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UNITED GRAND LODGE.

The Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England was held on Wednesday evening, at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Dr. Robert Hamilton, District Grand Master of Jamaica, occupied the throne. Bro. Capt. Platt, P.J.G.W., held the S.G.W. chair, and Bro. the Rev. G. J. Martyn, P.G.C., that of J.G.W.; General Brownrigg, P.G.M. for Surrey, acted as Deputy Grand Master, and among the other brethren present were Bros. R.W. Montague J. Guest, Prov. Grand Master for Dorset; Samuel Rawson, Past District Grand Master for China; V.W. Rev. Sir John Warren Hayes, Bart., P.G.C.; Rev. Robert James Simpson, P.G.C.; Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, P.G.C.; John Hervey, G. Sec.; Ernest Emil Wendt, G. Sec. for German Correspondence; W. Bros. N. G. Philips, P. de Lande Long, S.G. Deacons; H. C. Tombs and E. J. Morris, J.G. Deacons; B. Head, P.G.D.; J. M. Clabon, P.G.D.; E. S. Snell, P.G.D.; H. Browne, P.G.D.; B. Baker, P.G.D.; J. M. Wike, P.G.D.; R. W. Stewart, P.G.D.; C. A. Murton, P.G.D.; F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., P.G.D.; J. A. Rucker, P.G.D.; J. C. Parkinson, P.G.D.; C. W. C. Hutton, P.G.D.; R. Grey, P.G.D.; F. P. Morrell, P.G.D.; T. Fenn, P.G.D.; Lieut.-Col. T. Birchall, P.G.D.; E. J. Barron, P.G.D.; J. M. Case, P.G.D.; F. P. Cockerell, G.S. of Works; F. Robinson, Assistant G. Director of Ceremonies; J. Whichcord, P.A.G.D.C.; G. Toller, jun., G. Sword Bearer; H. Pullen, P.G.S.B.; J. Mason, P.G.S.B.; J. Nunn, P.G.S.B.; W. W. F. Nettleship, P.G.S.B.; W. Kuhe, G. Organist; H. G. Buss, Assistant G. Secretary; S. G. Foxall, G. Pursuivant; W. T. Howe, Assistant G. Pursuivant; J. Smith, P.G.P.; C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P.; T. Cubitt, P.G.P.; E. P. Albert, P.G.P.; the Grand Stewards of the year, and the Masters, Past Masters, and Wardens of the Grand Steward's Lodge, H. Massey (Freemason), and the Masters, Past Masters, and Wardens of other lodges.

The Grand Lodge was opened in form and with solemn prayer.

Grand Secretary reported that he held in his hand several apologies from Grand Officers for their inability to be present at this Grand Lodge. The Grand Chaplain was absent in Scotland, and he was sorry to say that the Junior Grand Chaplain, Bro. the Rev. W. Lake Onslow, as was known to many of the brethren, had departed this life since the last meeting. Lord De Tabley, was unable to be present. Bro. the Rev. C. R. Davy, P.G.C., Bro. Willing, G. Organist, and several other brethren also sent letters of regret that they were unable to be present.

Grand Secretary then read the minutes of the last Quarterly Communication, which were put to the brethren and confirmed.

The next business on the paper was the motion by the M.W. Grand Master. "That in consideration of the dreadful fire which has occurred at St. John, New Brunswick, and which has devastated that city, this Grand Lodge do grant the sum of 200 guineas to be paid out of the Fund of General Purposes, in aid of the fund now in course of formation, for the relief of the inhabitants."

(2) "That this Grand Lodge do grant the sum of one hundred guineas, to be paid out of the Fund of General Purposes, in alleviation of the distress caused by the 'Cataclysm' which has recently occurred on the coast of Peru."

Dr. Hamilton said: Brethren, there is no doubt that you all regret as much as I do myself that these two motions are not to be moved by our M.W.G.M., who finds it impossible to be present this evening, and also that we should not have the advantage of the eloquence of our Pro G.M. or of our Deputy G.M. It has fallen upon me by accident as being the senior officer present, to represent them this evening. I cannot bring before you the amount of statistics and the other points connected with the subject which no doubt would be submitted to you had they been brought forward by the M.W.G.M. You all know the effect of fire, and you have read, and are no doubt well aware, of the destruction that has been caused in New Brunswick by the dreadful calamity that has there occurred. I therefore will move for the Grand Master, "That in consideration of a dreadful fire which has occurred at St. John, New Brunswick, and which has devastated that city, this Grand Lodge do grant the sum of 200 guineas, to be paid out of the Fund of General Purposes, in aid of

the fund now in course of formation for the relief of the inhabitants."

General Brownrigg seconded the motion. The Grand Master in the chair (Dr. Hamilton) then put the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Dr. Hamilton then said: I have further to propose "That this Grand Lodge do grant the sum of 100 guineas to be paid out of the Fund of General Purposes, in alleviation of the distress caused by the 'cataclysm' which has recently occurred on the coast of Peru." Here we know very little of this calamity; but I have no doubt that there are many brethren who have travelled, and can testify to you to the fearful calamities that are produced by those earthquakes and derangements which occur to the parts of the world, among which is the place named in this notice of motion. I therefore move as I have mentioned.

General Brownrigg seconded the motion, which was put and carried unanimously.

Dr. Hamilton then said: Before we proceed further I will ask the Grand Secretary to read a letter he has received from the Province of Dorset.

Grand Secretary then read a letter from the Grand Treasurer of the Province of Dorset, in which he announced that the Provincial Grand Lodge of Dorset had subscribed £120 towards the Indian Famine Relief Fund.

The next business was the Report of the Lodge of Benevolence for the last quarter, in which are recommendations for the following grants, viz:—

- A brother of the Tyrian Lodge, No. 253, Derby £50 0 0
- A brother of the Lodge of Concord, No. 323, Stockport ... 50 0 0
- The widow of a brother of the Saint James' Lodge, No. 765, Southwark... 100 0 0
- A brother of the Duke of Athol Lodge, No. 210, Denton ... 75 0 0
- The daughter of a brother of the Stoneleigh Lodge, No. 725, Kenilworth... 50 0 0
- The widow of a brother of the Lodge of Faith and Unanimity, No. 417, Dorchester ... 200 0 0

Bro. J. M. Clabon having moved, and Bro. Joshua Nunn having seconded, the grants proposed by these recommendations, they were put and carried.

The next business was the consideration of the report of the Board of General Purposes, which was as follows:—

Report of the Board of General Purposes.

The Board of General Purposes have to report as follows:—

1. Arising out of the opinions for some considerable time expressed in Grand Lodge, and more especially the recent debates of that assembly, the Board have had under their careful and special consideration the constitution of the Lodge of Benevolence, and having referred the question to a committee of the whole Board for consideration and report, have received from such committee the following report thereon:—

To the Worshipful Board of General Purposes.

The Committee of the whole Board, to whom it was on the 19th day of June last referred to consider the advisability of recommending Grand Lodge to alter the title and constitution of the Lodge of Benevolence, beg to report unanimously as follows:—Having fully considered the subject we are of opinion that it is advisable to recommend Grand Lodge to alter both the title and the constitution of the Lodge of Benevolence in manner herein-after mentioned.

1. The "Lodge of Benevolence" to be in future designated the "Board of Benevolence."
2. The Board of Benevolence to consist of the Grand Master, Pro Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Wardens, a President, and forty-five other members. The President and fifteen of such members to be annually nominated by the Grand Master at the Quarterly Communication in December, and the remaining thirty members to be elected by Grand Lodge from amongst the actual Masters and Past Masters of lodges, such election to be conducted in the same manner as that of the Board of General Purposes, but it should not in our opinion be a regulation that one-third or any other proportion of the members should retire annually.
- 3.—The Board to elect one of its members to be Vice-President.
- 4.—Five members to form a quorum.

All which is submitted to the consideration of the Board.
 (Signed) JOHN B. MONCKTON,
 Chairman.

And the Board of General Purposes unanimously agreeing with such report do recommend the same to Grand Lodge for adoption.

2.—The Board have had under their consideration and that of the Premises Committee the question of improving the accommodation in the Grand Secretary's office, and have arrived at the conclusion that the best and most satisfactory mode of effecting the desired end would be to utilise the lavatory on the ground floor at the back of the grand staircase and the front room known as the library, which, by means of communicating openings, would, in the opinion of the Board, afford, for some time to come at least, sufficient and proper accommodation for carrying out the work in the Grand Secretary's office, and more especially would provide a private office for the use of the recently appointed Assistant Grand Secretary, an arrangement greatly needed; and that the lavatory, &c., in the rear of the present waiting room and Grand Secretary's office be reconstructed, with enlarged accommodation.

3.—It having been represented to the Board that a brother had been passed to the Second Degree in twenty-six days only after his initiation, the circumstances were fully enquired into, and it was ordered that the brother be re-obligated, in the Second and Third Degrees, at a due interval, and that the Lodge of Benevolence (No. 489, Bideford) be fined one guinea, and admonished to be more careful in future.

(Signed) JOHN B. MONCKTON,
 President.

To the report is subjoined a statement of the Grand Lodge accounts at the last meeting of the Finance Committee, held on Friday, the 17th day of August instant, shewing a balance in the hands of the Grand Treasurer of £7280 8s. 3d.; and in the hands of the Grand Secretary, for petty cash, £75; and for servants' wages £96 15s.

Bro. Peter de Lande Long, Vice President of the Board of General Purposes, moved that the report be received; and this having been seconded and carried, Bro. Long said he had been requested by the President of the Board, who, unfortunately, was not able to be present, and for which he expressed his sincere regret, to say that, looking at the very important alterations rendered necessary by the adoption of the report of the Board, and, also, at the fact that the President and the Grand Registrar were compelled to be absent, he thought it better that so much of the report as related to the Lodge of Benevolence be postponed (hear, hear, and applause,) until the next Quarterly Communication in December. (Cries of "Withdraw.") He, therefore, would move that it be postponed till December.

The Grand Master on the throne having put the motion,

Bro. James Mason, P.G.S.B., hereupon rose, and said he begged leave to propose an amendment to the resolution suggested. The amendment he had to move was that this, which was a most important matter, should be deferred until the Quarterly Communication in March next. Things of moment should be done with due deliberation. (Hear, hear.) That was a fundamental axiom of our Order, and although he was prepared to say that on consideration he might give his vote in favour of the resolution which had been proposed, yet he was not prepared to do it until he had well considered the matter (hear, hear,) and he was sure that in making this great alteration in our constitutions—

Bro. S. Rawson rose to order. There was no question before the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Master in the chair overruled the objection. Bro. James Mason continued. He was about to say that this was a matter deserving of their most mature consideration, because it was, in fact, the fundamental position in the constitutions of Masonry. If these resolution were carried they would disfranchise every lodge in the Order (hear, hear, and applause); and he was not prepared, nor would any Mason—because all Masons he believed—and he was ready to give them credit for this—desired the good of the Order. The Masons as a body, and Masons as individuals if an alteration was for the good of the body, would be prepared to make that alteration; but not without consideration. He said again, that this alteration disfranchised every lodge in the Order as far as the Board of Benevolence was concerned, and it would disfranchise every Grand Officer, who had at present a right to be a member of that Board of Benevolence.

Bro. Brackstone Baker rose to order. The worthy brother had no right to go into the question. (Hear, hear, and applause.)

The Grand Master in the chair ruled that Bro. Mason was in order.

Bro. James Mason said this was the point. He wished to speak to the purpose. He wished to say only so few words as would suffice to convey his opinion to the brethren freely and frankly that there should be more deliberation about it. They would be disfranchising every lodge in the Order, and every Grand Officer, who was a member of the Lodge of Benevolence. He had been a member of that lodge for about twenty years, and he had the pleasure to attend its meetings.

Bro. Joseph Smith rose to order. They were not now discussing the question contained in the report of the Board of General Purposes, but only the question whether the consideration of the subject should be postponed. (Confusion.)

The Grand Master in the chair said he wished to state that Bro. Mason was about to give the reason why he wished the subject adjourned to March at the same time he (the W.G.M.), deprecated his going in to any discussion of the question beyond explaining why he wished the subject postponed till March.

Bro. James Mason was much obliged to the G.M. in the chair, and he would make his remarks very brief indeed. He desired that there should be food for reflection between then and March next, and that the brethren should know what it was they had then to consider. For about twenty years he had been a member of the Lodge of Benevolence ("Time, time," and great confusion.) He knew there were grievances to be dealt with; he knew there were a great number of brethren also attended; and they were now so large in number that perhaps it was not desirable to have so many present; but the question was whether the mode proposed was the proper method of dealing with the evil. Without further comment, he begged leave to propose that the consideration of this resolution be postponed until the Quarterly Communication in March next. (Hear, hear, cheers, and no, no.)

Bro. Raynham Stewart rose to second the amendment. He quite agreed with Bro. Mason's remarks that the matter required consideration; but he also agreed with what that brother said as to the proposition, if carried, disfranchising the lodges. It would be giving away a great privilege which now belonged to lodges, and would be another step towards that centralised action which was now being brought forward in other branches of Masonry. If the brethren allowed the proposition to be carried they would be stripping themselves of freedom. He had great pleasure in seconding the proposition. Let them come forward in March prepared with a scheme, but not the scheme now proposed. (Confusion.)

Bro. Binckes was quite prepared to discuss the question if it had been gone into that evening; but he thought after the very graceful concession made by the President o

the Board of General Purposes they ought to accept his proposition, and postpone the consideration of the subject till the Quarterly Communication in December. (Cries of "No, no.") He quite agreed with those brethren who were in favour of the amendment, to postpone the matter until March, that this was a question of the very gravest importance, affecting as it did the rights and privileges of every Master in the Craft; but because he thought it of that importance he did not think it should be hanging over them for six months. He should have voted against the report of the Board if it had been brought on that night, because he believed that no Master of a lodge had been able to give that consideration to the subject which it demanded; but he nevertheless was of opinion that three months from now was quite sufficient time. (Cries of "No, no," and "Yes, yes," and confusion.) He repeated that he thought three months was quite long enough. He was glad when he saw the Vice-President of the Board of General Purposes move that the subject should be postponed till December. It was most important however that it should not be hanging over the brethren's heads till March (cries of "No, no" and "Yes, yes" and he thought that as the Board had recommended that it should be postponed till December the Grand Lodge should accede to their request. (Cries of "No, no," and "Yes, yes," and withdraw.) If the brethren wanted the proposition withdrawn altogether let them have it withdrawn, but he did not think it would be polite or courteous to the Board of General Purposes to do so. He would say that any one of ordinary intellect or intelligence would have time enough if granted three months to make up his mind. If he did not make up his mind in that time he would not by March or March twelve month. Although unfavourable to the change proposed he felt that it should be left for consideration till December.

Bro. H. Browne, P.G.D., agreed in this view.

Bro. James Stevens said no doubt six months was a long time; but a great number now present were prepared at once to make up their minds on any point which involved the disfranchising of lodges. The proposition before the brethren excluded the Masters of lodges during their year of office from carrying out those principles of Masonry which they were bound to discharge fully and efficiently. It was not the fault of the whole body of the lodges that some members did not attend. It was really and absolutely one of the duties imposed on the Masters of lodges that they should attend the Lodge of Benevolence. Those who represented lodges as Masters would be extremely sorry to have their privileges taken from them. Brethren could make up their minds in three or four months as well as in six; but still the matter was of sufficient importance to stand over till March, at which time he was quite certain the verdict of Grand Lodge would be as it would have been to-night, against the proposal made by the Board.

Bro. J. M. Clabon, as President of the Lodge of Benevolence, said it was of little consequence whether the question was postponed till December or March. He gathered from all that had fallen from the brethren that it would meet the feelings of the majority that they wished it postponed till March. No evil would happen in the meantime, and he would ask the representative of the Board of General Purposes if he could not meet the wish of the brethren by making his proposition that the matter should be postponed till March.

The original proposition having been withdrawn, the amendment was put and carried, and the consideration of so much of the report of the Board of General Purposes as related to the Lodge of Benevolence was postponed till March.

On the motion of Bro. Peter de L. Long, the portion of the report relating to increased accommodation in Grand Secretary's office was put and carried.

Bro. J. M. Clabon then rose to move the grant of 1000 guineas to the Indian Famine Relief Fund. In doing so he said: Most Worshipful Grand Master in the chair, and brethren,—I will hardly say that I rise oppressed with a sense of the greatness of the subject which I have undertaken to bring before you, because I believe that I shall have the sympathy of every one present. (Hear, hear.) The grand principle of Masonry, as I understand it, is universal charity and benevolence, and we are now in presence, I venture to say, of the greatest calamity of this century, a calamity in which hundreds of thousands (I am not overstating it) of our fellow creatures are dying by the roadside of sheer stark famine. Now I apprehend and hope there will not be a voice raised to-night against some grant being made. You have already granted 200 guineas and 100 guineas to good objects, but small in their way to that which I now propose; and the manner in which you have granted those sums is, I think, conclusive evidence that you will grant this sum; but if I wanted other evidence, I have only to refer to what one provincial lodge has granted. The Provincial Grand Lodge of Dorset has granted £120 by themselves. I would ask you to consider the dreadful state of things some of our own fellow-creatures are enduring. I might dilate on the miseries of hunger for a long time, although none of us know what it is. I have a letter before me which is very short, from which I will read an extract. It is from a young lady at Kolapore, in the Madras Presidency, to her sister in England, and it tells the tale of the sufferings which are endured there. (Bro. Clabon then read a letter which has appeared in the daily papers, which stated that the old and the children were the principal sufferers, that they lie down and die by the roadside; and the writer went on to say that a mother was seen dying by the side of her two dead children, whom dogs were eating, and she had not strength to drive them away. The writer concluded by asking for subscriptions to be sent out immediately.) Bro. Clabon continued. One word more: on the question of the amount. I have just heard it whispered that an amendment will be moved to make the amount 500 guineas. (Cries of "No, No.") Now, let us be

unanimous. (Cries of "No amendment.") We have £42,000 in the Lodge of Benevolence; but we cannot touch that. We know the Board of General Purposes erected this building with money borrowed from the Fund of Benevolence, which they afterwards paid back. We have in the Fund of General Purposes an annual surplus of some £6000 or £7000, and we invested £8000 last year. Therefore we can well afford 1000 guineas for this excellent object. (Hear, hear, and loud applause.)

Col. Creaton seconded the motion, which was then put and carried amidst general cheering.

Bro. Samuel Tomkins (Grand Treasurer) said he had had great pleasure on former occasions, when sums of money had been voted for benevolent purposes, in stating that he should have much gratification in paying at once the amount voted without waiting for the confirmation of the grant by next Grand Lodge. (Hear, hear.) So on this occasion to give the relief which they wished to afford the money ought to be paid at once, and not postponed for three months. Being convinced from the unanimous expression he had seen in this Grand Lodge, that what had been done that night would be accepted and confirmed at their next meeting, he would immediately carry out the brethren's intentions by paying at once the thousand guineas to the Indian Famine Relief Fund, as well as the two hundred guineas for the relief of the sufferers by the fire at St. John, New Brunswick, and one hundred guineas for the alleviation of the distress caused by the cataclysm on the coast of Peru—two objects, not perhaps of equal importance, for which relief was voted in the earlier portion of the evening. (Cheers.)

The Grand Master in the chair hoped that all the Provincial Grand Lodges would follow the example of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Dorset. (Hear, hear.)

Grand Lodge was then closed in ample form, and adjourned.

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

HALLIFORD.—Acacia Lodge (No. 1309).—The eighth installation meeting of this well-established lodge was held at the Ship Hotel, on Tuesday, 28th ult. Bro. C. G. Rushworth, W.M., opened the lodge. The minutes of the last lodge meeting were read and unanimously confirmed. The minutes and report of the Audit Committee were read, received, adopted, and ordered to be entered in the lodge minute book. The W.M., Bro. C. G. Rushworth, completed his year of office by raising Bro. T. Noton to the Third Degree. All his work has been done in an able, painstaking, correct, and efficient manner. He vacated his chair in favour of one who may well be called the founder and father of the lodge, who performed the ceremony of installation in a manner which elicited the admiration of all assembled, he having received no intimation that so arduous a duty would be imposed upon him without a moment's notice. However, his strength of memory stood him in good stead, and the ceremony was worked to perfection.—Bro. James Wm. George, W.M., appointed and invested his officers, and afterwards conferred the Second Degree on Bro. Dr. T. Gurney. Bro. C. G. Rushworth, P.G. Steward, Middx., I.P.M., was presented with a Past Master's Jewel, one of the most valuable and chaste-ly elegant in design that we have ever witnessed, and no jewel ever was more justly bestowed. The meeting was an entire success. The officers for the ensuing year are Bro. J. W. George, W.M.; C. G. Rushworth, P.G. Steward, Middx., I.P.M.; C. G. C. Stahr, P.M. 871, S.W.; R. P. Tebb, J.W.; Rev. J. Fothergill, Chaplain; F. Walters, P.P.G.D. Middx. P.M., Treasurer, (reinvested third time); Rev. T. W. Cave, LL.D., Secretary, (reinvested second time); J. Davies, Assistant Secretary; J. Scott, S.D.; C. L. Smiles, J.D.; J. Sutcliffe, I.G.; Sjoberg, D.C.; Cave, jun., W.S.; Tremear, Organist; W. Y. Laing, P.M., Tyler. The visitors were Bro. H. C. Levander, P.G. Secretary Middx., P.M.; C. E. Young, 122, Scottish Constitution; Pitt, 890; R. Jenning, J.W. 907; Gordon, 907; and Kimbell, 1541. The brethren who have filled the chair of this lodge are Bro. Frederick Walters, P.P.G.D. Middx.; G. J. Loe, J. H. Butten, P.P.A.D.C. Middx.; E. W. Richardson, the late R. Limpus, P.P.G. Organist; Charles Horsley, P.P.G.R. Middlesex, &c.; and C. G. Rushworth, P.G. Steward, Middx. The late Bro. E. Sillifant, P.P.G.D. Middx., was first Treasurer until his lamented decease.

SOWERBY BRIDGE.—Ryburn Lodge (No. 1283).—The monthly meeting of this lodge, held on the 29th August, was numerously attended, and will long be remembered as one of the pleasantest evenings spent since the lodge was formed. Bro. Joseph Senior, W.M.; Joseph Greenwood, S.D.; and Michael Scholefield, J.D., were all in their places, and there were also present several Past Masters. There was a goodly muster of visitors from Bradford, Elland, Halifax, and Todmorden, &c., as well as Bro. Berghem, of the King Solomon Royal Lodge, Jerusalem. The business of the evening was introduced by balloting for a life subscribership to one of the Masonic charities. This was in accordance with a system brought forward by Bro. John Marshall, P.M., about three years ago, which has worked so successfully that nearly all the members of the lodge are life subscribers to at least one of the charities. A copy of the bye-laws of this system appeared in the *Freemason* a few weeks ago, as used by the St. James's Lodge, No. 448, but which were first used by Ryburn Lodge. By command of the W.M., Bro. John Marshall, P.M., raised Bro. Rev. T. Galland Hartley to the Sublime Degree of M.M. The ceremony was gone through in a most business-like and impressive manner. Bro.

Atkinson presided at the harmonium, and accompanied by Bros. Wood, &c., from Bradford, rendered very efficient service. An excellent supper was provided by Bro. Shaw, after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured. The evening was spent with the greatest harmony and enjoyment.

INSTRUCTION.

DUKE OF CONNAUGHT LODGE (No. 1524).—This lodge, held at the Havelock Tavern, Albion-road, Dalston, met on Wednesday evening, the 5th inst., when there were present Bros. J. Lorkin, W.M.; Wooley, S.W.; Francis, J.W.; Maples, S.D.; McMillar, J.D.; C. Lorkin, I.G.; W. Fieldwick, Preceptor; E. Dietrich, G. Ferrar, J. Lovelock, J. B. Shackleton, A. Little, O. Dietrich, and others. The lodge was opened in ancient form and the minutes of last meeting read and confirmed. Bro. J. B. Shackleton then worked the Sections of the lecture in a most able manner, assisted by the brethren. Bros. W. Fieldwick, G. Ferrar, and E. Dietrich were respectively elected as Preceptor, Treasurer and Secretary for the ensuing year, and Bros. Lovelock, Francis, and Lorkin as Auditors. It was resolved that the Audit Committee meet next Monday evening at 8 p.m., at the Havelock Tavern. A cordial vote of thanks was unanimously passed to the officers of last year, and Bro. J. B. Shackleton, in responding, expressed his regret at having to relinquish the Secretaryship through other urgent engagements. Bro. Wooley was unanimously appointed W.M. for the ensuing week. The annual dinner of this lodge takes place on Wednesday, 10th of October, when we feel confident a most enjoyable evening will be spent by those who can make it convenient to be present.

Mark Masonry.

ST. MARK'S LODGE (No. 1).—The September meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday last, at the Masonic Rooms, Little Britain. Present:—Bros. Dr. Ernest Brette, W.M.; E. H. Thiellay, S.W.; H. A. Dubois, J.W.; H. C. Levander, P.M., Treasurer; George Kenning, P.M., Secretary; G. Newman, M.O.; P. M. Holden, S.O.; W. E. Newton, J.O.; T. Cubitt, P.M.; E. L. Shepherd, J. Boyd, W. H. W. Wilkinson, Frederick Walters, P.M.; Frederick Binckes, G.S.; and J. Gilbert, Tyler. Visitors:—Bros. H. J. Green, Herbert Dicketts. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. H. C. Levander installed Bro. E. H. Thiellay, W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. Thiellay then invested his officers, one brother was proposed for advancement, and one for joining. The lodge was then closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to dinner.

PANMURE LODGE (No. 139).—The seventh installation meeting of this prosperous lodge was held at the Balham Hotel, Balham, on Monday, the 3rd inst., and was well attended by officers and brethren. The lodge was opened by the V.W. Bro. James Stevens, P.M., P.G.J.O., acting for the W.M., Bro. Mark S. Larlham, S.W.; J. W. Poore, J.W.; M. Spiegall, M.O.; J. W. Gibson, J.O.; J. J. Joseph, R.M.; C. P. McKay, Sec.; W. Ackland, J.D.; W. Mitchell, Steward. There were also present Past Masters D. Trusler, C. Pulman, Thos Poore, G.I.G., and G. Lilley, and Bro. J. Barney, H. G. Gush, W. R. Sheadd, W. B. Miller, Edward Mitchell, W. Steadman, W. Cachett, Rawles, and others. Although several candidates were proposed for advancement "holiday time" prevented attendance of all but one, Bro. Osman Vincent, W.M. of the Abercorn Lodge, who having been duly approved, was advanced into the honourable degree with full ceremony. Bro. Thomas Poore, P.M., G.I.G., then installed Bro. Mark S. Larlham into the chair of A., and the new W.M. was cordially saluted both in the board of I.M. and subsequently in open lodge. The officers were then appointed as follows, and were severally invested and addressed at the request of the W.M. by Past Master Stevens: Bro. W. Poore, S.W.; M. Spiegall, J.W.; C. P. McKay, M.O.; J. W. Gibson, S.O.; W. Ackland, J.O.; James Stevens, P.M., Sec.; George Lilley, P.M., Treas.; J. J. Joseph, R.M., and S.D.; W. Mitchell, J.D.; W. B. Miller, I.G.; Edward Mitchell, Steward; W. Cachett, D.C. On the proposition of Bro. Stevens, P.M., the lodge unanimously voted a pension for life of two-thirds of the usual fee to Bro. Grant in recognition of his services as Tyler, and received his resignation of office with regret. Bro. Wm. Steadman was unanimously elected to the vacant office. Further propositions for advancement were received, and the lodge was then closed. A well provided table was speedily surrounded by the members of the lodge, and under the genial presidency of the new W.M. the usual formalities were observed, and a social evening thoroughly enjoyed by all.

CONSECRATION OF THE ELEANOR LODGE, No. 1707.

At Edmonton, on Wednesday last, a new lodge was consecrated. Bro. John Hervey, G. Secretary, performed the ceremony of consecration, assisted by Bro. Buss, A.G.S. It is needless to state that all through the proceedings were marked by the regularity and eloquence always displayed on such occasions by those brethren. Bro. the Rev. P. M. Holden, Prov. G. Chaplain of Middlesex, officiated as Chaplain, and delivered an appropriate oration.

The chair of the Senior Warden, was occupied by Bro. A. Durrant, and that of the J.W. by Bro. J. W. Berric. At the close of the ceremony of consecration, Bro. J. Tanner was installed as the first W.M. of the new lodge, and he afterwards invested his officers as follow:—Bros. J. Howard Thompson, P.P.G.S.B. Middlesex, S.W.; Charles Lovebond, J.W.; C. Oliver, Treas.; R. J. Leaman, Sec.; J. H. Wood, S.D.; Garnett, J.D.; Meent, Organist; Ramsey, I.G.; R. W. Goddard, Tyler.

It was then proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously that the thanks of the lodge, be accorded to Bros. Hervey, Buss, and Holden, that the same be recorded on the minutes, and that those brethren be elected honorary members of the lodge.

Numerous proposals for initiation and joining were made, and which completing the business of the day, the lodge was closed in ancient form, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet.

The pleasures of the evening were considerably enhanced by the musical abilities displayed by Bros. Moss, Perry, Thomas, and Musgrave.

Reviews.

THE MONDE MAÇONNIQUE.

We have received and read our contemporary for August, and we are glad to be able to refer to its interesting contents, for the information of our many readers.

Among other items of Masonic intelligence which it contains are the following:—

The receipts of the "Orphelinat General Maçonique" (The Orphan Institution) amount to 21,265fcs. 25c. The expenditure reaches 17,561fcs. 30c. Seven orphans have been admitted during the last twelve months. Since its foundation, 15 years ago, it has had to deal with 93 orphans, of whom 5 girls and 25 boys are still in the institution. One of the orphans is still yet an infant, 26 are apprenticed, and 36 have finished their apprenticeship. The total receipts of 15 years amount to 168,699fcs. 52c., and the expenditure to 156,073fcs. 5c. There is a balance up to the present of 12,626fcs. 47c. Thus the expenditure up to the present has reached about £6000, and there is a balance of £400 in round numbers.

We wish sincerely that, imitating our English example, our brethren in France would leave the sterile field of quasi-political discussions and most doubtful topics, and give themselves up to the work of Masonic benevolence, leading, let us hope, to a result worthy of French Freemasonry.

It is but fair to observe, that the Grand Orient of France has also a "Maison de Secours," the revenue of which amounts to 23,000fcs. annually. This sum is distributed by a commission, presided over by Frere Cammas. But we need hardly point out that £1200 a year in round numbers is not and cannot be a proper result of the active principle of French Masonic benevolence. No doubt special subscriptions and lodge grants also are made, but give the whole in, as Bro. Hubert has well put it, French Freemasonry ought to do a great deal more for pure charity if it is true to its mission. We must not, however, forget those special funds, such as for the war and inundations which reached to large amounts. But we repeat French Freemasonry ought to do more! Let our good brethren look to it!

It seems that among the lodges already closed by authority in France, are the Lodge of "Fraternité," Avalon; the Lodge of "Orion," Galliac; the Lodge of "Triple Essence," St. Malo; the Lodge of "Egalité," Paris; the Lodge of "Les Amis Perseverantes et l'Etoile de Vesone Renais," Perigeueux; the Lodge of "Auguste Amitié," Condom; the Lodge of "Fraternité," Brive; the Lodge of "La Libre Pensée," Aurillac; the Lodge of "La Justice," Marmande; the Lodge of "La Cosmopolite," Vichy. To these must be added five lodges at Toulouse, if the Daily News is correct.

The Monde Maçonique, (page 159) gives a very amusing extract from the Echo Universel, which reviews a little book, called "Le Diable," published at Toulouse, by M. Resplandy: Is the closing of the lodges reported in the English papers to be attributed to the impression produced by the truthful statements of 'The Devil' on an excitable population and nervous authorities. But listen, brethren, to these remarks of "Monsr. le Diable." "Can one, ought one to say that the 'Devil' is the head of the secret societies? We answer affirmatively and without fear, we speak here of those infamous societies, which term themselves 'Free Masons' in France, 'Carbonari' in Italy, 'Communeros' in Spain, 'Illuminati' in Germany. These societies have been condemned by the most terrible anathemata of the Popes. This shows us evidently that they have the 'Devil' for their head. This is also proved by the words of the Freemasons themselves. Our one end is, they say, the entire destruction of Catholicism, and even of all Christian belief." This is their end, and now regard their proceedings. "It has been decided in our councils that we will have no more Christians, we will not make martyrs, and we will popularize vice in the masses, that so they may breathe vice in their five senses, make vicious hearts, and you will have no more Catholics." As the Monde Maçonique truly remarks, such absurdities and such monstrous calumnies are hardly worth notice, but as we know how "la calomnie" works, according to "Bartholo's" famous "Rescript" we note such ridiculous and lying statements to brand them as the "outcome" of a conscienceless superstition.

We do not agree with our foreign brethren in all they say or do, but such ignorance of their teaching and such marked meaningless falsehoods deserve the indignant denial of all in whom Ultramontane fanaticism has not eaten out, so to say, every principle of truth, justice, and honour. We are pleased to see that the Monde Maçonique and the Freemason agree as to the remedy, in the untoward conflict between the Grand Orient and the Rite Ecossais. Let the Grand Orient boldly cut the "Gordian Knot," by severing the connection with the High Grades and claiming the supremacy of all symbolic lodges, and it will receive the warm support of all Craft Grand Lodges.

THE DUKE OF ABERCORN.—The Duke and Duchess of Abercorn and Lady Georgiana Hamilton, has left town for Baronscourt for the autumn.

FREEMASONRY IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

On Monday, the 25th June, the brethren of the Fremantle Lodge, No. 1033, assembled for the purpose of installing their W.M. elect, Bro. P. M. Daniel Keen Congdon. Bro. P.M. J. F. Stone, and Bro. P.M. Sherwood, of St. John, No. 485, E.C., acted as Installing Masters, and there were present on the occasion Bros. P.M.'s Duffield and G. Pearse; Bros. Manning, J. Pearse, Higham, Saw, Edwards, Mills, McCleery, W. Samson, Campbell, Benson, Wood, Durlacher, Paisley, Waldeck, Jones, Oakley, Miller, A. Francisco, Mews, J. W. Bateman, Henderson, King, Mitchell, Smith, Newman, Herbert, Tapper, Abbott, Clifden, Fauntleroy, W. S. Pearse, and C. Sherwood. Visitors:—Bros. P.M.'s Pether and Snook and Bro. Dr. Stone, from Lodge St. John, No. 485, E.C. Perth.

Bro. Stone opened the lodge in the several degrees, and Bro. Sherwood having presented Bro. P.M. Congdon as the W.M. elect, he was inducted into the chair by Bro. Stone according to all the ancient rites and established customs of the Order.

The W.M. then thanked the brethren for having given him their unanimous trust, and said that he deeply appreciated the honour they had done him, and invested the following brothers as his officers for the ensuing year: Bros. B. C. Wood as S.W.; A. F. Durlacher as J.W.; W. Samson, Treas.; W. R. P. Smith, Sec.; L. Henderson, Org.; I. W. Oakley, S.D.; W. Mills, J.D.; W. Johnston, I.G.; and C. Sherwood, Tyler.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The General Committee of the subscribers to the Masonic Boys' School, met on Saturday last, at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. Henry Browne in the chair. The other brethren present were Bros. Geo. J. Row, Wm. Roebuck, S. Rosenthal, Rev. Dr. Morris, Jessie Turner, W. F. C. Moutrie, C. F. Matier, S. B. Wilson, R. B. Webster, F. Adlard, H. Massey, (Freemason), and F. Binckes (Secretary).

Bro. Binckes reported the withdrawal of J. Parker from the list of candidates for election in October. He also reported the purchase of the following stock, after £503 had been set aside for the Sustentation Fund:—

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146	5	1	"	"	153	11	4
				£3150 0 0			
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The subject of obtaining increased accommodation for secretary and clerks was also brought before the brethren, and the minutes of two meetings of the Special Committee to consider the matter were read. Various plans had been inspected by the Committee, and the Grand Secretary had been corresponded with; but no definite result had yet been arrived at. Bro. Binckes reported that the subject was still under consideration.

The Committee then adjourned.

CURIOSITIES OF THE POST OFFICE.

The Postmaster-General's annual report, issued on Wednesday, contains many curious facts. In Aberdeen a person was observed to deposit a letter in a disused street hydrant, and on the cover of the box being removed three other letters were found, the senders of which had similarly mistaken the water pillar for a pillar letter-box. The letters had been passed into the box through the space formerly occupied by the tap-lever. In a newspaper which reached the Returned Letter Office were found to be enclosed four sovereigns, and in another a gold locket. Nor does this kind of recklessness appear only in connection with newspapers; for a letter having a very large seal at the back was observed in course of transit, and on the seal, which had become slightly chipped, being examined, gold coins of the value of £1 10s. were discovered to be embedded in the wax. Miscellaneous articles, numbering 14,346, reached the Returned Letter Office, wholly destitute of covers. The senders of newspapers very often infringe the regulations by sending unauthorised articles of various kinds concealed between the folds. Of such enclosures the following amongst others were observed: Cigars and tobacco, collars, seaweed, ferns and flowers, gloves, handkerchiefs, music, patterns, sermons, stockings, lace, postage stamps, and money. During the 15 months ended the 31st March last no less than 593 registered letters were returned to the countries of origin in consequence of their containing coin or jewellery, contrary to the provisions of the general postal union. Of these more than three-fourths were from the United States.

The Post Office continues to be made the medium for the transmission of small articles of almost endless variety. Among others the following articles were observed:—Musical instruments and cutlery, artificial teeth and eyes, wigs, flowers, fruit and vegetables, game and fish, medicine and perfumery, articles of dress, leeches, frogs, snakes, and lizards. Several of these, however, being prohibited articles, were sent to the Returned Letter Office. A live snake which had escaped from a postal packet was discovered in the Holyhead and Kingstown Marine Post Office, and at the expiration of a fortnight, being still unclaimed, it was sent to the Dublin Zoological Gardens. A packet containing a live horned frog reached Liverpool from the United States, and was given up to the addressee, who called for it. Another packet, also from America, reached the Dublin Post Office containing two

live lizards, and was similarly given up to the addressee on personal application.

Complaints of the alleged loss of letters (adds the Postmaster-General) are not unfrequently made, and much trouble given to the department in investigating them, when the letters inquired for have not been posted at all. In one case it was stated that a letter containing £95 in bank notes had been lost, but upon the complainant being closely questioned he admitted that his statement was untrue and that it was invented to stave off for a few days the importunities of a creditor. In another case complaint was made that a letter addressed to a "Naturalist" had failed to reach its destination, but it was afterwards found in a cage on the premises of the addressee, where it had been placed by a monkey.

Letter carriers are peculiarly liable to be attacked by savage dogs. In one large town in the north of England the postmaster has reported that 20 per cent. of his men were bitten by dogs during the past year.

The want of information on the part of the public in regard to postal matters of the most ordinary kind cannot at times but give rise to wonder. A person in a fair position of life, residing in one of the Eastern counties, having obtained a money order from his postmaster, payable at a neighbouring town, called again a few days afterwards, and complained that his correspondent could not obtain payment in consequence of some irregularity in the advice. Thereupon a second advice was sent, but a few days later the sender called again, stating that the payee was still unable to obtain payment. The sender added that he was quite sure that he had sent the money, as he had the receipt in his pocket. On being asked to show it he produced the original order, which should, of course, have been forwarded to the payee, and without which the money could not be obtained.

Applications on the most various subjects are frequently made to the Post Office by persons both at home and abroad, indicating that the functions of the Postmaster-General are by some minds assumed to be of the most universal character. The following are specimens of such applications:—

Sir,—I have just been hearing of 3 men that was drowned about 9 months ago. I hear there was one of the men went under the name of John—. Could the manager of the office give any particulars about that man,—what he was like, or if there was such a name, or if he had any friend.—He just went amissing about that time. I here enclose a stamp, and address to, &c.—

To the Manager of the Dead office, Post Office, London.

To the General Post Office, London. I right these fue lines to ask you if you would be so kind as to tel me if there is such a person living in 'england.' She was living at Birmingham last Rümmas—this his mi sister and brother-in-law—they hant in Birmingham now—let this letter go to every general post office there is.

To the Editor of the General Post Office, London.—Will you please oblige Susannah — and Walter— with the particulars of an aspecial licence to get married—is it possible for you to forward one to us without either of us coming to you—if y:u inclose the charge and have it returned would we get one before next Monday week to get married at—. If you will kindly send per return to the address inclosed the particulars we should feel greatly obliged.

United States.

My dear Sir,—Will you do me the kind favour, as you are the Postmaster and able to know, as I judge of. It is this, give to me the full name and address of any "Mac—" that you know of in England, or in Scotland or Ireland or Wales or in India, or at or in any other country that you may know of, with their full names and correct address, so that I can write to them myself. If you have any list, or book, or pamphlet, with the names of parties who have died and left money or land to their heirs-at-law, or by will legacy left to their heirs, as I want such information, &c.

To his most honoured Sir, the Postmaster of London, England.

— Massachusetts.

My dear Sir,—I have tuke the liberty of addressing you, wishing to know if I could ask the favour by paying you for the trouble I ask to know. I have an old clock in my collection made by Henton Brown, London, in the first part of 1700. I would like to know where he was in business and when he died if it could be ascertained. Please inform me if you could find out by any record in London. I would pay you for all trouble. This darling — is one of the loveliest places in Massachusetts.

The Postmaster, London, England.

— Kent.

Sir,—Will you please inform me if there is to be a Baby show this year at Woolwich; if so, where it is to be holden, and what day. I have enclosed — stamp.

United States.

Mr. Postmaster,—I have always had a great desire to visit your country, but as I probly never shall, I thought I would write. I am a young lady attending the high school at —, a pictorest town bordering on the — river. Our country seat is four miles and a half west of —. My father is a rich gentleman farmer. We have four horses, 30 or 35 head of cattle, 15 or 20 pigs, and a large henery. We have about 250 acres of land, so of course we have to keep a house full of servants. We are quite well off in worldly goods, but should be better off if you could inform me about that fortune I expect from a great-uncle, great-aunt or somebody. It is about half a million either on my father's or mother's side. If you would be so kind as to write and inform me, I would be a thousand times obliged. If you would assist me in getting it I will reward you handsomely. The name is —. They used to be very fond of me when I was a crowing infant in my mother's arms. It is a very pretty country

out hear, with rolling prairies enter spersed with fine forests. There is a stream of water running through our land, a stream so softly and peacefully wild that it looks as if nature had only just made it and laid down her pencil and smiled. The school-room is just a little ways from—the name of our farm. It is the school-room where I learnt my A.B. abs, but I probly never shall go there to school again. It is the vacation now and I have come out on to the farm to stay till school commences again. It seems so nice to be where I can have new milk to drink, and nice fresh eggs again. I intend to enjoy myself till school commences again. Father has sold off most all of our horses, but he saved my riding horse, so I intend to have rides and drives without number. Well as I have said as much as you will care to read, I will stop. I hope you will excuse all mistakes as I am not a very old young lady—only 13 years old.

A depositor in the Post Office Savings Bank wrote to the department as follows: "Having lost my parents I am desirous of taking a housekeeper's situation where a domestic is kept—must be a dissenting family, Baptist preferred. Thinking that such a case might come under your notice, I have therefore taken the liberty of sending to you." Another depositor, apprehensive lest some person might withdraw money from his account, proposed to send his likeness to be used for identifying him, and then made the following curious request: "There are some little articles I would like to get from London, and one of them is some natural leaf tobacco, which I would be glad if you sent an ounce of and charge me for it—it is only to be bought in the largest tobacc stores." In a further letter, the depositor expressed surprise that his request was not compiled with, observing that—"the commonest person in America (my country) can speak to General Grant, and there is nothing said wrong about it." In another case, a woman forwarded her will, and requested to be informed whether it was "correct in case of death."

Obituary.

BRO. THE REV. WILLIAM LAKE ONSLOW.

We sincerely regret the melancholy duty that devolves upon us this week of announcing to our readers the death of Bro. the Rev. Wm. Lake Onslow, the Junior Grand Chaplain. Many will learn of this sad event with some surprise, and we have no doubt but the majority of those present at Grand Lodge on Wednesday last, were somewhat startled by the announcement from the Grand Secretary. Bro. Onslow who was the rector of Sandringham, and Chaplain to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and formerly tutor to the Prince, was in his 58th year. He had been in failing health for some little time and died at the Rectory, Sandringham, on Friday morning the 31st ult. We think the following account of his Masonic career will prove of some interest to our readers.

Bro. Onslow (while serving in H.M.S. Euryalus, Captain J. W. Tarleton, C.B., as especial Naval Instructor to H.R.H. Prince Alfred) was initiated in the Union Lodge, at Malta, on the 28th of Dec., 1859, and duly received the Second and Third Degrees; was admitted into the Royal Arch on the 30th day of Dec., 1859, in the chapter attached to the Union Lodge, No. 558, at Malta; was received into the degree of Mark Master Mason on the 3rd day of July, 1861, in the Virgin Lodge, No. 588, Halifax, Nova Scotia; while serving as Chaplain and Naval Instructor of H.M.S. St. George, Captain the Honourable F. Egerton, he became Chaplain of the Virgin Lodge, and on leaving for England the brethren presented the rev. brother with a beautiful Mark jewel, made of pure gold of Nova Scotia; while acting as Chaplain and Naval Instructor of H.M.S. Raccoon, commanded by the Count Gleichen, he became Chaplain of the Lodge of Friendship, No. 278, at Gibraltar, from Dec., 1863, to May, 1864, and was appointed Provincial Grand Chaplain for the province of Gibraltar. Returning to England to take the living of Sandringham at the kind desire of our M.W. Grand Master, he became Chaplain of the Philanthropic Lodge, No. 107, King's Lynn, in 1866, and which office he held until his death; he was appointed, during the regime of the Honourable Fred. Walpole, Provincial Grand Chaplain for Norfolk; he preached the sermon on the occasion of the Provincial Grand Lodge meeting at North Walsham, in 1870. Bro. W. Lake Onslow's services as Chaplain in H.M.'s navy were many and brilliant.

BRO. JOHN THORNTON.

One of the oldest Freemasons in the province of West Lancashire has passed away, and another blank has been made in the circle of Masonic worthies in Liverpool. After a short illness, Bro. John Thornton, at the ripe age of 73, died on the 27th August, at his residence, 41, Park-lane, Liverpool, deeply regretted by numerous brethren in his own and other lodges. He was a zealous Freemason, an unassuming and amiable man, and greatly respected by all who came into contact with him, both in and out of the Order. He was a P.M. of the Lodge of Harmony, No. 220; the St. John's Lodge, No. 673; and the Senior P.M. of the Duke of Edinburgh Lodge, No. 1182, as well as M.E.Z. of St. John's Chapter, No. 673. He took an active interest in all Masonic charities, and was ever ready to give the helping hand of true brotherhood to the needy and distressed.

The mortal remains of Bro. Thornton were interred in St. James's Cemetery, Liverpool, on Thursday, the 30th ult. The fact of his being so old a Mason and so widely known and respected by the body induced the brethren of the two lodges and the chapter to which he was attached to pay every possible respect to his memory; accordingly the brethren of St. John's Lodge and Chapter and the Duke

of Edinburgh Lodge were summoned to meet at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, at 1 p.m., which they did in large numbers, there being present among many others (of St. John's) the W.M., Bro. H. Burrows; P.M.'s Wm. Thos. May, J. T. Callow, Thos. Clark, Joshua Hocker, Thos. Roberts, Martin Corless, R. Pearson, and E. Kyle; Bros. D. Jackson, S.W.; W. Brackbenbury, J.W.; L. Herman, S.D.; John Seddon, J.D.; T. Firthshaw, I.G., &c. Of the Duke of Edinburgh Lodge, the W.M., Bro. J. Williams; P.M.'s R. Martin, jun., T. B. Myers, J. Edginton, J. W. Williams, and P. R. Thurn; Bro. W. Brown, Treasurer; Thos. Davies, S.W.; G. Murker, J.W.; A. D. Hesketh, Sec.; J. C. Lawson, &c. Among the visitors were Bros. the Rev. H. G. Vernon, P.P.G. Chaplain W.L. (who conducted the service); W. Doyle, P.P.G.D. W.L.; J. Jackson, P.M. 667; W. Vaughan, P.M., and a large number of other representatives from various lodges. After the lodge had been opened up to the Third Degree by the W.M. of St. John's Lodge, the chair was taken by Bro. W. T. May, P.M., Bro. R. Martin, P.M., in the S.W. chair, as representing the Duke of Edinburgh Lodge, and Bro. T. Clark, P.M. and P.Z., in the J.W. chair, as representing St. John's Chapter. When the beautiful Masonic ritual appointed for the lodge room was gone through, the brethren then proceeded to the late residence of the deceased, 41, Park Lane, and preceded the funeral cortege to the cemetery. After the religious ceremony in the chapel and at the grave side had been gone through by the P.P.G. Chaplain, Bro. W. T. May, P.M., delivered the Masonic exhortation, prayers being read by the Chaplain amid the most solemn attention of the relatives and brethren around the grave. The brethren then returned to Hope-street, and duly closed the lodge, the whole of the proceedings throughout being conducted in the most regular and decorous manner.

ROBBERY OF FOREIGN BONDS.

Yesterday, at the Mansion-house, John Carr, 48, described as of no occupation, and as residing at 20, Osborne-terrace, Clapham-road, was brought before Alderman Sir Robert Carden, charged on suspicion with being concerned with Charles Martin, in custody, and others still at large, in stealing on or about the 1st of June last, while in transit from London to Paris, foreign bonds of the value of £70,000, the property of Messrs. Henry Louis Raphael and Sons, bankers, 25, Throgmorton-street. He was also accused of feloniously receiving, well knowing them to have been stolen, Peruvian bonds of the nominal value of £20,000, belonging to Messrs. Louis Cohen and Sons, stockbrokers, 31, Throgmorton-street.

Mr. George Lewis, jun., solicitor, conducted the prosecution; Mr. Blanchard Wontner, solicitor, the defence.

Robert Outram, a detective-sergeant of the City of London Police, said on Tuesday morning he received ten Bank-notes for £100 each, which he produced at the offices of Messrs. Lewis and Lewis, solicitors, Ely-place, Holborn. In company with a person whom he met there he went to the Gower-street railway station. He arrived there at 20 minutes to 1 o'clock. At 1 o'clock he was introduced to the prisoner as "Mr. Fox, of Brighton," by the person who accompanied him and whose name he did not know. They all went into a publichouse together and had something to drink, for which witness paid. The prisoner, having given them a cigar each, said to witness, "Well, you know our business?" He replied, "Yes; I am prepared to buy those bonds." The prisoner said, "All right," and witness, addressing him, said, "You see I have got the flimsies (showing him the notes), but where are the bonds?" He replied, "They are not far off." They all three then left the publichouse. In the Euston-road the prisoner said, "I only do business with one person; you and I (meaning witness) will take a cab." A cab was called, and witness and he drove to the Great Northern Hotel. On the way there the prisoner said, "You know the price of these bonds." Witness replied, "Yes, a thousand." The prisoner inquired, "What are you going to do with them?" Witness said he had got a market for them. The prisoner then said, "They are as good as sovereigns if you get them into the hands of the right people." Witness replied, "Yes, my man has had two or three lots before." The prisoner asked him if he was "a square man," and the witness said he might rely upon that. On reaching the Great Northern Hotel they went into a room on the fourth floor. The prisoner bolted the door carefully, and from a bag which he unlocked produced a parcel, which proved to contain Peruvian bonds. He said, "There they are." Witness tied up the parcel, and said, "I am a detective-sergeant from the City, and you must consider yourself in custody." He drew back and exclaimed "What!" Witness said, "My name is Outram. I am a detective-sergeant in the City Police; these bonds have been stolen, and you will have to go with me to the City," adding, "We had better do the thing quietly." The prisoner said, "All right." On going down stairs and while waiting for the cab, he said, "You are very premature about saying these are stolen." Witness replied, "Perhaps so." They then drove to the Police-station in Bow-lane, where he was afterwards charged. Witness found two keys upon the prisoner.

Mr. Lewis said the prisoner had had a safe at the National Safe Deposit Company's premises.

Mr Charles Waugh, a clerk to Messrs. Louis Cohen and Sons, stockbrokers, 31, Throgmorton-street, deposed that he had examined the bonds in question (Peruvian Five per cent., 1872), and found that they were of the nominal value of £20,000. In June last the firm delivered these bonds, with others, for transmission to their correspondents in Paris. He took the numbers of them. The bonds produced were among those in the parcel.

Mr. Lewis said that was all the evidence he proposed to tender that day.

Sir Robert Carden remanded the prisoner until Friday next, when he will be brought up with the prisoner Martin, and then again remanded formally for another week.

FREEMASONRY IN THE UNITED STATES.

CENTENNIAL LODGE, No. 763.

In this lodge, last Tuesday evening, transpired one of those events which illumine the path of the true Mason, as he toils on behalf of the fraternity to which he devotes so many hours of thought. The lodge was crowded to witness the presentation, by Centennial Lodge, of certificates of honorary membership to Masons well known to the Craft as honourable men, honoured and titled by their brethren. After the usual routine business of the lodge, M.W. Bro. John W. Symons, P.G. Master of Masons of the State of New York, said in substance: "Worshipful Master, Wardens and brethren,—in a part of the ritual, perhaps never better exemplified than by you, Master, you have been told of the seven liberal arts and sciences, to which should be added another art, or rather science, known as that of Magnetism. Not the electric spark, which by the wire is flashed around the globe; but that personal magnetism, which attracts to the possessor of it the hearts of his brethren. The magnet here to-night is R.W. Chas. L. Arthur, who is unsurpassed in drawing to him the hearts of the members of this lodge and the Fraternity. On their behalf it is my pleasant duty, R.W. Sir, to present to you this certificate of honorary membership in Centennial Lodge. Take it, with my hand, and God bless you: may you live long to enjoy your well-deserved honours.

R.W. Bro. Arthur replied as follows: "Most Worshipful Sir, Worshipful Master, Wardens and brethren of the Centennial Lodge, I have been the recipient of so much kindness from my brethren that to me it is often a matter of doubt as to which lodge I belong. From my first crossing the portals of this lodge I have been met with courtesy and kindness which I have done nothing to merit. The obligations are all on one side, but I assure you, brethren, if it is in my power, morning, noon or night, to benefit in any way the brethren of Centennial Lodge, I will be most happy in doing so. Brethren, I thank you.

The R.W. Bro. took his seat amid loud applause.

The Master then presented, in eloquent and fraternal words, R.W. John C. Boak, Grand Marshal of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, with a certificate of honorary membership.

The R.W. Bro., in reply, said: "It was my good fortune to assist at the organization of Centennial Lodge, and to be with it at intervals to the present time. His remarks conveyed fraternal feelings towards the brethren in choice words, which were received with great applause.

R. W. Bro. Wm. V. King, of the Seventh Masonic District, was selected by the Master to present to W. Bro. Flandreau, of John Hancock Lodge, a certificate of honorary membership in Centennial Lodge. This was bringing in juxtaposition two brethren known for their merit and modesty; consequently the brethren had short speeches, but eloquent ones, and received them with applause.

The next recipient of honours was W. Bro. Frank Meyers, of Emmanuel Lodge. In this instance also the Master was happy in making a selection, the eloquent and fraternal remarks of W. Bro. Malignon meeting with a like response from W. Bro. Frank Meyers, who said, among other pleasant things, that he was not only glad to meet the members of Centennial in the lodge, but out in the world, they being not only gentlemen, but Masons.

The brethren who occupied the east, at the invitation of W. Bro. Godchaud, were: M. W. John W. Simons, R. W. Chas. S. Arthur, R. W. John C. Boak, W. Bros. Benj. Flandreau and Frank Meyers, R.W. Bros. Wm. V. King, C. H. King, Henry C. Banks, and J. B. Conover, W. Bros. D. Wile, Chas. H. Mayer, B. Martin, Dessoye, Malignon, Bunnell, and Barbour.

The Master Mason's Degree was conferred on five Fellow Crafts by the Master, Wardens, and staff of Centennial Lodge in an excellent manner.

The music of Bro. Graham was appropriate, and well rendered.

The lodge closed in harmony, and the brethren departed satisfied that Centennial Lodge had had a gala night, seldom equalled in the Masonic reunions of the great metropolis.—*New York Dispatch.*

A magnificent service of plate, which cost 6000 guineas, and is the result of private subscription, has been presented to the Manchester Corporation by Mr. Alderman Curtis, the ex-Mayor, during whose mayoralty the subscription was promoted, and will be used at the banquet in celebration of the opening of the new town hall next week.

"THE CHINESE EMBASSY."—Le Shu Chang, Chief Secretary Imperial Chinese Embassy; Fung Yee, Chief Interpreter; and Szu Tinfau Chang, attaché, have this week left London on a short visit to Bro. Dr. Vincent Ambler, K.C.S., at Brighton. Bro. Ambler is also at present entertaining some members of the Japanese Legation.

The Romford Local Board have made their arrangements for the lighting of the town by oil-lamps. It is stated that their clerk has received applications from various local bodies, asking to be informed of the result of the experiment.

SKETCHES OF MASONIC CHARACTER.
No. III.

BRO. JONES AT COWES.

Few of us there are who do not know "Bro. Jones, of ours." He is a most admirable Mason, and a very worthy fellow, with a good deal to say for himself, pleasant and humorous, conciliatory and considerate. He is universally popular, and always welcome.

Whether at the "Ajax" or the "Xenophon," whether at the "Undeniability" or the "Verity," whether at the "Boadicea" or the "Cecilia," he is equally to the fore, and equally in the good esteem of his brethren. In fact he knows everything and everybody, and is emphatically one of the "Lights of Masonry," as he always has a neat little anecdote to retail to an admiring circle, a good story to announce, with a smiling face, and a cheery voice.

He is a very zealous Mason, has been W.M. several times and has served the Stewardships of all the Charities over and over again. So well is Jones known, so widely are his good qualities realised, that he is an authority on most matters, from a lodge dinner to a lodge testimonial, from a prince to a pedigree, from a glass of Moët's champagne to that "special bottle of very dry sherry." He is a sort of "arbitrator elegantiarum" and "ductor dubitantium" combined, and brethren often await earnestly and breathlessly his decision on a dispute, a point of constitutional law, or an axiom of social etiquette! In fact Bro. Jones is a very useful fellow, as well as a good fellow, and when "Atropos" snips his thread of life he will be a "missed man."

And then he has many good qualities which render him valuable as a citizen of the world, as well as a brother Mason. He is warm-hearted and straight-running, an enemy to slander and mischief-making, kindly and tolerant, friendly and forbearing.

In more than one lodge his virtues and his value are warmly appreciated, and some even go so far as to say that the lodge meeting is hardly the lodge meeting without Bro. Jones, that the festive symposium seems dull and heavy when his cheery voice is unheard, when his smiling face is "non est." But Jones, like all great men, has his weaknesses, and those are a love of yachting, and fear of Mrs. Jones—facts, stern stubborn facts in themselves, which often interfere with his usefulness, and often diminish his influence, for, strange to say, home life reacts on social life, and vice versa, and the hero of a successful assembly, and the favourite of hearty plaudits, is often (if you could, like Asmodeus, take off the tiles of his abode), a sorry representative of us "Lords of the Creation." Yes, strip off the masks from our faces, and the drapery off the scene, and we are too often like wearied actors who sit dejected at the wings, for the applause is over, the stalls will rise no more.

And so when Jones returns in November to his lodge, his best friends avoid the subject of yachts and Cowes, for once start him, there is no stopping him; he will go on eloquently by the hour about that "stiff breeze," and "hard over," and "luff," and "smashing" his jib boom. He will inform you what a narrow shave we had, and had he not said "up helm, round in your weather braces," or, "till and wear round; bear a hand every soul of you," "we had better get a reef in the mainsail," "keep her away a bit," "braill up the mainsail," he does not know what would have happened. Bro. Lt. Warriner, R.N., a very zealous Mason, often laughs at Bro. Jones when he talks of "old Salts," and says something about "land-lubbers." But good fellow as he is, Lt. Warriner, like all professionals, dislikes the "civilian element."

Well, he is not singular. Of Jones's wife we say nothing at the lodge. There are awful stories about her. They aver that Jones catches it whenever he is late, and Bro. Finucan, who knows Jones and his wife very well—they live up in Maïda Vale—says, "Bedad, sir, Jones has his troubles. You would hardly believe it, sir, but the other night that obdurate woman kicked up a deuce of a row about some hot water for our potheen. If ever we get 'home rule' in the Green Island, we will somehow or other legislate for snarling females and bad-tempered wives." Much, no doubt, that is retailed about Mrs. Jones is a "canard," though we agree with Bro. Templeman, who states, "If I had a wife like Jones I would remain single." So let us pity poor Jones of ours, and make the lodge room very pleasant to him, for it is just possible that for him the good old national melody, "Home, sweet home, there is no place like home," has not much attraction, but to him there floats, rather as it were, on the pinions of memory, a classic strain of festive hours, with much more of pleasure, which declares "We won't go home till morning, till daylight does appear."

We do not wish our readers to infer that touching "Refrain" lingers still among Masonic lodges, for we have altered all that for years; and the normal condition of the lodge to which we belong is that at 9.30 the Tyler gives his toast, and at 10 we wend our way to our Lares and Penates, and

"Some have gone home to their slumbers,
And some have gone home to their wives."

When next you see Bro. Jones be very considerate and courteous to him, for his public merits are many, and his home trials are great.

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.—AdvT.

Masonic and General Tidings.

Lord Carnarvon, M.W. Pro Grand Master, arrived at Highclere Castle, near Newbury, on Tuesday, from Pixton Park, his lordship's Somersetshire estate.

The annual Court of Governors of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution will be held at the Town Hall, Southport, on Wednesday, October 3rd, at 12 o'clock.

Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Waveney, R.W. P.G.M. Suffolk, has left town for his shooting quarters in Inverness-shire.

There are, according to the *Keystone*, 555 Commanderies in the United States, and 46,235 Knights; while the whole number of Commanderies in the world is 687, and of Knights, 48,735. The United States has thus the lion's share.

Lord Sandon has consented to preside at the annual meeting of the Burslem School of Science and Art and to distribute prizes to the successful students on the 17th inst.

The Chinese Ambassador has written to the Lord Provost of Glasgow regretting that he is prevented by ill-health from visiting Glasgow as he had intended.

The appointment of Mr. G. B. Newton as General Manager of the North London Railway, in succession to Mr. Mansell, at a salary running into three figures, is another indication that the directors of the various systems are beginning to see that it is better to have direct communication with the heads of departments than to obtain information through a chief official. For Mr. Newton is still to act as secretary, which signifies the post of General Manager is virtually abolished, in the same way as the London and North-Western Company made Mr. Findlay Chief Traffic Manager when Mr. Cawkwell resigned the position of General Manager, and left the latter office to lapse. On the London and North-Western system the chiefs of the other departments now report direct to the Board, instead of through a General Manager as formerly, and this will probably be the rule on all lines as soon as vacancies occur in the management. Indeed the South-Eastern soon followed the lead of the London and North-Western, for upon the death of Mr. C. W. Eborall, the position of General Manager was conferred upon Mr. Shaw, the Secretary, who now describes himself as "Secretary and General Manager."

The *Choir* states that Bro. C. E. Tinney is the successor to Mr. Thurley Beale, who has resigned his post of vicar choral of St. Paul's Cathedral.

THE SEA SERPENT AGAIN.—The bark Georgina, Captain Melhuish, arrived at Falmouth this week from Rangoon. The chief officer, Mr. William Douglas, says that when the vessel was in lat. 2 N., long. 90 53 E., at 6 o'clock in the morning of May 21, a large snake or serpent of a dark gray and yellow colour crossed the Georgina's bow from the starboard side, disappearing on the port quarter. The reptile, which was about 50ft. long and 1 1/2 in. in thickness, was seen for 20 minutes by the mate and all the crew, who were on deck. Captain Melhuish was below in his cabin at the time. For some days previously the crew had seen several smaller ones of from 6ft. to 10ft. in length playing about the vessel.

THE DANGERS OF BICYCLES.—The watch committee of Liverpool, in view of the dangers arising from the noiseless approach of bicycles, have recommended to the council that a bye-law should be passed rendering it imperative that bicyclists and velocipedists generally shall have a bell attached to their vehicles to indicate their approach, the penalty for non-compliance with the bye-law being £5.

News has been received in Calcutta from Burmah of the destruction of the Krishna lighthouse, which marked a dangerous shoal near the entrance to the Rangoon river. The lighthouse was an iron structure, built on piles. It has entirely disappeared.

The proposed site for Cleopatra's Needle has called forth a number of objections, and various suggestions have been made respecting other and more prominent positions for the monument. Of course the great difficulty is the conveyance of the Needle through the streets, and it is for this reason that a river-side site has been most favoured; but could this difficulty be overcome we think that one of the best positions has been suggested by a correspondent, namely, the Kensington Gardens end of Rotten Row, close by the bend of the road. From here the Needle might be seen from a considerable distance, and would be clearly visible from Hyde Park Corner. In the meantime the Needle has now been completely encased in her iron hull at Alexandria, and by last advices was in course of launching. After the vessel has been floated she will be towed to the old harbour, in order that her masts, sails, &c., may be fitted.

It is with some pleasure that we announce that Fleet-street, which has been closed for upwards of eight weeks for wood-paving, was opened at a few minutes to eleven o'clock on Thursday morning.

We are asked to state that the La Tolerance, No. 538, meets every Wednesday evening, at 7.45, at the Horse and Groom, Winsley-street, Oxford-street, under the able preceptorship of Bro. T. A. Adams, P.G.P.

It was decided on Wednesday to present General Grant with the freedom of Dundee on the occasion of his visit to that place.

A new building is about to be erected in Queen Victoria-street to accommodate temporarily the Central Savings Bank, until permanent provision can be made for that and other departments for which there is at present no accommodation in the General Post Office buildings, St. Martin's-le-Grand

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.—

The friendly challenge of the Grocers' Company's Schools to a trial of cricketing strength on the Alexandra Palace Ground, promises, with fine weather, to result in a very agreeable half-holiday for the boys on the 15th inst. The assent of the Committee having been given to the match, the lessees of the Alexandra Palace kindly extended their invitation to the whole establishment at Wood Green, and 2 or 3 cricketing prizes have been kindly promised by the Crystal Palace Lodge and the Lewis Chapter. It is not improbable that prizes for other sports may be offered before the day.

The first boat presented by the Jewish community to the National Life-boat Institution was launched at Newhaven on Tuesday last.

The Mansion House Indian Famine Relief Fund now exceeds £100,000.

A serious scaffold accident occurred inside of Anderton's Hotel (Bro. Clemow's), Fleet-street, on Wednesday afternoon. It appears that a workman stepped on a loose pole, which broke, and the whole of the scaffolding gave way, precipitating a number of men to the ground. One of them, George Lake, a married man, sustained severe injuries, and was removed to St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

ST. JAMES'S PARK.—It is announced, for the convenience of the public, that the road between Buckingham Gate and Storey's Gate will be closed on the 10th for a few days, for repairs.

The death is announced of Mr. Edward Wilson, consulting engineer to the Great Western, Great Eastern, and Metropolitan Railways, and to many Irish lines.

We are informed that the Lord Mayor (Bro. Sir Thos. White) will be proposed for election as treasurer of St. Thomas's Hospital, in succession to the late Sir Francis Hicks.

THE SPANISH POST OFFICE.—In consequence of the representations made by the English and French governments to that of Spain respecting the numerous losses of letters and packets containing valuable enclosures originating in France and England, addressed to Spain, the Spanish government has arranged for the investigation of the matter by a mixed commission, which will meet at Madrid about the 18th of September. Sir John Walsham, Her Majesty's Charge d'Affaires at Madrid (who will be assisted by Mr. Phillips, of the Secretary's Department of the General Post Office) will represent the English, and the Comte de Montebello, the French Post Office; a special commissioner appointed by the Spanish government also taking part in the proceedings.

Bath is not the city, neither are the Assembly-rooms, in which Mr. Pickwick made the acquaintance of Angelo Cyrus Bantam, Esq., M.C., the exact place in which one would expect to hear of a positively indecent spectacle. Yet such a spectacle was announced the other day as on view at the Bath Assembly-rooms. "Tour of the Rescued Tynnewydd Miners" was the heading of the sensational advertisement which "respectfully informed the public that arrangements have been made for an entertainment to be given by the Five Entombed Miners, Moses Powell, David Jenkins, Geo. Jenkins, John Thomas, and the Boy Hughes, who were entombed in the Tynnewydd Mine through the flooding of the Cymmer Pit for the period of ten days and nights without tasting food. Nothing in the annals of history has ever caused such a profound sensation throughout the whole country." As a finishing stroke, it was proclaimed that "Moses Powell, one of the entombed, will give a touching account of the sufferings in the pit, and also describe the various illustrations." This seems to me a reductio ad scandalum of a very detestable custom, which may, perhaps, be traced to the starring tour made by Sayers and Heenan after their international prize-fight. That champion pugilists, swimmers, and pedestrians should display themselves to a provincial or any other public at so much a head is an undignified and mercenary proceeding enough. But that men who have been snatched out of the jaws of death by the heroic and most perilous exertions of their brother-miners, whose prolonged agony of suspense, hunger, and thirst, patiently endured, excited the admiration of the whole country, should be introduced as lay figures in an entertainment; that one of their number should recite an ad captandum account of sufferings which danger, deliverance, and sympathy have alike rendered sacred,—is an outrage on taste and feeling contemptible in the entrepreneur who perpetrates, and the public which witnesses it.—*The World*.

POSTAL TELEGRAMS.—The Postmaster-General has issued the following notice to the public: "The address of the sender of a telegram is not required for any purpose of signalling, and should be omitted in all cases where the addressee will be able to identify the sender without it. For reference, the address should be added at the bottom or on the back of the message form. In sending telegrams, firms and public companies should adopt their briefest 'style,' and should avoid the use of stamps containing full name, title, and address. The prefixes 'Mr.' and 'Messrs.' and the affixes 'Esq.' 'Limited,' &c., should be omitted, as far as possible, in the addresses of both senders and addressees. Brevity in these respects ensures swifter transmission without any attendant risk."

THE BALACLAVA BANQUET.—Lady Cardigan has presented a magnificent donation towards the expenses of the banquet to the survivors of the Balacava Charge, to be held in London on the 25th October. It has been ascertained that out of the gallant 600 there are 100 survivors, the majority of whom will be present at the banquet.

The title of the forthcoming Christmas number of the "Quiver" is "The Archer."

COSMOPOLITAN MASONIC CALENDAR FOR 1878.

In order to obtain complete accuracy in the information given in this work, the Publisher will be glad to receive from the Officers or Members of London Lodges, Chapters, &c., the place, day, and months of meeting of their respective Lodges and Chapters. An official form, if necessary, for the information to be filled in, will be sent on application. All communications in this matter should be addressed at once to the Publisher, 198, Fleet-street, E.C.

NOTICE.

THE HOLIDAYS.—Brethren leaving town for the holidays can have the *Freemason* forwarded to any new address on communicating with the Publisher.

Non-Subscribers can have copies forwarded for two or more weeks on receipt of postage stamps at the rate of 2½d per copy.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

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

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

TO 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.

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.

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.

Answers to Correspondents.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

"Scottish Freemason," "Penny Pictorial News," "Young Folks' Budget," "Poet's Magazine," "Jottings in the Shade," "The Liberal Freemason," "Keystone," "Railway Adventure," "Geoffrey Oliphant's Folly," "Monde Maçonique," "Masonic Token," "New York Dispatch," "Hebrew Leader."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

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

BIRTHS.

BAKER.—On the 28th ult., at 26, Wimpole-street, the wife of W. M. Baker, of a son.

HAMILTON.—On the 26th ult., at Biarritz, South of France, Mrs. Dacre Hamilton, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

BAKER—PEACHEY.—On the 1st inst., at St. Mark's, West Hackney, by the Rev. Protheroe Alpe, George, youngest son of the late John Thomas Baker, of Lavenham, Suffolk, to Mary Ann, eldest daughter of the late Geo. Peachey, of 72 and 73, Bishopsgate-street-within, London, E.C. No cards.

HUGHES—MOYLE.—On the 4th ult., at St. Paul's Church, Poonah, Bombay Presidency, Walter Charleton Hughes, executive engineer, to Kate Louisa, fifth daughter of Colonel C. A. Moyle, commandant, Asirghur.

DEATHS.

BENEDICT.—On the 3rd inst., at 2, Manchester-square, Alice Boulan, youngest and beloved daughter of Sir Julius Benedict.

FRERE.—On the 27th ult., at Achenkirch, Austrian Tyrol, John Alex. Frere, M.A., late vicar of Shillington, Beds, aged 68.

WELLS.—On the 31st ult., at 21, Chapel-street, Grcsvenor-square, Albiuia, widow of Henry Wells, Esq.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1877.

THE LAST QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

Owing to the early hour at which we go to press on Thursdays, we are unable to call the attention of our readers, as we should have wished to do, fully, to the proceedings of the last Grand Lodge. This is one of the penalties of early publication, though it is possibly counterbalanced by the fact that our London subscribers receive our paper on Friday morning, and our country friends on Saturday morning. We propose in our next issue to consider the meeting of the last Quarterly Communication, the agenda paper, and the result achieved, carefully in detail. The Grand Lodge unanimously voted the grants to St. John's and Peru, and most wisely and liberally also passed with unanimity Bro. Clabon's motion to vote £1000 to the Indian Famine Relief Fund now being organised by the Lord Mayor. With respect to the proposed limitation of the Board of Benevolence, the suggestion of the Board of General Purposes was deferred for consideration until March. We shall recur to the subject in our next, as we said before.

THE CONSECRATION OF THE EVENING STAR LODGE.

The consecration of this new lodge, which we fully reported in our last, was a great success, and reflects no little credit on all concerned, especially on our esteemed and energetic Bro. Magnus Ohren. We have attended many consecrations, but we hardly ever attended one in which all the work of Freemasonry was so smoothly, so effectually, and so impressively performed, and in which all felt that the ceremony they were taking part in, despite the cavils of the censorious, or the depreciation of the antagonistic, was a very "real thing." To some Freemasonry is an idle form, a convivial meeting, a benefit order, and nothing more. To others it appears a "goose club," an unreality, and a sham. Now we confess that for all these classes of minds we do not affect to write to-day, we regret their dislike or depreciation, we laugh at their sarcasms, or their contempt; and we do not mind either their fault-finding or their condemnation, while we deplore their ignorance of our tenets and our practice, and quietly put on one side their censures, and their anathemata. To us Freemasonry is something both very pleasant and very true, very interesting, and very cherished. It recalls old days and ancient friends; it summons up before us gracious hours of youthful harmony and harmless gaiety; it tells us of "Time's encroaching hand," yet of friendships which have never faltered, of honest hearts which have never grown cold, and kindly faces which have never ceased to smile on us! Indeed, to many of us Freemasonry represents the best part of our life, which kindly associations have graced, and a genial fellowship has dominated. We look back to-day. We can recall in kindly vision, the old lodge and the assembled brethren, and if some are wanting from that brilliant circle, if we discern gaps in the serried rows of cheery companions, memory still speaks to us, full voiced and tenderly, of those whom we never more shall hail, dear members of our mystic tie. Yes, the waning hour recalls in pleasurable emotion many a hardworking fellow labourer, many a true-hearted companion of "Auld Lang Syne." Aye, and more than this, when the decorated lodge room and the festive scene fade from our sight, there rises up before us the goodly memento of much honest work, for God and man, in the best of all toils, gentle, goodly, loving charity. Why, then, should any of us be timid or hesitating when we speak of our good old Order, to-day? Why should we whisper in "bated breath," or treat with half-hearted callousness, the windbag or the fanatic of the hour, who rail at what they do not understand, and depreciate the worth of an Institution which, through density

or selfishness, they cannot realize? Far be from us any such mealy-mouthedness or fearfulness, any want of faith in Freemasonry. The more we see of it, the older we grow, the greater appear to us to be its claims on our intelligence and our affections, and therefore our heartfelt aspirations for "our brave old Craft" is "Esto perpetua" as long as Time itself shall last, to witness the struggles of man, to declare the Providence of God. We congratulate all, we repeat, who were concerned in the consecration of the Evening Star Lodge, for their motto was truly "thorough," and most efficiently did all perform their duty, most signal was the success of the day. We wish to this new lodge all prosperity. The only ingredient of disappointment and of regret arose from the indisposition of its most worthy and respected W.M., Bro. A. D. Filer. We rejoice to be able to say, on the authority of Bro. Magnus Ohren, that our most respected and esteemed brother is better, and that it is hoped that when the lodge next meets, it may gladly hail in the royal chair the brother so judiciously selected to preside over them as its first W.M., whose zeal for Freemasonry is so well known, and who lives in the hearts and memories of his brethren.

OUR LATE GRAND CHAPLAIN.

We deeply regret to have to announce to the Craft the lamented death of our esteemed Grand Chaplain, the Rev. W. Lake Onslow, Vicar of Sandringham. He had served his country efficiently as a naval chaplain, and wore the Baltic and Burmah medals, the fifth class of the Mejidjie, and the star and order of the Osmanli. We are told that his amiable disposition and kind consideration for all made him a great favourite. By all, from the Prince and Princess downwards, he was held in the highest estimation, and his death has created a blank at Sandringham which will not be easily filled. His health has been very precarious for the last year or two, but a fortnight ago he was at the public luncheon in connection with the sale of Shorthorns and Southdowns at Sandringham, and few who heard his cheery voice on that occasion could have thought his end so near. We feel sure that the regret of the Order will accompany those of his parishioners, family, and friends.

SEASIDE MANNERS.

We publish elsewhere from one of our contemporaries, *The Times*, the great organ of public complaints, and private grumbling, "more Britannorum," a selection from a host of letters in respect of some recent unfeeling behaviour to passengers landing at Folkestone, sick and suffering, and which undoubtedly deserves both reprehension and repression. Indeed, Sister Jenkinson writes to us to say, that it must be "put down," for she continues "women weak, ailing, and unprotected, will no longer submit to the taunts of an uncivilized crowd, and the horsey jokes of young men, dressed as groom boys." Mrs. Jenkinson, when she chooses to be severe, as Jenkinson admits, can be severe. But seriously, it is only fair to observe that the evils of long standing. It has long been the privilege of the "Beau Monde" at Folkestone, to witness the departure for, and the arrivals of the steam boats from Boulogne. Indeed it may be said to be part of the daily life of the average Folkestonian, whether visitor or resident. At the appointed hours you may see groups of old and young wending their way to the pier, and as the boat disgorges its load, the passengers, male and female, weak, unsteady, and "pale with suppressed emotion," have to run the gauntlet of a critical and not always silent crowd of "impassioned gazers." It is well then, philosophically to observe, amidst this chorus of complaints in various pitches of tone and temper, that though such a greeting on landing on the hospitable shores of England is not an agreeable episode, especially after a two hours "bucketting on the treacherous main," yet that like eels, we can all for the most part, become accustomed to anything, and our great remedy is unflinching patience. The present

"loud" grievance seems to have arisen, from some idle excursionists, and some silly young men, neither uncommon bores just now, and we think that it is an abnormal occurrence, one at any rate "above par" in respect of the wonted facetiousness and polished amenities of a Folkestone crowd of "waiters" if not on "Providence," on the "Bowlong Steam boats." While then, we feel that we cannot always expect "smooth water," and that we must all "rough it a little," we yet strongly object to remarks on elderly, middle-aged, and young females, just landed from a rough passage, as alike unmanly and unseasonable. Our fair sisters, always an object of sympathy to us, seem especially so to be, in that depressed and crumpled condition in which they too often land after a boisterous crossing, and deserve all pity and consideration, instead of chaff and criticism at the hand of that pitiless monster man. We also venture to opine that if ladies, (yes, ladies), and gentlemen, old and young, will chaff unoffending passengers, they should do so "sotto voce," as surely the "horrors of the mid-channel" are enough for sensitive bosoms and shivering frames, without the "horse laugh" or the vapid joke of the idle and the witless, and the useless loungeur. Still our young men must have something to do, and at present their idea of amusement does not go very far. This perhaps, is as harmless as any, even though they do hurt the feelings of some suffering women, the feeble, the lame, the ailing—what does it matter? There are things which a "fella" must see, do, and say, at Folkestone, and why deprive him of an avocation marked by so much good taste and such good feeling? They might do worse, poor young fellows. Let us hope that good sense and kindly consideration will put an end to proceedings which seem only worthy of "roughs," and which, to say the truth, are a disgrace to the good manners of the public, and indeed to all concerned.

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.]

A QUERY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,
If "E. M." will refer to a correspondence which appeared in the *Freemason* a few weeks back, under the head of "The Right of Visiting," he will see in a letter from Bro. Hervey, G.S., an opinion given by the Grand Registrar which will, I think, answer his query.
Yours fraternally,
ARTHUR LEARED, P.M.

AN URGENT APPEAL.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—
After the meeting of the De Warren Lodge, No. 1302, held on Monday night, in submitting the toast of "The M.W. Grand Master," the acting W.M. introduced the subject of the shocking famine at present existing in India, and the noble sum announced to be proposed at the next meeting of the United Grand Lodge to be voted towards the fund now being raised in this country to afford relief to the poor starving inhabitants.

A general conversation then took place upon the great amount of misery caused by the famine, and the smallness of the sum required to furnish food sufficient to sustain each native for a week, and the opinion was expressed that neither the vast extent of the famine nor the awful amount of suffering entailed thereby was sufficiently thought of by the people of England.

It was suggested that if the members of every lodge in this country would subscribe only one shilling each (a sum small enough in itself)—and you would consent to receive the amounts and forward them to the proper authorities—many hundred pounds extra would very easily be raised, a great amount of suffering would be alleviated, while no brother would feel the loss of his contribution.

The brethren present at once paid their shillings (13), which I was requested to forward to you for the above purpose, in the hope that the scheme would meet your approval, and be the means of causing the brethren of other lodges to reflect seriously upon the evils resulting from that most dreadful of all calamities—death by famine.

I remain, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,
WM. COOKE, P.M., Sec. 1302.
Halifax, Sept. 4, 1877.

AN APPEAL.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—
The death of Bro. John Noon, Quarter-Master Royal Marines, of the Wellington Lodge, No. 784, at Deal, on the 8th March, 1877, aged fifty-one, left his widow with nine children, and only a small annuity. One of his sons, Albert Allen Noon, has been placed on the list for

election into the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, to which his father was a subscriber, and some particulars of his services may interest your readers, who have votes for the Institution.

He commanded a detachment serving in the Arctic Regions, from 1850 to 1854, during the discovery of the North-West Passage, and is thus mentioned in the records: "One person especially distinguished himself not only as a sportsman, but in the execution of any service requiring unflagging energy and marked intelligence; and this man was the non-commissioned officer of Royal Marines, Sergeant Noon."

He did good service everywhere; but no better instance can be given of the metal of which such men as he are made than what occurred on the 4th of January, 1852. A coloured man serving in the ship, whilst out sporting, wounded a deer, and, after following it awhile, discovered he had lost his way just as a fog came on. The temperature was very low, the man was tired, and the peril of his position caused him to lose his presence of mind, and to wander about. By great good fortune Sergeant Noon, who was likewise out in quest of game, joined him, but the poor creature was so beside himself with excitement and horror that every endeavour to soothe him, by promising to take him safely on board the ship, failed. Fits came on, which, when they passed off, left the man quite prostrated in strength.

By entreaty and remonstrance the serjeant induced him to walk a little; but at 2 p.m., when the glimmering twilight, called the day of that season, was fast closing in, the unfortunate man's energies entirely failed, and he sank upon the ground, bleeding at his mouth and nose, and writhing in convulsions. The serjeant saw now that all hope of the man saving himself was at an end, and to leave him where he was, many miles from the ship, was to leave him to certain death—he would have been devoured by the wolves even before the process of freezing to death would have released him from his misery. There was no alternative but to drag him to the ship—no easy matter, when the serjeant dared not part with his gun, and the man was one of the heaviest of a fine crew. Serjeant Noon, then, with heroic resolution set to his task. Slung both muskets over his shoulder, he took the man's arms round his own neck, and commenced dragging his half dead shipmate towards the Investigator. The labour was, as may be supposed, excessive; and the only relief the serjeant had was, whenever he had dragged the body up one side of a hill, or when he came to a ravine, to lay him down, and roll him to the bottom; rather severe treatment for an invalid, but it had the merit of arousing the man somewhat from his lethargy. By eleven o'clock at night the gallant marine had thus conveyed his burden to within a mile of the ship; but ten hours of such toil, and darkness, cold, and snow, now began to tell upon him. He could drag his burden no longer, and, as a last resource, he implored the unfortunate man to make an effort, and tried to cheer him up by pointing to the rockets which the captain of the Investigator caused to be thrown up as a guide to the missing men. Finding, however, that all his entreaties were replied to only by a request to be "left alone to die," the serjeant laid him in a bed of deep snow, and started off for assistance from the ship. This was already on its way; and Noon met and conducted two out of three parties to where the man lay, and just in time to save him. He was found with his arms raised, and rigid in that position, his eyes open, and his mouth so firmly frozen as to require much force to open it for the purpose of pouring restoratives down his throat, whilst his hands, feet, and face were much frost-bitten. His life was however, saved, and for that the courage and devotion displayed by the serjeant deserved all the credit.

He served with the battalion in China during the war in 1857—1859, was at the storming of Canton, the taking and destruction of Shektsing, and other engagements. He accompanied the expedition to the North; and at the attack on the Peiho forts on 25th June, 1859, was thus mentioned in the official gazetted dispatches:—"The conspicuous gallantry of Sergeant-Major Noon and Quarter-master Sergeant Halling also attracted his notice."

In March, 1860, at a general parade at Woolwich, General Sir A. Blaxland Strausham, then commanding the division, presented him with the silver medal awarded him by the Lords of the Admiralty for "meritorious conduct, especially for his gallant behaviour while serving in China." He was also granted an annuity of £10. He saved the life of one of his officers, and also of a drummer boy, about 14 years of age. The poor lad had been struck down by a round shot, which completely carried away the inner part of his thigh. He was lying hopelessly in the mud, the missiles of every description flying thickly about him, when he called to Sergeant-Major Noon to take him to a place of safety, which he did at the imminent risk of his life, and deposited him in a boat at some distance. On this occasion the loss sustained by his corps amounted to no less than 19 officers and 190 men killed and wounded. On leaving China he was presented with a piece of plate, as a token of esteem in which he was held by his comrades there.

He was commissioned as Quarter-Master, 13th Sept., 1867, and received the medal for the Arctic service, and a medal with clasps for Canton. Exposure to climate and the hardships he endured brought on the illness which caused his death, and obliged his son to seek the support of the brethren for his election to our school.—Voting papers may be sent to Lieutenant Des Barnes, R.M., W.M. Lodge 1096, Walmer Barracks, Kent, or to Captain Mascal, R.M., at the office of the Dorcas Beneficent Society, 7, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
W. PORTLOCK DADSON,
Captain Royal Body Guard,
Bayard Lodge, No. 1615.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I am led to believe that the little brochure, "Industry and Idleness," reviewed in your paper, is by Bro. Bolingbroke Ribbons, well known to the members of "21," then held at the George and Vulture, Cornhill, some 44 years ago.

Will you permit this, my humble tribute to the universal kind feeling which that worthy brother's acquaintance then engendered in the hearts of some old brothers—Lofty, Norris, White, Hamden, Majors, Edward, Unwin, Henckey and Shakeshaft—most of whom have been gathered to their fathers; but maybe one or two of the galaxy will appreciate the pleasure of this allusion to what is recollected of Masonic society in 1833.

Yours truly,

GEORGE FRERE, Slough.

SEASONABLE ADVICE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I think this little offering of "seasonable advice" from *Figaro*, quoted by *The Times*, may interest some of your writers. It is very neat:—

Une pauvre grand-mère écrit une lettre d'adieu à son petit-fils, "jeune drôle, condamné pour quelque bagatelle, aux travaux forcés à perpétuité—Conduis-toi bien, et surtout évite les mauvaises connaissances!"—*Figaro*.

Yours fraternally,

A FRIEND.

THIRD CLASS BY ALL TRAINS. PROPOSED TESTIMONIAL TO MR. ALLPORT, OF THE MIDLAND RAILWAY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I was very much struck with "H.W.'s" letter in your last impression, because he actually states a parallel case to what is daily happening on the Great Northern Railway. Servants of many years' standing have this summer been refused a pass for their wives, with a few exceptions, which, Mr. Editor, I blush for shame when I write, are given to men getting the greatest salaries, while their poorer brethren have in many cases to forego their annual excursion to the sea-side.

Thanks to the Midland directors, who pursue a different policy, their servants can take their wives and families to any sea-side place they choose.

I hope the testimonial to Mr. Allport will prove a good one, not in a large amount of cash, but in a host of small subscribers, showing him how grateful his fellow country men and women are.

Yours fraternally,

A POOR MASON.

THE BOYS' AND GIRLS' SCHOOLS—ENFRANCE BY PURCHASE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Will you kindly allow me to ask on what principle the above is calculated, as the amount demanded seems to others than myself quite inadequate for the maintenance and education of the children for the stipulated time; that is if such maintenance and education be as good as we are accustomed to consider them to be. I cannot but think that this is a matter worthy of very grave thought, for it seems that one party or other must be a loser. If the child or its parents, then it seems a source of income unworthy of our Order and therefore of our Charities; if the latter be the loser, the sooner the system is put an end to the better; for why should any part of our Charities (however fragmentary) be taken from those who urgently want it, in order to confer a very questionable benefit upon those who do not—witness their ability to raise the purchase money.

One other consideration—Is the purchase system beneficial to the children in the schools?

Certainly not to those who so enter, for it must tend to make them think more highly of themselves as a class than the rest.

Certainly not to those ordinarily elected, for, whilst it may give room for them to suspect favouritism, it must make them sensible of a certain sense of inferiority.

Lastly, to the management of the schools it must be extremely detrimental, as must always be the existence of any possibility of the formation of cliques amongst the children.

Faithfully and fraternally yours,

Q.

"SEASIDE MANNERS."

[We take the following from a vast number of amusing letters in the *Times* for several days, sufficient to point out a nuisance and suggest a remedy.—Ed.]

Sir,—In a letter signed "S.P.," and published in your columns to-day, the writer declares that the scandalous conduct of some of those who daily await the arrival of the steamboat passengers is exceptional, was confined to a particular occasion, and was a source of annoyance and distress to the regular visitors to Folkestone, to the inhabitants of that place, and to "S.P." himself. These last assertions I readily believe, but I wholly deny that the conduct complained of is exceptional. I have watched the arrival of the passengers scores of times, and have constantly heard jeering and insulting remarks upon their appearance made in loud tones by bystanders, not by "inhabitants or regular visitors," but by young men who are out for their holiday, and employ it in exhibiting their vulgarity at the expense of those whose age, sex, or infirmity makes the pastime safe. On none of the many occasions that I have witnessed these scenes do I remember to have heard any able-bodied unencumbered young man chaffed. There can be discretion when impudence is likely to secure a thrashing.

The South-Eastern Company ought to be ashamed of themselves that they have not long since devised

means for protecting their passengers from the insolence of the fellows who infest Folkestone in the summer and autumn.

Your obedient servant,

EDW. VAUGHAN RICHARDS.

Sir,—I have twice landed at Folkestone during the past fortnight, and each time have witnessed the extreme rudeness of the Folkestone crowd. Some nervous people of my acquaintance dread the landing almost as much as the horrors of the middle passage. It is not generally known that only privileged persons are allowed on the Folkestone Pier to witness the arrival of the steamer; therefore "S.P.'s" excuse, which appeared in *The Times* of to-day, falls to the ground. I am sorry to say that the fellows who congregate on the pier are of better position than the regular excursionist.

Your obediently,

C. F. D.

Mr. B. Robinson writes from the Verulam Club, 54, St. James's-street, S.W.:—"Seeing some sensible letters in the late impressions of *The Times* on the subject of "Seaside Manners," may I be permitted to ask in your columns, what is being done by the South-Eastern and the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway Companies to alleviate the wretchedness of their Continental passengers on their Channel passage? This has been the occasion (most improperly, no doubt) of the miserable three young men's amusement at Folkestone. The scenes which I myself have witnessed in bad weather this season in crossing the English Channel are a disgrace to modern civilisation. It has been proved that something can be done for the comfort of the travelling public, by the Castalia boat; and yet economical considerations prevail, and the public are suffered to travel between England and the Continent like cattle."

Sir,—Will you allow me to endorse emphatically all that is said by your Folkestone correspondent? It is disgraceful conduct in any one, but most of all in young ladies, who, I am sorry to say, in the boisterous excitement of sea-side spirits, sometimes forget all that is "gentle" on the arrival of the boat at Folkestone. It is not only grossly rude, but exceedingly cruel to subject suffering members of their own sex to their thoughtless and unfeeling remarks. In the case of "men," summary vengeance taken by the objects of criticism would be richly deserved. I do sincerely hope that the South-Eastern Railway will close its pier in future on the arrival of the boats; but it is a sad reflection upon English manners that such strong measures should have been rendered absolutely necessary. We are apt to be very exacting with our foreign friends across the water, but I have never seen any approach to the conduct of the Folkestone visitors out of England.—I am, Sir, yours very obediently,

CHANNEL PASSAGE.

GRAND LODGE MEETING.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Adverting to the meeting of Grand Lodge on Wednesday last, I mean no disrespect to the M.W. the Grand Master in the chair when I say that the resolution for granting one thousand guineas to the Indian Famine Relief Fund was unduly hastened to a vote, immediately after the motion was proposed and seconded; not an instant of time was permitted for criticism. For myself I did not intend to move an amendment, and I think I may say as much for Bro. Raynham Stewart, but I wish to remind the brethren that in June, 1874, at the last Grand Lodge at which the Marquis of Ripon presided, he himself proposed a grant of five hundred guineas towards the relief of the famine in Bengal, and that amount was then deemed sufficient. If the tendency of the brethren present was to make a grant of double the amount on this occasion, it would have been easily demonstrated, and the vote would have been carried in spite of opposition, even had an amendment been proposed. Bro. Clabon, with characteristic benevolence, desired to obtain the grant, but I submit that members of Grand Lodge who did not attend the Board of Masters might fairly have been entitled to express their views on the subject, without fear of his motion being negatived. The question was an open one, on which discussion might have been permitted. The previous grants of two-hundred guineas to the sufferers by the fire at St. John, New Brunswick, and of one hundred guineas to alleviate the distress caused by the "cataclysm" (what that may mean?) in Peru, were proposed under the auspices of the M.W. Grand Master, and not a word was uttered on the motions. The grant proposed for the Indian Famine Fund might have been discussed, if an opportunity had been afforded.

Yours fraternally, BRACKSTONE BAKER, P.G.D.

A QUERY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

With all due deference to your correspondent "E.M.," I dissent from the views he expresses that, under the circumstances, the W. Master of a lodge would be censurable for admitting a visitor to his lodge. A having had an opportunity of retiring to arrange with a brother, a visitor, which he declines.

Will you, Sir, kindly favour a brother with your valuable opinion in your next edition?

Yours fraternally,

P.M.

MASONIC SONGS.—A selection of Masonic Songs set to popular airs, written by Bro. E. P. Philpots, M.D., F.R.G.S., is now ready, forming a handsome volume, bound in cloth, with gilt edges, 3s. Sent post free from the office of this paper on receipt of stamps or post-office order value 3s. 2d.—ADVT.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF SOUTH WALES.

On Thursday, the 30th ult., the first meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons since the installation of Bro. Sir George Elliot as Provincial Grand Master, was held at the New Masonic Hall, Working-street, Cardiff, under the banner of the Glamorgan Lodge. There was a good attendance.

The lodge was a special Grand Lodge of Emergency, called for the purpose of passing two resolutions—one having reference to the late Prov. G.M., Bro. Mansel Talbot, and the other Bro. E. J. Morris, junior, Grand Deacon of England.

Bro. D. Watson, W.M. of the Glamorgan Lodge, opened the lodge in due form at one o'clock, after which the Right Worshipful the Provincial Grand Master and his officers, headed by the new Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Tennant, honoured the lodge with their distinguished presence.

The Provincial Grand Master having taken the chair, proceeded to open Grand Lodge according to ancient custom.

In commencing the business of the lodge, the Worshipful Provincial Grand Master spoke very feelingly of his predecessor. He said that this meeting was called for the express purpose, as they were aware, of bearing testimony to the worth with which both he and Bro. E. J. Morris, the late Deputy Prov. G.M., were held. The lodge, he added, had been called at the earliest possible moment, and he assured the brethren that both the resolutions had his entire concurrence.

Bro. E. S. Hill, of Cardiff, P.P.G.W., then moved:—"That the brethren of the Province of South Wales, Eastern Division, with grateful recollection of the very eminent services rendered to Masonry by the late R.W. Bro. Theodore Mansel Talbot during the eleven years he held the distinguished office of Provincial Grand Master—an office the duties of which he performed with untiring zeal, with dignity worthy of the Craft, and with urbanity endearing him to the brethren—desire formally to record their high appreciation of his services, and their profound regret at the irreparable loss they have sustained by his early death." He said that all who had been acquainted with the late P.G.M. would cordially support the resolution, for they would be aware of the generous nature, the kindly spirit, and the devotion to Masonry which animated him. Bro. Hill spoke at great length upon the social and public qualities of the late Bro. Talbot, and was frequently applauded.

Bro. Dr. J. G. Hall, of Swansea, seconded the resolution in a speech of great power, dealing principally with the subject from a Masonic point of view. Dr. Hall said he had accompanied the late Bro. T. Mansel Talbot in his visits to the various lodges of the Province, and could bear testimony to the rare knowledge which he possessed of the mysteries of the Craft, and to the loving care which he devoted to every detail relating to Masonic subjects which came under his notice. This, said the speaker, was a matter with which all the brethren were well acquainted, for the late P.G.M. by his communications with the various lodges was well known to all of them. This portion of the speech made a deep impression, and at its conclusion there was a warm outburst of applause.

The P.G.M. having, in a few well-chosen words, put the resolution to the meeting, it was carried with the greatest unanimity.

Bro. Charles Bath, P.P.G.W., then moved, "That this Provincial Grand Lodge desires to record its grateful acknowledgments of the eminent services rendered to the Province by the W. Bro. Edward James Morris, Junior Grand Deacon of England, during the long period he filled the office of Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and to which the present high position held by the Province is due, and its regret at the loss which the Province has sustained through his withdrawal from active Masonic life." Having given an outline of Bro. Morris's career, he spoke kindly of him as a man, as well as a Mason. When Bro. Morris took office, the Masonic charities were in a very low state; but, by his efforts, the Grand Lodge of the Province had become one of the most liberal contributors of all the Provincial Grand Lodges in the kingdom. He had also improved the condition of the lodges, which from having been few in number, sparsely attended, and inefficient in their working, were now increased in numbers, and well attended, while the work was admirably performed.

These statements were earnestly applauded.

Bro. Bassett, P.P.G.W., seconded the resolution.

The Worshipful Master, in putting it to the meeting, regretted that he had been unable to induce Bro. Morris to continue to hold the rank. He was sorry that he was not personally acquainted with one who was well spoken of by every Mason in the province.

The resolution was then carried unanimously.

Bro. E. S. Hill moved, and it was resolved, that a copy of the first resolution should be sent to Mr. C. R. M. Talbot, Lord-Lieutenant of the county, and a copy of the second to Bro. E. J. Morris.

There being no other business, the Right Worshipful Grand Master closed the Grand Lodge, after which Bro. D. Watson, W.M. of the Glamorgan Lodge, closed the Master Masons' Lodge. The brethren then proceeded to the Royal Hotel, where a banquet was provided, presided over by Worshipful Grand Master Sir George Elliot. The usual toasts were given, and several songs were sung by Bros. E. W. Shackell, F. Baker, and D. R. David, of Margam. Bro. F. Atkins accompanied on the pianoforte.

The Duke of Connaught is staying for a week with the Knight of Kerry on his island of Valentia on the west coast of Ireland.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF LANARKSHIRE.

On Friday, the 24th ult., the installation of Bro. John Clark Forrest, of Auchinraith, Provost of Hamilton, as Provincial Grand Master of the Middle Ward of Lanarkshire, and of other office-bearers of the P.G. Lodge, took place in the Town Hall, Hamilton.

The occasion was made a gala day by the "brethren of the mystic tie" in the province, there being present, in more or less force, deputations from Lodges Hamilton St. John's Kilwinning, No. 7; St. Mary's, Wishaw No. 31; Montrose, New Monkland, No. 88; Royal Arch, Cambuslang, No. 114; Royal Arch, Rutherglen, No. 116; Airdrie St. John's, No. 166; St. James, Old Monkland, No. 177; Airdrie St. John's Operative, No. 203; St. Andrew, Strathaven, No. 215; St. Andrew, Hamilton, No. 233; St. John, Woodhall, No. 305; St. Thomas, Larkhall, No. 306; St. John, Dalzell, No. 406; St. Clair, Cambusnethan, No. 427; Clydesdale, Larkhall, No. 551; High Blantyre, Kilwinning, No. 557; Livingstone, St. Andrew, Motherwell, No. 573; St. Bryde, Uddingston, No. 579; Livingstone, Blantyre, Stonefield, No. 599.

By permission of His Grace the Duke of Hamilton, the various lodges were permitted to muster in front of Hamilton Palace, which they did shortly after 2 p.m., and were then and there arranged in order of procession by Bro. William Forrest, P. G. Marshall, and his assistants, Bros. Robert Thomson and William Somerville.

When all was in readiness, the procession, which included various instrumental bands, started from the policies, en route for the Town Hall, by way of the Almada-street Gate, Cadzow-street, Townhead-street, Patrick-street, and Duke-street.

We need hardly say that the inhabitants, young and old, turned out in force to witness the display; and, very fortunately, although during the forenoon, and indeed almost up to the hour of assembling, the weather had been more than threatening, the procession throughout was made under the auspices of sunshine and clear sky. The steeple over the Town Hall, and other "coigns of vantage" were decorated with flags, while the bells of the former were kept tolling for half-an-hour or so previous to the arrival thereof of the brethren, and the town may be said, in fact, to have been "all agog."

Shortly before 4 p.m. the Grand Lodge was opened in the Town Hall by Bro. Henry Inglis, of Torsonce, R.W. Depute Grand Master Mason of Scotland; Bros. William Mann, P.S. Grand Warden, and F. A. Barrow, Past P.D.G.M. Glasgow, being acting Senior Grand Deacon and Junior Grand Deacon respectively. Amongst the brethren on the dais were Bros. Hay, Grand Jeweller; D. Robertson, Grand Bible-Bearer; D. Murray Lyon, Grand Secretary; D. Kinnear, Grand Cashier; D. M. Nelson, Grand Senior Deacon; J. C. Forrest, P.G.M. of Lanarkshire, Middle Ward, elect, and his office-bearers—A. G. Simpson, of Cairn, D.M.; James Mackie, S.M.; Colin Spalding, S.W.; L. Johnstone, J.W.; Wm. M'Murdo, Secretary; King, Treasurer; Gilchrist, S.D.; Neilson, Dir. of Ceremonies; J. Andrew, Sen. Steward; and D. Wright, Inner Guard; as also Bros. W. H. Bickerton, P.G. Sec. of Glasgow; Robert Robb, P.G. Marshal Glasgow; Robert Jack, R.W.M. Lodge St. John, Shettleston, No. 128; John Monro, R.W.M. Lodge Commercial, No. 360; John Scott, P.M. Lodge St. Mungo, No. 27; Thos. Halkett, P.M. Lodge St. Mark, No. 102; Alexander Bain, P.M. Lodge Union and Crown, No. 103, and others.

The lodge having been opened, Bro. Rev. R. Dickson, G.C., asked a blessing on the proceedings of the day, after which the R.W. Depute Grand Master asked Bro. Forrest to stand up, and said that he (Bro. Forrest) having been elected by the P.G. Lodge of the Middle Ward of Lanarkshire to be their Master, he (Bro. Inglis) should have much pleasure in now formally installing him into that office. Bro. Forrest accordingly stood up, and took the oath de fideli in the usual manner, and was invested with the jewel of his office by the R.W.D.G.M.

Immediately thereafter the following of his office-bearers were similarly installed and invested with their respective jewels, viz.:—Bros. A. G. Simpson, D.P.G.M.; J. Mackie, Sub. P.G.M.; Spalding, P.G.S.W.; Johnson, P.G.J.W.; and M'Murdo, Sec.

The Chairman then, after a few remarks of congratulation, called upon the brethren of the province to give three cheers for their new P.G. office-bearers, which were awarded with a will, after which thanksgiving was offered up by the P.G.C.

The lodge was then called for a brief space to refreshment, when the toast of "The Queen and the Craft," and that of "The Prince of Wales and other members of the Royal Family," were given from the chair and duly honoured. That of "The Three Grand Lodges" was proposed by Bro. D. M. Nelson, and acknowledged by the Chairman on behalf of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. "The Provincial Grand Lodges of Glasgow and Upper Ward of Lanarkshire" was commended to the acceptance of the brethren by Bro. A. G. Simpson, and, in the unavoidable absence of Bro. Colonel Montgomerie Neilson, P.G. Master of Glasgow, was acknowledged by Bro. John Monro, R.W.M. No. 360.

The remaining toast on the programme, that of "The Provincial Grand Lodge of Lanarkshire Middle Ward," was given by the Chairman, who, in coupling with it the name of Bro. Forrest, said that under no circumstances could the brethren of the province have elected as their chief a more worthy man than they had done. The compliment was duly acknowledged by Bro. Forrest, who, in conclusion, proposed "The Health of their esteemed Chairman, the Deputy Grand Master of Scotland." Bro. Inglis having replied, the lodge was recalled to labour, and closed in due form.

AFTER AN ADVERSE BALLOT—
WHAT?

That the ballot upon the application of a candidate for the degrees in Masonry must be secret, and that it must result in an unanimous approval of the petitioner, in order to give him admission, is an unquestioned law of our Institution. In the common usage of the Craft, and in the general regulations, expressly laid down, or implied, respecting the ballot, it is provided that all the members of a lodge, present at a meeting regularly called to act upon the application of a candidate, shall vote unless excused for some special reason by action of the lodge. This requirement that all shall exercise the privilege of the ballot is essential to the maintenance of its secrecy; for, if any other usage were to prevail, it would be easy to put a mark upon the brother who might cast an adverse vote. Thus in a certain Masonic organisation, not long ago, when the ballot was to be repeated, it having been foul at the first trial, the presiding officer declared that "friends of the candidate" were excused from voting, and then voting himself with one or two of his officers, he announced the ballot as clear and the candidate elected. In this case there was some strong provocation for the course pursued, and there was no intention of wrong doing, nevertheless such a course could not stand, and the ballot was set aside by the proper authority.

The intention of Masonry is that the conscience and judgment of each individual member shall be regarded as paramount in this matter of the ballot, and that no brother shall be called to account, or be made to suffer in any way, by reason of his having cast this reverse vote. This being the case, there does not seem to be any justification for the course sometimes taken after an adverse ballot, when the friends of a rejected candidate seem determined to discuss the action on its merits, and to ascertain if possible from whom came the opposing vote or votes. Many years ago, Past Grand Master Drummond, of Maine, expressed what seems to us the only proper view to be taken. He said: "It is a Masonic crime to discuss the result of the ballot in the lodge or out of the lodge. When the result of the ballot is declared, there should be an end of all discussion and all action until a new petition is presented. To borrow a term, it should be a finality. Such was the practice among the fathers. But now the practice is as soon as a negative ballot is declared, the friends of the candidate begin to consider who the objector was. They discuss the matter with themselves, if not with others. All the acts of the suspected brother are canvassed. They see a deep meaning in the most common acts. 'Trifles light as air' are to them 'confirmation strong as proofs of holy writ.' Sinister motives are not unfrequently attributed to him. They feel estranged from him at once."

Such ought not to be the result of an adverse ballot. In passing upon the application for degrees or membership each member has the right to exercise his own judgment in the use of the ballot. More than this, it is his sacred duty to exercise the privilege—to vote independently and conscientiously. To enable him thus to act, the manner of taking the ballot should be absolutely secret, and when the result is arrived at, it should be accepted without fault-finding, or reflections upon the brother or brothers who presumably voted in the negative. Any other course will be very likely to bring in discussions and hear-burnings, to create parties, and lead to practices subversive of the true character of the Masonic institution.

But what shall be done where it is known and felt by almost the entire membership of a lodge that two or three brethren, perhaps only a single member, acted from some unworthy motive in causing the rejection of a candidate? Is there no way of reaching these base, cowardly ones who are Masons only in name? Can they not be held accountable; the reasons for their course be inquired into and passed upon by the lodge, and they be summarily dealt with, if it shall be shown that they have abused the privilege of the ballot? By no means, only provided that such brethren are wise enough to keep their own lips closed.

If in open lodge, or elsewhere, they should boast of an adverse vote that they had cast, declaring that their action had been predicated on some reason that ought not to come into the account at all, then no doubt they might be dealt with for unmasonic conduct. But the rule laid down always prevails, viz: Every brother must be protected in the right to vote, that vote to be given without the knowledge of any other person; the nature of that vote must not be inquired into by the lodge, or by individual brethren outside the lodge; nor must he be called to account for his adverse vote on any surmises or suspicions that he may have abused the use of the ballot. This was the law laid down by the fathers of our institution, and it cannot be departed from without grievous risk. Under some circumstances adherence thereto may seem to work badly, and to be in opposition to the equities of a particular case; but in the long run such a course will be found to justify itself and to be promotive of the harmony, good fellowship, and abundant prosperity of the institution.—*Freemason's Repository.*

THE TUNBRIDGE WELLS COACH HORSES.
—Thirty-eight of the horses which have worked this coach in and out of London were sold on Tuesday, at Tattersall's, by auction. Several were old hunters, of good blood, and realised high prices.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Persons distressed by indigestion and discouraged in their search for its remedy should make trial of this never failing medicine. A lady, long a martyr to dyspeptic tortures, writes that Holloway's Pills made her feel as if a burden had been taken off her. Her spirits, formerly low, have greatly improved; her capricious appetite has given place to healthy hunger; her dull, sick headache has departed, and gradually so marvellous a change has been effected, that she is altogether a new creature, and again fit for duties. These Pills may be administered with safety to the most delicate. They never act harshly, nor do they ever induce weakness; they rightly direct deranged, and contro excessive action.—*ADVT*

PRESENTATION TO A LIVERPOOL
BROTHER.

A ceremony of a most interesting nature took place at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, on the evening of Friday week. There was then a large gathering of brethren for the special purpose of presenting to Bro. Joseph Skeaf, P.M. 216, P.G. Organist West Lancashire, a testimonial in recognition of his long, valued, and willingly given services in his musical capacity. Bro. Skeaf, whose talent has long been acknowledged, has for years not only been indefatigable in the performance of his duties as P.G.O., but he has also been a most invaluable assistant at many of the private lodges throughout the province.

The testimonial consisted of a handsome clock and two vases of the value of £20, and a purse containing £180. Bro. H. S. Alpass, P.G. Sec., occupied the chair. The testimonial was provided by means of funds raised at a Masonic concert which was held at the Philharmonic Hall some time ago. Bro. Dr. Smith, P.P.G.R., the treasurer of the fund, having presented a statement of the results of the concert, it was passed, after which Bro. Alpass made the presentation of the testimonial to Bro. Skeaf. Upon the clock was this inscription: "Presented to Bro. Skeaf, Provincial Grand Organist, with 180 sovereigns, by his Masonic brethren in the province of West Lancashire, as a mark of their esteem and in recognition of his services to the Craft. Liverpool, 1877."

Bro. Alpass said that Bro. Skeaf had devoted a great amount of time to the affairs of the Craft, and to a man in his position time was capital. In all his various offices as a member of the Harmonic Lodge, Bro. Skeaf had fulfilled his duties in a most creditable manner, and in every way had shown ability and diligence. The articles selected for the testimonial had given general satisfaction to the committee, and he hoped that they would also give satisfaction to Bro. Skeaf and to Mrs. Skeaf, and that he and his friends would live many years to read with pleasure the inscription upon the clock.

Bro. Skeaf, in returning thanks, said that it was an overpowering sight to him when he witnessed the large number of persons who assembled in the Philharmonic Hall on the evening when the concert was held. The presentation of the beautiful clock and vases and the handsome sum of money was indeed a matter of great gratification to him, and he hoped that if his past services had rendered him worthy of such a testimonial that his future services would not be less zealous on behalf of the Craft.

Votes of thanks were passed to Bro. Dr. Smith, the Treasurer, and Bros. R. Brown, P.M. 241, and Dr. S. Kisch, 216, the Hon. Secretaries to the testimonial committee.

THE BRITISH INNKEEPER.

A friendly word with the British hotel-keeper. I pay your bill, my dear sir, without a murmur; perhaps because my feelings at that moment are often too deep for utterance. Your ideas and mine as to what constitutes a good meal may possibly differ. 'Am and eggs for breakfast, with a fried sole, are all very well for once in a way, but are apt to become monotonous after a while. So are the early village cock, the "nice steak," the apple-tart with the elastic crust, and your other choice delicacies. Moreover, I prefer my sound and honest Bordeaux at two shillings a bottle to that barefaced impostor you uphold, the "very fine" Château-Margaux at twelve-and-six. But these are mere details. Here is my grievance. In that admirable document, my bill, you charge eightpence per head a day for "attendance." I will only pause to remark that the 'attendance is generally all on my side, as, ring I never so assiduously, it is seldom that any one comes. I do not venture to assert that a baby in arms is liable to this tax; but this I know, that if I occupy rooms containing my wife, self, and two children, I am charged six shillings a day for services which they never receive. Again, I do not remonstrate with you, good mine host; I merely congratulate you inwardly on the superior financial advantages you possess over me. Therefore be kind enough to do away with that system of "hovering" which you, tacitly at least, encourage. Having eased my mind by paying your bill on the morning of my departure, and stifled my conscience, which whispers extravagance, I observe the head-waiter smirking at me in the coffee-room while he pretends to fold up a napkin which no one will want till dinner-time. I give him—nothing; why should I? But I feel a wretched catfiff. In the passage I meet the Boots, who wears on his countenance an expression which, being translated, plainly says, "I gave them 'ere boots of yours a hextra polish, but I know it's charged in the bill, if you mean to take a base advantage of me." I do take that advantage of him. Like a guilty being I am about to jump into the fly, when I find I have left my keys up-stairs. Ah! then, indeed, I reach the meridian of my misery. I am at once face to face with the chambermaid. I may wrong her, or she may or may not have been wronged in early youth, but from the abject sorrow depicted on her countenance, and the imploring reluctance with which her hand is now thrust forward and now drawn back, she ought, if she is not lost to all sense of decency, to have thirteen children at least depending upon her for support. What is a florin, after all? I give it her in despair, am unjust to Boots and waiter, and, what is worse, I have created a precedent by which after-comers, who have more moral courage than I, will suffer. Be pleased, then, worthy Boniface, to put down these "hoverers," and spare your guests much sweet sorrow at parting. It is easily done. Pay your servants well, and put up a notice that any one receiving a gratuity will be instantly dismissed. I have spoken.—*The World.*

NOTES ON ART, &c.

By the death of Mr. Henry Rogers, on August 20, in his 71st year, the literary world is deprived of the services of a vigorous and learned essayist. Educated at High-bury College for the work of the ministry, he was for a few years the pastor of an Independent congregation. When ill-health compelled his retirement he obtained the more congenial post of Professor of English Language and Literature in University College, London. In 1858 he became Principal of the Lancashire Independent College. When the doctrines of the Tractarians were exercising their greatest influence in English life he was distinguished for the force of his attacks against their aims and ultimate results. "The Eclipse of Faith" has passed through at least fourteen editions, and a defence of its principles, in reply to the strictures of Professor F. W. Newman, arrived at the dignity of three editions. The most valuable of his contributions to general literature were given to the world in the columns of the *Edinburgh Review*. These have been frequently reprinted; the last edition appearing in 1874. A sketch of the life and genius of Fuller, an admirable specimen of his taste and talents, was included in the volumes of the "Traveller's Library," while his life of Howe, a divine of equal honesty, if not of equal wit, with Tom Fuller, obtained a well-deserved popularity. To the eighth edition of the "Encyclopædia Britannica" he contributed the lives of Bishop Butler, Hume, and many other English and foreign celebrities of the last century. These have never been separately published in England, but some of them were reprinted in America in a collection of "New Biographies" (Boston, 1857).—*Academy.*

Colonel Bourne, M.P. for Evesham, has presented a piece of sculpture, executed by Professor Fedi, of Florence, to the Walker Art Gallery at Liverpool. The picture by Sir John Gilbert, R.A., "An Army on the March—the Rearguard with the Baggage Waggon," has been presented to the same institution by a local gentleman, Mr. John Parrington.

The case of *l'homme à la fourchette*, upon whom Dr. Léon Labbé performed gastrotoomy with at least temporary success a few months ago, is brought to mind by an instance of swallowing foreign bodies recorded in a recent number of the *Southern Argus* (S.A.) A convict in the Gundagai Gaol, undergoing a term of imprisonment for stealing a ring, used to gain a living by travelling from town to town by giving performances in which he offered to swallow any article his audience might select. The ring for the stealing of which he had been convicted he had swallowed, and he asserted he could swallow a bagful if he got them. The prisoner at present is being treated by Dr. McKillop, visiting surgeon to the gaol, with a view of making him disgorge a steel Albert chain and a large brass ring. The chain can be distinctly felt at the bottom of the stomach, and the patient says he swallowed it nine months ago, and that it is the only article he has had any difficulty about. He avers that he has had two pounds weight of jewellery in his stomach at one time, and that he has harboured watches in that viscus for 24 hours. The gaoler is said to have a collection of Albert chains, penknives, brass rings, &c., which he asserted he had succeeded in causing the prisoner to vomit by means of emetics. This case, if correctly reported, presents features worthy of being studied from a physiological point of view.—*Lancet.*

"PEINE FORTE ET DURE."—W. W. T. writes to the *Times*:—"In your review of the work by Mr. Paterson, 'Commentaries on the Liberty of the Subject,' &c., allusion is made to the fact that so late as 1726 a gentleman underwent the 'peine forte et dure' for refusing to plead guilty or not guilty at Kingston Assizes. The 'London Magazine' for August, 1735, contains a horrible and detailed account of a man who was actually pressed to death at Horsham for obstinately remaining dumb when placed upon his trial at Lewes Assizes. In this case the weights placed over the unhappy man were gradually increased to a total of 350lb., when the executioner completed his task by adding his own quota of 16 stone."

The Grosvenor Gallery will be opened in November with a representative exhibition of water colour drawings and studies by deceased masters illustrative of the rise and growth of a branch of art which holds such a distinguished place in the history of the English school.

A University is to be established in Siberia, at Omsk, on the River Irtysh, the centre of government for Western Siberia. The scheme was first started by a landowner in 1863, and the chief difficulty has been the choice of a site, the place first proposed—Tomsk—being objected to as it was a penal settlement. The buildings are to be begun at once, and are to be opened in July, 1880.

MADAME ADELINA PATTI.—The report that Madame Patti has retired, or intends retiring, to the Convent of the "Sacré Cœur," with the purpose of "taking the veil," is, like so many other reports about this celebrated artist, what the French term a *canard*, and the English a "hoax."

An Albert Hall is to be built at Jeypore in commemoration of the Prince of Wales's visit, and the designs have just been submitted to the Maharajah.

The disagreeables of travelling in Italy have recently been a warm subject of discussion, but even Italian authorities are marching with the advance of time, according to a correspondent of the *Paris Figaro*, who has been astonished by having to pay nothing for his letters at the Poste Restante at Rimini. A few years ago he applied for a letter at the same office, and was met by a demand for "Quaranta soldi." "Forty soldi for a letter from Naples?" he exclaimed. "Nonsense; I will give you four." "Twenty, then," replied the post-mistress, with a beguiling smile. "No; four," was still the answer. "Ten," then demanded the siren, who, however, ultimately handed over the missive for the sum originally offered with a sigh, remarking, "Ah, indeed, times are bad nowadays."

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, September 14, 1877.

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

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8.

- Lodge 1361, United Service, Greyhound, Richmond.
- 1446, Mount Edgcumbe, Swan Tav., Battersea.
- 1607, Loyalty, Alexandra Palace, N.
- Chap. 1293, Burdett, Mitre Hot., Hampton Court.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

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

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10.

- Lodge 1366, Highgate, Gatehouse Hot., Highgate.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
- Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
- Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
- Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden Town.
- Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
- St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st.
- Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
- Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
- Upper Norwood, White Hart Hot., Church-rd.
- Marquis of Ripon, Pembury Tav., Amherst-rd., Hackney.
- Loughborough, Warrior Hot., Brixton.
- London Masonic Club, 101, Queen Victoria-st.
- West Smithfield, New Market Hot., West Smithfield.
- Leopold, Woolpack Tavern, Bermondsey-st.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11.

- Lodge 167, St. John's, Holly Bush Tav., Hampstead.
- 548, Wellington, White Swan Tav., Deptford.
- 1269, Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
- 1604, Wanderers, F. M. H.

- Mark Lodge, 22, Southwark, Brg. House Hot., London B.
- K.H.S. 1, Mount Carmel, Freemasons' Tav.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

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

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12.

- Com. R.M.B.I. at 3.
- Lodge 87, Vitruvian, White Hart, College-st., Lambth.
- 1223, Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone.
- Chap. 1260, Hervey, F.M.H.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Confidence, Whittington, Moor-lane, Fore-street.
- Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
- Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
- New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
- La Tolerance, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
- Mount Edgcumbe, 19, Jermyn-st., St. James's.
- Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
- Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
- Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
- Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
- Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, N.
- United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
- Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.
- Lewis, King's Arms Hot., Wood Green.
- Royal Jubilee, 81, Long Acre.
- Langthorne, Swan Hot., Stratford.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13.

- Lodge 1076, Capper, Marine Hot., Victoria Docks.
- 1321, Emblematic, Tulse Hill Hot., Tulse Hill.
- 1471, Islington, Cock Tav., Highbury.
- 1558, Duke of Connaught, Surrey M.H.
- Chap. 72, Royal Jubilee, Horns Tav., Kennington.
- 619, Beadon, Horns Tav., Kennington.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
- Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
- Finsbury, Jolly Arglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
- Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
- Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Milbank.
- Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
- The Great City, M.H., Masons' Avenue.
- High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
- Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
- Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.
- Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.
- Great Northern, Berwick Arms, Berners-st., Oxford-st.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14.

- Lodge 1420, Earl Spencer, Northcote Hot., N. Wandsworth.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
- Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
- Belgrave, Constitution, Bedford-st., Covent Garden.
- Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
- Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
- Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
- Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
- St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.

- Westbourne, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood.
- United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
- St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
- Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
- Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
- Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's.
- St. Luke's, White Hart, King's-rd., Chelsea.
- Chigwell, Prince's Hall, Buckhurst-hill.
- Burdett Coutts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
- Royal Standard, The Castle, Holloway-rd.
- Ranelagh, Bell and Anchor, Hammersmith-rd.
- St. George's, Globe Tav., Greenwich.
- Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.
- William Preston, Feathers Tav., Up. George-st., Edgware-rd.
- Sir Hugh Myddelton, 25, King Edward-st., Liverpool-rd., N.
- Earl of Carnarvon, Mitre Hot., Gouldborn-rd., N. Kensington.
- Royal Alfred, Star and Garter Hot., Kew Bridge.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, September 15, 1877

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10.

- Lodge 314, Peace and Unity, Militia Rooms Preston.
- 721, Independence, Eastgate-row, Chester.
- 1021, Hartington, Custom House Bldgs., Barrow.
- 1398, Baldwin, Castle, Dalton.
- 1496, Trafford, Northumberland Hot., Old Trafford.
- 1350, Fermor Hesketh, M. H. Liverpool.]
- Chap. 148, Elias Ashmole, C. R. Warrington.
- Mark Lodge 165, Egerton, M. R. Rock Ferry.
- Derby L. of I., M. H. Liverpool.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11.

- Lodge 248, Merchants, M. H. Liverpool.
- 1250, Gilbert Greenall, M.R. Warrington.
- Chap. 613, Bridson, M.H. Southport.
- Stanley L. of I., 214, Great Homer-st., Liverpool.
- Prince Arthur L. of I., 80, N. Hill-st, Liverpool.
- Red Cross Conclave, Liverpool, M.H. Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12.

- Lodge 281, Fortitude, The Athenæum, Lancashire.
- 1094, Temple, M.H., Liverpool.
- 1356, De Grey and Ripon, M.R. N. Hill-st., L'pool.
- 1547, Liverpool, M.H. Liverpool.
- Chap. 1345, Victoria, Cross Keys, Eccles.
- Neptune L. of I., M.H. Liverpool.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13.

- Lodge 216 Harmonic, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.
- 333, Royal Preston, Royal Hot., Preston.
- 477, Mersey, M.R. Irkenhead.
- 786, Croxteth United Service, M.H. Liverpool.
- 1035, Prince o Wales, M.H. Kirkdale.
- 1182, Duke of Edinburgh, M.H. Liverpool.
- 1213, Bridgewater, Cross Keys, Eccles.
- Chap. 220, Harmony, Wellington Hot., Garston.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14.

- Lodge 1289, Rock, Bedford House, Rock Ferry.

£5. 5s. REWARD.

LOST, on Saturday, August, 25th, between Lansdowne-road and Mare-street, Hackney, a Black Leather Case containing Masonic Clothing and Jewels. The above reward will be paid on receipt of goods at the office of this Paper, 198, Fleet-street, London.

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Annual Premium Income...	£116,753
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From commencement paid for claims	£350,628
Laid by in the year	£39,567
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