. The lodge was then resumed to the Second Degree, and Bro. White was duly obligated. The lodge was then resumed to the Third Degree, and the chairs filled respectively by Bro. John Dennis, P.M., the Installing Officer in the East, and Bros. Moore and Griffiths, P.M.'s, respectively, in the West and South. The W.M. elect was then presented to a Board of Installed Masters, numbering nearly thirty, and was formally inducted into the chair, and on the return of the brethren saluted in the various degrees. He then proceeded to invest his officers as follows: Bros. J. F. Hallett, S.W.; R. Jennings, J.W.; Vaughan, P.M. and P.P.G.C. Middx., Chap.; J. Smith, P.M. and P.G.P. England, Treas.; W. H. Farnfield, P.M., Sec.; H. Lewis, P.M., D.C. and W.S.; W. Snellgrove, S.D.; G. T. Barr, J.D.; S. Butt, I.G.; F. A. Cozens, Org., and Harrison, Tyler. The Past Masters belonging to the lodge present, beside those already enumerated, were Bros. J. Farnfield and Miller. After the ceremony, which was splendidly worked by Bro. Dennis, whose eloquent and forcible manner in giving the charges was most impressive, a cordial and unanimous vote of thanks, to be inscribed upon the minutes of the lodge, was accorded him, for which he returned thanks. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Crown Room, where a superbly appointed banquet awaited them. After "The Queen and the Craft" and "The Health of our G.M.," had been most loyally responded to, that of "The Grand Officers" was coupled with the name of Bro. J. Smith, who, in responding, drew attention to the coming time, when they would have the three Royal brethren in the respective chairs at Grand Lodge. Bro. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as G.M.; Bro. H.R.H. Prince Arthur as G.S.W.; and Bro. H.R.H. Prince Leopold as G.J.W. This, he said, would show the great interest our G.M. took in Masonry, and for it they were proud of him. For the honour done him in coupling his name with so important a toast he thanked them. He then, in glowing terms, proposed "The Health of the W.M.," saying there could not be a doubt on the minds of any one present who knew Bro. White's assiduity during the time he had filled the minor offices of the lodge, or who had seen the manner he had that day closed the lodge in the Three Degrees, that he had made himself worthy of the position he had been by them unanimously elected to. He (Bro. White) had been initiated by Bro. Dennis, and now that brother had finished his work by placing him at the head of the lodge, and he trusted that Bro. White might reign as worthily as the brother who had placed him there. Bro. White, in reply, thanked them sincerely for the manner in which they had responded to the toast. They had that day conferred a very great honour upon him. He felt how great the responsibilities were in presiding over a lodge that had upon its roll of Past Masters such a brilliant array as that which sat around him. He should always endeavour to follow in their footsteps, and he felt sure that if he did so he would have, as they had, the esteem and best wishes of every member of the lodge. Bro. White then proposed "The Health of the I.P.M., Bro. Stevenson," who he said had, during his year of office, initiated more members than any preceding Master, and whose universal kindness and courtesy to the brethren had won for him their most earnest regard and esteem. He then placed the collar of a Past Master round Bro. Stevenson's neck, and pinned the magnificent jewel of that office upon his breast (both of which were presented by the lodge) and amid cheers wished the worthy recipient long life and brotherhood among the brethren of the lodge and Order. Bro. Stevenson feelingly replied, gracefully alluding to the many kindnesses received by him from both the officers and brethren during his year in the chair; and in conclusion thanked them from his heart for their magnificent present and reception of his name. Bro. White then eloquently proposed "The Health of the Installing Officer, Bro. Dennis," who he had known for the last fifteen years, and during that time he had been to him one of the best of friends and kindest of brothers he had ever known; and all who knew Bro. Dennis would, he felt sure, agree with

him, that he was worthy of every honour that could be paid him for his long and many services to the lodge and its members. Bro. Dennis had initiated him into Freemasonry, and that night, as Bro. Smith had before observed, he had finished his work by placing him in the chair he felt it so great an honour to occupy. The beautiful ceremony Bro. Dennis had so admirably worked that day had made an impression on him that he should never forget, and he knew they must have appreciated the masterly and eloquent manner in which it was begun and finished. For himself, and in the name of the lodge, he thanked him, and called upon them to drink the health of the Installing Officer, Bro. J. Dennis. Bro. Dennis, in the course of an eloquent reply, thanked the brethren heartily for their toast, and the W.M. for so kindly speaking of him and his services. He felt proud to have had the honour of placing Bro. White in the position he was so well calculated to do justice to. They knew it was not his custom to flatter any one, but none could be worthier of the position that he occupied than the brother they had that evening chosen for their W.M. With Bro. White he had had for many years a personal acquaintance, that from its earliest to its present time had been one of close mutual friendship and esteem. Of that friendship he felt proud; but how much more so was he proud now to see him, and to have been the humble instrument of placing him in that chair as Master of the lodge into which he had initiated him as an Entered Apprentice. After adverting most eloquently to the higher aims of Masonry, and the duties attending the proper fulfilment of its tenets, he concluded a brilliant and forcible address, that space prevents the possibility of our doing justice to, by again thanking them for their toast, and resumed his seat amid loud applause. "The Health of the Visitors" followed, coupled with the names of Bros. Wright, W.M. 1364; Bywater, P.M. 19; Roberts, P.M. 76; Fenner, P.M. 162; and Bracebridge, P.M. 781, who severally responded. "The Past Masters" were next honoured, and Bro. J. Farnfield responded. Bro. W. H. Farnfield, P.M., responded for the healths of himself and Bro. Smith, as Secretary and Treasurer of the lodge. The toast of "The Officers" followed, and was severally responded to by them; and then the Tyler's toast concluded the business and pleasures of the evening. During the proceedings a selection of vocal music, under the direction of Bro. Cozens, was given by Bros. Chaplin Henry, Lester, G. T. Carter, and Montem Smith.

STOCKWELL LODGE (No. 1339).—The installation meeting of the above lodge was held on the 19th ult., at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell. A large number of the members were present, including all the officers and several visitors, among whom were Bros. John Green, P.M. 27; Blackshaw, 34; Hopwood, P.M. 22; Bennett, 141; Kent, P.M. 177; White, P.M. 22; Dr. Kimber, P.M. 9; Simons, P.M. 902; Newman, 1385; Dunn, 813; Lamb, J.W. 1201; Cox, 1314; Dodson, P.M. 72; and Waterall, P.M. 1216. The W.M., Bro. C. J. Pain, having opened the lodge, and the minutes of the last meeting having been confirmed, proceeded to pass Bros. Carmona and M'Kay to the degree of F.C., and to raise Bro. Louhami to the degree of M.M., performing both ceremonies with much ability. Bro. Frances, P.M., P.P.G.D. (Surrey), then proceeded to install the W.M. elect, Bro. N. T. F. Bassett, who appointed and invested his officers as follows—viz., Bros. John Bowyer, S.W.; John Coe, J.W.; W. B. Pillinger, S.D.; C. Hincksman, J.D.; H. Hart, I.G.; invested C. Hammerton, P.M., as Treasurer; re-appointed Frances, P.M., Secretary; and appointed Sawyer D.C. and W. H. Boswell, W.S. The manner in which the ceremonies of installing and investing were performed gave great satisfaction to the brethren assembled, and the new Master was cordially greeted. The W.M. then presented the retiring Master, Bro. Pain, with a P.M.'s jewel, which had been previously voted by the lodge, and also presented the lodge with a handsome banner (following the custom of preceding Masters), and the number now adorning the lodge gives it, in the splendid hall in which it now meets, an imposing appearance. The business of the meeting having terminated, the brethren adjourned to partake of an excellent repast. The dinner was heartily enjoyed by the brethren. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and honoured, the healths of the W.M., P.M., and visitors meeting with more than ordinary applause. The evening's amusement was enhanced by some excellent vocal efforts on the part of Bros. Kimber, T. F. Harris, Kay, and others.

CHAUCER LODGE (No. 1540).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, 25th ult., at the Bridge House Hotel, Southwark. There were present Bros. J. E. Mason, W.M.; E. S. Stidolph, S.W.; W. J. Kemp, J.W.; T. J. Sabine, P.P.G.S.B. Middlesex, Treas., P.M.; Frederick Walters, P.G.J.D. Middlesex, P.M., Sec.; H. Faija, J.D.; C. Graham, C.S.; W. Y. Laing, P.M. 45, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. W. C. Bland, P.M. 574; C. G. Rushworth, W.M. 1309; David Smith, 1326. The lodge was opened by Bro. J. C. Mason, W.M.; the minutes were read and unanimously confirmed. Bros. F. Mayer, W. J. Harrison, and E. Ricardo, were passed, and Bro. J. Simpson was raised, all the work being well done. A P.M. 62 and 147, Scotch and Irish Constitution, was relieved from the lodge Charity Fund. The petition sent in from Montefiore Lodge, No. 1017, respecting the exclusion of Hebrew brethren in Germany, received the unanimous support of the lodge. Business ended, the lodge was closed.

ALDERSGATE LODGE (No. 1657).—An emergency meeting of the above lodge was held at the Castle and Falcon Hotel, Aldersgate-street, on Monday last. There were present Bros. John Derby Allcroft, W.M.; Rev. Dr. P. H. Ernest Brette, S.W.; Dr. Chas. Hogg, J.W.; George Kenning, Treas.; P. Saillart, S.D.; W. H. Froom, J.D.; A. J. Altman, I.G.; T. Benskin, D.C.; Rev. Richard Lee, Dr. Herbert Alder Smith, Walter

J. Chapman, Alfred Brookman, Jolliffe, Hyde Pullen, P.G.S.B.; W. W. Landell. Visitors: Bros. J. C. Parkinson, P.G.D.; Dr. W. Walford, De Lucca. Bros. Lec, Smith and Chapman were raised to the Third Degree; Bro. Brookman was passed to the Second Degree; Dr. Samuel Benton, and Mr. John Jackson were initiated into Freemasonry.

BATH.—Royal Cumberland Lodge (No. 41).—The last regular meeting before the vacation was held at the Masonic Hall, on Thursday, the 3rd inst., when the Lodge was opened at 7.45 by Bro. F. Wilkinson, W.M., supported by the following officers: Bros. Brown, I.P.M.; Falkner, S.W.; J. Turner, P.M. as J.W.; Ashley, P.M., and Treas.; Braham, Sec.; Wilton, P.M. and Dir of Cer.; Gummer, S.D.; Hunt, J.D.; Radway, I.G.; Robinson, Steward; Bigwood, Tyler; Past Masters Cooper, Moutrie, Clark, Rubie, and Dr. Hopkins, P.P.G.S.W. for Warwickshire, and P.M. 43 and 958. A few other members were present and many visitors from Nos. 53 and 906. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, several matters of no public interest were discussed and settled. On the circular of summons were the names of five candidates for initiation, already admitted by ballot, of whom two only were present, the absence of the others being satisfactorily explained by the W.M., as also was that of the J.W. All preliminaries having been arranged, Messrs. R. Mann and Cartmel were introduced and duly initiated. Bros. Davies, Peach, W. Baldwin, and Harris passed a very satisfactory examination as to their proficiency, were entrusted, and dismissed for preparation. Before they left the room, however, the W.M. announced a very valuable present to the lodge, consisting of a large, handsomely framed portrait in oil of the M.W.G.M., the Prince of Wales, in full Masonic regalia, the gift of the new member, Bro. Harris. After comments from several of the brethren on this act of liberality, and proof of his appreciation of his admission into the Order, a vote of thanks to the donor was carried by acclamation, who, in his reply, stated the portrait had been executed by his son, an artist by profession, and that as soon as qualified by age he would seek admission into the Craft. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree. The candidates were re-introduced, and passed to the rank of F.C. At the conclusion of the ceremony, Bro. Ashley, in highly complimentary terms, brought before the notice of the brethren the admirable manner in which both the ceremonies had been rendered by the W.M. on this, the second occasion of his presiding over a meeting of the lodge, acquiescence in which was afforded by the frequent plaudits of those present, and the Secretary was requested to insert a special record thereof in the minutes. No other business offering the lodge was closed in the Second, and afterwards in the First Degree, and the brethren separated soon after ten o'clock.

KENDAL.—Union Lodge (No. 129).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, on Thursday evening, the 26th ult., at 7 o'clock. The W.M., Bro. R. J. Nelson, was supported by Bros. McKay, S.W.; R. Godfrey, W.M. 1074, as J.W.; T. Wilson, P.M.; Banks, Sec.; John Bowes, P.M., P.J. G.W., and a goodly number of brethren. The lodge having been opened and the minutes read and confirmed, the W.M. announced that as there was an initiation, passing, and raising, he should esteem it a favour if Bro. Bowes, the Senior Grand Warden of the province, would take the Third Degree. Bro. Bowes then took the chair of K.S., and raised Bro. Rodick to the Sublime Degree of a M.M. The other labour having been completed by the W.M. in a highly satisfactory manner, the lodge was closed with the usual solemnities.

BEDFORD.—Stuart Lodge (No. 540).—The brethren of the above lodge held their last meeting for the season at the Swan Hotel. There were present in lodge nearly forty members of the lodge and visitors. The W.M., Col. Stuart, in the chair, supported by Bros. Capt. E. Green, J.P., I.P.M.; W. Finlison, P.M., S.W.; Capt. Colburne, J.W.; R. H. Coombs, S.D.; J. Allan, J.D.; H. Thody, I.G.; Dr. Prior, P.M., Sec.; Alderman Sergeant, P.M., Treas.; Alderman J. R. Bull, P.M., Steward. Bro. Piper, Organist, not being able to be present, Bro. A. Cookson ably performed on the organ during the ceremonies. Amongst the other brethren present we noticed the following:—Past Masters Cuthbert Whyley, G. P. Nash, Billson, and the Rev. Fawcett Ward; Bros. James Howard, J. P. Fry, Major Taselaw, Stafford, Thompson, Pick, Ayres, Roe, Carter, Whittaker, and Harris; and as visitors Bros. R. Broughton Smith, P.M. 511, 1007, 1560, and P.P.G.A.D.C. Leicester and Rutland; A. Lindsell, St. Andrew's, 803; and Bro. Flower, of the Lodge Perseverance, Bombay, 351. Bro. R. P. Jarvis was duly passed to the Second Degree, and Mr. H. Young, of Bedford, was balloted for, elected, and afterwards initiated, both ceremonies being performed by the W.M.; Bro. Dr. Prior giving the charge in the First Degree in his usual happy manner. The votes for the Benevolent Fund having been disposed of, and other items of business gone through, and another resident of Bedford being duly proposed for initiation, the lodge was duly closed, and thirty-one brethren sat down to an excellent supper, and spent a pleasant evening.

WALMER.—Lord Warden Lodge (No. 1096).—On Friday, the 20th ult., the installation of Bro. A. H. Des Barres as Master of this lodge took place in the lodge room at Deal. Bro. T. Ayling, the retiring Master, performed the ceremony in a most impressive manner, and the way in which the new Master and his officers performed their duties afterwards showed they had not suffered from lack of good teaching during the past year. The business of the lodge having been disposed of, the Worshipful Master, on behalf of himself and the whole of the members of the lodge, presented a magnificent jewel (purchased by subscription) to the retiring Master, as some slight token of the high appreciation of his

many excellent qualities, but above all his untiring energy and zeal in the cause of Masonry. The Worshipful Master accompanied the presentation with a few well chosen appropriate words, which were heartily endorsed by all present, and suitably responded to by Bro. Ayling. The dinner was held at the Royal Hotel, to which about forty sat down. In the evening the usual toasts were given and heartily responded to, and the claims of the Masonic charities were prominently brought forward. The following visitors were present: Bros. Hayman, W.M.; Bird, Mason, Ralph, Browning, Apps, Cavell, Gregg, Bent, and Solly, of No. 784, Deal; H. S. Watts, W.M.; Emmerson, Mate, Hill, F. Baker, Woodruff, C. Baker, Hathaway, 1206, Sandwich; H. Sanctuary, 1428; H. M. Baker, W.M., and W. H. Smeath, 1208; Iggesden, of Lodge 109. The proceedings were enlivened by songs and recitation, and Bro. Doorne presided at the piano with his usual skill and ability.

HAMPTON.—Hemming Lodge (No. 1512).—An emergency meeting of this lodge, and which was well attended, was held at the Lion Hotel on the 19th ult., when there were present Bros. J. Hurst, W.M.; J. Hammond, S.W., W.M. elect; Hopwood, I.P.M. and Treas., acting J.W.; W. Hammond, P.P.G.D. of Middlesex, S.D.; Raw, P.M.; Sharp, P.M. 84; Knowles, acting S.D.; Jessett, J.D.; T. Ockenden, I.G.; T. C. Walls, D.C.; and Kent, A.W.S. The visitors were Bros. Bowra, Dobbie, Scotland, and Jackson, 1056. The W.M. passed Bro. C. Hole and initiated Messrs. Tozer and Forward. The ceremonies were well performed. A Past Master's jewel having been unanimously voted to the retiring W.M. for his services during his year of office, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to a collation. In accordance with Masonic custom, the toasts that followed the refreshment of this emergency meeting were few and but formally given. "The Queen and the Craft," "The M.W.G.M.," and "The R.W.P.G.M. of Middlesex" were heartily received. In proposing "The Health of the W.M.," Bro. Hopwood congratulated him upon the success that had thus far attended his year of office. The W.M., in reply, briefly thanked the I.P.M. for the kindness and assistance that he had received at his hands during his Mastership, and which was now nearly at an end. In conclusion he wished the members of the lodge health and every happiness during the summer recess. "The Initiates" and "The Visitors" followed, and those toasts were duly responded to by the brethren thus honoured. The last toast previous to that of the Tyler's was "The Officers." In introducing this the W.M. dwelt at length upon the great assistance he had received during his year not only from the principal officers of the lodge, namely, the Treasurer and the Secretary, but from all his staff down to those subordinate, but most useful officers, the Wine Stewards. He said that no Master could have been better supported, and he considered it his duty to make that open acknowledgment of his satisfaction with their efforts. This toast having been received with excellent "fire," Bros. Hammond, Hopwood, Ockenden, Walls, and Kent replied on behalf of themselves and absent colleagues. The proceedings were enlivened by the vocal efforts of Bros. Hurst, Walls, Knowles, and others. The next meeting of the lodge will be held on the third Thursday in October next, when Bro. John Hammond, P.M. Jordan, S.W., will be duly installed into the chair of K.S.

LIVERPOOL.—The Ancient Briton Lodge (No. 1075).—The first meeting of this lodge after consecration the previous week was held on Tuesday, the 24th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool. The following officers were present:—Bros. J. Kellett Smith, P.P.G. Reg., W.M.; Robert Wylie, P.P.G.S.D., S.W.; J. R. Bottomley, J.W.; Rev. Rees Jenkins, Treas.; Thos. Evans, Sec.; J. W. Johnson, S.D.; W. H. Parry, J.D.; along with a large number of brethren proposed for joining and several visitors. The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the consecration meeting were read and confirmed. The ballot was then taken for thirteen gentleman who had been proposed for initiation, and for thirty-six brethren who had been proposed for joining. All being declared duly elected, the following were then added to the list of officers previously appointed: Bros. Edward Jones, I.G.; Robert Fairclough, Org.; D. S. Davies, W.M. 216, M.C.; Dr. J. Howard Pughe and William Griffiths, Stewards. Nine candidates in attendance were duly initiated by the W.M., the ancient charge being given by the S.W. The work as a whole was done in first-class style, and it was generally remarked that all the officers worked well for the first night. A vote of thanks was proposed, carried, and ordered to be recorded for donations by the following brethren:—Dr. J. Kellett Smith, R. Wylie, J. R. Bottomley, W. H. Parry, E. O. C. Rothwell, Edward Jones, Thomas Evans, and also to Bro. R. Wylie for a box of working tools. Previous to the lodge being closed, it was resolved that all the officers and two private members form a committee for the purpose of framing by-laws for the guidance of the lodge. After hearty good wishes had been given by representatives of numerous sister lodges, the labours of the evening were brought to a close, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment. During the evening the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to. A most gratifying and very unusual announcement was made in the course of the proceedings. The Treasurer stated he had paid all debts and charges, and yet he had £40 in hand on their first regular meeting night. This is a fact which augurs well for the future prosperity of the Ancient Briton, and they deserve the highest credit for thus starting on their career entirely free from the encumbrance of debt, which too frequently hampers and cripples lodges. It may also be incidentally stated that Bro. J. R. Bottomley, J.W., has been most indefatigable and painstaking in connection with the inauguration and organisation of the lodge, and he deserves the highest credit for the very large share of the initiatory work which he has performed.

INSTRUCTION.

SIR HUGH MYDDELTON LODGE (No. 602).—The usual weekly meeting of this successful lodge of instruction took place on Friday, 4th inst., at the King Edward the 6th, King Edward-street, Liverpool-road, N. Present: Bros. George Knill, 1607, W.M.; A. T. Rowley, W.M. 917, S.W.; Ross, 435, J.W.; W. H. Lee, W.M. 975, Preceptor; Percy, 228, S.D.; Somers, W.M. 1602, J.D.; Fenner, 1227, I.G.; Osborn, 1602, Sec.; W. Rowley, 917; Jones, P.M. 917; Waters, 700; Trevenniard, 228; Baily, 917, and numerous other brethren. The lodge was opened in ancient form, and minutes read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed in an excellent manner by the W.M., Bro. W. Rowley acting as candidate. The lodge was opened in the Second and Third Degrees. Bro. W. H. Lee then occupied the chair, and the ceremony of installation was then excellently rendered in his usual admirable manner, installing Bro. A. Rowley into the chair of K.S. The officers were then installed as follows: Bros. Ross, S.W.; W. Rowley, J.W.; Osborn, Sec.; Percy, S.D.; Somers, J.D.; Fenner, I.G. The addresses were delivered by Bro. Lee, P.M., in a most impressive and excellent manner, which gave great satisfaction to the brethren, and the lodge being closed a very agreeable and enjoyable evening was spent.

LIVERPOOL.—Mariners' Lodge (No. 249).—The annual banquet of this lodge was held on Thursday evening, 26th ult., in the Masonic Temple, Hope-street, Liverpool. The brethren met at 7 p.m. There was a good attendance of members; the following were the names of those present: Bros. Dr. Kellett Smith, P. Prov. G. Reg., Preceptor; J. Hayes, P.M. 249, Asst. Preceptor; Price, P.M. 249; Rose, P.M. 249; John C. Robinson, J.W. 249; W. Garlick, S.D. 249; W. P. Jennings, J.D. 249; Frederick Barnett, I.G. 249; W. Corbett, S. 249; J. Whittall, F. Cooper, J. Wynne Parry, J.D. Ancient Briton Lodge; C. J. Jones, W. Inwood, J. Tyson, 1094; Robert Collings, Sec. 249; Jas. Simpson, W. Mooney, E. A. Wright, G. C. Beecham, W. E. Vernon, J. P. Jones, John N. Pendleton, W. Gamble, M. Goldstone, J. Jenaway, E. J. Callon, Morris Davies, W. G. Veale, Org.; and T. Poyser. Bro. J. C. Robinson occupied the W.M.'s chair, and opened the lodge in due and solemn form. After the minutes had been read several members were proposed, and then the brethren were called off from labour to refreshment. A capital dinner was provided by Bro. Ball, P.G. Tyler. The cloth having been removed the usual loyal and patriotic toasts were given. Then followed "Our Masonic Rulers, &c." and "Our Worthy Preceptor, Dr. K. Smith," was received with acclamation. Bro. Dr. Kellett Smith, in responding, said he had been prevented by his professional duties from attending the lodge of instruction during the session, but he had been quite easy in his mind respecting its working, as he had left a very able assistant in Bro. Hayes, P.M., who, he was sure, would take every care that instead of the Mariners' Lodge of instruction deteriorating under his hands it would improve. He, Bro. Dr. K. Smith, had the permission of the W.M., Bro. Robinson, of giving the toast of "The Health of Bro. Hayes, P.M.," a more efficient Masonic worker than whom could not be found. The toast was heartily received. Bro. Hayes in a few suitable words returned thanks. "The Mariners' Lodge of Instruction," coupled with the name of Bro. Price, P.M.; "The Officers of the Mariners' Lodge of Instruction," coupled with the names of the S.W. and the Secretary; "The Temple Lodge, No. 1094," coupled with the name of Bro. Callon, were all suitably responded to. The brethren were afterwards called from refreshment to labour, and the lodge was closed. Excellent songs enlivened the evening's proceedings.

Mark Masonry.

BATH.—Royal Cumberland Lodge (Time Immemorial).—The annual festival was held at the Masonic Hall, on Thursday, the 26th ult., at 5 p.m. Bro. Carey, W.M., took the chair, supported by the following officers and many members:—Jas. Dutton, I.P.M.; Dr. Hopkins, P.M., P.G.J.W., Chaplain; Thompson, P.M.; Cater, S.W.; John Dutton, J.W., and Treas.; Rubie, Sec.; Falkner, Reg.; C. Wilkinson, M.O.; Braham, S.O.; Brown, J.O.; Murliss, S.D.; Radway, J.D.; Jacob Smith, I.G.; Bigwood, Tyler. Bro. Reeves, a visitor, kindly presided at the harmonium. The lodge having been opened, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. A communication was read from the relatives of the late Bro. Mann in reply to the letter of condolence received from the lodge on their bereavement. The report of the audit committee was brought up by the Secretary, which, though showing a smaller balance than before, indicated a more favourable position, there being no outstanding debts and considerable arrear of subscriptions due. A ballot was taken for Bros. Sparrow and Stukey, which proving unanimously favourable, they were duly advanced to the degree of M.M. Masons, the first part of the ceremony being performed by the W.M., the latter part by the I.P.M., and the explanation of the working tools given by the S.O. A clear ballot was also taken for Bro. F. Wilkinson, W.M. of Craft Lodge No. 41, as a joining member. Bro. Dr. Hopkins then took the chair, to whom Bro. Cater was presented as W.M. elect for installation. As he had not filled the first chair of a Craft lodge, the Installing Master called upon the Secretary to read the dispensation granted by the M.W. Grand Master, which having been done, and the preliminary part of the ceremony completed, the brethren were dismissed, and in their absence Bro. Cater was duly installed. After the readmission of the brethren, and the customary salutations, &c., he appointed and invested the following as his officers:—Carey, I.P.M.; John Dutton, S.W. and Treas.; Rubie, J.W.; Dr. Hopkins, Chaplain; C. Wilkinson, Sec.; Mitchell, Dir. of Cers.; Braham, M.O.; Baldwin, S.O.; Falkner, J.O.; Murliss,

Reg.; Radway, S.D.; Jacob Smith, J.D.; Howes, I.G.; Dingle, Steward; Bigwood, Tyler. The Installing Master concluded the ceremony by giving the addresses to the W.M., the Wardens, the Overseers, and the brethren, each of which elicited hearty cheers from those present. The W.M. thanked the brethren for the honour conferred upon him, and after paying a high compliment to the Installing Master as to the style in which he had inducted him into the first chair, proposed a vote of thanks to him, which was carried by acclamation, as also was a similar expression of kindly feeling towards Bro. Carey, I.P.M. The lodge having been closed, at eight o'clock the brethren adjourned to the Castle Hotel for a banquet, prepared by the host and Mrs. Rubie with their usual care. Musical arrangements had been made, which were well carried out between the toasts by Bros. Reeves, Cater, Falkner, Braham, and others. When replying to the toast accorded to the Installing Master, that brother took the opportunity formally to present to the W.M. a large Masonic chart, which he had himself prepared, not only as a compliment to the lodge, but also as a tribute of respect and personal regard for Bro. Cater. A most enjoyable evening was spent by the brethren, who did not separate till midnight.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORLAND.

A Provincial Grand Lodge meeting was held at the Crown Hotel, Penrith, on Friday, the 27th ult., by command of the R.W. Provincial Grand Master, the Right Hon. the Earl of Bective, who intended to be present on the occasion, but for some unforeseen circumstances was not able to attend.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was therefore opened by Col. J. Whitwell, M.P., R.W.D. Prov. Grand Master Cumberland and Westmorland; Bro. W. Kirkbridge, P.G. Senior Warden; Bro. Bowes, P.G. Junior Warden; and the rest of the Prov. Grand officers.

There were also present Bros. Lemon, P.G. Treas.; Gibson, P.G. Sec.; Kenworthy, P.P.G.J.W.; McKay, P.M.; Bintley, P.M.; Holmes, P.M.; Talbot, P.M. Kendal Lodge; J. R. Barron, W.M. 339; Thwaites, S.W. 339; Dixon, J.W. 339; Marshall, S.D. 339; Hetherington, J.D. 339; T. B. Arnison, Treas. 339; Kidd, I. G. 339; Whitehead, T. 339; Hall, 339; Pearson, 339; Godfrey, P.M. Underley Lodge; Nelson, W.M. Kendal Lodge; Whitehead, P.M. Appleby Lodge; Thornton, Sec. Keswick Lodge; Lamonby, P.M. Cocker-mouth Lodge; and brethren from other lodges in the province, numbering altogether about fifty.

Business concluded, the brethren retired for luncheon, presided over by Bro. Col. Whitwell, M.P., D. Prov. Grand Master.

After the minutes of the previous meeting at Kirkby Lonsdale had been read and confirmed, the dues from lodges and fees from officers were received.

The next question was the "locale" for the annual provincial festival, in September, when Bro. Lamondy, P.M. and Secretary, Cocker-mouth, moved, and Bro. Evening, S.W. Cocker-mouth, seconded, a proposition in favour of a meeting being held under the banner of Skiddaw Lodge, No. 1002, Cocker-mouth, should the same meet the approval of Lord Bective. Bro. Bowes having spoken in favour of the proposition, it was agreed to, a letter from Whitwell Lodge, Millom, inviting Prov. Grand Lodge to hold its meeting there being previously read.

The last provincial meeting in Cocker-mouth took place twelve years ago, when the late Bro. Dykes, Dovenby Hall, was Prov. Grand Master, and on the forthcoming occasion it is proposed to consecrate the new lodge premises in Station-street.

A motion by Bro. Lamonby, to abolish the fees of honour due from Stewards was negatived without a division.

The Charity Committee's report was presented, including grants to Aged Masons and their widows, as also the announcement that a boy from Kendal had been elected to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys in London.

After a special vote of thanks to the Earl and Countess of Bective for their princely hospitality at Kirkby Lonsdale, last September, the Prov. Grand Lodge was closed in ancient form.

Col. Whitwell, in proposing "The Health of the Prince of Wales, Grand Master of England," mentioned that his Royal Highness had appointed his brothers, the Duke of Connaught and Prince Leopold, Grand Senior and Junior Wardens.

During the proceedings of the day a meeting of Royal Arch Masons was held, at which it was agreed to form a Royal Arch Province for the two counties, with the Earl of Bective as Grand Superintendent.

FREEMASONRY IN SUSSEX.

A change has recently taken place in the government of this province in consequence of the resignation of Lord Pelham as Prov. Grand Master. On the 1st of the present month notification was sent from Grand Lodge to the W.M.'s of the province that H.R.H. the M.W.G.M. had been pleased to appoint Sir Walter Wyndham Burrell, Bart., M.P., Provincial Grand Master for Sussex. We understand that this appointment has given universal satisfaction throughout the province. Sir Walter Burrell is well-known and popular throughout Sussex. He is genial and warm-hearted, and is very much attached to Freemasonry, and has founded a lodge at Cuckfield, where he resides, the Ockenden Lodge, No. 1465, of which he was the first W.M., three or four years ago. Sir Walter has never missed a single meeting of the

lodge since it was established. In connection with the lodge he has formed a fund of benevolence, which has been so well supported by the members that already the W.M. is a life governor of each of the Masonic Institutions.

Sir Walter Burrell has appointed as his Deputy Provincial Grand Master Bro. John Henderson Scott, of Brighton. We have reason to believe that this appointment will also be well received by the brethren of the province. That Sir Walter Burrell has taken merit into consideration may be gathered from the following enumeration of what Bro. Scott has done during the last twenty-four years. All his services have been entirely gratuitous.

Bro. John H. Scott was initiated into Freemasonry in the Royal Clarence Lodge, No. 271, at Brighton, February 18, 1853. In 1854 he was appointed I.G., and worked his way, filling every office in lodge up to the W.M.'s chair, in which he was installed in 1859, again in 1865, and for the third time in January of the present year, so that he is the present W.M. of the lodge.

He has been a subscribing member of the Royal Clarence Lodge twenty-four years, and has held office either in lodge or chapter twenty-two years. He is hon member of the Royal Brunswick Lodge, 732; Ockenden Lodge, 1465; Hova Ecclesia, 1466; Sackville, 1619; St. Cecilia, 1636. He has initiated, passed, and raised a large number of brethren. He has installed nineteen W.M.'s, assisted at the consecration of thirteen new lodges, and worked every section of the Three Lectures.

In the Provincial Grand Lodge of Sussex he was appointed Prov. G. S. Deacon in 1859 and 1860; Prov. J.G. Warden in 1861; Prov. S.G.W. in 1865, 1866, and 1867; Prov. G. Sec. in 1873, 1874, 1875, and 1876.

In 1875 he was offered by Bro. Col. Dalbiac, the then Prov. G.M. of Sussex, the office of Dep. Prov. G.M., but declined on the plea of youth. He was appointed one of the Stewards for the Province of Sussex on the occasion of the installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as M.W.G.M. at the Albert Hall, and was presented by the brethren of the province with the commemoration jewel.

In Royal Arch Masonry he was exalted in 1857, and in 1859 was appointed E. of the Lennox Chapter, 271. He has served the office of M.E.Z. twice, H. four times, J. three times. He is the father of the Sussex Chapter, 732, of which he was first P.S. and M.E.Z. in 1868. He was the first M.E.Z. of the Cyrus Chapter, No. 38, at Chichester, and received a handsome Past Principal's jewel for his services. He is an honorary member of the Cyrus Chapter, of the Hartington Chapter, No. 916, Eastbourne; and of the Pavilion Chapter, No. 315, Brighton. He has been twenty years a subscribing member of the Lennox Chapter, and eighteen years of the Sussex Chapter. He has installed, with three or four exceptions, every Principal in the Lennox Chapter since 1862, and several Principals in the Sussex Chapter, and exalted too many companions to enumerate. He has assisted at the consecration of three chapters.

Bro. Scott succeeds Bro. G. J. Fromer, P.G.D., an old and distinguished member of the Royal Clarence Lodge for upwards of forty years. Bro. Fromer was appointed Dep. Prov. G.M. for Sussex 1865, and since then almost the entire burden of the duties of Prov. G.M. have fallen upon his shoulders. For the last two years he has been invested by Lord Pelham with full power to act for him and in his stead. His resignation has caused the deepest regret to the Masons of Sussex, and he carries with him into his well-earned retirement the love and esteem of every brother of the province.

The late Southwark Conference created a demand for Compressed Tea beyond all expectations. *Eminent Analysts* declare it is only when tea is in its pure and native state that it will yield to pressure under hydraulic power. The *London and Provincial Press* unhesitatingly assert that if you want a cup of tea in perfection it must be brewed from tea that has been Compressed. *Economists* advocate the use of Compressed Tea, and say if you want to get double the value out of your tea use it Compressed. *Testimonials* in thousands speak highly of the increased value and advantages in using the finely selected teas of the Compressed Tea Company (Limited). *Families* are making constant applications for the smallest wholesale quantity supplied, and say, "We are compelled to send to the warehouse for Compressed Tea; because the tradesmen in our locality appear to know nothing of it; and as one pound weight of Compressed Tea goes as far as two pounds weight of loose tea, we hope you will supply us." Sold in handsome cabinets—1lb. 2s. 6d., 2lbs. 5s., 4lbs. 10s.—got up specially for the Easter trade as *samples*, carriage free to any part of the kingdom. Works and Warehouse, 36, Southwark-street, London. Arrangements have been completed whereby Tea dealers can have their own blended and selected teas Compressed at a nominal cost per pound for compressing. All applications for Agencies for the sale of Compressed Tea, or from traders desirous of opening up wholesale depots for the sale of Compressed Tea throughout the kingdom, must be addressed to the Secretary.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Rheumatism or Neuralgia Affections.—No diseases are more frequent, painful, or difficult to cure than these. From their attack no tissue of the human body is exempt, no age, sex, or calling secure. It is a blessing, however, to know that all these sufferings may be completely and expeditiously subdued by Holloway's remedies. The Pills much assist in banishing the tendency to rheumatism and similar painful disorders; whilst the Ointment cures the local ailments, the Pills remove the constitutional disturbance and regulate the impaired function of every organ throughout the human body. The cure is neither temporary nor superficial, but permanent and complete, and the disease rarely recurs, so perfect has been the purification performed by these searching preparations.—ADVT.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The General Committee of the subscribers to this Institution met on Saturday last at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, V.P., presided. The other members present were—Bros. J. W. M. Dosell, Geo. Angold, Jesse Turner, H. Browse, John W. Dennison, A. H. Lilley, C. F. Matier, R. B. Webster, Rev. Dr. R. Morris, T. H. Turner, S. B. Wilson, Thos. Meggy, H. W. Hunt, W. Roebuck, H. Massey (*Freemason*), W. F. Collard Moutrie, Joyce Murray, George J. Palmer, S. Rosenthal, Hyde Pullen, F. Adlard, J. G. Chancellor, Alfred Lamb, and F. Binckes, Secretary.

After the reading and confirmation of the minutes, the following report of the House Committee on the question of providing increased accommodation at the school, which was ordered at the last meeting of the General Committee to be printed and circulated, and its consideration adjourned to the present meeting, was brought up. We reprint it in order that every means may be possessed by the Craft at large to consider the matter.

The House Committee, to whom by resolution of the Quarterly General Court, of Monday, 15th January, 1877, it was referred:—

"To consider the entire question of increased accommodation at the Institution at Wood Green, and to report through the General Committee to a Quarterly General or Special General Court," submit as follows:—

They have carefully considered various suggested plans for the contemplated enlargement, and are unanimously of opinion that the best and most feasible is that which provides for the removal of the present laundry and drying ground, &c., and for the erection on the site thereof of a spacious dining hall, 100 by 50 feet, extending from east to west, to which access may readily be attained, both through the present west (kitchen) corridor, and by means of the existing covered way from the school and class rooms in the main building.

One prominent advantage of this locality for the dining hall is its proximity to the kitchen, which it is believed by the annexation of the scullery adjoining will be amply sufficient for the cooking and supplies requisite for the fullest number of boys the increased premises would be capable of accommodating. Scullery room would be found by a re-adjustment of the present store-rooms and offices.

The new block of buildings would cover an area of 110 by 55 feet, and would comprise three floors. It would start in a line from the eastern end of the new dining hall and extend northwards.

On the ground floor would be commodious class rooms, four in number, with assistant masters' sitting-room, lavatory, cap-room, and other requisite premises, with convenient exit to closets, urinals, &c.

The second and third floor would contain six dormitories, each for twenty boys, and assistant masters' bed-rooms, assistant matron's bed-room, servants' bed-rooms, isolated, and with separate staircase.

The number of boys thus provided for is 120, in addition to the 184 in the main building.

The cost is estimated at about £22,000, or perhaps may be more safely stated at £25,000.

In recommendation of this scheme, which may be thought by some to be more extensive than is absolutely required by present exigencies, it may be stated that to provide for a smaller number, say, seventy boys, would reduce the cost only about £3,000!

The question of annual maintenance of so large an addition to the present establishment has not been lost sight of by the Committee. It is one which deserves most serious consideration, and, at the first blush, would seem to present insuperable difficulties; inasmuch as if the whole 120 boys were admitted as soon as the building was ready for their reception, the annual ordinary expenditure could hardly be estimated at less than £12,000, and might possibly exceed that amount, to say nothing of the sum required for "special expenditure," which varies from year to year, the average probably being about £1,000.

It must be remembered, however, that heavy and continuous as are the demands upon the resources of the Institution, there happily does not exist the necessity at present for the admission of extra boys to anything like the extent of those provided for, nor is it anticipated that such will be the case for some years to come. The Committee are of opinion that an addition of sixty boys will fairly meet the wants of the present generation, as it is not considered advisable, or for the interests of the Institution, that every boy qualified as a candidate under the laws of the Institution should, as a matter of course, be admitted, or, indeed, that election of candidates should be rendered too easy, and indifference and carelessness in selection be thus fostered and encouraged.

The enormous and rapid increase in the numerical strength of the Order is an admitted fact, as is also its advance in material prosperity, while the largely augmented contributions in support of our Institution is a matter of heartfelt congratulation. The considerations arising out of this favourable condition of affairs are not without weight with the Committee, but they cannot forget the arduous labour of the last sixteen years in connection with this Institution, and how much has been done by the Craft at large in assisting them in bringing it to its present position.

The crucial question with the Committee is—Is the Masonic body prepared to find the means necessary to carry out the proposed extension?

In the absence of a favourable response the Committee do not feel justified in undertaking so serious a responsibility, in comparatively so brief a period of the release of the Institution from the burden of debt, its invested capital being only £5,000, which on no account can they consent to be utilised for the object under consideration.

The Committee therefore conclude :—

1. They recognise fully the legitimacy of the demands for further accommodation.
2. They have ascertained the feasibility of carrying out the extension.
3. The issue—shall such extension be proceeded with?—they leave entirely to the decision of the fraternity.

The Committee before closing this report desire to add one word on a suggestion published with reference to a "Preparatory School." They express no opinion as to the advisability of making provisions for the sons of Freemasons at an age earlier than that at which they can now be received—8 years: contenting themselves with stating that the suggested scheme, if adopted, would enable the pupils from eight to twelve to be accommodated in the new building; the elder boys, from twelve to sixteen, being retained in the present building. The advantage of this arrangement, both educational and disciplinary, the Committee feel will be so apparent as to render unnecessary any enlargement thereon.

Signed, BENJAMIN HEAD, Chairman.
Wood Green, 23rd March, 1877.

This report having been agreed to be taken as read, Bro. Jesse Turner said he had seen the report, and he had made enquiries about it. The result of those enquiries was that the report was only tentative. He agreed that it was so. It was all very well to be told that if they had £20,000 or £30,000 at their disposal, they could provide for 120 more boys, and for £3000 less they might provide for seventy more boys. But the question assumed a very different aspect when they had not the money, and appeals would have to be made for it. Bro. Binckes was very zealous, and had obtained very large sums from the Craft on behalf of the Institution by means of the extraordinary exertions he had made. But could the Institution always be worked at high pressure? They had been working at high pressure, and if there should be a war, or bad crops, the attempts to obtain large subscriptions would fare but badly. But another question remained. If by extraordinary exertions the necessary fund was raised for building a school large enough for 120 or seventy more boys, could a sufficient sum be depended on from the annual festivals to keep the school in a good, healthy, and proper condition? Looking at the question from that point of view, he thought there was opportunity for doing the Institution much good at far less cost. He had been over the Institution, and was thoroughly conversant with it, and he found that an addition might be made to it for £1800 or £2000 which would accommodate a few more boys. If it was possible to do anything like that, was it worth while to commence an effort for raising £22,000 at the present juncture in political affairs? He did not think it was; but that it would be better to leave well alone. Let them do all they possibly could for their own day and generation; and let those who came after them do the best they could for theirs. He merely threw these remarks out as suggestions, and not as a plan to be followed. He would like them to get the opinion of others, but he thought that if the matter were now debated the brethren would come to the conclusion that it was not ripe at the present moment, and should be deferred for further consideration. Perhaps some one would propose a smaller scheme than those named in the report, at a less cost.

The Chairman said that Bro. Turner's remark about the Institution having been worked at high pressure was, no doubt, correct, and he agreed that it would be best just now to let well alone. They might create a fund to assist them hereafter in erecting a building, and when they got on further they might increase the number of boys. If it were moved and seconded that the report be received and adopted, a discussion might very properly arise, and Bro. Turner's observations might be usefully taken into account.

Bro. Jesse Turner thought that as the report was merely tentative it could not be adopted.

Bro. Meggy having moved, and another brother having seconded, that the report be received and entered on the minutes, the motion was unanimously adopted.

Bro. Binckes observed that the report was as Bro. Turner had said, a tentative report. It pledged the brethren to nothing, and its consideration might be deferred to a future time.

Bro. Turner asked whether such a postponement would be "sine die."

Bro. Binckes said no: they might see what was the result of the next festival first. The object of the report was to bring the subject fairly before the Quarterly Court for them to consider. It had not been circulated half widely enough yet, but it would be competent to consider it at any committee meeting.

The Chairman said he thought it would be best to defer it till it had come before the next meeting of the House Committee.

It was then agreed to defer the consideration of the report.

Bro. Thos. Meggy said: before the committee quitted the subject he would like to know one thing, which must throw light on the matter. It would be a very good plan for increasing the accommodation to open out an "Extension Fund" from the receipts of this year; they could take a certain portion of the income which was not absolutely required for providing for the necessities of the Institution, and make up a fund. They could then go to the Craft and say, "we have put so much to the Extension Fund," and by-and-bye they might get all they wanted. They might begin by putting by £5000. (Laughter.)

Bro. Binckes would remind the brethren that Bro. Meggy's motion was unnecessary. Already when they had a surplus they invested it.

The Chairman said that Bro. Meggy had better give notice of motion for his proposition.

Bro. H. W. Hunt thought the plan suggested by Bro. Meggy would not be a good one, because if they started an "Extension Fund" they would be pledging themselves to a certain thing.

The consideration of the report was then postponed. Three candidates were then placed on the list for election.

Bro. Binckes said it was now his duty, although the letter was addressed to him, to bring before the committee a complaint of Bro. Knott, the Secretary of the Charity Organisation of Wiltshire, of the lateness of the issue of the proxies for last election. He did not think, however, that Bro. Knott had much to complain of when all the circumstances were taken into consideration. There was an unusual number this last time, and no doubt they were somewhat later, and this arose partly from the official who was employed to get them out being new to the work. They were all got out, but his arrangements for the future were so organised that there would be no ground for complaint on the score of delay. He had a complaint also from another brother, who said that as a subscriber to the Boys' School he had not received his voting paper. On making enquiry it was found he was not a subscriber entitled to votes which he had not received; but that for his life subscription of five guineas he had received his vote. He still persisted that he was, and in support of his statement wrote to say that Bro. Muggerridge received his subscription. On referring to the Girls' list, it was found that the brother was a subscriber to the Girls' School, and as such was called upon by Bro. Muggerridge, who gave him the receipt for the Girls' Institution. Bro. Muggerridge never was the collector for the Boys' School. He brought the matter forward to show that before brethren made complaints they should be careful to see that they had grounds for them.

Two late pupils of the Institution, who had obtained situations, were granted outfits. At the former meeting of the Committee a request was made by another boy who had obtained a situation, for an outfit; but the question of granting it was deferred. Bro. Binckes informing the Committee that he thought it his duty to let the Committee know that after this boy had left the school he had written a letter to another pupil, inciting to insubordination. The Committee allowed the matter to stand over for further enquiries, and the result of these enquiries was even a worse report than that. The mother of the boy had been to Dr. Morris, and requested him not to let the Committee know, as the boy was in a good situation and was doing well; and if the knowledge of what he had done came to his employers' ears it would be his ruin. Dr. Morris was present, and the Committee could put to him what questions they liked.

The Chairman thought Dr. Morris should let them know.

Dr. Morris said that of course if the Committee required him to do so he must; but as the mother of the boy said it would be the boy's ruin, he would put it to the Committee whether they would call upon him to make the statement.

The Committee unanimously resolved under the circumstance that they would not ask Dr. Morris to make the statement.

The following brethren were nominated for the House Committee for the ensuing year: Bro. H. Browse, J. G. Chancellor, Benj. Head, H. W. Hunt, W. F. C. Moutrie, W. Paas, Hyde Pullen, W. Roebuck, S. Rosenthal, J. B. Scriven, Raynham W. Stewart, S. Wood (Birmingham), Geo. Rowe, 1185, T. B. Grabham, P.G.W. Middlesex; Alfred Durrant, P.M. 1185; and George Newman, P.M. 192.

The present members of the Audit Committee were re-nominated.

Notice of motion was given by Bro. Dr. Ramsey to the same effect as that given by him at the last General Committee of the Girls' School, for increasing the office accommodation at Freemasons' Hall for the Boys' Institution.

The Committee then adjourned.

"OUR BOYS."

By OUR "V.P.C."

There's nothing like a good beginning, but then it's so difficult to begin; at least, when you've a good deal, or else nothing at all, to say. Now, I'm just in one or other of those plights or predicaments, and I hardly know which, although I think I have an idea, if not two, like Talbot What-his-name-you-know of our respected Bros. James and Thorne, that is the latter. Well, I think I really have an idea, only our Editor—he's a capital fellow, but awfully particular, that is with me; and he does let his "O.P.D.," as he calls himself, make absurd remarks in the middle of my best passages—they'd be better than they are, I believe, if it were not that I stand rather in awe of him—but if I don't start I shall never say what I started to say, and so, as there is a slight kind of indecision as to where to begin first, I'd better do as we used to do on frosty mornings when we stood shivering on the river's bank, plunge at once "in medium" (watery, of course, not spirituous like Dr. What-do-you-call-him), because, as our own poet says—

"In middle is-riveris veri-simpliciter Igo."

Which I leave our Editor's obliging "O.P.D." to translate. Leaving our admired "Roman Father" Jacobus, then, as being too well known and appreciated to be dwelt upon now (except pausing to say that if so many people would not insist on going to see him at once there would be more room), we will make the fatal plunge into

* "You may take an ass to water, but it doesn't make him into a horse!"—O.P.D.

our subject, which is, by the way, some other "Our Boys" than the ones already alluded to.

Once for all, then, I have a complaint to make, and I'll make it—for there's nothing like well airing a grievance if you don't want your spirits damped. I've been regularly victimised by somebody's changing the time of Grand Lodge.

The other day, Jones—you know him very well, for I have spoken of him before—has been, so he said, using his influence with somebody high at court, as we say—I fancy it must be the august somebody who takes care of the things at Grand Lodge, for Jones just slyly hinted that this somebody "had a key that would open the door, my boy"—to get me appointed a Grand something. Well, Jones said that he had received an intimation that I was to be sure to be present at the Festival, and that I should be sure to see and hear all about it. Accordingly, I went up to London last Wednesday on purpose, for I have quite made up my mind to take high rank, as I aspire to

"Blow a repetition bubble,
Of imperceptible soap and invisible water,
With a cannon's mouth."

The poet meant of course a good deal bigger one than you can get out of a tobacco pipe, were it to extend even to the proud dimensions of an almost fossil "Churchwarden." Besides, I could not but think how lovely the gold chain and jewel of Second Deputy Pro Grand Assistant Organist (Qy. Grand Bellows-Blower?—O.P.D.) would look, and in our lodge ("Perspicacity, Reciprocity, and Veracity," No. nineteen hundred-and-a-half, Mudford-on-Spree) would make me—

"The glass of fashion, and the mould of form,
The observed of all observers."

Though why on earth Shakspeare should take "moulded" glass and not "cut," as his pink of perfection, I can't think. Well, I went, fully persuaded that I was to be raised to that high office, and whilst I was waiting to go to the hall I was indulging myself with delicious dreams of the glorious music that we should treat the brethren to—I say we, for Milton most certainly had the idea that the assistant had, if possible, more to do with the music than the head man himself,—

"Let me the pealing organ blow,
To the full-voic'd quire below,
A service high, which, when I start,
May, by the skill shown on my part,
Dissolve them into extasies
And bring all heav'n before their eyes."

But what an awful disappointment; just as I got to the hall I met all the brethren coming away. I had mistaken the hour of meeting, and so was late, and lost my appointment. And to think of this, after the way that Jones had been congratulating me beforehand on "getting the purple," which he now turns into ridicule by declaring that I did get it, but only "in the face."

I shouldn't have cared so much but I'd had my portrait painted to give to lodge. Jones said the portrait of the jewel was perfect; it was painted (i.e., the jewel) after his instructions, and here they are.

"The jewel of the Second Deputy Pro Grand Assistant Organist is a handle proper, bent three-quarterly; borne by on a windbag, (enamelled 'gu?') I think he called it) pierced in the rear; the whole bearing an eye not very wide open, with a large spot of *vert* displayed in the corner." However, its of no use crying over milked spills, and I'll say no more, save that if Jones, who always greets me now with

"Bless thee, Bottom, bless thee, thou art translated," gets another opportunity of laughing at me in that particular way I'm rather more green than my dear old aunt generally considers me.

However, although I was dreadfully disappointed, especially as I had a neat little speech already in my pocket in which to have returned thanks for my health at the banquet, I was amply rewarded for all my trouble by hearing the proclamation made that the three august Princes were the occupants of the three chairs. I could not help thinking how delighted the beloved patroness of our Order must be to see "Her Boys" at the head of such a loyal body, and I could share most thoroughly her pleasure when I reflected that if they were "Her Boys," they were, indeed, "Our Boys" too.

This makes me say something about yet another "Our Boys." I mean the proposed alteration, or addition, to the school. Now, I should like to see the child of every poor brother well cared for, but I really think we had better go on as we began, do as much as we can, but no more than we can do thoroughly well; it is always better to build than to pull down, be the pulling down ever so little. Verb. sap.—as Dr. Watts says in the classics; though I fancy, from the terrible number of his dear little ditties, Verbs would have been nearer his mark. However, we really ought to put everybody's nose to the grindstone, no, I think I mean everybody's shoulder to the wheel, that we can, so as to give a long pull and a strong pull, which makes me call to mind that a kind-hearted lady is going to give a belle-pull (which I hope will prove a real good draw) at the Opera Comique in aid of the good cause. By-the-bye, Smith of our lodge says that they want a really efficient prompter and stage manager, and that he will introduce me if I will only consent to act—I don't quite know whether to do it or no—but I would—yes, I really would—if I thought it would do a good turn to our poor brethren's girls, and, therefore *our* Girls and "Our Boys."

The Historic Society of Liverpool has issued its twenty-eighth volume. It contains, in addition to some preliminary matter, articles on Roman antiquities in Cheshire and Lancashire, and some biographical notices, amongst which is a sketch of the late Mr. T. T. Wilkinson, F.S.A., of Burnley.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The 89th annual festival of this Institution was held at Freemasons' Tavern, on Wednesday evening, under the presidency of the Rt. Hon. Lord Suffield, Provincial Grand Master for Norfolk. The noble lord was supported by Col. Burdett, Prov. G.M. for Middlesex; the Rev. C. W. Arnold, Grand Chaplain; Bros. John Hervey, G. Sec.; H. G. Buss, Asst. Grand Sec.; Samuel Tomkins, G. Treas.; Dr. Woodman, P.G.S.B.; F. A. Philbrick, P.G.D.; Col. Somerville Burney, Dr. Barringer, James Lewis Thomas, Raynham W. Stewart, P.G.D.; W. Paas, Dr. Ace, Rev. P. M. Holden, Rev. J. M. Vaughan, Col. Peters, James Terry, F. Binckes, H. A. Dubois, Edward Cox, Hyde Pullen, C. A. Murton, P.G.D.; H. C. Levander, John Boyd, G.S.; Dr. Jabez Hogg, Thomas Cubitt, P.G.P.; Capt. Wordsworth, H. Barwell, P.G.S. Norfolk; J. S. Offord, I.P.M. 213; Dr. George Archbold, 807, Yarmouth; Richard Martins, W.M. 100, Yarmouth; Herbert Dicketts, George Kenning, P.M. 192; and many others.

The festival was one of the most successful in the annals of the Institution, and the list of Stewards was very strong. For the information of our readers we give the list in full as follows:—

President: W. Bro. F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., P.G.D., V.P.
 Vice-Presidents: V. W. Bro. Rev. C. W. Arnold, G. Chaplain and D.P.G.M. Surrey; W. Bro. C. A. Murton, P.G.D.; Bros. W. T. Howe, Asst. G.P.; J. Boyd, P.G.P. and P.G. Steward; J. M. P. Montagu, D.L., J.P., D.P.G.M. Dorset; R. Wentworth Little, D.P.G.M. Middlesex, V.P.; T. W. Tew, J.P., D.P.G.M. W. Yorkshire, V.P.; J. Walker, P.S.G.W. Gloucestershire, V.P.; W. Harrison, D.L., J.P., F.S.A., P.S.G.W. E. Lanc.; C. P. Chater, D.J.G.W. China, V.P.; Col. J. Duff, M.P., P.S.G.W. Norfolk; H. Le Strange, P.J.G.W. Norfolk; H. O. Wakeman, P.J.G.W. Oxon; Capt. H. A. Bennett, P.P.G.W. and G. Sid., V.P.; Major S. H. Clerke, P.P.G.W. Devon; J. Shilcock, P.P.G.W. Herts; R. J. Emmerson, P.P.G.W. Kent; J. Sutcliffe, P.P.G.W. Lincolnshire, V.P.; S. Rosenthal, P.P.G.W. Middx., V.P.; G. W. F. Loftus, P.P.G.W. Norfolk; J. Marson, P.P.G.W. Norths and Hunts, V.P.; J. Juggins, P.P.G.W. Oxford; W. Cartwright, P.P.G.W. and P.G. Sec. Staffordshire; W. H. Lucia, P.P.G.W. and P.G. Sec. Suffolk; T. Frolope, M.D., P.P.G.W. Sussex; J. Chandler, P.P.G.W. Wilts; M. M. de Bartolomé, M.D., P.P.G.W. W. Yorkshire; W. H. Brittain, P.P.G.W. W. Yorkshire; J. Craven, P.P.G.W. W. Yorkshire; H. Day, J.P., P.P.G.W. W. Yorkshire; Capt. J. Wordsworth, P.P.G.W. W. Yorkshire and G. Steward, V. Patron; Rev. D. Ace, D.D., P.P.G.C. Lincolnshire; Rev. Dr. E. Brette, P.P.G.C. Middlesex; Rev. P. M. Holden, P.P.G.C. Middlesex; Rev. J. M. Vaughan, P.P.G.C. Middlesex; Rev. A. W. Hamilton, M.A., P.P.G.C. W. Yorkshire; Alderman T. Randall, P.G. Treas. Oxon.; R. J. Critchley, J.P., P.G. Treas. W. Yorkshire; R. J. Sisson, P.G. Registrar N. Wales and Salop; T. Peel, P.P.G. Registrar W. Yorkshire; J. E. Le Feuvre, P.G. Sec. Hants and I. W.; H. G. Barwell, P.G. Sec. Norfolk; Sir O. Wakeman, P.P.G. Sec. Oxon; H. Campkin, P.S.G.D. Herts; J. Sutcliffe, P.J.G.D. Linc., V.P.; E. Simpson, P.P.G.D. Cheshire; Col. H. Somerville-Burney, P.P.G.D. Essex; J. Tanner, P.P.G.D. Essex; J. A. Wardell, P.P.G.D. Essex; R. A. Wright, P.P.G.D. Herts; G. P. Brockbank, P.P.G.D. E. Lancashire; J. M. Taylor, P.P.G.D. E. Lancashire; G. Kenning, P.P.G.D. Middlesex, V. Patron; Lieut.-Col. J. Peters, P.P.G.D. Middlesex; G. J. Woodwork, P.P.G.D. Norfolk; Jas. Walker, P.P.G.D. Staffordshire; C. G. Reed, P.P.G.D. Sussex; R. C. Mellor, P.P.G.D. N. Wales and Salop; F. W. Ansell, P.G.S. of W. Oxon; T. M. Humphries, P.G.S. of W. Staffordshire; C. F. Hogard, P.P. G.S. of W. Essex; J. R. Goepel, P.P.G.D.C. E. Lancashire; R. Newland, P.P.A.G.D.C. Hants and I. of Wight; H. G. Quilter, P.P.G.S.B. Warwickshire; E. Sewell, M.A., P.P. G.O. W. Yorkshire; J. E. Dawson, P.A.G.P. Herts; E. Farthing, P.P.G.P. Surrey; R. Gooding, M.D., B.A., F.L.S., G. Steward; J. P. Probert, P. G. Steward; W. C. Glen, P.G. Steward; F. Sumner Knyvett, P.G. Steward; Griffiths Smith, P.G. Steward; T. W. White, P.G. Steward, V.P.

Treasurer:—W. Bro. W. R. Woodman, P.C.S.B.
 Bros. Alderman Ellis, 1; F. J. Hartridge, S.D. 1; R. G. Hall, J.W. 4; A. H. Diaper, P.M. 5; L. W. Novelli, 6; Dr. R. T. Piggott, D.C.L., F.R.G.S., S.W. 11; W. B. Kidder, W.M. 12; J. W. M. Clever, Chapter 12; C. H. Turner, J.W. 14; J. F. Huggins, P.M. 18; J. K. Stead, S.W. 21; E. F. Storr, W.M. 22; R. Douglas, S.W. 23; J. G. Neilson, W.M. 28; E. Pixley, P.M. 29; A. Lefaux, L.P.W. 30; E. Strouts, 33; W. A. F. Amburst, W.M. 52; A. J. Melhuish, W.M. 55; F. W. Smith, 58; E. C. Mather, P.M. 23 and 65; W. Klingenstein, 73; C. B. Slec, W.M. 96; S. B. Harrison, W.M. 99; B. Boulton, I.P.M. 111; A. M. Thomas, J.W. 134; W. Jervis, W.M. 139; G. W. Hawksley, P. M. 139; G. D. Webster, S.W. 139; J. Bromley, J.W. 139; J. Binney, 139; R. Bradley, 139; J. H. Burrows, 139; M. Fenton, 139; S. Hayes, 139; J. E. Reaney, 139; C. Thornhill, 139; G. H. Waterfall, 109; R. B. Webster, P.M. 140; T. Tittley, 141; G. Allen, W.M. 144; J. H. Leggett, S.D. 145; J. Harrop, W.M. 154; J. H. Cadman, J.W. 154; F. E. Theodor, W.M. 162; R. T. Thornton, 164; F. R. Vine, P.M. 173; G. J. Hilliard, W.M. 174; C. H. Webb, Chapter 174; R. Liebman, Chapter 176; L. Bener, W.M. 179; G. Bubb, P.M. and Treas. 180; E. W. Stanton, P.M. 181; B. W. Todd, P.M. 183; C. S. Davis, W.M. 188; A. M. Levy, P.Z. Chapter 188; R. W. Sprague, P.M. 191; E. Jones, W.M. 192; H. Leah, 193; G. Cooper, W.M. 98; Rev. P. Hains, P.M. and Chaplain 204; C. D. Hume, W.M. 209; G. E. A. Ross, P.M. 233; G. Blackburn, 264; C. Birch, P.M. 256; C. H. Bingham, 206; I. Ellis, 296; T. B. Edwards, P.M. 296; T. W. Taskell, 206; F. W. Mitchell, 374; E. H. Stammwitz, I.P.M. 345; T. C. Rhodes, W.M. 448; T. Whittaker, S.W. 441; G. Clapham, 495;

Joseph Hartley, S.D. 495; W. H. Saville, 495; J. Clever, 503; F. Rath, W.M. 534; W. Milner, S.W. 537; W. T. Toms, 574; C. Crabtree, W.M. 600; J. Beanland, P.M. 600; W. Buck, I.P.M. 657; E. Phillips, J.W. 715; J. W. Hobbs, W.M. 749; D. Hopkins, W.M. 750; G. Burford, S.D. 754; H. Platt, 384 and 755; E. B. Webb, W.M. 773; T. Bartlett, P.M. 816; J. Bateman, C.E., W.M. 828; J. Nicholas, W.M. 829; T. Hastings, W.M. 822; J. Bond, P.M. 880; H. T. A. Stewart, P.M. 898; C. H. Perrot, 904; H. J. Lewis, P.M. 907; R. E. Stevenson, P.M. 907; E. Lord, P.M. 910; W. H. Gulliford, S.W. 1017; A. Ash, 1019; J. Huartson, W.M. 1021; J. C. Lunt, P.M. 1086; A. H. Des Barres, S.W. 1096; H. J. Moxon, M.D., W.M. 1159; Rev. Dr. R. Morris, 1185; N. Bridges, P.M. 1216; H. Hammond, S.W. 1216; J. Webb, J.D. 1223; G. H. Grimwood, P.M. 1224; Captain C. Thompson, J.W. 1237; Dr. W. R. Thomas, S.W. 1232; R. Roberts, 1239; J. Robertshaw, 1239; P. M. Vaughton, 1016 and 1246; T. W. L. Emden, J.D. 1261; T. Massa, P.Z. Chapter 1293; J. J. Pope, 179 and 1305; W. Seaman, P.M. 1314; F. West, jun., W.M. 1328; J. M. Klenck, P.M. 1339; P. Parsons, J. 1348; G. R. Soper, W.M. 1365; T. Taylor, J.W. 1410; J. Mason, Org. 1423; J. Marx, 1435; Z. Hunchliffe, P.M. 1466; C. J. Smith, P.M. 1469; A. Potts, W.M. 1477; J. Purrott, 1479; W. S. Cantrell, jun., W.M. 1501; T. W. Ockenden, I.G. 1512; J. Bustard, 1513; T. W. Holmes, 1545; T. Hands, W.M. 1551; B. H. Swallow, P.M. 1563; J. A. Hammond, 1563; F. Green, W.M. 1567; J. Wright, 1585; R. L. Sindall, W.S. 1597; J. Bingham, W.M. 1399; C. W. Thompson, W.M. 1601; E. G. Sim, S.W. 1602; J. Garner, W.M. 1622; T. W. Poley, 1629; C. Stuart-Barker, W.M. 1632; Rev. J. Robbins, W.M. 1635; J. Pinder, P.M. 1662; N. Reed, W.M. 1671.

Honorary Secretary, Bro. R. Wentworth Little, Secretary to the Institution.

The Ladies' Stewards were Bros. Capt. Bennett, 4, 44, 62, 64, 321; J. Bingham, 1599; J. Boyd, G. Com. Club; W. H. Brittain, 139; J. Clever, 503; J. W. Clever, Chapter 12; R. Douglas, 23; E. Farthing, 101; W. C. Cunningham, 197; Rev. A. W. Hamilton, 139; J. A. Hammond, 1563; G. W. Hawksley, 139; C. F. Hogard, 205; W. Jervis, 139; E. Jones, 192; G. Kenning, 192; A. Lefaux, 30; H. J. Lewis, 907; E. Lord, 910; J. Mason, 1423; A. J. Melhuish, 55; T. Massa, Chapter 1293; Dr. Morris, 1185; H. J. Moxon, M.D., 1159; R. Newland, 342; R. E. Pixley, 29; N. Reed, 1671; E. Sewell, M.A., 974; R. L. Sindall, 1597; R. J. Sisson, 1143; R. W. Sprague, 121; E. H. Stammwitz, 435; J. K. Stead, 21; R. E. Stevenson, 907; E. F. Storr, 22; B. H. Swallow, 1563; S. L. Swann, 139; A. M. Thomas, 134; F. R. Vine, 173; C. H. Webb, Chapter 174; R. B. Webster, 140; T. W. White, Chapter 907; Capt. Wordsworth, 380.

The banquet, which was admirably supplied by Bro. E. Dawkins, the manager of the Freemasons' Tavern, was everything that could be desired, and was laid out in the large hall of the tavern. The time fixed for sitting down to it was six o'clock, and very shortly after that hour the proceedings of the evening commenced. The ladies, who were very numerous, were entertained at a banquet in separate rooms, and the ladies' Stewards were unremitting in their attention to the wants of the fair sex. When the brethren had finished their banquet the ladies were admitted, and grace having been sung by the musical brethren and the lady assistants, the toasts of the evening were proposed. After the toast of "The Queen" had been duly honoured, and that of "The Prince and Princess of Wales" had received the customary enthusiastic reception, that of "The Pro G.M., the D.G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers," was proposed.

The Rev. C. W. Arnold, G.C., in reply, said: I am proud to have to thank you this evening for the kind way in which you have received the toast which I know is always one which Masons receive with honours, that is, the health of our Pro G.M. Lord Carnarvon, and also that of the D.G.M. Lord Skelmersdale. No more need be said by me with regard to those names, but with respect to the Grand Officers, I feel much honoured by having to return thanks for them. There are many among Masons who think the Grand Officers of England are men who have retired from business, and that they enjoy an otium cum dignitate. I can assure you, that is not the case; and all those present at the annual festival of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement in November last, which was presided over by Bro. John Hervey, will confirm me in the assertion that there is life and vigour among the Grand Officers of England, and that on such an occasion they can set an example which every Mason in England may be glad to copy. With regard to the present Grand Officers, all I can say is, that I thank you most sincerely for them, and I hope by our conduct during our year of office, we may at all events prove ourselves worthy of the kind recognition of our names which you have just bestowed. (Hear, hear.)

Col. Burdett proposed "The Health of the Chairman," and said it was one of the most difficult duties he could ever have to perform. He referred to the many acts of his lordship as a Mason as a proof of his truly Masonic feeling. Comparing his lordship with his predecessors in the chair, he found him not excelled by any one of them. In his province, which was an important one, he had given the greatest satisfaction to the brethren, and both as Prov. G.M. and as a nobleman of the locality, he was held in the highest honour by those who knew him best. He trusted he would long live to enjoy the esteem of all by whom he was known, and to be revered as much as his predecessors, in the chair of Prov. G.M. for Norfolk, Bros. Cabell and Walpole. Looking at the energy he had thrown into the performance of his duties as a ruler of the Province of Norfolk, he believed the brethren would never find that any one had performed his duties better.

Lord Suffield, who on rising to respond, was received with loud and long continued applause, said: My friend and brother on the right has said that he thinks it one of the most difficult duties he has ever had to perform to propose the toast which he had proposed to night. Allow me to say, if it is so for him, what must it be for me. You are unknown to me, and it does not certainly become me to speak of myself. I can only say with regard to myself that I am exceedingly gratified; and exceedingly grateful to all my brother Freemasons present here to-night, for the kind and the cordial manner in which they have responded to the toast. Although, brethren, I have been a Mason for a length of time, it is, as my brother has said, almost for the first time that I have had the honour of presenting myself before a body of my brother Freemasons in this great metropolis. I feel the honour you have done me in coming in such large numbers as I see before me, and I am very much gratified by it; but I can assure you that whatever may be my humble capacity I shall always exercise it to forward the interests of the Craft, and in the good cause of Masonic Charity I shall ever be found in the foremost rank. (Loud applause.)

Lord Suffield then proposed the toast of the evening, "Success to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls." His Lordship said: I now, brethren, come to what may certainly be called the toast of the evening, it is "The Success of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls," with which toast I have also to couple the name of the Treasurer, Bro. Tomkins. Much, indeed, may be said about this most noble Institution. You all, brethren, have before you the reports and the statistics of the School. It is unnecessary, therefore, for me, perhaps, to remind you of what you will there see in a much clearer form than I can give. But two or three things I have to say, if you will be so kind as to bear with me. With regard to the good which this Institution has done much may be said. It has had a long life; it is the oldest Masonic Institution, I believe, in the world; and within the last few years it has made extraordinary strides. With these strides we must always recollect there is attendant expense. It is true that the Masonic body has latterly very much increased, partly no doubt by the influence of our Royal Grand Master. There is no doubt that the Order has greatly extended, and I am sure you will all agree with me in the hope that not only may we increase in numbers, but in those material interests for which the Masonic art has always been so celebrated, and that we may have an increased pecuniary support of this institution, for which I am called upon to-night to plead, in order that we may increase its usefulness. The financial position of this institution you will hear from the Treasurer, and so I am not going now to trouble you with it, but I cannot forbear saying, in the language of the book that is before you, because I think it explains in a more business-like manner than I can in a speech, that a special appeal has been made by the Stewards for even more liberal support than has ever been previously extended to the Institution, inasmuch as the School building is now being considerably enlarged to enable the Committee to accommodate sixty additional children. That will make up the number, which is at present, I believe, 161, to the number of 220. I also quote from a report which the brethren have before them: "A detached laundry is also about to be erected on the grounds, and the present laundry, which is situated within the walls of the main building, will then be converted into classrooms, and adapted to other useful purposes. The cost of these additions and improvements must necessarily be defrayed out of the funded property of the Institution, unless the brethren determine so to increase their subscriptions and donations in 1877, as to place the Managing Committee in the proud position of being enabled to announce that the great work has been accomplished solely by the Freemasons of the present day." I must say, brethren, I think that would be a proud position. We have always been celebrated for the charities, and among all, as I have said before, I am quite certain none can surpass this in interest and usefulness. I may venture to hope that I shall not appeal to you in vain to come forward to the extent of your ability in furtherance of the object which we all have in view. You all know the expense of the Institution. There is one thing to be recollected, that the funded property of this School forms only one-twelfth part of the revenue. It is, therefore, apparent to everybody that without individual support, and without increased support, this noble Institution cannot flourish, as I am sure we all wish it should. It is an unfortunate thing that this year we have not been able to pay the annual Steward's visit to the School, but I look forward with great pleasure to having to do so in a short time, accompanied by the Stewards, when we shall have the opportunity of testing the value of the education there given from personal observation. You have all read about it; and I have the best reason to believe that everything is there conducted in the best possible manner, and that very few things could be improved. But it would be a satisfaction to myself as it would be to the Stewards, to go there and see for ourselves what is going on. I believe the system of education has been very successful; and I am glad to find that one of the most successful branches, considering the humble lot of those who are recipients of your bounty, housewifery and cookery, are not forgotten. Not only are they not forgotten, but they form a considerable part of the education in that establishment. We should not lose sight of the probability that the girls in this School may become wives and mothers; and it is of the utmost consequence and importance that they should not be "found wanting" in those accomplishments which may make them good wives and mothers. (Hear, hear.) I will not detain you longer on this subject. As I have said before, you will hear from our Treasurer the financial position of the Institution, and a great deal that no doubt will be very interesting. I am sure

proposer of this toast this evening, when commercial matters are not quite as we would wish them to be, perhaps we have more anxiety than we ordinarily have. The first of our festivals was celebrated in February last with an enormous success, on which we all congratulated my good friend and brother who stands on my immediate right, and all connected with that Institution, most heartily. You have celebrated another success this evening, not perhaps so far in its amount as that which was celebrated in February, but still a magnificent amount, and which reflects honour upon the Craft. Well, now, you know there is another anniversary festival to take place in June. (Great laughter.) Well, now, brethren, why this laughter? I am endeavouring to treat a serious question in a serious way: why do you meet me with smiles and laughter? I say there is a third anniversary to be celebrated at the end of June; and there are three degrees of comparison, as is very well known to any one who has learned his English grammar. I did not know how these three degrees would be compared until the result was announced this evening; but I consider this evening has been very good; last February was better; but do let me indulge in an earnest hope that June next may be very much the best. It is not for me to say which Institution is more or less deserving of your support. I have always said, and I do not hesitate to repeat myself this evening, that I believe the whole of our Institutions deserve the very best support that Freemasons can render; and we stand on one common platform—we are doing all we can, I know, to rival each other in the amount of support we get, and I, for one, shall be a very disappointed man if I am not able to announce at the Alexandra Palace on the 27th June, a larger amount than has been announced up to this present moment by the other Institutions. Now, never mind what has been said about the Boys' School; we are doing the best we possibly can to maintain in that Institution the largest number that we can accommodate. The question of increased accommodation is before the Craft. It is for you to judge, for you to decide, and for you to determine. All we ask is, give us the means, and we will do everything in our power to answer your requirements and your requisitions. Without your support we can do nothing. But while, I am sure, it would be idle for me to take up any portion of your time this evening in speaking of the magnificent results you have achieved for this Institution, I hope for a larger number of brethren to rally round the Boys' School; and let us say from year to year as we have in the past, we have not to lament over a decreased amount of subscriptions, but still keep ahead of the other institutions, and thereby induce on their part an increased rivalry, and so do good to all our Institutions. There is only one observation I have to make: Our excellent and good friend, Bro. Philbrick, in proposing this toast said that last year we achieved £20,000. Our Bro. Philbrick made a very great mistake, because the amount was very nearly £40,000—at all events, it exceeded £39,000; and, therefore, I think the credit should not be withheld from the Craft, all the credit due to it for this most magnificent and liberal support. But, bear in mind, brethren, that what you have done in the past is nothing to what you will be called upon to do in the future. The Order you know is increasing to an enormous extent; the demands are increasing in a relative proportion; we must open our doors; extend our benefits; and give more liberal accommodation to those you force upon us as the recipients of our benefits.

Bro. James Terry, in response to loud and repeated calls said, I am sure you will not require from me any lengthened remarks at all, after those you have had the pleasure of listening to from my good friend, Bro. Binckes; but permit me, in the absence of Bro. Little, simply in his name, to thank this great gathering for all they have done on behalf of the Girls' School on this occasion, and I truly wish that he were present and had the power, as I am sure he has the will, to express to you his unmitigated feelings of gratitude to the Board of Stewards, and to the noble lord who presides, for everything that has been done on the present occasion. For myself my lord, speaking for that which is past, I can but thank very many who are now present for having in February last given to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution the largest amount that that Institution ever had the honour of recording, viz., £12,866. (Cheers.) My lord, I can only hope that what has been stated to-night by Bro. Binckes, that we have three degrees of comparison, the positive, comparative, and superlative, may prove the case with respect to the results to our three Institutions, that large as has been the increase in the subscriptions to the Benevolent Institution, large as has been the amount to the Girls' School, Bro. Binckes in June next may have the honour and gratification of announcing an amount in advance of what he had last year as Bro. Little and myself had to our Institutions. I thank you for giving me the opportunity of speaking in Bro. Little's absence, and I thank my lord also for having granted myself the privilege of speaking as the Secretary of the youngest Institution which is doing the largest amount of work of either of the three. (Great cheering.)

Bro. Hervey, G.S., proposed "The Stewards," and in submitting the toast complimented those brethren on the excellence of their arrangements for the success of the evening.

Bro. F. A. Philbrick, President of the Board of Stewards, responded. The Stewards had endeavoured to carry out the duties which they took upon themselves when they accepted office; and if they had done so to the satisfaction of the brethren that was the best reward they could hope for, and in obtaining it they had more than secured the end that they had proposed to themselves.

Lord Suffield gave "The Health of the Ladies," to which Dr. Woodman responded, and the brethren then

joined the ladies in the Temple, where a charming concert was given by the following distinguished artists:—Bros. Baxter, Carter, Montem Smith, and Chaplin Henry; Miss Florence Lavender, Madame Thaddeus Wells, Miss Kate Baxter, and Bro. Theodore Distin.

The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. Theodore Distin, whom we have to congratulate on the success of his pupil, Miss Lavender, the young lady obtaining encores in "Robert, toi que j'aime," and "The last Rose of Summer." Bro. F. H. Cozens presided at the pianoforte.

Bro. Harker was Toast Master at the banquet.

GRAND LODGE OF SCOTLAND.

The Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Scotland was held on Monday, the 7th inst., in the Freemasons' Hall, Edinburgh. The throne was occupied by Bro. Henry Inglis of Torsonce, Depute Grand Master, who was supported by Bros. the Rev. Dr. Gray, Grand Chaplain; Lord Inverurie, Captain Harriot, Provincial Grand Master of Wigtown and Kirkcudbright; F. A. Barrow, Depute Provincial Grand Master, Glasgow; A. Hay, Grand Jeweller; Daniel Robertson, Grand Bible-bearer; Muller, Grand Director of Music, &c. The Wardens' chairs were occupied by Wm. Mann, G.P.S.W., and W. Hay, Grand Architect, Acting J.W. Among those in the hall were Bros. Monro, R.W.M., Lodge Commercial; Stobo, R.W.M., Lodge Plantation; Jas. Thomson, R.W.M. No. 102; M'Naught, R.W.M. No. 556; W. H. Bickerton, Provincial Grand Secretary; J. Wallace, Halkett, Wheeler, Glasgow, &c. After the lodge had been opened it was intimated that presents had been received from Grand Lodges of Virginia, Connecticut, and Missouri, and a vote of thanks was awarded to these bodies. Petitions in favour of the following new lodges were considered and granted:—St. Andrew, Campbeltown, near Fort-George; Leucophibia, Whithorn, Grenville, Canada; Robert Burns, Christchurch, Canterbury, N.Z.; Eureka, Christianstadt; St. Croix, Danish West India Isles; Roslyn St. Clair, Roslin; and Prince's, Glasgow. The following Provincial Grand Masters were appointed:—The Hon. Frederick Whittaker, New Zealand, North Island; Bros. Connor, South Australia; and Provost Forrest, of Hamilton, Lanarkshire, Middle Ward. Bro. Walker, P.G.M., was appointed representative to the Grand Lodge of West Virginia. The report of the special Committee appointed to regulate the duties of Grand Secretary and Cashier was next taken up. The Committee then recommended that the appointment of Bro. Kinnear as cashier should be confirmed at a salary of £200 a year. After some discussion the report was adopted.

A petition and appeal was submitted by Bro. Robert Steven of Lodge St. Vincent, Sandyford, No. 553, Glasgow, who had been suspended from all Masonic privileges for five years by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow.

Bro. Law (Sprigburn) read a statement in reference to the dispute, in which Bro. Steven stated he had been the originator of this lodge, and the cause of his suspension was the opposition he made to the fixing of the bye-laws, which he alleged were designed to deter the majority of the members from entering the lodge. At a meeting of the lodge where Bro. Barrow acted as Provincial Grand Master he stated that they had come to the resolution to confirm the bye-laws. When Bro. Steven heard this statement he craved admission to retire, and in doing so protested against the proceedings. At the word protest Bro. Barrow ordered the Wardens to put him out. This the Wardens were reluctant to do, and when he again asked permission to retire, Bro. Barrow suspended him from membership. Several of the members of the Provincial Lodge went to the support of their Master, and some disturbance arose. The whole affair did not last two minutes, and the appellant asserted that he was not in any way responsible for any unseemly or "unmasonic" conduct.

Bro. Barrow, on behalf of the Provincial Grand Lodge, made an explanation of what steps had been adopted to ascertain whether the bye-laws had been carried by a majority of the members of Lodge St. Vincent. The deputation from the Provincial Grand Lodge had made a

very careful examination into the whole subject before they formed their opinion that the majority had approved of the bye-laws. When he (Bro. Barrow) announced the decision Bro. Steven rose and menaced him in such a manner that he was really afraid. (Laughter.) The course followed by the Provincial Grand Lodge had been perfectly justifiable, and they did no more than was necessary to maintain the dignity of their position. He denied however that he had been personally interested in what had been done, and declared that the sentence passed on Bro. Steven of suspension for five years had been given unanimously by the Provincial Grand Lodge. ("No, no.")

Bro. Stevens was heard in support of his appeal, and asked that the Grand Lodge should give him every consideration. The decision of suspension for five years he asserted was most atrocious, and was passed on him for asserting his own rights, which could not possibly be construed into un-Masonic conduct.

Bro. James Wallace (Glasgow) moved that the decision of the Grand Lodge of Glasgow be rescinded. If Bro. Stevens was required to apologise for his conduct he thought that apology should be made to the Grand Lodge. As far as he was aware the appellant had been tried and condemned without a hearing.

Bro. D. Robertson seconded the motion. This suspension, he thought, was merely a piece of great favouritism, and the appellant was a victim. He was of opinion that the case should not only be dealt with justly, but mercifully.

Bro. Halkett (Glasgow) knew the whole of the facts of the case, and considered the decision of the Provincial Grand Lodge was just and reasonable. He therefore moved that it should be confirmed.

Bro. Thomson (102) seconded the motion.

After some discussion it was unanimously resolved to rescind the decision of the Provincial Grand Lodge.

A petition, memorial, and appeal were next heard from a number of members of Lodge Clydesdale against a decision of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow. The complaint of the brethren in this lodge was in regard to the last election of office-bearers. Between the date of nomination and the day of election it was alleged that a number of members were affiliated into the lodge for the purpose of influencing the election. Those who objected to the office-bearers chosen appealed, and the Provincial Grand Lodge ruled that those who had been affiliated between the day of nomination and the election were not entitled to vote. Thereupon a new election was ordered, to which a number of members objected, and protested and appealed.

The facts of the case having been submitted to Grand Lodge, and representatives on both sides heard, it was resolved by a small majority to confirm the decision of Provincial Grand Lodge, and declare the present office-bearers of Lodge Clydesdale duly elected.

The remainder of the business consisted principally of amendments in regard to a number of the Grand Lodge laws.

With the return of spring, our hospitals begin to look gay with flowers, and, according to the *Lancet*, there is scarcely a ward to be found which is not decorated with its quota of primroses and hyacinths. Do those who so thoughtfully send these beautiful things from the bright country into the sick wards of our dusky town ever think how their presents are displayed? The "putting up" of flowers is an art that hospital nurses are often little skilled in, and between a lack of talent or of time, and a want of suitable vessels, the flowers are often not shown to the best advantage. Wallflowers tightly jammed into a half-pint mug scarcely look their best, and a common washing-basin is hardly a suitable vessel for the display of primroses. But what is to be done if no proper flower-vases are to be had? No hospital committee would feel justified in spending money on such trifles, and no one seems ever to think of making such a present, which would be most acceptable to a hospital. In the present day when the fashion in table decorations changes every season, one would suppose that disused and obsolete flower-stands are to be found in almost every glass or china closet, and we feel sure that we have only to make this little want of our hospitals known to ensure its being speedily satisfied.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint the Earl of Powis to be Lord-Lieutenant of the county of Montgomery in the room of the late Lord Sudely.

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, 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.

Reports of the following lodges stand over:—United Mariners, 30; Metropolitan, 1507; New Cross, 1559; Union Waterloo Chapter, 13; Alpass Encampment, Liverpool.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

"Origin and Development of My Inventions for Saving Property and Life at Sea," by P.P. De La Sala.
"New York Dispatch," "Keystone," "Il Risorgimento."
Proceedings of Special Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

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

BIRTHS.

CLARKE.—On the 5th inst., at Riverside House, Strand-on-the-Green, Chiswick, the wife of G. H. Clarke, of a daughter.

IRWIN.—On the 2nd inst., at Newbiggen-by-Sea, Northumberland, the wife of the Rev. A. W. Irwin, of a daughter.

MONTAGU.—On the 5th inst., the wife of C. Montagu, Esq., of Colville-square, Bayswater, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

NESHAM—PINDER.—On the 30th ult., at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Thomas Cargill Nesham, M.D., to Nellie, daughter of the late J. Pinder, of Linton, Yorkshire.

DEATHS.

DEACON.—On the 30th ult., Katharine, wife of F. Deacon, of Preston.

GRANT.—On the 4th inst., at Hillesden House, Collumpton, William Charles Grant, Esq., J.P.

JOSLAND.—On the 5th inst., Bro. Richard Josland, of Falcon-street.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, MAY 12, 1877.

THE MOVEMENTS OF OUR ROYAL GRAND MASTER.

Our readers will be glad to see and to hear that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales has returned to England from his continental trip, and is much benefitted by it. He has as usual been hard at work since his return home, holding a levee the afternoon of his arrival, having travelled by night from Paris, and presiding on Monday evening at the gathering of an excellent object "The Licensed Victuallers' Benevolent Institution" with his accustomed geniality and eloquence, to which Lord Granville very happily alluded. It may also be added, that the returns of the festival amounted to £5000.

FESTIVAL OF THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The Anniversary Festival of the Girls' School was held on Wednesday evening, under the presidency of Lord Suffield, and we are happy in announcing that the returns amounted to £9828 3s., with 22 lists to come in. We shall recur to this subject in our next.

THE STRUGGLE IN FRANCE.

Bro. Hubert in the *Chaine d'Union* for May reproduces some words of ours at page 276, to which he is good enough to apply the epithet of "sages paroles." We thank Bro. Hubert for his friendly and fraternal recognition, alike of the intent of our remarks, and of the spirit by which they were actuated. They were permeated, as Bro. Hubert has had the rare sagacity to see, with the most friendly feeling to all French Freemasons. We feel sure, with Bro. Hubert, (as we are happy to note that he and we almost entirely agree), that if this untoward movement has a successful result, if such a "be-tise" can be "bien vue" by our French brethren, French Freemasonry is preparing for itself a great fall, and a sad future. We beg to say once for all, that we have no interest in the matter, but that of French Freemasonry itself, and of Cosmopolitan Freemasonry, as far as we understand the true position of the one or the other. Our worthy opponents, Bros. Caubet and Grimaux and others, think that our "lunettes" are very much obscured just now, and that we see all things in France, "a tort et a travers." But we assure them and all who read our humble lucubrations, that we venture to express our honest opinion warmly and clearly, because we feel strongly the importance of the whole question, and because we think we see, and see with deep regret, the undoubted and melancholy "avenir" which some French Freemasons are preparing for their Order in France. For just let us look on a little, and try to realize what the position of the Grand Orient will be, if this new agitation against the recognition even of belief in God be triumphant, Bro. Caubet and his co-sympathisers may carry the suppression of Article 2, et puis? What then? What will be the position of the French Grand Orient as before the world? It has overthrown one of the universal and abiding landmarks of Freemasonry, profession of belief in God, and how does it stand in relation to Anglo-Saxon Freemasonry? to German Freemasonry? In fact, to the whole Masonic family? In our humble opinion it unmasons itself, if we may use such an expression. It ceases to be a true Grand Lodge of Freemasons, and it imperils its lawful jurisdiction over Freemasons at home. As regards Freemasons abroad, it forfeits all international Masonic rights. It, in fact, is no longer a proper, lawful, regular, Masonic body. To use the language of an able friend of ours, "the foundation being cut away, the building falls." It will be impossible, as Bro. Hervey pointed out in a recent friendly warning, to maintain any longer, if such a revolution be

carried through, any "entente cordiale," as between the English and French governing bodies. Nay, we venture to think, as he did, though of course it is only our individual opinion "quantum valet," as it was his, but speaking unofficially of course, that in such a portion of affairs the English Grand Lodge will be unable any longer to recognize the Grand Orient of France, to admit the validity of its certificates, or to consent to mutual representation, or, indeed, any international intercourse. And then comes in this further question: will not the English Masons resident in France and Belgium, (for the same perversity is apparently there also succeeding), have a right to petition our Grand Master, and ask for warrants to enable them to meet in countries in which Freemasons have abjured the very foundation truth of our Order? We fancy that they will; and that in truth, under such circumstances, there can be but one reply to such petitions for relief, and for permission properly to carry on the work and teaching of true Freemasonry. For they cannot clearly enter French and Belgian Lodges, and are they to be debarred from all Masonic life and work? According to Bros. Grimaux and Caubet, indeed, (whose views on international Masonic law appear very queer), there would be nothing contrary to Masonic law or order, if English brethren met together now, in France and Belgium, with or without warrants. For if Bro. Grimaux's special pleading, which the *Monde Maçonnique* appears to approve, be correct as regards *Les Philadelphes*, then, according to their principles, there is nothing to prevent English brethren meeting qua English brethren in lodge whether in France or Belgium, without referring to or considering those who claim Masonic authority in those two countries? We do not ourselves, however, go so far as such a very remarkable assertion of Masonic "Communism," but we do venture to hold that where there is no proper national Masonic authority, or lawful jurisdiction, any Grand Lodge may issue its warrant for lodges to meet. And, as we said before, this question must supervene: *If the Grand Orients of France and Belgium actually do away with the recognition of God will they not have forfeited, by the great common law of Freemasonry, all claim to jurisdiction, authority, and even the name of lawfully constituted Grand Lodges, the power of national and International Masonic jurisdiction?* Our readers will see, as we have been trying to point out to them, the great seriousness of the whole question, and the important issues involved in these regrettable and revolutionary proceedings of a section of French Freemasons. Let us trust as Bro. Hubert does, that the good sense of our French brethren will yet put an end to the sterile discussions, and prevent unhappy complications, by the maintenance of the existing constitutions, and the determination "Stare super vias antiquas."

PEACE.

As Freemasons, we must all deplore the advent of war and the loss of peace to Europe and to mankind. For peace represents, let us not forget, tranquil progress and civilizing influences, the development and victory of the arts that embellish, the liberties which uphold social society, and that real agglomeration of humanity which we term the world. War, on the other hand, symbolizes all that is most destructive and antagonistic to order, law, true happiness, and national prosperity. We do not mean to say that no war is justifiable, or that no war is ever needed alike for the defence of a country, the honour of a people, the stern and vindicating requirements of justice, truth, and right. We do not because we are Freemasons belong to the peace-at-any-price party. We freely admit, that there are to-day, as there ever have been in the past annals of nations, as there ever will be in the future of our race, times and seasons when we must draw the sword in defence of all that we hold most sacred, of all that we count most dear. But, on the other hand, we must be ever on our guard against the many temptations and tempters to hasty wars, to rash wars, to unjust wars, to uncalled-for wars. Bro. Sala, always an eloquent writer, puts it well in

the *Illustrated London News*, when he says:—"The bodies of some 8000 Englishmen moulder peacefully in this (Scutari) graveyard. I fancy that the remembrance of their deaths might moderate the frenzy of the politicians who seem bent on hounding England on to a fresh war with Russia. Surely those politicians must be mainly young men, or they must have very short memories. I remember the episodes of the Crimean War as though they had happened yesterday, for then, as now, I was earning my daily bread by literature and journalism, and the war brought me every day fresh materials for my pen. I was within an ace in 1856 of going to Sebastopol, but I went to Russia instead. Can you not recall, you who are middle-aged and whose memories are good, those two miserable years between the fight at the Alma and the fall of the Malakoff? Do you remember the Ghost's Derby Day of 1855? Do you remember when, on the cliff of Brighton and the Marina at St. Leonard's, you could hardly walk ten paces without meeting groups of ladies and children clad in deepest mourning for their fathers, husbands, brothers, sweethearts, slain in that wretched Chersonese, or who had sickened and died in the cheerless wards of the Scutari Hospital. Are we to have these years of private agony and bereavement, of public blundering and mismanagement, over again? I suppose so; glory is a very fine thing. I am only a *pékin*, a civilian, and I know nothing about glory; but I confess that my blood grows cold and that my heart sickens when I hear politicians pertly prating about the 'arbitrament of the Sword,' and 'war clearing the atmosphere,' and so forth. I never met Glory yet, and I don't know what he or she is like; but I have met War face to face half-a-dozen times in as many countries. I have looked into the whites, or rather the crimsons, of his eyes, and I have gazed upon the Sisters who follow him wheresoever he goes. They are three Sisters, and their names are 'Rapine,' and 'Disease,' and 'Death.' This is, of course, a miserably craven and spiritless way of looking at War. I cannot help it. I have seen only War's madness and wickedness, its foulness and squalor. To me it has represented nothing but robbing and profligacy, but famine and slaughter; and I can but think that if the warlike politicians were to witness just half an hour of actual warfare as I have witnessed it in America, in Italy, in Mexico, in France, in Spain, their martial ardour would cool down a little, and they would not be quite so prompt to blow the bellicose trumpet." We fully agree with these straightforward manly words. We can recall some touching lines of Præd, which we think serve to cap, as poetry, the eloquent prose of our literary brother—

"And all the bitter tears we wept,
In those our days of fame,
The dread that o'er our heartstrings crept,
With every post that came;
The home affections waged and lost
In every far off fray,
The price that British glory cost.
Ah! take the sword away."

We fear that our hopes are vain, but we still cherish the assurance that even under the present most inauspicious appearance of affairs, some peaceable intervention may yet induce the Turks to listen to reason, and thus best advance and best uphold the rights of suffering populations, and insure peace to the world. The English Government has manfully laboured from first to last to bring about (perhaps an impossible result) namely, the safe maintenance of the liberties of all, and the great blessing of peace.

BRO. HARTY'S ENGRAVING OF THE INSTALLATION OF OUR ROYAL GRAND MASTER.

We have been favoured with a view of this interesting souvenir of the above memorable event, in a very advanced state, and Bro. Harty will give our readers next week a full account of the present position of the engraving. There are still about six portraits required to fill up the picture, which promises to be alike worthy of the artist and the occasion it seeks so fitly to commemorate.

Original Correspondence.

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

THE EXCLUSION OF THE HEBREWS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—
I must, I am sorry, refute your remark at the foot of my letter I sent you last week, wherein you question the correctness of the facts I reported to you. And I again repeat my statement, which is based upon very sure fundamentals. So I say again, of the two other Grand Lodges in Berlin, the Royal York of Friendship has repealed (already) similar sections, 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 section 165 A.L., so in April, 1873; in May, 1874, in 1875, and in 1876. The result of the last meeting I reported to you in October, 1876. I searched for the *Freemason* of 21st of October, 1876, and I find that the name of the Grand Lodge in question is not quite correct as you have it in the letter of mine, "Grand National Lodge;" this is not the full name, it is "Grand National Mother Lodge of the Three Globes."

I am, dear Sir and brother, yours fraternally,
J. STRAUSS.
[We have written to Bro. Findel for an accurate statement of the whole affair, as Bro Strauss will see.—Ed.]

To Bro. Findel, Leipzig.

Dear Bro. Findel,—
We have had, as you will doubtless be aware, the most contradictory statements, as to the exact position of the Hebrew exclusion question in Germany. In a recent *Bauhütte* one able writer rather smiled at our ignorance of the "status in quo," and to say the truth, I hardly know what to accept myself amid this plethora of assertion and counter assertion, of affirmation and denial. I had understood, alike from the *Bauhütte* and other sources, that, in both the Grand Lodges of the Three Globes, and the Royal York, Hebrews could now be admitted, and that in the Grand Countries Lodge alone, their exclusion was unwisely maintained, for want of a two-thirds majority. Bro. Dr. Strauss, thinks that I am wrong; so will you enlighten us in England as to the actual state of affairs, give us the simple facts of the case, and tell us in what Grand Lodge this unjust persecution of a worthy body of men and Masons is really perpetuated.

I am, dear Bro. Findel, yours fraternally,
THE EDITOR.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—
I have frequently to pass our noble school on Wandsworth Common, both inside and out much to be admired, but from the main road the approach to it is a disgrace to the neighbourhood. The only approach from Clapham Junction is over a miserable, shaky little iron bridge, in wet weather one long puddle, in dry a dust trap, the two ends closed by awkward swinging gates, the stones in which they are fixed being well worn with holes, so that the rain water is caught, and so are the passengers' feet. One pities the neat little feet of our school girls that must be daily subject to such an ordeal, and surely it is a matter for our Craft to undertake to set right. The bridge crosses the South Western Railway. Do, Sir, insert this, and let us hope it will lead to the matter being set right.

Yours truly,
A CONSTANT READER.

QUALIFICATIONS OF CANDIDATES FOR THE SCHOOLS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—
I am very glad to see the question of the qualification of candidates for our Schools raised in your columns. I think it deserves the serious attention not only of the Committees of the Schools, but of every Mason anxious for the best interests of the Craft.

Before reading your last article, and Bro. Tombs' second letter, I had prepared some facts as lessons from the results of the last elections, and, with your permission, I will lay them before your readers. Fourteen boys and thirteen girls have just been elected. Of the 27 brethren, parents of these children, ten only supported our charities. The average number of years during which the parents of the successful girls subscribed to a lodge, omitting four exceptional cases of 28, 24, 13½, and 13¼ years, was 5¾ years; the average in the case of the boys, similarly omitting four cases of 17, 17, 16, and 13 years, was four years.

The daughter of a brother who has been a non-subscriber to a lodge for 27 years, and who has only subscribed for five years, was elected. The son of a brother who had been a non-subscriber of a lodge for 15 years, and who had only subscribed for four years, was elected, he having a brother in the school at the present time.

None of the parents of these two cases had supported our charities. The father of the boy at the top of the poll had subscribed 2½ years to a lodge. The father of the girl at the top of the poll had subscribed 1½ years to a lodge. A friend of mine, not a Mason, tells me the moral of these facts is, that Masonry is not a lottery with respect

to the pecuniary benefits to be derived from it, but that the less a Mason subscribes to our Benevolent Fund, the less he supports our charities, the more likelihood is there of his children obtaining the advantages of those charities. The deduction I draw from the above statistics is, that if a child be of the required age and can obtain friends enough to defeat other candidates at the poll, it matters not how little the services of the father may have been to Masonry, there is no protection on the part of the managing committee of the deserving as against the undeserving candidates.

I think there should be a regulation providing that the parent of a candidate, before he or she be accepted, shall have subscribed a minimum number of years to a lodge, I should like also to require some support on the part of the father to our charities. I would also thoroughly urge the desirability of a certificate of the good character of the father being required. During the last few days I have been asked to support a child whose father is said to have misconducted himself, and I must confess that, whilst pitying the mother and the family, if the allegation be true, I cannot consider the case a deserving one.

I find lodges recommend cases brought before them; solely with reference to the official record of dates, &c., that is, that a lodge considers itself responsible only for the dates of initiation or joining, and the number of years the brother has subscribed; and that the certificate of the lodge will be attached to the form, whilst the opinion of every brother signing may be that the case is not a deserving one.

I would urge that some special circumstances should be required to be stated respecting every candidate. There will be no want of deserving cases. Of the 113 candidates, 40 are children of parents who have subscribed 10 years and upwards, and, other claims being equal, I cannot but regard these as having a prior claim on us, yet 8 only were elected.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,
J. E. LE FEUVRE,
P.G. Sec. Hampshire and Isle of Wight.

ELECTION OF PROVINCIAL CANDIDATES TO THE MASONIC CHARITIES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—
I have read your excellent article on Boys' and Girls' School voting in the *Freemason* of the 28th ult., and the same has suggested to me that in many provinces there is a great waste of voting power, and I think: he plan adopted for some years in the Province of Staffordshire, if generally known and adopted (with such improvements and alterations as may suggest themselves to the brethren), would be found of immense help in securing the return of candidates for the various charities.

In the first place, I would suggest that some worthy brother should be appointed by each Provincial Grand Lodge to receive the voting papers from the whole of his province, and, by this means, to bring the whole voting power of provinces to one centre. And in order to carry out the same, a brother shall be appointed annually in each lodge, whose duty it shall be to secure the voting papers belonging to members of his lodge, and to forward them to the provincial centre. By this means each province can at once ascertain its voting power, and be enabled to borrow votes to secure the return of their candidate should circumstances render it necessary so to do. And I would recommend that the brother appointed by the province should have full power to use all the voting papers so received in any manner which may be most advantageous to the interests of candidates belonging to his province. The names of all candidates (before receiving such support) shall have been brought before a meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge, and the case, after full enquiry, be approved of by same. This, if adopted, would check any abuse of the charity as alluded to in the recent correspondence of Bro. Tombs.

We all feel justly proud of our Grand Masonic Charities, and it is the duty of every true-hearted and earnest Mason to guard them from abuse, and, at all times, to further their interests by all means in his power. In many country lodges I fear that the charities are not sufficiently well known, and if, in each lodge, a brother were appointed whose special duty should be the work of the charities, he would be able, at convenient periods, to bring the subject prominently before the members of his lodge, and possibly, by this means, induce many brethren to take a more lively interest in, and give to them support which as yet may not have been given, simply because it has not been directly brought under their notice.

Quoting from a speech of our very respected Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C.:—"Every Mason is bound, according to his ability, to let charity be a part of his Masonry." I sincerely hope the day may yet come when every lodge under the register of the Grand Lodge of England shall pay over to one or other of our noble charities a part of the initiation fee received from every newly-admitted brother. And, further, that every brother may, according to his means, assist forward in some way the great and good work of our noble institutions.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,
F. MOUNT HUMPHRIES, P.M. 539,
Prov. Grand Sup. of Works Staffordshire.

CHARITY VOTING.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—
In accordance with your kind permission, contained in the *Freemason* of last week, I proceed to give you a few extracts from the last circular of our Charity Voting Reform Association, in the hope that they may suggest some reforms worthy of consideration in regard to the elective system of our own noble charities. The Committee of the Charity Voting Reform

Association, in their report, rendered at a public meeting held in July last, were enabled to point to many and very decided proofs of the prevalence of a more enlightened opinion among the supporters of Voting Charities, showing that they were beginning to recognise the evils which had grown up around the present mode of admission to the benefits of these institutions. Recent changes in the direction recommended by the Committee were cited in proof of tangible progress in no less than ten metropolitan charities, and the cordial support of a considerable number of subscribers to the Voting Charities was attested by the fact that upwards of 4000 members have joined this association—nearly all being subscribers to such institutions—no less than 1200 having added their names during the preceding year.

The Committee further had the satisfaction of seeing their exertions emphatically approved, on public occasions, by many of the most enlightened men of the day; notably by Mr. Gladstone at the Mansion House; Lord Wharncliffe at the annual meeting of the Albert Asylum for Idiots and Imbeciles at Lancaster; by Lord Aberdare at the last public meeting of the association; by letter from Lord Overstone, Lord Shaftesbury, Sir Sydney Waterlow, the Bishops of London and Peterborough, the Dean of Westminster, Miss Florence Nightingale, and a large number of distinguished persons well known for their philanthropic labours. These have, one and all, borne the same undeviating testimony in favour of the efforts of this association, and against the evils of the voting system.

The main object of the association is to abolish the great abuses which have gradually overgrown the voting system, such as—

- The absence of comparative selection;
- Trafficking in votes;
- Canvassing by applicants, either personally, or by card or circular;
- Public polling days.

The Committee venture to offer the following suggestions, as calculated to correct existing evils arising from admission to charities by the votes of the whole body of subscribers:—

- 1st. The circumstances of the candidates recommended by the subscribers should be investigated by the Committee, both as to their positive eligibility and relative urgency, special reference being had to the consideration whether the candidates have claims for support on friends or relatives prior to those upon public charity.
- 2nd. Those candidates who are proved by investigation to be eligible should be arranged according to the strength and urgency of their claims, such moderate number only being included in the list as would be likely to be elected within a reasonable time.
- 3rd. Lists so prepared should be sent to the subscribers, and be returned by them to the Committee, with marks against the names of the candidates for whom they vote. The lists should then be handed to the scrutineers, and the result should be made known by public advertisement; thus abolishing public polling days.
- 4th. Trafficking in votes, and the use of canvassing cards and circulars, should be prohibited under pain of forfeiture of the candidate's claim.

It is further suggested that committees of charitable institutions should intimate on their voting papers that subscribers who have no means of ascertaining the comparative merits of the candidates, or who, for any other reason, decline to exercise their privilege of voting, should sign and send their proxies to the committees to be distributed amongst the poorest and most deserving.

One important function of the association, already employed with success, is to prevent, in the case of new charities, the introduction of the present system of election, or at least of its admitted abuses. And the Committee may here mention that "the managing body of the Railway Servants Orphanage having unreservedly adopted the suggestions of the Charity Voting Reform Association, have reported that their first election was carried on with perfect satisfaction to their subscribers, and without a penny of expense to any applicant."

To release hundreds of poor toiling widows and other applicants from cruel and unnecessary labour in canvassing, as well as from heavy and useless expenditure of time and money; to spare poor maimed and crippled invalids a weary and painful hunt for hospital and other letters; to discourage that systematic and shameless habit of begging, which is the fruitful source of pauperism, begging-letter writing, and imposture; to cover rather than coarsely expose the domestic woes and wants of our less fortunate neighbours by not compelling them to parade their sorrows in thousands of printed cards and circulars; to try and ensure a measure of attention and justice to the candidates and their comparative claims, rather than to foster a desire to "oblige friends" or gamble in votes; in fine, to help the most helpless and befriended the most friendless, are objects worth earnestly contending for, even against the most formidable opposition; objects which, in the opinion of the association, appeal not merely to the sense of justice and fair play of Englishmen, but to the hearts and the tenderest sympathies of a Christian and humane people.

That the Committee are justified in thus speaking of the work of the association is well expressed in the words of one of the Vice-Presidents, a most munificent subscriber to all the great charities, and formerly a large and influential employer of labour. He writes:—"If my poor name will be of any use as a Vice-President to your very valuable society, pray use it, for I firmly believe when you succeed, as I hope you will, you will more benefit the impoverished, respectable, suffering classes, than any of the societies I have the privilege of supporting."

Their conviction remains unshaken as to the great hardship, injustice, and waste of money which are perpetually

recurring owing to a faulty system of election. In the words of Mr. Gladstone, at the Mansion House, they emphatically claim to "belong to that section of the community who believe that the system of election for charities, with the expensive operations it entails, is a most ingeniously constructed machine for intercepting on its way to other benevolent ends a large portion of the alms of the community."

Let me add that there are few, if any, associations (except Masonry itself), that can point to men of such varied opinions in politics and religion banded together for a common object.

In addition to those named in an extract already quoted I may mention as members and Vice-Presidents the Dukes of Northumberland and Westminster, Lord Derby and the Marquis of Salisbury, Lord Shaftesbury and Lord Grey, Earl Percy and Lord Ebury, Lord Overstone and Mr. Plim-soll, Sir Charles Trevelyan and Lord Chelmsford, Mr. W. H. Smith and Mr. Pease, Lord Lichfield and Canon Miller, Sir Rutherford Alcock and Bro. Thomas Brassey, M.P., and a host of others, including Lord Justice James, Mr. Russell Gurney, Recorder of London, Bishops of London, Winchester, and Manchester, &c. You have, dear sir and brother, ably contended that Freemasonry is not a mere benefit society, and that its three great charities ought not to be based on this idea, and this is in perfect keeping with the spirit of Masonry and of the expressed profession we make on entering the Order. It is obvious that the principles and practice I now advocate set in strongly in the same direction, and may I hope commend themselves favourably to you and to a large majority of our brethren.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, fraternally yours,
R. J. SIMPSON, P.G.C.

14a, Clement's Inn.

MASONIC HISTORY.

Dear Bro. Kenning,

I have seen in your last *Freemason* an address of our worthy Bro. Rogers, Acting D.P.G.M. in Devonshire, which, in these critical times, appears to demand a few queries from one who, like myself, have been for some years carefully verifying all the facts of our Masonic history. I confine myself, however, to-day to three queries, which, I trust, our good brother will kindly answer. 1. Bro. Rogers states, that in 1610 and 1625 "Freemasonry was denounced by the Roman Catholics especially." But I know of no earlier Roman Catholic attack than the Bull of Clement, 1738. Where, then, did this condemnation take place? 2. Bro. Rogers states, that "among the Persians Alexander the Great discovered books which took it, (Freemasonry), back to ages long before even paper-making was invented—some 3000 years ago." To what transaction does Bro. Rogers allude? 3. Bro. Rogers states, "they also found allusions to Freemasonry in the Book of Exodus, as well as in other sacred writings of the Bible." What are these? Now, I ask these questions in no captious spirit. I agree with Bro. Rogers' exposition of the historical lines of Masonry, but think it is always better to keep to strict and indubitable facts. Perhaps our worthy brother can give us the authorities for these statements of his, which must have much interest for Masonic students?

Yours truly,

MASONIC STUDENT.

A QUERY.

To the Editor of the "*Freemason*."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

A P.M. jewel has engraved upon it the 47th proposition, 1st Book Euclid's Elements. Kindly tell me what is the connection this proposition has with Masonry? The brethren here cannot enlighten me. I am a young M.M., therefore pray excuse my ignorance and the trouble I give you.

Yours fraternally,

J. W. MAYER.

A CORRECTION.

To the Editor of the "*Freemason*."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In your account of the Grand Officers in your impression of last week, I observe that you describe Prince Leopold as W.M. of the Westminster and Keystone Lodge, No. 10. This is a mistake, as Bro. Reginald James Mure is the W.M. Prince Leopold is a member of the lodge, but at present holds no office in it.

Yours fraternally,

OCTAVIUS HENRY PEARSON, I.P.M. 10.

Review.

LA CHAÎNE D'UNION.

The May number of this interesting periodical, most ably edited by Bro. Hubert, is before us, and we venture to commend it to the attention of all who are anxious to know anything about French Freemasonry. The number for May is full of a vast deal of information, quite new to English brethren, and though we do not pretend to say that all French Masonic intelligence will commend itself to our English Craft, yet we can say this, that the *Chaîne D'Union* deserves the perusal of all who can read and understand French.

Three memorial windows, by Messrs. Ward and Hughes, have been placed in the chancel of the Church of Teversal, Notts, in memory of the late Henrietta Anna, Countess of Carnarvon, by her tenantry and other friends, to record their gratitude for her unwearied beneficence and reverence for her Christian character.

CONSECRATION OF THE CHAPTER OF FELICITY, No. 58.

On Friday, the 27th ult., the Chapter of Felicity, No. 58, was consecrated by Bro. Dr. Hamilton, Grand Superintendent of Jamaica, at the City Masonic Club, 101 Queen Victoria-street. He was assisted by Comp. John Boyd and Comp. Hyde Pullen as H. and J., and by Comp. H. G. Buss as D.C. The other companions present were: Comps. A. R. Marten, F. S. Knyvett, W. Smithett, O. H. Colvin, C. E. Smith, W. S. Crump, Fred W. Smith, Thos. Reynolds, jun., James Ford, Capt. N. G. Phillips, G.S.N.; Alex. Cameron, P.Z. 180; J. Reed, P.Z. 160; A. J. R. Trendell, P.S. 10; Edw. B. Grabham, 9; G. T. Carter, 27; John Large, H. Massey, 619 (*Freemason*); W. Pink, 180; A. Tisley, 1319; Fred. H. Cozens, Org. 1216; John Hervey, G.S.E.; John A. Rucker, P.G.P.S.; Lovell Keys, 49.

After the chapter had been opened, the introductory portion of the ceremony performed, Comp. Hyde Pullen delivered an oration, and the ceremony of consecration was then proceeded with. Comps. Theodore Distin, G. T. Carter, Fred H. Cozens, and J. Large performing the musical portion. When the chapter had been duly constituted, Comp. Arthur R. Marten was installed M.E.Z., Comp. F. Sumner Knyvett, H., and Comp. William Smithett J. Comp. O. H. Colvin was elected and invested as Treasurer, Comp. Charles E. Smith S.E., and Comp. Radford, janitor. The whole of the ceremony was most fluently and impressively performed, and when the ceremonies were over Comp. Knyvett proposed that Comps. Hyde Pullen, John Hervey, S.E., Capt. N. G. Phillips, H. G. Buss, and J. A. Rucker be elected honorary members of the chapter. The motion was seconded by the M.E.Z., who said that all the companions were much indebted to those companions for having so kindly given up a great deal of time and shown so vast an amount of ability in assisting in consecrating the chapter. It was a very small return to make to them to elect them honorary members of the chapter, and the members of the chapter wished them every happiness, and hoped that as often as they could use their privilege and come to visit them they would do so. The motion having been carried unanimously, a vote of thanks was passed to Dr. Hamilton for performing the ceremony of consecration with such distinguished ability.

Dr. Hamilton, in acknowledging the compliment, said that it was a labour of love to him to perform such a work, and he was very much pleased that his efforts had given satisfaction, though he felt he had not been in his usual training.

Comps. Hyde Pullen, Boyd, Buss, and Hervey also acknowledged the vote.

Comp. Knyvett then proposed, and Comp. Smithett seconded, the names of nine brethren as exalted at the next convocation of the chapter. One joining companion was proposed, and the chapter was afterwards closed.

Before adjourning to the banquet, the companions were shown a handsome present made to the chapter by Comp. Burroughes, which consisted of a handsome walnut-wood case containing three dozen firing-glasses, elegantly engraved. The banquet was then partaken of. It was of a recherché description, and was provided by Comp. G. S. States, the manager of the club.

When the banquet was disposed of, the M.E.Z. proposed the customary R.A. toasts. After disposing of that of "The Queen," and "The Grand Z., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," he proposed "The Health of the Pro Grand Z., the Earl of Carnarvon, Lord Skelmersdale, H.; and Lord De Tabley, J.; and the rest of the Grand Officers."

Lord Skelmersdale, who had been invited to attend, had written to say that he had every evening fully engaged up to the end of June, and he exceedingly regretted he could not be among the companions. Many of these evenings would be spent in the service of Masonry, and the companions fully appreciated how hard the noble companion's work was as a Grand Officer. The other Grand Officers also did their very utmost to promote the good of Freemasonry. Some of them were present, and among them was Grand Scribe E., whom it was no small pleasure to the companions to see among them. He was a very old visitor at the Lodge of Felicity, and he was present there when he (the M.E.Z.) was initiated in Freemasonry. So often was he a visitor there, that any of their meetings without him were incomplete.

Comp. Hervey, in reply, said the M.E.Z. in proposing the toast had done so, much too kindly and favourably, as far as he (Comp. Hervey) was concerned. He did not remember that he was present in Lodge of Felicity when the M.E.Z. was initiated; but such was the case with many brethren—they forgot things which had passed but a very short time ago, and yet recollected things which had occurred many years ago. The M.E.Z. had run his course thus far very rapidly, and they found him now at the head of a new chapter, which he hoped was destined to play an important part in the Masonic body of the country. He would not take out of the hands of Comp. Dr. Hamilton what he would say at a later period of the evening, but would content himself with thanking the M.E.Z. and the companions for the toast. He felt also that he ought to thank the chapter for having so kindly elected him an hon. member. He was taken quite by surprise that such a proposition was made, because he had done nothing to deserve it. As far as he was concerned he felt that he had simply to look on and admire the manner in which the ceremony was performed, and all must confess that it was admirably performed. He had no claim and no expectation to be among the honorary members; but as they had done him the honour to make him one, he had nothing to do but to accept the compliment, and to thank the companions for it. The peculiar honour, though most gratifying, was quite undeserved. For the rest of the Grand Officers he

might say they felt equally honoured, and they were equally pleased, and as deeply impressed with the ceremony as he had been himself.

The M.E.Z., in giving the next toast, "The Consecrating Officers," said, on a June evening, some 140 years ago, the Earl of Darley went to the Gun Tavern, in St. James's-street, to consecrate the Lodge of Felicity. On a May evening in 1877 the Grand Master of Jamaica had done the companions the honour to come to the City Masonic Club to consecrate the Chapter of Felicity. He asked the companions to drink his very good health, thanking him very cordially indeed for the kindness he had shown them in coming to take the very arduous and onerous burden upon him of the work which he had done that night. With him he coupled the other companions who had so kindly and readily given their time and ability to assist him, and to make the ceremony successful, which, he was quite sure, would live in the minds of all who witnessed it as long as they remembered the ritual of R.A. Masonry. It was the first consecration of a chapter he had seen; but he was quite sure, that although some of the companions had seen many, none of them could have seen a consecration performed in a more solemn, careful, and thoughtful way than that of that evening. He coupled with Dr. Hamilton's name the names of Comp. Boyd, Comp. Hyde Pullen, and Comp. Buss, thanking them at the same time for the great services they had rendered to the chapter.

Comp. Dr. Hamilton, in replying, said he remembered reading some time ago in a leading article—he was not sure whether it was in the *Daily News* or the *Daily Telegraph*, a paragraph, in which it was said that something or other was like the Provincial Grand Masters in Masonry, who might be compared to the fifth wheel of a carriage, more for ornament than for use. Now, while he did not repudiate the last part of the simile, he was happy to say, from the expressions which had fallen from the M.E.Z. that night, he believed it was felt that a District Grand Master, or Superintendent, could do some little good, and that they were not all like the fifth wheel of a carriage, only to be admired. He was greatly obliged to the M.E.Z. for the honour he had done him in asking him to consecrate this chapter. He was about to return soon to his own province, so that he could not hope to see the companions of this chapter very often, but as Jamaica was but the short distance of a three weeks' voyage, it was more than probable he would soon be back again. When he came back he hoped to have an opportunity of witnessing the progress which this chapter should have made. It was one thing to do work, but to have that work carried out properly it was necessary to have assistance, and, as they well knew, if everything had succeeded that evening it was because others had so admirably filled the different parts of it, and made of them a good whole. As those companions were present, perhaps they might have their own opinions; and as they had all taken part in the ceremony, and had also had the honour of being elected honorary members of the chapter as well as himself, he should simply return thanks generally for them, and particularly for himself, leaving them to express their own views of the honour which had been done them.

Comp. Hyde Pullen said he thanked the companions for electing him and his companions to the honorary membership of the chapter. He would say for them as well as for himself, that they would watch with something more than simple and common interest to see the progress the chapter made. It was something to start a chapter like this; it was something more to keep the chapter in all its excellence, through all its workings, trials, and difficulties, and steer it through troubled waters which it might encounter; but he hoped and trusted that however great or difficult those trials and troubles might be, the head of the chapter, from time to time, might have the capacity to steer through them. If the Consecrating Officers had by their little efforts given satisfaction, pleasure, or gratification to the companions, they were pleased, and they could only trust that the success of the chapter would be all that the members of it desired.

Dr. Hamilton proposed "The M.E.Z., and the two other Principals," and in the course of his address said he hoped for the chapter all the good which Comp. Hyde Pullen had wished. He complimented the M.E.Z. on obtaining that high position, and said that a great responsibility rested upon him, but there was no doubt whatever that he was fully alive to that, and would discharge his duties efficiently. The companions knew the M.E.Z. better than he (Dr. Hamilton) did. They knew he was an earnest Mason, and would perform his work with zeal and fidelity, that he would strictly adhere to the forms and ceremonies, and would be as able throughout his year as he had shown himself that night.

The M.E.Z. in reply said that for the confidence the companions had shown in him he hoped he should prove himself grateful. He trusted he should not abuse that confidence, and that the chapter would even exceed the anticipations which had been entertained of it. They had had an excellent example set them by the lodge to which the chapter was attached, and which had been established since 1737. It had always been a bright and shining light in Masonry. It was a small lodge, but by its working in the Craft had obtained a high position. It was selected as one of the Grand Stewards' Lodges, and had done much good in the cause of Freemasonry. In addition to returning Grand Stewards it had within the last five years provided a Treasurer, a President, and a Secretary to the Board of Grand Stewards. The chapter would follow the example of the lodge; and from what he knew of the members of the lodge who had been proposed that evening as candidates for exaltation, he saw before the Chapter of Felicity a bright and glorious future.

In giving "The Health of the Visitors" the M.E.Z. said they were honoured that evening by the presence of several distinguished visitors. It had always been in Freemasonry one of the stand-points to shew hospitality

as well as good brotherhood and charity. In the Lodge of Felicity they had always prided themselves on their pleasure at seeing visitors, and he trusted that the chapter would not be behind the lodge in the virtue of hospitality.

Comp. J. A. Rucker, P.G.P.S., said he could very well understand what the M.E.Z. said with reference to the Lodge of Felicity. Although he had never had the pleasure of being there, he had often heard of it much in the same terms as the M.E.Z. had expressed. He would not detain the companions by expatiating on the enjoyment he had experienced by what he had heard at the consecration ceremony, but he should feel that he was doing an injustice to himself if he did not personally express the very great pleasure he had had in the work which had been done. He earnestly prayed that the work in the chapter that night might be only a simple augury of what would be done in the future. They could hardly desire to improve on what they had seen and heard, but they could earnestly desire to follow it closely.

Major Shadwell Clerke in responding said he was in the position of one who had to speak at a late period of the evening, when all the pretty things and true things which he might wish to say had been said before his turn came. As he did not like to plagiarise he must content himself by keeping to the simple facts. In his own instance, as in the instance of the other companions, he had been honoured by the invitation he had had to visit the chapter. They had met some very pleasant companions, they had seen some excellent work, they had had a capital dinner, they had received great kindness and hospitality, and for all these many blessings they were deeply thankful.

The M.E.Z. proposed "The Officers of the Chapter." They had not appointed many officers that evening. As there were so many distinguished Craft Masons proposed for exaltation they had left that open till another evening. They had, however appointed a Treasurer and Scribe E., and what they had known of them for some time warranted them in saying that their duties would be properly discharged.

Comp. O. H. Colvin replied, and said they had honoured him by making him Treasurer of funds they had not got. But he was very proud of the office, and would do all in his power to deserve their confidence.

This closed the business of the evening, which was enlivened by some beautiful part singing by Comps. Theodore Distin, G. T. Carter, and J. Large.

The Janitor's toast was given before the companions separated, and the companions left the City Masonic Club with hearty good wishes for the success of the Chapter of Felicity.

CONSECRATION OF THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT LODGE OF MARK MASTERS.

The consecration of this, the latest addition to the rapidly increasing roll of lodges of the Mark Degree, took place at the Havelock Tavern, Albion-road, Dalston, on the 27th ult. Bro. F. Binckes, the Grand Secretary of this degree, officiated, and was ably supported by the following brethren, viz., Jas. Stevens, as S.W.; S. Lazarus, J.W.; C. F. Matier, Chap.; and J. B. Shackleton, I.G. The officers and brethren engaged in the interesting ceremony having taken their respective places, Bro. Binckes proceeded with the consecration, which was performed in that brother's usual able and impressive style, giving the customary oration with an eloquence seldom equalled and never excelled.

At the conclusion of the ceremony of consecration the chair was taken by Bro. C. F. Matier, who in an impressive manner installed the W.M. designate, Bro. J. B. Shackleton. This duty performed, the newly-installed W. Master proceeded to appoint and invest the following brethren as officers for the ensuing year, viz.: Bros. Meyer, S.W.; H. Meyer, J.W.; Dietrich, M.O.; Fieldwick, S.O.; Lovelock, J.O.; Stokes, Reg.; Bonner, S.D.; Dietrich, Org.; Lorkin, I.G.; and Gilchrist, Tyler. The other appointments were left open till next meeting.

A special dispensation having been obtained from the Grand Master, the following brethren were advanced at an early hour, so as to enable the new members of the Order to be present at the consecration and installation, viz.: Bros. Fieldwick, Lorkin, W. Ferrar, Johnson, Delafons, Lovelock, Dietrich, Stokes, Godfrey, Bonner, G. Ferrar, Kelday, Brewster, and Thompson, S.C.

Several brethren were proposed for advancement at the next meeting, and after electing as honorary members the brethren who had taken part in the consecration and installation, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment, to which full justice was rendered.

The cloth having been removed the usual loyal toasts, and those peculiar to the Mark Degree were given and responded to.

After replying to the toast of "The Masonic Charities," Bro. F. Binckes proposed "The Health of the newly-installed W.M.," congratulating him upon the position he had attained in the Mark Degree, concluding by wishing prosperity to the lodge and its members.

The W.M. having suitably responded on behalf of himself and his officers, proposed "The Health of the Visitors," to which Bro. S. B. Ellis, W.M. 1239, responded.

Some other toasts having been given the Tyler's toast ended the proceedings of an evening agreeably spent.

VISIT OF "GRECIANS" TO THE BRITISH MUSEUM.—On Tuesday afternoon the Grecians of Christ's Hospital were taken by Bro. the Rev. R. Lee, the head master of the college, and Bro. John Derby Allcroft, the treasurer, (W.M., Lodge 1657), to inspect the antiquities in the Assyrian galleries of the British Museum. They were met at the Museum by Dr. Samuel Kinns, F.R.A.S., who conducted them through the rooms, and delivered an entertaining and instructive lecture on the History, Manners, and Customs of the Assyrians, as

illustrated by the various bas-reliefs, bronzes, vases, &c., contained in this valuable collection.

A meeting of the officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Northumberland will be held in the Freemasons' Hall, Grainger Street West, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, on Thursday next, May 17th inst., for the purpose of consecrating the St. Nicholas Lodge, No. 1676, at half-past three o'clock precisely.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The Committee of this Institution met on Wednesday afternoon, at Freemasons' Hall, Col. Creaton, V.P., in the chair. There were also present Bros. S. Rawson, Benj. Head, R. W. Giraud, J. Newton, F. Adlard, Capt. John Wordsworth, Raynham W. Stewart, J. M. Case, Griffiths Smith, C. J. Remont, Geo. Bolton, C. A. Cottebrune, W. Stephen, I. A. Mansfield, James Brett, W. Hilton, L. Stean, M. Levy, Hyde Pullen, C. F. Hogard, H. Massey, (Freemason), and J. Terry, (Secretary).

Bro. Terry reported that the death of four annuitants had taken place, viz., Bro. Robert Old, after having received his annuity to the total amount of £583; Bro. John Wood, £39; Bro. D. S. Potts, £111; and Mary Richards, £277 5s.

Bro. Terry then read a letter from Bro. J. A. Farnfield, with respect to the field opposite the asylum at Croydon, which the Institution sought to lease. The lessors had waived their objections, for the lease was then completed. Bro. Terry then obtained the authority of the Committee to lodge the deeds with the bankers of the institution.

The Wardens, report was then read, giving an account of the amateur musical entertainment given by the Croydon Amateurs, through Dr. Strong, to the inmates of the Asylum.

The attendances of the different members of the Committee of management were then read by Bro. Terry, and the retiring members, Bros. J. Bellerly, R. W. Stewart, and R. W. Little, were nominated for re-election.

The Draft report of the Committee to be read on Friday next was submitted to the Committee and approved.

Bro. Griffiths Smith moved, and Bro. Raynham W. Stewart seconded the following resolution:—

"That in the opinion of this Committee the accommodation provided for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, in Freemasons' Hall, is totally inadequate for the increased and increasing labours which have to be performed, and that it be referred to the Board of General Purposes to ascertain what better accommodation can be provided.

This motion was carried unanimously.

The chairman said that the accommodation was really so limited as to be no accommodation at all.

The Committee then adjourned.

Obituary.

BRO. GEORGE FRANK GOULEY.

We announced Bro. Gouley's tragic death in our last. We take the following obituary of our distinguished and lamented brother from the *Keystone*, which has justly commended his worth:—

Bro. Gouley was made a Mason during his residence in Washington. Soon after settling in St. Louis he became a member of Missouri Lodge, No. 1; St. Louis R.A. Chapter, No. 8, and St. Louis Commandery, No. 1, Knights Templar. In 1864 he became the assistant of Bro. Anthony O'Sullivan, Grand Secretary of the Grand Masonic bodies of Missouri, and immediately after Bro. O'Sullivan's death in 1866, Bro. Gouley was chosen Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge, A. F. and A. M. of Missouri, to which position he has been annually elected ever since. He also succeeded to the office of Grand Secretary and Grand Recorder of all the other Masonic bodies of the York Rite; and was appointed chairman of the various committees on foreign correspondence year after year, for eleven successive years. Bro. Gouley was also Past Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Missouri. He filled all his Masonic offices with marked ability and honour, and performed all his Masonic duties with zeal and fidelity. He was an acknowledged power in the Masonic fraternity of Missouri, and won a national reputation as a Masonic writer. For several years he edited and published the *St. Louis Freemason*, a Masonic journal, which gained a wide circulation and influence amongst the Craft.

Bro. Gouley's body was taken, after the accident, to the Masonic Hall, where it was laid in state from Friday until the burial on Sunday. It was placed in a handsome casket, mounted upon a catafalque, and surrounded with flowers arranged as Masonic emblems. The coffin lid bore the inscription: "George Frank Gouley, Past Master Missouri Lodge, No. 1, R.W. Grand Secretary M.W. Grand Lodge of Missouri, A. F. and A. M. Died April 11, 1877. Aged 45 years."

A guard of honour of Knights Templar was in attendance, detailed from St. Louis Commandery, No. 1; Ivanhoe, No. 8; Ascalon, No. 16; and St. Aldemar, No. 18. Missouri Lodge conducted the services at the Hall. A lodge was opened at 1 p.m., and the members escorted to the large room under escort of the Grand Commandery of Missouri.

The following was the order of the funeral exercises:—Prayer. Hymn. Address by M.W. Xenophon Ryland, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Missouri. Address by W. Bro. John Goodin, P.M. of Missouri Lodge, No. 1. Missouri Lodge No. 1, having the place of honour, then took the casket in charge, and the funeral procession formed, with the Knights Templar in front of the hearse and pall bearers, followed by the Master Masons. The

procession was a very large one. The body was taken to Bellefontaine cemetery and placed in a vault, where it is to remain for ten days, when it will be brought East, and finally interred in Wilmington, Delaware.

BRO. JOSEPH SAMUEL PULLIN.

We regret to announce the death of Bro. Joseph Samuel Pullin, one of the oldest members of the Etonian Lodge of St. John, No. 209, which took place at Old Windsor on the 19th ult. Bro. Pullin was initiated in the Etonian Lodge in 1856, elected to the chair in 1860, during the three following years he filled the office of Secretary, and from 1864 to 1875, inclusive, that of Treasurer. Bro. Pullin during his lifetime, by his general urbanity and kindness, made many friends. In the lodge his death will cause a gap which cannot easily be filled, he being essentially one of those truly Masonic men whose absence the brethren will sincerely deplore.

A FEAST OF UNREASON.

We have received the official transactions of the Grand Orient of France, at its Annual Assembly in September last, and feel it is a duty to call attention to the treatment of a most important question, that the Masons of this continent may be enabled to judge how much claim the Grand Orient really has to be considered and treated as a Masonic organisation.

The first section of the French Constitution contains these words:—"Freemasonry is based on the existence of God and the Immortality of the Soul," than which nothing could be more strictly and literally true. It is clearer and more direct than the language employed in the Ancient Charges published with the first English Constitution, and still regarded as declaring the foundation of the principles of the Craft, thus:

"A Mason is obliged by his tenure to obey the moral law; and if he rightly understands the art he will never be a stupid atheist, nor an irreligious libertine. But though in ancient times Masons were charged in every country to be of the religion of that country or nation, what ever it was, yet 'tis now thought more expedient only obtain that religion in which all men agree, leaving their particular opinions to themselves; that is, to be good men and true, or men of honour or honesty, by whatever denominations or persuasions they may be distinguished; whereby Masonry became the centre of union, and the means of conciliating true friendship among persons that must have remained at a perpetual distance."

Of which, it may be explained that the words "irreligious libertine" mean what our modern ephruiasts call a Freethinker, or, in plain English, one who scouts at the existence of God, and hence at all religion, so that it is a law frequently enunciated in our lodges that "No atheist can be made a Mason." On this point there can be no compromise. A candidate may affect any religious belief he chooses, and we have nothing to say, but he must answer affirmatively the question, "Do you believe in the existence of God, the Almighty and ever living," or we cannot admit him.

When, therefore, any body of men departs from this, the original plan of Freemasonry, it steps at once beyond the pale, and ceases to be Masonic, in fact, whatever it may call itself.

Starting from this point, the reader will be able to appreciate the action of the French Orient, to which we now proceed to call attention. A proposition was presented to the body to strike from the Constitution the words quoted above. It was referred to a committee, which reported in favour of indefinite postponement. Upon this a lengthy debate ensued, and as the speakers were requested to furnish copies of their argument, in writing, to the Secretary, we are justified in believing that they are fairly reported in the volume before us. We cannot of course, give these arguments in extenso, but we select a few paragraphs to show the avowed belief of the speakers. The first one said: "I recognise the fact that Masonry is neither Deism, Atheism, nor even Positivism. As an institution affirming and practising human unity, it is a stranger to every dogma or religious creed whatever. Its only basis is absolute respect for liberty of conscience. In matters of fact it neither affirms nor denies anything, hence our doors open with equal facility to the Protestant and the Catholic; the Mussulman and the Christian; the Atheist and the Deist."

A speaker on the other side remarked: "I am in favour of absolute liberty of conscience. You cannot change the fact that an immense majority of the Masons, spread over the surface of the globe, believe in the Great Architect of the Universe and in the immortality of the soul; yet this in no wise affects the liberty of conscience, since it is provided in paragraph 3 that Masonry regards the liberty of conscience as the personal right of every man, and excludes no man for his belief. Let me relate a fact recently occurring in a lodge. A candidate, with excellent recommendations, was unanimously accepted. Before his final admission, however, he was asked, among other things, whether he ever prayed, and upon his answer, that in moments of suffering he had addressed his prayers to the Supreme Being, twenty-seven black balls were cast against him, and initiation was refused! And yet our lodges will admit a candidate who believes in nothing." Another insisted that the contradiction of requiring belief in God, and at the same time according perfect liberty of conscience, must be cured by striking out one or the other, and as a belief in God is a form of religion (Deism), and Masonry cannot be the champion of one form more than another, the first should be stricken. And so of others. Finally the vote was taken, when sixty-five voted in favour of indefinite postponement, and one hundred and ten for accepting the proposed amendment and sending it to the subordinates for discussion preparatory to final action next year.

This, of course, is not such action as would justify any one in saying that French Masonry has become Atheistic, nor that the amendment will be finally adopted, but it does demonstrate that in the French lodges an Atheist can be initiated, which, as has been seen, they justify under the plea of perfect liberty of conscience. As will also have been seen, Masonry proper limits this liberty, and it does so on the ground that to one that has no belief in God conscience is an idle term, having no fixed standard and no boundary but such as the individual himself may fix. The conclusion is inevitable that the Grand Orient of France is not a Masonic organisation, and that its adepts do not receive at its hands what it has not given, Ancient Craft Masonry, and that the sooner Masons everywhere disentangle themselves from its alliance the better it will be for them and for the institution. *New York Dispatch.*

Masonic and General Tidings.

We are informed that Bro. H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught has been appointed Great Prior of the Order of the Temple (Ireland), in the place of the Marquis of Conyngham. His installation will take place shortly in the Masonic Hall, Molesworth-street, Dublin.

HENRY MUGGERIDGE LODGE (No. 1679).—The consecration of this lodge, which bears the name of the esteemed Preceptor of the Stability Lodge of Instruction, and late collector for the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, will take place on Saturday, the 19th inst., at the Prince George, Park-road, Dalston. The ceremony of consecration and installation will be worked by Bro. John Hervey, P.G.D., Grand Secretary, and Bro. H. G. Buss, Assistant Grand Secretary. The officers designate are Bro. Henry Muggeridge, W.M.; Frank Fellows, S.W.; and E. F. Storr, J.W. The musical arrangements will be under the direction of Bro. George Bilby.

The dedication and consecration of the Newton Lodge, No. 1661, will take place on Tuesday week, the 24th inst., at the Town Hall, Newark-upon-Trent. The ceremonies, commencing at 2 o'clock, will be performed by V.W. Bro. John Hervey, P.G.D., Grand Secretary, assisted by P.G. and P.P.G. Officers of the Province of Nottinghamshire. The W.M. designate is Bro. Wm. Newton, P.M., and P.P.G. Registrar.

The Prince of Wales, the Duke of Connaught, Princess Louise, the Marquis of Lorne, the Lord Mayor, the Dukes of Westminster and Sutherland, and a numerous company were present at the Grosvenor Gallery, on Wednesday evening. The gallery was decorated with the choicest exotic plants, and lit up with crimson coloured lamps.

ROYAL LITERARY FUND.—The eighty-eighth anniversary dinner took place at Willis's Rooms, on Wednesday evening, the Earl of Derby (president), being in the chair.

The installation of Bro. Montague John Guest as R.W. Provincial Grand Master for the Province of Dorset, will take place this (Saturday) afternoon, under the presidency of Bro. the Rt. Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, R.W. Deputy Grand Master. The Provincial Grand Lodge will assemble at the Masonic Hall, Wimborne Minster, at 2 p.m. precisely. Among the distinguished brethren who are expected to be present we may mention His Grace the Duke of St. Albans, R.W. Prov. Grand Master Lincolnshire; Lord Holmesdale, R.W.P.G.M. Kent; Lord Methuen, R.W.P.G.M. Wilts.; Sir George Elliot, R.W. Prov. G.M. South Wales, E. Division; Lord Donoughmore, Past Grand Warden; Lord H. Thynne; John Hervey, Grand Secretary; Samuel Tomkins, Grand Treas.; Wilhelm Kute, P.G.O., and Sir Albert Woods. A full report of the proceedings will appear in our next.

The foundation-stone of the first building to be erected specially for the purposes of the National Penny Bank, will be laid in Great Easters-street, Shoreditch, on Tuesday next, at 5 o'clock, by Bro. the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor.

A report of the Beaconsfield Lodge, No. 1662, will be given in our next.

The South-Eastern Railway intends to run (in connection with the Granville) during the whole of the summer season the special train to Ramsgate. It will leave Charing-cross and Cannon-street every Friday, and do the journey in the short time of a little over one hour and a half.

The Inverboynie Distillery, near Banff, has been burnt to the ground, damage being done to the amount of £9000.

The *Times* is requested to contradict the rumour of the sudden death of Mrs. Bravo, which appeared in a provincial paper last Friday, and was copied into a London evening contemporary on Saturday.

The word "Bankrupt" is derived from two Italian ones, *banco rotto*, broken bench; because bankers and merchants used formerly to count their money and write bills of exchange on benches in the street, and when a banker or merchant lost his credit, and was unable to pay his debts, his bench was broken.—*City Press.*

MACE FUND.—Bro. W. Portlock Dadson's letter on this subject reached us, unfortunately, too late for insertion in this week's issue. The communication shall appear in our next number.

The Volunteer Inter-Regimental match was shot off on Wednesday, from teams selected from upwards of sixty corps throughout the United Kingdom. In each case the shooting took place at the three ranges of 200, 500, and 600 yards, Wimbledon targets. It will be some time before the complete returns are obtained in order to ascertain the final results.

FREEMASONRY IN THE UNITED STATES.

CENTENNIAL OF THE GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS.

This anniversary occasion was suitably observed on Thursday, March 8th, by our Massachusetts brethren, and a large number of invited guests. Massachusetts Freemasonry dates from 1733, when Henry Price was made Provincial Grand Master. In 1769 the Grand Lodge of Scotland commissioned Joseph Warren to be Grand Master of New England, and afterwards increased his authority to cover the whole of North America. In 1777, after the Revolution had progressed too far to admit of any compromise between the colonies and the mother country, the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts declared itself independent, and from that time forward has exercised all the rights and privileges of a sovereign Grand Body. It was the anniversary of such new departure made a hundred years ago that was celebrated on the March 8th. A select re-union and banquet, at which about 300 Masons were present; an address by Grand Master Everett, and an historical oration by Past Grand Master Charles L. Woodbury, constituted the order of the day. The exercises were of great interest and most suitable to the day and the dignity of Freemasonry.

GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS.

The proceedings of this Grand Body with accompanying papers make a volume of almost 300 pages, for Texas, like California, gives in print the number of its entire membership, and in a jurisdiction of some 400 lodges these names of themselves take a good deal of room. The Report on Correspondence, from the pen of the R.W. Bro. Cushing, is brief and to the point. Considerable space is given to Ontario, the matter being of more than ordinary interest, as Texas had given its recognition to the Grand Lodge of Ontario soon after the formation of the last named body. After presenting the case, with the arguments relied on by the opposing parties, the committee came to the conclusion that the Grand Lodge of Ontario has no legal Masonic existence, and recommend a resolution annulling the act of recognition of the Grand Lodge of Ontario, passed by the Grand Lodge of Texas in 1875.

GRAND CHAPTER OF RHODE ISLAND.

On the 13th March the seventy-ninth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Rhode Island, was held. Grand High Priest Wardwell presided with grace and dignity. His address was brief and to the point, setting forth his official acts for the year, and giving a general account of Royal Arch Masonry in this jurisdiction. A considerable amount of business was transacted, including the adoption of a new Constitution, the merits of which were fully discussed. M.E. Comp. W. T. C. Wardwell received the compliment of an unanimous re-election to the office of Grand High Priest, and the other officers were chosen with a substantial unanimity. M.W. Nicholas Van Slyck, Grand Master of Masons, administered the official obligation and installed Comp. Wardwell into his high office, after which the other officers were duly installed by the Grand High Priest.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, May 18, 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, MAY 12.

Lodge 173, Phoenix, F.M.H.
" 176, Caveac, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 1328, Granite, F.M.H.
" 1361, United Service, Greyhound Hot., Richmond.
Chap. 1293, Burdett, Mitre Hot., Hampton-court.

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, MAY 14.

Lodge 5, St. George's and Corner Stone, F.M.H.
" 136, Good Report, Cannon-street Hot.
" 193, Confidence, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 957, Leigh, F.M.H.
" 1366, Highgate, Gatehouse Hot., Highgate.
" 1571, Leopold, Woolpack Tav., Bermondsey-st.
Chap. 720, Panmure, Horns Tav., Kennington.
Rose Croix, Holy Sanctuary, 33, Golden-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden Town.
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.

St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st. Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Upper Norwood, White Hart Hot., Church-rd.
Marquis of Ripon, Pembury Tav., Amherst-rd., Hackn. 27.
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 15.

Board of Gen. Purposes, at 3.
Lodge 165, Honour and Generosity.
194, St. Paul's, Cannon-st. Hot.
704, Camden, Bull and Gate, Kentish Town.
857, St. Mark's Surrey M.H.
Chap. 19, Mount Sinai, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.

LOGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.
Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domatic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Constitutional, Wheatsheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.
St. John of Wapping, Gun Hot., High-st., Wapping.
Islington, Coopers' Arms, Silver-st., Falcon-sq.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16.

Lodge 619, Beadon, Greyhound Tav., Dulwich.
700, Nelson, M.H., William-st., Woolwich.
969, Maybury, Inns of Court Hot.
1382, Corinthian, George Inn, Cubitt Town.
Chap. 141, Faith, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
Mark 181, Francis Burdett, Albany, Twickenham.

LOGES 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 17.

Lodge 55, Constitutional, Inns of Court Hot.
169, Temperance, White Swan, High-st., Deptford.
813, New Concord, Rosemary Branch, Hoxton.
1227, Upton, Spotted Dog Tav., Upton.
1278, Burdett Coutts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
1320, Blackheath, Crown Hot., Blackheath.
1623, West Smithfield, Market Hot., West Smithfield.
Chap. 733, Westbourne, Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
742, Crystal Palace, Clarendon Hot., Anerley.
Mark Lodge, 7, Carnarvon, Mitre Hot., Hampton-court.
Encampment E., Observance, 14, Bedford-row.

LOGES 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 18.

House Com. Boys' School, at 4.
Lodge 6, Friendship, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.
143, Middlesex, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
Encampment 48, Kemeys Tynte, 33, Golden-square.

LOGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Constitution, Bedford-st., Covent Garden.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
St. Luke's, White Hart, King's-rd., Chelsea.
Chigwell, 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 19, 1877.

MONDAY, MAY 14.

Lodge 314, Peace and Unity, Militia Mess, Preston.
721, Independence, Eastgate-row, Chester.
1021, Hartington, Custom's Builds, B.-in-Furness.
1350, Fermor Hesketh, M.H., Liverpool.
1398, Balthwin Castle, Dalton-in-Furness.
1496, Trafford, Northumberland Hot., Old Trafford.
Chap. 148, Elias Ashmole, C.R., Warrington.
Egerton Mark Lodge 165, Bedford House, Rock Ferry.
Walton Red Cross Con., 66, St. Lawrence's School, Livrpl.
Derby L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, MAY 15.

Lodge 667, Alliance, M.H., Liverpool.
1225, Hindpool, Hartington Hot., Barrow.
1276, Warren, Stanley Arms Hot., Seacombe.
1325, Stanley, M.H., Kirkdale, Liverpool.
1570, Prince Arthur, 80, N. Hill-st., Liverpool.
Merchants' L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
Bottle L. of I., 146, Berry-st.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16.

Lodge 823, Everton, M.H., Liverpool.
1086, Walton, St. Lawrence's School, Liverpool.
1345, Victoria, Cross Keys Hot., Eccles.
1353, Duke of Lancaster, Athenaeum, Lancaster.
Chap. 480, Unity, Wheat Sheaf, Ormskirk.
De Grey and Ripon, L. of I., 80, N. Hill-st., Liverpool.
St. John's L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
Downshire L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, MAY 17.

Lodge 203, Ancient Union, M.H., Liverpool.
343, Concord, Militia Mess R., Preston.
425, Cestrian, M.H., Chester.
605, Combermere Seacombe Hot., Seacombe.
1299, Pembroke, Rawlinson's Hot., West Derby.
Chap. 249, Mariners, M.H., Liverpool.
Duke of Edinburgh L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
Harmonic L. of I., M.H., Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, MAY 18.

Hamer L. of I., Liverpool.

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—Lost or Stolen early in April, on the Harwich route from Antwerp to London, a Masonic Case, labelled P. L. Simmonds, P.M. 141, 554, 1159; containing several P.M., Royal Arch, and Mark Masters' Jewels, Apron and Collar, and a variety of Arch, Craft, and Mark Master's Certificates. As the latter may probably be surreptitiously used, Lodges are cautioned to use circumspection.

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A Monthly Digest of Freemasonry in all its Branches

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Wonders of Operative Masonry.
An Old, Old Story.
Notes on the Old Minute Books of the British Union Lodge, Ipswich.
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The Way we Live Now.
Carpenters' Hall.
The Lady Muriel.
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To the Governors and Subscribers of the
ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons.—ELECTION MAY, 1877.—The favour of your Votes and Interest are earnestly solicited on behalf of

JANE WHITEMAN,

Widow of the late Dr. R. Harland Whiteman, of Putney, who was initiated into Freemasonry in the Lodge of Unions, now No. 256, in the year 1854, and served the office of W. Master in the year 1860. He was also one of the founders of the William Preston Lodge, No. 766, and served the office of W. Master in the year 1861. He served as Steward to all the Masonic Charities, and qualified as a Life Governor on such occasions, he was also an Annual Subscriber. Dr. Whiteman carried on his profession of a Surgeon at Putney, but owing to a painful disease, from which he suffered, his practice decreased to a considerable extent during the last few years of his life; and at his death, on the 29th August, 1876, it was sold, realising a small sum sufficient only to pay the funeral expenses and his debts. The case is strongly recommended by:—

- Bro. Rev. D. J. Drakeford, W.M. 256, Elm-grove, Sydenham.
 " Hy. Greene, P.M. and Treas. 256, 16, King William-street, E.C.
 " Wm. Grogan, Lodge 256, 125, Piccadilly, W.
 " R. R. Davis, P.M. 256, 57, Carey-street, W.C.
 " Rev. James Amos, S.D. 256, Drybank-house, Tunbridge.
 " R. W. Haynes, Lodge 256, Bell-yard, Temple Bar.
 " J. A. Farnfield, P.M. and Sec. 256, (P.M. 907, P.Z. 28 and 907), 90, Lower Thames-street, E.C.
 " W. E. Newton, W.M. 766 (P.S. 766), 66, Chancery-lane, W.C.
 " Capt. Kain, P.M. and Treas. 766 (P.M. 284, P. Prov. G. Sec. Warwickshire), United Service Institution, Whitehall, S.W.
 " Geo. Newman, P.M. 766 (P.M. 192, P.Z. 192, 766 1056), 51, London Wall, E.C.
 " John Pringle, P.M. 766, Westow-street, Upper Norwood.
 " Abbot, P.M. 766, 26, Lupus-street, S.W.
 " J. R. Williams, Lodge 766, 7, Aldersgate-street, E.C.
 " Wm. Worrell, P.M. and Sec. 766 (P.M. 1339, P.Z. 766), 18, Newgate-street, E.C.
 By all of whom proxies will be thankfully received.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons.—MAY ELECTION, 1877.—The Votes and Influence of the Governors and Subscribers are respectfully solicited on behalf of

AMY RACKSTRAW,

Aged 76, Widow of Bro. William Rackstraw, (formerly of the Gun Tavern, Pimlico, and the Star and Garter, Kew Bridge), who was for forty-eight years a zealous and liberal supporter of Freemasonry, having been initiated in 1818 in the Old Concord Lodge, subsequently Father of the Albion Lodge, Treasurer for twenty-two years of the Masonic Benevolent Society, and a prominent member of the St. Luke's, Faith, United Strength, Beadon, and Royal Allred Lodges, Mount Sinai Chapter, &c., &c. A series of pecuniary misfortunes and severe illness during her eleven years' widowhood render this appeal urgently necessary, as Mrs. Rackstraw is unable to contribute towards her own support by reason of advanced age and acute chronic rheumatism. Her case is earnestly recommended by—

- Bro. *J. Smith, P.G. Purst., 14, Greek-street, Soho, W.
 " Lieut.-Col. J. Creaton, P.G.D., Vice-Patron and Trustee, 7, Sidney-place, Onslow-square, W.
 " *H. Albert, P.M. No. 9, 30, Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury, W.C.
 " *H. Potter, P.M. No. 11, P.Z. Mount Sinai Chapter, 13, Wood-street, Westminster, S.W.
 " H. Norman, P.M. G.S. Lodge, 27, Buckingham Palace-road, W.
 " Arliss Andrews, No. 201, 31, Museum-street, Bloomsbury, W.C.
 " T. Moring, P.M. and Treas. No. 9, 44, High Holborn, W.C.
 " H. Friend, P.M. No. 9.
 " T. Marsh, P.M. No. 9, Bromley Hall, Bromley.
 " S. Valentine, P.M. No. 9.
 " J. A. Abbott, P.M. No. 9, 3, Coningham-road, Shepherd's-bush, W.
 " S. Coste, P.M. No. 9.
 " E. Coste, P.M. No. 9.
 " T. Scott, W.M. No. 9, Chemical Works, Stratford, E.
 " A. Cater, 118, Brompton-road, Brompton, S.W.
 " E. J. Page, P.G.S., Vice-President, 188, Kennington Park-road, S.E.
 " W. Bottrill, P.M. No. 228, 87 and 89, Rochester-row, Pimlico, S.W.
 " W. E. Hollingum, P.M., P.P.S.G.D., 4, Windmill-street, Gravesend.
 " G. J. Mumford, W.M. 145, Prudent Brethren Chapter, Royal Arch 145, 6, Grosvenor-terrace, Upham Park-road, Turnham Green, W.
 " T. Brown, P.M. 780, The Hotel, Ealing, W.
 " T. Bull, P.M., M.E.Z. 145, 29, Great Chapel-street, Westminster, S.W.

Also by the Baroness de Rothschild, Gunnersbury, Acton. Proxies will be gladly received by those brethren to whose names an asterisk is prefixed, and by Mrs. Rackstraw, at 93, North-street, Clapham Old Town, S.W.

To the Governors and Subscribers of the
ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION—MAY ELECTION, 1877.—Your Votes and Interest are earnestly solicited on behalf of

MRS. ALLATSON,

Sixty-three years of age, Widow of the late Bro. William Allatson, Watch Maker in the Old Bailey for nearly thirty years, was a Member of the Lion and Lamb Lodge, No. 192, nearly eighteen years, till his death on the 29th of August, 1869. His Widow is now totally unprovided for, and resides at 31, Mansion House-street, Kennington. The Case is strongly recommended by the following Brethren:—

- Bro. Edward Jones, W.M. 192, 2, Hanover-cres., Brixton.
 " George Kenning, P.M. and Treasurer 192, Upper Sydenham.
 " J. G. Marsh, P.M., Sec. 192, 842, Old Kent-road, S.E.
 " Thomas Cohu, I.P.M. 192, Plaistow, Essex.
 " Geo. Newman, P.M. 192, 51, London Wall, E.C.
 " John Johnstone, P.M. 192, 46, Park-road, Haverstock Hill.
 " Edward King, P.M. 192, Grey Coat-street, S.W.
 " George Abbott, P.M. 192, City Terminus Hotel.
 " Ebenezer Roberts, P.M. 192, 76, Wood-street, E.C.
 " Francis Fellows, 192, 19, Montagu-road, Dalston.
 " Charles Arkell, 192, 14, Trinity-square, Tower Hill, E.C.
 " Robert Grey, P.G.D., P.M. 222, 259, 4, Russell-sq.
 " Charles Atkins, P.M., Water-lane, E.C.
 " S. Bache, P.M., The Vicarage, Albert-square, S.W.

To the Governors and Subscribers of the
ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION—MAY ELECTION, 1877.—Sirs,—The undermentioned gentlemen kindly recommend to your consideration the case of

BRO. GEORGE SMITH,

P.M. and P.J. of the Domestic Lodge and Chapter, age 68 years, of 13, Fountain-gardens, Lambeth-walk, S.E., who has for upwards of 25 years been a Subscribing Member. He is now in the decline of life, having three children still dependent on him, and with increasing infirmities, frequently compel him to give up many of his engagements as Tyler and Janitor; he is therefore forced to seek the help of that provision which the Brotherhood have provided for the aged and needy. The following Brethren, against whose name the asterisk is affixed, have kindly consented to receive proxies in support of the applicant:—

- V.W. Bro. Samuel Tomkins, G. Treasurer.
 " " Aeneas John McIntyre, Q.C., Grand Registrar, Vice-President.
 " " *Rev. Charles John Martyn, P.G.C., Deputy Prov G.M. for Suffolk, Long Melford Rectory, Suffolk, Vice-Patron.
 " " Rev. J. Huyshe, Prov. G. Master for Devon, Clythdyon Rectory, Exeter, Vice-President.
 W. " *Lieut.-Col. Creaton, P.G.D., Vice-Patron and Trustee, 7, Sydney-place, Onslow-sq., W.
 " " J. C. Parkinson, P.G.D., P.D.P.G.M. Middx., P.M. 181, 679, 778, and 1541, P.Z. 259 and 778, Vice-Patron.
 " " Frederick A. Philbrick, Q.C., P.G.D., P.M. Old Dundee, and M.E.Z. Prudence Chapter, Vice-President.
 " " J. Cooper Foster, P.G.D., Vice-President.
 " " *Raynham W. Stewart, P.G.D., P.G.J.D. of Essex, P.P.D.G.M. of Middlesex, 11, Abchurch-lane, London, E.C.
 " " Benjamin Head, P.G.D., Vice-President.
 " " *George Lambert, P.M., P.G.J.W. Herts, Vice-Patron, 12, Coventry-street, W.
 " " *Charles W. C. Hutton, P.G.D. Belair, Dulwich, S.E., Vice-President.
 " " *George Bolton, P.M. 147, 169, Vice-President, Rose-villa, Stanstead-lane, Forest Hill, S.E.
 " " *Spencer, Great Queen-street.
 " " Brackstone Baker, P.M., P.Z., P.G.D.
 " " Dumas, P.M., P.Z., P.G.D.
 " " *March, P.M. P.Z., P.G.S., No. 1, Great Tower-street, E.C.
 " " Johnson, P.M. of 91 and 99, P.G.S.
 " " Harrison, W.M. 99.
 " " *George Kenning, Vice-President, Upper Sydenham.

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ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons.—The generous support and influence of the Governors and Subscribers to the above Institution is earnestly and respectfully solicited at the ensuing Election in May on behalf of

BRO. RICHARD EDWARD BARNES,

P.M. 15, and P.Z. 13, Aged 63 Years, of 48, Hoxton-square. The said Bro. R. E. Barnes was initiated in the Kent Lodge, No. 15, on the 17th day of November, 1835, and has subscribed thereto 41 years; he has also acted as Honorary Secretary to the same for 35 years; served the office of W.M.; and is now the Father of the Lodge. He joined the United Mariners' Lodge, No. 30, on the 4th day of November, 1845; subscribed thereto 31 years; and is also the Father of that Lodge. He was exalted in the Union Waterloo Chapter, No. 13, on the 26th day of July, 1842; served the office of M.E.Z.; has acted as Scribe E. for 30 years; and is now the Father of the Chapter. He was for upwards of 30 years Master and Proprietor of Hoxton Educational Institution, Hoxton-square, a profession and position he was gradually compelled to relinquish in consequence of the erection by public subscription, within a few hundred yards of his own establishment, of a large Middle-class School, capable of accommodating 1200 boys, with which he was totally unable to compete. Has a family consisting of a wife and three children, entirely dependent upon him for support, and failing sight is a source of great anxiety.

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