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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

CHAUCER LODGE (No. 1540).—The regular meeting of this well-established and prosperous lodge was held at the Bridge House Hotel, Southwark, on Wednesday, 27th ult. In the unavoidable absence of the W.M., Bro. J. C. Mason (who was out of town), the lodge was opened and presided over by Bro. T. J. Sabine, P.P.G.S.B. Middlesex, I.P.M. The work, done in an agreeable and pleasant manner, was the raising of Bros. Mayer, Ricardo, and Harrison. The entire ceremony was given, including the traditional history and the lecture on the Tracing Board. On the completion of the work the veteran Secretary, Bro. F. Walters, P.G.J.D. Midx., was heard to observe that out of the hundreds that he had initiated into Freemasonry no one had excelled Bro. Sabine, either in the work or the support given to the Masonic Charities. He said he ever felt proud of having initiated him. Every one was pleased to be present and witness such good working. This being the anniversary of the Boys' School Festival caused a thinner attendance than usual. But as this lodge has subscribed so well to the charities during its short existence it was not surprising that some of its officers should have attended at the festival. Several names were given in to the Secretary for initiation at the next meeting. Business ended, the lodge was closed and adjourned to Wednesday, August 22nd, to meet at half-past six o'clock p.m. Although no banquet was announced the brethren partook of a good supper. The usual loyal toasts were given and responded to. There were present Bros. Kemp, J.W.; C. W. Hudson, S.D.; H. Faija, J.D.; C. Graham, W.S.; A. J. Hawkes, I.G.; and amongst a large number of visitors we noticed Bros. Louis Belk, W.M. designate 1687; R. W. Williams, P.G. Organist Middlesex, W.M. elect 1538; and W. Mitchell, Organist 1325; and some others whose names we were unable to ascertain.

YARMOUTH.—Friendship Lodge (No. 100).—The last monthly meeting of this lodge, prior to the summer vacation, was held on Thursday, the 28th ult., at the Crown and Anchor Hotel. There was a very good attendance of the brethren, considering the hot weather, and the outdoor attractions of the season. Bro. Donald Currie was passed to the Second Degree by the W.M., Bro. R. Martins, the working tools from the sections being given by Bro. Glover. The lecture on the Second Tracing Board was then given by Bro. Hubbard, S.W., and after the lodge had been closed in the Second Degree, Bro. Bond, P.M., gave the Lecture on the First Tracing Board in a masterly manner.

IPSWICH.—British Union Lodge (No. 114).—This very old and flourishing lodge held its annual "Feast of Roses" on Thursday evening, the 21st ult., at which about thirty brethren were present, amongst whom were several distinguished brethren from London and the Provinces, representing Grand and Provincial Grand Officers. Lodge was opened punctually at 7 o'clock by the W.M., Bro. the Rev. J. B. Tweed, the following officers being also present: Bros. Miller, S.W.; Cassley, J.W.; Elliston, S.D.; Wright, J.D.; Spalding, P.M., Secretary; W. Clarke, W.M. 959, as D.C., filled the office of I.G. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M. called upon Bro. Barber, P.M., to give a lecture upon the First Tracing Board, which was most effectively rendered, and which called forth the universal acclamation of the brethren present, at the conclusion of which the W.M. then proceeded to open the lodge in the Second Degree, and Bro. Cassley, J.W., delivered the lecture upon the Second Tracing Board, and although this worthy and energetic brother is, comparatively speaking, but a young Mason, his correctness and style of delivery elicited the admiration of all. Bro. Bobby, P.M., then proposed that a vote of thanks be recorded to Bros. Barber, P.M., and Cassley, J.W., for the very able manner in which they had delivered the lectures. This was seconded by Bro. the Rev. Benton, P.M., and carried unanimously. The W.M. having resumed into the Second Degree, asked the necessary questions before proceeding to close the lodge. Bro. Clarke, W.M. and P.G.D.C., then rose and introduced the subject of the Masonic Hall, which he said was about to change hands, and he sincerely hoped it would be purchased by the Masons of Ipswich, which now boasted four Craft lodges, one Mark lodge, three chapters, two encampments, and one Rose Croix Chapter, the members of

these various Masonic Orders numbering about 300 Brethren. He then gave a detail in as concise a form as possible of the amount of capital, &c., required, for carrying out the undertaking, and concluded by expressing a hope that so beautiful a building as that which they had had the pleasure of assembling in for the past twelve years might still be retained for Masonic purposes. A very lengthened discussion then ensued, the unanimous feeling being that no effort should be spared to retain the same. The lodge was then closed in peace and harmony, and the brethren adjourned to the banqueting room adjoining, which was profusely decorated with that most lovely of all flowers "the rose," the table being literally laden with the same, and the top of the room behind the Worshipful Master's chair was most tastefully set out with ferns and other choice flowers, the whole being arranged by Bro. Connell, who deserves the thanks of the lodge for his energy and taste displayed on this occasion. The W.M. having given the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, which were interspersed by some very excellent singing by Bros. Miller, Abbott, Cornell, and Taylor, concluded a most enjoyable and pleasant evening.

BARBADOS.—Albion Lodge (No. 196).—The regular stated meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday evening, the 6th June, at the Masonic Hall, Bridgetown. There was a large muster of members and visitors, including Bros. E. S. Crawford, W.M.; J. W. Williams, acting S.W.; W. Graydon, J.W.; C. A. Waterman, P.M., Treas.; M. Wilson, Sec.; N. R. Fitzpatrick, S.D.; J. E. King, J.D.; H. J. Armstrong, I.G.; A. B. Fillan, Acting Tyler; W. J. M. Clark, P.M.; C. T. Laurance, N. R. Niccols, J. Murphy, R. J. Clinkett, D. Curtis, S. Wills, T. C. Killman, T. Hare, E. W. Terrey, A. S. Taylor. Among the visitors were W. H. Simpson, P.M. Scotia, 340; Geo. Sampson, P.M. Scotia, 340; T. Rickford, Scotia, 340; O. F. Coombs, P.M. Island Lodge, 89, U.S. Am.; C. M. Marchant, Martha's Vineyard, U.S. Am.; and W. Johnson, Royal Alfred, 420. The lodge was opened in due form, the minutes of past meetings read and confirmed. Ballot was taken for the admission of Mr. William Chavasse Millard, which resulted in his favour. Petitions were next handed in from Mr. E. Isaac Baeza and Sergeant Thomas Atherstone Mann, of the Army Hospital Corps. Both being highly recommended, their petitions were received, and W.M. directed that they be balloted for at the next regular meeting. The next business of the evening was the motion of Bro. T. D. Field, "That the Albion Lodge should unite with the Scotia Lodge and Chapter in establishing scholarships for six boys in the school on the ground floor of the Masonic building." Bro. M. Wilson begged leave to inform the W.M. that Bro. Field being unavoidably absent, he, as seconder of the motion, was quite ready, with permission from the chair, to submit the case to the members, which was this. A gentleman they all well knew to be a competent teacher, now rented from the Masonic body the room on the ground floor of the hall, as a school, and had some 18 to 20 boys. This gentleman had submitted a kind offer (letter read) to receive six boys, and give them a sound commercial education in consideration of his having the room rent free. The members were aware that at present, and until the comfortable building they now occupied was free from debt, which he felt sure would soon be the case, the trustees would not consent to give up the amount received for rent of this room; therefore, so as not to lose so liberal an offer, Bro. Field had brought forward his motion, which afforded him (Bro. Wilson) great pleasure in supporting, and in doing so this evening he was sure he could not too strongly advocate the measure, which it could not be denied was a good one. He would ask the brethren to remember what Masons were doing daily in the mother country for the good of the Craft, raising thousands of pounds annually for the education of hundreds of boys and girls, the children of Masons, and he felt sure we could not be doing wrong in our humble way if we followed their bright example. The amount required to be contributed by the two lodges and the chapter for this desirable object was only ten dollars, or, in other words, three dollars and thirty-three cents, each per month. It was true that the Albion had recently established two scholarships at Harrison's College, at £15 each per annum—one paid out of the lodge funds, and the other from subscriptions raised amongst its members and other kind subscribers. When this was first mooted in lodge members did not see how it could be managed, but now we all feel proud to know that we are educating two boys at this college, and hope some day to be able to increase the number, and in after years point them out as ornaments of the Masonic body. We, the Albion, have paid off our third portion of the building, and by the Treasurer's financial statement this evening we have 148 dollars to our credit, and this after deducting £15 for one boy's education at Harrison's for current year. He would, therefore, strongly urge the members to agree to the expenditure of the small amount asked for, viz., 3 dollars 33 cents, per month. Bro. J. W. Williams strongly supported the motion, which he felt happy to say was a good one. It was no use repeating what had already been said by his worthy brother, the Secretary, but he would only try to supply what he had omitted, which was this, that in sending out these six boys to obtain a preliminary education, although he could hardly term it preliminary, for it was well known that the gentleman who kept the school below was a classical scholar, and quite able to give boys a sound education, but still Harrison's College was now considered the first school in the island—from these six boys we could select from time to time, as a vacancy may occur, to extend their education at the college, and by going farther still, and giving the boy who had the best ability a profession, then we could say we had done something; we could point with pride and say, this is our boy. Therefore I press upon the members to support the measure, remembering that as a recognised body we have been

holding our place in the country over 150 years, and what have we done to further the claims of education? Nothing! It is only but a few months ago that we have commenced by sending two boys to Harrison's College. When we established the first scholarship it was then said we were not in a position to do so, but we did it, and since then we have added a second; now by all means let us expend our share on this effort. Education is the lever which is moving the world; many of us know by experience the want of it; in our day we did not have the advantages of the present, let that be an incentive to us, by doing all in our power while we have the opportunity. The motion was then put to the lodge and carried unanimously, after which the visitors were thanked kindly for their attendance, and the lodge was closed.

LIVERPOOL.—Merchant's Lodge (No. 241).—The annual installation meeting of the members of this lodge (the praise and honour of which are in all the Masonic assemblies in West Lancashire, by reason of its noble and charitable deeds for all the Masonic Charities in and out of the province), was held at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, at noon of the 26th ult. There was a good gathering at the installation meeting, where the chair was taken at the opening by Bro. G. Hutchin, the retiring W.M., who was supported by a full complement of officers, a good array of P.G. representatives, and numerous visitors. After the transaction of some formal business, the chair of Installing Master was assumed by Bro. J. H. Younghusband, P.M. 241, P.P.G.J.W. West Lancashire. In a most impressive and effective manner he installed Bro. Councillor George Peet in the chair of the W.M. for the ensuing year, and he (the W.M.) afterwards invested the following as the officers during his year of office:—Bros. G. Hutchin, I.P.M.; J. Winsor, S.W.; T. H. Salter, Secretary; W. Williams, S.D.; John Latta, J. D.; T. Whitehead, I.G.; and G. Broadbridge, P.M., D.C. Before the closing of the lodge, Bro. G. Peet, W.M., presented a valuable P.M.'s jewel to Bro. G. Hutchin, I.P.M., as an evidence of the goodwill and esteem of the brethren. At the close of the business the members and visitors proceeded to Southport, where a splendid banquet was served at the Prince of Wales Hotel. Between eighty and ninety brethren were present, under the presidency of Bro. Peet, W.M., who was supported by a distinguished gathering of Provincial Grand Lodge Officers, Past Masters, and Visitors. After banquet, the W.M. (Bro. Peet) said:—Brethren, a sniff of the fresh breezes which blow over Southport must be more welcome to you than long and hackneyed speeches and, therefore, it is my intention to propose the toasts set down in our programme in the fewest possible words—an example which, I trust, will be followed by all who have to speak. Brethren, the first toast on our list—"Our noble Queen"—is the first in that part of our hearts where loyalty lodges, for several reasons—because she is a model sovereign, a virtuous lady, the mother of worthy Masons, and an example to the whole race of womankind. I ask a loyal greeting for "The Queen." The toast was received with great enthusiasm. The W.M. then gave "Bro. H.R.H. Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, Bro. the Duke of Connaught, Grand S.W., and the rest of the Royal Family;" and "Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, Pro. G.M.; and Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, W. Deputy G.M. of England and R.W. Prov. G.M. of West Lancashire," the latter being responded to by Bro. Bullen, Past G.S.B. The W.M. in proposing "The West Lancashire Masonic Charitable Institutions" said, there are three virtues which especially distinguish our Craft, but the brightest and most distinguished is that which stands in the centre of what may be called "The Three Graces"—I mean "Relief," so nobly supported by the "Brotherly Love," and "Truth" which ought so especially to characterise our Masonic conduct. I have often thought of this as the link which has so strongly bound our Order for centuries, and I cannot help thinking so long as pure unostentatious charity remains as the most sparkling jewel in our insignia, Masonry must flourish and be a power on the earth. In the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution we have the embodiment of Masonic charity as the work of relief, what it does is done in an unobtrusive yet efficient way; this one of its chief charms. Thanks to the zeal and liberality of individuals and lodges this charity is now doing a really noble work, while standing on a firm basis; but I would remind the members of this and other lodges that as Masonry increases so must the calls on this and kindred institutions, grow more and more. The Hamer Benevolent Fund although comparatively young, is also, doubtless, designed to do good service, and as it is most admirably directed by well-known and tried brethren, I am sure it will receive the support from all which it deserves. Brethren, I give you "Our West Lancashire Charities," soliciting for them increased liberality, and coupling with the toast the names of Bros. R. Wilson, P.P.G.S.D. for the Hamer Benevolent Fund, and Bro. R. Brown, P.M. 241, for the West Lancashire. These brethren suitably responded, the latter (Bro. Brown) referring to the increasing claims on the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution as a reason for greater liberality on the part of the brethren in connection with the various lodges. Bro. Younghusband, P.P.G.J.W., gave the toast of "The Worshipful Master," which Bro. Peet acknowledged in an excellent speech; he said:—Bro. Younghusband, P.M.'s, officers, and brethren, the heartiness with which the toast of my health has been proposed, and the cordiality with which it has been received merit my special thanks, but the very great honour which you have conferred on me to day by placing me in the W.M.'s chair makes my words of thanks seem poor indeed. There are certain events in one's lifetime which stand out with special prominence, but in a Mason's career there can be none of greater interest than being placed in the chair of a lodge whose history is full of

honourable deeds, by the unanimous vote of brethren whose name and fame are so well known, and after filling various offices in a manner which seems to have been satisfactory to the brethren. Perhaps no honour in Masonry is so honourable than that of the W.M., but attaching to the occupancy of the chair in the Merchants' Lodge there is a special honour which I assure you is fully realised by me. Brethren, I thank you most heartily for the honour you have conferred on me. The toast of "The Visitors" was acknowledged by Bros. J. R. Goepel, P.P.G.D.C.; Bro. the Rev. T. W. Richardson, W.M. 1380; J. Jones, P.M. 216; and C. Leedham, P.M. 220. "The Installing Master," given by Bro. Hutchin, I.P.M., was eloquently acknowledged by Bro. Younghusband. The W.M. next proposed "The Past Masters," which Bros. Hutchin and Knight acknowledged in suitable terms. To the "Health of the Officers" the S.W. and J.W. responded. A capital selection of music was given by Bros. J. Jones, W. F. Naylor, J. Pugnaire, and J. P. Bryan, Bro. Ewart efficiently presiding at the piano.

LEICESTER.—John of Gaunt Lodge (No. 523).—The annual festival and installation meeting of this lodge took place at the Masonic Hall, Leicester, on Tuesday, June 26th, and was attended by a very numerous gathering of members and visitors. The W.M. (Bro. W. T. Rowlett, P.P.G. Org.) was supported by the following P.M.'s of the lodge:—R.W. Bro. William Kelly, P.P.G.M.; Bros. George Toller, G.S.B. of England; S. S. Partridge, Prov. S.G.W.; W. B. Smith, Prov. G. Treas.; J. T. Thorp, I.P.M.; W. Sculthorpe, P.P.G.S.D.; F. J. Baines, P.P.G.S.D. Many visitors were present, among whom we noticed:—Bro. the Rev. W. Langley, P.P.S.G.W., P.M. 50; Bros. C. S. Preston, W.M. 50; C. E. Stretton, W.M. 279; A. Palmer, P.M. 279; J. W. Smith, P.M. 279; J. M. McAlistier, A.M. 279; R. A. Barber, P.M. 1391; E. Mason, I.P.M. 1391; A. C. Smith, S.W. 50; R. B. Smith, 50; T. N. Cookson, 432; H. Colwell, 482; A. G. Randall, 1333; R. S. Toller, 1560; F. H. Hodges, 1560; W. Beeson, 1560. The ceremony of installing the W.M. elect (Bro. Tom Atkins Wykes, P.P.G. Org.) was admirably performed by Bro. W. T. Rowlett, the retiring W.M. After the usual salutes, the newly installed W.M. proceeded to appoint and invest his officers for the ensuing year, as follows:—Bros. Richard Taylor, S.W.; George Odell, J.W.; W. B. Smith, P.M., Treas.; Jos. Young, Sec.; C. C. Woodcock, S.D.; E. W. Potter, J.D.; C. E. Willoughby, Org.; R. J. Clarke, I.G.; F. R. Pickering and T. M. Quin, Stewards; C. Bembridge and T. Dunn, Tyler. The R.W. Bro. W. Kelly, P.P.G.M. (as the oldest P.M. of the lodge), then presented Bro. Rowlett with a Past Master's jewel, unanimously voted to him at a previous meeting, as a small recognition of the ability and courtesy displayed by him as W.M. during his year of office. After some further transaction of business, Bro. Partridge, Prov. S.G.W., as Charity Steward for the Boys' School Festival (to take place on the following day) took the opportunity of informing the brethren present that the generous manner in which his recent appeal had been responded to would enable his amount to far exceed any similar list gathered in the province. The lodge having been closed in due form, about sixty of the brethren sat down to the installation banquet, which left nothing to be desired, after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were as heartily given as received; thus a very agreeable evening (enlivened by vocal and instrumental music of several of the brethren), was harmoniously brought to a close at a reasonable hour.

LIVERPOOL.—Downshire Lodge (No. 594).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, on Thursday, the 28th ult. Bro. R. P. France, the retiring W.M., occupied the chair at the opening, supported by Bros. H. Hunt, Peter M. Larsen, Thomas Dilcock, Past Masters; Bro. John Le Comer, S.W.; Bro. John L. Houghton, J.W.; Bro. Robert Ing, P.M., Treasurer; Bro. Thos. Boswell, Secretary; Bro. William Leatham (S.D.), Bro. Ibbs, P.M., D.C., &c. After the usual proceedings the W.M. initiated a member, after which Bro. Le Comer was presented by Bros. Larsen and Dilcock, Past Masters, and installed by the retiring W.M. in a satisfactory manner. The following were invested as officers after the installation:—Bros. S. E. Ibbs, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., Director of Ceremonies; John L. Houghton, S.W.; T. Boswell, J.W.; R. Ing, P.M., Treasurer (re-elected); J. P. Pedersen, Hon. Sec.; J. J. Yapp, Organist; J. H. Burch, S.D.; J. Glitherow, J.D.; W. Vewers, I.G.; R. J. Wilkinson, S.S.; W. Peacock, J.S.; W. Strong and R. Maddox, Assistant Stewards; and Thos. Malcolm was elected Tyler. After the lodge business the members, with their wives and friends, to the number of nearly 250, set out for the Overton Mills for the purpose of a pic-nic.

LIVERPOOL.—Dramatic Lodge (No. 1609).—The usual monthly meeting of the members of this excellently conducted lodge was held on Tuesday, the 26th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool. Bro. Joseph Bell was, as usual, in his place as W.M., and in his admirable working he was ably supported by Bros. W. J. Chapman, S.W.; L. Courtenay, J.W.; W. W. Sandbrook, J.D.; J. Atkinson, I.G.; A. Collinson, S.S.; J. Pyer, J.S.; J. Skeaf, P.G.O., Org.; and W. H. Ball, Tyler. The members present included Bros. T. J. Avann, P. Lowndes, H. P. Squire, F. F. Carter, J. F. Cowdell, F. Wilkinson, T. J. Bailey, R. Burgess, J. Ashley, L. B. Brough, Dr. A. Whittle, J. Ballard, H. Leslie, J. Packer, J. Hill, W. Stafford, G. Martin, J. H. Stringer, McKenzie (Freemason), and others. There were five initiated and two raised, the work being again of a first-class kind. The brethren subsequently banquetted in the old lodge room.

APPLEBY.—Eden Valley Lodge No. 612).—On Friday, the 22nd inst., the regular meeting of this lodge was held, and was well attended by the members and visitors. In the absence of the W.M., Bro. the Rev.

Canon Simpson, LL.D., P.G. Chaplain of England, the brethren invited Bro. John Bowes, P.M., P.Z., P.J.G.W., to take the chair and conduct the ceremony of the day. In this he was assisted by Bros. Kirkbride, P.M., P.Z., P.S.G.W.; John Whitehead, P.M., P.G.R.; W. S. Foulton, P.M.; Nelson, W.M. 129; R. Godfrey, W.M. 1074; R. Warton, S.W., W.M. elect; Cockfield, J.W.; Barron, J.W. 129; G. R. Thompson; Rev. R. Chapelhow, Chaplain; Popple; Pearson; W. Ceussens, Hon. Sec.; Cupins, Tyler, &c. The lodge was opened in solemn form with prayer, when the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge being opened in the Second Degree, Bros. Kirkbride and Whitehead presented the W.M. elect, Bro. Warton, for the benefit of installation. The first part of the ceremony being completed, the following P.M.'s took up the positions indicated; Bros. Nelson, S.W.; Godfrey, J.W.; and Whitehead, I.G. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, after which all below the Degree of Installed Master, with the exception of the W.M. elect, were requested to retire. Bro. Warton was then "entrusted" and retired. A Board of Installed Masters was opened in ample form, the W.M. elect readmitted and installed in the chair of K.S., greeted in due form and proclaimed from the centre. The worshipful brethren were then called off, when cement proper to the occasion was applied, according to ancient custom. Labour resumed, the Board of Installed Masters was closed and the brethren admitted. The W.M. was then greeted and proclaimed in the several degrees. The officers for the ensuing year having been appointed and invested, Bro. Kirkbride delivered the charges to the W.M. and brethren, Bro. Bowes the address to the Wardens. After some routine business the lodge was closed and the brethren adjourned to the banquetting room where everything in season was bountifully supplied, and tastefully presented by the excellent hostess, Mrs. Rigg, and under the presidency of the newly installed W.M., nothing was wanted to render the occasion one of real enjoyment. Grace before and after meat was said by the Rev. R. Chapelhow. On the cloth being withdrawn a toast list of a unique character, interspersed with Shakespearian quotations, was placed in the hands of the brethren, for which, the Appleby brethren were indebted to Bro. Kirkbride, Postprandial speeches are much of the same character wherever made; but the brethren were much pleased on this occasion by their heartiness and the true Masonic feeling manifested in the remarks of the various speakers. The W.M. is evidently held in the highest estimation, and no doubt he will make a thoroughly efficient Master. The Past Masters were highly spoken of for their long continued interest in the Craft, while the officers generally appear to have been selected with much judgment. The Installing Masters are well known and appreciated as "working" Masons and their rank in the Province shows that their worth is recognised by the Provincial Grand Master. The visitors one and all gave free expression to their obligations to the Appleby brethren for the very enjoyable day they had had in every degree. "The bell having tolled eleven," the Tyler's toast brought the proceedings to a close, and the brethren separated—"Happy to meet, sorry to part, happy to meet again."

WOOLWICH.—Nelson Lodge (No. 700).—The regular monthly meeting of the above lodge took place on Wednesday, the 20th inst., at the Masonic Hall, William Street, the W.M., Bro. T. Butt, in the chair, supported by the following officers: T. Ward, I.P.M.; P.M.'s S. Goddard, W. Graham, C. Norman, C. W. Hobson, R. Bowles; S. Waters, S.W.; A. C. Woodley, J.W.; J. Henderson, P.M. and Treasurer; C. Cooke, Organist; J. Warren, S.D.; J. Wilkins, J.D.; E. B. Hobson, I.G.; W. McCoy, D.C.; and B. Norman, Tyler. The visitors included F. G. Pownall, W.M. 13 and P.M. 1536; A. Penfold, P.M. 913; J. Gaskill, P.M. 1076; G. Davies, P.M. 13; T. D. Hayes, J.W. 913; H. Syer, Secretary 13; H. F. Castellari, 391, "Independence and Philanthropy," Bengal; A. Thoms, Tyler 583, Bengal; H. Pryce, 913; N. Brown, J.D. 13; H. Webb, 13; and C. Jolly, 913 (Freemason). The lodge having been duly opened, Bros. Grocock and Skillen were raised to the Sublime Degree in the W.M.'s usual careful and impressive manner. After resuming Bro. Waters, S.W., was unanimously elected to the office of W.M. for the ensuing year; and Bro. C. Hobson, P.M., as Treasurer, in the place of Bro. F. Dawson, who for many years held that office, but who, to the regret of the brethren, has been compelled to resign through pressure of business. Bro. B. Norman, was then re-elected Tyler. After some charitable claims had been attended to, and others acknowledged, it was proposed and carried unanimously, that a Past Master's jewel of the value of ten guineas should be presented to Bro. Butt, as an acknowledgment of his valuable services to the lodge during his year of office, and the W.M. returned thanks. It was then unanimously resolved—that a copy of the *Freemason* should be subscribed for out of the lodge funds, to be sent weekly to the W.M., and placed in the ante-room for the use of the brethren. The lodge was then closed and the usual festivities followed, the loyal Masonic toasts being heartily given and responded to. Bro. Ward, I.P.M., for the last time, proposed in eulogistic terms the toast of the W.M., passing him many well deserved comments for his ability and attention to the interests of the lodge, and Bro. Butt in thanking the brethren, said on retiring from the exalted position he should so soon have to give up to his successor, he left it with mingled feelings of regret and pleasure, with pleasure, because he should be able to take off the yoke that for the last twelve months had been round his neck, which, however light it might and had been made by the kindness of the brethren, had been no easy one; and regret, because he left a chair that had been to him a centre around which had gathered the respect, the power, and the wisdom of the lodge. He took that opportunity of thanking the officers, from the S.W. downwards, for the support; and

the brethren for their obedience to the sound of the gavel, and the hearty assistance given at all times to him. For himself he trusted he had given every satisfaction, and if he had, he should leave that chair proud and contented. "The health of the W.M. elect" followed, and Bro. Waters returned suitable thanks. The "Past Masters' " toast followed, and Bro. Ward in reply, said it gave the P.M. great pleasure to know they had the confidence of the brethren, and as their W.M. would not have an opportunity of again hearing them, he should ask them to respond severally for themselves. Bros. Goddard and Bowles having briefly acknowledged the toast, Bro. Graham said that Bro. Ward spoke as if the W.M., by leaving the chair, was coming down a step or two, but he, Bro. Graham, thought he was ascending a step or two by coming among the P.M.'s. He for one thought so when he took the proud position of a P.M. of the Nelson lodge. He regretted that ill-health had so often kept him away from the lodge, and concluded a spirited reply by assuring the brethren that the Past Masters would only be too happy to do all in their power to help any aspirant to that chair so well and worthily filled by their present W.M. Bro. Hobson said they all knew the interest he took in the Nelson Lodge from the first moment of his initiation. Both as W.M. and P.M. he had always endeavoured to exalt it among the lodges of the district, and he trusted with some success. During the whole of that time—eleven years—he had never been absent ten minutes. It was the duty of the Past Masters to be present, not only to set a good example, but to do the work of the lodge in the unavoidable absence of the W.M.; and while they, the Past Masters, did their duty, they were sure of the respect of the whole brethren. "The Visitors" followed, and Bros. Pownall, Penfold, and Castellari severally replied, the former speaking of the efforts made to get a son of our late Bro. Priestly, P.S.W. of the Capper Lodge, 1076, into the Boys' School Institution, and urged them all to assist this deserving case at the next election in October, Bro. Penfold, on behalf of the Pattison Lodge, No. 913, thanked them for their unvaried courtesy to him, and the other brethren of the lodge who so often visited them, and trusted the Nelson Lodge might always have so excellent a Master to preside over its destinies as Bro. Burt. The toast of "The Officers" followed, and after response the W.M. proposed the toast of the "Masonic Press," and coupled with it the name of Bro. C. Jolly, and thanked that brother for his many and truthful reports in the *Freemason*. Bro. Jolly replied, and hoped every lodge would follow the example set by them that day, and subscribe for the *Freemason*. The Tyler's toast concluded the business and pleasure of the evening.

WOOLWICH.—Florence Nightingale Lodge (No. 706).—The installation of the W.M. elect, Bro. W. T. Gamble, into the chair of the above lodge took place on Tuesday, the 26th inst., at the Masonic Hall, William-street, Bro. R. Croisdale was the installing officer, and well did he sustain his acknowledged reputation, by the eloquent impressiveness with which he worked the whole of the beautiful ceremonies appertaining to that office. Among the brethren and visitors present were—A. Prescott and Sydney Clark, Past Masters of the lodge; Bros. W. Griffith; G. F. Busbridge, P.P.G.A.S., Kent; F. Pownall, W.M. 13, and P.M. 1536; T. Vincent, W.M. 913; T. Butt, W.M. 700; W. Weston, W.M. 1536; F. A. White, W.M. 907; J. Rowland, P.M. 700; R. W. Govey, W.M. 704; W. St. Aubyn, P.M. 251; H. W. Butler, S.W.; and W.M. elect 913; G. Spinks, S.W. and W.M. elect 1536; S. Waters, S.W., and W.M. elect 700; G. W. Reed, S.W. and W.M. elect 13; H. Picken, J.W. 1536; A. Woodley, J.W. 700; W. Gaspey, 339 and 1073; J. Davidson, 35; R. Bowman, 206; R. J. Cook, 915, and C. Jolly, 913 (Freemason). The lodge was opened in due form by the W.M., Bro. G. M. Tapp, and being raised to the Second Degree, Bro. Gamble was presented for installation, and having assented to the Ancient Charges, the lodge was raised to the Third Degree, and a Board of Installed Masters was opened, and Bro. Gamble was placed in the chair of K.S., and duly proclaimed and saluted by the brethren in the Three Degrees, as before noticed, Bro. Croisdale being the installing officer. Bro. Gamble then proceeded to invest his officers as follows:—Bro. F. Sales, S.W.; Mutch, J.W.; E. Denton, P.M. and P.M. 913; Sec.; S. Clark, P.M., Treas.; J. Donnelly, S.D.; Eugene Sweny, J.D.; J. G. Alexander, I.G.; J. Black, D.C.; and—Eves, O.G. A vote of thanks to be inscribed on the minutes of the lodge, was then passed to Bro. Croisdale for the splendid manner in which he had worked the ceremony of installation, and Bro. Croisdale returned thanks. A Past Master's jewel, of the value of ten guineas, was then presented to the retiring W.M. as a token of the respect and admiration borne him by the lodge, and Bro. Gamble, in pinning it upon the breast of Bro. Tapp, wished him many years to wear it. Bro. Tapp briefly returned thanks. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to Bro. De Grey's famous hostelry, the Freemasons' Arms, opposite the Dockyard Station, where a superb banquet awaited them. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were done full justice to, and Bro. Busbridge replied to an especial toast to the P.G. Officers of Kent. The I.P.M. then said he had a most pleasant duty to perform, and that was to ask them to drink with him to the health of Bro. Gamble, their esteemed W.M., and in so doing he would ask them to give him (the W.M.) that hearty support and brotherly regard that they had invariably accorded him (Bro. Tapp) while in the chair. Their W.M. would soon realise the importance of the position that he was called upon to fulfil, and he felt satisfied that the honour and interest of the lodge was safe in his hands. He wished him (the W.M.) a happy and prosperous year of office, and concluded by proposing the toast. Bro. Gamble assured them that he regarded it as a very great honour to have to preside over such a distinguished assembly. He was proud of the position in which they had

placed him. He always looked forward with pleasure and hope to the time when he should preside over such a lodge, in which existed that concord and brotherly love that should at all time characterise Freemasonry. "The Health of the Visitors" followed, and Bro. St. Aubyn and Dr. Pope replied. Bro. P.M. Prescott in response to "The Health of the Past Masters," said he thanked them as one who had worked to the position of P.M. from the door of the lodge through all the offices, and he had reason to know that if a P.M. did his duty, it was not only one of responsibility, but of many onerous and arduous duties. He considered the Past Masters the backbone of the lodge, ready and willing at all times to assist the W.M. or brethren, and proud of the opportunity of so doing. Bro. Tapp, I.P.M., said he fancied the W.M. had almost surpassed himself in the eulogy he had had passed upon them. He knew that this was the time to say pleasant things of one another and of their good qualities, as they would like them to be, rather than as they really are. The W.M. spoke so highly of them, that, coming among them so recently, he was afraid that he had no right to any part or portion of their honour; but they might depend upon his deserving it if ever it laid in his power so to do. The toast of "The Officers" followed, and Bro. Sales responded. Bro. Jolly replied to a flattering reception of his name as our representative, and urged the claim of the *Freemason* to their attention and support. Bro. De Grey responded to a well deserved eulogy of his catering, and then the brethren separated after a most enjoyable evening.

HAVANT.—Carnarvon Lodge (No. 804).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 3rd inst., under the presidency of the W.M., Bro. J. Weeks, the following officers being in attendance, Bros. J. Clay, S.W.; T. P. Hall, J.W.; C. H. Liddell, J.D.; also Bros. H. R. Trigg, J. N. Hillman, Sec., H. Martin Green, E. Good, J. Harrison, T. Francis. P.M.'s J. Dintall, I.P.M.; and Bros. O. C. Harries, H. Kimber, Rev. T. W. Johnstone, W. Dart, and S. E. Casabianca, E.A. The lodge was opened in the First Degree, and the minutes of the last lodge having been confirmed, Bro. Casabianca was examined, and having proved his efficiency was entrusted and retired, the lodge was opened up to the Second Degree, and Bro. Casabianca was duly passed to the Degree of a F.C. by the W.M., after which the chair of K.S. was occupied by Bro. Martin Green, P. Prov. G.P., for the purpose of installing Bro. J. Clay, S.W., the W.M. elect, the ceremony being ably performed. The following visitors were present—Bros. Mark E. Frost, P.G. Treas.; J. Lind, P.M. 248; H. J. Guy, W.M. 342; H. Woodward, 1428; W. D. Parkhurst, 342; Dent, 1501; Bolton, 127; E. Smith, 342. The W.M. invested the following as officers for the year—T. P. Hall, S.W.; Liddell, J.W.; Weeks, P.M.; Treas.; Francis, P.M.; Sec.; J. N. Hillman, P.M.; M.C.; Rev. T. W. Johnstone, Chaplain, O. C. Harris, S.D.; Dart, J.D.; H. Kimber, I.G.; Clark, Steward; W. Blackmore, Tyler. Three gentlemen were proposed for initiation, after which the lodge was closed. The brethren then adjourned to the Dolphin Hotel, where an excellent banquet was prepared by Bro. Purnell, P.M.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—Holmesdale Lodge (No. 874).—On the 20th ult. the last regular meeting of this prosperous lodge took place. Present: Bros. B. S. Wilmot, W.M.; H. Riach, I.P.M.; W. B. Bacon, S.W.; H. D. Williams, J.W.; J. F. Bates, Sec.; Ranking, S.D.; Hotchkin, J.D.; G. Dunkley, I.A.; P.M.'s Read, Delves, and Spencer, Bros. Pelton, Ellis, Graham, and others. Visitor, Bro. Plummer. The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes were read and confirmed. Bro. Deadman was examined and entrusted, after which he retired, was readmitted, and passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. The lodge being resumed in the First Degree, the ballot was then taken for Mr. Thomas Waterman, which proving unanimous, he was duly initiated into the Order, the W.M. giving the address in a most able and emphatic manner. The W.M. had much pleasure in presenting Bro. Riach with a valuable Past Master's jewel, in the name of the brethren, as a token of their esteem and the respect they felt for him. P.M. Riach suitably acknowledged the presentation and compliments. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to an excellent banquet, after which the W.M., with his genial eloquence, gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts. All were warmly responded to. The W.M. then gave "The Initiate," and after expatiating on the beauties of Freemasonry, called on the brethren to give the initiate a good welcome to the Craft. Bro. Waterman suitably acknowledged the toast. Many other toasts were given and responded to, the visitor coming in for his share of honour and glory, the last being the Tyler's toast, after which the brethren separated.

LIVERPOOL.—Hamer Lodge (No. 1391).—The annual installation meeting of this lodge took place on Friday, the 22nd June, at the Masonic Hall, 22 Hope-street, Liverpool. This lodge was consecrated in 1872, by the late Bro. James Hamer, P. Prov. Grand Treasurer of West Lancashire, who was looked upon as a great authority in this province in Masonic matters, and the uniform excellence of its working has always attracted a great number of visitors, and the present occasion proved to be no exception to the rule. The lodge was opened at 2.30 p.m. by the retiring W.M. (Bro. J. McCarthy), supported by the following Past Masters, officers, and members of the lodge:—Bros. Henry Jackson, I.P.M.; R. H. Evans, P.M., D.C.; John Jones, P.M.; Thomas Sammons, S.W., W.M. elect; Thomas Large, J.W.; Charles Tyrer, Treas.; Robert Leason, Sec.; John Price, S.D.; Dr. B. Price, J.D.; W. C. Erwin, I.G.; J. Pilling, S.S.; R. J. L. Kynaston, J.S.; M. Williamson, Tyler. There was a large attendance of members of the lodge and visitors. After the minutes of last regular meeting had been read and confirmed, and the ballot taken for two gentlemen for initiation (which proved satisfactory) the

W.M. vacated the chair, which was taken by Bro. R. H. Evans, P.M., D.C., who opened the lodge in the Second Degree. The W.M. elect (Bro. Thomas Sammons) was then presented by Bro. H. S. Alpass, P.G.S., and Bro. J. McCarthy, W.M., for the benefit of installation. After the usual charges had been read by the Secretary the lodge was opened in the Third Degree, when all the brethren below the rank of Installed Master withdrew. A Board of Installed Masters (numbering about thirty) was then opened, and Bro. R. H. Evans, P.M., D.C. (ably assisted by Bro. H. Jackson, I.P.M.) placed Bro. Thos. Sammons in the chair of K.S. in such a manner as to elicit the warmest approbation from those present. On the re-admission of the brethren, the newly-installed W.M. was saluted in ancient form, and proceeded to invest his officers as follows, the addresses being delivered by Bro. H. Jackson, P.M., in his usual impressive manner: Bros. John McCarthy, I.P.M.; Thomas Large, S.W.; Robert Leason, J.W.; John Price, Treas.; W. C. Erwin, Sec.; Dr. B. Price, S.D.; Jas. Pilling, J.D.; R. J. L. Kynaston, I.G.; R. H. Evans, P.M., D.C.; W. H. Jewitt, S.S.; M. Callaghan, J.S.; W. J. Pilling and G. B. Tenison, A.S.'s. On the proposition of Bro. J. McCarthy, I.P.M., seconded by Bro. W. H. Jewitt, Bro. M. Williamson was re-elected Tyler. The W.M. then initiated Messrs. F. Palliser, R. A. Lambert, and Thomas Adler into the mysteries of the Order, the ceremony being performed in a most able manner. The lodge was then called from labour to refreshment, when the brethren (numbering nearly one hundred) adjourned to the banquetting hall, and, under the presidency of the W.M., partook of a sumptuous dinner, which was served up by Bro. Ball, the house steward, in his usual excellent style. The W.M. was supported by Bros. John McCarthy, I.P.M.; Henry Jackson, P.M.; R. H. Evans, P.M., D.C.; John Jones, P.M.; H. S. Alpass, Prov. G.Sec.; Geo. Turner, Prov. G. Treas.; John Pemberton, P.P.G.S. of W.; Joseph Skeaf, Prov. G.Org.; John Jones, P.M. 216; Rev. J. Rees Jenkins, S.W. 216; Henry Nelson, P.M. 673 and 1505; J. T. Callow, P.M. 674 and 1505; W. Cottrell, P.M. 823; W. Wilson, W.M. 823; G. Hutchin, W.M. 241; R. Brown, P.M. 241; Dr. McGeorge, P.M. 241; Dr. A. Samuels, P.M.; L. Ellis, P.M.; Stanton, S.W.; W. Hughes, P.M., 282; G. H. Smith, P.M.; Walter Newton, P.M., and others. On the removal of the cloth the W.M. proposed "the Health of the Queen," which was honoured by the brethren in a loyal manner. "The Health of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., the Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family," received a similar greeting. Bro. Thomas Large, S.W., gave "The Earl of Carnarvon, M.W. Pro G.M., and the Officers of Grand Lodge." Bro. Robert Leason, J.W., next proposed "The Right Honourable Lord Skelmersdale, W.D.G.M. and Prov. G.M. of West Lancashire, and the Officers of the Prov. Grand Lodge," and alluded in a stirring speech to the valuable services rendered by his lordship to the Craft in general, and the active interest he has always evinced in the lodges in the province over which he presides. He next referred to the officers of Prov. Grand Lodge, and paid the highest tribute of respect to the services of Bro. H. S. Alpass, P. Prov. G. Sec., and Bro. G. Turner, Prov. G. Treas., with whose names he coupled the toast. Bro. G. Turner, Prov. G. Treas., in reply, spoke highly of Lord Skelmersdale's prudence and discrimination as Prov. G.M. in appointing fit and proper persons as officers of the Grand Lodge, and thanked the W.M. and brethren for the reception he always received at the Hamer Lodge. Bro. H. S. Alpass, Prov. G. Sec., endorsing the words of his predecessor, stated that the popularity of their Prov. G.M. was not confined to West Lancashire, but was as great in every Masonic circle where he was known. He congratulated the lodge on the progress which it had made towards equalising its income and expenditure, and in order to complete this recommended them to see that all arrears of subscription were rigidly looked after. With regard to the Grand Lodge he urged all Past Masters to make use of the experience which they had gained to fit themselves for its duties. He referred to the distinguishing characteristic of Masonry—charity, and recommended to the serious consideration of the brethren the educational charities, concluding by wishing the lodge every prosperity. "The Masonic Charitable Institutions" was proposed by Bro. Henry Jackson, P.M., who spoke of charity as the "Keystone of Masonry," and strongly advocated its claims, more especially in connection with the West Yorkshire Educational Institution, and the Hamer Benevolent Fund. Bro. D. McGeorge, P.M. and Treas. 241, and honorary surgeon to the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution, and Bro. R. Brown, P.M. 241, Honorary Secretary of the Institution, responded to the toast, and thanked the lodge for the liberal support it had always given to the charities in West Lancashire. Bro. John McCarthy, I.P.M., in proposing "The Health of the W.M.," said:—Brethren, it gives me infinite pleasure to rise and propose the next toast, which, I think, is rightly considered on occasions like the present to be the toast of the evening, "The Health of the W.M., Bro. Thos. Sammons." It is unnecessary for me to recount his many excellences, and the active part he has taken in the duties of the lodge since its formation, as they are too well known to you already. Step by step he has filled the various offices, and to-day he has attained the highest honour it is possible for the lodge to confer upon him. That he enjoys the confidence and esteem of the brethren there is not a doubt, as he was elected by their unanimous vote at the last regular meeting of the lodge, and, I am sure, by his assiduity, ability and zeal, he will prove a worthy successor to those who have gone before him. The interests of the Hamer Lodge are safe in his hands, and its reputation for excellent working will, I am certain, be maintained, and the fraternal good feeling which has hitherto existed between the Worshipful Master, and brethren, will be equal to, if it does not surpass, that of any preceding

year. Therefore, brethren, as we are assembled here to-day to congratulate him upon the position he has attained, I call upon you to join me in wishing him every prosperity and a successful year of office. The toast was drunk with Masonic honours. Bro. Sammons, in responding, said:—Brethren, I thank you most heartily for the great honour you have done me in electing me to the very proud position of W.M. of this lodge—a position, I assure you, which I value more than any words of mine can express, and I thank you most sincerely for the more than cordial reception you have given to this toast. Rest assured I shall endeavour to carry out my duties as W.M. in such a manner as will meet with your entire satisfaction and will try to follow in the footsteps of my predecessors in that respect. It is impossible for me to convey my thanks to you as I could wish or to express my deep sense of the honour you have conferred upon me in the proud position I now hold, and as long as I live I shall never forget your many kindnesses to me. "Brethren, I thank you." Bro. R. H. Evans, P.M., D.C., in a lengthy speech proposed the health of Bro. John McCarthy, I.P.M., in the course of which he expressed the great pleasure it afforded him in having this toast placed in his hands, more especially owing to the close association which existed between the I.P.M. and himself. He reviewed his Masonic career from its commencement holding him up as a pattern to the officers and members generally, and attributed the present satisfactory state of the lodge to his business tact and untiring Masonic energy. That the brethren appreciated his services was a fact too well known to be questioned, for in addition to the Past Master's jewel, voted by the lodge, they were about to present him (through the medium of the W.M.) with a handsome gold watch and chain as a slight token of their esteem. The toast having been drunk with the customary honour the W.M. presented Bro. J. McCarthy, I. P.M., with a Past Master's jewel, together with a gold watch and chain of exquisite workmanship. The watch bore the following inscription—"Presented to Bro. John McCarthy, P.M., by the brethren of the Hamer Lodge, No. 1393, at the conclusion of his year of office, as a token of their appreciation of his Masonic ability and their strong personal regard.—Liverpool, 22nd June 1877." Brother J. McCarthy on rising received such an ovation from the brethren as prevented him speaking for some little time—he said—Worshipful Master, Bro. Past Master Evans, Officers, and brethren. For the honour Bro. Past Master Evans has done me in the complimentary manner in which he has placed my name before you, and the enthusiasm with which you have greeted it, allow me to thank you. I assure you the cordial reception you have given me has so completely overwhelmed me that I am scarcely able to utter the few brief words "I thank you." I should be wanting, however, in my appreciation of the high esteem in which you hold me did I not give you an assurance of the deep debt of gratitude under which you have placed me, for the kindly words spoken on my behalf, and the handsome testimonial of which I am this day the recipient. I assure you that the fulness of my heart alone prevents me couching my language in a manner that I could wish. I must, therefore, ask you, brethren, to accept the will for the deed, but be assured that wherever I go, or whatever position I may attain, the recollections of this day, and the pleasurable hours I have spent with you, will always be uppermost in my mind, and can never be effaced from the pages of memory so long as I live. Reference has been made to my associations and connections with this lodge, and the active interest I have taken in it, particularly during the past year. I need not trouble you with any remarks upon that point, as Bro. Evans has already entered so fully into it, but let me simply say that in the various offices I have filled I have endeavoured to do my duty to the best of my ability, and if I have fallen short in any way it has not been for want of zeal, and if I am to take Bro. Evans as the mouthpiece of the lodge—which I do—my conduct in the chair has been all that you could desire, and I am proud to be able to say I have substantial proof of it. I shall, therefore, conclude by thanking the Past Masters, officers, and members of the lodge for the cordial support given to me during my year of office, and the manner in which you have now honoured the toast of my health. The Secretary, Bro. W. C. Erwin, proposed the toast of "The Past Masters," which was drunk with the usual honours. Bro. John Jones, P.M., in reply, thanked the brethren for the reception they had once more given the toast of the Past Masters. The toast of "The Visitors," proposed by the W.M., was responded to by Bros. John Jones, P.M. 216; Dr. McGeorge, P.M. 241; Rev. J. Rees Jenkins, S.W. 216; H. Vaughan, S.W. 86; S. H. Smith, P.M., Lodge Union, Ashton-under-Lyne; Walter Newton, P.M., Lodge Union, Ashton-under-Lyne, and others. Bro. J. Price, Treas., proposed the "Newly Initiated Brethren," which was responded to by Bro. Adler. The Tyler's toast having been given, the lodge was closed according to ancient custom. During the evening several capital songs and recitations were given by Bros. J. Jones, J. Busfield, J. Rees Jenkins, C. Heywood, J. Handford, H. Jackson, W. M. Asher, W. Hiles, R. Brown, and others, the musical arrangements being under the direction of Bro. J. Skeaf, Prov. G. Organist, and Bro. J. P. Bryan, Organist 203. The brethren separated at an early hour after having spent a most enjoyable evening.

HAMPTON COURT.—Era Lodge (No. 1423) The regular meeting of this prosperous lodge was held on Saturday, June 9th, Bro. E. H. Thielley, P.G.S.B. Middx., P.M. 145, W.M., presided. The work, which was done in a correct and impressive manner by the W.M., was initiating Mr. John Bartlett into the mysteries and privileges of Ancient Freemasonry. Bros. W. Swindlehurst, F. F. Beard, and E. Woelike were raised to the Sublime Degree

Master Masons. On motion made by Bro. T. J. Sabine, P.P.G.S.B. Middx., P.M., S.W., and seconded by Bro. Baxter Langley, I.P.M., and unanimously resolved, that a letter of congratulation be sent to Bro. R. W. Little, on his appointment of D.P.G.M. Middx. Following in the wake of what has been done in other lodges in the province, although this Era lodge was one of the first in the province to solicit and recommend to the R.W.P.G.M. Middx., Bro. Col. F. Burdett, to confer the office of D.P.G.M. Middx. on Bro. R. W. Little, these and other acts showing how popular the appointment is in the province, and how deservedly Bro. Little is held in the estimation of all who know him. Notice of motion was given to give ten guineas to the Burdett Testimonial Fund, which amount will be supplemented by the donations amongst its members. The W.M., Bro. E. H. Thielay proved his earnestness by heading the list with five guineas, many others giving their guineas. Several gentlemen were proposed for initiation, and apologies received from absent candidates. Business ended, the lodge was closed. There were present Bros. T. J. Sabine, P.M., &c., S.W.; E. W. Devereux, J.W.; F. Walters, P.G.J.D. Middx., P.M., Sec.; S. Wolff, S.D.; A. F. Loos, J.D.; B. Wright, Asst. Sec.; J. W. Baldwin, P.D.G.P. Middx., P.M.; J. T. Moss, P.P.G.R. Middx., P.M.; W. Hammond, P.G.D. Middx., P.M.; J. Baxter Langley, P.M., and several others. Amongst the visitors we noticed Bros. A. F. Hagan, 145; W. Etheridge, 829; T. B. Gibbs, 34; T. G. Tagg, 1326. After the banquet the usual loyal toasts were given and responded to, that of the R.W.P.G.M. Middx., coming in for the lion's share of applause and appreciation. After a few well spent hours the members separated and returned to town.

Red Cross of Constantine.

At the Grand Session held at Rochester, New York, on the 20th ult., the following officers were elected: Sovereign Grand Master, C. F. Knapp, of Pennsylvania. Deputy Grand Master, J. J. French, of Illinois. Grand Viceroy, R. B. Smith, of Illinois. First Lieutenant, J. H. Willard, of Indiana. Second Lieutenant, C. E. Meyer, of Pennsylvania. Grand Treasurer, Gen. R. B. Caldwell, of Kentucky. Grand Register, Gen. Alfred Creigh, of Pennsylvania. Right Reverend Prelate, John L. Young, of Pennsylvania. Grand High Chancellor, J. H. Drummond, of Maine. Grand Senechal, Geo. B. Tyler, of Vermont. Grand Prior John Haigh, of Massachusetts. Grand Chamberlain, Geo. V. Hawk, of Indiana. Grand Standard Bearer, Jas. H. Miles, of Illinois. Grand Marshal, J. D. Williams, of New-York. Grand Herald, H. C. Field, of Rhode Island. Grand Captain of the Guards, T. Ballantyne, of Georgia. The Treaty between the Supreme Council of the United States and the Grand Council of England was ratified and adopted. Philadelphia was selected as the next place of meeting on the second Wednesday of June, 1878.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

SCIENCE AND ART EXAMINATIONS.—May, 1877.

I.—MAGNETISM AND ELECTRICITY.

Advanced Stage, 2nd class, W. Parker, C. D. Green. Elementary Stage, 1st class: Booser, Bowler, Barrett, Hazeland, Molineaux, Martin, E. T. Sage, Taylor, Sawtelle, Uwins.

2nd class.—A. Bryant, Chaumette, Clemence, Davenport, Ellis, Dancy, Grimes, Hamson, E. F. Harding, T. W. Harding, Heaviside, Howard, Healey, Pawley, Roberts, C. Sage, Sale, W. Sparkes, Stead, Warr, Watkins, Whyatt.

II.—MATHEMATICS.

Second Stage.—1st class: C. D. Green.

2nd class: W. R. Parker.

First Stage: 1st class.—A. Bryant, Bowler, Davenport, Grimes, Healey, Moon, Pawley, Pinson, E. T. Sage, Sale, Sawtelle, Taylor, Uwins, Warr, Widdowson, Watkins, Whyatt, Molineaux.

First Stage: 2nd class.—Batty, Booser, Chatham, Dancy, Ellis, Fordham, Gates, T. W. Harding, Hazeland, Howard, Heaviside, Martin, Price, Sergeant, W. Sparkes, Wellington, Williams, Wood, Fenemore.

III.—PHYSIOGRAPHY.

2nd class.—Booser, Bowler, Clemence, Davenport, Hazngton, Healey, W. Barrett, E. T. Sage, Watkins, Wellington.

IV.—CHEMISTRY.

1st class.—C. D. Green, W. Parker, Watkins.

2nd class.—Bowler, Martin.

V.—ACOUSTICS, LIGHT, AND HEAT.

2nd class.—Bowler, C. D. Green, W. Parker, Uwins.

VI.—THEORETICAL MECHANICS.

1st class.—C. D. Green.

2nd class.—W. R. Parker.

VII.—ANIMAL PHYSIOLOGY.

2nd class.—C. D. Green, W. R. Parker.

The Prince of Wales is now at Rutland Lodge, Newmarket, where he will remain for a few days. The Princess remains at Sandringham.

The Consecration of the Quadratic Lodge, No. 1691, took place on Thursday, the 5th inst., at the Greyhound Hotel, Hampton Court.

At her Majesty's desire a grand review of the Army Corps, assembled at Aldershot will take place on Tuesday next, at Windsor Park. The troops, numbering close upon 20,000 of all arms, will march from Aldershot on Monday, encamp on Chobham Common, and after the review return to Aldershot on Wednesday.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF KENT.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Kent was held on Wednesday last, at the Public Hall, Erith. The brethren assembled as early as 10 o'clock in the morning, when they were entertained at breakfast at the Pier Hotel, by the Lodge of St. John and St. Paul, with the greatest hospitality. Grand Lodge was summoned for high noon, at which time the brethren had mustered in large numbers. The Provincial Grand Master, Lord Holmesdale, presided, and there was also present the following brethren:—W. Spears, P.M. 150; J. W. Penton, W.M. 133; John Bagshawe, P.M. 158; J. R. Brett, W.M. 158; E. S. Kenney, W.M. 1089; F. Newerabi, W.M. 77; M. J. Sutherland, 158; John Cruttenden, P.M. 503; John Swinfen, P.M. 503; Edw. Stutely, 158; W. Winch, W.M. 1209; W. Kipps, W.M. 1531; C. Coupland, P.G.J.W.; C. Gooby, P.M. 1436; F. Swain, P.P.G.A.S.; Thomas Wells, P.M. 503; C. P. Griffin, W.M. 1050; C. Abbot, J.W. 1050; R. Croisdale, P.M. 1536; George Langridge, P.P.G.R.; Frederick Spencer, P.M. 1063; Levi McKelley, H. G. Wood, P.M. 20; S. W. Heckford, S.W.; George Tedder, 1107; John Hunt, W.M. 503; J. R. Foord, J.W. 503; John C. Brooks, 503; John Waller, 503; Thomas Barker, 503; W. E. Hollingham, P.M. 77; James Hill, 299; H. Doughty, P.M. 483; W. M. Hill, Prov. G.C.; S. W. Gibson, 1107; E. Long, 913; R. C. Binfield, P.M. 20; Charles Andrews, P.M. 77; Edmund Mackney, P.M. 229; J. E. Shrubsole, P.M. 503; E. J. Dodd, W.M. 1225; W. Murphy, 1536; Robt. French, W.M. 483; E. W. Young, W.M. 704; A. Avery, P.M. 1314, P.P.G.R.; James Griffin, P.M. 933, S.D. 143; R. M. Thorp, P.M. 709; George Fletcher, 296, 615; C. Dunham, S.W. 1464; J. Bryant, 299; H. J. Piper, J.D. 503; E. Gorham, P.M. 184; F. Walker, P.M. 972; G. Adamson, 199, 1208, P.P.G.A.D.C.; W. T. Boots, P.M. 829; W. Carden, 299; H. Massey, P.M. 619 (Freemason); J. Warwick, R. Pavey, P.P.G.S.B.; Aretas Akers Douglas, W.M. 1063, P. Prov. G. Reg. Oxfordshire, P.M. 478, 1506; J. Henderson, 13, 829; T. Spurrell, W.M. 615; J. Haseldine, 429, P.G.D.C.; Alfred Parish, S.D., 615; Robt. Stone, Geo. Page, P.M., 1219, P.G.S.; J. Fletcher, J.D., 615; Jas. S. Eastes, D.P.G.M.; E. Tomkins, 615; Richard Pinock, 916, P.P.G.A.D.C.; W. Cracroft Fooks, P.P.G.S.W.; E. Palmer, 913; W.M.; Gamble, W.M. 706; Frank W. Stone, 874, P.P.G.S.W.; R. B. Nelson, W.M. 1692, P.P.G.S.B.; B. Taylor, W.M. 1273; E. Coste, W.M., 1314; H. H. Poole, 615; Charles E. Grey, 615; W. Phillips, W.M. 1336; L. J. J. Barnes, 1350; Fred. G. Pownall, P.M. 1536, W.M. 13; W. B. Lloyd, S.D. 913; J. W. Parish, 299; G. W. Farran-Loftus, P.P. J.W. Norfolk; Henry Gcsland, 1193; E. J. Middleton, S.D. 184; W. Tanner, 184; W. B. Henwood, 1107; F. W. A. Neech, 299; D. McDeight, 299; R. Marston, P.M. 299; G. Churchley, J.W. 299; Thos. Gibson, 243; B. Whitaker, 1356; W. Russell, P.M. 1464; L. Ethersedge, J.W. 829; J. Hawkins, 1536; E. Denton, P.M. 913; G. Frost, 913; Joseph Storey, P.M. 1107; W. A. Weston, W.M. 1536; Robert Russell, P.M. 299; W. Perry, 1107; F. W. Robinson, 1536; W. A. Watkins, 1536; W. A. Rudd, 184; John Miller, P.M. 299; A. Penfold, I.P.M. 913; R. A. Gibbons, W.M. 1464; L. B. Brooks, 1426; John Jarvis, P.M. 1424; J. S. B. Thos. Wyles, P.M. 1050; Geo. Ker, P.M. 503; George F. Guest, P.M. 1531; Thos. Wills, W.M. 299; J. Nicholls, P.M. 1050; Wm. Thos. Vincent, W.M. 913; Thos. Puzey, S.W. 1107; H. L. Puzey, 1107; F. H. Field, 1426; G. H. Fieldings, J.W. 183; W. Seamen, P.M. 1314; A. Burton, W.M. 1536; H. Welding, 1536, Geo. Spink, P.M. 1536; W. A. R. Harris, 871; Thos. Smith, 829; Thos. Hastings, W.M. 829; Alex. Fletcher, 789; D. C. Capon, 913, R. H. Williamson, P.M. 1314; F. Clarke, F. H. Pearce, 299; Herbert Spurnell, 615; Alfred Spencer, Prov. G. Sec.; Wm. Hickmott, 503; John Howard, 829; J. Slade Brown, P.M. 1056; M. Egerton, A. J. Thorman, 890; C. S. Boardman, 299; J. J. Churchill, 913; J. Ayling, P.M. 1096; Thos. E. Nobbs, P.M. 503; Thos. Weaver, Jas. Terry, Secretary R.M.B.I.; C. D. Gayland, 299; W. J. C. Harman, P.M. 429; H. S. Goodall, P.M. 784; J. White, 1536; and Robert Eastley, G. Tyler. After the Grand Lodge had been opened the minutes of last Grand Lodge were read by Bro. Spencer, G. S., and confirmed; and the Prov. G.M. said the next business was the election of Prov. G. Treasurer, which he was sure would not meet with any opposition when Bro. Thorpe was proposed to fill that office for another year. Bro. Thorpe was then formally proposed, seconded, and elected unanimously, and Bro. Thorpe returned thanks for the renewed confidence reposed in him.

The Prov. G.M. then invested the following brethren with the collars and jewels of office.

James Smith Eastes	D. Prov. G.M.
A. Akers Douglas, W.M. 1063	Prov. G.S.W.
F. Spurrell, M.D., W.M. 615	Prov. G.J.W.
The Rev. W. A. Hill (re-appointed)	Prov. G. Chap.
B. K. Thorpe (re-appointed)	Prov. G. Treas.
A. Spencer (re-appointed)	Prov. G. Sec.
F. Hughes-Hallett, P.M. 709	Prov. G. Reg.
W. Russell, P.M. 1464	Prov. G.S.D.
G. Page, P.M. 1209	Prov. G.J.D.
F. Pownall, P.M. 1536	Prov. G.S. of Wks.
E. Coste, P.M. 1314	Prov. D. of Cers.
C. Reuter, P.M. 1107	Prov. Asst. D. of C.
C. Gosby, P.M. 1436	Prov. G.S.B.
W. Kipps, P.M. 1531	Prov. G. Org.
T. Hastings, W.M. 829	Prov. G. Purst.
R. Eastley	Prov. G. Tyler.

The following brethren were appointed Provincial Grand Stewards: W. Wills, 299, Dartford; F. Walker, P.M. 972, Canterbury; T. Ayling, P.M. 1096, Walmer; F. Spencer, P.M. 1063, Malling Abbey; G. Payne, P.M. 1273, Sittingbourne; R. C. Burfield, P.M. 20, Chatham. Bro. W. T. Vincent then brought forward the following

resolution:—It having been represented to Provincial G. Lodge that there is a desire prevalent in the Province of Kent to raise a fund for the purpose of presenting a testimonial to Bro. the Rev. W. A. Hill, Provincial Grand Chaplain, it is hereby, with the sanction and approval of the R.W. Prov. G. Master,

Resolved, "That the proposed testimonial to Bro. the Rev. W. A. Hill be approved by Grand Lodge, that the Grand Treasurer be empowered to receive subscriptions, and that a committee be formed to carry out the object in view; such committee to consist of the officers of Provincial Grand Lodge for the time being, and one representative from each subscribing lodge.

In introducing the motion, Bro. Vincent said there is no need of words from me to recommend this resolution to Grand Lodge. It is sufficient to know that it has your Lordship's approval, which will do more to promote the object in view than the collective exertions of all the lodges in the Province. Our Grand Chaplain is the senior officer serving under your lordship in Grand Lodge, having been first appointed to it seventeen years ago, in the same year that your lordship was first installed G.M. of the Province. During those seventeen years his labours have been constant and earnest in promoting the well-being of our institution, and the happiness of every lodge. Whether assisting in our ceremonies, rejoicing with us in our festivals, instructing us with words of eloquent wisdom in our lodges, or joining with us in our sorrow over the grave of some good brother departed, his presence is ever familiar and welcome, and he has never deemed distance too far, trouble too great, or time too valuable, when we have stood in need of his help. Therefore it has been signified by the Grand Master of Kent that the brethren would like the opportunity of testifying, in some substantial manner, their great regard and deep obligations to our reverend brother, and hence this resolution, it having been justly deemed more in order that a provincial work of this character should not be left to individual effort, but should proceed under the stamp of proper authority.

The motion having been seconded, was put by the G.M. and carried unanimously, and with cheers.

The Rev. Chaplain in thanking the brethren said he was somewhat dumbfounded by having to rise to return thanks for the brethren's kindness, it was a private matter of which he had not had the smallest conception until by accident he heard it mooted at the Sidcup Lodge. Happily he had been associated with the Provincial Grand Lodge of Kent for a great number of years. During the time he had made several friends, who were very dear to him, and the wish was very near to his heart that he might continue on the same terms of unity and friendship with them, and that those terms might be consolidated year by year. The brethren had done him an honour which he felt most deeply, and he hoped on some future occasion he would have the opportunity of addressing the brethren better than he was now able to do.

The D.P.G.M. moved that £20 each be given to the following lodges from the P.G.L.C. Fund for the Royal Masonic Institution; 20, Antiquity, Chatham; 31, United Industrious, Canterbury; 77, Freedom, Gravesend; 125, Prince Edwin, Hythe; 127, Union, Margate; 133, Harmony, Faversham; 158, Adams, Sheerness. And £10 10s. each to the following lodges for the Boys' School: 829, Sydney, Sidcup; 874, Holmesdale, Tunbridge Wells; 913, Pattison, Plumstead; 972, St. Augustine, Canterbury; 1050, Gundulph, Rochester; 1063, Malling Abbey, Malling; 1089, De Shurland, Sheerness; 1098, Lord Warden, Walmer.

This vote having been seconded, was carried unanimously, as was also the following vote proposed by the Prov. G.M. That £105 be given from the P.G.L. Fund to the Girls' School, in the name of the P.D.G.M., to make him Vice-President of that Institution.

Lodge was afterwards called off, and the brethren, headed by the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and Grand Officers, proceeded to the old Church of St. John, where a sermon was preached by the Rev. W. A. Hill, Grand Chaplain, from the text—"And, behold, a ladder set up on the earth, the top of which reached up unto heaven." A collection, amounting to over £14 was subsequently made, and the brethren returned to Grand Lodge, where votes of thanks to the Rev. Mr. Hardy for the use of the church, and to the Rev. W. A. Hill for his sermon, were unanimously passed.

Lodge was thereafter closed, and the brethren were entertained at a liberal banquet, in the gardens of the Pier Hotel, by the Master, Wardens, and brethren of the St. John and St. Paul Lodge.

[The proceedings at the banquet will appear in our next.]

Roan, Gilt Edges, elastic band or tuck, price, post free 2s. 2d. The Cosmopolitan Masonic Calendar Diary and Pocket Book for 1877. It contains lists of Lodges, Chapters, Encampments, Conclaves and Grand Councils, with the names of Officers in England, Scotland, Ireland, and all parts of the World. Single copies ordered by letter may be paid for by stamps; orders for more than one to be accompanied by Post Office Order payable at the Chief Office, London. Address Publisher, 198, Fleet Street, London. (Advt.)

SUNSHINE AT MIDSUMMER.—The Astronomer Royal reports that the duration of registered sunshine during the week ending June 30 was 58.4 hours out of the 115.7 hours that the sun was above the horizon.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Monmouthshire, which was to have been held on the 12th of July, has been postponed a week, and will therefore will be held on Thursday, 19th July, at the Masonic Hall, Dock-street, Newport.

HENRY MUGGERIDGE TESTIMONIAL Chairman and Treasurer, Bro. E. M. Hubbuck, G.S. Lodge, P.M. 140 and 1320, 24, Lime-street, E.C.

COMMITTEE:—

Lord De Tabley, R.W. Prov. G.M. Cheshire; Aeneas J. McIntyre, Q.C., G. Reg.; Samuel Tomkins, G. Treas.; F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., P.G.D.; C. J. Watkin Williams, Q.C., M.P., 715; J. M. Clabon, P.G.D., President of the Board of Benevolence; Brackstone Baker, P.G.D.; Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, P.G.C.; R. W. Little, D.P.G.M. Middx.; J. B. Scriven, P.G.S., P.M. 5; George Kenning, P.M. and Treas. 192, P.G.D. Middx.; W. Hyde Pullen, P.G.S.B.; D. W. Pearce, P.M. 657, 1229, G.R. Middx.; J. T. C. Winkfield, P.M. 591, P.P.G.W. Berks and Bucks; J. G. West, W.M. 169, P.G.S.W.; F. D. R. Copestick, P.M. 869, P.G.S.B. Herts; J. E. Grocott, W.M. 869, P.G.S.W. Herts; H. C. Levander, P.G.D. Wiltshire; J. F. Jackson, P.G.S., P.M. 5; H. Birdseye, P.M. 715; S. G. Myers, P.M. and Treas. 715; C. W. Gray, P.M. 22; E. F. Storr, W.M. 22; C. J. Hogg, P.M. 58; D. Law, P.M. 58; J. Jonas, P.M. 715; J. Hamilton Townend, P.M. 1426; G. Phythian, S.W. 22; E. Jones, W.M. 192; G. Abbott, P.M. 192; C. Arkell, 192; W. Hopekirk, P.M. and Treas. 179; F. Newton, J.W. 5; E. W. Richardson, P.M. 1309; Eames, P.M. 22; F. S. Smith, P.G.S.W. Cheshire; H. W. Scriven, 5; Eugene Bennard, 869; Jas. Burroughs, 58; E. H. Hewett, J.W. 235; W. Smithett, T. Reynolds, 58; J. W. Clever, J.W. 171; A. H. Diaper, P.M. 5.

FIRST LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS:—

	£	s.	d.
Bro. E. M. Hubbuck	10	10	0
" J. B. Scriven	10	10	0
Panmure Lodge	10	10	0
Lodge 58	5	5	0
Bro. Lord De Tabley	5	5	0
" George Kenning	5	5	0
" R. Gray	5	5	0
" Winkfield	5	5	0
" B. Head	4	4	0
" E. F. Smee	3	3	0
Gresham Lodge	2	2	0
Bro. A. H. Diaper	2	2	0
" J. E. Grocott	2	2	0
" W. Birdseye	2	2	0
" Aeneas J. McIntyre	2	2	0
" Watkin Williams	2	2	0
" Francis Fellows	2	2	0
" F. D. R. Copestick	2	2	0
" S. G. Myers	2	2	0
" Hy. Birdseye	2	2	0
" E. F. Storr	2	2	0
" C. W. Gray	2	2	0
" W. J. Crossfield	2	2	0
" M. Bennett	2	2	0
" E. Phillips	2	2	0
" J. Jonas	2	2	0
" A. J. Lilwall	2	2	0
" J. H. Townsend	2	2	0
" M. Newton	2	2	0
" T. Reynolds	2	2	0
" S. Tomkins	2	2	0
" C. Harris	2	2	0
" F. Bamford	2	2	0
" F. Lorkins	2	2	0
" J. W. Braine	1	1	0
" Hogg	1	1	0
" J. Paddle	1	1	0
" J. W. Weedon	1	1	0
" A. C. Cope	1	1	0
" J. Burroughs	1	1	0
" W. Smithett	1	1	0
" Jardine	1	1	0
" Downing	1	1	0
" C. W. M. Wilson	1	1	0
" H. Watts	1	1	0
" Worden	1	1	0
" E. W. Richardson	1	1	0
" J. Forsyth	1	1	0
" G. Pottle	1	1	0
" R. W. Little	1	1	0
" George Abbott	1	1	0
" W. Hopekirk	10	6	

Bro. F. FELLOWS, Hon. Sec.

Masonic Rooms, 1, 2, and 3, Little Britain,
and 175, Aldersgate-street.

ROYALTY THEATRE.

The pupils of Mr. Charles Sleigh gave a series of performances at this theatre during the past week. The pieces chosen for representation were "Pygmalion and Galatea," "Cyril's Success," "Morning Call," "Meg's Diversion," "Checkmate," "Area Belle," "Uncle's Will," and "Love's Sacrifice." The two best representations were undoubtedly "Checkmate" and "Pygmalion and Galatea." "Checkmate" was capriciously played throughout. Miss Lizzie Vaughan and Mr. Ettington were excellent representations of Martha Bunn and Sam Winkle. Mr. Graham Wentworth, if rather mechanical in the manner of speaking his lines, was a very gentlemanly Sir Everton. Miss Helen MacMahon as Charlotte Russe appeared self conscious and addressed her audience instead of her fellow actors. "Pygmalion and Galatea" was fairly played throughout, Miss E. Welshman (Galatea) and Mr. Ettington (Chryso) being particularly good. The performance of "Meg's Diversion" was greatly marred by the absence of one lady, and the incapacity of Miss Ricardo, who had undertaken the role of Cornelius. On Saturday Mr. Sleigh appeared himself in the character of Matthew Elmore in "Love's Sacrifice," but the noisiness of the audience prevented the actors from being heard.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. NEWMAN, J.P., P.M. No. 75, FALMOUTH.

On Friday, the 29th of June, the brethren of the ancient Lodge of Love and Honour, No. 75, Falmouth, assembled in full force at the Royal Hotel, where a banquet was spread in honour of the brother Falmouth delights to honour Masonically.

The Chairman was the W.M., Dr. Arthur Ben Harris, and the Vice-Chairman Bro. Harry Tilly, S.W. Most of the Past Masters were present, including Bros. Vivian, Prov. G.S.B.; Dennis, P. Prov. G. Purs.; Polglaze, Prov. G. Steward; and Michael Little. Bro. W. J. Hughan, P.S.G.D. of England (hon. member), was also in attendance, having travelled especially by an early train to take part in the interesting proceedings.

After the usual toasts had been duly given and honoured, the W.M. (Dr. Harris) proposed "The Health of their esteemed Past Master, Bro. Walter Francis Newman, P.M., P. Prov. G.D. of Cornwall," and, in a felicitous manner, described how much the lodge was indebted to that really worthy brother for his services, extending over a period of nearly eighteen years. In the name of the numerous subscribers he asked Bro. Newman to accept of the richly illuminated testimonial (which was then unveiled), and of the Past Master's jewel, and he trusted that the brethren would continue to receive the benefit of his valuable aid for many years to come.

Amid the acclamations of the brethren Bro. Newman rose to respond, and, considering the difficulties of his task, acquitted himself remarkably well. He spoke of the pleasure it gave him to see the lodge in such a flourishing and happy state, and though he acknowledged that ever since his initiation he had taken a lively interest in the welfare of their old mother lodge, yet he did not consider that anything he had done deserved such a mark of approval, and so handsome a testimonial and Past Master's jewel as had just been presented to him. He felt quite overpowered on looking at such handsome gifts, and he could only say, emphatically, that the present meeting was to him the proudest and happiest of his Masonic life.

In response to the toast of "The Past Masters," Bro. Little (the originator of the testimonial) aptly described Bro. Newman as the embodiment of "Love and Honour," and expressed the feeling of all genuine Masons when he said he hoped that the genial countenance of their friend and Bro. Newman would for long be seen at the lodge.

Later on Bro. Hughan gave a short sketch of the progress of the lodge from 1751, and stated that during the last dozen years especially the brethren were indebted to Bro. Newman mainly, and at times exclusively, for the preservation of their old warrant and its privileges.

The address, we should state, was beautifully illuminated by Lake and Lake, Truro, and handsomely framed, forming one of the most pleasing and tastefully executed testimonials we have ever seen. The Past Master's jewel was of unique design, in solid gold.

DUNHEVED MASONIC HALL, LAUNCESTON.

The new Masonic Hall, the foundation stone of which was laid last summer, will be formally dedicated next Thursday, at the meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cornwall, under the presidency of the Earl of Mount Edgumbe. The building is situated a little outside the town on the Tavistock-road, and the site, which was generously given by Bro. J. C. Baron Lethbridge, commands one of the finest views to be obtained in the neighbourhood. A flight of steps at the western end of the structure leads to an open porch, within which is the Tyler's vestibule and a preparation room adjoining. The only other apartment on this floor is the lodge-room, which is 40ft. by 20ft., and proportionately high. In the centre of the floor is a pavement of tiles—white and black—with a border, and the eastern portion of the floor is raised three steps. The lodge is surrounded by a moulded cornice, with a frieze, left plain for future decoration. In the centre of the ceiling, over the pavement, is a circle 16ft. in diameter, defined by mouldings, with paintings emblematic of the sun and the constellations. There is an organ recess on the south side of the lodge, which is handsomely furnished. On the floor below the lodge are the custodian's apartments and a large dining-room with lavatories, cellar, &c., adjoining. The building is in the Italian style, from the design of Mr. James Hine, F.R.I.B.A., and although not elaborately ornamented is very complete in its appointments. Mr. W. Burt, of Launceston, is the contractor, and his work has given much satisfaction. The ceiling decorations are by Mr. Fouracre, of Stonehouse, and Mr. Hems, of Exeter, carved the window capitals. The ground around the hall has been tastefully laid out. The entrance gate to it is of wrought iron, from the architect's drawing, and is the gift of Bro. John Hawkins, the Secretary of the lodge. Bros. Trood gave the handsome tile pavement. The funds for the erection of the hall are being obtained through the exertions of the Dunheved Lodge, of which Bro. Thompson is the Treasurer. Bro. Deakin, of Werrington Park, has been one of the largest contributors.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—When rheumatism be comes chronic, and as it were fixed in a limb or part, it is truly a terrible enemy to encounter. The joints often become stiffened and excessively painful when obliged to be moved, or on exposure to changes of temperature, dampness, &c. Holloway's Ointment exercises a wonderful effect in alleviating this torture, for by its use the blood vessels of the part have their tone restored, and the irritated and painful nerves soothed and calmed. It must be persistently and perseveringly used, for the disorder is a most obstinate one, and will not yield unless resolutely attacked. These remedies will also be found to be most useful in cramps and muscular spasms.—A 97.

Masonic and General Tidings.

A quarterly General Court of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls will be held at Freemasons' Hall, on Saturday next the 14th inst., at 12 o'clock precisely, on the business of the Institution.

A silver tea service will be presented to our esteemed Bro. Fredk. Adlard, P.P.A.G.D. of C. for Essex, P.M. Lodges 7, 165 and P.Z. 214 at the next meeting of the Hampstead Lodge, No. 167, which will be held on Tuesday next. The presentation will be made in appreciation of Bro. Adlard's services as Director of Ceremonies for the period of twenty years, and has been subscribed for by the Past Masters and members of the lodge.

Bro. R. B. Webster intends bringing forward a motion that twenty-five additional girls be elected into the School at the Quarterly General Court of the Girls School on Saturday next.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—During the four days of the Handel Festival including the rehearsal on Friday) the total number of persons admitted to the Palace was 74,134—49,703 having been season ticket holders. Prince Leopold and Princess Beatrice were present at one of the performances.

In addressing the Grand Jury at the Hampshire Assizes Lord Coleridge said the Calendar was unusually heavy. Nearly all the cases were in consequence of disturbances begun in public-houses or actually committed there. His short experience on the Bench convinced him of the truth of what had been said by other judges, that if England were made sober nearly all the goals might be closed.

A telegram received at the Admiralty yesterday from Homburg announces that the satisfactory progress in the state of health of Bro. Ward Hunt still continues.

Lord Gifford, one of the judges of the Court of Session in Scotland, has consented to preside over the Jurisprudence Department, and the Lord Advocate over the Repression of Crime Section, at the ensuing congress at Aberdeen.

MADLE. TITIENS.—We regret to hear that since her arrival at Worthing Madlle. Titiens has been considerably worse. The gifted artiste, who has always had a great liking for Worthing, insisted on being removed there, but the journey appears to have been too much for her, and she is now in a very prostrate condition.—Medical Examiner.

In an age of commercial enterprise like the present, there seems really no limit to the amount of business a man may do, whatever his trade, if only he brings sufficient energy and integrity to bear on his conduct of affairs. There are few articles the consumption of which would seem to be more strictly limited than boots and shoes, as very few of us have more than one pair of feet. Yet we find that Messrs. Waukenphast and Co., who commenced business quite unknown in a small place in Pall Mall, have been enabled to open an establishment in the Haymarket, amply supplied with fitting rooms for ladies, gentlemen, and children, and certainly much handsomer than any other in the trade in London. A proof of success like this is not to be ignored, and can only fairly be attributed to the fact that Messrs. Waukenphast's customers have discovered and appreciated their undeviating principle of giving full value for money, and of making every article of the best quality.—Church Review.

THE ROBBERY OF MASONIC JEWELLERY.—At the Guildhall Police Court William Hurren, a respectable-looking young man, living at Swinton-street, Gray's-inn-road, a carpenter, was charged on remand before Mr. Alderman Staples with stealing a number of gold rings and Masonic jewellery to a very large amount from Bro. Kenning's warehouses, Little Britain.—The evidence previously given was read over, and Mr. Clark, who prosecuted, now said he wished to state that Mr. Bowman, of 193 and 291, Holloway-road, the pawnbroker with whom the greater portion of the property produced was found, had rendered them every assistance, and the prosecutor felt indebted to him for the recovery of the amount of property they were now able to produce. A quantity of Masonic and other jewellery was then produced, and identified as the property of the prosecutor.—The prisoner, who pleaded guilty, was committed for trial.

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.

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.

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 to ensure insertion in current week's issue 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.

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.

REMITTANCES RECEIVED.

Barnard, S. (India) P.O.O.	...	...	0	13	0
Beg, Rev. Dr. (New South Wales)	...	...	1	2	0
Borg, R. (Cairo)	...	...	0	16	0
Caruana, C. (Cairo)	...	...	1	1	6
Cunningham, P. (New Zealand)	...	...	0	6	6
Dillon, A. (India)	...	...	0	13	0
District Grand Lodge of Bombay	...	...	13	2	0
Faulkner, D. T. (New Zealand)	...	...	0	10	10
Fuller, A. J. (The Cape)	...	...	3	3	0
Haigh, F. (U.S.A.)	...	...	0	10	6
Hill, W. (New Zealand)	...	...	0	13	0
Masefield, R. B. (Buenos Ayres)	...	...	1	8	0
Meridian Lodge (The Cape)	...	...	0	10	0
Moore, G. (The Cape)	...	...	0	15	0
Smith, Jas. (U.S.A.)	...	...	1	6	0

"Our Luncheon" next week.

The following stand over:—Lodge Prudence, Plymouth, and Naval and Military Red Cross Conclave, Portsmouth.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

"Masonic Herald," "Voice of Masonry," "The Liberal Freemason," "Masonic Herald," "The Poet's Magazine," "Bauhütte," "The Freemason's Repository," "Keystone," "Where shall I get Most for my Money?" "The Westminster Papers."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

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

BIRTHS.

DAVIES.—On the 29th ult., at East Bourne, the wife of the Rev. R. V. E. Davies, of a son.

KERSHAW.—On the 30th ult., Mrs. J. Kershaw, of Park House, Willesden-lane, N.W., of a son.

MARRIAGE.

PRESTON[—WILSON.—On the 29th ult., at Brixton, Frederick Raglan, son of J. Preston, Esq., to Laura Margaret, daughter of T. H. Wilson, Esq.

DEATHS.

ALGER.—On the 28th ult., at Ford Park, Plymouth, Mary, wife of J. Alger, aged 77.

GRANT.—On the 1st inst., at Eaton-terrace, St. John's-wood, Jane, wife of J. W. Grant, aged 57.

STRACHAN.—On the 1st inst., at Dollar, N.B., Mrs. Sarah Strachan.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, JULY 7, 1877.

THE LAST BOYS' SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.

Bro. Binckes may pride himself on one great, if simple fact, that he has been privileged to announce the largest amount ever sent up to our Masonic Charities, viz., £13,248 17s. 6d., and which sum will yet probably be materially increased. Such an event is the best answer to all fears and forebodings in respect of declining sympathy, all assertions of a dissatisfied Craft. When we look back on the records of our Anniversary Charitable Festivals and realize what was the amount, say 20 years ago, the returns of the Stewards' lists must appear to us all to be little less than marvellous. They remind us more than anything of those fairy tales of wondrous growth and sudden increase which delighted us when young and have not lost all relish or interest for us now that we are ageing or old. They say nothing so convinces, nothing so affects us as an apposite illustration, so as we have one ready to hand, let us use it. In 1857, only twenty years ago, when some of us were in the heyday of youth, and in the full working energy of Masonic life, what amount did we return for our charities? What a sum do our readers suppose then represented our sympathy and support in respect of our great metropolitan institutions? Well, we look back to the *Freemasons' Magazine and Masonic Mirror* of those hardworking days, and what do we see there inscribed in those unerring records? In the good year of light and grace, 1857, our benevolent Order sent up to the three Charities the fraternal offering of £4,658 6s. 6d., of which the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution received £1,558 6s. 6d., the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls £1,900, termed by Lord Panmure "a munificent subscription," and hailed by "tremendous cheering," while the lists of the Stewards for the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys produced £1,200. In 1877, twenty years of Masonic life and labour have moved on, and we are privileged to announce that our most benevolent brotherhood contributes to the Boys' School alone over £3,000, and that the three Festivals have produced over £35,000 for the Charities. What more need we say or can we say? Comment appears to be needless, even eulogy to be impertinent. May we not feel great pride in belonging to a Fraternity, if singular in its organisation, yet so much more singular in its charities, as nearly to equal single-handed, all the returns of all the charitable societies which meet annually in this great Metropolis to keep their festal anniversaries, and to announce their long lists of subscriptions? Indeed, when we come to think over the matter, it is one which must commend itself entirely to the sympathies of the zealous Mason, and the interest of the acute philanthropist. Our charities are the real jewels of our Order, which shine in their own intrinsic worth, and deserve and demand the heartfelt sympathy and zealous regard of us all alike. That we have seen the limit of their usefulness, or efficiency, or that we have as yet gauged the fullness of Masonic support, we do not ourselves for one moment profess to believe, but we content ourselves to day with pointing out, what a subject of intense satisfaction and no little natural pride to every one of us must be the onward progress of our great Metropolitan Masonic Charities, whether evidenced by their ever increasing blessings for those whom they personally concern, as well as by the liberal measure of Masonic support conceded to them by a kindly yet a critical Craft. Our words can, then, only be words of unhesitating congratulation and commendation. We do not think it needful to-day to weary our readers with statistical details or elaborate comparisons, as we believe they rather weary than please, —bore than edify us all; alike those who write them, as well as those for whom they are written. Indeed, we are sometimes inclined to think we have too much of this sort of "numerical jumble," which a "fellar can't be supposed to understand," and that it is, after all perhaps, not a

little invidious to set provinces against metropolis, or lodge against lodge. For to say the truth, though such a calculation, (which we have often indulged in ourselves, by the way), may seem very simple and straight sailing, yet it is by no means so. Many little matters and many hidden causes affect largely this or that subscription list, and very often even a smaller return of donations shows more sacrifice, and betokens more exertions to the discerning and well-informed, than does the larger amount which is read out so eloquently, and sounds so well at the Festival, and looks so well in the *Freemason*. So we shall not trouble our kindly readers to-day with a comparison of figures obvious in themselves, or any repetition of trite remarks or oft-used illustrations, but simply and gladly announce how great has been the return for the last Boys' School Anniversary Festival, congratulating as we do the executive and Bro. Binckes on a result so remarkable in itself, so advantageous to the School, so significant of the true spirit of charity lingering amongst us, and, above all, so creditable to our good old Craft.

CHARITY ORGANISATION.

We wish we could think that all this superabundance of Charity Organisation enquiry and reform was doing any good. It appears to us, on the contrary, that it is now assuming the appearance almost of a hindrance to genuine charity, a parody on professions of sympathy, a stumbling-block to efforts of relief. We called attention some time back to a case which distressed all humane persons, when a poor fellow creature was "buffeted about" from office to office, in absolute want of the necessities of life, was referred here, and sent there, and, though positively starving, was smothered simply with a plethora of "red tape," and when he asked for "bread," got only a "stone" in return. We then ventured to say, in the discharge of our duty as honest journalists, that we were convinced that Charity Organisation was being carried to excess, that, as often happens here, disapproval of certain abuses (no doubt) was leading amiable and well-meaning persons into the opposite extreme of superfluous routine and superabundant circumlocution; the laxity of the past was giving way rapidly to a hyper-precisianism in the present, and that the only effect would be that while rogues and swindlers continued to ply their avocation with success, the really honest, those truly in want, would be discouraged, and suffer accordingly. And surely the case of Captain Williams is a proof of the truth of our remarks, and fears, and a sad commentary on what we may term (without offence) official "fluffiness," and an "amateur bumble-dom," which apparently are on the increase. We give every credit to those excellent individuals who have sought to remedy existing defects in our charitable system, to reform proved abuses, but we fear that in their ardour, and we must add, want of acquaintance with the real depth of the question involved, they are in practice making the word charity a misnomer, and actual relief a pompous profession. The operations of these well-meaning but unpractical persons, and of these numerous societies, appear to be drying up the sources of personal charity and direct relief, and affording a happy means of escape from a great and bounden duty, to the selfish and the sybarite, and substituting in the stead of a liberal if too sentimental charity, an enormous amount of needless officialism and hopeless technicalities. For what is the case of Captain Williams? Captain Williams was an officer and a gentleman, unable to find work, and who died in a workhouse, friendless and forlorn, too proud to "beg," but not ashamed to "dig." His wife and children followed suit, poor creatures. Though a lady, and the daughter of a clergyman, she was compelled to pawn her wedding ring to provide bread for her starving children. They applied to these charitable associations, but it seems, we are told, from some "technical difficulties," in vain, and to say the truth, whether intended or not, as some of our contemporaries have remarked, the *Times* and

Globe, their curt and peculiar announcements would seem to imply that "there was something behind," and so close the perennial fountains of public charity and sympathy. Luckily for poor Mrs. Williams and the orphans, an independent medical man and some friendly ladies took up the case, and having by a careful inquiry ascertained that there was no truth in some foolish and some unfounded statements of some inferior agents, have raised a small sum of money, taken her out of the workhouse, and have placed her and her children in a comfortable home. It is most touching to be told that one of the first acts of this benevolent committee, was to enable the poor woman to take her wedding ring out of pawn, so as to enable her to follow her poor husband to a pauper's grave. We rejoice to think that some medical men and some ladies were so sympathetic and so independent as not to be deterred by an assumed authority, or intimidated by a dogmatic officialism, as to look into the whole matter themselves calmly and reasonably, fully and dispassionately, and so be able to arrive at a conclusion, at which all who have not quite forgotten yet the sublime teaching of the great parable of the "Good Samaritan," will be glad to hear of, and be ready to endorse. In all these matters, as it seems to us, that noble profession which has rendered such priceless services to cosmopolitan humanity,—we mean the medical profession—has a great duty to perform and to fulfil. Intelligent and educated, liberal-minded and tolerant, humanitarian and religious, it ought and generally does set itself above the mere "ipse dixit" whether of sciolist or quack, the "nostrum" of the impostor or the "high falutin" of the "wind-bag." It is enabled, perhaps, better than any other profession, to discern the difference as between assumption and proof, between assertion and fact, between suspicion and certainty, between appearance and actuality, for it bases its correct Diagnosis on a skilful induction of connecting evidence, evidence which laps over, so to say, in the ever lengthening chain of scientific accuracy, and rejects what is either uncertain or incorrect, unsound or untrue per se. We rejoice, then, to think, we repeat, that amidst so much that is utterly unsound and unscientific to-day, so marked by a want of logic and the noisy utterances of "charlatanism," there are those amongst us who will manfully seek in the best interests of society, to separate the true from the false, the outside show from the inner reality, and thus are enabled alike to vindicate the dignity of a great profession and the cause of our common and suffering humanity. So important is the whole subject now, for many reasons, that we propose next week to enter into the whole question of personal charity, and we may add that Dr. Cotton, 33, Cavendish-square, will receive subscriptions for Mrs. Williams and her family, and that the "Haven of refuge" which, through Miss Rotch's kindness, has so properly given shelter to Mrs. Williams and her children, is the House of Charity, No. 1, Greek-street, Soho.

THE EARTHQUAKES IN PERU.

FROM A CORRESPONDENT.

At present everything here is in a state of excitement, owing to the late earthquakes, and tidal waves, that we have been visited with along the whole West Coast of Peru and Bolivia. No damage of any account has happened to Lima and Callao, but south of here, all along the coast, there has been a fearful cataclysm, great loss of property and life. To convey an idea of the sad catastrophies, I will give you the following extracts from W.M. Neill, of "Antofoyesta," and Brother W.M. Pendavis, of Tocopilla, where we have a lodge in each place.

Bro Neill says: "Antofoyesta, 12th May, 1877.—On the 9th, at half-past 8 p.m., we were visited by the most severe terremoto earthquake that has ever been felt on the coast. The old residents that are used to them say that they never felt anything like it before, and that it was far more violent than that of 1868, which destroyed Aircá and Puyqui, which drove the U.S. war steamer Wahrei ashore three miles from the beach. I tried to get my children out of bed, and could not stand on my feet, the oscillation was so violent; however, I succeeded in getting them into the street, where there was a cry of "the Sea, the sea is coming in on us." I did not believe it at first, but, true it was, and we had to run for our lives just as we were. The excitement was frightful, the night unac-

countably dark, and the shrieks of the people running away, and calling on anyone to save them, made it a scene impossible to forget. In half an hour the town was all deserted, and the hills full of people. After leaving my wife and family in the hospital, I went back to see the state of things, and found the whole of the business part of it washed away, houses lifted right up with all their contents and carried away, and, in one or two instances, some of such a size that it was almost impossible to believe or realize it. I thought it was all over, but at 12 p.m. another tidal wave, much longer, and not preceded by any shock, came in and completed the destruction, and we are left in a sad state. The upper part of the town is uninjured, but the whole of the lower is gone. If the houses had been built of stone, brick, or adobe, I am certain every one must have fallen, for not one could have stood the shocks. All are of wood, and this has saved us. Since the night of the shock, we have had at least 100 slight ones, with occasionally a sharp one; in fact, the ground is continually shaking, and what is strange, the sea has repeatedly rose and returned again, but fortunately not in sufficient volume to do any harm.

"About 150 miles from here in a direct line with this place, a volcano is in violent eruption, which has not happened for the last hundred years, and I feel certain is in direct communication with the part of the ocean where the convulsion commenced."

May 22th.—"Since my last about the earthquake, nothing from you, in fact it is some time since I have seen your welcome hand-writing, I hear that Causo has also been affected by a tidal wave; when I heard this I at once thought of your establishments, which are most unpleasantly near the beach, I hope nothing has occurred. All this part of the coast has been ruined, Pabellox de Pica, Tocopilla, Cobija, and Mejellones de Bolivia completely washed away, and other ports like Antofoyesta considerably damaged, every five or ten minutes there is a shock, and occasionally a pretty big one. I hope it will soon stop.

"The poor Tocopilla friends have suffered more than all, their lodge was washed away with charter, constitutions, furniture and everything, all now are gone out to sea; Pendenshaw is completely gone, not a vestige remains, he had time only to save life, losing instruments, diploma, medicines, &c. I at once sent him a case containing instruments, &c., which he writes has been a God-send, he also sends me the sad news that Bro. W. Wiggins, one of the founders of the lodge there, and a member of ours, has perished in a mine with seventeen others, the mine falling in on them, in addition to these fifty others were buried but got out alive, all having broken bones, these have come to me to attend, as there are no houses in Tocopilla. I am going to hold a Masonic festival service to the memory of the brethren.

"Directly I heard of the losses of the brethren of Mejellones de Bolivia, Cobija, and Tocopilla, I sent from the funds of the lodge two large cases of ready-made clothing, as none escaped with more than what they stood in, I called at once a meeting to consider what should be done, I proposed to invest all the funds of the lodge in the immediate relief of the sufferers, which was carried, and 800 dols. handed to the commissioner for this purpose, as well as a subscription list opened to assist all the inhabitants from the above mentioned places that have come to Antofoyesta, which have been distributed amongst the families here. I have my house full. The loss will be fearful and it will take a long time to recover from it. Our Treasurer's house was completely washed away as he lived near the sea shore, all the books, accounts, &c., besides about two hundred dollars of the lodge has gone with the tidal wave."

A. J. ED. H. NEILL, Master.

"Tocopilla, May 17th, 1877.
To the Grand Master of Grand Lodge of Peru.

"Dear Sir and Brother,—I have the painful duty of informing you that the earthquake of the 9th inst. caused the total ruin of this most prosperous part of the whole coast. Last Wednesday night, at eight p.m., while working in lodge and all the brethren but Bro. Wiggins being present, we had a fearful earthquake which destroyed the whole town, and immediately after a tidal wave, which washed the wreck completely away."

"The mines in this district have suffered greatly, in one of the "Buena Esperanza" seventeen lives were lost, and amongst them our beloved brother William Wiggins. The dispensation of the lodge has been swept away with my house, together with all my effects, both professional and domestic, which I had therein, all the funds and charity fund of the lodge were lost with the Treasurer's house. As soon as we can write with more tranquillity I will do so at more length. For the present farewell.

"The lodge house is saved, the misery and destitution here are frightful.

Truly yours, WILLIAM FREDERIC PENDAVIS.

W.M. Union and Esperanza Lodge, No. 20.

Having given you these extracts, we feel confident that our brethren at home will not forget us in our hour of need and misfortune as the hearts of our countrymen have ever been open to relieve the calamities of suffering humanity.

The Grand Lodge of Peru has done all that lays in its power to help the sufferers, and she now appeals through your columns to her sister lodges of the world.

Subscriptions can be forwarded direct to Edward H. Neill, M.D., Antofoyesta; William F. Pendavis, M.D., Tocopilla; Messrs. Wholy Brothers, Lima, Peru.

Yours fraternally, ARTHUR N. WHOLY,
Grand Master of Grand Lodge of Peru.

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.]

TALL TALK.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

As a regular reader of the *Freemason* I have to congratulate you sincerely on the marked absence from your pages of anything like tall talk, high falutin, "bunkum" or sensationalism, which are so popular just now. Not that you are dull, or that the reader has to wade through (as Mr. Slurk had) bathos and boredom, and ungrammatical twaddle combined, but you very properly eschew that pernicious and mournful egotism which can only think, talk, or write about Number One. I am very much amused to note, when one has to deal with a very different sort of literature, how much is often made of "zero," what a great deal may be said about what "I" or "we" have done for Masonry. In nothing is this so conspicuous or so detestable, I venture to think, as in the case of the Masonic charities. With regard to these noble institutions we continually read and listen to the effusions (and such effusions) of those, who, if you believe them, have done for those valued institutions what no one else has ever done or ever thought of doing.

Now, like many very humble and modest brethren, I have for years been a zealous friend of our great metropolitan charities in my lesser orbit, but I don't think it worth while to be always proclaiming what I have accomplished. There are many of our brethren just now to whom if you listen you would suppose that until they burst into Masonic life, and adorned the festive scene, nothing had ever been done for the charities, whereas long even before they were born or thought of, good workers and true Masons had put their hand to the plough.

There is one consolation for us stout middle-aged old fogies, often walking lame, and usually somewhat bald, that even the sleekest of jackdaws can only have their day, and must, sooner or later, find their level. We, who were workers when they were troublesome little boys in bottle-green trousers and brass buttons, and may now seem to be eclipsed by their pretentious splendour, know well that, depend upon it, dear sir and brother, humbug and parade always have a Nemesis here, in that, in their turn these "tall talkers" will be succeeded by still more aspiring heroes, who will vote them "slow coaches," "bad form," "obsolete," and "out of the running."

Excuse a bad bilious attack, which threatens gout, and believe me,

Yours, always fraternally,

H. M.

CHARITY LOTTERIES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In your last number is a letter with the above heading, which is worthy of notice if only on account of the good taste, and absence of all acrimonious feeling, displayed by the writer in dealing with a subject regarded by him from an unfavourable point of view.

The objections entertained by "W. F." to the scheme of Bro. Constable are, in my opinion, exaggerated and untenable, and—though I entertain no hope of being able to modify or remove them—seem to me to require a few words in reply.

1. The essence of "gambling," as I interpret it, is to incur a risk of loss in the hope of personal gain, the repetition of which—whatever the issue—gradually becomes an indulgence more or less habitual, and ultimately an exciting necessity. This element is entirely wanting in such a scheme as that under censure by your correspondent. 210 brethren desire to support an institution, but their means are not equal to their desire. They deposit one shilling each. The individual shilling secures no qualification, but multiplied by 210, a governorship with two votes for life is obtained. Who is to enjoy the privilege? The question is solved in the easiest possible manner by a "draw." The winner is satisfied, and the 209 are well pleased that by a harmless combination they have contributed to the support of a deserving institution, which has "charity" for its obj. ct.

2. I do not deem it necessary to enter on the discussion of maxims, "Jesuit" or otherwise, and I contend that in the practice under consideration there is no tampering with morality, Masonic or general. The end in view is simply the organisation of a fund by small donations, which, when realised, shall be presented for a given purpose in the names of certain donors to be determined by lot. How the "laws of public prosperity and general duty" are affected by this, I confess passes my comprehension.

As regards success or non-success, the principle involved is not touched in either event. As, however, "nothing succeeds like success," it is encouraging to Bro. Constable, and gratifying to all, as evidencing the fact of considerable approval, that by the adoption of the scheme of that energetic brother the funds of our Benevolent Institution profited by £100 in 1874; of the Girls' School by £189 in 1875; of the Boys' School in the present year by £488. I could unrepiningly bear stricter censure than I feel confident "W. F." is prepared to bestow on Bro. Constable if I could point to such a result.

3. Admitted that some contributors with ample means do succeed in obtaining the qualifications in a "Charity Lottery," where is the objection? They have subscribed to encourage others to do the same, and gladly accept what honestly falls to them, and again, I am unable to recognise the "hazardous juxta position" to which "W. F." alludes. The concluding paragraph of your correspondent's letter, is couched in terms so thoroughly liberal and

fraternal, that it is really a matter of regret to find oneself at issue with him. Differences of opinion must exist, and I would fain hope that none more serious than those between "W. F." and Bro. Constable and his numerous supporters may exist amongst those associated in Masonic work. However imperfectly I have expressed my opinions in reply to "W. F.," I have yielded to an inclination to say a few words on a vexed question.

In conclusion, I must in all candour admit that I have done my best to aid Bro. Constable in his arduous and disinterested labours, and ask permission to express, through your columns, my sincere appreciation of his zeal and energy.

I am, dear Sir and Brother,
Yours faithfully and fraternally,
FREDERICK BINCKES.

July 2, 1877.

THE RESPECTIVE COLUMNS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

If Bro. "J. C." will look at his G.L. certificate he will see there the three columns, and at the foot of the Ionic the square; of the Doric, the level; of the Corinthian, the plumb-rule; thus showing to whom each is authoritatively appropriated; but let him more especially hear the First Lecture, Fourth Section.

Faithfully and fraternally yours,

H. S. T.

DEISM, THE GRAND ORIENT OF FRANCE AND THE GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

During the last few months many letters and articles have been published in your journal, as well as in other Masonic papers, on the essentiality of the belief in God as the principal pillar in Freemasonry. If I am not mistaken, it has been proposed not to acknowledge the Grand Orient of France and its subordinate lodges in case the paragraph in question of the constitution of the alleged Grand Power should be erased.

Now there occurs something very remarkable. There is the Grand Lodge of Hungary, who have only a few months ago altered their rituals, and made them obligatory to the subordinate lodges, in such a manner as to strike out and not to leave the slightest remembrance of the Great Architect or God; neither is it to be found in the new rituals any prayer, so much so that the matter has been made an object of discussion recently in the Grand Lodge of Hamburg.

The Grand Lodge of England having only a short time ago exchanged representations with the Grand Lodge of Hungary, ought to know all that, and, therefore, without entering into the merits of the question at issue, it strikes me that something should be considered wrong in France which is right in Hungary.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

FAIR PLAY.

ENCOURAGEMENT FOR THE LADIES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I see by your last issue that the ladies are rapidly rising in favour with the Craft, and the converse will assuredly as rapidly follow. Our excellent and energetic Bro. Binckes is in favour of "good innovations," and therefore introduced ladies to the last banquet. Good, say I. Bro. Binckes, however, is far outbid by some of our brethren in the north. To wit, it appears from a report in the last number of the *Freemason* that not only was the out-going Master of a certain lodge presented with a costly Past Master's jewel, "enriched with a diamond and specially made to order," but that the members of the same lodge were "about to present a magnificent diamond ring" to the wife of the said P.M. It is a matter of regret that your report does not state what this highly esteemed lady has done for the Craft; however, we may rest assured that she merits the distinction.

Yours fraternally,

DELTA.

THE PRINTED REPORT OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE OF THE BOYS' SCHOOL, AND THE EXPENDITURE FOR 1876.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I see no notice in your careful and accurate paper of this report, which I am told is printed, distributed, and published. I am anxious to see it, as I want to offer you a few friendly remarks respecting it. How is it that you have not yet received it?

Yours fraternally,

A LIFE-GOVERNOR.

[We know nothing about it officially, and no copy of it has been forwarded to us. When we receive it we will duly notice it for our correspondent's information, and we shall be happy to publish his friendly remarks. It is, no doubt, odd that the *Freemason* has not received a copy of a report "printed, distributed, and published;" but then so many queer things take place that we are astonished at nothing.—E.V.]

MASONIC LOTTERIES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I have read "W. F.'s" letter and agree with him in the main, but should like to hear what is or can be said on the other side. By the way, can you explain what is the exact proportion of "premium" in respect of payments of prizes to tickets? I am not, I confess, quite able to master the published statements, or to understand them (probably my own fault) arithmetically.

I am, yours fraternally,

T. S.

BROTHER SHAKESPEARE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

As it may interest some of your Masonic archaeologists and book collectors, I beg to send you the following "cutting" from the *Times* of July 4.—"From the Library of Mr. W. Wentworth Buller, sold last week by Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson, and Hodge, an imperfect copy of the first edition, 1623, printed by Isaac Jaggard and Edward Blount, containing the portrait by Droeshout, but the verses of Ben Jonson and a portion of the last leaf fac-similed, measuring 12½ in. by 8½ in., sold for £42; another, the edition of 1632, Thomas Cotes for Robert Allot, a fine copy, but the title in fac-simile, and the verses, sold for £8; another, printed for C.P., 1664, 'the third impression, and unto this is added seven plays never before printed in folio,' a fine copy, with portrait, and verses beneath, considered to be very rare, as nearly the entire impression was burnt in the fire of London, £28. Sir William Tite's copy of this edition sold for £79. Another, the fourth edition, printed for H. Herringman, E. Brewster, and R. Bentley, 1685; portrait, and verses beneath—£15 5s. All of these, however, were more or less imperfect. A copy of the 'Romeo and Juliet,' printed by Thomas Crede for Cuthbert Burby, 1599, the title and other parts fac-similed, sold for £6 10s. 'Much Ado about Nothing,' first edition, printed for Andrew Wise and William Apsley, 1600, title page genuine, but several leaves supplied in fac-simile—£10 15s. This copy formerly belonged to Sir W. Tite, who paid £63 for it. Mr. G. Daniel's perfect copy sold for £267 15s.

Yours fraternally,

A LOVER OF SHAKESPEARE.

CONSTANCY AND TRUTH.

"As turns the needle trembling to the pole
It ne'er can reach—so turns to you my soul."

Of all the qualities woven together in the human breast none approach in dignity and power that of truth. It is, as is written, a Divine attribute—the fundamental principle of every virtue, and prevails over all things. It adds grandeur to a man's life to know that he is true, and the shafts of envy, hatred, malice, and all uncharitableness, fall impotently before it.

The ancients who worshipped their deity, Fides, knew it above all things, and it is mercifully decreed the heirloom of the rich and the poor alike, so that whether we look at the two opposite principles of truth and falsehood in a simply worldly light, or view them in a religious sense, we see how closely they are knitted into and allied with every man's existence, forming in fact the very basis of his whole conduct.

It is given as a text of diplomacy that the acme of perfection in a good diplomat's dispatches is to clothe his expressions with the semblance of facts, but at the same time carefully conceal the truth, and by this astute and wily policy hold the vantage ground of his opponent in the finesse of governments. This plan, we regret, is not confined to official use, but permeates through all society, assuming various names and phrases as suits the wearer, being generally clothed in ambiguity or plastered on the conscience as a thing of no great harm, and only a white lie, because "it is not policy (you know) to tell the truth at all times."

The idiom that "truth is stranger than fiction" is not an exaggeration, and we may with propriety say that to the conventionalities of social life can be attributed a great amount of lying—that sort of thing which the amenities of cultivated society recognise and admit, albeit it is lying as profound as was ever invented by Lucifer himself. Such are the expressions of every-day courtesy, "I am very glad to see you," and "I hope you are in good health," &c., which generally mean diametrically opposite to that they express.

As the normal condition of moral government, truth is the sole pioneer that elevates it to the standard of perfection and gives it power over the community, just as individual men are rendered happy or miserable, respected or despised, by the possession or the absence of it. The golden rule, to be contented is to be true, and every man should inscribe the legend on the lintel of his door, "Let all the ends thou aim'st at be thy Country's, thy God's, and Truth's."

Everybody hates, or professes to hate, inconstancy, and therefore it would seem reasonable to suppose that all would be sincere; but, alas! such is not the case, and those who apostrophise truth the most are apt to be as wavering, insincere, and venial as those who profess not at all.

There is nothing so becomes a man and elevates him in the opinion of his fellow men as the dignity of honour, and honour is the very soul of truth, for it guards his footsteps through every pathway of his life and keeps his name unblemished and unsullied. That the origin of truth is Divine is plainly shown in every page of Holy Writ, and the wonderful declaration, through the mouth of the prophet Haggai, that Zerubbabel will be made as a signet of truth, is a proof that the Most High had chosen him.

Perhaps there is nothing in language that illustrates the almighty force and power of truth so touchingly as the exquisite little poem (written by Theodore Tilton) of the King's Ring, in which was—

"Graved a maxim true and wise,
Which, if held before his eyes,
Gave him counsel at a glance
Fit for every change or chance;
Solemn words, these are they:
Even this shall pass away!"

And while we are alluding to the subject of rings, it may not be inappropos to refer to a curious gem owned by the

hero of George Fawcett Rowe's American Comedy of "Brass" (which is shortly to be presented to the public), in which Waiton Stray indulges in falsehoods ad-infinitum, and of so glaring a character, that the effrontery of the liar is clear to every body except himself, and thus the moral is complete.

It is related that one of the Gregory's possessed a wondrous sapphire ring which he constantly wore, and it ceased to be pellucid, and became opaque, on the approach of sickness or any danger; but it is not necessary for man to be guarded and forewarned by any earthly gem, however rare and beautiful, as he has that within—the silent monitor, the true faith and trust in God, if he lives and walks uprightly.

The circle, the level, and the perpendicular must be true, else the whole fabric of the builder is untrue and the workmen at fault; so morally men's lives must be gauged by the standards of constancy and truth or they are useless and misspent. Every man must be firm as was Caesar when, in the Senate, close approaching the fatal moment of his murder, he declares himself to be "constant as the northern star," and dies constant too.

But the grand secret is to apply the principles of truth to every act of our daily lives, and although there be those who "assume a virtue if they have it not!" let men be sure that the talisman of truth is the only safeguard to an honourable and upright career, for it is this character in a man which will ensure his prosperity here and his eternal happiness hereafter.

It is not necessary to make vain search for truth; it is written everywhere on the face of Creation—all celestial and terrestrial things proclaim the harmony and regularity of their Divine Creator, and shall man, "vain man," foolishly turn to the path of sorrow and refuse comfort? We sincerely hope not.

The sublime beauty of truth is that it requires no herald, no adventitious aid. It is found deep in every man's heart if he will but plough down and find it, nor need he grope blindly for it "in a well."

ALFRED WELDEN.

Reviews.

"The Poet's Magazine." No. 1, Vol. 2. By ARTHUR MOXON.

We are much pleased with this agreeable candidate for public favour, and think the idea a good one, per se, and one which deserves to be highly commended. There is much good poetry, and much real poetry in these pleasant pages, and we only wish that our space permitted us to give one or two extracts for our readers. We have forwarded to the editor of the *Masonic Magazine* one or two specimens as evidence of a felicitous muse, and we refer our readers to the work itself as very wholesome reading, amid so much that is trivial, tiresome, and uninteresting today. They will be pleased, we feel sure, with such welcome toil.

"English Banners and Flags," &c.

We think it right to call attention to this carefully compiled illustrated catalogue which our worthy publisher has put out, and to commend to the notice of our readers and the trade. It is admirably illustrated, and will make all who peruse it feel what an amount of energy and business transactions are included in such an "Illuminated Handbook." All friendly and benefit societies, from bleating Shepherds down to jovial Gardeners, to say nothing of Foresters, Buffaloes, Odd Fellows, and Comical Chaps, will be able to have their artistic tastes fully gratified and their decorative ambition happily accommodated.

The "Liberal Freemason." 223, Washington-street, Boston, U.S.

We have read the third number of this new candidate for Masonic support with great satisfaction, and we can safely call the attention of our readers to it. We trust that it will be well supported by our brethren in Massachusetts, and that its painstaking editor may not have to complain, as so many do, of useless labours and profitless pursuits.

The "Voice of Masonry." Chicago and New York. Edited by Bros. J. W. BROWN and ALBERT G. MACKEY.

This excellent American Masonic magazine keeps up its high reputation. We always peruse it with pleasure and profit, and we heartily wish it all success, and a remunerative circle of appreciative readers.

POLITICS AGAIN.

We read in the "Chaine d'Union" for July that the French Lodge "Orient de Gaillac," already rendered notorious by its deliberate disobedience to the Constitutions of the Grand Orient, has been closed by authority, in consequence of a very foolish and regrettable act on its part. It seems that the lodge, which must have "têtes exaltées" and "irreconcilables" in its ranks, judging from its acts, has thought well openly to express its opinions on the great political question, and openly to blame the Government of the day, though a Masonic lodge.

We need hardly point out to our readers the absurdity and illegality of such a proceeding, and can only say that, in our opinion, any lodge that so far forgets itself and the duty and teachings of Freemasonry, deserves to be closed by authority.

CONSECRATION OF THE PAXTON LODGE (No. 1686).

The Paxton Lodge (1686) was consecrated last Saturday afternoon, at the Crystal Palace, Sydenham. The Consecrating Officer was the Worshipful Bro. H. E. Frances, P.M., Past Provincial Senior Grand Deacon, Surrey. Bro. Frances was assisted by the Very Worshipful Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, Past Grand Chaplain, who acted as Chaplain for the occasion. The Senior Warden's chair was allotted to the Worshipful Bro. Magnus Ohren, Past Provincial Junior Grand Deacon, and the Junior Warden's chair to Bro. W. J. Foster, J.W. 19; Bro. F. Taylor, P.M. 933, acted as Director of Ceremonies. The list of brethren who were present at the consecration of the lodge comprised the following—J. M. Klenck, F. W. Goddard, C. H. Benham, F. J. Sawyer, W. H. Boswell, R. E. Woodhams, H. E. Francis, F. J. Lancaster, P.M. 1194; F. Taylor, P.M. 933; W. J. Foster, J.W. 19; A. M. Bethune, 1397; Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C.; R. Brooker, S.D. 1269; H. Massey, 619 (*Freemason*); Theo. Distin, 173; J. Large, 771; Magnus Ohren, P.M. 33; G. W. Dodd, 171; W. Morgan, 1385; N. J. F. Basnett, W.M. 1339; H. Wood, P.M. 1269; J. W. Lassam, W. S. 742; and G. T. Carter, P.M. 145. Bro. C. S. Jekyll, P.M. 1319, presided at the harmonium, and with Bros. G. T. Carter, P.M. 145; Theodore Distin, 173; and J. Large, 771, rendered the musical portion of the service.

Bro. Frances, after opening lodge in the Three Degrees, in a few words explained to the brethren the object of the gathering, and then proceeded with the initial formalities, as far as the delivery of the oration.

The oration was delivered by the Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C., who said: W.M., Wardens and Brethren,—I have accepted your very kind request to be present here to-day, and I thank you for the honour that you have done me in permitting me to officiate upon an occasion on which, looking at the situation of the lodge, many of its members being familiar faces to me, some for many years, I feel a peculiar interest in being present, and I greatly regret that I cannot remain till the conclusion of the day's proceedings, owing to a matter which I have mentioned to your W.M. designate. Brethren, I do not at all wonder that the lodge which meets in this place, and under the shadow of this magnificent building, should have been called by the name of one who was personally known to many amongst yourselves, and to myself amongst the number, and whose name has been, and will for ever be, associated with this great building. I think that name will supply a keynote to my humble remarks to-day. Paxton was essentially a self-made man. He was the architect of his own fortune, and was one of those men who have illustrated the theory of self-help in a very remarkable way. He has made his mark upon the generation in which he lived; he has done a work, a great work, and passed to his rest; and in doing that work I am sure my brethren who knew him will confirm my word when I say that he not only did it with all the zeal and energy of a character that was bent upon doing whatever he took in hand with all his might, but that honours never spoiled him; he was the same man till his death—the same conscientious, unobtrusive, kind, amiable character that he was when he was the gardener of Chatsworth. Brethren, I shall not dilate further upon this particular subject; but rather would I take from it this fact, that though we may not all be born to such honours as he attained to; though we may not have the great work to do which gave a signal illustration to his name, we are every one of us, under God, self-made men; in other words, we are each gifted with power, under God's Providence, to make ourselves that which we ought to be, high-minded, truthful, temperate, industrious, and noble-minded men, doing a certain duty in this life before passing on to another. And our admirable and beautiful system supplies us by illustration with the implements by which we, as architects of our own fortunes, may work. We are told that the twenty-four inch gauge points out to us the many great duties we have as Masons, more especially our duties to God, our neighbour, and ourselves. A part of our time is to be dedicated to that exercise which naturally suggests that we are men who have a religion, and look to a Supreme God and to a life to come. But it tells us too that there is a time for labour, and we are born to labour—that we must not expect God to do everything for us while we sit with folded hands; but that we are bound to do our duty in that state of life to which he has been pleased to call us with assiduity and zeal. In that labour we have no uninstructional implements by which to work. The chisel reminds us of that education which is one of the first labours of man; and I venture here to record what I heard an ex-Lord Chancellor say who is now living: "I think that the education which my father gave me has been under God the means which has led me to this high position; and I am more thankful for that than if he had left me £100,000." Nay, brethren, I am very much inclined to think that the man who is architect of his own fortunes, and who has earned his own way to his position, whatever it may be, is more likely to use well those gifts of God in the shape of wealth than the man who has inherited them from others. I have known many eloquent illustrations of this in my short experience. But not only may the labour of education be employed, but you know, brethren, that all have labours in other directions. We have labours to be undertaken in our ordinary duties in life. We have labour in connection with our families, with those dependent upon us; and we have work to do in relation to our fellow-men which teaches us at once that we are not to live for ourselves alone but for others. But we must labour on the square, we must labour like men who honestly believe that there is an All-seeing eye, and must comport ourselves in His presence as those who will have to give an account. If we act upon that

golden rule—"to do to others as we would that they should do unto us"—which is probably one of the best moral definitions of the square, I believe we shall not find ourselves far from either happiness here or in the future. And with it we must have the plumb rule, justness and uprightness of life. Without that men cannot get on; and not a day passes that the records of our public papers do not show that the absence of that justness and uprightness of life is bringing many and many a man gifted by God both with a good heart as well as with good wealth, to poverty and ruin. With the skirret indicating the line of rectitude, and that perseverance with which we should go on with the line, however long, that God gives us, teaching us the boundries within which we should work, our labour, I say, in such a case and with such instruments, may be brought to a successful issue. But we are not only to have labour, but refreshment. Ay, brethren, a good and gracious God watches and smiles upon us, and does not wish us to be morose, to be mournful, to be sad. True religion, you and I know is the most blessed and cheerful thing in the world; and therefore it is that refreshment in the shape of innocent pleasure has been given us by a good God; and unhappy is he who preaches any other doctrine. But we must use the compass—keep within compass. There, again, another implement teaches us our duty, and every one of us pretty well know what the meaning of that term is with the many engagements we have, both from within and from without. But we are to serve a brother in distress; there is a time for that. And here, brethren, I need not point out to you how admirably our Order supplies us with the exercise of this virtue. Not only in our noble charities, but also in the walks of life, in our own lodges, in the various ways, in fact, in which we meet with our fellow men, there is always an opportunity of showing how we can serve a brother in distress; for depend upon it there are few years in our life that we have not an opportunity of meeting with brethren who need our help—I do not say pecuniary aid; but [there are many ways—a kind word, a kind act, a kind recommendation, a thousand ways in which we may assist our brethren in distress, in a world which is, alas! too full of fluctuation and misery. Depend upon it, the brother who thus has the satisfaction of helping another is not without his reward, even in the consciousness of having done his duty. And, brethren, lastly, there are the gavel and the pencil—the gavel tells us that in addition to the volume of the Sacred Law there is the light of conscience, which is a reflection of God's image in the soul, teaching us how to use every implement with which God has gifted us. This conscience that often "makes cowards of us all" is one of the grandest guides under a good Providence to lead us to the Grand Lodge above. And let us not forget the pencil that is recording in the great book that which the workmen do. If we bear that in mind, brethren, depend upon it many a word of unkindness, many a word perhaps of worse description, would be strangled upon the lips; many and many an act of either bitterness or hastiness would be at once dropped; nay, many a thought would be excluded from the heart and mind if we remembered that that pencil is recording that which is contrary to the Divine Law, and on the other hand recording what we do that is "well pleasing" to Him and storing for us that reward which shall fade not away. I doubt not, brethren, that this lodge, formed under these auspices, formed also of Masons who will, no doubt, give a tone to its future—will go on and prosper—a tone of noble and lofty sentiment, a tone suggestive of dutiful work, and a tone of that charitable and gentlemanly kind which tends to foster those amenities of life which soften our intercourse with human kind, and teach us not only how to live ourselves, but afford an example to others. I say with such a tone and such a prospect I doubt not, W.M., that the Paxton Lodge will not only endure, but flourish, from generation to generation. (Cheers.)

At the conclusion of this oration Bro. Frances proceeded with the consecration, and formally dedicated the lodge to Freemasonry. He then installed Bro. J. M. Klenck P.M., 1339, as Master of the lodge. The brethren invested as officers of the lodge were Bros. F. W. Goddard, S.W.; C. H. Benham, J.W.; Charles Hammerton, P.M. 1330, Treasurer; H. E. Frances, Secretary; F. G. Sawyer, S.D.; W. H. Boswell, J.D.; R. D. Woodhams, I.G.; and Radford, Tyler.

The S.W. proposed, and the J.W. seconded, the election of Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson as an honorary member of the lodge; and the motion having been unanimously adopted, the rev. brother said he had already trespassed so long on the brethren's attention that he would be very ungrateful indeed if he did not content himself with merely saying he appreciated the very high compliment they had paid him by electing him an honorary member. He hoped he would have opportunities afforded him by relaxation from his duties elsewhere, of attending the meetings of the lodge.

The W.M. then invested Bro. Simpson as Chaplain of the lodge, and on the motion of the S.D., seconded by the J.D., Bro. James Coward, Past Grand Organist, was appointed Organist of the lodge.

Bro. Frances read a list of brethren from whom he had received letters of apology for inability to attend the consecration of the lodge. The names of these brethren were Alderman Hadley, Dr. Stirling, Sir John Bennett, Col. Burdett, General Brownrigg, John Hervey, F. Binckes, R. W. Little, James Terry, J. E. Saunders, and Somers, the W.M. and S.W. of the Anerley Lodge, who recommended the prayer of the petition for the Paxton Lodge, and Lord Holmesdale, Prov. G.M. for Kent. The Anerley Lodge was represented by Bro. Bethune, the Sec. Bros. Grantham, R. Dodd, and N. J. F. Basnett, were proposed as joining members; and Messrs. H. Reeve, J. Smith, J. Partridge, and R. Pratt were proposed as initiates.

The W.M. said he had much pleasure in presenting the lodge with his banner. He trusted he might live to see a large array of banners in the lodge, and that in future he might, as in other lodges with which he was connected, have the pleasure of observing on the left of the W.M. many banners in succession. He happened to be one of the founders of a banner lodge, and the members of that lodge saw year after year a banner reared for the newly installed Master. They had, moreover, the pleasure of knowing that not one of those Masters had been taken away from them by death, which was a most singular instance of the good providence of the Great Architect of the Universe in that particular lodge. He hoped that the brethren who succeeded him (the W.M.) in the chair of the Paxton Lodge might also be able to congratulate some other lodge, if it was their good fortune to be present at the consecration of a banner lodge, on the same state of circumstances, and to announce publicly a similar fact to that which he had just stated.

On the motion of Bro. Frances, seconded by Bro. F. J. Sawyer, a vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to the W.M. for his handsome present.

The Rev. R. J. Simpson said that this was the first consecration which he had attended where he had not found his chief, the Consecrating Officer, elected an honorary member of the lodge with himself. While, in some respects, he regretted to hold that exalted position alone, he congratulated the lodge on having one of its own members not only willing but able, and not only able but very effectively, and with thorough zeal, to carry out the consecration ceremony. Very often it had to be done by a brother imported from some other lodge; but in the present case there was native talent that could be pressed into the service. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. Sawyer said it was quite an oversight, and he would now propose Bro. Frances as an honorary member.

Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet. This was served in most splendid style by Bro. Sawyer, everything in the menu being of the finest quality, and the tables being decorated in great taste with flowers and choice summer fruits. With splendid midsummer weather there was a clear view from the saloon of the lovely Kentish scenery which is visible from the Crystal Palace, and the soft, heavenly breezes blowing across it through the open windows rendered the room most comforting and refreshing to the brethren during the whole time they partook of refreshment after labour. The experience of the brethren led them to remark that the Crystal Palace was highly favourable for the holding of lodges and lodge banquets; and, certainly, taking the item of banquets alone, their verdict was unquestionable, for a repast more complete could not have been set before them.

When banquet had been disposed of, grace, "For these and all Thy mercies," was sung by the musical brethren, and the W.M. forthwith proposed the toasts which fell to him to give. The preliminary toasts of "The Queen and the Craft," "The M.W.G.M.," "The M.W. Pro G.M.," "The Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers," having been duly proposed and honoured, the W.M. proposed "The Provincial Grand Officers," which had been placed on the list in consequence of the invitations issued to the Provincial Grand Masters of Kent, Surrey, and Middlesex. The W.M. said that these brethren had not been able to be present on account of other engagements, but he hoped that in fulfilling those engagements they had enjoyed themselves as much as they would have done if they had been present at this lodge. The brethren of this lodge had made up their minds to enjoy themselves, and he thought they had done so. He coupled with the toast the name of Bro. Magnus Ohren, P. Prov. Junior Grand Warden for Surrey.

Bro. Magnus Ohren, in reply, said that with respect to the Grand Masters of Surrey and Middlesex, he could speak of their work with much confidence, as he had witnessed it for many years. He was not so fortunate with the province of Kent, because the rule which prevailed in Middlesex and Surrey of every member of a lodge in those provinces having a notice to attend their Provincial Grand Lodge did not hold in Kent; and, therefore, though he was, and had been for many years, a member of a Kentish lodge, he had never received a notice to be present at the Provincial Grand Lodge of Kent. He presumed, therefore, that all members of the Kentish lodges had not the same privilege of being present at the Provincial Grand Lodge of Kent as the members of Surrey and Middlesex lodges had of being present in the Grand Lodges of those provinces. He thought it was a good plan to adopt to allow all members of provincial lodges to be present in the Provincial Grand Lodges, in order that they might see the way in which work should be done. As Grand Officers, brethren had to attend and take part in the duties of Provincial Grand Lodge, and to learn their duties they should be able to see of what they consisted. In proposing the toast to which he (Bro. Ohren) was responding the W.M. had said he hoped the three Provincial G.M.'s who were not able to be present were enjoying themselves as much as the brethren who were present. He was sure that nothing would have given the Provincial G.M.'s of Middlesex and Surrey greater pleasure than to be present at this meeting, to have seen the excellent working that had taken place at the ceremony of consecration and installation, for both these Provincial G.M.'s were working Masons, and delighted in good working. The brethren had heard to-day from the Rev. Bro. Simpson that after labour they were entitled to refreshment. That refreshment had been placed before them in a very magnificent manner, and those brethren could not have helped enjoying themselves if they had been present.

Bro. Frances proposed "The Health of the W.M." He had always found W.M.'s spoken of in the highest terms. It reminded him of the question of the little girl who asked where the bad people were buried, because, looking at the tombstones, every one was well spoken of. With regard

to W.M.'s, after a long experience, he was able to say that the good that was spoken of them was truth, because a man did not arrive at the position of W.M. unless he richly deserved it. The facilities there now were for acquiring Masonic knowledge were so numerous that there was no excuse for a man who did not do his work well. It had, however, to be acquired by hard work, and therefore when a man became W.M. he could not be spoken of too highly. He had often been struck, looking at the number of lodges that there were, with the fact of how few bad Masons there were. He attended Grand Lodge, and went to the Board of General Purposes occasionally, and a solitary case cropped up now and then before Grand Lodge. Sometimes the brethren went to the Grand Secretary to have the case laid before Grand Lodge; but he said what was the use of their grumbling; why should they take it before Grand Lodge, why should not they settle it among themselves? Frequently through his judicious remarks the cases were saved going before the board. Many other cases were settled by the board; and it was very few that came before Grand Lodge. With respect to Bro. Klenck, he (Bro. Frances) knew him personally; he had seen his work, and he knew him to be a good Mason. He knew he would do his duty as a Master in this lodge as he had in the Stockwell Lodge, and there was before him a very successful year of office.

The W.M. in reply said that had it been at the end of his year of office instead of the beginning, he should not have had so much difficulty in replying to the toast, because if they had then drunk his health and said they approved of his work he would have been able to say something to them as to what the lodge had done. He hoped however they would not find that the compliment they had paid him had been misplaced. He would endeavour to do his duty to the lodge as first W.M., and trusted they would be able at the end of the year to approve of his presidency. He felt somewhat proud to occupy the chair as first W.M. of the lodge, and he trusted that the brotherly love that had been exhibited that evening, and the kindly feeling which had emanated from the meeting, were an augury for the future. As far as he was concerned the happiness of the brethren would be his object; and no piques or quarrels would be a party to; anything that was for the prosperity of the lodge would be his first care and his first design. If his brother officers would kindly keep the same object in view it would be many a day before the brethren of Paxton Lodge would have anything to regret in being associated with it. The loving cup had passed round and they had wished brotherly love to continue. He trusted that the brotherly love which had commenced might long continue, and that the Paxton Lodge, like the man from whom it took its name, might flourish.

The W.M. then proposed "The Consecrating Officers," and with reference to Bro. Frances, said the brethren owed him much. During his (the W.M.'s) short experience lodges had increased in number greatly. From 1200 when he first entered there were now 1686. This was in the short space of eight years, and it showed how marvellously the fraternity was growing. It was an evidence that respectable men, that honourable men, that men of all positions and all grades, were anxious to enter so honourable a brotherhood as Freemasonry. None had contributed more to its harmony or its development than had Bro. Frances in his day and generation. He had done a great deal to develop Masonry. He had been the accoucheur, so to speak, at the birth of some few lodges and chapters, which had not reflected any discredit on him as the medical officer. In officiating that day he had evinced to the brethren that he could do his duty well. Passing on to Bro. Simpson, he would mention that that brother had told him the reason why he was not able to stay to the banquet. He had assisted at the consecration entirely against his own feelings, as it was the anniversary of the death of his son, and for years past, since that melancholy event happened, he had kept that day in perfect silence and solitude; but to-day having been fixed for the consecration of the lodge he consented to come and deliver the oration and assist as far as he could in the ceremony. The excellent address he had delivered must have evinced to the brethren that he had great respect for the Order; and the brethren when listening to him must have seen that he felt every word he uttered, and have come to the conclusion that he was no mean man to claim as a friend and a brother.

Bro. Frances, in reply, said he had had much pleasure in consecrating a lodge bearing such a distinguished name as that of Paxton—a man who had ministered so much to the pleasures of the people. Although Paxton was not a Mason he had in him all the principles that made a Mason.

The W.M. then gave "The Visitors," to which Bros. Basnett, Taylor, Wood, Foster, Lassam, and others replied.

Bro. Bethune replied for "The Master of the Anerley Lodge," and Bro. Massey (*Freemason*), for "The Press." The officers of the lodge replied to the toast which was proposed in their honour, and the Tyler having given his toast the brethren separated.

A very pretty selection of part music was performed between the toasts by Bros. Jekyll, Carter, Distin, and Large.

Constitutions of the Ancient Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, containing the charges, regulations, E. A. Song, &c. A copy should be in the possession of every brother. It may be obtained for 2s. at the office of the *Freemason*, or will be sent post free to any part of the United Kingdom on receipt of twenty-five penny stamps. Address Publisher, 198, Fleet-street, London.—Adv.

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