

CONTENTS.

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS:—  
 Craft Masonry ..... 405  
 Instruction ..... 406  
 Mark Masonry ..... 406  
 Provincial Grand Lodge of Cumberland and Westmoreland..... 407  
 Consecration of the New Buxton Lodge ..... 408  
 Consecration of the New Finsbury Park Lodge No. 1695 ..... 408  
 Notes on Art ..... 409  
 Masonic and General Tidings..... 409  
 The Queen and Royal Family ..... 409  
 The Indian Famine Fund ..... 410  
 The Balance Sheet of the Girls' School..... 410  
 The Position of Masonry in France and Belgium ..... 410  
 Anonymous Masonic Letters..... 411  
 The "Freemason" Indian Famine Fund..... 411  
 CORRESPONDENCE:—  
 The French Grand Orient ..... 411  
 Teach them to Swim ..... 411  
 "Close Tyled" ..... 411  
 An Appeal ..... 412  
 Sketches of Masonic Character—Bro. Ricketts at Kissengen..... 412  
 Masonic Notes and Queries ..... 412  
 Reviews ..... 412  
 Grand Encampment of the United States ..... 412  
 Provincial Grand Lodge of Warwickshire ..... 413  
 Obituary ..... 413  
 Lodge Meetings for Next Week ..... 414  
 Advertisements ..... 414, i. ii. iii. iv. v. vi.

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

**FAITH LODGE (No. 141).**—The first meeting of this old lodge since the summer recess was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on the 25th ult., when there were present, amongst others, Bros. M. Davis, W.M.; Mallett, S.W.; Dairy, J.W.; Waygood, I.P.M.; Carter, P.M., Treasurer; Stuart, P.M., Secretary; Rumball, S.D.; Morrison, A.W.S., acting J.D.; Whitby, I.G.; Heaphy, D.C.; Walls, P.G.O. of Middlesex, A.D.C.; Past Masters Peavor, Hopwood, P.G.S.B. of Middlesex; Green, Thomas, and Kennett. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M. passed Bro. Aaron and initiated Mr. Cox with his accustomed ability. The bye-laws having been read, the election of W.M. took place, and resulted unanimously in favour of the S.W., Bro. E. Mallett, who returned thanks for the honour accorded to him in a few well chosen sentences. The Treasurer, Bro. Carter, and the Tyler, Bro. Longstaffe, having been unanimously re-elected, the audit committee, consisting of Bros. Aston, Bacon, Chambers, Titley, and Havard, were appointed to audit the accounts on the 9th instant. The committee of the Benevolent Fund were re-appointed, and Bros. Aston and Titley added to their number. Previously to the closing of the lodge a Past Master's jewel was unanimously voted to the retiring Master. The visitors were Bros. Wilson, P.M. Etonian; Millas, Robert Burns; and the Rev. H. J. Gillespie, 163 and 307, Ireland. At the conclusion of the banquet the customary loyal and Craft toasts were duly honoured. "The Health of the W.M." was proposed by Bro. Waygood, I.P.M., who briefly said that Bro. Davis had gone through the chair most admirably, and had gained the esteem of every member of the lodge for the manner in which he had discharged its hospitality. The W.M. in response thanked the brethren sincerely for the kind way they had always treated him both in and out of lodge, and if he had done the "work" of the chair during his year in office in a satisfactory manner he was amply repaid for the labour he had bestowed. "The Initiate" followed. In the course of his remarks the W.M. said that it was always a pleasing duty to propose the health of a newly-made brother, and from the care and attention evinced by Bro. Cox that evening during his initiation he believed that the "Faith" would have every reason to be proud of him. Bro. Cox in reply merely said that he felt pleased at having been admitted one of the W.M., and he could only indorse the words of the W.M., that they would find him always a good Mason. "The Health of the Visitors" having been warmly received, Bro. Millas in response said that he felt deeply the kind manner in which the health of the visiting brethren had been proposed by the W.M. It was his first visit, and he could only say that it was really a first-rate lodge in every respect. It was particularly pleasing to mark the great respect paid to the authority of the W.M., and in conclusion he said that the W.M. elect was the right man in the right place. "The Past Masters" followed, and was acknowledged by Bros. Waygood and Hopwood upon behalf of themselves and absent colleagues. In giving "The Officers" the W.M. said that he took that the last opportunity he should have, of returning his thanks for the great assistance he had received from the working staff during his year. The S.W. in reply said that on behalf of himself and his colleagues he thanked the W.M. for the good opinion he had of their humble merits, and he hoped that his year would be equally as successful. Bro. Dairy, the J.W., also acknowledged the compliment paid to him and his brother officers by the W.M. During the evening instrumental, dramatic, and vocal selections were given by Bros. Robinson, Pitt, Mallett, Walls, and Dunnithorne.

**WILLIAM PRESTON LODGE, (No. 766).**  
 —A meeting of this lodge was held at the Cannon Street Hotel, on Thursday, 27th ult., when there were present Bros. W. E. Newton, W.M.; S. D. Ewins, S.W.; Dr. Cutmore, J.W.; E. Kidman, S.D.; W. Drake, J.D.; Capt. Kain, P.M. and Treasurer; W. Worrell, P.M. and Secretary; A. Brown, P.M.; J. Pringle, P.M.; G. Newman, P.M.; W. J. Miller, P.M.; J. R. Williams, F. G. Barns, J. F. Honey, F. Ince, W. J. Collens, G. Castle, E. B. Broomhall, A. LeGrand, R. Sutcliffe, R. J. Lemon, and numerous other members. Visitors: Bro. George Kenning, P.M. and Treasurer 192, P.G.D. Middlesex; H. E. Frances, P.M. 857, P.G.D., Surrey; W. Hopekirk, W.M. 1586, Treasurer, Manchester Lodge, 179; Sergt. Major A. Andrews, Hon. Artillery Company, Wanderers'

Lodge, 1604. The business of the evening consisted of the raising of Bros. B. Thompson Lowne, M.D., and J. H. Brookes, and the initiation by Bro. William Worrell, P.M. and Secretary, of his friend, Mr. James Turle Lee, a gentleman well known in the musical profession. The W.M. then resumed his position in the chair, and the election of Worshipful Master for the ensuing year was proceeded with, and which resulted in the unanimous election of Bro. S. D. Ewins, S.W. It is pleasing to note the success that this brother has attained in the lodge in so short a time, considering it was only five years ago that he was initiated in the lodge, and the brethren look forward to a most successful year of office under his able and indefatigable rule. Bro. Capt. Kain was again elected Treasurer, a post that he has held so worthily for many years. Bro. W. Grant was elected Tyler. A jewel was voted to Bro. W. E. Newton, W.M., on his retiring from the chair. All business being concluded, the lodge was duly closed, and the brethren adjourned to a very enjoyable banquet, most ably served under the personal supervision of Bro. E. H. Rand, who, since his appointment as superintendent of the hotel has been most solicitous to secure the satisfaction and approval of the many lodges, chapters, &c., meeting in the house. The alms of the brethren were asked on behalf of the Indian Famine Fund, which resulted in the sum of £3 10s. 2d. being handed to Bro. Kenning, to be added to the list of subscriptions, of which he has consented to be the Treasurer. The W.M. being obliged to leave somewhat early, Bro. William Worrell, P.M. and Secretary, presided during the remainder of the evening.

**DUKE OF CONNAUGHT LODGE, (No. 1524).**—The regular meeting of this flourishing lodge was held on Thursday, the 27th ult., at its new quarters, the Havelock Hotel, Albion-road, Dalston. In consequence of the great progress made by this lodge it became necessary to remove from the house where it was consecrated, and it now meets in one of the most commodious and elegant rooms in the north-east of London. As is usual at this lodge the programme was a lengthy one, and the lodge was opened at an early hour, under the able presidency of Bro. J. B. Shackleton, W.M., supported by Bros. Chapman, P.M., Treasurer; W. H. Lee, P.M., Secretary; Green, S.D.; Brand, I.G.; Johnson, D.C.; Dignam, W.S.; and Young, Organist; the Wardens were unfortunately absent through illness, their places being ably filled by Bros. C. Lorkin as S.W.; and F. Brasted as J.W. The following brethren were also present:—Bros. Stevenson, Reynolds, Stokes, Moon, G. Ferrar, Hill, R. George, Brane, E. Dietrich, Hollingsworth, A. Ferrar, Varney, Polak, Jameson, E. George, Davies, Bonner, Payne, and Beensen. The lodge was honoured by the presence of the following visitors:—Bros. F. Binckes, P.G.S., Sec. R.M.I.B.; C. F. Matier, P.G.W. Greece, P.M. 645; E. Bare, W.M. 1685; W. Sprake, 201; T. Ainsley, 244; W. F. Rogers, 704; and C. A. Birdseye, No. 20, Connecticut, U.S.A. The minutes of the preceding meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M. raised Bro. Reynolds and passed Bros. Beensen and Jameson. There were no less than six candidates for initiation, all of whom were unanimously elected, and Messrs. C. J. Olley, R. Fisher, A. R. Olley, and T. Norman being in attendance were then regularly initiated into Freemasonry. Five gentlemen were proposed for initiation, after which the lodge was closed and the brethren adjourned to banquet, which was served under the personal superintendence of Bro. George Ferrar. The cloth having been removed, the W.M. proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts. Bro. Binckes, as a Past Grand Steward, returned thanks for the Grand Officers. Bro. Chapman, I.P.M., in proposing "The Health of the W.M.," dilated upon the great progress the Lodge had made under Bro. Shackleton's Mastership, and on the zeal and ability with which he had discharged his important duties. The toast was drunk with great cordiality. The W.M. responded, and thanked the brethren for the compliment paid him. "The Health of the Initiates" was drunk and suitably responded to. Bro. Matier responded for "The Visitors," and remarked upon the cosmopolitan character of Freemasonry, under the auspices of which a brother might secure a welcome by the fraternity in all parts of the world. Bro. Birdseye, from U.S.A., also responded, and thanked the brethren for his cordial reception. The W.M. proposed "Prosperity to the Masonic Charities." Bro. Binckes replied. It must be a source of great congratulation to us all that Freemasonry is in such a flourishing condition, but when we considered the rapid strides the Craft had made since the installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as M.W.G.M., we must not forget that the demands upon the resources of our Institutions would be increased in proportion. The Boys' School out of a list of sixty-seven candidates could only admit nine, they were about to lay out £3000 in providing additional accommodation for twenty-seven boys, and he hoped and believed that these efforts would be nobly seconded by the Craft. He had been informed that this lodge had already sent up a Steward for the Girls' School and also for the Benevolent Institution, and he therefore hoped that the lodge would now direct its attention to the claims of the Institution of which he was the representative. In response to this appeal Bro. E. Dietrich volunteered to represent the lodge as a Steward at the next annual festival of the R.M.I. Boys (applause). The health of the P.M.'s (Bro. Lee and Chapman were then proposed. Bro. Lee in returning thanks for the P.M.'s, referred to the observations which had been made by Bro. Binckes with reference to the Masonic Charities, and reminded the lodge that although it had been nearly three years established, it had not yet contributed anything from the lodge funds towards the support of those Institutions, but he hoped that at the close of the present financial year the funds would be in a position to justify the lodge in placing a substantial amount on the list of Bro. Dietrich. The health of the officers was proposed

and drank, after which the Tyler's toast was given and the brethren separated, having spent a very pleasant evening.

**CITY OF WESTMINSTER LODGE (No. 1563).**—The first meeting of the lodge after the recess was held at the Regent Masonic Hall, Air-street, W., on Thursday, 27th ult. Present: Bros. the Rev. P.M. Holden, W.M.; E. White, S.W.; J. E. Shand as J.W.; Turner, S.D.; Hutchinson, as J.D.; Willis, I.G.; B. W. Swallow (G.J.D. Middx.), I.P.M.; E. J. Scott, Sec.; C. A. Cotteburne, Treas.; Bros. Hammond, Townley, Gardner, Tate, Irving, Ward, Eastgate, Docker, and others. Visitors present: J. Coutts, P.G.P., W.M.; (Covent Garden Lodge); J. Elliott, W.M. 1348; A. J. Ireton, S.W. 1348; A. Bassington, J.W. 205; U. Beck, W.M. 1687; E. H. Stamwitz, P.M. 435; T. Cooper, S.D. 538; I. Edell, 108, London; J. W. Lakin, 180; C. F. Lewis, 95; T. J. Arnold, 182; E. G. Marner, 1673. Bros. Clarke and Taylor were passed, and Bros. Jones, Lee, Eastgate and Ward were duly and very impressively raised by the W.M. to the Sublime Degree. Bro. S. W. White was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year, and will be installed in November. Bro. Cotteburne was re-elected Treas.; Potter, Tyler. A jewel value £10 10s. was voted to the W.M., also a P.M.'s collar and jewel attached, for his efficient and valuable services. The bye-laws were read, and several propositions for initiation at next meeting. A letter was read from Bro. Parsons, whose resignation was received with regret. A letter was received from Bro. Riley, who had gone to Ireland, asking permission to be a country member, also asking the W.M. to receive for lodge and place upon dinner table a haunch of fine venison, which he had the pleasure to forward, and which later in the evening was found delicious. Lodge was then closed, and about 45 in number sat down to an excellent repast by Bro. Nichol, when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts followed, Bros. Beck, Eastgate, &c., contributing to the harmony. A suggestion made by Bro. Scott (Sec.), towards the close of evening for the lodge, to have a ball in January next met with great enthusiasm, and a guarantee fund was at once started, and among the brethren present about £40 was collected.

**MIZPAH LODGE (No. 1671).**—This lodge held an emergency meeting on Saturday, the 29th of Sept., at the Albion Hotel. Present: Bros. Nelson Read, W.M.; David R. Still, S.W.; Walter Medcalf, J.W.; J. J. Avery, Treas.; W. Vilven, S.D.; J. Berryman, J.D.; F. Morgan, 1572, Acting I.G.; H. Shaw, Tyler; Lissons, Wiles, Warden, Morgan, Wright, Coppard, Lewis and Wells. Visitors: Bros. Whitaker, W.M., 1572; J. Chaney, 180; Birkett, 970. Lodge opened at 2.30. Lodge opened in the Second Degree, Bros. Morgan, Wright, Coppard, Lewis and Wells, having answered the usual questions were entrusted and withdrew. Lodge opened in the Third Degree, and Bros. Morgan, Wright, Coppard, Lewis and Wells, were separately obligated and raised to the Sublime Degree. Lodge resumed to First Degree, and closed with perfect harmony and solemn prayer at 5 o'clock, and adjourned till the 2nd Saturday in October.

**BEDFORD.**—Stuart Lodge (No. 540).—The opening meeting for the season was held at the Lodge Rooms, Swan Hotel, on Wednesday evening, Sept. 26. The meeting was a most successful one, both as regards attendance of members, (about thirty being present) and the manner in which the three ceremonies were worked. In the absence of the W.M., Bro. Col. Stuart, P.G.W., (who has not yet returned from America, where he has been during the summer), Bro. Captain Green, I.P.M., occupied the chair and performed the ceremonies of raising, passing, and initiation in an exceptionally praiseworthy manner, in which he was ably assisted by the officers of the lodge, all of them being present. Besides Captain Green there were present:—Bros. the Rev. C. Brereton, Chaplain; W. Finlison, P.M., Senior Warden; Cop. Calburne, J.W.; Combes, S.D.; Allan, I.D.; Thody, I.G.; C. Prior, M.D., P.M. Sec.; Alderman Sergeant, P.M., Treasurer; Alderman J. R. Butt, J.P., P.M., Steward; Piper, Organist; Reynolds, Tyler; also the following Past Masters, J. Tropp, Cuthbert, Billson, G. P. Nash, Whyby, Cookson, and following brethren: Whittaker, Kilpin, Thompson, Roe, Harris, Jarvis, Ayres, H. Young, Warren, &c. The lodge having been opened in due form, the minutes of the former lodge were read and confirmed, a ballot was then taken for Mr. A. H. Allen, who being declared unanimously elected, was then initiated. Bro. H. Young was duly passed to the Second, and Bro. R. P. Jarvis, raised to the Third Degree. At the conclusion of the ceremonies it was unanimously agreed that the brethren belonging to the lodge should be solicited to pay whatever subscription they thought of giving towards the Indian Famine Relief Fund into the Stuart Lodge fund for that object, and a sum of ten pounds was voted from the lodge funds for the same. The votes for the Masonic Schools were then disposed of by the brethren present, and other routine business transacted. On the motion of Bro. P.M. Bull, a brother lately come to reside in Bedford was proposed as a joining member; after which the lodge being closed, the brethren, to the number of twenty-seven, adjourned to refreshment after a period of incessant labour which had as much earned them this reward as it had disposed them to enjoy it. The usual toasts were duly proposed and fully honoured, and the brethren separated, delighted to get to earnest work again after their long separation of the summer vacation.

**LIVERPOOL.**—Downshire Lodge (No. 594).—The usual monthly meeting of the "Old Downshire" was held at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, on Thursday evening, the 27th of September, when there was a very large muster of members. Bro. John Lecomber, W.M., was in his place, and he was supported by Bros. R. P. France, I.P.M.; P. M. Larsen, P.M.; T. Dilcock, P.M.; H. Hunt, P.M.; S. E. Ibbes, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., D.C.; J. L. Houghton, S.W.; T. Boswell, J.W.; R. Ing, P.M., Treasurer; Adolph Pedersen, Secretary; J. H. Birch,

S.D.; J. Glitherow, J.D.; W. H. Veevers, I.G.; R. J. Wilkinson, S.; P. Maddox, S.; and J. Yapp, Org. There were about 40 brethren present, and a number of visitors. Mr. W. E. L. Hambley was unanimously elected for the benefits of initiation, but he had gone to sea since his proposition. The lecture on the first tracing board was, under these circumstances, given by Bro. R. P. France, P.M., whose excellent and fluent delivery was greatly admired and appreciated. A vote of thanks, on the motion of Bro. P.M. Dilcock, seconded by Bro. P.M. Hunt, was ordered to be recorded on the minutes to Bro. France for the Masonic treat realised by his lecture. The sum of eight guineas was asked from the funds to help a widow and two distressed brethren, and on the motion of Bro. P.M. France, seconded by Bro. P.M. Dilcock, it was unanimously resolved to donate five guineas to the Indian Famine Relief Fund. (This amount was subsequently supplemented by three guineas, subscribed by the individual members, making the donation eight guineas.) After four propositions for initiation and two for joining, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned for refreshments.

**LIVERPOOL.**—Liverpool Dramatic Lodge (No. 1609).—The first annual installation meeting, after consecration, of the members of this prosperous lodge, (which was instituted in June, 1876, for the convenience of dramatic, musical, literary, and other representatives of professional pursuits), was held on Tuesday, the 25th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, where there was one of the most influential and numerous attendances seen at any installation for a considerable time. It may be stated that the date of installation was altered, by special resolution, from June till September, to suit the engagements of the professional brethren, whose engagements took them from town during the summer months. It is also an almost unprecedented fact that Bro. Joseph Bell, the first W.M., one of the most respected Masons in Liverpool, not only occupied the chair for 15 months, but held the same position in the De Grey and Ripon Lodge, No. 1356, so that his term of tenure of office as W.M., extended over a period of two years and three months. That the petitioning brethren acted wisely in choosing Bro. Bell as the first Master is abundantly proved by the present financial position of the lodge, the excellent reputation it has deservedly secured for correct and high-class working, and the perfect harmony which had characterised the whole of its proceedings since the consecration. Not only is the "Dramatic," now numerically strong, but careful attention has also been paid to the all-important rule of quality, and not mere quantity of membership, thereby exhibiting a carefulness which is well worthy of general imitation. Within a very few weeks after consecration every farthing of liability was cleared off, and at the end of the first 15 months of its existence the balance sheet shows that the total worth of the lodge is about £200. The subjoined account of the interesting and most successful installation proceedings also shows that charity is not forgotten as the chief gem in the symbolic jewels of Freemasonry, and there is every reason to believe that with increasing prosperity in the future there will be shown a proportionate increase in the distinguishing virtue of the Craft. The formation of a Fund of Benevolence is amongst the earliest schemes which will be considered during the current year, and from the interest already manifested in the proposal there seems every prospect that the scheme will be completely successful. The brethren were summoned to meet at 12.30, and punctually at that hour, Bro. Joseph Bell, the W.M., took his place in the chair, and proceeded without delay with the business of the day. The officers were all in their places, and there was a numerous attendance of distinguished brethren as visitors. The lodge having been opened in due form, and with solemn prayer, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and unanimously confirmed. The ballot was then taken for two initiates and one joining member, after which the balance-sheet, which was taken as read, was passed by acclamation. Bro. Walter James Chapman, S.W., the W.M. elect, was then presented for the benefit of installation by Bro. R. Brown, P.M., 241, and Bro. Dr. J. Kellett Smith, P.P.G. Registrar. The ceremony of installing Bro. Chapman was most ably and impressively performed by Bro. J. Bell, the retiring W.M., who thus most honourably closed a memorable term of service in the chair. After the newly-chaired W.M. had been saluted, according to time immemorial custom, the following officers were invested for the ensuing year. Bro. J. Bell, I.P.M.; Bro. B. Marson, P.M., D.C.; Bro. Linds Courtenay, S.W.; Bro. J. McKenzie, J.W.; Bro. A. Woolrich, Treasurer (re-elected); Bro. J. Atkinson, Secretary; Bro. W. Sandbrook, S.D.; Bro. Fred. Wilkinson, J.D.; Bro. Frank Emery, I.G.; Bro. J. Pyer, S.S.; Bro. W. Savage, jun., J.S.; Bro. J. Skeaf, P.G.O. and Bro. R. Burgess, Organists; and Bro. W. H. Ball was unanimously re-elected Tyler. The closing charges to the W.M., Wardens, and brethren, were very effectively delivered by Bro. R. Brown, P.M. 241. Mr. Arthur Weston, (professionally known as "Boz," the clever conjuror) and Mr. John Charles Duckworth, journalist, having been previously unanimously elected, and being now in attendance, were duly initiated into the Order by Bro. W. J. Chapman, W.M., in a most impressive manner, all the new officers doing their work in a highly satisfactory manner. On the motion of Bro. Atkinson, Sec., it was agreed that the expenses of the officers in attending the P.G. Lodge meeting at Southport should be defrayed from the funds of the lodge, and the W.M. expressed a hope that there would be a numerous representation of the members to support him and his Wardens on that occasion. After a proposition for joining had been made, the brethren were called off from labour to refreshment. A recherché banquet was served to about seventy, in the large dining room of the hall by Bro. Ball, P.G. Tyler. Bro. Chapman, W.M.,

presided at the banquet table, supported, right and left, by a brilliant array of P.G. Officers. When dessert had been placed on the table, the W.M. gave the first toast of the evening—"The Queen"—which was honoured with immense enthusiasm. The W.M. next proposed "The M.W. Grand Master. Bro. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family." He said—The Prince of Wales, I dare say, is one of the most popular men in the country (hear), and his position as a Freemason—his position as M.W.G.M. of the Order.—will doubtless form one of the brightest jewels in the crown he is destined to wear, thereby making his influence the greatest in the whole world. (Applause.) Brethren, I ask you to drink the health of our G.M., his amiable consort, the Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family. The toast was received most cordially. "God bless the Prince of Wales," was then sung by Bro. Woolrich and company. The next toast, "The M.W. Pro Grand Master, Bro. the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon," was proposed, in eulogistic terms, by Bro. H. S. Alpass, P.G. Sec. The next toast was "The R.W. Deputy Grand Master, and R.W.P.G.M. of West Lancashire, Bro. the Rt. Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, and the Officers of Prov. G. Lodge, Past and Present." The W.M., in submitting the toast, said they were fortunate in West Lancashire in having a popular brother like Lord Skelmersdale at their head. He took a great interest in the Craft, and was readily accessible on all occasions, thereby rendering himself highly popular amongst the brethren. Bro. H. S. Alpass, in acknowledging the toast, said it gave him very great pleasure to be present at the installation that day, and to witness the undoubted success which the lodge had secured after fifteen months' existence. He thought that the success of the Dramatic Lodge since its consecration would clearly show that Lord Skelmersdale, their P.G. Master, was perfectly justified in his recommendation to the G. Master that a warrant of constitution should be granted. (Cheers.) In all his (the P.G. Sec's.) experience he did not know any lodge which had been so successful as the "Dramatic" in carrying out the objects for which it was instituted, and in carrying them out so harmoniously and creditably. In the first place, the object of the promoters in establishing this lodge—as precedent for which they had doubtless witnessed in London, was to suit the convenience of those professional brethren who, while desirous of becoming Freemasons were prevented from doing so by their professional avocations. Some thirty years ago, Bro. Raymond, lessee of the Liverpool Theatre, in Church-street, appeared to have taken a very great interest in Masonry, giving a benefit at his theatre for some Masonic charity; and associated with him was Bro. W. J. Hammond, not unknown in the present generation, whose son was now well recognised as a worthy Mason. Moreover, not only had the Dramatic Lodge been successful, but it had maintained its professional status, and he was pleased to find from the returns that it was really a dramatic lodge, the majority of the brethren being connected with the stage, as well as musical and literary pursuits. Everyone that visited it must feel that an evening with the "Dramatic" was one of the most enjoyable and profitable they could have. The members certainly showed the fine spirit of brotherhood, and although it was said that jealousies prevailed greatly in the profession they had chosen, that was not so in Masonry—that whatever must be the case on the public stage it did not exist on the Masonic stage. (Hear.) They had that afternoon seen Bro. Chapman installed W.M. of the lodge and they must all be congratulating themselves on securing the services of one who was really entitled and fitted to be a ruler in the Craft. Bro. Chapman had given the First Degree that evening, and all who were present must agree with him, (Bro. Alpass) that he (the W.M.) thoroughly understood the meaning of the solemn ceremony and had required no mere parrot power of repetition. (Hear, hear.) Lord Skelmersdale was greatly esteemed in Masonry,—so much so, that it seemed if things went on as they were now doing Masonry would soon take up all his lordship's time, leaving him none for the performance of his legislative duties. Again referring to the excellent working of the Dramatic Lodge, Bro. Alpass said he could see that for the next three years, at least, they had a class of officers who would maintain the proud position and secure its success with the literary and dramatic professions. The newspapers told us the right way in which to do things, and if they did not do right they might rest assured the representatives of that mighty engine, the Fourth Estate, would be down on them "like a thousand of bricks." Bro. Joseph Bell, I.P.M., next gave "The Worshipful Master," saying he was sure the toast would be received with the enthusiasm it deserved. Bro. Chapman was well known to them as an excellent Mason, and he had the interest of the lodge at heart. The W.M. said he hardly knew how to thank the brethren for the honour conferred on him. Only three years ago he was initiated into Masonry, and now he occupied the proud position of W.M. of the Dramatic Lodge. He only hoped he would be able to repay the confidence which the members had reposed in him. That would be his object, and his greatest reward at the end of the year would be to know he had secured the same sincere respect as Bro. Bell had during his time in the chair. (Hear, hear.) The W.M. then proposed "The I.P.M., and Installing Master" (Bro. Bell), and in doing so referred to the fine brotherly spirit which he had displayed and the warm interest he had taken in the welfare of the lodge since its consecration. The W.M. then presented Bro. Bell with a most exquisitely designed and unique P.M.'s jewel which had been unanimously voted from the funds of the lodge and also with a splendid chain and locket (with square and compasses set with diamonds on one side and Bro. Bell's inlaid monogram on the other) which had been subscribed by the individual members of the lodge as a mark of the affection and esteem in which he was held by all. Bro. Bell, I.P.M.,

in acknowledging the splendid gifts, said he looked upon that as the splenddest and happiest moment of his life, not only because of these handsome presents, but because the generosity and kindness the brethren had shown, that he had given them satisfaction by the manner in which he had fulfilled the duties of the chair. Some other toasts were given, which closed the refreshment proceedings. The general enjoyment of every one was greatly promoted by the excellent songs and recitations given by Bros. G. W. Anson, J. Bushfield, D. Saunders, John Hill, A. Weston, A. Woolrich, Treas.; W. S. Cooke, L. Courtenay, S.W., and others, the piano accompaniments being artistically played by Bros. Skeaf and Burgess. On resuming labour it was resolved, on the motion of Bro. Bell, seconded by Bro. Marson, that a letter of condolence should be written to the family of the late Bro. Dr. A. Whittle, a member of the lodge, who had died very suddenly. Bro. Bell then moved that the sum of 15 guineas should be voted from the funds of the lodge to endow the chairs of the W.M., the I.P.M., and S.W. with life governorships of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution. The motion was seconded by Bro. Isaac de Freece, and carried by acclamation. Bro. R. Brown briefly acknowledged the generous vote. Bro. Marson next proposed that the sum of 3 guineas should be voted from the funds of the lodge to endow the chairs of the W.M., S.W., and J.W. with life governorships of the Hamer Benevolent Fund. This motion was seconded by Bro. Bell, and was likewise carried unanimously. The lodge was then closed in perfect harmony, and in accordance with ancient form.

#### INSTRUCTION.

**METROPOLITAN LODGE (No. 1056).**—Friday the 28th Sept., being the day appointed by the bye-laws of this lodge for working the ceremony of installation, the chair was occupied by Bro. Whittaker, W.M. of the Carnarvon Lodge, who had undertaken the duties of Installing Master and he was ably supported by Bros. Reed and Dwarber, whom he had appointed as his Senior and Junior Wardens. The lodge having been opened in the Three Degrees and the sections worked by Bros. Woods and Reed in the Second Degree, Bro. Creak was presented by the Preceptor of the lodge, Bro. Stacey, to the W.M. as a fit person to receive the benefit of installation, and having assented to abide by the ancient charges as read by the Secretary, Bro. Snelling, took the office of W.M. elect, and withdrew. The lodge was then opened in the Three Degrees, and a Board of Installed Masters having been formed, Bro. Vincent was ably installed as W.M. of the lodge, and was afterwards saluted by the brethren in the Three Degrees, according to ancient custom. Bro. Vincent afterwards appointed and invested his officers. The following brethren were then elected members of the lodge:—Bros. Tucker, Kearney, Willett, Marion, Lockhead, and Cranwell, and a vote of thanks was directed to be recorded on the minutes of the lodge to Bro. Whitaker for his services as Installing Master, and he was afterwards, by the unanimous vote of the brethren, made honorary member of the lodge. There was a large attendance of Past Masters and members of the lodge, and much satisfaction was expressed by them at the manner in which Bro. Whitaker had performed the duties of Installing Master.

**FINSBURY PARK LODGE (No. 1288).**—This lodge held its weekly meeting on Wednesday, the 26th, of September, at the Finsbury Park Tavern, Seven-Sisters' Road, Holloway, N. Present: Bros. P. Dickinson, Preceptor; I. Walker, W.M., Egyptian, No. 27; Campbell, S.W.; Press, J.W.; H. B. D. Dunn, Sec.; Pigot, P.M., Treasurer; John Eldridge, W.M. 167, S.D.; Rothschild, J.D.; Baldwin, I.G. The lodge having been opened the minutes were read and confirmed. The ceremony of passing and initiation were rehearsed. Bro. Dickinson worked First and Second Sections of Lecture. Bro. Campbell was elected W.M. for ensuing fortnight, and the annual supper of the lodge was fixed for the 3rd inst.

**THE GREAT CITY LODGE (No. 1426).**—A meeting of this lodge was held at the Masons' Arms, Basinghall-street, on Thursday, 27th ult. Bros. Stanway: W.M., Spiegel, S.W.; Freeman, J.W.; Soul, I.G. Bros. Poore, Preceptor; Blackey, Sec.; Colmer, Treas.; and about 25 brethren attended. This being the fourth Thursday in the month, according to the bye-laws, the Installation ceremony was rehearsed, and Bro. Barry being appointed Installing Master.

**DUKE OF CONNAUGHT LODGE (No. 1524).**—This lodge held its annual meeting at the Havelock Tavern, on Wednesday evening, 27th ult., at 8 p.m. Present: Bros. J. Larkin, W.M.; Brasted, S.W.; McMillan, J.W.; Maples, S.D.; Brown, J.D.; Woolley, I.G.; Fieldwick, Preceptor; E. Dietrich, Secretary; and J. B. Shackleton, Lee, Gilchrist, Symes, F. Beensen, Hodgkinson, Moore, Little, Spencer, G. Ferrar, E. George, Polack, Marsh, C. Larkin, Streeton, &c. The lodge was opened in ancient form, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was then rehearsed by the W.M. in a very able manner, Bro. F. Beenson being the candidate. After the lodge being called from labour to refreshment, and refreshment to labour, Bros. Lee and Gilchrist worked the sections of the lectures, assisted by the brethren. Bro. E. P. Hodgkinson was elected as a joining member. Bro. Brasted was appointed W.M. for next meeting.

#### Mark Masonry.

**GUILDFORD.**—Percy Lodge (No. 114).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Angel

Hotel, on Thursday, Sept. 20. The attendance of brethren was not so numerous as usual, owing to distant engagements of several members, who however, forwarded their apologies for absence. Amongst these were Bros. the R.W. Major General Brownrigg, C.B., Prov. G.M. of Surrey; the V.W. F. W. Harrison, Prov. D.G. Master of Surrey; the W. W. Smallpiece; Col. Martin, Dr. La-Fargue, R. Eve, T. Tyler, &c. The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. W. Wells, who was supported by Bro. W. M. Piggott, S.W.; Charrington, J.W.; Edgar Drewitt, P.M.; Davies, Michaux, Nealds, Seymour and others. By request of the W.M., the V.W. Bro. James Stevens, P.M., P.G.J.O. advanced into the Degree, Bro. C. D. Onslow, M.P., and subsequently installed the W.M. Elect, Bro. W. M. Piggott into the chair of A., both ceremonies being worked in extenso, and the addresses to the Master and Officers impressively delivered. The officers appointed for the ensuing year were Bros. Charrington, S.W.; Mason, J.W.; Eve, M.O.; Bothing, S.O.; Davies, J.O.; Michaux R.M.; W. Smallpiece, P.M., Treasurer; Drewitt, P.M., D.C.; Piggott, Secretary; Seymour, I.G.; Neate, Tyler. The Deacons' Offices were left open for ensuing meeting. The lodge unanimously voted the sum of two guineas to the Indian famine fund, and transacted necessary routine business. On the proposition of the I.P.M., Bro. Wells, supported by the newly-installed W.M., Bro. Piggott, the thanks of the lodge to the V.W. Bro. James Stevens for his services on this and former occasions were unanimously voted, and he was requested to accept Honorary Membership in token thereof. Bro. Stevens briefly responded and expressed the pleasure he felt in receiving so honourable a mark of approval, and his desire to be in the future as he had been in the past, of service to the brethren generally and to the lodge in particular. The lodge was then closed, and after attending the meeting of the Percy Craft Lodge, which was opened immediately subsequent, the brethren re-united at the banquet table under the presidency of Bro. Davies, W.M. of the Craft Lodge, Bro. Piggott, the W.M. of this Mark Lodge occupying the position of S.W.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORELAND.

The annual festival of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cumberland and Westmoreland was held at Cocker-mouth, under the banner of Skiddaw Lodge, No. 1002, on Friday, the 28th ult. It being twelve years since the meeting was held at Cocker-mouth, when the late Bro. F. L. B. Dykes was Provincial Grand Master, the brethren of Skiddaw Lodge put forward their utmost energies to render the event as successful as on the previous occasion. The proceedings were opened in the spacious premises of the "Auctioneering and Estate Agency Company," which were admirably suited for the business of the day. The large dining hall was transformed into a well-appointed lodge-room, under the able supervision and decorative ability of Bro. W. Shilton, P.M., and the elaborate furniture of Skiddaw Lodge, the gift of the late lamented Bro. H. F. Faithful, P.M., P.P.G.J.W., aided by various materials kindly lent by Bro. W. M'Quhae, assisted to make the hall a handsome temple. Rooms were also provided for the Provincial Officers and Charity Committee, whilst the bulk of the brethren, making altogether about 220, were accommodated in the large sale ring, where Bro. Peacock, of the Rampant Bull Hotel, provided excellent refreshments in the shape of luncheon, the dispensing of which could not have been in better hands than the two Stewards of Skiddaw Lodge, Bros. M'Quhae and Dent. The morning broke dull, but the sun speedily made his appearance, and smiled brilliantly on the festival all day. The brethren from a distance began to arrive at half-past eleven, and shortly after twelve o'clock the whole had entered the building. There are nineteen lodges altogether in the province, and all were represented but two, Eden Valley, No. 812, Appleby; and Solway, No. 1220, Silloth. As very few signed their names in the Tylers' books, a full list of those present is impossible, and we can only trust to memory. The owners of any names omitted, will therefore understand the reason thereof. It was fully expected the Earl of Bective, M.P., R.W. Provincial Grand Master, would have been present—in fact, intimation was received of his lordship's intention to be present; but a telegram from Lowther Castle, conveyed the fact of the inability of Lord Bective to attend, to the sincere regret of every one. The following were present:—Bros. Colonel Whitwell, M.P., P.M. 129, Deputy Provincial Grand Master, P. Grand Warden of England; W. Kirkbride, P.M. 339, Senior Grand Warden; J. Bowes, P.M. 129 and 148, Junior Grand Warden; Rev. C. H. Gem, 327, Grand Chaplain; Rev. H. V. Thompson, 1074, Assistant Grand Chaplain; J. Lemon, P.M. 327, P.P.S.G.W., Grand Treasurer; J. M'Kelvie, P.M. 119, P.P.G.J.D., as Grand Secretary (in the unavoidable absence of Bro. W. B. Gibson, P.M. 119, P.P.G.S.W., Grand Secretary, who was attending the funeral of a relative the same day); W. Armstrong, P.M. 371, Grand Director of Ceremonies; T. Atkinson, P.M. 872, Assistant Director of Ceremonies; J. Beattie, P.M. 962, Grand Superintendent of Works; A. Walters, P.M. 371, Grand Sword Bearer; Jos. Nicholson, P.M. 371, P.P.G.S.W.; J. R. Tickle, P.M. 371, P.P.G. Purst.; J. R. Bain, P.M. 1400, P.P.G. Supt. of Works; Thos. Anderson, 1074, Grand Tyler; W. Prattitt, P.M. 310, Senior Grand Deacon; J. Cook, P.M. 1532, Junior Grand Deacon; J. Gate, P.M. 327, P.P.G.S.B.; J. Bintley, P.M. 129, P.P.G. Supt. of Works; J. Mills, P.M. 1390, P.P.G. Purst.; W. Lamonby, 1073, P.P.G. Tyler; J. Holme, P.M. 1074, P.P.G.J.W.; J. Talbot, P.M. 129, P.P.G.J.W.; Jos. Frears, 119, Grand Organist; W. Alsop, P.M. 119, P.P.G. Purst.; C. Morton, P.M. 827, 1002, 1267, W.M. 1660, P.P.G.S.W.; J. A. Wheatley, P.M. 310; R. Robinson, P.M., Treasurer 1002, P.P.G.S.D.; J. Pearson, P.M. 1002, P.P.G.S.D.; Dr. Dodgson, P.M. 1002, P.P.G.J.D.; A. Taylor, P.M. 310, P.P.G.S.B.; W.

Shilton, P.M. 1002, P.P.G.S.B.; J. L. Paitson, W.M. 119; E. Tyson, 119; G. Fitzgerald, Tyler 119; J. Abbott, 119; J. Rothery, 119; J. M'Kay, 129; J. Webster, 310; J. Bewes, P.M. 327; J. Pearson, P.M. 327; T. Carey, W.M. 371; J. R. Banks, S.W. 371; T. Mandle, P.M. 371; J. H. Banks, 371; D. Bell, 371; W. Skelton, 371; W. Jobling, W.M. 412; W. Cowman, W.M. 872; R. Twentyman, W. Holloway, and T. Ellwood, 872; J. J. Robinson, P.M. 872; J. Wood, W.M. 962; G. B. M'Mullin, J.W. 962; Jos. Tronghear, J.D. 962; W. Whitehead, J. Little, W. Waggs, C. A. Bradbury, T. B. Roxby, J. Blackburn, J. Johnston, and J. J. Coverdale, 962; H. Wearing, I.G. 1073; W. Wilson, 1073; E. Clark, P.M. 1267; J. W. Young, P.M. and Secretary, 1400; T. A. Wigham, 1400; G. Potter, W.M. 1532; J. Glendinning, 1532; W. Martin, J.W. 1660, 1002; J. W. Ockenden, 1512 and 1656; Hampton; G. Nelson, 1021, Barrow-in-Furness; A. Leitch, 116, Rutherglen, S.C. The other members of Skiddaw Lodge, besides those already enumerated were Bros. W. Taylor, W.M.; I. Evening, S.W.; Joskew, J.W.; Rev. E. M. Rice, M.A., P.M., and Chaplain; W. F. Lamonby, P.M. and Secretary, (Freemason); W. H. Leuthwaite, P.M. and Organist; T. Bird, S.D.; G. Brash, J.D.; C. Gibson, I.G.; N. M'Quhae and H. Dent, Stewards; W. Potts, Tyler; J. Robinson, J. Thompson, S. Ferguson, J. Pearson, H. Moncrieff, R. Bailey, Jas. Bolton, Jos. Allison, F. R. Sewell, J. Hallows, Jas. Black, J. Rainc, Jos. Straughton, T. C. Robinson, H. Peacock, W. Rule, and the Rev. Canon Hoskins, M.A.

The Craft lodge was opened in form at half-past twelve by Bro. Lamonby, P.M., and the Provincial Grand Lodge in due form about half an hour later by Colonel Whitwell, M.P., as Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Lemon, Grand Treasurer, acting as Deputy Provincial Grand Master. The dais was crowded with Provincial officers, past and present. The minutes of the April meeting, held at Penrith, having been read and confirmed.

Bro. Lemon presented his annual statement of accounts up to June 30th, 1877, which was highly satisfactory, and showed the handsome balance of £273 7s. 8d. in hand. The report was adopted unanimously.

Bro. Holme, P.P.G.J.W., then moved, and Bro. Nicholson, P.P.G.S.W., seconded the re-election of Bro. Lemon as Provincial Treasurer, which was heartily agreed to, as a matter of course.

Bro. Lemon, in returning thanks, congratulated the Provincial Grand Lodge in being in a better financial position than they ever were, and he hoped they would be in a still better position next year.

Bro. Morton, P.P.G.S.W., next proposed, and Bro. T. Atkinson, P.G.A.D.C., seconded, Bro. J. J. Robinson, P.M. 872, as Provincial Grand Tyler, which was carried unanimously.

The Provincial Grand Master in the chair, before proceeding to the investiture of officers, said he deeply regretted being in the position of presiding officer that day, as he fully expected the Earl of Bective would have been present—indeed, had anticipated meeting his lordship on the road to Cocker-mouth. Since arriving, however, he had received a telegram from their R.W. Grand Master, expressing his inability to attend, and it must have been some very important and pressing business that detained his lordship at the last moment. The following officers for the year were then invested, two or three, however, being absent:—

- Sir R. C. Musgrave, P.M. 339 ..... Prov. G.S.W.
- J. A. Wheatley, P.M. 310 ..... Prov. G.J.W.
- Rev. J. Thompson, 1074 ..... Prov. G. Chap.
- Rev. W. E. Strickland, 1267 ..... Prov. G.A. Chap.
- J. Lemon, P.M. 327 ..... Prov. G. Treas.
- W. B. Gibson, P.M. 119 ..... Prov. G. Sec.
- W. F. Lamonby, P.M. 1002 ..... Prov. G.Reg.
- J. R. Bain, P.M. 1400 ..... Prov. G.S.D.
- J. Lindow Burns-Lindow, W.M. 1267 ..... Prov. G.J.D.
- Godfrey, W.M. 1074 ..... Prov. G.S.W.
- T. Atkinson, P.M. 872 ..... Prov. G.D.C.
- M'Kay, 129 ..... Prov. G.A.D.C.
- J. L. Paitson, W.M. 119 ..... Prov. G.S.B.
- W. H. Lewthwaite, P.M. 1002 ..... Prov. G.O.
- J. W. Young, P.M. 1400 ..... Prov. G. Purst.
- Moffatt, 1660 ..... Prov. G. Steward.
- Nelson, W.M. 129 ..... Prov. G. Steward.
- Jobling, W.M. 412 ..... Prov. G. Steward.
- Brough, 812 ..... Prov. G. Steward.
- E. Clarke, P.M. 1267 ..... Prov. G. Steward.
- Salisbury, P.M. 872 ..... Prov. G. Steward.
- J. J. Robinson, P.M. 872 ..... Prov. G. Tyler.

The Charity Committee's report was next submitted and adopted. Amongst the recommendations was the sum of £5 to the aged widow of a brother of Lodge 119; and it was recommended to devote the votes of the province towards furthering the election of a widow of a brother of Lodge 412 into the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. In the report was also a recommendation from Bro. Gibson, the Prov. G. Secretary, for the appointment of Bro. M'Kay, of Kendal, as Assistant Secretary to the Charity Committee.

The Provincial Grand Master in the chair then brought forward the subject of the offertory to be made that day at church, and the object it should be devoted to. He remarked that a vote was passed by Provincial Grand Lodge, some years since, by which the sum of five guineas was given to purchase a rule in perpetuity for one of the institutions, such vote to be presented to the lodge vote, under whose banner the festival is held, the remainder of the collection to be at the disposal of the Provincial Grand Lodge.

Bro. Lamonby, as Secretary of Skiddaw Lodge, intimated that was the wish of the vicar of All Saints' Church, that the offertory should be given to the Indian Famine Relief Fund. Not knowing there was such a standing rule in existence as that mentioned by the Provincial

Grand Master in the chair, and considering the Famine Fund to be a really Masonic object, the announcement was made that the collection would be devoted to that object, and this was generally known through the town.

After some discussion, Bro. Holme, P.P.G.J.W., moved, and Bro. Bentley, P.P.G. S. of W., seconded, that the sum of £20 be subscribed from the funds of the Provincial Grand Lodge in aid of the "Indian Famine Relief Fund."

This was heartily agreed to, and it was understood that the whole of the church offertory, less five guineas for a vote, as before referred to, be given to the "Indian Famine Relief Fund."

This was all the business.

The Provincial Grand Master in the chair said, before closing, he must express his warm thanks, which he knew would be heartily endorsed by all present, for the excellent arrangements made by the brethren of Skiddaw Lodge for the reception of Provincial Grand Lodge, and for the hospitality which had been shown by them that day. (Applause.)

The Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed in due form.

The brethren having been arranged under their respective banners, were marshalled in order of procession to All Saints' Church.

The line of procession was thickly lined with spectators, there being above 200 Masons present, attired in the full clothing and insignia of their respective offices, and the delightfully fine day no doubt contributed to the attractiveness of the spectacle. Excellent order was maintained by the police, under the command of Bro. Supt. Taylor, P.M. 310, P.P.G.S.B. The route taken was down Station-street, and round the statue of Lord Mayo, who was a member of Skiddaw Lodge up to the date of his tragic death. Here the band ceased playing, till clear of the statue, and the procession then was directed up Kirkgate to the south entrance of All Saints'. There was a full congregation, independently of the Masons. A very appropriate sermon was preached by Bro. the Rev. C. H. Gem, P.P. Grand Chaplain, from I. Corinthians, c. iii., v. 16—"The Temple of God." The service was intoned by Bro. the Rev. Canon Hoskins, M.A., assisted by the choir, who kindly gave their services. Miss Cooper presided at the organ. The opening anthem was "Behold, how good and joyful." After the sermon a collection was made, amounting to over £18.

After church service, the procession was re-formed in inverted order to the New Market Hall, where an excellent banquet was served by Bro. Stephen Thwaite, Old Hall Inn, assisted by many of the wives, daughters, and sisters of the members of Skiddaw Lodge, who cheerfully gave their services, as waitresses. The hall was beautifully decorated and fitted up, but proved totally unsuited for the purposes of a large dinner, the excessively bad sounding properties of the place rendering speechifying and singing most difficult tasks.

Colonel Whitwell, M.P., presided, and proposed in succession, "The Queen, the Patroness of Masonry;" "The Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family;" "The Army, Navy, and Auxiliary Forces;" responded to by Bros. Captain Sewell and Captain Dodgson; Skiddaw Lodge, 1002; and "The Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese," which was acknowledged by the Rev. J. Thompson and Rev. C. H. Gem.

The R.W. Chairman then proposed "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W. Grand Master of England." He referred to the great strides made in the Order since the Prince of Wales became Grand Master. His Royal Highness was more over a zealous working Mason, and took the deepest interest in all that appertained to the well-being and prosperity of the Craft. Another pleasing circumstance of interest evinced in Masonry by the Royal Family was the fact of the Prince of Wales's two brothers holding high offices in Grand Lodge. One of them, H.R.H. Prince Leopold, had been a most active Master of a lodge, and was now Provincial Grand Master of Oxfordshire. (Cheers.) The toast was drunk with much enthusiasm.

Bro. Morton next gave "The Earl of Carnarvon, M.W. Pro Grand Master, Lord Skelmersdale, R.W. Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Officers of the Grand Lodge," which he coupled with the name of the Chairman, who was a Past Grand Warden of England.

The Chairman, in response, advised all brethren who were qualified to sit in Grand Lodge never to lose the opportunity of attending the Quarterly Communications, whenever they happened to be in London. He alluded to the fact that metropolitan lodges were increasing more than provincial lodges, and remarked that it was a serious matter. They should be careful whom they admitted in their midst, and not strive merely to grow in numbers. (Cheers.)

The Chairman then proposed "The Earl of Bective, M.P., R.W. Provincial Grand Master of Cumberland and Westmoreland," which was received with loud applause. He (the Chairman) felt himself under a cloud of disappointment, inasmuch as he knew how much gratification would have been felt by the brethren generally had their Provincial Grand Master been present that day. (Hear, hear.) He should, however, have the greatest pleasure in telling his lordship the enthusiastic way in which his name had been received by the Masons of Cumberland and Westmoreland, over whom he was so proud to hold sway. They all would have pleasurable recollections for many a long year of the princely way in which their Provincial Grand Master received them at Kirkby Lonsdale last year. (Applause.) He hoped that Lord Bective would long have the health to preside over that province. (Loud cheers.)

Bro. Lemon gave, in graceful and complimentary terms, "The Health of the Chairman," which was drunk with much warmth.

The Chairman having briefly replied, proposed "The Masonic Charities." When he heard their Provincial Treasurer was really rich that morning he (the chairman) began to think whether the province could not afford

something for the charities. He hoped that some brother would bring the matter before Provincial Grand Lodge at their next meeting. It was no good keeping their money lying idle, when it might be used for charitable purposes. (Hear, hear.) He coupled the toast with the name of Bro. Holme, who acknowledged the compliment.

Bro. McKelvie next proposed "The W.M. and Past Masters of Skiddaw Lodge," and in doing so expressed his gratification at the handsome way in which they had been received. This was the second time he had been at Cockermouth on a similar occasion, and he was sure that the brethren from other lodges would express their thanks most heartily to the Cockermouth brethren for their kind reception. He coupled with the toast the name of Bro. W. Taylor, W.M. of Skiddaw Lodge. The toast was drunk with much warmth.

Bro. Lamonby, P.M. and Secretary, responded, in the unexplained absence of Bro. Taylor, saying he did not know whether it was the innate modesty of the brother, or terror for what was looking him in the face on the toast list; but at all events, he was non est, without any explanation. He remarked it was twelve years since Provincial Grand Lodge was at Cockermouth, when he (Bro. Lamonby) was a very young Mason, some three months old, and when his mother, Skiddaw, was but sixteen or seventeen months old. (Laughter.) Since then Masonry had increased to a wonderful extent in Cumberland and Westmoreland, the lodges having almost doubled, and he hoped that when the time came round for the Provincial Grand Lodge to again visit Cockermouth the increase would be still further marked. He thanked the members of the different lodges for coming to Cockermouth in such large numbers that day, and that fact was ample compensation for any little hospitality the brethren of Skiddaw Lodge had extended to their visitors. (Applause.)

Bro. Talbot then proposed "The Worshipful Masters of Lodges in the Province," coupled with the name of Bro. Paitson, W.M. Lodge 119, Whitehaven, who briefly acknowledged the compliment.

Bro. R. Robinson, P.M. Skiddaw, then gave "The Visiting Brethren," in a very long speech, scarcely a word of which was audible. He coupled it with the name of Bro. Ockenden, Lodges 1512 and 1656, Hampton, Middlesex.

Bro. Ockenden, in reply, expressed the gratification it had afforded him to be present. Whether it was the excellent working in their Provincial Grand Lodge, the fine procession, the admirable sermons he had listened to, or the capital banquet placed before him that day, he had enjoyed himself beyond measure, and hoped to be present on such another auspicious occasion. (Applause.)

The Chairman, in proposing the last toast on the list, "To all Poor and Distressed Masons," expressed the pleasure it had given him to be present in Cockermouth. He had been amongst Cockermouth brethren previously, and therefore took much interest in their prosperity. He was glad to know they had built themselves a new lodge room, and whenever they opened it he should be most happy to visit them. (Applause.) Referring to the procession, they could not but inwardly feel a pang as they passed by the beautiful statue of their departed brother, Lord Mayo, who was a Mason, every inch of him, so far as kindness of heart and uprightness of character went. (Hear, hear.) Then, again, much of the success of the day's proceedings had been due to the charming weather, and he thought the Cockermouth brethren must have consulted and got round the clerk of the weather. (Laughter.) He hoped they all had enjoyed the excellent banquet they had partaken of; but amidst all this happiness he enjoined them to remember their poor and distressed brethren, and they should never forget that as Masons they were called upon to relieve them, according to the proportion of how good God had been to them in the dispensation of his privileges and blessings.

The toast was drunk in silence, and the proceedings were brought to a close at a little before six o'clock.

Bro. Frears, of Whitehaven, P.P. Grand Organist, presided at the pianoforte, and the following glees and part songs were sung by several of the Cockermouth and Carlisle brethren:—"God bless the Prince of Wales" (Masonic version); "Hail mysterious, glorious Science," "Oh, who would not a Mason be?" "Three Cheers, Brothers all, for the Craft we adore," "Brothers all, of every Nation," &c., the last three being from Bro. E. P. Philpot's (M.D.) new work.

#### CONSECRATION OF THE NEW BUXTON LODGE, No. 1688.

On Wednesday, the 12th September, 1877, the R.W. D.P.G.M., Bro. H. C. Okeover, P.G.J.W., England, consecrated the Buxton Lodge, No. 1688. Bro. Darwin, P.P. G.W. Derbyshire, installed the W.M., and the officers were duly appointed, viz.:—Bros. F. K. Dickson, M.D., W.M.; W. Skinner, M.D., S.W.; W. C. Moore, J.W.; A. A. Bagshawe, M.A., Chap., and I.P.M.; R. R. Duke, P.M., S.D. and Treas.; F. Turner, J.D.; J. Taylor, P.M., Sec.; W. Smith, P.M., Org. and I.G.

Several P.G. Officers most kindly attended the lodge and an oration was delivered by the Rev. J. F. N. Eyre, LL.D., P.G. Chap.

After the consecration a very agreeable banquet was given by the brethren of the lodge at the Palace Hotel, Buxton, where the lodge is held on the last Monday in the month.

The first meeting of the lodge was held last Monday, when £6 was contributed by the brethren to the Indian Relief Fund.

#### CONSECRATION OF THE NEW FINSBURY BURY PARK LODGE, NO. 1695.

On the 27th of last month the New Finsbury Park Lodge was consecrated by Bro. John Hervey, Grand Secretary, at the Finsbury Park Tavern. In the performance of the ceremony he had the assistance of Bro. H. G. Buss, Assistant Grand Secretary, who acted as D.C., Bro. Thomas Cubitt, Past Grand Pursuivant, as S.W., Bro. Dickinson as J.W., Bro. Davis as I.G., and Bro. Berry as Secretary. The other brethren who took an active part in the ceremonies of the day were the musical brethren, Bros. Ashton, Meen, and Hubbard, under the direction of the English Glee Union, who rendered the chants and anthems in beautiful style. These brethren also rendered very effective aid after the banquet, which followed, by singing some delightful glees and solos. There was no Chaplain present at the consecration, and consequently the whole of that ceremony was performed by Bro. Hervey. After the lodge had been opened Bro. Hervey, in addressing the brethren at the time the oration is usually delivered, said that it was the misfortune of the brethren that they had no Chaplain present to speak to them on the nature and principles of Masonry. That nature and those principles were however well known to most of the brethren, and they appeared also to be well known to the outer world, inasmuch as no new lodge was now opened without there being a flood of candidates for initiation therein. Whether this was an unmixed benefit was to his mind a question. Whether they also got the best men for initiates was also a question, and, as was generally his wont at consecrations, he would impress upon the brethren of this lodge the duty of being extremely careful in respect to those gentlemen they introduced. It was not only for the benefit of the Order he said this but for that of the lodge, because if they once got, to use a familiar phrase, "a black sheep" into the lodge it was very difficult to get rid of him. He might not be absolutely a bad man, but he might make himself so disagreeable to all his fellows that the lodge might be spoiled as far as its comfort went, and they might find when it was too late that he just kept within the pale of the Constitutions and so could not be ejected. To pass for the moment from this subject to that of the increase in the Order, he would give the brethren now a few statistics which he submitted at a consecration some few months ago at which he thought many of the brethren now before him were not present. In 1812 the number of lodges under what was then termed "The Prince's side," on account of the Grand Lodge being under the Grand Mastership of the then Prince of Wales, was 640. Yet when in 1815, "The Atholl side," as it was then termed, on account of the other Grand Lodge being ruled by the Duke of Atholl, the two were joined, they could only muster 647 lodges between them, certain lodges on both sides having been struck out. The money receipts in 1811 were £917 to the Fund of Benevolence, and £1550 to the Fund of General Purposes. In 1832 the numbers were again closed up, and there then appeared to be 865 lodges, or an increase of 218; but as the new numbering began with 594 it appeared that there were 53 lodges deducted since 1814. The receipts in 1832 were, Benevolence £1189, and General Purposes £2209. He would call attention to the Fund of Benevolence at the present time. It was not now unusual for the Lodge of Benevolence to vote away £600 or £700 in a night; and therefore he was afraid that if they had no more funds than they had in the old times he had alluded to the grants must be much smaller than they were now. In 1863 the numbers were again closed up, and the number of lodges was 1267, or an increase of 673 in 31 years. Canada had in the meantime declared itself independent. The receipts of the Fund of Benevolence were £3081, or nearly four times what they were in 1812. The present year began with a numerical list of 1662 lodges. 1663 was the first number this year, and the last one was 1725, or an increase in 9 months of 63 lodges; deducting New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and other places which had established Grand Lodges of their own, and some others that had fallen out, to the number of above 120, that would still leave a gross total of 1609 English lodges. The funds had proportionately increased. In the face of these facts he thought the brethren would agree with him that they should be careful how they increased the lodges, because, although it was a present increase in funds, some day or other as the lodges increased the claims upon the funds must increase. They saw this every 6 months, when the applicants for the benefits of the Masonic Schools became greater in number to an amazing extent. Where there were formerly 20 or 30 applicants, 60 or 70 were now to be found. At the forthcoming election of the Boys' School he thought there were 70. This was another reason why he thought they should be careful, and he said so because he believed a good many men came into Masonry simply with the idea that they could get some good out of it. Circumstances which had arisen of recent years had caused Masons to give away large sums of money, and people had derived from that fact the idea that Freemasonry was very wealthy. From this they concluded that if they became Masons and fell into distress they could get their children educated, and come themselves on the Fund of Benevolence for assistance. Such being the state of Masonry derived from statistics, he would now say a word to the officers of the lodge. He would recommend them to be attentive to their duties, punctual in time, and efficient in ritual, able and willing to support the Master in the work which he had to perform. It was at all times very desirable that the work of the lodge should be well performed, for there was nothing more humiliating to an officer than not to know his work. He hoped that the officers who were to be appointed that evening would so make themselves masters of their work that the Master himself should never be at a loss for a good man, and it

would be well indeed if, from some accidental circumstance, a senior officer was absent, the next in rotation could take his place. Bro. Hervey, after expressing his regret again that a Chaplain was not present, adverted to the blackballing of candidates, and repeated the cautious he had so constantly addressed to lodges on this subject which have appeared several times in the columns of the *Freemason*. Unfortunately, he said, these matters came before Grand Secretary officially, and it was difficult to know how to deal with them. He knew one London lodge, a very flourishing one, where two or three members joined together, and blackballed every candidate, and the lodge was nearly broken up in consequence. He said that he looked upon it as a most wicked and uncharitable thing so to act, to stab a man behind his back—an eligible man who the blackballers would say they would admit if he had come under the ordinary circumstances, but because they had a difference with some one respecting the affairs of the lodge they vented their feelings on a candidate. Bro. Hervey having apologised for detaining the brethren so long then proceeded with and concluded the ceremony of consecration.

When the lodge had been formally consecrated and dedicated, Bro. Hervey installed Bro. W. T. Purkess as W.M. The following brethren were appointed officers:—Bros. J. H. Stacey, S.W.; T. Press, J.W.; Davis, Treas.; Berry, Sec.; Dunn, S.D.; Crampton, J.D.; A. Haynam, I.G., pro tem; and Verry, Tyler.

A long list of names was proposed for initiation and joining, and Bros. Hervey and Buss were elected honorary members of the lodge.

Bro. Hervey having acknowledged the compliment, lodge was closed, and the brethren partook of banquet. The toasts were proposed in due course. "The Queen and the Craft," "The M.W.G.M.," "The Pro Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers," having been disposed of,

Bro. Hervey replied for the Grand Officers, and then proposed "The Health of the W.M., and Success to the New Finsbury Park Lodge." This was, he said, the first appearance of Bro. Purkess in the Master's chair, and as far as his performance had that day gone it proved that the brethren had shown a wise discretion in recommending him to the Grand Master for that office. It was an honour to fill that post, for it showed how much the brother so recommended was appreciated by the brethren, the full trust they had in him, that he would perform his duties well, and their confidence that in putting their new barque under his control they would not regret the choice they had made. He wished success to the New Finsbury Park Lodge, and he wished the W.M. success for his year of office.

The W.M. responded, and said he was not prepared for this toast, although he found it on the list. He had not been prepared for being spoken of in such glowing terms as Bro. Hervey had used. He had overlooked many of his faults, among them being that he was rather backward as a Mason. But for all that he would do his best to perform his duties as Master of the lodge, and he would endeavour to keep it, as its founders originally intended it should be—a select lodge. They were not going in for numbers; and they would endeavour to have a lodge of about forty members. When they arrived at that number, they expected to be such a fine lodge that the brethren would scarcely be able to look at them. (Laughter.) When his year of office was over he hoped the brethren would be of opinion that he had done his duty properly.

The W.M. then proposed "The Health of the Consecrating Officers," a toast which he said he should never have the opportunity of proposing again.

Bro. Hervey replied in very few words, thanking the brethren most cordially for their kind reception, and informing them that if what he had done had gratified the brethren, that was a great gratification to him.

Bro. Buss also replied. The brethren had exercised a wise discretion in selecting Bro. Purkess as W.M., a brother whom he had known some time, more particularly the last year or two. He was sure Bro. Purkess would keep the lodge in good order. It gave him (Bro. Buss) great pleasure to be present. Masonry was making rapid strides, but not so much in the north as in the south of London. Therefore he was very happy to hear of the starting of this new lodge, and he hoped it would not be the last, or the least successful. There were many inconveniences to be encountered by lodges meeting in the outskirts of London, but he was quite sure at the house where this lodge was located would be found every convenience the brethren could desire.

Bro. Legg replied for "The Officers," and expressed the high gratification he felt at witnessing the W.M. placed in the chair, without having passed through the preliminary chairs. Having been many years in Masonry the W.M. had saved himself a great deal of trouble by being the first Master of a lodge without having had the offices of Junior and Senior Warden conferred on him. The meeting had been most enjoyable, and he hoped he should have the opportunity of again joining the brethren at such a sociable gathering.

Bro. Davis (Treasurer) replied for "The Officers," all of whom through him thanked the W.M. most cordially for having expressed in proposing the toast the confidence he felt in their ability to assist him with efficiency in the discharge of his duties. The W.M. would not be disappointed with them, and they would not be disappointed with the W.M.

Bro. James Terry replied for "The Charities," and repeated many of the excellent remarks he made at the consecration of All Saints Lodge, reported in the *Freemason* last week. He concluded by informing the brethren that the W.M. had authorised him to use his name as a Steward for the Benevolent Institution.

The evening was shortly afterwards brought to a close.

NOTES ON ART, &c.

**QUADRUPLIX TELEGRAPHY.**—Some novel American telegraphic appliances are now being tried between London and Liverpool, the first trial having been made on Tuesday night with satisfactory results. The system is known as the quadruplex, and by its means four messages may be sent along one wire simultaneously. At either end there are two "sounders" and two keys, with four clerks, two to send and two to receive; and by an ingenious arrangement a conflict of currents is prevented. Thus by the aid of this invention one wire may be made to do as much as four worked on the ordinary system. The duplex principle is a valuable contrivance, but the quadruplex is twice as valuable.

The Channel Tunnel has been fairly begun in France, where several pits have been sunk to the depth of 110 yards. The French and English companies formed for its construction will each possess one half, and will respectively supply the funds for each portion, while the excavation will be done in France by the Great Northern Railway, and in England by the South-Eastern and Chatham and Dover lines. The materials of the French and English lines will pass through the tunnel in order to avoid delay and expense of transshipment, and as soon as the tunnel is completed the companies will endeavour to arrange for a similar exchange with other Continental lines. At the end of thirty years the tunnel will be ceded to the two Governments under certain conditions.

The coming Fine Art Exhibition at Dundee bids fair to be the best ever held north of the Tweed. Loans will be sent from several of the London museums, English artists will contribute largely, and the Queen has lent a valuable picture for exhibition.

**CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY LOCAL EXAMINATIONS.**—These examinations commence on Monday, December 17th, at 82 cents for boys and 64 for girls. Lists of the centres of examination and the addresses of the local secretaries at the centres may be obtained from the Rev. G. F. Browne, St. Catharine's College, Cambridge. The forms of entry for candidates are now in the hands of the local secretaries, to whom application for them must be made. The forms are to be returned to the same local secretaries on or before October 10th, 1877. The certificates obtained in these examinations excuse the holders, under various conditions, from the Cambridge previous examination and the preliminary examination for the legal and medical professions, and for musical degrees in Cambridge.

M. Offenbach's new three-act opera, "Les Contes d'Hoffmann," is to be produced this winter at the Paris Lyrique.

**GENERAL GRANT.**—General Grant visited Stratford-on-Avon on Friday last, and was received by the Mayor and Corporation with every demonstration of respect. The General and Mrs. Grant proceeded to inspect the house where Shakespeare was born, the Grammar School which the poet is said to have attended, the Shakespeare memorial now in course of erection, the church in which his ashes repose, and the cottage where Ann Hathaway lived. Afterwards the Mayor entertained the General and a distinguished party. In responding to the toast of his health, General Grant observed that in his country the memory of Shakespeare was honoured as with us, and there were societies which cultivated the study of his works as there were here. The address of the Corporation was contained in a casket made from the wood of the mulberry tree said to have been planted by Shakespeare.

**THE INDIAN FAMINE.**—Mr. James Wylde, of Charing Cross and the Royal Exchange, has just published a small map of India, showing in colours the districts affected by the various famines of late years, especially that from which the peninsula is now suffering. A sketch map is also appended, showing the average rainfall of various parts of the country.

**MARLBOROUGH HOUSE.**—In consequence of the recent illness of the Prince of Wales's son, all the drains at Marlborough House have been undergoing repairs, which has necessitated their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales taking up their residence at Clarence House on their way through London.—*Faithful Fair.*

**TELEGRAPHIC COMMUNICATION WITH AUSTRALIA.**—We understand that steps have been taken by the Agents-General for Victoria and New Zealand, in combination with the other Australian colonies, for the purchase from the Eastern Extension and China Telegraph Company of the submarine cable from India to Australia. The details of this scheme of purchase have been settled by Sir Julius Vogel, as representative of the New Zealand Government, in conjunction with Mr. Michel, Agent-General for Victoria. The Australian colonies may be heartily congratulated on this proof of unity and enterprise.

**A LIFE RAFT.**—On Wednesday last at the St. Pancras Baths, King-street, Camden Town, Sexton's patent life-preserving mattress was exhibited in action, the Rev. Arthur Hall being the operator in the water. The mattress is not wholly an air one, but without air, and of its own buoyancy, will support four persons on it, and many more, if they are merely clinging to it. It is so made as to form a mattress on board ship, either as a bed in the berth or as a lounging mattress on deck, and is always ready for service. Pillows are made of the same material, and uninflated will keep afloat one person. The valves by which the mattress and pillow can be inflated to a higher degree of buoyancy are so constructed that, without any disjoining, the filling with air is readily done, and there are no stoppers to be lost. On Thursday the mattress was thus filled while afloat. The air was let out, and then three lads of good size failed to press the mattress under water. The manufacturers are Messrs. Hutchinson, of London, Paris, and Mannheim.

Masonic and General Tidings.

**THE "FREEMASON" INDIAN FAMINE FUND.**—Intending subscribers (lodges or individual members) to this fund are earnestly requested to send in their subscriptions, large or small, at as early a date as convenient. Upwards of £100 has already been received, a list of which appears in the *Freemason* of this date. A list will be published each week of all amounts received at the Office, (198, Fleet-street), up to 6 o'clock, p.m., on Thursdays.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of West Lancashire held its annual meeting at Southport last Wednesday, the 3rd inst. A full report of the proceedings will appear next week, as well as details of the consecration of the Wilbraham Lodge at Walton, near Liverpool, this (Saturday) afternoon, at which Bro. Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M. and P.G.M., is expected to be the consecrating officer.

The Installation Meeting of the Marquess of Ripon Lodge, No. 1489, took place on Friday, the 5th inst., Bro. J. E. Walford, C.C., P.M. 117, being installed W.M. A full report will appear in our next.

**CONFIDENCE LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 193.**—The future meetings of this flourishing instruction lodge will be held at the Greyhound Tavern, Milton-st., Cripplegate, on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m.

**THE "NEW CONCORD" ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER, No. 813.**—This new chapter was consecrated on Thursday week by Comp. James Terry, P.Z., &c., assisted by Comps. Wm. Smeed, and Brasier. Comp. A. Wootton was an able D. of C. and the music was contributed by Comps. Seymour Smith and F. H. Cozens. The ceremonies of consecration and installation were impressively performed by Comp. Terry. M.E. Comp. J. R. Gallant, was the Principal installed. A full report in our next.

A Meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow was held on Thursday last, in the Queen's Rooms, Glasgow, the business consisting in the consecration of the Princes Lodge, No. 607, and installation of Office-bearers. A full report will appear in our next.

A Grand Council of the Illustrious Knights K.H. 30°, will be held at the Masonic Hall, 33, Golden Square, on Wednesday next, at 4.45 p.m.

A Dramatic performance will be given in the Free Trade Hall, Manchester, on Wednesday, the 10th inst., in aid of the Manchester and Salford Indian Famine Relief Fund, by the members of the De Trafford Club. The band of the 1st Kings Dragoon Guards will be in attendance, by kind permission of Lieut.-Col. Alexander. Several eminent brethren are on the Committee.

The installation meeting of the King Harold Lodge, No. 1327, takes place on the 18th inst., and not the 11th, as stated in a previous impression.

**NEW SOUTH WALES.**—The brethren who have experienced so much difficulty in procuring the *Freemason* in this distant colony, will be pleased to learn that owing to arrangements made with Messrs. T. J. Jones and Son, "The Four Masonic Publications" may now be obtained at their offices, No. 330, George-street, Sydney, on the arrival of the Mail.

**ACCIDENT TO A DISTINGUISHED LIVERPOOL BROTHER.**—On Wednesday, the 26th inst., Bro. Dr. J. Kellert Smith, P.P.G. Registrar, West Lancashire, of Russell-street, Liverpool, travelled by the L. and N.W. Railway to Holyhead, for the purpose of visiting a patient at Pantasagh, which is situated a short distance from Holyhead. In driving back to the station in a vehicle the horse took fright, and bolted at a furious rate, pitching Bro. Smith out with great violence. He alighted on his head, sustaining severe injuries, and spraining his right ankle. He laid in a insensible condition in the road for a short period, but subsequently recovered. The horse was stopped and brought back to the spot, and as the doctor was unable to walk he had again to get into the vehicle. The horse ran off a second time before getting to Holyhead, but fortunately Bro. Smith escaped without further injury in this instance. He is progressing favourably at the time of writing. One or two gentlemen who were with him also sustained injuries and severe shocks.

On dit, that Bro. the Hon. F. Stanley, R.W.D.P.G.M., for West Lancashire, is engaged in writing a life of his father, the late Earl of Derby, a preface being promised by Earl Beaconsfield.

The Mansion House Indian Famine Fund had on Thursday evening reached over £300,000, of which a quarter of a million has been remitted to India.

It is stated that the New Zealand Government will reward the Portland boatmen who saved the lives of the crews of "Avalanche" and the "Forest."

**BRO. COMMANDER CHEYNE.**—Hitherto unaided, but with his heart in the noble cause, and with an indomitable energy and perseverance, has Commander Cheyne worked for the last ten months, in organising Artic Committees throughout the length and breadth of Great Britain, for the equipment—by means of public subscriptions—of a single steamer, to be stored and provisioned for three years, destined for the discovery of the North Pole. From Plymouth to Dover, from Dover to Aberdeen, has this officer, by means of his interesting and beautifully-illustrated Arctic lectures, sensibly impressed upon the public mind the fact that we are only baffled, not beaten. Responding to his truthful and energetic statements and appeals, he has rallied round him, on his committees, mayors, press proprietors and editors, ship-owners, merchants, clergy of different denominations, members of the medical profession, naval and military men; and last, but not least, ladies have notably joined the movement.

The Lord Mayor acknowledges the receipt of £3 10s., in aid of the Indian Famine Fund, from the De Shurland Lodge, No. 1089, Sheerness.

Bro. the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, has returned from Bretby Park, to his Hampshire Estate, Highclere Castle, near Newbury, where he will probably stay for some time for the shooting.

A new church, built at the sole expense of Lord Skelmersdale, R.W. Deputy Grand Master, and at a cost of between £5000 and £6000, was opened on Saturday, at Dalton, near Wigan. At the subsequent luncheon Lord Skelmersdale said he wished it to be understood that all the sittings in the church were free and open for ever.

The Installation meeting of the Faith Lodge, No. 141, will be held on the 30th inst., at Anderton's Hotel, when Bro. E. Mallett will be installed W.M. for the ensuing year.

The marriage of Mr. John Shaw, general manager of the South-Eastern Railway, with Miss Spencer, daughter of the late Bro. Sidney Spencer, will take place at the church of St. Mary Aldermary, on the 13th inst.

A biography of Mr. Compton, the comedian, is in course of preparation by one of his sons.

A provincial actor, a Mr. Burnham, was playing the role of Matthias, in "The Bells," in a little theatre at Blackpool, in Lancashire, the other night, when who should be espy among the audience but Mr. Henry Irving. The sight was enough to make the stoutest heart quail. The creator of the character, who had come to the little watering place for a day or two on the quiet, had evidently been attracted by the graphic announcements on the walls, and was present, "for the fun of the thing," to see his favourite character hurlesqued. Mr. Burnham is said to have evinced the greatest trepidation at the sudden and awful discovery; but luckily the audience seemed to set down the actor's first start and pallor to the jingling of those accursed sledge bells in the ears of Matthias, and Mr. Irving is reported to have expressed a fair approbation of the piece as a whole.—*Mayfair.*

**LIVERPOOL.**—In answer to the numerous letters that the publisher has received from brethren in Liverpool, we beg to state that the *Freemason* is to be obtained in Liverpool on Friday afternoon at 5 o'clock, at the Office, 2, Monument place; at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street; and at the Landing Stage.

The *World* states that in the death of Mr. R. J. Spiers, not only have the Freemasons lost a conspicuous and energetic "brother," but many persons have to mourn an erudite and pleasant companion. To the world at large Mr. Spiers was known as an enterprising Oxford tradesman; but he was much more than that—he had a quaint store of archaeological and antiquarian lore; and in the days of his prosperity, literary men of all opinions were made welcome to his beautiful house in Oxford, and found an admirable cicerone in their generous host.

A Proposal having been made to the Prince of Wales to consider practical measures for preventing wrecks and loss of life at the Scilly Islands, which are embraced in the Dukedom, His Royal Highness has directed the correspondence to be laid before the Duchy of Cornwall Council at their next meeting.

**MANCHESTER.**—For the information of the fraternity in Manchester, the publisher begs to state that the *Freemason* may now be obtained at Overall's, 47, Bridge-street, Manchester, on Saturday morning at 8 o'clock.

**CLEOPATRA'S NEEDLE.**—A telegram received at Lloyds from Liverpool, states that the Olga, steamer, having in tow the Cleopatra Obelisk, has put into Algiers for coal.

A quarterly convocation of the Metropolitan College of the Rosicrucian Society will be held at the Royal Masonic Hall, 8, Air-street, Regent-street, on Thursday next, at half-past 5.

THE QUEEN AND THE ROYAL FAMILY.

The Queen and Court are at Balmoral. Prince Leopold is also there.

H.R.H. the Prince and Princess of Wales have been staying at Abergeldie.

**THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH.**—Some of our contemporaries have been premature in announcing that his Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh is about to be relieved from his present command. The Osborne goes to Marseilles to convey the Duchess to Malta, and the Sultan has been ordered to convey her, after which duty the Sultan, with the Duke of Edinburgh, will rejoin the flag of Admiral Hornby.—*Army and Navy Gazette.*

The Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorne have gone to Inverary Castle.

The Duchess of Edinburgh is about to proceed with the Royal children to Malta, where she will meet the Duke. She intends to stay at Malta for the winter.

The Duke of Cambridge has been inspecting the Royal Artillery at Woolwich.

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.—*Advr.*

## TO OUR READERS.

The FREEMASON is a 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. Subscription, including postage:

	United Kingdom.	America, India, &c. the Continent, &c. Via Brindisi.	India, China, &c.
Twelve Months	10s. 6d.	12s. 0d.	17s. 4d.
Six "	5s. 3d.	6s. 6d.	8s. 8d.
Three "	2s. 8d.	3s. 3d.	4s. 6d.

Subscriptions may be paid for in stamps, but Post Office Orders or Cheques are preferred, the former payable to

GEORGE KENNING, CHIEF OFFICE, LONDON, the latter crossed London and Joint Stock Bank.

Advertisements and other business communications should be addressed to the Publisher.

Communications on literary subjects and books for review are to be forwarded to the Editor. Anonymous correspondence will be wholly disregarded, and the return of rejected MSS. cannot be guaranteed.

Further information will be supplied on application to the Publisher, 198, Fleet-street, London.

## IMPORTANT NOTICE.

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

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

## REMITTANCES RECEIVED DURING THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER.

Abadco, J.M., Cape Coast Castle, P.O.O.	£0 18 0
Adams, A., Bombay, .....	" 1 4 0
Bernard, F., Calcutta, .....	" 1 16 0
Bradshaw, George, U.S.A., .....	" 0 12 0
Buckley, S., N. Zealand, .....	" 1 16 0
Castillo, Malta, .....	Stamps 0 9 10
Davis, A., Victoria, .....	P.O.O. 0 10 0
Edwards, B., Canada, .....	" 0 13 0
Evans, H., Tasmania, .....	" 0 12 0
Graham, P., Jamaica, .....	" 0 18 0
Koch, F., Rotterdam, .....	Cheque 1 16 0
Marric, W.T.C., Mount Gambier, P.O.O.	0 4 6
Newnarch, R., Naseby, N. Zealand, .....	" 2 6 0
Peake, H. H., Ballarat, .....	" 0 13 0
Pike, A., New York City, .....	" 1 4 0
Port Chalmers Marine Lodge, Otago, .....	Draft 6 0 0
Pincet, C. L., Newfoundland, P.O.O.	2 8 0
Richards, G., Barbadoes, .....	" 1 4 0
Wood, H. J. B., St. Johns, .....	" 3 0 0

## 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.

## Answers to Correspondents.

ERRATUM.—To a letter in the *Freemason* of 29th Sept., the signature "P.P.G.B.S.X." should have been printed "P.P.G.R., Sx."

"Sigma" must comply with our rule, and send name and address.

The following stand over:—

Moore Mark Lodge, Lancaster, No. 146; Red Cross Conclave, Jersey, No. 8; Naval and Military Conclave, Portsmouth, No. 35; Royal Commemoration Lodge, No. 1585; Wandsworth Lodge of Instruction, No. 1044.

## BOOKS &amp;c. RECEIVED.

"Une Leçon d'Histoire, ou la Quatrième An," F. V. Sagery; "Australian Freemason;" "La Basse Cour;" "Hebrew Leader;" "The Liberal Freemason;" "The Scottish Freemason;" "The Freemasons' Repository;" "The Canadian Craftsman."

## Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

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

## BIRTHS.

HINDE.—On the 28th ult., at Thorpe Hamlet, Norwich, the wife of F. P. Hinde, Esq., of a son.

## DEATHS.

SPIERS.—On the 28th ult., at Huntercombe, Oxford, R. J. Spiers, F.S.A., P.D.G.M. Oxfordshire, aged 72.

TIEJENS.—On the 3rd inst., at her residence, 51, Finchley New-road, after many weeks of severe suffering, Theresa Tiejens, aged 46 years. Friends will kindly accept this intimation.

WHITTLE.—On the 20th ult., at 155, Islington, Liverpool, Alfred Whittle, M.D., aged 54, a member of the Liverpool Dramatic Lodge, No. 1609, also on the 9th ult., at the same place, aged 49, Matilda, wife of Dr. Whittle.

## The Freemason,

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1877.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.  
ENLARGEMENT.OF  
"The Freemason."

The Proprietor has much pleasure in announcing his intention of enlarging the *Freemason* to 20 pages, during the London Masonic Season.

This improvement will commence with the issue for Oct. 13th.

All communications to ensure insertion in the current number should reach the Office, on Wednesdays, by 5 p.m.

## THE INDIAN FAMINE FUND.

It will be seen in another column that an Indian Famine Fund has been started, under the auspices of the *Freemason*, our publisher, with his wonted liberality, heading the list with the handsome sum of £100. One or two Lodge and individual subscriptions are also announced, and we doubt not, that each succeeding week will witness an increase to this much-needed Fund. Already the amount realised by the Lord Mayor's Fund has reached so far the noble total of over £302,000, of which £250,000 has been forwarded to India. Her Gracious Majesty the Queen has, in the following communication to the Lord Mayor, expressed her warm approval of his most benevolent efforts and her heartfelt appreciation of the liberality of her people. We give the letter in extenso, which was sent by telegram by the Home Secretary from Balmoral.

"Balmoral, 9.15 a.m.

"I am desired by Her Majesty the Queen to thank your Lordship for your telegram stating that the Indian Famine Fund now being raised at the Mansion-house already exceeds a quarter of a million sterling, and that your Lordship hopes and believes that it will largely increase. Her Majesty feels deeply the readiness with which the sufferings of her people in India have touched the hearts of her people at home."

It would seem needless to commend the matter to every Lodge of Freemasons, and we trust that each hebdomadal *Freemason* will demonstrate that our good brethren are still as ever, most susceptible to a proper claim on their warm beneficence and undoubted if unostentatious charity.

## THE BALANCE SHEET OF THE GIRLS' SCHOOL.

We have studied this with some interest and carefulness, and we think it well to impart the result of our studious efforts to our readers, as they will be equally interested with us in the welfare and prosperity of that noble Institution of ours, the Girls' School. The year's accounts open with a balance of £2206 18s. 3d. and £70 in petty cash, in all £2276 18s. 3d. Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter give a donation of £160 10s. The subscriptions of individual brethren in the Metropolis amount to £5045 4s. 3d., and Metropolitan Lodges and Chapters send up £856 16s. Metropolitan Lodges of Instruction £73 10s. The Metropolitan High Grade Chapters, £66 3s. Provincial brethren (individually) contribute £2046 16s. Provincial Lodges and Chapters, £1731 9s., and Provincial High Grade Chapters £31 10s. Ireland, Scotland, and the Colonies return £133, and there is a special donation from London of £16 16s., Legacies reach £55 10s. The dividends on stock are £1162 3s. 11d. The fees for musical instruction amount to £124 19s.; though the cost of tuning, &c., reaches £81 6s. 7d.; which another year had better appear, we think, distinctly on the debit side. There are other small items, amounting to £5 4s., so that the whole receipts of the Institution are £13,705 2s. 10d. On the per contra side, the expenses of the new building are put down at £3132 15s., and special repairs to £25

17s. Ordinary expenses are £5572 9s. Pensions and Gratuities, £249 12s. 9d. Special grants to invalid girls £36 10s. Stewards' certificates for three years £71 16s. Prizes and rewards, £32 3s. Gratuities and outfits to girls, £28 10s. Recreation of girls and University examination fees £36 5s. 11d. After the Christmas accounts were paid, there was a balance at the close of 1876 of £2147 4s. There were in the Bankers' hands, Dec. 31st 1876, £371 19s. 8d.; in Secretary's hands, £50; in Matrons' hands, £20. And when we remember that in 1877 the annual festival was most successful, bringing in the goodly amount of £10,000, we see that the Girls' School is in "very good case." But we must not forget that the fresh pupils the new buildings will accommodate will constitute an additional charge upon the funds of the Institution, which our good brethren will do well not to forget. We think it reflects no little credit on the authorities that they have executed all the needful contracts for enlargement without running the school into debt, and we feel sure that the good management and economical administration which have marked the Girls' School in past years, and so conspicuously in the present, will continue to be its distinguishing and praiseworthy characteristic in the future. We congratulate Bro. Little on the success of his many arduous labours, and we are anxious to express our humble and earnest sense at the happy results, both Masonically and architecturally, which have attended the judicious and needful improvements organised and carried out by our excellent and esteemed Bro. Col. Creaton.

## THE POSITION OF FREEMASONRY IN FRANCE AND BELGIUM.

We cannot shut our eyes if we would, and we ought not if we could, to the anomalous and unjust position in which Anglo-Saxon Masons are placed in France and Belgium by some recent and untoward proceedings, and a most regrettable decision. For they are unable now to enter French and Belgium Lodges on their Masonic principles, and for this reason, the labours of those two jurisdictions are both un-Masonic and unhallowed. They neither begin nor end with prayer. The Bible is taken out of every lodge, and there is nothing to prevent positive unbelievers from being admitted members of the Masonic Order. This, to use a French expression, is a "changement des decorations," as undesirable as it is unfitting. Cosmopolitan Freemasonry has always rested on a great Theistic principle of reverence and religion, and now all of a sudden "nous avons changé tout cela" and the name of God is neither acknowledged, nor is his blessing invoked on the labours and the undertakings of Freemasonry in those countries. This in common parlance, "turning the tables" with a vengeance, and no Anglo-Saxon Freemason can witness such a result or hear of such proceedings without heartfelt concern and fraternal disapproval. Is it not possible that under the sad and actual circumstances of the case, on the petition of respectable brethren, warrants might be granted as well by American Grand Lodges as our English Grand Lodges, for English and American Masons to meet "more majorum" alike in France and Belgium? The recent proceedings of the two Grand Orients have placed them, as we regard the matter, outside the "ægis" of legal protection, and any rights they may have had as governing bodies, are now merged in the serious departure they manifest, from ancient precedent and Masonic usage. They may be still Masonic bodies, but they have no longer exclusive jurisdiction, inasmuch as by the "comity" of Grand Lodges, and the constant provisions of international Masonic law, they have departed from our "Ancient Landmarks," and can neither claim obedience or recognition, except at the hands of those who admit their authority, and approve of their proceedings. In writing this we feel the responsibility of the position and, above all, of our own words: But as we think that nothing is gained by "mealy-mouthedness," by the "suppressio veri," or by the "suggestio falsi," by daubing the walls with

untempered mortar, we deem it better, to speak openly and plainly, as well for the benefit of French Freemasons, as for the edification of our many readers. Some time ago our own authorities declined an application for a warrant for English Masons to form a lodge in Belgium, on the ground that there was a lawful Grand Orient already there. But under this unprecedented and altered state of affairs, with the utter impossibility now any longer of English Masons visiting Belgian and French lodges, we are inclined to think, though we speak without the slightest authority and simply as independent journalists, that a fresh application, (on the grounds we have above stated especially), might be crowned with greater success. In fact if such should be the case it would only be history repeating itself, as all French and Belgian Freemasons originally drew their vital breath, and their now discarded principles, from English Freemasonry and the English Grand Lodge.

ANONYMOUS MASONIC LETTER-WRITING.

As a fact in itself, we should prima facie be prepared to deny the possibility of such an occurrence, or of such a piteous forgetfulness of Masonic duty. Anonymous letters have been in all times the resort of the cowardly and the contemptible, the weapon of malignant falsehood, a vehicle for treachery, the distinguishing token of the hypocrite, the traducer, and the knave. A sensible person treats such a production always with contempt, and never allows the debasing and shameful influence of such malignancy to affect his mind or shape his proceedings. He dismisses the odious allegation or the vile insinuation, with the just indignation of a man of honour, properly ruled by justice and guided by uprightness. In the history of family life, more than one happy circle has been rendered divided and miserable for ever, by the advent of the shameful missive of anonymous vulgarity and hate. But what shall we say of the Masonic anonymous writer? In so acting he transgresses every principle of the Order to which he belongs, he slanders a brother behind his back, he stabs him in the dark, unable or not daring to meet him face to face, he seeks by an anonymous letter to inflict as much pain as possible, "willing to wound" covertly, but "afraid to strike" openly. Whether it be by the careful compilation of "printed extracts" or by a MS., which seems to be flavoured with "gin and water" in every line; whether by writing which marks the shakiness of his hand, and the "bassesse" of his moral code, to say nothing of the inroads of "delicious trimmings," the poor anonymous Masonic libeller is a subject for pity rather than for anger, for unmitigated contempt, rather than for indignant oburgation. It is our lot sometimes to receive such epistles, and we think it right, in the best interests of Freemasonry to mention them openly, and to denounce them calmly to day. They are not worth, it is true, any serious thought, and certainly merit no resentment. They are hardly worth the expenditure of printers' type and ink upon them, but as they betray a serious malady mental or otherwise, as they point to a state of Masonic disease which at times become infectious, we deem it but fair to ourselves and to our Order, openly to reprobate and repel such thoroughly unmasonic proceedings, by whomsoever suggested or carried through. In a recent case a brother signs himself, in a letter written for some purpose of personal impertinence "A P.M. of Many Years' Standing," which we feel sure is an absolute falsehood in itself, and is a fitting commentary on the act of an anonymous libeller. We think it well, we repeat, as Freemasons, always to mention the subject in our columns, but we shall treat such worthless production with the Masonic exercise of laughter and unconcern.

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.

THE "FREEMASON" INDIAN FAMINE FUND.

Bro. George Kenning having consented on request to act as Treasurer to the above important Fund, has the great pleasure of announcing the following subscriptions received up to the time of going to press:

Proprietor of the <i>Freemason</i> .....	£100	0	0
Editor " " .....	5	5	0
Employés of the <i>Freemason</i> .....	1	10	0
Lion and Lamb Lodge, No. 192 .....	4	0	0
William Preston Lodge, No. 766 ...	3	10	2
De Warren Lodge, No. 1302 .....	0	13	0
" " 2nd donation .....	0	8	0
Tredegar Lodge, No. 1625 .....	2	3	0
Doric Chapter, No. 933 .....	1	11	6
Bro. John Soper (Lodge 55) .....	1	1	0

Original Correspondence.

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

THE FRENCH GRAND ORIENT.

Dear Bro. Kenning,—

I propose in this my last communication on the subject to deal with one or two "statements of defence" which some writers have put forward, and to show, I hope their utter fallacy.

1. It is gravely contended that this great change has been effected for toleration's sake. For toleration's sake, forsooth! What, then, is toleration? Toleration implies the endurance of the views of others from whom we differ, or rather, it is the abnegation of that self-opinionatedness which holds that we alone are in possession of the truth, and that all others are in error; that we in fact are right and everybody else is wrong. And who are they that have clamoured for and have brought about this mighty change? Certainly not the peaceful and truly tolerant minority! But simply the "Têtes exaltés," the "Libre Penseurs," the "Positivistes," and the "Fautors" of the "Morale Independante," and *no one else*. There is a large intelligent, educated minority, which deplores alike the rashness and the "betise" of the change. Of course, to all such thinkers as the majority the "formula" (now erased) was objectionable and antagonistic.

Now, as I have pointed out, I do not mean to contend that the old formula was absolutely in its right place. I prefer always the ancient adage, "Similia Similibus." It probably is true, as an objection, that an expression of belief was out of place in a code of legislation, and in our own excellent "Book of Constitutions" the "Charges" are separate from the "Enactments," and therefore had the change only proceeded on the principle of putting things into their proper places, I should have found no fault, and uttered no complaint. But there was no endeavour or wish to do anything of the kind. It was not improvement or emendation that was sought for, but "change for change's sake," revolution, a violent, sweeping and radical alteration in the enunciation of French Masonic principles. For what has taken place actually? "La Solidarité humaine," (ridiculous mockery of the word toleration), has taken the place of "Belief in God," and the assertion of French Masonic principles, once in entire accordance with Anglo-Saxon and Cosmopolitan Freemasonry, rests on an expression of human infallibility and on the surrender of the belief in God to gratify the idle unbelief of the hour. And here it is so, that, as it seems to me, the plea of toleration is alike jesuitical and absurd on the face of it, as the act of the Grand Orient is nothing but an "outcome" of sceptical intolerance.

It is quite clear that, on every abstract principle of true toleration, the believers in God have as much right to have their feelings and opinions consulted, as the disbelievers, and whereas the old formula is said to keep out the latter, it may happen that the new verbiage will repel the former. Where, then, is the toleration?

It seems strange to Anglo-Saxon Masons, to hear it gravely asserted, that a profession of belief in God is a proof of intolerance, for that world-wide dogma of Freemasonry has up to the present never been questioned and has always been accepted. No doubt some allowance must be made for the state of men's minds in France and elsewhere, to some extent arising from the higher-superstition of an unreasoning Ultramontanism, but we can not but regret deeply, in this Nineteenth Century, to find that the great free conscience-fight is to be fought on such false grounds and such indefensible propositions as those of French and Belgian Freemasons.

In fact, this violent change has been brought about to meet the noisy demands of an extreme school, which seeks apparently to restore everything to the darkness of human irrationalism, abjuring those great fundamental truths which lend force to reason, grace to civilisation, grandeur to science, and reality to humanity.

I must therefore absolutely reject the plea of toleration advanced by the advocates of this unwise change, and must proclaim it to be, in my humble opinion, an insult, so to say, to the reverential belief of thousands upon thousands of firm Masonic believers in God.

2. Again, it is said that it is within the competence of the Grand Orient of France to pass such a resolution, and

to amend its own laws. I do not deny its competence to do anything which a majority pleases, but I do protest against the utter severance from Cosmopolitan Freemasonry which this last deplorable decision has created.

3. And then, what of the future? How the Grand Orient is to stem the tide in coming years I do not profess to understand. Its position is now of more than questionable legality, its jurisdiction most undoubtedly defective, and as it has "sown," so it will have to "reap."

It may be true that as in this world of ours, in the Providence of T.G.A.O.F.U., evermore, good comes out of evil, so this hasty and undigested declaration of an unsound Masonic teaching may be productive of the creation of lodges, under other Grand Lodges, in which the great landmarks of the Order are carefully preserved, and by which the Cosmopolitan teaching of Freemasonry is manfully upheld.

Be this as it may, the present page of French Masonic history offers but a sorry contemplation for the true Freemason, and I can only hope a better fate for French Freemasonry than present facts, stern and unpalatable, seem to render either possible or probable.

I am, yours fraternally,

MASKELYNE.

TEACH THEM TO SWIM.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Another summer has passed from us without any intimation from the School Committee that steps have been taken to teach swimming to the boys at Wood Green.

There are many who, like myself, highly appreciate the teaching of the Freemasons' boys in most respects, but who will never admit that the Committee are fully discharging their duties to the school until swimming is added to the accomplishments of the boys. At the risk of being termed an enthusiast I would say that no man should be eligible for the committee of any school for boys, who did not recognise that it was an essential part of education to

TEACH THEM TO SWIM.

"CLOSE TYLED."

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

As the recognised and only means open to me for the rectification of what is amiss, or capable of improvement in Masonic arrangements, I take leave to address you in the hope that some of our highly placed brothers in whose hands such matters lie, may not only see the need but at once take steps to inaugurate a change, which I cannot but think all will at once admit to be desirable as soon as attention is called to the evil.

The question is, cannot, and ought not some more effective means than are at present in use be adopted, some practical plan be formed to test the right of entry of those who are unknown seeking to enter the large Metropolitan meetings of some of the Orders in Masonry. At present men are allowed to enter unchallenged practically many great meetings, such for instance as Great Priory, Convent General, and Grand Lodge. I humbly submit that under existing arrangements no safeguard or test whatever is in use against the admission of unauthorised persons supposing such tendered themselves for admission, as it appears to me, nothing further is required to gain admission to the large Masonic gatherings than the capability to write and the possession of the requisite costume. Being able to sign a name in a book, and appearing properly clothed, any man may enter and participate if he pleases in our secret meetings.

This evil has been forcibly presented to my attention by what happened to myself on a recent occasion, and I think a short statement of the circumstances will both more strongly prove the existence of the evil and the urgent necessity there is for amendment than any argument or appeal of mine can do. I must premise that I am a Freemason and a Knight of the Order in which the case I am stating arose. Knowing that on a certain afternoon a meeting of the Order was appointed to take place I appeared at the place of meeting and the Tyler having often seen me there before in other Orders, on my asking if a meeting of the Order in question was to be held, replied "Yes Sir" and admitted me. Having clothed I passed in due time into the lodge room. From first to last no one said a word to me or suggested any test or the production of any certificate to show that I had any right to be present. In due course after the ceremony was over I signed the attendance book (when my name appeared for the first time, for the reason to be presently stated.) Even then nothing was said in the way of enquiry as to my right to be present and I passed out. There were several Sir Knights present, who probably had seen and known me as a member of some of the other Orders meeting at the same place, but never could have known me as belonging to that Knightly Order, because I had only been admitted into it a very short time before at head quarters. This I think shows a very regrettable laxity in the admission of persons to our meetings, when on the contrary the greatest care ought to be exercised to prevent intrusion, and should not be admitted to exist for a single day longer. I make no accusation of neglect against any one, still less do I charge any with having intruded himself into any of our meetings without having the right to do so. But what I do say, is it right for it to be possible (as I have shewn it is under the existing arrangements) for any one to gain, unchallenged, admission to any of our meetings. I remember in our early K.T. meetings, in Bedford Row, there was some attempt to guard our Encampment from intrusion by the unqualified (whether effectual or not I will not say) but of later years I have noticed that even these have gotten into

disuse, and now practically the entry into the meeting of that Order is as open and unguarded as the most inveterate cowan can desire. Attention having been called to the important subject, improvement ought at once to follow, and in order to that result I have troubled you with this communication.

Yours right fraternally,

J.C.G.L.

#### AN APPEAL.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

May I be permitted to again bring before your readers the name of George Samuel Cox, who is a candidate at the forthcoming election of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. If the poor boy is not successful on the 15th inst., he will be unable, on account of age, to again offer himself for election.

The case is a most deserving one, and is strongly recommended by, amongst others, the Rev. J. Huyshe, P.G.M. Devon, Vice Patron; Bro. L. P. Metham, P.G.D., D.P.G.M. Devon; Bro. the Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G.D.C., D.P.G.M. Suffolk, Vice Patron, Long Melford, Suffolk; Bro. Hughan, P.G.D., Vice Patron, Truro, Cornwall; Bro. the Rev. Dr. Ace, P.P.G.C. Lincolnshire, Laughton, near Gainsborough; Bro. Rodda, P.P.G. Reg. Devon, East Stonehouse, Devon; Bro. W. M. St Aubyn, 1, Brick Court Temple, E.C.; and the Charity Committee of the Province of Devon.

Proxies will be thankfully received by any of the brethren whose names are marked thus,\* or by yours fraternally,

J. EDWARD CURTEIS,

P.M., 189, P. Prov. S.G.W. Devon,  
Vice President of the Institution.

St. George's Hall, East Stonehouse, Devon,  
3rd October, 1877.

#### SKETCHES OF MASONIC CHARACTER. No. VII. BRO. RICKETTS AT KISSENGEN.

Some of us may have heard of Kissengen. Though known to the Romans, and of medieval reputation, it was only towards the beginning of this century that it came, so to say, into European celebrity. Our countryman and Bro. Dr. Granville, a Past Grand Officer, first brought its great merits before our English travelling and valetudinarian public, and to the last hour of his long career he was a firm believer in its curative and sanative gifts. As some of our readers may also know, it is in Bavaria, and lies in a low valley, bordered by hills, contiguous to the River Saal, and during the height of the season is filled with a most numerous, if often motley crowd of health-seekers, water-imbibers at the meritorious and effective sources of the "Ragotzi," "Pandur," and "Maxbrunnen."

The sojourn there in successive years of princes and potentates, of dons and diplomatists, has added greatly to its reputation, while the repeated visits of crowned heads have extended its "high praise far and wide. For several years the Empress of Austria paid a visit to Kissengen, much to the delight of all its visitors, and whereas when the locale was first made known to Englishmen and Englishwomen in Dr. Granville's work on "The Spas of Germany," it was an insignificant little village, practically it has now become a very large town, (still increasing), suited to the wants of thousands of the "Badegiste" who throng to it from all parts, from May to September, year by year.

Our friend, Bro. Ricketts, the worthy Secretary of the "Calliope" Lodge, has recently been a great sufferer from indigestion, and was ordered to Kissengen. Some of his friends do say, indeed, that despite the complaints of an indulgent wife, Bro. Ricketts is a little too fond of a good dinner and late hours, and that, as he himself observes, being a "free citizen, fond of society, and immersed in the vortex of fashionable life," he has suffered accordingly. Whether this be true or no, we are not in a position to say here, but we do know him to be a very warm-hearted and kind-hearted friend, a zealous Mason, one who, like Master Shallow, has had his "lawsuits," and yet is a vice-president of all our charities. He is very popular, both in the lodge and in the family circle, where an agreeable wife, and some merry girls of daughters, form a great centre of attraction to Masonic and non-Masonic bachelors.

Well, Bro. Ricketts has just come back from Kissengen, which he duly reached, via the good city of Frankfort-on-the-Main, where he took the railway to his destination. Alas, time, inexorable time, takes us back to a season when, in an "Eilwagen," it took seventeen long hours to reach Kissengen. Of that once happy party how few remain! Sad, often, are the memories of old age!

Bro Ricketts, who is a sensible fellow, tells us that not only has he returned, "wonderfully set-up," but that the "water" has made a new man of him. He complains of "the early rising, light breakfasts, lighter dinners, and nothing at all for supper, incessant exercise, and the sameness of daily life." But he adds philosophically "When a man is really out of sorts, he ought to go to his doctor and look out for himself, and I have no doubt that I am undoubtedly better for Kissengen." The truth is that much of the "Kur" at Kissengen, in addition to its "life-giving streams," is to be attributed to early hours, light food, and regular exercise. When we consider the heavy meals, and retardation of those meals, belonging to modern English life, it is only a wonder that anybody's constitution can stand the wear and tear upon it. A heavy breakfast, a heavy luncheon, a late and heavy dinner, to say nothing of intervening "tea" and continuous "nips," render the modern Englishman and Mason's life a constant trial to all the digestive powers of the human frame. The simple fare and healthy exercise, and the early hours at Kissengen, even the "Bouilli," so much denounced,

and the "Gerstenschleimer" so unjustly depreciated, are an admirable change for John Bull, who following the traditions of Bulldom, does not object to turtle soup and a fine haunch of mutton, who turns up his nose at lighter entrees, and sticks heroically to "the Roast Beef of Old England, Sir." But Bro. Ricketts, being a man of enlightened views, and kindly sympathies, wishes through the *Freemason*, to make known to some suffering brethren, who about June always wears a yellow and careworn look, that for them he knows of no more health-reviving, care-dispelling, liver-amending spot than Kissengen on the Saal, in Bavaria. And if the voyager is sentimental as well as dyspeptic, he can take a look at Würtzburg, and Augsburg, and Nuremberg, he can enjoy a very lovely country, and come home, (not at a great cost), with health in his looks, and elasticity in his limbs, and no longer gouty or grumbling, heavy, or asthmatic, he has once again, by the mediation of kindly nature, recovered the inestimable blessing of health. Like a good true Freemason, and a better citizen of this world, he has also learnt the ever valuable lesson, that we are never to despise the contrasted habits and manners of other nations, but on the contrary that we are to study and be willing to admire them, one and all, ready to "take a leaf out of their books" conscious of the unchanging truth, that no one people in the wide world has the monopoly of comfort, or convenience, or happiness, or enjoyment, or good food, or anything else.

#### Matum in Parvo; or Masonic Notes and Queries.

R.W. BRO. COLONEL J. B. MACLEOD MOORE AND THE KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

I have had my attention particularly directed to the two last addresses of that able Bro. Colonel Moore, before the Great Priory of Canada. Much of the addresses must prove a welcome boon to the fratres of the Order, and will be the means of spreading abroad reasonable views of the character and scope of the society. Historically, however, the last address especially requires revision, especially as to the Masonic portion. It is not correct that the Earl of Eglinton granted a warrant to work the Knights Templar Degree in Ireland, by authority of the "Mother Lodge Kilwinning," Scotland. My friend, the R.W. Bro. J. H. Neilson, has fully exploded such a notion in the columns of the *Freemason* (having discovered the records of the body in question), and proved to the satisfaction of all concerned that the warrant was only granted for the Craft Degrees, though the members did work without authority some of the Hautes Grades. The text of the warrant alone dispels any idea of the connection of the ancient "Mother Lodge Kilwinning" with Templar or any other degree above the Third, and our learned Bro. Lyon (G. Sec. of Scotland), in his grand "History of the Lodge of Edinburgh," abundantly confirms the fact that Kilwinning never had aught to do with the Hautes Grades, and is never likely to do so, being solely a Craft lodge. Masonically speaking, if the Templars sever themselves from Masonry, or ignore such alliance, they will have no status, and be without the only reason that can be offered for their continuance.

WM. J. HUGHAN.

#### Reviews.

"The Masonic Magazine." Vol. IV. George Kenning, 198, Fleet-street.

We have been greatly pleased with Vol. IV of this now flourishing Magazine. It makes a very goodly volume, and is very pleasant reading. It reflects all credit on its publisher, that at a time when Masonic literature was at a discount, and English Freemasonry had no serial representative, he manfully came forward, and as we say, "put his hand in his pocket" to supply the deficiency, and to meet the want. We therefore cordially congratulate him on the Fourth Volume, and equally wish success to Vol. V., now in course of completion. We feel some little natural delicacy in saying too much in praise of the volume itself, as some might fancy that we were praising ourselves. But this we can fairly assert, that we know of no other Magazine which offers more "value received" to its subscribers, and we can conscientiously recommend all our readers, not only to become subscribers, but to purchase the four volumes now available for all our brotherhood. We consider that they make a good investment for their money.

"Garden Requisites and Horticultural Decorations." Dick Radcliffe & Co., 129, High Holborn.

We have more than once alluded to the catalogues of this enterprising firm, and we are very glad to praise and call attention to the merits of their last interesting catalogue. For all who have a garden, or like flowers (no better taste can be) this little handbook will be both of great aid and much utility.

ADMIRAL ROUS.—A bust of the late Admiral Rous, executed by Mr. Richard Belt, is now being exhibited at the Jockey Club, Newmarket.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Comfort for everyone. It is essential for health that every organ of the body be fully competent and duly prepared for the natural execution of its appropriate function, which cannot be the case under great transitions of temperature, unless some corrective medicine be taken occasionally. When the chilling winds of spring are succeeded by summer heat, and this again gives place to autumnal chills, the liver and skin can only be maintained in efficient action by some such alterative medicine as Holloway's noted Pills, which regulate the circulation, cool the system, and fortify the nerves. In our variable climate, and in marshy districts, occasional doses of these purifying cooling and aperient pills will prove most efficient preservers of health.—[Adv.]

#### GRAND ENCAMPMENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

(Continued from page 398.)

EIGHTH DIVISION.—O. L. Spaulding, commanding. Aids, George W. Howe and C. Aikman. Band, 15 commanderies of Michigan; 6;2 swords.

NINTH DIVISION.—C. M. Morse, commanding. Aids, E. B. Myers and H. W. Davis. Nine commanderies of Illinois; 763 swords.

TENTH DIVISION.—J. T. Henderson, commanding. Aids, C. G. Pickering and S. Arnan. Band: twelve commanderies of Illinois and four of Wisconsin; in all 640 swords.

ELEVENTH DIVISION.—John S. Casement, commanding. Aid, Isaac F. Mack. Band; four commanderies of New Jersey, 200 swords; twelve of Missouri, 480 swords one of Alabama, Georgia, Florida, North and South Carolina; in all, 841 swords.

TWELFTH DIVISION.—H. W. Bigelow, commanding. Aids, E. T. Waite and T. T. Simpson. Band; seven commanderies of Iowa; band; two of Minnesota; band; nine of Kansas, three of Arkansas, two of W. Virginia, one of Nebraska and Colorado. In all, 1260 swords.

THIRTEENTH DIVISION.—W. N. Riddle, commanding. Aids, J. A. Norton and Benjamin F. Provost. Band; Tancred Commandery, of Pittsburgh, Pa., escorting the Grand Master and the Grand Encampment, 182 swords. The total number of swords in line, 10,109.

On the arrival of the procession at the Court-rooms it was dissolved, and the session of the Grand Encampment was commenced by welcome addresses from Grand Master Enoch S. Carson and Grand Commander R.E. Sir C. A. Woodward, which with the response of M.E. Sir James H. Hopkins, were models in brevity and eloquence, as well as spicy and instructive.

The report of the Committee on Credentials being disposed of, the Grand Master then delivered his address. The following is a synopsis:

Sir Knights: I have the honour to submit a report of my official acts, as Grand Master, during the past three years, together with some recommendations intended to promote the prosperity and increase the efficiency of the institution which has been committed to my care.

Soon after the close of the last session of the Grand Encampment, and in compliance with its resolution, charters were issued to De Molay (mounted) Commandery, No. 4, at Washington City, D.C.; Wyoming Commandery, No. 1, at Cheyenne, W.T.; Pueblo Commandery, No. 3, at Pueblo, Colorado; Utah Commandery, No. 1, at Salt Lake City, Utah; Baron Commandery, No. 3, at Key West, Florida. The first named commandery was constituted, and its officers installed by me in person; a service I would gladly have performed for the others had not the distance to each been so great. Unwilling to require any of the Grand Officers to undertake such long journeys, I availed myself of the kind services of Sir Knights residing in the several localities named.

I recognise Good Friday as a day especially worthy of commemoration, by the members of an Order whose vital principles rest upon the Divine tragedy enacted upon that day, and which, with its resultant truths, is constantly impressed upon us in all our ceremonials.

Hence, on April 17th, 1877, I gave permission to Washington Commandery, Washington City, to attend church as Templars on Ascension Day—arrangements having been made for a special sermon to them.

April 10th, 1875, permission was given to Columbia Commandery, No. 2, to attend the dedication of the Masonic Temple in New York.

February 5th, 1876, permission was granted to Baron Commandery, No. 3, Key West, Florida, to parade at the unveiling of a monument, erected by the commandery to its late eminent commander.

October 3rd, 1876, permission to Utah Commandery, No. 1, to parade at the dedication of the Masonic Hall at Salt Lake City.

I have three times granted permission to De Molay (mounted) Commandery, No. 4, of Washington City, to appear in public for inspection and drill. This commandery was chartered as a mounted commandery, and I can conceive of no way in which they could be inspected or be exercised in the tactics, except in public. Their by-laws provide for an annual out-door drill, inspection, and review, and having been approved by the Grand Encampment, might render the consent of the Grand Master unnecessary. However this may be, the necessity for out-door drill, &c., for a mounted commandery is inevitable.

On June 3rd, 1876, I gave permission to Virginia City Commandery, No. 1, and to Helena Commandery, No. 2, both of Montana, to parade on the 4th of July. Pro Deo et Patria is an ancient motto of our Order, and during the Centennial year of our country, it seemed but right that Templars should unite in patriotic demonstrations.

On February 16th, 1877, I received a request from Cheyenne Commandery, No. 1, for "permission to appear at an evening party in full dress on Washington's birthday." I replied, consenting, if the assembly was to be Masonic, and within the rooms of the Fraternity, but declining, if it was to be a promiscuous party held elsewhere.

June 26, 1877, I gave permission to Washington and Columbia Commanderies, Washington City, to act as an escort to Grand Lodge at the laying of a corner stone.

March 18, 1875, I declined to give consent to Washington Commandery, No. 1, Washington City, to appear in public on Good Friday for mere parade.

I am impressed with the belief that the establishment of a fixed and permanent place for holding the business sessions of the Grand Encampment would be a wise and salutary measure. The archives and property could be

more securely kept; the risk of loss or damage by frequent transmission from place to place would be avoided; there would be more certainty of having all needful facilities for the transaction of business; the legislation would be calmly considered; the expenses would probably be more lessened; certainly there would be relief from the burden of entertaining felt by every city in which we meet under the migratory rule. It is true, such expenditures are self-imposed, but it is impossible to ignore the fact that they are often burdensome.

In making this suggestion, I do not forget the generous welcomes and bounteous hospitality which have always greeted us. Nor do I forget the stimulating effect upon commanderies meeting in fraternal rivalry upon these occasions, nor the interest which is thus awakened in the uninitiated, and which fills our ranks and gives to our Order whatever of prosperity and power that may convey.

The financial condition and prospects of this Grand Encampment have been discussed by at least two of my predecessors. And yet it becomes my duty to again press this subject upon your attention. Some of the sources of revenue are drying up, and no serious effort has been made to check the outflow. We must increase our receipts or reduce our expenses, or both, if we do not wish to see an empty treasury, and the consequent humiliation and curtailment of the influence and efforts of the Grand Encampment. There is no doubt that our expenses can be curtailed without parsimony, and that being possible, becomes a duty.

In the early ages of the Order of the Temple, each nationality had its distinctive head; but all were united in one organisation and governed by one Grand Master. Those were years of wealth and power and glory of the Order. When the envy and avarice of civil and ecclesiastical potentates combined in the persecution and disruption of the Order, its scattered votaries preserved their faith and fidelity, and practised their ceremonies in secret. The golden chain was broken, but not all of its links were destroyed. And so, when the night passed away, skilful artificers commenced to burnish off the rust and forge them together again. But the progress of time and the changes of civilisation rendered the original form of administration inexpedient, if not impossible. Still, in whatever clime, under whatever government, of whatever nationality, belonging to whatever Christian sect, Knights Templar are drawn together by a natural and inevitable sympathy. Their signs and symbols are the same; their emotions, their aspirations, their ceremonials are analogous, and there is a universal recognition of their fraternity.

There can be no reason against, and there are many cogent ones in favour of a closer and more intimate fellowship, especially between the English-speaking branches of the Order. The separate and independent governing bodies in England and Ireland have united in the Convent General, exercising jurisdiction over both countries, and also over Canada; each, however, retaining a limited autonomy. Scotland has not yet joined the coalition, but hopes are entertained that she will not long refuse. And thus all the Templars in the British Empire will recognise one Grand Master.

Sir Knights: My official report is ended. The great and varied interest of this vast jurisdiction must be the apology for so lengthy an address. Your patient attention has only been in keeping with the characteristic consideration and kindness I have always received at your hands, and for all which I am profoundly grateful. Proud of our illustrious Order, proud of the great office committed to my hands, my labours have been lightened by the earnest wish to advance the interests of this fraternity of Knights. The result is submitted to your generous judgment.

With a full heart I congratulate you upon the fact that fifty thousand swords are mustered under our historic banners; that fifty thousand brave men have vowed to wield them in the cause of justice, purity, and truth. I ask you to join with me in the fervent prayer, that every one of us may live fully up to the high standard of Christian Knighthood; and the world having been made better and brighter and happier thereby, that we may cheerfully and unitedly exclaim, "Non nobis domine, non nobis, sed nomine tua da gloriam."

I now invite your calm, patient, and earnest attention to the important duties before us, invoking the fullest exercise of all those qualities of mind and heart which are befitting the National Legislature of our Order, and devoutly praying that Divine wisdom may direct us in all things, and Divine mercy may surround us now and for ever.

The encampment then adjourned to meet at 9.0 a.m. next morning.

The evening was but a repetition of the day, as far as the crush of numbers upon the streets and the omnipresent band music were concerned. The main feature, of course, was the grand reception concert tendered the citizens of Cleveland and visiting Knights, on the part of Apollo Commandery, of Chicago. It was a brilliant affair viewed from any standpoint, and crowned with laurels the commandery which conceived and carried it out.

Men had been busy for over a week in decorating the large ware-room of Sterling and Co., formerly known as the old rink, in anticipation of the great event.

Apollo Commandery, in connection with Oriental, of this city, two of the wealthiest and most powerful organisations in the Order of Knights Templar, had undertaken the work with the intention of making such a display as is rarely seen on such occasions. No expense was spared where it could be advantageously expended.

The spectacle presented on entering the room was something that the pen cannot adequately describe. Looking up from the entrance to the high roof the view is obscured by countless flags and devices, some large and some small; in every conceivable spot appears some

colour contrasting and blending with another, the evergreen filling up the interstices to the advantage of the whole. The large festoons so gracefully arranged in the form of billows, leads the eye along to the far end of the vast room, where just above the stage is a large banner stretching across the entire end of the room. "Apollo Commandery, No. 1, Chicago, Illinois, extends their Knightly courtesies to the citizens of Cleveland, O." This is so executed as to leave space in the centre, which is taken up by a large red cross and golden crown. Above all this two large national flags are placed so as to fill all the intervening space to the roof, and at either side two flags of smaller size complete the design.

Twelve thousand invitations had been issued to Knights and citizens, who up to 8.30 o'clock kept up a steady stream of visitation. At that hour Apollo Commandery entered the building. Following the entrance of the commandery came the Orientals, Cleveland, marching in fine style, their splendid appearance attracting attention on all hands. At this point a beautiful selection was executed by Nevins and Kretow's celebrated military band, of Chicago, after which Sir D. B. Babcock, of the Oriental Commandery, expressed a few words of hearty welcome. Then Sir Norman T. Gassette, Commander of Apollo Commandery, delivered a short address of a happy turn. Rev. J. W. Brown, Chaplain of Oriental Commandery, made a happy and eloquent speech.

The band then admirably presented a musical programme. Following the music the floor was cleared, and the portion of the programme introduced for which many had been waiting—the dancing. It was a success—a grand success—and will always be counted a golden link of brotherly love between Cleveland and Chicago, two sister cities of the West.

Wednesday's programme was as follows: Tournament on the Fair grounds, beginning at 2.30 a.m., the following named commanderies participating:

Rapier, No. 1, Indianapolis, Ind., Henry C. Adams commanding. Monroe, No. 22, Rochester, N.Y., George F. Loder commanding. St. Louis Battalion, St. Louis, Mo., John C. Bloomfield commanding. Cincinnati, No. 3, Cincinnati, O., H. H. Tateva commanding. Damascus, No. 1, St. Paul, Minn., D. A. Monfort commanding. Hanselmann, No. 10, Cincinnati, O., O. J. W. Foot commanding. St. Bernard, No. 35, Chicago, Ill., W. M. Burbank commanding. Columbia, No. 2, Washington, D.C., Robert commanding. Ball, No. 1, Detroit, Mich., J. E. Saxton commanding. Hugh de Payens, No. 30, Buffalo, N.Y., Christopher G. Fox commanding. At the conclusion of this drill, the Illinois commanderies gave a dress parade and review. The premiums awarded consisted of a magnificent standard or banner, a beautiful piece of artistic work; a libation service, consisting of twenty-six pieces, embracing tankard, silver goblet, and candlestick; and an elegant set of commandery jewels. St. Louis Battalion was ruled out on account of its not being named as a distinct commandery. Each commandery was allowed thirty minutes to drill, which resulted in Detroit, No. 1, winning the first prize; Rapier, No. 1, of Indianapolis, second prize; and Monroe, No. 12, of Rochester, N.Y., the third prize.—*New York Dispatch.*

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF WARWICKSHIRE.

On Wednesday the 26th ult., the annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Warwickshire was held at Rugby, under the presidency of the Provincial Grand Master, the Right Hon. and Right Worshipful Lord Leigh. The Town Hall was fitted up for the occasion, the Court-room for the Provincial Lodge, and the large Assembly-room for the Lodge of Rectitude (Rugby). There was a strong muster of the brotherhood, the whole of the lodges in the province being more or less strongly represented—which, we are given to understand, is of somewhat rare occurrence.

The Lodge of Rectitude having been opened in due and ancient form, and the visiting brethren ranged under their respective banners, the ceremony of receiving the Provincial Grand Master and his officers and lodge was gone through.

A long array of high officials and dignitaries entered the lodge-room; last of all the Very Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master, preceded by two Pursuivants.

The W.M. of the Lodge of Rectitude thereupon vacated the dais, which his lordship occupied, surrounded by his officers.

The business transacted was as follows:

The Provincial Grand Lodge opened in the Lodge of Rectitude.—The roll of the P.G. officers called.—The roll of Worshipful Masters and Wardens of Lodges in the province called.—The minutes of the P.G. Lodge held at the Guy's Lodge, Leamington, on the 3rd of April, 1877, and on the occasion of laying the foundation-stone of the Shakespeare Memorial Buildings at Stratford-on-Avon on the 23rd of April last, were read and confirmed.—The Report of the Audit Committee was received.—The Reports of the different Charity and Benevolent Committees were received.—The Reports from the Worshipful Masters, on the state of their respective lodges, were received.—The publication of the Masonic Calendar for the year 1878 was considered and determined upon.—The P.G. Treasurer was re-elected for the ensuing year.—The Tyler was also re-elected for the year.—The Right Worshipful the P.G. Master then appointed and invested his officers for the ensuing year, with the usual ceremonies.

The business having been so far concluded, an adjournment was called, to attend divine service. The whole body proceeded, in double rank, juniors first, to Trinity Church, which had been placed at their disposal by the rector for the occasion. On arriving at the Church, the ranks were opened, the Prov. Grand Master

and officers advancing up the aisle to the front seats. The two centre rows were reserved for the brethren; the congregation beside was rather limited. The service was a choral one, the prayers being intoned by the Rev. P. Lewellyn. The lessons of the day were read by the Rev. T. Northcote Smith.

An eloquent sermon was preached by the Prov. Grand Chaplain, the Rev. T. N. Rigby, of Birchfield, Birmingham, who took for his text Malachi, chap. ii, 10 verse: "Have we not all one Father; hath not God created us?" The discourse was a most eloquent exposition of the principles of the Order, and was delivered with much earnestness of tone and manner.

After the Old Hundredth Psalm had been sung, and a collection taken up for the Masonic Charities, the brethren returned to the lodge-room at the Town Hall, where the concluding business was transacted—including a unanimous vote of thanks to the P.G. Chaplain for his excellent sermon; also to the Rector of Rugby, for so courteously giving the use of Trinity Church, and a grant of five pounds to the Trinity Schools, Rugby. The Right Worshipful the P.G. Master and his officers then retired in procession as they had come, and the Lodge of Rectitude was closed by the W.M. in due and ancient form.

The banquet was held in the Assembly Room at the Eagle Hotel, which had been tastefully and profusely decorated for the occasion, and presented a charming appearance. The Prov. Grand Master presided, supported right and left by the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, Col. Machen and Bro. Brooks, Worshipful Master of the Lodge of Rectitude, Rugby; the company numbering about 80. The menu—under the direction of Bro. Hards, of the Royal George Hotel, was in the highest style of the gastronomic art. The toast-list was as follows:—1. The Queen and the Craft.—2. The Most Worshipful the Grand Master of England, Bro. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales; Bro. H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught; Bro. H.R.H. Prince Leopold; Bro. H.R.H. the Imperial Prince of Germany; and the rest of the Royal Family.—3. The Most Worshipful the Pro Grand Master, Bro. the Earl of Carnarvon; the Right Worshipful the Deputy-Grand Master, Bro. the Earl of Skelmersdale; and the Grand Lodge of England.—4. The Right Hon. and Right Worshipful the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Lord Leigh.—5. The Very Worshipful the Deputy-Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Lieut.-Colonel Machen, and the Provincial Grand Lodge of Warwickshire.—6. The Worshipful Master of the Lodge of Rectitude; and Success to his Lodge.—7. The Visitors.—8. The Masonic Charities.—9. The Tyler's Toast ("To all poor and distressed Masons.") The company separated at an early hour.

Obituary.

BRO. R. J. SPIERS, P.G.S.B., PAST DEPUTY GRAND MASTER OXON, F.S.A., and F.R.C.S.

The fraternity in general, but the brethren of the province of Oxfordshire in particular, have learnt with the deepest regret of the unexpected death of Bro. Richard J. Spiers, Past Grand Sword-Bearer of England, Past Deputy Grand Master of Oxfordshire, intelligence of which reached us by special telegram on Friday. Bro. Spiers was initiated in the Alfred Lodge, No. 340, on the 28th of May, 1844, so that at the time of his death he had been a Mason upwards of 33 years. In December of the same year he became Junior Warden, afterwards serving as Senior Warden. He was unanimously elected and installed Worshipful Master of the Alfred Lodge on December the 20th, 1846. Bro. Spiers took the Royal Arch degree on the 16th of July, 1845, in the Chapter attached to his mother lodge, and was in the year 1850 appointed M.E.Z. Bro. Spiers was, at an early stage in his Masonic career, favoured with Prov. Grand Lodge honours, being appointed P.G.D. of C., and, after serving the offices of Senior Grand Deacon, Grand Registrar, Junior and Senior Grand Warden, he was ultimately appointed to the distinguished and envied position of Deputy Grand Master of Oxfordshire, which honour was conferred upon him in the year 1855. This office he resigned in favour of Bro. Reginald Bird, in 1876. It may be remembered that on the occasion of Prince Leopold's installation as R.W. Grand Master for Oxfordshire, H.R.H. presented Bro. Spiers with a massive silver inkstand, a purse of 500 guineas, and an elegant album, containing the names of the subscribers, as a token of esteem and regard for his great zeal and energy on behalf of Freemasonry, Prince Leopold accompanying the presentation with some very kind remarks. Our late brother was also connected with the Mark Degree, the Knights Templar, Rose Croix, Royal Order of Scotland, the 30°, 31°, 32°, the latter of which he was the senior member. In 1850 he was one of the founders of the Cœur de Lion K.T. Encampment, and First Eminent Commander. Bro. Spiers was a member of the following lodges, Nos. 10, 340, 478, 599, 945, 1036, and 1515. He served Stewardships to the three Institutions, the Benevolent in 1847, the Girls' School in the same year, the Boys' School in 1848, and the Benevolent again in 1850.

Several civic dignities were conferred upon our late distinguished brother. He was a Town Councillor in 1847, Sheriff and Alderman in 1851 and Mayor of Oxford in 1853. In 1856, Bro. Spiers was appointed a Justice of the Peace. At the expiration of his year of office as Mayor, the citizens of Oxford, presented him with a service of plate of the value of 500 guineas, also an album containing contributions from upwards of 100 artists and literary friends.

THE LATE BRO. DR. WHITTLE.

Bro. Alfred Whittle, M.D., aged 54, a member of the Liverpool Dramatic Lodge, No. 1609, died suddenly at his

residence, 155, Islington, Liverpool, on the 20th ult., his wife having only died eleven days before, at the age of 49. Bro. Whittle's funeral took place on Monday, the 24th, at St. Mary's Cemetery, Kirkdale, where there were several Masonic brethren present. The members of the Liverpool Dramatic Lodge were especially asked to be present, and there was a very general response. Besides the relatives of deceased, there were present Bros. Dr. J. K. Smith, P.P.G. Registrar; Dr. Costive, S.D. 216; Dr. Sheldon, P.M. 1094; Dr. Spleen, Dr. Williams, W. Vines, W.M. 1299; J. E. Bennett; and the members of the Dramatic present were Bros. J. Bell, W.M.; W. J. Chapman, S.W.; J. Atkinson, Acting Sec.; F. Wilkinson, J. H. Ray, A. Woolrich, Treasurer; P. Lowndse, &c.

#### METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS

For the Week ending Friday, October 12, 1877.

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

#### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6.

Gen. Com. Boys' School, at 4.  
Lodge 1194, Villiers, Grotto Hot., Twickenham.  
" 1572, Carnarvon, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.  
" 1622, Rose, Surrey M.H.

#### 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.  
Percy, 113, Southgate-road, N.

#### MONDAY, OCTOBER 8.

Lodge 52, Royal Naval, F.M.H.  
" 193, Confidence, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.  
" 957, Leigh, F.M.H.  
" 1571, Leopold, Woolpack Tav., Bermondsey-st.  
" 1657, Aldersgate, Castle and Falcon, Aldersgate-st.  
Chap. 22, Mount Zion, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.

#### LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.  
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.  
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.  
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden Town.  
Tredegar, 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.  
West Smithfield, New Market Hot., West Smithfield.  
Leopold, Woolpack Tavern, Bermondsey-st.  
London Masonic Club, at 101, Queen Victoria-st. E.C.  
2nd and 4th Monday every month, at 6 o'clock.

#### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9.

Lodge 167, St. John's, Holly Bush Tav., Hampstead.  
" 180, St. James's Union, F.M.H.  
" 198, Percy, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.  
" 211, St. Michael, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.  
" 228, United Strength, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.  
" 548, Wellington, White Swan Tav., Deptford.  
" 834, Ranelagh, Bell & Anchor, Hammersmith-gt.  
" 917, Cosmopolitan, Cannon-st. Hot.  
" 933, Doric, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.  
" 1269, Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.  
" 1538, St. Martin's-le-Grand, The London, Fleet-st.  
" 1604, Wanderers, F.M.H.  
Chap. 185, Jerusalem, F.M.H.  
Rose Croix, Bayard, 33, Golden-square.  
Supreme Council 33°, 33, Golden square.

#### 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 Hot., St. John's Wood.  
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.  
Prosperity, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.  
Constitutional, Wheatshaf 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, OCTOBER 10.

Com. R.M.B.I., at 3.  
Lodge 3, Fidelity, F.M.H.  
" 9, Albion, Regent Masonic Hall, W:  
" 15, Kent, F.M.H.  
" 87, Vitruvian, White Hart, College-st., Lambeth.  
" 147, Justice, White Swan, High-st., Deptford.  
" 238, Pilgrim, 101, Queen Victoria-st.  
" 749, Belgrave, Anderton's Ho., Fleet-st.  
" 781, Merchant Navy, Silver Tav., Burdett-rd., E.  
" 1017, Montefiore, Regent Masonic Hall, W.  
" 1260, Hervey, F.M.H.  
" 1305, St. Marylebone, Eyre Arms, St. John's Wood.  
Lodge 1306, St. John of Wapping, Gun Ho., High-st.  
" 1503, Francis Burdett, Albany Ho., Twickenham.  
Grand Council Ill. Kts, K.H., 30° and 33°, Golden-sq.

#### LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Confidence, Greyhound Tav., Milton-street, Cripplegate.  
Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.  
Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London-street, Greenwich.  
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.

La Tolerance, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.  
Mount Edgcombe, 19, Jermyn-st., St. James's.  
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.  
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.  
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.  
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.  
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.  
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.  
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.  
Lewis, King's Arms Hot., Wood Green.  
Royal Jubilee, 81, Long Acre.  
Langthorne, Swan Hot., Stratford.

#### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11.

Lodge 206, Friendship, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.  
" 860, Dalhousie, Anderton's Ho., Fleet-st.  
" 879, Southwark, Southwark Park Tav.  
" 1076, Capper, Marine Ho., Victoria Docks.  
" 1216, Macdonald, Hd.-qrs. 1st Surrey Rifles, S.E.  
" 1425, Hyde Park, 1, Craven-rd, W.  
" 1457, Bagshaw, Prince's Hall, Buckhurst Hill.  
" 1471, Islington, Cock Tav., Highbury.  
" 1558, Duke of Connaught, Surrey M.H.  
" 1593, Royal Naval College, Ship Ho., Greenwich.  
" 1599, Skelmersdale, M.H., Masons' Avenue.  
Chap. 73, Mount Lebanon, Bridge House Ho.  
" 140, St. George's, Globe, Royal Hill, Greenwich.  
" 813, New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Islgtn.  
Mark, 86, Samson and Lion, M.H., Masons' Avenue.

#### LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.  
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.  
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.  
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.  
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.  
Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.  
Great Northern, Berwick Arms, Berners-st., Oxford-st.  
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.

#### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12.

Lodge 177, Domatic, Anderton's Ho., Fleet-st.  
" 861, Finsbury, Rosemary Branch Tav.  
" 1420, Earl Spencer, Northcote Ho., Wandsworth.  
Chap. 33, Britannic, F.M.H.  
Encamp. D., Mount Calvary, F.M. Tav., Gt. Queen-st.  
P.G. Chap. and Lodge, R.O. of Scotland 33, Golden-sq.

#### LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.  
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-road, N.W.  
St. Luke's, White Hart, King's-rd., Chelsea.  
Chigwell, Prince's Hall, Buckhurst-hill.  
Burdett Coutts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.  
Royal Standard, The Castle, Holloway-rd.  
Ranelagh, Bell and Anchor, Hammersmith-rd.  
St. George's, Globe Tav., Greenwich.  
William Preston, Feathers Tav., Up. George-st., Edgware-rd.  
Hervey, 99, Fleet-street, at 8.  
Pythagorean Chapter, Portland Ho., London-st., Greenwich.

#### MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, October 13, 1877.

#### MONDAY, OCTOBER 8.

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.  
Mark Lodge, 165, Egerton, M. R., Rock Ferry.  
Derby L. of I., M. H., Liverpool.  
Red Cross Conclave of Instruction, M. H., Liverpool.

#### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9.

Lodge 241, Merchants, M. H., Liverpool.  
" 1250, Gilbert Greenall, M. R., Warrington.  
Chap. 537, Zion, M. C., Birkenhead.  
Stanley L. of I., 214, Great Homer-st., Liverpool.  
Prince Arthur L. of I., 80, N. Hill-st., Liverpool.

#### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10.

Lodge 281, Fortitude, The Athenæum, Lancaster.  
" 1094, Temple, M. H., Liverpool.  
" 1356, De Grey and Ripon, M.R., N. Hill-st., L'pool.  
" 1547, Liverpool, M.H., Liverpool.  
Chap. 673, St. John's M.H., Liverpool.  
Chap. 1345, Victoria, Cross Keys, Eccles.  
Neptune L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

#### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11.

Lodge 216, Harmonic, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.  
" 333, Royal Preston, Royal Hot., Preston.  
" 477, Mersey, M.R., Birkenhead.  
Lodge 786, Croxteth United Service, M.H., Liverpool.  
" 1035, Prince of Wales, M.H., Kirkdale.  
" 1182, Duke of Edinburgh, M.H., Liverpool.  
" 1213, Bridgewater, Cross Keys, Eccles.

#### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12.

Lodge 155, Perseverance, M.H., Liverpool.  
" 1289, Rock, Bedford House, Rock Ferry.

## TO WORSHIPFUL MASTERS.

The attention of Worshipful Masters is specially directed to the following advertisement, with a suggestion from the Publisher that they should cause a proposition to be made that their Lodges should become subscribers to

### THE FOUR MASONIC PUBLICATIONS.

It is doubtless desirable that every Mason should have a knowledge of the proceedings at the Quarterly Communications of Grand Lodge, and it is especially the duty of the Worshipful Master to be well posted up in such matters, and as there is no better means of obtaining such information than the columns of the *Freemason*, which gives verbatim reports of the Grand Lodge proceedings, and a full account of all the meetings of the Board of Benevolence, and the various Committees of our Great Masonic Charities, the Publisher feels justified in making this recommendation, with the full assurance that such an investment of a small portion of the lodge funds will be productive of beneficial results.

### The Four Masonic Publications.

## THE FREEMASON.

WEEKLY, TWOPENCE.

ANNUALLY, 10s. 6d.

## THE MASONIC MAGAZINE,

MONTHLY, SIXPENCE.

ANNUALLY, 7s.

## THE ROSICRUCIAN,

QUARTERLY, ONE SHILLING.

ANNUALLY, 4s. 4d.

## THE COSMOPOLITAN MASONIC POCKET BOOK,

POST FREE, 2s. 2d.

ANNUALLY, TWO SHILLINGS.

The above four Works sent post free to any part of England, Ireland or Scotland for 12 Months, for 24s.

Address: PUBLISHER, 198, Fleet Street, London.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.—Bro. J. Bunting, 1445, begs to solicit votes for this month's Election, on behalf of ADA, daughter of the late J. T. CARTER, P.M. 47. As this is her last chance, and being the oldest of seven children, her election is most earnestly desired. Proxies may be forwarded to Bro. Bunting, M.R.C.S., York House, Tottenham.

## MASONIC & GENERAL PERMANENT BUILDING SOCIETY.

Incorporated pursuant to 37 and 38 Vic., c. 42.

OFFICES.—1, GRESHAM BUILDINGS, BASINGHALL-STREET, E.C.

Shares, £25 each. Monthly Subscriptions, 5s. per share. Paid-up Shares issued. Entrance fee, 1s. per share. Advances (without premium) on freehold, copyhold, or leasehold property. Safe and sound investments. Deposits at four and five per cent. Members of the Craft are strongly advised to join. Subscription Meetings, first Tuesday in each month, from 6 to 7.30 o'clock, at the Offices.

Prospectuses and information may be obtained of

J. H. GINER, Secretary.

ESTABLISHED 1826.

## MITCHELL'S CITY CHELSEA BUN HOUSE,

42, FISH STREET HILL,

AND

2, LITTLE TOWER STREET, EASTCHEAP.

Bread & Biscuit Baker & Confectioner,  
LUNCHEONS, HOT & COLD, AT BAR AND IN COFFEE ROOM.

ON FIRST FLOOR—DINING ROOMS.

SPECIALITIES—

THE CITY NURSERY BISCUIT.

THE REGENT CAKE, for Coffee & Dessert.

AND  
THE SPECIALITE BROWN BREAD.