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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

**FORTITUDE AND OLD CUMBERLAND LODGE (No. 12).**—This very ancient lodge met on Monday last at the Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street. There were present Bros. Wm. Browne Kidder, W.M.; D. Nicol, S.W.; W. H. Bateman, J.W.; Henry Mower, S.D.; R. Coombes, J.D.; and W. H. G. Rudderforth, J.G.; and a large attendance of the brethren. The working of the lodge was that of initiating Mr. Frederick Cantor, into the Order as a country member, the ceremony was ably performed by the W.M. After the ceremony of initiation was disposed of, and the bye-laws having been read by the Sec., Bro. Alfred Snelgrove, the lodge proceeded to ballot for the election of a W.M. for the ensuing year, when the S.W. (Bro. Nicol) was unanimously elected. Bro. Ruf, P.M., then proposed that a P.M.'s jewel should be presented to the retiring W.M., Bro. William Browne Kidder, as he had rendered the ceremonies in that lodge in such an able manner, as had not usually been done by the brethren for years past, and he felt very proud in having such a brother as the W.M. had provid himself coming into the rank of the P.M.'s, and was sure that, although his year of office had nearly expired, Masonry would not lose the good offices of Bro. Kidder. Bro. Raynam W. Stewart, P.M., said he had very great pleasure in seconding Bro. Ruf's proposition, and in doing so said he felt sure that no one who had heard Bro. Kidder do his work could but appreciate the admirable manner the ceremonies had been gone through, and the way the lodge had been governed during the year he had presided over them as W. Master. The vote was then put and unanimously carried. The W.M. then thanked the brethren for their kindness, and the lodge was closed in due form. The brethren then retired to the banquet-hall, and partook of a sumptuous banquet, such as is usually provided by those well-known caterers of the Craft, Bros. Painters. The banquet was followed by the usual Masonic toasts of "The Most Worshipful Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," &c., which were respectively received by the brethren with honours. "The Health of the W.M." was then proposed by Bro. George Angold, the I.P.M., who said that it afforded him great pleasure in proposing the toast, and yet it gave him pain—he said he was a man for very few words, but what he was going to say he could assure them came from the very bottom of his heart. In giving the toast he felt a pleasure in proposing the health of such an excellent and perfect working Mason as the W.M., and pain in knowing that it was the last time he, Bro. Angold, would occupy the position as I.P.M., and of having the pleasure of sitting so near to his Worshipful brother, at least for a twelvemonth, who to hear was to admire, and he sincerely trusted that health and prosperity would attend Bro. Kidder for many years to come, a sentiment which he was sure came from the heart of every brother present. The toast was drunk with the most fraternal feelings of respect and regard. The W.M. in replying said he was unable fully to express to Bro. Angold and the brethren how sensibly he felt his gratitude was due to them for the uniform kindness which he had received during his year of office in assisting him in the discharge of his official duties, and particularly for their marked approval of his services by voting him a Past Master's jewel, which he should wear with the greatest pride and satisfaction, as an acknowledgment that the lodge was sensible that he, the W.M., had carried out to their satisfaction the duties he had undertaken, and that he felt himself highly flattered by the manner his health had been drunk by the brethren, and wished them and the lodge every possible prosperity. The W.M. then proposed "The Health of Bro. Nicol, the Worshipful Master elect." He said there was no brother more entitled to the honourable position of Worshipful Master than Bro. Nicol, and which office he was very pleased had that evening been conferred upon him by the unanimous vote of the brethren. The W.M. remarked that Bro. Nicol had already passed thirty degrees in Masonry, and had gained the confidence of the brethren by his generous disposition and his marked liberality in supporting the Masonic Charities, he being a Vice-President of one Institution, and had that evening decided to represent the lodge as Steward to the Masonic Benevolent Institution at the forthcoming festival, and then make himself a Vice-President of that one also. The toast was drunk with much enthusiasm, and on Bro. Nicol rising to reply, the brethren greeted him very loudly. Bro. Nicol

said he thanked the Worshipful Master very much, and also the brethren for what they had said of him, and felt very pleased indeed for their kindness in electing him as Worshipful Master. He assured them that he would do the utmost that he could for the lodge, and for every brother in it, and he hoped that his year of office would be as pleasant to him as it had been to Bro. Kidder, for whom he had a very great regard and should never forget his kindness. Bro. Raynam W. Stewart, P.M., suggested to the brethren the propriety of voting some testimonial to Bro. Ruf, P.S. (the Treasurer of the lodge), as a mark of their approval of his excellent qualities, and the esteem in which he was held. Bro. Stewart said he would volunteer his services by calling a meeting at his office to decide what form of testimonial should be given, and he hoped that the W.M., Bro. Kidder, might during his year of office have the opportunity of presenting Bro. Ruf with the testimonial. The brethren with loud acclamation demonstrating of their approval, immediately named several of the brethren to act as Committeemen. The Worshipful Master then followed on with the usual remaining formal toasts, and the brethren then separated, after spending an enjoyable evening.

**LION AND LAMB LODGE (No. 192).**—The December meeting of the above lodge was held on Thursday, the 6th inst., at the Cannon-street Hotel. Brethren present: Bros. Edward Jones, W.M.; Legg, S.W.; F. Fellows, J.W.; George Kenning, Treasurer; George Newman, P.M.; Thos. Cohe, P.M.; Edw. King, P.M.; Geo. Abbott, P.M.; Cook, Carter, Lucas, Pratt, Bright, Haynes, Dart, Lorkin, Sparrow, Copeland, Perkins, Kent, Mayo, Goddard, and Arkell. Visitors: Bro. Everett, P.M., and several others. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The brethren supped together.

**LODGE OF ISRAEL (No. 205).**—The brethren of this lodge held their usual meeting at the Cannon-street Hotel, on Tuesday evening last. Bro. I. P. Cohen, the W.M., presided, and was most ably supported by his officers, Bros. A. M. Cocher, P.M. and S.W.; A. Bassington, J.W.; H. G. Phillips, S.D.; Z. Norden, I.G.; Chas. Coote, Treasurer; C. F. Hogard, P.M., Secretary; W. Littuar, P.M., and Francis Buckland, P.M. The minutes of the previous lodge meeting having been confirmed, Bros. J. H. Lobill, and H. Sol. Myers were raised to the Sublime Degree, the ceremony in each instance being most ably worked by the W.M. and his officers. A ballot was taken for Mr. Louis H. Leon, and found unanimous in his favour, and that gentleman was duly initiated. Upon the motion of Bro. A. M. Cohen, the following resolution, of which he had given notice at the previous meeting, having been duly seconded, was carried unanimously:—"That Bro. Emanuel Gompers, Bro. Joseph Raphael, and Bro. Francis Buckland, be, and they are hereby elected trustees of the Lodge of Israel Benevolent Fund in place of the present trustees, several of whom are no longer members of this lodge."

**GOLDEN RULE LODGE (No. 1261).**—The regular December meeting of this prosperous lodge was held at the Air-street Masonic Hall, on Tuesday, the 4th inst. Bros. Pery Godfrey, W.M.; F. G. Longley, S.W.; J. Jessup, J.W.; J. Lewis, S.D.; W. Embden, J.D.; E. Payne, Org.; H. Adkins, I.G.; Past Masters Bros. A. Cross, A. Allworth, and R. Goddard, and other brethren. Visitors: Bros. S. H. Head, P.G.S.; F. West, P.G.R. Surrey; W. H. Pannell, 180; J. Strachan, 10; A. Vyse, 92; W. Marshall, J.D. 1549; F. Fellows, S.W. 1679, J.W. 192; H. Beardshaw, 14; F. Biggs, P.M. 1261; and A. Godfrey, 193. The business of the lodge consisted of initiation of Mr. S. S. Williams, passing of Bros. R. Wrench and W. Shepherd, and raising of Bro. W. H. Lavers. The W.M. was excellent in the working of each degree. The S.W., Bro. G. Longley was unanimously elected W.M., and Bros. Wilkins, Diane and Davis appointed on the Audit Committee, and a special Past Master's jewel presented to the I.P. Master for services rendered during his year of office. The lodge was then closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to banquet room, where a *recherche* banquet was well served. The W.M. here, as in lodge, was excellent, and in proposing the Officer's toast was exceedingly happy in the effective but gentlemanly manner in requesting the officers to be punctual in attendance. We quite agree with the W.M., that without punctuality a lodge cannot excel, however good in working. It is a duty officers owe to the W.M., members of lodge, and the Craft in general.

**ST. CLEMENT DANE'S LODGE (No. 1351).**—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held as usual at the King's Head Hotel, Strand, on the first Thursday in the month, and was, as is generally the case, well attended by those connected with the lodge, whilst several visitors were present. Bro. Geo. Wilson, the W.M., occupied the chair of K.S., and the degrees were worked; Bro. Thos. Carr was raised, and Mr. W. Henry Le May was initiated into the mysteries of our Order. Bros. Porter, S.W.; J. Wigg, J.W., were present in their respective places, as were Bros. J. Butler, S.D.; W. H. Perryman, J.D.; E. Barnes, I.G.; and during the evening amongst those whose names were duly entered in the lodge book were Bros. T. Parker, P.M. (Treas.); W. Hilton, P.M. (Sec.); D. Betts, P.M.; W. Hamilton, P.M.; W. Hale, P.M.; G. A. Littlewood, P.M.; W. Stewart, P.M.; W. Wiseman, E. Fisher, W. H. Hall (*Freemason*), A. Betts, A. Price, J. Welch, W. B. Date, E. Swanborough, the Rev. J. Graham, W. H. Harwar, J. B. Grieve, W. Dickens, E. Metherell, J. Hodges, Isaacson, Hutton (2) and others. As the working of the lodge was nearing its conclusion, Bro. Hilton, the excellent Secretary, in terms as appropriate as expressive, called attention to the lamented death of Bro. the late respected Supt. James Mett, of the "A" division, whose cheery face and good society will unfortunately no longer be seen at this lodge. The worthy Secretary moved that a vote of condolence be sent to the family of the deceased, expressive of the great grief that the lodge has felt and they have sustained in the loss

of so affectionate a father. Bro. W. H. Hall asked the W.M. to allow him to second the motion, as he was proposed in the Craft by their departed brother. He paid an eminent tribute to the goodness of the deceased, both in mind and heart, and related that how within a few hours of Bro. Mott's decease he had called on him to cordole with him and give him a word of comfort in a sad domestic bereavement which had just befallen him. Bro. Hale, P.M., in terms of friendship supported the proposition, and took the opportunity of reminding the brethren of Miss Emily Mott's concert on the succeeding Friday, and during the evening he disposed of a good many tickets for that always excellent musical treat. Lodge being closed, the brethren sat down to an excellent banquet, at which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly paid attention to. During the evening reference was made by the W.M. to the split with the Grand Orient of France, and there was an unmistakable manifestation on the part of the brethren that its divergence from the fundamental principle of the ancient Order of Masonry was not one to commend itself to their sympathies.

**KENNINGTON LODGE (No. 1381).**—A strong meeting of this lodge took place on the 4th inst., at the Surrey Club House, Kennington Oval, when there were present, amongst others, Bros. H. Higgins, W.M.; Drysdale, P.M., acting S.W.; Walls, P.G.O. Middlesex, J.W.; G. Everett, P.M. Domestic, I.P.M.; Page, P.G.S., Treas.; Street, P.M. 41, Sec.; Kohler, S.D.; Speedy, J.D.; Webb, I.G.; Honeywell, P.M.; Dobie, Asst. Org.; Robinson, D.C.; Marston, W.S.; Stokes, A.W.S.; and Past Masters Mann, Koch, Gardner, and Pope. The visitors were Bros. J. Pope, P.M. 177; G. F. Smith, G. Smith, jun., and Downies, all of 188. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M. passed Bros. Martin, Pim, Stevenson and Barry, and initiated Mr. Charles Webster, the ceremonies being carefully performed. There being no other business of importance before the lodge, it was duly closed, and the brethren adjourned to an excellent repast, which was well catered for by Bro. Timewell, and at its conclusion the preliminary and time-honoured loyal and Craft toasts were done full justice to. In proposing "The Health of the W.M., Bro. Everett, the I.P.M., that Bro. Higgins had been honourably connected with the lodge since its foundation. He had always been most punctual in his attendance, he was a most excellent working Mason, and ever ready to assist others in the discharge of their duties. He laboured under great physical difficulties in the rendering of the ritual in consequence of loss of voice, and therefore in his endeavours to surmount those difficulties he was worthy of their most warm and hearty commendations. The W.M. having briefly replied, proposed "The Initiate." In the course of his remarks he said that they had received into their Lodge that evening as a member, one who he felt assured would reflect great credit on the Kennington Lodge. He wished however, particularly to impress upon their newly-admitted brother, that amongst others there were two very important principles in Freemasonry to be remembered, namely, "Charity, and Brotherly Love," which, if properly exercised, not only reflected lustre upon the brethren, but set an example worthy of being emulated by those who were strangers to their mysteries. This toast having been received with excellent "fire" the brother thus honoured made a neat reply by thanking them for the great and hearty reception they had accorded him that evening. He had been impressed with the ceremony. He had had for some time past a great desire to join their ranks, and so deep was the interest already felt by him in the Craft that he fervently hoped that he should never do anything that would disgrace Freemasonry, or lower him in the esteem of those seated round that festive board, and that if in his humble way he could advance the welfare of the Order, or promote the interests of any of its members, he would cheerfully and unhesitatingly do so. The remaining toasts, in consequence of the lateness of the hour, were given but formally, and for the same urgent reasons but briefly acknowledged.

**CARNARVON LODGE (No. 1572).**—The following is the reply of Bro. Terry in response to the toast of the Masonic Charities, omitted from our last:— Bro. Terry, in responding, said he rose to return thanks on behalf of the Masonic Institutions in the warmest manner he possibly could, in response to the kind way in which the W.M. had thought fit to submit the toast to the members of the Carnarvon Lodge. He felt especial pleasure in responding to the toast, because he knew that ever since the formation of the lodge it had done all it possibly could to further the interests of the three great Institutions, and he would illustrate this in the most practical form, by saying that the J.W. in the kindest manner came forward this time last year as Steward for the Benevolent Institution at the festival, in February. How successfully he carried out this Stewardship was patent to the members of the lodge, for they knew he carried in nearly £100. This was the first time since that festival that he had an opportunity of thanking the lodge for its very handsome donation of £20, which it placed on the list of Bro. Nelson Reed on that occasion. The Institution had during the present year an unexampled career of prosperity, and he believed that when the end of the present month arrived they would be able to say that the year 1877 was the most prosperous they had ever had. He thought they would total up some £42,000 or £43,000, and after such a result they might very quickly put aside altogether any remark that might be made by the outside world as to Freemasonry being an eating, drinking, and convivial society. He could merely hope that other eating, drinking and convivial societies, when they had institutions to support, might be able to show as good a result in one year as the Freemasons. He was afraid that in the coming year the Institutions would not have as much success as they had had in the past. An

enormous amount of money had gone out of the country in charitable objects. To come to what the Masonic Institutions had done—the Benevolent Institution had placed thirty additional annuities on its list; the Girls' School had taken twenty-five additional girls; and in April the Boys' School would take in twenty-one additional boys; so that there would be an increase over any preceding year of seventy-five or seventy-six persons receiving the benefits of the Institutions. He had been told by the excellent brother who was acting as I.P.M. that whether the Carnarvon Lodge was able to send a Steward or not, there would be a donation from the lodge's coffers to the Benevolent Institution. That was a promise he very much esteemed, and he should have much pride in reporting it to his committee at their next meeting. This was not only done in the Carnarvon Lodge but in others, and notably there was one, which was a representative one, of which the Assistant Grand Secretary of England, now present, was a member, which had for years and years gone by, when it was not so fashionable as now to have Stewards, sent a Steward; he spoke of the Egyptian Lodge, No. 27, which had laid a foundation and built a structure upon it which was highly honourable. Twenty-five years ago, Bro. Buss told the members of that lodge that Freemasonry was not worthy of being called Freemasonry unless some practical good resulted from its meetings. How well it had followed up those precepts might be judged of from the fact that this Egyptian Lodge was one of the most distinguished lodges in the calendar, and he (Bro. Terry) was proud to have the opportunity of saying in another lodge than Bro. Buss's own, of acknowledging what it had done in following up his advice. He hoped that many in the Carnarvon Lodge would follow so bright an example, and would support those who asked them to contribute. The Masonic Institutions could not be supported by any appeal to the outside world; they differed essentially from all others in the country; others had the whole population of England to appeal to; the Masonic Institutions could only appeal to the Craft. The brethren knew in their several spheres they were called upon to support other charities; and therefore the more honour was it to them, that while supporting other charities they supported the Masonic Charities so well. Freemasonry was not essentially a close charity, as was evidenced by the fact that during the present year more than £5,300 had been given to objects outside the Order—£4,000 to the Lifeboat Institution, £1,000 to the Famine of India, £200 to the distress by the fire in New Brunswick, and £100 to relief in Peru. If other cases of distress arose, he was sure that at next Grand Lodge further relief would be extended. He thought this was a sufficient answer, if one was needed by a "Wayside" traveller (Bro. Goffin), when he heard Freemasons accused of being an eating, drinking, and convivial society. He ventured to hope that on the 13th February next, when the first Masonic festival of the new year would take place, some brother would volunteer his services as a Steward from this lodge, and that a sum of money would be voted for him to take up, and the prestige of the lodge be thus supported. It was on behalf of 280 poor old men and women he spoke, who were receiving a sum of £10,040 a year. The Institution had only £2,300 permanent income; and it had to pay away £10,040, independent of working expenses. It was an enormous sum to raise from the individual kindly feeling of the brethren of each lodge to keep the Institution going. There were 44 candidates coming on for the next election already, and there were yet two more months in which other candidates might be added. He had no doubt therefore that there would be as many as 70 candidates clamouring for admission when next May arrived. There were now 17 vacancies only; and could the brethren in the face of that, after they had been enjoying themselves so much at the hands of the Carnarvon Lodge, refuse to support a Steward on behalf of the poor old men and poor old women. He hoped to have the pleasure of taking away with him the name of a brother who would represent the Carnarvon Lodge. He was confident there never would be an appeal made to the hearts and sympathies of the members of this lodge without a ready response being given to it, when the object was one that must commend itself to the feelings and affections of every Freemason in England.

**BATH.—Royal Cumberland Lodge (No. 41).**—A regular meeting of this ancient lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Bath, on the 6th inst. The lodge was opened punctually at 7.30 pm., the W.M. Bro. F. Wilkinson, in the chair, supported by Bro. Brown, G.S.W. of Somerset, I.P.M. 41, &c.; and Bro. Dutton, P.M., &c. The officers generally were in their usual places—Bro. Ashley, Treas., P.M.; G. Falkner, S.W.; C. Wilkinson, J.W.; F. Gummer, S.D.; W. Hunt, J.D.; P. Braham, Sec.; C. W. Radway, I.G.; Bigwood, Tyler. Captain, Robinson Steward, the Director of Ceremonies, was absent, but the duties of his office were ably performed by Bros. Moutrie, P.M. and Rubie, P.M. After the usual routine business of reading and confirming the minutes of the last regular lodge, and the emergency, held on November 21st, a candidate, Mr. John Chivers, was presented for initiation, and the ceremony was very ably, and we may say most impressively, performed by the W.M., the charge being given by the Treasurer, Bro. Ashley, P.M. After his being dismissed the lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and Bro. Wilton, having been carefully examined, was duly prepared and passed to the degree of Fellow Craft, receiving from the W.M. the privileges of this degree. The working tools were in each case presented by the S.W., Bro. Falkner, in his usual clear and impressive manner. The lodge was then closed down, and the W.M. informed the brethren that he represented the Royal Cumberland Lodge at the recent meeting of Prov. Grand Lodge at Taunton, and congratulated Bro. Brown, I.P.M., on his having received the high honour from the hands

of the R.W. Prov. Grand Master of Somerset, the Earl of Carnarvon, of the collar and office of P.G.S.W. of Somerset, in recognition of his indefatigable exertions in Masonry during his connection with the Royal Cumberland Lodge, No. 41. Bro. Ashley then informed the lodge that the son of a deceased brother, highly esteemed, not only in No. 41, but in several other lodges to which he had belonged (Bro. Cooper, P.M., &c.), had been placed on the list of candidates for the Boys' School. A resolution was passed, proposed by Bro. Falkner, S.W., and seconded by Bro. Hunt, to purchase two M.M. aprons for the use of visitors in the lodge. A donation of two guineas was voted to the family of a deceased distressed brother—Sert. Major Anderson. There were present Bros. Brewer, Wilcox, Stiles, Mann, Ames, Holmes, Sumsion Davis, Dill, Peach, Murlis, Mercer, and others. The lodge was closed in perfect harmony at 10.5 pm.

**SUNDERLAND.—Phoenix Lodge (No. 94).**—This old lodge held its regular monthly meeting on Dec. 5th, when Bro. W. W. Collic, S.W., and Prov. G.S. of W., was duly installed as Worshipful Master, the I.P.M., Bro. J. D. Todd, acting as Installing Master, a large number of brethren and visitors from the various lodges being present. The manner in which the interesting ceremony was done by Bro. Todd gave great satisfaction, and the very efficient manner in which the newly installed Master invested his officers, and the neat address that he gave to each officer, was the subject of much praise and applause. The lodge being closed, the brethren adjourned to refreshment. The usual Masonic and other toasts were given. The newly installed Master read a paper, giving a very graphic history of the lodge, from the first granting of the warrant down to the present time, which was received with great applause, and a very enjoyable evening was spent. The following brethren were appointed to the various offices: J. D. Todd, I.P.M.; M. Frampton, S.W.; E. Sutherland, J.W.; Jno. Riscborough, Treasurer; J. J. Stiles, Secretary; W. Whinham, Organist; J. Dixon, S.D.; T. R. Smart, J.D.; Jno. Ross, I.G.; J. W. Brown, Tyler; John Hudson and W. Bailes, Stewards.

**LEICESTER.—St. John's Lodge (No. 279).**—The brethren of this lodge assembled in goodly numbers at the Freemasons' Hall, Halford-street, on the 5th inst., to transact their usual monthly business, and to elect the Worshipful Master for the ensuing year. Bro. C. E. Stretton, W.M., occupied the chair, and was supported by his officers, and several Past Masters. The preliminaries having been attended to in due form, Bros. Coulson and Dr. Johnston were examined as Entered Apprentices, and passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. The ceremony was ably performed by the W.M., and Bro. Smith, P.M., gave the lecture of the degree. In consideration of the claims of many aspirants to office, Bro. C. E. Stretton declined to undertake the duties of W.M. for another year, and the choice of the brethren fell upon Bro. G. W. Statham, under whose direction the lodge is likely to be maintained in the same thorough state of efficiency that now marks it as the leading lodge of the province. During the temporary absence of the W.M. the chair was occupied by Bro. McAllister, I.P.M., and the following resolution was submitted, and carried unanimously: "That Bro. Kenning be requested to supply a Past Master's jewel, with a suitable inscription, to be presented at the installation meeting to the retiring W.M., in recognition of his valuable services during the past year." These services comprise seven initiations, ten passings, nine raisings, and three joinings. The Mayor of the borough (Bro. Clement Stretton, P.M.) visited the lodge during the evening, to witness the workmanlike manner in which his son, the young W.M., gave the finishing touch to the business of the year, and in responding to the toast of his health, the Mayor alluded to the sad phases of social life which came under his observation in the discharge of his magisterial duties, and pleasingly contrasted them with the harmony and concord which pervade a Masonic lodge.

**BATH.—Lodge of Honour (No. 379).**—The annual installation meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, on Monday, Dec. 10th, when the lodge was opened at 5 pm. by Bro. H. Gore, W.M., supported by Bros. Dr. H. Hopkins, P.P.G.S.W., acting as I.P.M.; H. Culliford Hopkins, S.W.; Dickenson, J.W.; Davis, P.M., Sec.; Johnson, J.D.; Dill, P.M. 906, as I.G.; Barrum, P.M.; and the following visitors, besides the members of 379: Bros. Gen. Doherty, P.M. 53 and 906, P.P.G.S.W.; J. L. Stothert, P.M. 53, P.P.G.S.W.; W. R. Wood, P.P.G.S.W. for Sussex; Col. Ford, P.M. 53, P.P.G.R.; F. J. Brown, P.M. 41, P.G.S.W.; Kirkham, P.P.G.J.W. for Hunts; Dill, P.M. 906, P.G. Pours.; W. Smith, P.M. 53; W. Williamson, W.M. 906; S. Edwards, W.M. 53; F. Wilkinson, W.M. 41; Freeman, Steward 906. The minutes having been read and confirmed, Bro. Stothert in earnest terms solicited the support of the lodge to render help to the family of a highly respected deceased brother, especially with a view to the admission of one of his boys into the Masonic School. A grant of two guineas was made to the widow of another brother. A ballot was taken for one candidate for initiation and another for joining, both of which proved favourable. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree. Bro. Elsc, D.P.G.M., then entered, was received with due honours, and took the chair of W.M. Bro. H. C. Hopkins was presented for installation by two P.M.'s, and was obligated as W.M. elect in the usual form, after which the lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and all under the rank of W.M. retired. A Board of Installed Masters was constituted, and the new W.M. was duly inducted into the chair of K.S. The Board was closed, the brethren readmitted, and the remainder of the ceremony was effectively carried out. The following appointments and investments were made: Bros. H. Gore, I.P.M. and Treas.; Dickenson, S.W.; Dr. Fisher, J.W.; Johnson, Sec.; Baldwin, S.D.; Rev. — Saunderson, J.D.; Davis, P.M., kindly undertook the office of I.G. temporarily; Guzzard, Tyler. The lodge having been resumed in the Second and afterwards in the

First Degree, the W.M. very neatly expressed his appreciation of the high position he then held, and gave hopes of good progress during his year of office. Two candidates were proposed, one for initiation and the other as a joining member. Votes of thanks were passed to the D.P.G.M., and also to the visitors, which were appropriately responded to by the former, and by the W.M.'s of Nos. 41 and 53 on behalf of and as representatives of the latter. The lodge was closed at 7 p.m., and an adjournment took place to the Castle Hotel for a banquet, which was provided by Bro. Rubie with his usual skill and attention to the guests. It should be added that a singular concurrence of unfortunate circumstances prevented the attendance of many old and attached members of the lodge, who had signified their intention to be present both during the Masonic proceedings and at the banquet.

**STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—Teas Lodge (No. 509).**—The annual festival of the above lodge was held on the 6th inst. Bro. Alex. Iley was installed Worshipful Master, the ceremony being ably performed by Bro. W. M. Watson, P.M., P.P.J.G.D. Bro. Iley being duly installed, he then appointed the following as his officers: S.W., C. M. Norman; J.W., C. Morris; Chaplain, Rev. G. Roberts; Treasurer, John Robinson; Secretary, J. S. Hart; S.D., T. Brayshaw; J.D., E. D. Brown; I.G., R. Ventren; Organist, J. Thompson; Stewards, Dr. Watson and F. L. Fullerton; Tyler, T. Trenholm. The following brethren were also present: Bros. Joseph Dodds, P.M., P.P.G.S.W.; John Hunton, P.M., P.P.G.J.D.; William M. Watson, P.M., P.P.G.J.D.; Bolsover, I.P.M., P.G.R.; John Robinson, P.M., together with numerous other Past Masters. The brethren, numbering nearly 80, dined together in the banqueting hall, the newly installed Master presiding.

**HARTLEPOOL.—St. Helen's Lodge (No. 531).**—The annual installation and festival of this lodge was held at Hartlepool on the 6th inst., when the ceremony of installing the W.M. elect, Bro. James Horsley, was impressively performed by Bro. Dr. Moore, J.P., P.P.J.G.W. At the close of the ceremony, the W.M. appointed the following officers, viz.:—Bros. F. Bennett, S.W.; J. Spoforth, J.W.; Johnson, P.M. (Preceptor); W. Shaw, re-elected Treasurer; G. W. H. Winter, Secretary; Quincey, S.D.; Gregory, J.D.; Dring, I.G.; S. Armstrong, D.C.; Taylor, Org.; Mowbray, Tyler; Patterson, S.S.; and Garratt and Stobart, J.S. At the close of the lodge, the brethren partook of a splendid banquet, provided by Bro. C. Humble, at the Cleveland Hotel.

**COCKERMOUTH.—Skiddaw Lodge (No. 1002).**—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday evening, the 4th inst., in the lodge rooms, Station-street, Cocker-mouth. There were present Bros. R. Robinson, P.M. and Treasurer, as W.M., in the absence of Bro. W. Taylor, W.M., who, however, arrived in the middle of the business; A. Taylor, P.M. 310; Carlisle, as S.W.; W. H. Lewthwaite, P.M. and Organist, as J.W.; Dr. H. Dodgson, P.M.; Jas. Black, as Secretary, vice Bro. W. F. Lamonby, P.M. and Secretary, absent in Scotland; W. Shilton, P.M.; Tom Bird, S.D.; and about a dozen others. The minutes of the preceding ordinary, as also committee meetings, having been read and confirmed, the lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and Bro. the Rev. Canon Hoskins, M.A., proved his proficiency, was entrusted, and retired. The lodge then being opened in the Third Degree, the rev. brother named was raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M. by the W.M. in the chair. The lodge was next severally reduced to the Second and First Degrees, when Messrs. Richard Harrison and John Fearon were balloted for, approved, and initiated into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry, the W.M. in the chair, after the readmission of the initiates, also delivering the E.A.'s charge. This was election night, and Bro. James Black was almost unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. Robinson, P.M., had also the honour and gratification to announce his unanimous re-election as Treasurer; whilst Bro. W. Potts was likewise re-elected Tyler for the year. The W.M. and Treasurer elect having returned thanks, the lodge was closed in form. It has been arranged to hold the festival of St. John the Evangelist for the installation of Bro. Black, W.M. elect, and investiture of officers, on New Year's Day, when it is expected there will be a large attendance of visiting brethren. Bro. Crowther Morton, the father of Skiddaw Lodge, P.M., Lodges 872 and 1267, W.M. Lodge 1660, P.P.G.S.W., who has successively installed eleven Masters of Lodge 1002, some time since intimated his wish to retire from that important duty; and the Installing Masters of the day will be Bros. R. Robinson, P.M. and Treasurer, P.P.G.S.W.; and W. F. Lamonby, P.M. and Secretary, P.G. Registrar (*Freemason*). The musical arrangements will be under the direction of Bro. W. H. Lewthwaite, P.M. and Organist, P.G. Organist; and the Installed Master's Degree will be worked in its entirety.

**LANCASTER.—Rowley Lodge (No. 1051).**—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Rooms, Athenaeum, on the 3rd inst., Bro. T. Jackson, the W.M., presiding. There was only a moderate attendance of members of the lodge, but there was a good number of visitors. The lodge was opened in the First Degree with solemn prayer, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. The ballot was then taken for Mr. Robert Palmer, and for Mr. William Gibbons Welch, and proved unanimous in each case. They were subsequently initiated in the order named into the mysteries of the Craft by the W.M., the working tools being delivered by the J.W. (Bro. Sheriff), and the E.A. charge by Bro. Langman, P.M. The next business was the election of W.M. for the ensuing year, when Bro. N. Helme, S.W., who would undoubtedly have been elected, in very graceful terms, and with true Masonic spirit, asked the members who intended recording their votes for him to give them to Bro. Sheriff, the J.W., who has been a Ma-

son for something like twenty-one years, whilst he was comparatively speaking, a young member. Owing to circumstances over which he had no control Bro. Sheriff had frequently to move from one place to another, and there was a probability of his being removed from Lancaster next year. He had frequently been in office, but, owing to the circumstances stated, he had never occupied the Master's chair, and if the present opportunity was allowed to pass Bro. Sheriff might never have an opportunity of occupying it. Therefore, acknowledging the principle of senioris prioris, he (Bro. Helme) would be glad if they would transfer their votes to Bro. Sheriff, and in another year, if it was the wish of the lodge, he should be happy to receive the honour at their hands of being elected to the W.M.'s chair. The votes were then taken, and Bro. Sheriff was unanimously elected as W.M. In acknowledging his election Bro. Sheriff thanked the members for the honour done him, and also Bro. Helme for the truly Masonic spirit which he had evinced. Bro. Sly, Prov. G.J.D., was re-elected Treasurer, and A. K. Allinson, Tyler. A vote of condolence was passed to Bro. Dr. Moore, P.G.S.B. of E., on the death of his only son. The usual proclamations were then made, which elicited "heartily good wishes" from the visiting brethren, and the lodge was closed with the formalities of the Craft. An emergency meeting of the above lodge was held on the 5th inst., when Bro. W. H. Chippindale was duly passed to the degree of Fellow Craft by the W.M., the working tools being presented by the Senior Warden. The lodge was subsequently closed with the usual formalities.

**MORECAMBE.**—Morecambe Lodge (No. 1561).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Friday evening, the 7th inst., in the Masonic Hall, Edward-street. Bro. W. Duff, the W.M., presided, and there was a good attendance of members. The lodge having been opened in the First Degree with solemn prayer, the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. The ballot was then taken for Bro. Henry Hartley (1353), as a joining member, when he was unanimously elected. A discussion then took place as to holding a Masonic ball, when it was resolved to have one at an early date. The usual proclamations were then made, and the lodge closed in peace, love, and harmony.

**HAMPTON WICK.**—Wolsey Lodge (No. 1656).—A meeting of this lodge was convened at the White Hart Hotel, on the 3rd inst., when there were present, amongst others, Bros. W. Hammond, P.P.G.D. Middlesex, W.M.; B. Sharp, P.G.S. of Middlesex, S.W.; Bond, P.G.P. Surrey, J.W.; Rev. F. J. C. de Crespigny, P.P.G.C. Middlesex, Chaplain; J. Hammond, P.M.; Jordan, W.M. 1512, Hon. I.P.M.; Ackenden, S.D. 1512 Sec.; Hurst, P.M. 1512, J.D.; Walls, P.G.O. Middlesex I.G.; Marvin, D.C.; Scott, W.S. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M. passed Bros. Ayle, Worthington, and Murray; raised Bros. Malcolm, Duffett, and Elphick, and initiated Mr. A. Darling, the ceremonies being well and carefully performed. Bro. B. Sharp having been appointed to represent the lodge at the next festival of the Girls' School, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet. Amongst the visitors were Bros. Inglis, P.M. Carnarvon; Pearman, and Dobie. At the conclusion of the repast the W.M. gave the customary royal and Craft toasts, both Grand and Provincial, with his accustomed point, but they were necessarily given very briefly, as the hour was advanced. "The P.G.M., the D.P.G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Past and Present," was responded by the P.P.G.C., the Rev. Bro. De Crespigny, and who immediately afterwards proposed "The W.M." In the course of his remarks he said that success had followed the W.M. in every Masonic virtue he had undertaken. He was glad that their local lodge had prospered so well, and that he fully endorsed the motion of the S.W., given that afternoon, that the lodge should be increased from 30 to 50 members, which would enable it to take a superior position in the province than it then held. Referring to their W.M. he would again say that whatever duty he took in hand he discharged it conscientiously, and that he personally felt it an honour to hold the position of Chaplain under him. The W.M. having proposed "The Health of the Initiate," who stated in his response, that it had always been the great wish of his life to become a Mason. He knew but little at present, but what he had heard that night would inspire him on occasions to listen and endeavour to learn more. In reply to the toast of "The Visitors," Bro. Inglis spoke highly of the manner in which the working had been performed that evening, and also of the kind and hospitable reception accorded to his co-visitor and himself both in and out of the lodge. "The Masonic Charities" followed. The W.M. said that they were all good Institutions, and most ably governed, the Girls' School in particular had the advantage of a most excellent Secretary, and possessed one of the very best mistresses that could possibly be found in any educational community in the country. "The Health of the Officers" came next. The S.W. in reply touched upon other matters foreign to the subject but of an interesting nature. He conjured this newly admitted brother always to bear in mind the landmarks of the Order, Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth, combined with Truth, Hope, and Charity. In speaking of the latter he said that large sums had been returned and he hoped would continue to be returned in aid of the great Masonic Charities. It was not only a duty, but a necessity, that every brother should subscribe to those Institutions as far as his means would allow, in order that the vitality of the Charities might remain unimpaired. During the evening Bros. Hurst, Walls, and others entertained the brethren. The Tyler's toast at half past ten brought the proceedings, which were throughout very successful, to a close, and the brethren separated until the first Monday in February next.

## INSTRUCTION.

**LONDON MASONIC CLUB.**—The members of this Lodge of Instruction held their first banquet on Thursday, 29th November; Bro. Hogg, Treasurer, in the chair; Bro. Shand, Secretary, vice-chair. There were present Bros. Edell, Langton, Sharrett, Jno. White, Langton, jun., and others too numerous to mention. Visitors Bros. Stiles, W.M. 1507; Triggs, 137; Turner, and others. The usual toasts were given, and success and prosperity to the Lodge of Instruction was drunk with enthusiasm, coupled with the name of the Hon. Secretary, Bro. Shand. The brethren altogether had a most enjoyable evening at the club.

**FINSBURY PARK LODGE OF INSTRUCTION (No. 1288).**—This lodge of instruction (for Master Masons only) met at the Finsbury Park Tavern Holloway, on Friday, 30th November, 1877. Bros. L. R. Rogers, P.M. Burgoyne Lodge, Preceptor; John Walker, W.M. Egyptian Lodge, 127, W.M.; Thos. Press, J.W. New Finsbury Park Lodge, 1695, S.W.; H. B. D. Dunn, S.D. New Finsbury Park Lodge, 1695, J.W.; Woolley, S.D.; R. C. Frampton, J.D. New Finsbury Park Lodge, 1695, J.D.; Jeffreys, W.M., Burgoyne Lodge, I.G.; and other brethren. The lodge was opened in the First Degree, the minutes read and confirmed. The lodge was then opened in the Second Degree. Bro. Frampton, candidate for raising, was examined, entrusted, and retired. The lodge was then opened in the Third Degree and the ceremony rehearsed. The lodge was then resumed to the First Degree. Bro. Dunn candidate for initiation; ceremony rehearsed. Bro. Press was then elected W.M. for the ensuing week.

**EARL OF CARNARVON LODGE OF INSTRUCTION (No. 1642).**—This lodge was held on Friday, 30th November, 1877, at the Mitre Hotel, Goldborne-road, Notting-hill. Present: Bros. Penn, W.M.; Smout, Sec., S.W.; Tellisbron, J.W.; Spiegel, S.D.; Kelly, J.D.; Woodmason, I.G.; Savage, P.M., Preceptor; Murlis, P.M.; Wood, Luhtwitz, Newland, Krabb, and Collett. The W.M. opened the lodge in the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed. Bro. Kelly being the candidate. After resuming the lodge to the First Degree, the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Krabb being the candidate. The adjourned proposition of Bro. Spiegel was then considered, when the amendment of Bro. Penn that the Lodge of Instruction subscribe £5 5s. to Bro. Stevens's list as Steward of the Girls' School for the mother lodge was carried, and thus this lodge of instruction, only since January last opened, becomes Life Subscriber to this Benevolent Institution. A cordial vote of thanks was recorded for the very excellent manner the W.M. worked the Third Degree for the first time, and more especially he, being only a very young Mason, has made himself so proficient, and worthy of his position as W.M. of the mother lodge. Bro. Smout, sen., was elected W.M. for the next Friday.

## Royal Arch.

**SHEERNESS.**—Adam's Chapter (No. 158).—The annual convocation of this chapter was held on Tuesday, the 27th November, in the Masonic Rooms, Victoria Hall, Sheerness. There were present Comps. William Pannell, M.E.Z.; Alexander Spear, H. and Treas.; John Bagshaw, J. and E.; Edward Penney, Thos. M. Rigg, John Hancock, Alfred Ingletton, Wm. Sullivan; and Comp. T. Tanner, Leinster Chapter, No. 387, I.C., visitor. The chapter having been opened by the Principals, and the minutes of the previous convocation read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for Comp. Lieut. Benjamin D. Acland, R.N., of the Columbia Chapter, No. 120, S.C., for affiliation, and for Bro. William Isaac, J.W. De Shurland Lodge, No. 1089, which proved unanimous in their favour. Bro. Isaac was then exalted to the Sublime Degree. At this meeting the Principals elected at the last quarterly convocation were duly installed, and placed in their respective chairs. M.E. Comps. Spears, P.Z., Z.; Bagshaw, P.Z., H.; Penney, J.; and the following officers were invested: Comps. Pannell, P.Z., Treasurer; Bagshaw, P.Z. and H., E. (re-elected); T. M. Rigg, N.; Hancock, P.S.; Garrett, First Assist. S.; Sullivan, Second Assist. S.; J. Akhurst, Janitor. After the Principals had been proclaimed and saluted, three brethren were proposed for exaltation, and some other routine business transacted, the companions adjourned to the Britannia Hotel to a banquet, when a very pleasant evening was spent.

**CHAPTER OF UNITED STRENGTH (No. 228).**—The second meeting of this new chapter for business was held on Tuesday, the 27th ult. At the first meeting—the new chapter opening its career with an emergency—no fewer than eleven brethren were exalted, and now more names appeared as candidates for the exaltation. The weather, however, was dreadful, and kept some of the candidates away, engagements kept others, and sickness kept one. Comp. James Terry, M.E.Z., and Comp. R. Griggs were punctually in the chapter, and bore the sorrowful intelligence to the companions, that the other Principal, Comp. Winsland, had domestic trouble which bound him to be at home, and that Comp. Smart, the Principal Sojourner, was still compelled, by reason of the same cause, to remain absent. The chapter was opened by the Principals, and Comp. Pearcey attained the high distinction (distinction being always given to merit, according to the United Strength traditions) for he was called to the H. chair, and discharged his office with a dignity and an ease which would have done credit to a companion of more experience. The office of Scribe E. was discharged by Comp. Hillhouse, P.M.; that of Scribe N. by Comp. John While, P.M. (Freemason); and the position of P.S. was held by Comp. Halford, the assistants being Comps. Killick and Edis. The ballot was taken for the brethren presented for exaltation, and Bros. John Woodman, Philip Woodman, and Dr. H. B. Bartlett, of the mother lodge, and Bro. T. H. Sim-

monds, of the Cornwallis Lodge, were unanimously elected. The ceremony in all its grandeur was performed with care, and the ritual was most impressively rendered throughout. Before the closing of the chapter the M.E.Z. conveyed the welcome intelligence to the chapter that the whole of the furniture had been paid for—a fact creditable to the Treasurer and founders generally, and welcome to the members. On the motion of Comp. Griggs the Principals and the Scribes were appointed a committee to draw up the bye-laws. The chapter having closed, the companions retired to the banqueting room, where they refreshed themselves after the many working hours. After the usual loyal toasts, loyalty to the Head of the State and to the Chiefs of the Craft being commended by the M.E.Z. in pointed eloquence, Comp. Griggs gave the toast of "The M.E.Z." and spoke warmly of the able and earnest manner in which the work in chapter was discharged, and of the good fortune the chapter had in securing Comp. Terry in this position of hard work. The success of the chapter was secured from the fact of Comp. Terry being associated with it, and the companions, responding to Comp. Griggs' call, heartily wished their M.E.Z. every happiness and success in life. The response given was an acknowledgment of the kindly feeling existing amongst the United Strength brethren and companions, and he then proposed "The Exaltees," who in fitting terms thanked the companions for receiving them, and spoke of the deep impression the ceremony had made upon their minds. The companions toasted the absent H. and expressed the deepest sympathy with his domestic affliction. The M.E.Z. then proposed "The Officers," and speaking of the efficiency of the Scribes and Sojourners, said that the pains they had individually taken to perfect themselves in their work, proved they were determined to emulate the efficient working of the mother lodge. Replies were given by Comps. Hillhouse and While. The evening was enlivened by some excellent singing by Comps. Cooke, Edis, Killick and Griggs.

**TEIGNMOUTH.**—Benevolent Chapter (No. 393).—A regular meeting was held at the Masonic Hall on Thursday, Nov. 29th. At 6.30 the chairs were taken by E. Comps. J. Strouds short, Z.; Loram, H.; Hallett, J.; and the chapter was duly opened by them. On the admission of the other companions the other chairs were taken as follows: Comps. Ormerod, P.Z., E.; Captain Boyd Fawcett, N.; Whidborne, P. Soj.; Ball and Collins, Asst. Sojs. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for Bro. Dr. Workman as a candidate for exaltation, which proved favourable. The companions having retired in compliance with a request from the first chair, Dr. Hopkins, P.Z. 328, 587, 710, took the place of Z., and having constituted a Board of Installed Principals, proceeded to instal E. Comp. Loram as Z. for the ensuing year. In turn he installed E. Comp. Hallett in the chair which he had just vacated; and afterwards the latter installed Comp. Templar as his successor in the chair of J. The Board of Installed Principals was closed. On the re-admission of the companions the Installing Z. concluded this portion of the proceedings by conducting the salutation and proclamation. The following investitures were made by the new Z., Comp. Ormerod, P.Z. as E.; Comp. Whidborne, N.; Comp. Ball, P. Soj.; Comps. Collins and Valentine, Asst. Sojs.; Hegarty, Janitor. Several matters of business were discussed, and the chapter was closed at 9 o'clock.

**TORQUAY.**—St. John's Chapter (No. 328).—A regular meeting was held at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 4th, at the Masonic Hall. The first chair was taken by E. Comp. Perry, P.Z., by the request of the M.E.Z., who, as well as the Third Principal had been summoned to London jointly on business. The Second Principal was absent on account of illness. The chair of H. was therefore occupied by E. Comp. D. Watson, P.Z., and that of J. by E. Comp. Dr. Hopkins, P.Z. 328, 587, 710 who, being in the neighbourhood availed himself of the opportunity to revisit the chapter, of which he had been one of the founders and is still an honorary member. E. Comp. Harland, P.Z., was present at the opening of the Board of Installed Principals. This having been concluded, the companions were admitted; among them were Comps. Bradnee, E.; Hurrell, N.; Fullwood, Pr. Soj.; Dodge, S. Soj.; Goss, as J. Soj.; Cheneour was Janitor. The chapter was then opened. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for Bro. W. B. Dalby, M.D., as a candidate, which proving unanimously favourable, he was admitted and carefully exalted to the rank of R.A. companion by the acting Z. The Historical, Symbolical, and Mystical Lectures were all given by the acting J., and terminated amid the plaudits of those present. On the proposition of H., seconded by Z., a vote of thanks was passed to Dr. Hopkins for his presence and assistance, which he suitably acknowledged. The acting Z. laid before the members the results of an inquiry which he had been requested to make as to the pecuniary position of the chapter. He reported the accounts as being now in a very clear state, and though there is still a small arrear of debt, congratulated the members on the satisfactory financial condition, seeing that all the beautiful furniture is paid for, and that only one or two small liabilities now remain, notwithstanding the great difficulties encountered four years ago, all which have been happily overcome. In a year or two there is no doubt that the chapter will be quite clear. The meeting was brought to a close at 8 o'clock, when the very intelligent candidate, now a R.A. companion, expressed himself as greatly pleased, not only with the ceremony itself, but also with the able manner in which it had been administered.

**TUNBRIDGE WELLS.**—The Holmesdale Chapter (No. 874).—This young and prosperous chapter held their regular meeting on Monday, 3rd, at the Royal Sussex Hotel. The chapter was opened and the minutes of the previous convocation were read, confirmed, and

signed by the M.E.Z. Among those present were Comps. B. S. Willmott, M.E.Z.; W. Delves, H.; W. Stevens, P.Z. 862, J.; R. W. Delves, S.E.; W. B. Bacon, S.N.; H. D. Williams, P.S.; Jas. Bass, 1st A.S.; C. Graham, 2nd A.S. The visitors were Comps. S. Smout Grist, G. Penn, and J. High all of No. 862. Comp. Willmott having vacated the chair in favour of Comp. Rev. J. Robinson, P.Z., P.G.J. Kent, the ballot was taken for Bros. G. Langridge, P.M. 874, P.P.G.R. Kent; J. F. Bates, and C. W. Holt, which proving unanimous in their favour they were duly exalted, the ceremony being performed by Comp. Robinson in such a manner as to draw forth the special approbation of those present, and a vote of thanks was recorded to him. On Comp. Willmott taking the chair, a vote of thanks was also recorded to Comp. Stevens for his kind present of a Bible, and a fervent hope that he might long be spared to the companions of 'unbridge Wells.' The bye-laws having been read and some propositions given in for candidates, the chapter was closed and the companions adjourned to an excellent repast. The usual loyal toasts were given and responded to, and the companions separated in peace and good fellowship.

### Mark Masonry.

**NEWPORT.**—Keystone Lodge (No. 109).—The usual annual meeting of this lodge, for the purpose of installing the W.M. for the ensuing year, was held at the Masonic Hall, Dock-street, Newport, on Monday, 26th November. The following brethren were present: Bros. Wm. Watkins, W.M.; Captain S. G. Homfray, I.P.M.; Captain Alfred Thrale Perkins, S.W.; R. J. Chambers, J.W.; Walter West, M.O.; J. Horner, S.O.; W. Pickford, Treasurer; R. B. Evans, A. Taylor, S. Davies, G. Tweedy, A. McMahon, Wheeler, Gage, W. Williams, P.M., and several others. The lodge having been duly opened, an announcement was made that R.W. Bro. L. Augustus Homfray, P.G.M.M.M. of Monmouthshire, together with his Deputy, Col. Lyne, was at the door waiting admittance, and they were received in due form. The chair was then taken by Bro. Captain S. G. Homfray, P.G.S.W., who performed the ceremony of installing Bro. Captain Alfred Thrale Perkins, P.G.D.C.M.M.M., as W.M. for the next twelve months, in the same efficient manner as he performs all ceremonies in Masonry. The W.M. then appointed Bro. R. J. Chambers as S.W., and Bro. Walter West as J.W., as also his other officers. A cordial vote of thanks was then unanimously passed to R.W. Bro. Augustus Homfray, P.G.M.M.M., for his kindness in attending the lodge, together with his Deputy, Bro. Col. Lyne. Bro. L. A. Homfray acknowledged the compliment, and expressed his extreme gratification at the progress Mark Masonry was making in his province, he having received the warrant for a third Mark Lodge, to be formed at Abergavenny, under the title of St. John's Lodge, with Bro. Little, of Llanvair, as its first W.M., the descendant of a family highly esteemed in the province. The consecration would take place early in January, when he hoped to be well supported by his provincial officers. He also wished to add that the formation of the new lodge was due to the exertions of Bro. W. Williams, P.M., of the Ashlar Lodge at Tredegar, of which he was also the founder. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to a banquet at the King's Head, presided over by W. Bro. Captain Alfred Thrale Perkins, supported by R.W. Bro. L. A. Homfray, P.G.M.M.M.; W. Bro. Col. Lyne, D.P.G.M.M.M.; W. Bro. Captain S. Geo. Homfray, P.G.S.W., and other distinguished brethren, when a most enjoyable evening was spent. We may add that the selection of Captain A. Thrale Perkins as W.M. is a most popular one in the province, he being a zealous worker in every degree in Masonry, and much beloved by the brethren of the province of Monmouthshire, and under his auspices Mark Masonry cannot fail to flourish.

### Red Cross of Constantine.

**COCKERMOUTH.**—Dykes Conclave (No. 36).—An adjourned assembly of this conclave was held on Tuesday last, the 11th inst., in the new rooms of Skiddaw Lodge, No. 1002. The Sir Knights mustered at half-past twelve, when there were present:—Em. Sir Knight Edward Tyson, M.P.S., on the throne of C.; Em. Sir Knight T. Mardle, V.E.; Sir Knight R. Bailey, S.G.; Sir Knight T. Bird, J.G.; Em. Sir Knight W. F. Lamonty, P.S., High Prelate, as Recorder and Prefect (*Freemason*); Sir Knight W. H. Lewthwaite, Treasurer and Organist; Em. Sir Knight R. Robinson, P.S., Orator; Sir Knight James Quay, Herald; Sir Knight Stephen Thwaite, Almoner; Sir Knight W. Potts, Sentinel; Sir Knights J. R. Banks, Jos. Abbott, and others. The conclave having been opened, the minutes of the previous assembly in August last were read and confirmed. The following five were then duly installed and dubbed Knights of the Order:—Bros. Jas. Black, W.M. elect Skiddaw Lodge, No. 1002; George Brash, J.D. Skiddaw Lodge, No. 1002; George Fitzgerald, Sun, Square, and Compasses Lodge, 119; H. Peacock, Skiddaw Lodge, 1002; and John J. Robinson, P.M. Lewis Lodge, 872. The ceremony was performed by the M.P.S. in the most perfect manner, this being his first appearance since enthronement in August last, and we must here take the opportunity to record that Em. Sir Knight E. Tyson is the first Sovereign in the history of Dykes Conclave who has gone through the installation ceremony without assistance from other Past Sovereigns, with the exception of Em. Sir Knight R. Robinson, who was the first Sovereign of the conclave. After the High Prelate had delivered the historical oration, three notices of motion were brought forward, the first of which was a proposition to alter the end of the financial year from January to July,

when the anniversary is held. The alteration of the conclave bye-law in connection therewith (IX.) was thereupon moved by Em. Sir Knight W. F. Lamonty, seconded by Sir Knight R. Bailey, and unanimously carried. Em. Sir Knight W. F. Lamonty next proposed that the place of meeting of the conclave be removed to the new rooms of Skiddaw Lodge, in Station-street, and that the conclave pay a rent of three guineas per annum for use of said rooms. The motion was seconded by Em. Sir Knight E. Tyson, and unanimously agreed to. The third notice of motion, standing against the name of the M.P.S., was moved by him, seconded by the High Prelate, and agreed to, nem. dis., viz., "That the installation fee be one guinea, instead of two guineas, as stated in Bye-law VII., and that such bye-law be altered in accordance therewith." The conclave was then closed. Subsequently the Sir Knights passed away an hour or so in toast, sentiment, and song, and some useful hints were thrown out relative to the future well-being and prosperity of Dykes Conclave.

### UNITED GRAND LODGE.

The following are the addresses of Bro. Lord Tenterden and the Grand Registrar, on the German question, omitted from our report last week:—

Lord Tenterden wished to lay before the brethren a few remarks on this subject. Although he was representative in Grand Lodge of the Grand Lodge of Germany he did not speak now in that character. He would not attempt to follow Bro. Simpson or Bro. Hutton, but would endeavour if he could to place before the brethren very shortly the facts of the case. It was not correct to call this a German question. The lodge called the Three Globes at Berlin was not the Grand Lodge of Berlin—very far from it. It was one of a very large congeries of lodges, each of which had other lodges under it. He had a long list in his hand, and without giving all he would say that among them were—the Grand National, Mother Lodge of the Three Globes, the Grand Countries Lodge of Germany, the Grand Lodge Royal York of Friendship, besides lodges at Hamburg, Frankfurt, Breslau, Dantzic, Dresden, Bayreuth, and many other places. He would not say whether the German Masons were right or wrong in what they did in this matter, but it so happened that when Freemasonry was introduced into Germany last century it was constituted on a Christian system of St. John. The Three Globes Lodge was constituted in 1740 as a Christian lodge. He would offer no opinion on this particular matter whether Masonry should be Christian or universal; but he might say that he himself had initiated Turks, Jews, and persons of all creeds and nations, and was now only stating the simple facts of the case. Brethren must understand that the lodge of the Three Globes has always been a Christian Grand Lodge, and it had certain other lodges affiliated to it. It was not a lodge for the whole of Germany; it was a particular system of Freemasonry based upon Christianity, and requiring in its members the serving of God and the knowledge of the Evangelists. He would not trouble the brethren by asking them to consider whether this was a form of Freemasonry, which Grand Lodge of England would be inclined to favour; he thought they were all of one mind on that point; but the Lodge of the Three Globes had had these principles from 1740 to the present time. It is well known that it had been considered whether it was possible to alter it. The question was mooted in 1766, 1783, 1808, 1844, and again brought forward in 1849. There did not appear to have been any illiberal feeling in the matter, but rather the opinion that having been a Christian Grand Lodge, it should be maintained and adhered to on that principle. In 1868, the question was again considered, and as far as he could ascertain, at the last revision of the constitution this very point was brought forward again, and the old constitution maintained. They held that being founded as a Christian Grand Lodge, and having existed as such, and been acknowledged as such, there were bound to remain so. There were other lodges which a person who was not a Christian could go to in Germany, and be received in. It was only in this particular lodge and those lodges affiliated to it that he could not be received. Consequently, when he went to a Christian lodge in Germany, he knocked at the wrong door. He made a mistake in doing so. That being the state of the case, Grand Lodge of England must look the matter in the face. Grand Lodge of England had acknowledged this German Grand Lodge as a Christian Lodge for 137 years, and was it quite reasonable that we should now go to them and ask them to alter the system on which they were founded. Whether it was reasonable or not he felt confident they would say and think that this was more than a friendly suggestion—that it was a deliberate interference. The case was not at all analogous to that of the Grand Orient of France. The Grand Orient had made a very recent innovation, and Grand Lodge of England had taken action in the matter. But in the case of Germany, they had proceeded for 137 years under the old constitutions on which they were founded. A brother who was not a Christian going to a Christian lodge, would find that he had knocked at the wrong door; to use a nautical expression, which he had learned from an old friend of his, an admiral, he would be endeavouring to put in his oar where there was no rowlock. He was not speaking as the representative of Germany, but only on the general question, and he asked the brethren not to support the proposition. He could not but think that whatever influence Bro. Simpson might wish to exercise by bringing forward this resolution had been already exercised, and he would therefore ask the brethren only to support the first part of the resolution, declaring as received the 300 petitions which had been presented on this subject. For the remainder of the motion, he thought it an interference with the

system of Freemasonry adopted by the Three Globes Lodge for 137 years.

Grand Registrar (Bro. E. J. McIntyre, Q.C.):—Before the debate closed rose and said: At this late hour of the evening I should not have obtruded myself on Grand Lodge, for I feel that my voice is too often heard; but I rise for the purpose of asserting a principle that I think ought to govern the decision of Grand Lodge. We are here, the Grand Lodge of England, an independent body, framing our own laws, constructing our own constitution, and I think we should consider it the height of impertinence if any other Grand Lodge should approach us and tell us what our law should be. We have to consider the laws necessary for Freemasons of this country. Up to 1813 the two Grand Lodges of England were Christian Grand Lodges. In 1813, at the time of the Union, we became a universal Grand Lodge, and Jews were admitted amongst us. The Grand Lodge of the Three Globes is as perfectly a sovereign authority as we are. They framed their constitutions more than 100 years ago; they have adhered to those constitutions; and the matter is entirely different from the position we stand in as regards the Grand Orient of France. There they make an innovation; they change their laws; but the Lodge of the Three Globes take their old constitutions, and we have taken 140 years to find out that they are wrong. If we are powerless to get them to recede to our request let us be wise enough not to make it. There is a great difference, and I hope Grand Lodge will not be misled by thinking the action of Lord Zetland is at all a matter to guide us in this question. Lord Zetland says the certificate of the Grand Lodge of England shall admit English Freemasons to German Lodges. It does so now in Germany; they receive our certificates, and admit our members. What did Lord Zetland do? He says "If you will not receive my Masonic subjects I cease to have Masonic intercourse with you." But they do receive our members. Lord Zetland never went as far as this, to say—"If you blackball one of our members who tries to be a joining member"—because it comes to this—the Masonic lodges in Germany say a man must be a Christian before we admit him to the ballot of our lodges; he shall be in them the same as one of ourselves, but we will not have him as a "joining member." When I say "as one of ourselves," I say it in this sense; with them as with us, a Mason's lodge is a Mason's Church; he may join and remain there during the ceremonies which he may properly see; it is the same as the way we admit a visiting brother. On the other hand, Bro. Simpson says we ought to make this representation, and he represents to you that the lodge of the Three Globes should admit. But it would lead to this difficulty—if they do not listen to our representation, what are we to do? Are we to send their representative home? or are we to say this—"We exclude every German Freemason that comes to our lodges; you admit all our members as your visitors; we will not admit yours." Is that what Bro. Simpson wants us to do? I say it would be a most impertinent interference. The Emperor of Germany might just as well come and say to the Queen of England, "Why is it that according to your laws a Jew cannot be Lord Chancellor? you repeal that law, or else"—what!—"or else"—what? "I can do nothing." And so in this case, we ask you to depart from your present laws, and if you do not, we will hold our tongues and say nothing. M.W.G.M., it does seem to me that it is the worst precedent in the world to set, to interfere with the laws that are deliberately arrived at by a sovereign authority; and in answer to the brother who spoke in the body of the hall, (Bro. Israel Abrahams), who complains that they will not admit to, and that Jews are excluded from Lodges in Germany, I would remind him that there are certain lodges here who only receive particular classes. The Apollo University Lodge of Oxford only receives members of the University, and it is a condition precedent to a man being put for ballot in that lodge that he should be a member of the University. In the same way we have other class lodges.

Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson expressed dissent.

Bro. McIntyre: My Bro. Simpson seems to dissent from what I said about the Apollo Lodge, but I know it of my own knowledge. I happen to be an honorary member myself of that lodge, and I had the honour of having the province of Oxford in my charge for five years; and I say it is a condition precedent to a man being put up for the ballot in that lodge that he should be a member of the University. Now, are we, when we find these things exist in our own lodges, that we complain of in the lodges of the Three Globes, to ask them to alter their constitutions. True, we say we do not seek to dislodge a single landmark of Freemasonry; but they say—as members of our lodges we limit the reception of brethren to the Christian brethren; and we do it because our lodges are St. John's Lodges. Here numbers of our lodges, although not nominally Christian Lodges, keep St. John's Day, knowing that in the old time we were St. John's Lodges till 1813. We are now, I am glad to say, on a much broader basis; and if at a future time the Grand Lodge of the Three Globes should see fit of its own accord to admit the members of the Jewish community into their lodges, let them do it. I am sure that Grand Lodge of England would hail that as a step in advance taken by them. But while they stand on their ancient laws and constitutions it does seem to me an extraordinary step to take, to single out this Grand Lodge at the present time for this revolution. If I had not known the contrary, I should have thought that the Grand Lodge of the Three Globes had made some innovation, and this resolution was intended to remit it. But while they are standing on their ancient rights, do not let us, for our own credit, honour, and satisfaction, make a representation to them which one sovereign state has no right to make to another, and which they may recoil from in anger.

FREEMASONRY IN THE UNITED STATES.

NEW JERSEY TO THE FORE.

There assembled at the Temple of Hiram Lodge, No. 17, F. and A. M., upwards of three hundred Masonic Masons to hear read the lodge history embraced between 1849—the year of its birth—and 1860. It was an assemblage noted on account of the many prominent men and shining lights of the fraternity present. In the east sat W. Bro. Jenne, flanked on either side by R.W. Bros. Hamilton Wallis, Senior Grand Warden; Marcus Higginbotham, District Deputy Grand Master; M. M. Droham, Junior Grand Deacon; Past Masters Hilton, Alexandra (the first Mason ever made in Hudson county), Crawford, Dickson, and Mellor, of Hiram Lodge, No. 17; W. Bro. Seymour and Past Master Page, of Enterprise Lodge; Past Junior Grand Warden Chase, of Enterprise Lodge; W. Bro. Tilden, of Rising Star Lodge; Past Masters Doggett of Bergen, and Chambers, of Manhattan Lodge, of New York; W. Bro. Burnay, of Pentalpha Lodge, New York. Before the commencement of the reading of the history, Bro. W. C. Brown, of Varick Lodge, created a surprise by presenting to the lodge a beautiful set of emblems, mounted on a handsomely enamelled frame, illustrative of the "Work" in the several degrees. They were accepted on behalf of the lodge by R. W. Bro. Hamilton Wallis. After the presentation, W. Bro. Jenne proceeded to read the history, which consumed the greater part of an hour, and was replete with interest and valuable information, especially to the brethren of Hiram Lodge, the "old Mother of Masonry in Hudson county." A letter was received from M.W. Grand Master Marshall B. Smith, regretting his inability to be present. Among the charter members of old Hiram present, were, Bro. Andrew Clerk, its first Secretary, and Bro. Grinnell, its second Treasurer. It is hoped the brethren of Hiram Lodge will take measures to have the history printed in book form, for its better preservation, as its compilation represents a vast amount of labour. We understand that it is the intention of W. Bro. Jenne to continue his good work and write up the history to as late a date as 1870.—*New York Dispatch.*

ON THE MOUNTAIN.

In October, 1875, Virginia Lodge, No. 3, of Nevada, held a meeting on the summit of Mount Davidson.

The meeting referred to was a Stated Communication of Virginia Lodge, No. 3, and was held on the 8th day of October, 1875. The Masonic Hall in Virginia was burned in May; the lodges then removed to Odd Fellows' Hall, which was burned a few days before the meeting on the mountain. Bro. Albert Hires, the Worshipful Master of Virginia Lodge, at the solicitation of the Grand Master, W.M. Robert W. Bollen, notified the members to meet in regular communication on the summit of Mount Davidson, which is seven thousand eight hundred and twenty-seven feet above the level of the sea, and nearly seventeen hundred feet above the city of Virginia.

The summit of the mountain is a pointed mass of broken granite, yet almost upon the very apex, and a little west of it, where there is a sort of basin, surrounded by cliffs, the lodge was held. A rude altar of stone had been erected, whereon rested the three great lights; rude chairs of rough granite had also been built for the Master and Wardens, while the brethren found ample accommodations in the way of seats by availing themselves of stone slabs and boulders which Nature had profusely there provided.

Around that altar were gathered over three hundred Masons, who, in the heat of the mid-day sun, had toiled up the rugged mountain side to witness and assist at the opening of a Masonic Lodge at a place so unusual in our time; and there, overlooking a city of twenty thousand people, on a summit from which the country for the radius of perhaps a hundred miles is visible, with its towns, lakes, mountains, valleys, hoisting works, quartz mills and railroads, the lodge was opened and its regular business was transacted. The M.W. Grand Master, by special invitation, presided.

A row of pickets, designated by white badges on their left arms, were stationed all around the summit. They were near each other, so that none could pass or repass without permission. In that way the approach of cowans and eaves-droppers was effectually guarded against. As the lodge was opened, the white emblem of the Craft was thrown to the breeze from the flag-staff on the summit, and as the wind unrapt its folds, and displayed the square, compasses and the letter G, thereon emblazoned, it was greeted by three cheers that rang out upon the clear air like clarion blasts. An opening ode was sung by the lodge quarter, composed of Bros. E. J. Passmore, George N. Eells, C. L. Foster and G. W. Dorwin, and a brief prayer was offered by Rev. Bro. J. D. Hammond.

The Grand Master made a very feeling address, thanking the brethren for the invitation extended to him to preside on the occasion. He gave accounts of some preliminary meetings which had been held on the coast and on the tops of hills; of one near Ragtown, where brethren had come together in that way to raise money and provisions for suffering emigrants, and over which meeting he had the honour to preside, of a similar gathering in 1858, in Eureka, and of another at Auburn, California. But none of these were gatherings like the present, and he again thanked the brethren that he had been called upon to preside over their deliberations.

After the regular business of the lodge had been transacted, and under the head of Good of Masonry, Bro. Charles E. de Long, late United States Minister to Japan (who died October 26, 1876), was called upon, and responded very happily. He sketched the surroundings within which

they had erected their altar. Beneath them was the wealth of the Ophir, and around them the tumult of trade, &c., &c. He told them how in Japan he had assisted in wedding the link in Masonry which had made the chain complete around the world. Up to that time there had been one land where the Craft was not known. Now there was none. Masonry belted the globe. The lights of the altar had been lighted, and now there were six lodges in the empire, and the institution was rapidly spreading. Bro. H. Taylor, to whom a subpoena duces tecum had previously been directed by the Worshipful Master, was then called upon, and responded by reading the following:

The Lord unto the prophet said,  
"Upon the mountain's topmost round,  
Far as its breezy limits spread,  
Shall be most holy ground."

'Neath God's blue dome, on lofty hills,  
Whose crests first catch the morning heat—  
Whose heights the evening glory fills—  
The Craft were wont to meet.

There, far above the busy mart,  
And from its care and turmoil free,  
They learned the lessons of the heart,  
To "work" and to "agree."

Oh! sacred hills of olden time,  
Whose hoary crags resist the gale,  
Ye have a history sublime,  
The ages cannot pale!

Again, to-day, the sons of light,  
As did their sires of olden days,  
Upon the mountain's dizzy height,  
Their mystic banner raise.

Again, above the busy marts,  
Where human feet have seldom trod,  
We raise our voices and our hearts  
In reverence to God.

Almighty Father! by whose will  
The mountains rise, and worlds do move,  
Thy blessing grant; descend and fill  
Each Mason's heart with love.

Bros. E. A. Sherman, Thomas H. Williams, R. M. Daggett, W. M. John C. Currie, and M. W. George W. Hopkins, followed in brief and happily expressed remarks.

A touching prayer was then offered by Rev. Bro. S. P. Kelly; "Auld Lang Syne" was sung in full chorus; the lodge was closed, and at about five o'clock p.m., the concourse wended their way down the mountain side. And though doubtless weary upon arriving at their homes, all agreed that they had enjoyed and been benefited by the exercises of the day, which, with its many pleasant incidents, will never be by them forgotten.—*New York Dispatch.*

THE MASONIC AND GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

The annual general meeting of this company was held at their offices, 9, New Bridge-street, London, on Thursday, the 13th inst., and it is with pleasure that we note the satisfactory report of the year's business. Bro. Torkington, the Managing Director, will afford every information to applicants, we therefore content ourselves by giving the report in full, which is as follows:

The Directors have much pleasure in laying before their co-proprietors their ninth annual report and balance sheet. The number of proposals received during the year was 295, to assure £83,710; of these 72, representing £24,050, were declined or not completed, leaving 223 policies, assuring £59,660.

This result shows an increase of thirty-one policies, and of £15,605 in sums assured, over the preceding year, and when it is borne in mind that the generally depressed state of trade throughout the country has materially interfered with the progress of life assurance, the increase of new business during the year cannot but be regarded as very satisfactory.

The Directors have given their usual assiduous attention to the selection of proposals, and have maintained their determination not to increase the business by assuring doubtful lives.

It is also satisfactory to note that the working expenses have been reduced, but it is unquestionable that any office, a large proportion of whose business consists of new policies, must necessarily incur a heavy expenditure; the ratio of expenditure to premium income, however, cannot be taken as the criterion by which to gauge the stability of a life office. A solvent life assurance company is one in which the present value of its future net premiums, together with its available assets, will more than cover the present value of the sums assured. The Masonic and General Life Assurance Company, Limited, is in this sound position; moreover, the amount of capital uncalled is £11,376, therefore this item (as with every proprietary company) forms a guarantee fund for the security of policy holders, but there is no likelihood or probability of such guarantee fund ever having to be utilised.

There having been no necessity for any increase of capital, no effort has been made during the year to issue more shares, and the Directors have determined to make no further allotment, except under special or exceptional circumstances.

The amount paid in claims during the year was £14,333 10s., raising the total amount of claims paid since the commencement of the office to £10,998.

It is a fact worthy of note that a large proportion of this sum was paid to the representatives of assured members whose estates were sworn under such small amounts as justify the directors in stating that the office has been a substantial relief to the Masonic Charities, for had it not been for the life policy many a widow and orphan would

have had no other hope than relying upon the charities. Unfortunately, the applications for relief to the Masonic Institutions have always been more numerous than they could deal with, notwithstanding their most earnest endeavours.

The retiring Directors are Captain Bennett, J.P., and W. L. Nash, Esq., who, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

The retiring auditors, Frederick Binckes, Esq., and Wm. Burnett, Esq., also offer themselves for re-election.

In conclusion the Directors rely on the shareholders rendering every assistance to the executive to increase the business of the company during the current financial year.

By order of the Board,

JOHN SUNLEY, Chairman.

RED CROSS OF ROME AND CONSTANTINE.

The Red Cross of Rome and Constantine is probably the most ancient Order of Christian knighthood. It is conferred in the Baldwin Encampments of Bristol, London, Bath, and York, England, and the date of its introduction into that country is said to be coeval with the return of Richard Cœur de Lion from the Holy Land, A.D. 1195. The seven Orders of Chivalry conferred in these Ancient Encampments are: First, Red Cross (of Constantine); second, Knight Templar; third, Knight of Malta; fourth, Knight of the Holy Sepulchre; fifth, Rosa Crucis; sixth, Templar Priesthood; seventh, Commander Elected Knight Kadosh. It is claimed that this Order of Knighthood, coming as it does from Greece and Constantinople, is the ancient and original Order of the Temple. It is still conferred by the Prince Rhodocanakis, the Byzantine Representative, as a civil Order. The Order of Knight of the Holy Sepulchre is conferred at the present day in Palestine on Roman Catholics of noble birth. The requisites of admission are very rigid, and the ancestry must be marked. The Order of St. John of Palestine is the ancient Order of Knights who claim to possess the true secrets of the Order of the Temple.

At the union of the two Grand Lodges in England, in 1813, several of the Orders of Chivalry were dropped, viz.: the first, fourth, fifth, sixth, and seventh, and hence they became local. This was revived on a permanent basis by the Earl of Beville, in London, by the organisation of the Grand Imperial Council of England and English possessions, and is now flourishing as a separate and distinct Order of Christian Masonic Knighthood. The moral qualifications and social position of candidates are insisted upon. It was incorporated in the Masonic body in the middle of the last century, when the desire for the degrees of Knighthood in the higher branches of Freemasonry induced not only the formation of many Masonic degrees quite unknown except to Masons, but also the attributing of Masonic secrets and ceremonies to military Orders which those who originally instituted them never intended. The civil Order of Red Cross of Rome and Constantine belongs to Greece, and the Prince Rhodocanakis claims to be the true Grand Master, and can alone, as a civil Order, confer it. The Prince has been lately initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry in Scotland, and is a member of the "Scottish Order of the Temple." What action he will take as regards the English Masonic Red Cross Branch has not transpired. The Order was introduced in the United States by Sir W. J. B. McLeod Moore, of Canada, in 1869, and into Illinois by Sir J. J. French in 1871. As promulgated in the United States the Order is composed of three working and three official degrees. The first, or Red Cross, is conferred in a body styled Conclave, and on Master Masons. All business is transacted in this degree. The second and third grades are conferred on Red Cross members who are Royal Arch Masons, and in bodies styled Sanctuary and Commandery respectively. There is one official degree each to be conferred on the first and second officers of the Conclave. The highest official rank, or Knight of the Grand Cross, is only conferred in the Grand High Chapter, U.S.A., upon the payment of £100, and only in annual session.

The officers of the Sovereign Grand Council, U.S.A., elected at the last annual session in the city of Rochester are: Sir C. F. Knapp, Pennsylvania, Sovereign Grand Master; Sir J. J. French, Chicago, Sovereign Deputy Grand Master; Sir R. B. Smith, Illinois, Sovereign Grand Viceroy; Sir J. H. Willard, Indiana, First Lieut.; Sir E. C. Meyer, Pennsylvania, Second Lieutenant; Sir R. B. Caldwell, Kentucky, Grand Treasurer General; Sir Alfred Creigh, Pennsylvania, Grand Registrar General; Sir J. L. Young, Pennsylvania, Right Reverend Prelate; Sir J. H. Drummond, Maine, Grand High Chancellor; Sir G. O. Tyler, Vermont, Grand Seneschal; Sir J. Haigh, Massachusetts, Grand Prior; Sir G. V. Howk, Indiana, Grand Chamberlain; Sir J. H. Miles, Chicago, Grand Standard Bearer; Sir J. D. Williams, New York, Grand Marshal; Sir H. C. Field, Rhode Island, Grand Herald; Sir T. Ballantyne, Georgia, Grand Captain of Guards.—*Voice of Masonry.*

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 sent post free, to any part of the United Kingdom on receipt of twenty-five penny stamps. Address, Publisher, 198, Fleet-street, London.—ADVT.

The novelty of the *Metamorphoses* in Dean's New Surprise Picture Books, "Puss in Boots," and "Dame Wonder's Changing Characters," equals, if not surpasses, those issued last year.

## NOTICE.

The Christmas number of the FREEMASON will be published on Friday next, the 21st inst., and will consist of 32 pages and a wrapper with 11 life-like portraits. Orders should be sent at once to the Publisher, 198, Fleet-street, London, or through any newsagent. The price of this double number will be 4d; post free 5d.

## Masonic and General Tidings.

A distinguished service reward of £100 a year has been conferred on Lieut.-Gen. H. W. Montagu, C.B. Royal Engineers; and a similar reward on Lieut.-Gen. Edmund Ogle, Royal Engineers.

The *Hamilton Advertiser* understands that the Prince of Wales will visit the Duke of Hamilton at Hamilton Palace about the middle of January.

Her Majesty is expected to reside at Windsor Castle till a few days before Christmas, and then proceed to Osborne.

The *Civil Service Review* remarks as follows:—"A well-known Civil servant, Mr. Emra Holmes, who has recently brought out a volume of 'Tales, Poems, and Masonic Papers,' published by Tweddell and Sons, of Stokesley, Yorkshire, under the patronage of the Marquis of Bristol, the Earls of Limerick, Nelson, Stanhope (to whom the book is dedicated), Lords Cottesloe, Skelmersdale, Waveney, Henniker, and a crowd of lesser notabilities, is about to bring out a second series of Tales, &c., dedicated by express permission to Prince Leopold, President of the Royal Society of Literature. The proceeds of both works go to the relief of an aged literary brother in distress, and it is on this account His Royal Highness so graciously accords his patronage. By such acts as these of goodness and charity the Royal family endear themselves to the people of England, and Mr. Holmes is to be congratulated on his good fortune."

THE COSMOPOLITAN as it is more familiarly known among the members of the Craft, is a very useful calendar, diary, and pocket book for Freemasons. It contains a list of the lodges, chapters, K.T. Encampments, conclaves, and grand councils of the world, and forms a comprehensive Masonic Book of Reference. This year we find that sixty-eight new lodges have been consecrated, the last being the United Manawatu, No. 1721, New Zealand. In its get-up the pocket book is quite equal to others published by the trade, and apart from its special merits the brethren will find the diary of lodge fixtures particularly useful.—*Northampton Herald*, Dec. 8, 1877.

ERRATUM.—By a *lapsus calami* Bro. Hyam Moses Levy's (P.M. 188) name was omitted from the list of brethren elected to serve on the Board of Benevolence.

RAINFALL.—Up to the end of November 25.1 inches of rain were measured at Greenwich. In the first four months it was 4.8 inches above and in the last seven 3 inches below the average of sixty-one years.

The demolition of Temple Bar commenced on Wednesday morning.

A DEARTH OF DOCTORS.—The mayors of six different localities in one of the French departments inform the public that the said cantons are destitute of medical advice, and would warmly receive any medical men who could see their way towards settling amongst them.—*Medical Examiner*.

A meeting of the early Grand Conclave of English Knights Templar was held on Friday, at the Cannon-street Hotel. A full report will appear in our next.

Her Majesty the Queen has sent an autograph letter to the Rev. Canon Beadon, rector of North Stoneham, Southampton, congratulating him on having attained on Wednesday last 100 years of age. The Duke and Duchess of Coburg have sent similar congratulations to the venerable gentleman, who highly appreciates these and similar compliments which have been paid him. He is in the full enjoyment of his faculties.

The Duke of Rutland has offered a site for the erection of a new church in the northern part of the parish of Ilkeston, Derbyshire, and also £500 towards the building fund.

Captain Burton has started from Suez for Midia, where he hopes to discover a rich mineral country between two ranges of mountains hitherto unexplored.

The principal saddlers' ironmongers in London have decided to close their establishments from Saturday afternoon, the 22nd December, until the Thursday morning following.

I mentioned to an American friend of mine the other day the bankruptcy of a merchant who was personally known to him, and expressed a hope that he was not utterly ruined. He said, "Well you see, he has been a kind-hearted and generous man. He has, while wealthy, made very large settlements on his wife and children, and I guess, after all his liberality, they ain't going to see the old man starve."—*Tattler*.

On Saturday evening Dr. Samuel Kinns, F.R.A.S. Principal of the Highbury New Park College, delivered, at Christ's Hospital, the last of a series of free lectures on Animal Physiology.

The Ceremonies of Consecration and Installation will be rehearsed in the Crusaders Lodge of Instruction No. 1677, at the old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, on Thursday next, the 20th inst. at seven o'clock precisely by Bro. James Terry, Prov. G.D.C. Herts, P.M. 128, 228, 1366; P.Z. 174, 975; and Secretary to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.

Our readers and the public in general would render great assistance to the Post Office by posting letters, Christmas cards, &c., on the 24th and the 31st instant as early in the day as possible.

PLAIN NEEDLEWORK.—An exhibition of children's plain needlework will be held in the West Gallery of the South Kensington Museum on Friday and Saturday, December, 14 and 15th. The work exhibited will be the contributions of the children from the metropolitan elementary schools. The articles shown will be examined by a committee of ladies, by whom prizes will be awarded. Last year the exhibition was opened by the Princess Louise, and the prizes were distributed by the Lady Mayoress. On the present occasion Lady Burdett-Coutts will open the exhibition and Lady Reed will distribute the prizes.

CATTLE SHOW.—Carriage riders and those who take an interest in locomotion on wheels have found a great deal to interest them in the carriage department of the show this week. Foremost amongst exhibitors is the firm of Messrs. Morgan and Co., of Long Acre, whose improvements in carriages, notably the Cee-spring, and the self-acting opening and closing landau head, have created a revolution in carriage-building. These improvements have gained a world-wide recognition, but to still add to the comfort and safety of carriage owners this enterprising firm has lately introduced a new patent rubber-cushioned axle, applicable to all kinds of carriages. It will be seen that when the entire weight of the vehicle and its contents rests upon the elastic india-rubber cushions around the axle-box, there is necessarily an absence of vibration, jolting, and the unpleasant drumming noise peculiar to panelled carriages. If a good article recommends itself, Messrs. Morgan and Co.'s carriages should meet with universal approval.

The name of the late Bro. George Frank Gouley, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Missouri, by order of the National Grand Lodge of Egypt, on May 25th, 1877, was inscribed in the Book of Gold "Libro d'Oro" of that Grand Body, as an honorary member, and a memorial tablet in the Masonic Temple at Alexandria has been fraternally inscribed to his memory.

A day festival in aid of the Royal General Theatrical Fund will be held on Saturday at the Royal Aquarium, lent for the occasion by Mr. Robertson. Mr. Sims Reeves and a whole host of dramatic celebrities have promised their assistance, and a considerable benefit for a deserving charity can scarcely fail to be realised.

The Masonic Lodges of New Mexico, all of which have hitherto been working under charters from the Grand Lodge of Missouri, by convention of delegates has organized and established the Grand Lodge of New Mexico, with William W. Griffin, Grand Master, and Dav. J. Miller, Grand Secretary. This completes the chain. There is now a Grand Lodge in every state and territory of the United States, and in every province of British America. Masonry also prevails in nearly every division of South America, Australia, New Zealand, the Hawaiian Kingdom, Europe and India. It also exists in Africa, China and Japan. It is in fact almost world-wide in its extent, influence and benefit, and if its votaries continue to be true to its principles it will soon unite the whole human race as a common brotherhood. Not that it will do away with all distinctions, but that it will secure all in their just rights and amenities.

At the Council held on Wednesday by the Queen, at Windsor Castle, it was ordered that Parliament be further prorogued to the 17th proximo.

A lady residing near Sheffield died the other day. One relative survived her, an only sister. The lady left £400,000, and of this sum her sister receives £1000.

The report of the last meeting of the Etonian Lodge of St. John No. 209, reached us too late for insertion in present number. It shall appear in our next.

The following are the officers of the Grand Council R. and S. Masters of Ohio for the ensuing year:—S. W. Courtwright, of Circleville, Grand Master; C. A. B. Senter, of Columbus, Deputy Grand Master; S. M. Sullivan, of Dayton, Grand Principal Conductor of the Work; F. J. Phillips, of Georgetown Grand Treasurer; John D. Caldwell, of Cincinnati, Grand Recorder.

The Coal Tar Soap and Solution of Coal Tar, manufactured by Messrs. H. V. Wright & Co., have now become very valuable assistants to the doctor and the nurse, both in hospitals and in private sick rooms. The former a firm, pleasantly scented, perfectly antiseptic soap, is of the greatest utility to medical men; to people afflicted with any malady of the skin, and is a perfectly good article for all cleansing purposes, while the latter, which holds in alcoholic solution the active principles of coal tar, such as benzene, naphthalene, and phenic acid, is the best deodoriser and antiseptic wash extant, being far superior to carbolic acid, which unquestionably irritates both exposed nerves and sound skin. It mixes easily with water, forming a permanent emulsion, and in various strengths may be made use of as a mouth wash, a gargle, and for all skin diseases.

Early on Thursday morning Vice Chancellor Bacon's chambers situated at No. 11, New-square, Lincoln's-inn, were burnt out. The fire originated, it is believed, with an explosion of gas in the rear of the building. One of the most valuable law libraries in the inn had only recently been removed from the premises.

The Anniversary Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for aged Freemasons and widows of Freemasons will take place on Wednesday, the 13th day of February, 1878, at Freemasons' Tavern. His Grace the Duke of St. Albans will preside. Bro. James Terry, Secretary, will be glad to receive from brethren desirous of accepting the office of Steward, their names and Masonic rank at as early a date as convenient.

The Canadian Craftsman is gratified to learn that official intimation has been received of the cordial and fraternal recognition of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Quebec by the Grand Chapters of the States of Massachusetts and Connecticut.

Mr. Welsh, the new American Minister, arrived at St. Pancras from Liverpool on Wednesday evening, and was received by Mr. Pierrepont and the members of the American Legation.

Bro. Commander Cheyne, R.N., delivered a lecture on Arctic Exploration to a large audience assembled in the lecture theatre of the Birkbeck Institution on Wednesday night.

Bro. Fort's unequalled volume—"The Early History and Antiquities of Freemasonry, as connected with Ancient Norse Guilds, and the Oriental and Mediæval Building Fraternities," is becoming popular abroad as well as at home. An edition of it has been taken by a London publisher, and we find it advertised in both the Scottish and English Masonic papers. The fourth edition of this standard work is about to appear in this city.—*Key-stone*.

An official decree has deferred from the 1st of January, 1878, to the 1st of January, 1883, the date at which subordinate officials in certain French-speaking districts of Alsace-Lorraine will be required to use the German language.

CATTLE SHOW.—Forty-five thousand was the number of persons who passed the turnstiles up to the close of the show on Wednesday. Large as the figures appear they are just 8000 below the corresponding day of last year, when they reached 53,000.

NEW POLICE REGULATION.—The following provisional order has been issued from the office of the Commissioners of Police:—"Pending the decision of the Secretary of State as to the old system of detection of crime, all gratuities given by private persons or public bodies to police employed in plain clothes or in uniform in recognition of services rendered in making inquiries respecting evidence, or for the arrest of criminals, are to be paid into a gratuity fund kept by the receiver. Directions will be given as soon as possible to the disposal of this fund, and great care will be taken that the conduct of the individual officer is recognised when the award is made. The particulars of all such gratuities are to be continued to be reported, and the commissioner will direct in each case what amounts are to be paid into the Bank of England on a receivable order after submitting the usual vouchers." Great dissatisfaction is said to be felt by the police at this new regulation.—*Evening Standard*.

SALE OF SHARES IN THE NEW RIVER COMPANY.—In the year 1852 the interests of the shareholders in this company, which was established in the reign of Charles II., were valued at £1,519,953. Yesterday seven lots of sixtieth parts of a King's share were sold for £1590 to £1650 each; six 120th part shares brought from £780 to £790 each; and eleven new £100 shares produced £310.

On Tuesday afternoon a purse of 100 guineas and a silver salver were presented to Mr. Coxhead, on his retirement, after a service of 31 years, from the post of district superintendent of the South-Eastern Railway at Ramsgate. The presentation took place at the Town Hall.

BOLO.—A new strategical and scientific game, issued by Dean and Son, offers many attractions. It is a game of skill—in fact a tiny war—affording unflagging interest, varied changes, and great surprises. Possessing therefore, every element that deserves popularity, it ought not to be classed among the ephemera of the season. The rules of the game, and the method of playing, have been so clearly written by Robert H. Mair, Esq., LL.D., that every difficulty in acquiring them is entirely obviated.

A complimentary banquet to Lord Justice Thesiger, on his elevation to the bench, was given on Wednesday evening by the members of the South Eastern Circuit, at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street. The guests numbered 150. Mr. Montagu Chambers, Q.C., took the chair, and was supported by Lord Justice Bramwell, Baron Pollock, Mr. Justice Denman, Sir James Hannen, Sir Henry Hawkins, Mr. Sergeant Parry, and others.

The Pope has forwarded to the Duke of Norfolk, through Cardinal Howard, his special blessing, accompanied with his Holiness's most affectionate congratulations on his marriage, transmitting at the same time to his Grace, through the hands of his Eminence, a very beautiful and costly mosaic of the Bridge of Tivoli.—*Weekly Register*.

THE TELEPHONE.—In consequence of the large attendance expected on the evening of Wednesday next, when Professor Bell will repeat his lecture on the telephone before the Society of Arts, the council have made arrangements for the lecture to be delivered in the great hall of the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, W.C., instead of at the Society's house.

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.

## NOTES ON ART, &amp;c.

M. Taine's "History of English Literature" has been translated into German, and brought out at Berlin.

**AFRICAN EXPLORATION.**—The French expedition to Equatorial Africa, composed of old African sharpshooters, under the command of a lieutenant of Turcos, Comte de Sémélé, starts on the 15th prox., and landing at the mouth of the Niger, will try to reach the Eastern Coast, while the King of the Belgians has sent out Captain Raymakers, of the Congo, towards the centre of Africa, in order to meet the Belgian Expedition, under Captain Crispal, which has begun operations from the Eastern Coast.

Cooking by Means of Solar Rays has been tried successfully at Bombay, and an apparatus has been contrived to cook chops and steaks in the open air as well and expeditiously as over an ordinary fire. The apparatus consists of a copper vessel, tinned inside and painted black outside, with a glass cover enveloping the vessel with an inch of hot air, and fixed on to the bottom of a conical reflector lined with common silvered sheet glass. If properly covered over it will retain the heat for full three hours and a half.

We are informed that it is now definitely arranged that Temple Bar will be pulled down and removed before the end of the year, most probably in Christmas week. The commission for carrying this object into effect has been intrusted to Messrs. Mowlem, Burt, and Freeman, and the necessary preparations will be made forthwith. It is calculated that a week, or ten days at the very outside, will be sufficient for the operations, and such a force of men will be put upon the work that the street traffic will not be stopped for more than two days, or three at the outside. The stones as we have already stated, will all be numbered, and will be placed for a time on a vacant space of land in Farringdon-road until some definite place is fixed by the Court of Common Council as a site for the Bar.

Experiments with the Telephone have been made between Aberdeen and Inverness with great success. Songs and choruses were distinctly transmitted and conversations well carried on at the distance of 108 miles.

**TROY.**—On Thursday morning last, Mr. Gladstone spent an hour and a half in inspecting the Trojan antiquities which Dr. Schliemann is arranging for public exhibition at the South Kensington Museum. In the afternoon her Royal Highness the Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorne visited the collection, and conversed for some time with the discoverer in German as well as in English.

**THE VALUE OF FRESH AIR.**—Recent statistics show that the rate of mortality among grocers is as 76 to 100 among the general population at equal ages, while the death-rate among drapers is as 108 to 100 by the same standard. On analyzing the cause of this difference between the drapers and the grocers, it is found that it lies in the mode of living. The disease which destroys the draper is pulmonary consumption. The explanation is simple. The grocer lives in a shop, the door of which is open the whole day, and he is very active himself in business; the draper, on the other hand, lives in a close place with the doors of his shop closed, and in a dusty, close atmosphere. No one whose pleasure or business calls on him to enter the majority of our large drapery emporiums in London but will feel in a position to testify to the truth of this description. The heat and closeness which are their usual characteristic sufficiently accounts for the general pallor and unhealthy appearance of the male and female attendants in them.—*Sanitary Record.*

**THE LATE MR. DURHAM, A.R.A.**—By the will of the late J. Durham, A.R.A., F.S.A., Mr. Raemakers, of Pimlico, London, has been left to complete his unfinished works. Mr. Raemakers, who for the last twenty years has been the friend and associate of the late great sculptor, has received this token of the high esteem in which he held his artistic capabilities. Mr. Raemakers will be recognised by his works exhibited in the Royal Academy, among which are portraits busts of the Earl and Countess of Clancarty, the Hon. Mrs. Trench, and the Marquis of Bristol.

**THE BRITISH MUSEUM.**—The British Museum has bought Sir Henry Rawlinson's fine collection of Arabic MSS.—*Athenæum.*

**ART IN LIVERPOOL.**—The Liverpool Corporation Autumn Exhibition closed on Saturday night with a conversation, and the rooms of the Walker Art Gallery were overcrowded. The Exhibition has been a great success, having been visited during the three months by upwards of 72,000 persons, besides 2298 season ticket holders, and pictures to the value of £9267 have been sold. Last Friday night 2568 persons paid for admission.

The Darien Canal is attracting fresh attention in Paris, and Lieutenant Wyse, who made the preliminary survey last year, has started afresh to complete his work. M. de Lesseps estimates the cost of the canal at £24,000,000, and advocates a line starting from the river Tuyra, on the Pacific Coast, through a cutting to the Chucunaque river, thence up the valley of the Tiafi, through a tunnel between eight and eight-and-a-half miles long, into the valleys of the Acanti and Tolo, reaching the Atlantic at Port Gandi.

The Society of Lady Artists will hold their exhibition for 1878 at the Gallery, 43, Great Marlborough Street. Works received on the 11th and 12th of February. The Art Criticism Meetings (established in connection with this Society) will be held during the latter part of December and during January. Examining Visitor, W. H. Fisk, of University College.

## Reviews.

"Old Jonathan." *City Press*, Aldersgate-street. This interesting and illustrated publication for the young is still radiantly to the fore. It deserves alike perusal and patronage.

"Floral Designs for the Table." By John Perkins. Wyman and Sons, 81, Great Queen-street.

This is a most comely book for the drawing-room table, and a most useful one for the careful and ingenious housewife. The floral decoration of the table is an art yet to be studied and realised, and we consider Mr. Perkins's work as most clever and commendable. We offer it to the notice of all who admire flowers and wish to make use of them on all occasions, whether to gratify the sight, or to adorn the room or the dinner table.

"Kalender für Freimaurer." By Bro. C. Van Dalen. Leipzig: Bro. J. G. Findel."

We have received and read with pleasure this useful German Masonic Annual. It is admirably edited, and the information it gives is alike correct and important. Indeed, it is impossible to arrive at a true understanding of the German Masonic organization (about which so many errors prevail), without studying carefully Bro. Van Dalen's interesting and valuable "vade mecum." We congratulate both Editor and Publisher on its reasonable and acceptable appearance.

"Early French Lessons," "First French Lessons." By HENRI BUE, Hachette and Co., 18, King William-street, W.C.

These little works are very useful to beginners in French. We hail their appearance, because we are amongst those who desiderate a more extensive study of French by our youth of both sexes. Sure we are of this, that if we hope to see a national advance in all that pertains to civilizing arts and sympathies, we must get rid of the old heresy, that we are over-educating our young people. Education is either good or bad. If good we have no right to limit its area, or minimise its gifts. We must, as an inspired writer says, "Cast 'our' bread upon the waters," and depend upon it, by God's blessing, we shall "find it after many days."

## THE SWEDENBORGIAN RITE.

Those who have marked the progress of this important and interesting Rite will be glad to hear that another lodge and temple have just been formed at Liverpool, and constituted as the Royal Oscar Lodge and Temple, No. 9. The first W.M. of this lodge is Bro. Thomas Clarke, P.M. of the St. John's Lodge, 673; the first Senior Warden is Bro. William Thomas May, another P.M. of the same lodge; and the first Junior Warden is Bro. Thomas Roberts, P.M. The new lodge and temple have been very efficiently started by the main efforts of Bro. Major George Turner, the Provincial Grand Master for the District for the Rite, and promises to be energetically worked with every prospect of a prosperous future. The lodge has been named in honour of H.M. the King of Sweden, and many Scottish brethren are expected to join it. We understand that an eminent Masonic jeweller has the very elegant jewel of the Rite in hand, and no doubt many brethren will be anxious to see it when finished. The Swedenborgian Rite contains illustrations of Masonic science of the greatest interest to Past Masters and Mark Master Masons.

The small extent to which the practice of farmers is as yet amenable to the elementary principles of science is deplorable. The need of shelter; the folly of allowing rain to wash the manure; the frightful waste of straw; the reckless consumption of hay; the injudicious use of roots; the want of system in the assortment and mixing of food; the foolish purchasing of bad foods; and the persistent practice of buying inferior animals—these and other faults of management are, we are loth to confess it, almost a rule. No doubt many of us know better, still are guilty of similar weaknesses in our management. "Any tool can farm if he has his pockets well lined," and the wisest man must put up with bad buildings and restrained expenditure when he or his landlord is short of cash. Let him be as wise as Solomon and as strong as Samson, he cannot use either his wisdom or his strength if he is crippled in his resources. Covered yards, well-arranged machinery, well-selected stock, increased labour, liberal use of artificial foods and manures, all mean more money, and we think Mr. Mechi is not far wrong when he gives his opinion that twice the present farming capital might be profitably expended upon the land.—*Agricultural Gazette.*

Mr. Warrington Wood, the sculptor, has been made a member of the Academy of St. Luke, the blue ribbon of the profession at Rome.

**THE ROYAL ACADEMY.**—It is understood that in addition to the contributions to the Royal Academy Winter Exhibition of this season which we have already mentioned as promised, the Duke of Buccleuch has consented to lend the whole of his magnificent gathering of engravings, by all the best artists, in the finest states of the works, from the paintings of Sir Joshua Reynolds. This famous collection is nearly complete, and has been for many years in the charge of Messrs. Dominic Colnaghi and Co. Mr. Anderson will probably lend his fine gathering of prints after Romney. The Rev. J. J. Heywood, Mr. Paget, Mr. R. Fisher, Mr. Addington, and other well-known collectors will be represented.—*Athenæum.*

The House of Commons Telegraph Office is about to be connected with the Central Telegraph Office by means of a pneumatic tube.

## ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The monthly meeting of the Committee of this Institution was held on Wednesday afternoon, at Freemasons' Hall.

Bro. Col. Creaton, V.P., presided, and the other brethren present were Bros. C. A. Cottebrune, S. Rawson, George Bolton, Joseph Smith, C. J. Perceval, Griffiths Smith, John March Case, Dr. Jabez Hogg, Thomas Cubitt, William Stephens, L. Stean, H. Massey, (*Freemason*); and James Terry, (Secretary).

After the reading of the minutes the Warden's report was read. A notice of motion was put on the paper for pensioning the gardener at Croydon.

Two widows were granted half their late husband's annuities.

The Secretary reported that he had received a notice from the Local Board of Health of Croydon, to repair the road and footpath in Freemasons' Road, Croydon, but said he had been advised not to notice it; that the Board would do the work required and would charge the Institution with the cost.

Four brethren and four widows petitioned to be placed on the list of candidates for next election in May. One case was deferred, the others were placed on the list.

It was resolved that all the brethren who are annuitants on this Institution who are Tylers of lodges should send in to the Secretary a statement of their income from all sources in addition to their annuities, with the names of the lodges and chapters that they tyled.

Bro. James Terry, after some formal business had been disposed of, obtained the permission of the committee for the use of the large hall of the Asylum at Croydon, for an entertainment to the old people on the 2nd January.

The Chairman said that before the brethren separated he wished to make a few observations on one subject. He was sure that all the brethren would feel with him that this annual dinner should be given to the old people. It afforded them a great deal of pleasure, and it was a proper thing to be done. But the Institution had not hitherto paid for it, and the way the requisite money was raised was by the voluntary subscriptions of brethren, for which the Secretary asked them. Now he thought it would be a much more dignified course to follow, for the Institution itself to make a grant from its funds instead of laying the burden on the Secretary to go round to brethren and beg for such small sums as might be required. He threw it out as a suggestion. The Institution could well afford the money, and he thought it would be much nicer that it should grant it.

Bro. Joseph Smith supported the Chairman's view, and was very glad the Chairman had spoken about this matter; because in all these Institutions the trustees annually gave the inmates an extra treat. He agreed with the Chairman that they should not put it upon the Secretary to go round and ask for subscriptions for this dinner. No doubt some one would always give, and he thought it most likely the same persons gave every year.

The Chairman asked Bro. Terry how much he wanted. Bro. Terry said these entertainments usually cost about £30 or £32. He had some twenty-five guineas towards that amount already. £5 was all he now required.

The Chairman said if he lived till the following Christmas he should move that the Institution pay the whole amount.

Bro. Terry said he had several brethren who made donations. Bro. Wm. Hale always sent a pound of tobacco for each old man, and a pound of tea for each old woman. Another brother sent a bottle of whisky for each inmate; Bro. Farnfield sent a bottle of sherry each; and another brother provided the magic lantern.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the proceedings.

## Obituary.

## BRO. WILLIAM PURSHON, P.M. 24.

Bro. William Purshon, who died on 24th November at Killingworth, near Newcastle-on-Tyne, was initiated, passed and raised, (by dispensation) on Feb. 14, 1815, in Lodge No. 24; joined Northern Counties Lodge, No. 406, 21st June, 1836, and served the office of W.M., &c.; exalted in Chapter No. 24, on 26th November, 1817, and joined Chapter No. 406, 10th January, 1837, of what he was P.Z.; was made a Knight Templar in the Royal Kent Encampment, No. 45, 5th January, 1816, and on the appointment of H.R.H. as M.E. and S. Grand Master, was nominated Prov. Grand Prior for Northumberland and Berwick, which office he held at the time of his death.

He was buried at Killingworth, December 1st. His funeral, although private was attended by over 300 of his friends and tenants, and his loss will be much felt in the neighbourhood, where he was most highly esteemed.

At Bolton, on Monday, a new chimney, 90 feet high, which was being straightened, fell upon an engine-house and other premises, doing damage to the extent of £1,000, and causing serious injuries to a young man and a boy.

**HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.**—Colds, Coughs, Shortness of Breath.—These corrective remedies are infallible for these pectoral complaints, which, neglected, often end in asthma, bronchitis, or consumption. The Ointment well rubbed upon the chest and back, penetrating the skin, is carried directly to the lungs, whence it expels all impurities. All the blood in the body constantly passes through the lungs, and there all noxious particles tending to produce disease, can be quickly, thoroughly, and permanently neutralised, rendered harmless, or ejected from the system. Holloway's Ointment and Pills perfectly accomplish this purification; and through the blood, thus cleansed, the influence of these wonderful medicaments reaches the remotest parts of the human body; and thus cures all diseased action, whether internal or external.—*ADVT.*

## 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:

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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.

## NOTICE.

To prevent delay or miscarriage, it is particularly requested that ALL communications for the FREEMASON, may be addressed to the Office, 198, Fleet-street, London.

## 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.

JAMES BLACKIE.—The matter referred to is more for the Board of General Purposes than for the *Freemason*.

## BOOKS, &amp;c., RECEIVED.

"Hajnal;" "Keystone;" "Masonic Eclectic;" "El Cincel;" "Hebrew Leader;" "Risorgimento;" "Night and Day;" "Pictorial News;" "Scottish Freemason;" "Kalender fur Friemaurier;" "Canadian Craftsman;" "Almanack and Diary, 1878;" "Moses and Son;" "Der Triangel;" "The Archer" (Christmas number of "The Quiver"); Christmas number "Sporting and Dramatic News;" "Book of Episodes."

## Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

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

## BIRTHS.

DENT.—On the 10th inst., at Mayfield, Upper Tooting, the wife of Stanley Dent, of a son.

FAWCETT.—On the 4th inst., at Newcastle-on-Tyne, the wife of W. J. Fawcett, Surgeon Army Medical Department, of a daughter.

RUSSELL.—On the 9th inst., at Ashow Rectory, near Kenilworth, the wife of the Rev. Alex. H. Monckton Russell, of a daughter.

## MARRIAGES.

CARTER—JONES.—On the 5th inst., at Holy Trinity Church, Hampstead, by the Rev. H. S. Humphreys, uncle of the bride, Albert Carter, Esq., Shortlands, Kent, to Edith, youngest daughter of the late Thomas Jones, Esq., of Greville-place, Kilburn, and Saint Lucia, W.I.

## DEATHS.

CURTIS.—On the 19th inst., at Burfield Lodge, Old Windsor, Berks, Henry Thomas Curtis, Esq., aged 78 years.

DAVIES.—On the 9th inst., at his residence, 82, Rye-lane, Peckham, after a long and painful illness, John Davies, in the 63rd year of his age. Friends will kindly accept this intimation.

JACKSON.—On the 8th inst., at Hderon, Northumberland, the Rev. C. Jackson, of Hucknall Torkard, Notts, aged 61.

NAYLOR.—On the 2nd inst., at Western Villa, Stoneycroft, Liverpool, aged 61, Wm. Frederick Naylor, Lodge 261, (Harmonic), proprietor of the Vine Hotel, Great Charlotte-street, Liverpool.

## The Freemason,

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1877.

## BRO. FINDEL'S LETTER.

"We print in another page a letter from Bro. Findel, which will, we fear, hardly give satisfaction to any readers of the *Freemason*, and will be deeply objected to by all Anglo-Saxon Freemasons. Bro. Findel, it seems, objects to our article on "The Theistic Teaching of Freemasonry," which appeared in our issue of 1st December, and declares that it is—Popery! We leave such a very unwise and unfair, in fact absurd remark to the appreciation of our many readers. For now, alas! out comes the truth. Bro. Findel approves of the act of the Grand Orient of France, which is unanimously reprobated by a million of Anglo-Saxon Masons, and seems very angry with us for objecting to so revolutionary an innovation, and like angry people is a little incoherent, and to say the truth, not a little unreasonable. One of his statements will arouse our numerous readers. His argument, as regards our Old Charges, appears to be this: If a man is an Atheist, he is not absolutely ineligible, but only if he is a "stupid" Atheist; a gloss we would beg to observe, worthy of those astute gentlemen, concerning whom, as we may know, Bro. Findel does not often speak in the most complimentary terms. To those who understand the English language such a remark will appear to be both unreasonable and childish, for by the epithet "stupid" our Charges convey a term of reproach, not a palliating term for the word Atheist. Paraphrastically these words would say—if any one is so stupid as to be an Atheist, he is not fit for the society of Freemasons, who reverently recognise and trust in T.G.A.O.T.U.; no one can really be so stupid as to be an Atheist—"Atheos,"—no one ought to be so stupid, and if he is so stupid he ought not to be a Freemason. There is no other construction possible of such simple words, and any other interpretation would land us in a fertile field of non-natural evasion and Jesuitical subtlety, wholly unworthy our honest and plain-speaking, right-minded Craft. Knowing as we do the high ability, the zeal and energy, and the Masonic sympathy of Bro. Findel, we deeply regret to see his name appended to such a letter, and much less to read the observations he has thought fit to send us. But we should not be doing our duty as honest journalists and English Masons if we did not at once say to him kindly, and firmly—that his views if carried to logical conclusions must end in the destruction of true Freemasonry. Indeed, this hasty and unwise tampering with ancient landmarks and sacred truths seems to us most perverse and unjustifiable, and we protest once again against that cruel agitation and that revolutionary change of the Orient of France, which has convulsed Cosmopolitan Freemasonry, and may result in the most deplorable consequences. In England, as in Ireland, and Scotland, and America, and Canada, we mean to stand firmly "super vias antiquas" and will continue to exclude as we actually shall reject all Atheists, all those who, whether "stupid" or otherwise, cannot, with us, conscientiously acknowledge and believe in T.G.A.O.T.U.

## FREEMASONRY IN IRELAND.

We rejoice to be able to call the attention of our brethren to the re-opening and the re-dedication of the Masonic Hall, Dublin, which took place on Wednesday, the 5th inst., under the distinguished presidency of the Grand Master, the Duke of Abercorn, and a brilliant gathering of Grand Officers, and W. Masters, Past Masters, and brethren of the Irish lodges. The entire ceremony seems to have passed over with great eclat, and happy success, and to have given great satisfaction to all who were privileged to take part in it. In our Christmas number (Dec. 22nd) will appear a detailed and architectural account of the restored hall, all too long for our crowded weekly columns, unfortunately. We beg to congratulate our Irish brethren on this

great advance in Masonic arrangements and æsthetic decoration. We refer our readers to the description of the Hall in the Christmas *Freemason*, which we trust will interest them, as it has interested us, and we rejoice to think that so much has been accomplished in a right direction and so well. We trust that under their most excellent Grand Master, the Irish Craft, as we doubt not, will continue to progress in brotherly union, zeal, and good will, and that despite the special difficulties of their situation in Ireland, we may have to report from time to time how well and happily the good old Craft weathers every gale and conquers every foe. There is, however, one point to which we feel bound to allude. Animated as we are, and ever have been, with the best and truest feelings towards our Irish brethren, we wish that we could give more reports from Ireland, week by week, and that all difficulties were smoothed away, by authority, which stand in the way of our receiving proper Masonic information. The present Irish Masonic system of discouraging all Masonic reports, works most prejudicially for our Irish Brethren. Reports of the Grand Lodge proceedings appear in Ultramontane papers, in journals deliberately hostile to the Irish Grand Lodge, but the *Freemason*, always friendly, is debarred from detailing what non-Masonic and inimical newspapers openly publish. Even as regards the last resolution at the Irish Grand Lodge, we were indebted to private hands for a copy of the official circular, and we venture to think that such a course of procedure is neither very wise, nor, to say the truth, very Masonic. We speak in all of good will and good feeling to our worthy brethren in Ireland. We repeat that we are only too happy to report their meetings and their proceedings, and we can only trust that in the future, by a wise and Masonic change in this respect, we may receive, and we may be permitted to report, the "sayings and doings" of the Irish Craft.

## WHAT IS TOLERATION?

It appears to us, from a good many addresses which we read, both religious and secular, and from many speeches which we hear, that the true meaning of this word is hardly understood by us as it should be, and that it has either a double or a non-natural significance for many at the present hour. As philanthropic and large-hearted Masons, it seems to be our bounden duty to clear away any doubts or dimness which time and circumstances have concurred to accumulate round a word so frequently used, and yet as it seems to us so little really understood, What then is Toleration? To answer this question, we must go back a little and invoke alike the patience and attention of our readers. There is a limited view of toleration which we think we may at once dismiss to the limbo of forgotten fallacies, and effete superstitions. It is this, you hear people often loudly talking about toleration, and saying, "we are most tolerant, Sir," only, however, ere long to realize, that what they mean by toleration is "endurance" of certain opinions simply because either they cannot help themselves, or because they think it better "quieta non moveat." But endurance is not toleration. Endurance is a factitious feeling, so to say, as regards any teaching either in respect of the psychology of man, or the "To Kalon," or the "To Agathon," of earthly striving and aspirations. But Toleration is a principle, living and real, which is intended to dominate the intellectual, and the metaphysical perceptions of our race! It is one thing to endure, to submit to views and dogmata which we cannot help being propounded, or could not well interfere with, and quite another thing on a great broad principle of teaching and action, to concede to another, (of course within certain needful limits), the "liberty of prophesying," the right of individual conviction, the sanctity of private judgement. And this is what we call Toleration—true Toleration—that gracious and genial dogma which lies at the foundation of all Masonic profession, and accompanies it always in practice, is in fact its abstract avowal, and its concrete performance. Let us see, then, how such a principle as this acts and works in the world, of which we are now

citizens for time, and looking on, let us never forget, through time to eternity, when we and all our race shall stand before the "Great White Throne of the Judge of all Men." Having disposed of that limited view of Toleration, which is very common, and very popular, but which whenever it is tried is "found wanting," let us go on to see, if we can, what are the "marks" of that better and truer tolerating spirit which it should be our endeavour as Freemasons, to cultivate, and always to uphold. Of course it is perfectly clear to the eye of common sense, when we touch upon the "raison d'être" of Toleration, needful as we believe it to be for the happiness, the peace, and the progress of mankind, that such a truth must have some limitation, nevertheless, alike in precept and in action. And admitted its necessity and its sacredness, even, we must be just even while laying down broadly and elaborately its lines of true thought and truer practice. A religious body, for instance, has clearly a right to say "for the preservation of peace and unity, for the maintenance of the faith" (as it teaches it), "we impose certain articles of agreement, certain creeds, certain tests, and tokens of adherence, and all who cannot conscientiously accept them must either submit or demit." No one can allege that any religious body so teaching, so acting, transgresses the limits of Toleration, because all first principles are accepted, remember, subject to certain agreement with the laws of self preservation, self defence, common safety, common sense, otherwise, the world would soon have to be governed by a hybrid system of fictitious development, by mendacious axioms, by an outcome of mingled fanaticism and impiety. If it should ever happen, that any member of a religious body finds that, on mature reflection, or calm diagnosis of dogmatical doctrine, or practical life, by the "evolution," so to say, of certain underlying consequences of certain assumed truths, he cannot consistently teach as his denomination teaches, then the only course open for a man of probity and conscience, is to make his bow, and seek elsewhere the liberty denied to him, as he feels in that circle of ecclesiastical teaching to which he belongs, even though it terms itself the one true church. But having done this, his responsibility ceases, in respect of the body of which he has been an adherent. Outside its pale, honestly and conscientiously, (and let us admire free-spoken and fair-spoken conscientiousness, in all, be they who they may), he has no right to be persecuted "for conscience sake." This is true Toleration, but any wider application, as regards the just right of religious bodies, becomes hyper-liberalism and hopeless latitudinarianism. We think that we have now disposed of two formidable and "burning questions," and may now safely proceed to define, "more nostro," true Toleration. True Toleration, then, as expounded and practised in Freemasonry, implies that we accord to others the same right of private judgment which we claim for ourselves. We admit the sanctity of conscience; we uphold the freedom of worship and belief; we judge no man; we impose no creed; we neither mingle with the controversies of Christians themselves; nor do we enter into the antagonisms of non-Christians. Inside the lodge, all we ask of our brethren is, that they believe and trust in a Personal and Living, Creating, Preserving, Ruling, Saving, and Judging God Most High, and that all shall co-operate in works of pioussympathy and large-hearted benevolence. But beyond this we do not go, beyond this we do not dogmatize, beyond this we do not enquire, beyond this we do not wish or want to know. Is not this true Toleration? We think that it may fairly claim that name, both in theory and in effect. To realize that the world is wide enough for us all, that we are not sent into this world to curse, to persecute one another, is alike worthy of true religious and sagacious philosophy. For who of us can lay claim to infallibility? Who of us has a right to say, I, only, am a possessor of the Truth? Who of us can fairly deny that another person's conscientious conviction may be as right and true, absolutely as our own? Who can venture to affirm, whatever his subjective trust may be, that objectively must be, that ought to be, the trust of another? And if we cannot do any of these things which we clearly, rightly cannot,

must we not admit that the necessity of the case, as well as the eternal fitness of things demand imperatively the practice of toleration? That it is perfectly right for any one of us to hold firmly, faithfully, even to death, for the sake of the truth which he holds sacred, the faith he holds most dear, the Master whose he is, and who is his, none of us, as Freemasons, will be prepared for one moment to contest or deny. But that it is right for this religious body or that to curse others, we think a misunderstanding of scripture itself, a mistake of past Christianity, and one of the greatest stumbling blocks in the way of true religion, just as it is one of the best weapons for the Sceptic and the Atheist. But here we stop to day. The subject, great and interesting as it is, even in this partial dealing with it, already overruns our modest limits, and all we can hope is, that our readers will be able to follow our very condensed argument, and will realize its truth, and make it their own in profession and practice.

THE LAST GRAND LODGE.

We call attention to the full reports of the speeches of Bros. Lord Tenterden and the Grand Registrar in another column, which the early hour at which we went to press prevented us including in our last publication.

THE CHRISTMAS "FREEMASON."

We beg to call attention to the fact that the *Freemason* for Christmas, published December 21st, will be enlarged to thirty-two pages, with a cover, and we recommend all non-subscribers to order a copy at once, at 198, Fleet-street, or through their local newsagents, to prevent otherwise inevitable disappointment.

KENNING'S MASONIC CYCLOPÆDIA.

Dear Bro. Kenning,—

Since I wrote last I have placed in the hands of the printer the concluding portion of the "Copy" for the *Cyclopædia*, so that, as I said before, I feel quite confident that the work can be delivered in January. In about ten days I think we shall be able to say when.

I congratulate you on the conclusion of the work, and am, dear Bro. Kenning, yours fraternally,

THE EDITOR.

P.S.—I am glad to see you have taken my hint about January 2.

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 THEISTIC POSITION OF FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

The article of your paper with the above heading (page 520) contains a declaration of Masonic faith, which destroys the cosmopolitan character of Freemasonry, and makes it a truly sectarian institution. It will be no easy task to oppose the infallible position you assume as the only correct basis of the Craft, a position which, I am sorry to say, constitutes a Masonic Popery.

Allow me to confess that in Germany, Hungary, Italy, &c., all Masons do not share your views against the resolution of the Grand Orient of France. We regret your somewhat intolerant position. You seem to feel that it is not universal, not cosmopolitan and world-wide, but exclusive "Anglo-Saxon," as you call it. Your views, I am convinced, are not quite in accordance with Article I. of the Old Charges of 1723, which do not declare that a so-called Atheist cannot be a member of the fraternity, but speaks more in a reserved, tolerant, and high-minded sense, only supposing that he will not be a stupid Atheist. If a Freemason is an honest lover of truth, and if he, in conscientiously seeking truth, comes to the conviction that he must deny the existence of God, or at least a personal God, he is no stupid Atheist, and as such he may be a very good brother, and an honest, virtuous man. If, as you say, "Freemasonry seeks to make a great union all over the world, for the purpose of humanitarian sympathy, relief, and good-will," then each lodge may initiate men of all denominations and convictions, without requiring the profession of any faith whatever, if the candidate is only a good and true man.

Freemasonry is a purely human institution, for humanitarian, not metaphysical or orthodox religious purposes, which only can exist as a cosmopolitan institution, if it does confess the utmost liberty of conscience, of thought and confession, leaving to the inner holydom (sic) of each member what he will believe or not believe in the question which at all times have separated men, not united them.

Allow me to refer the readers of the *Freemason* to the Masonic declarations of my "History of Freemasonry," in the introduction, pages 1-10, and to the dedication of the Book of Constitutions of 1738.

But it is not my intention to give such general declarations on the true meaning of the Royal Art, as it seems more necessary to help to a right understanding of the resolution of the Grand Orient of France. Our French brethren have not deserted the belief in the existence of God and immortality of the human soul, in striking out the discussed words of the first article of the Constitutions, but they have only declared that such a profession of faith does not belong to Masonic law. The Grand Orient has only voted for liberty of conscience, not against any religious faith. Therefore the true meaning of the French Constitution is now only, that each brother Mason may believe in God or not, and that each French Lodge may judge for itself which candidate shall be initiated or not. The French vote is only an affirmation of liberty of conscience, and not a negation of faith.

The excommunication of the Grand Orient of France, by Masonic Grand Lodges is therefore an intolerant act of Popery, the negation of the true principles of the Craft, the beginning of the end of Cosmopolitan Freemasonry. The excommunication of the Grand Orient of France only proves the sectarian mind of the excommunicating Grand Lodges, which have forgotten that Freemasonry has for its purpose to unite all good men of all denominations and professions; they profess the separating element, and destroy the Craft, and waste the heritage of our more liberal and more tolerant forefathers. The Masonic Union will in future be a mere illusion, if the Anglo-Saxon Masons condemn the French, German, Italian Masons, &c., and vice versa.

Fraternally yours,

J. G. FINDEL.

THE GERMAN QUESTION.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Allow me to state a few facts in respect to yesterday's proceedings in Grand Lodge on what is commonly called the German question.

In Germany there are now existing eight Grand Lodges, six of which admit Jews as members, two do not. The six Grand Lodges admitting Jews are the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, the Eclectic Grand Lodge of Frankfurt o/M—both quite similar in constitution and ritual to English Masonry—the Grand Lodges of Saxony, Darmstadt,\* Bayreuth, and Royal York of Friendship at Berlin. The two remaining, not admitting Jews as members, are the Grand Lodge of the Three Globes and the Grand Lodge of the Whole Country, both at Berlin, which together with the Grand Lodge Royal York of Friendship constitute the three Prussian Grand Lodges under the Protectorate of the Emperor of Germany, who personally belongs to the Grand Lodge of the Whole Country, where he was initiated, and not to the Grand Lodge of the Three Globes, as erroneously stated last night.

The Grand Lodge of the Three Globes at Berlin has descended from a lodge of the same name, founded 1740 by Frederick the Great, where he met his intimate friends and councillors, and its Christian character was ably expounded last night by Lord Tenterden. The Grand Lodge of the Whole Country at Berlin is in its system an adaptation of Swedish Freemasonry brought over to Germany in 1766 by Von Zinnendorf, and as Swedish Freemasonry is purely Christian, this Grand Lodge follows the same principle; and the Emperor of Germany, although, indeed, a true Mason, admitting universality of Freemasonry, is nevertheless devotedly attached to his own lodge and its working. It is with both Grand Lodges not merely a question whether to admit Jews or not; they would have, in order to do this, to alter the whole of their ritual, into which most beautiful and poetical emblems and metaphors have been introduced debarring a conscientious Hebrew from joining or from being initiated.

The Rev. Brother who yesterday moved the resolution, if he had counselled proper information previously to making the motion, ought well to have paused before attacking a stronghold of Christianity, which in infidel Germany Freemasonry has built up in the form of these two Grand Lodges.

I may mention that at present there is a movement about to create one Grand National Lodge of Germany, and should this movement succeed, no doubt the "German question" will be satisfactorily solved.

I remain, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

KARL BERGMANN,

P.M. of the Pilgrim Lodge, No. 238.

London, 4, Gray's-inn-square, Dec. 6.

\* This Grand Lodge, constituted in 1846, adheres also to Christian principles, it rules, however, only over nine lodges.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

The Craft is greatly indebted to you for the very full and complete report you have given of the last Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge, which was undoubtedly a meeting of such importance as to deserve and demand an able report of its discussions.

It seemed somewhat strange to me that those who felt an interest in the motion of my friend, Bro. Simpson, had not made some enquiries as to the practice of other Continental Grand Lodges besides that of Germany on the subject of a profession of the Christian Faith, and I felt impelled to address Grand Lodge for the purpose of informing it that the Grand Lodge of Sweden knows no other Masonry than that which is purely and entirely Christian. But the lateness of the hour prevented my making an explanatory speech; I therefore contented myself with the briefest possible state-

ment of the fact. I did not, however, do this in the way in which I am reported in your columns. I did not say that "Swedish Freemasonry was on the same footing as German Freemasonry," but, on the contrary, I said that whereas in Germany, as Lord Tenterden had just pointed out, the Christian qualification was an exceptional characteristic of certain lodges, in Sweden it is the universal feature of all the lodges. Jews are not admitted as candidates for initiation in any Swedish lodge; but Jewish brethren, holding the certificates of any other Grand Lodge in the world, would be received as visitors and made welcome. This being the case, I think it would have been simply impossible for the Grand Lodge of England to request its Royal Grand Master to interfere in the case of Germany, and to ignore the stronger case of Sweden, in the Grand Lodge of which country he himself still holds a very high place, and to whose Constitutions His Royal Highness still owes allegiance.

The fact of the matter is this. Freemasonry in Sweden knows but one system, viz., that of a Grand Lodge which is the governing body of all the degrees which are, or can be, worked in that country. It is not, as in England, the Grand Lodge only of the Craft, or First Three Degrees, but recognises the Knight Templar as well as the Master Mason. I am myself a Canon of the Order of the Temple, i.e., a member of the highest degree known in Swedish Masonry; if I were a layman, I should be "Knight Commander." It is their Ninth Degree; what is looked upon as the Tenth is not a working degree, but a sort of brevet rank, or honorary distinction, conferred in a chapter of the Eighth Degree. This Eighth Degree is that of Knight Templar, and it is marked by a handsome gold ring worn on the middle finger of the right hand. The King of Sweden always wears this ring; and the Swedish deputation at the installation in the Albert Hall noticed that the Prince of Wales wore it on that occasion. Now, the privilege of wearing this ring is an object of laudable ambition to every Swede who joins the Masonic body; no Swede ever dreams of becoming a Mason to stop short at the Third Degree; he looks forward to the Eighth, and to be known all over Scandinavia as a Knight Templar by his ring. Consequently it may be understood that the Jews resident in Sweden would look upon the Freemasonry of the country, of which Knight Templary is so essential and prominent a feature, as not an object for their ambition or desire.

Before closing this letter, will you allow me to ask a question? What will the English Templars say to me when I present myself at their encampments as a visitor? Will they give a brotherly recognition to one who holds the same Swedish rank as their own Grand Master, whom they admitted to that high position on (as I believe) the qualification of his Masonic rank in Sweden?

Faithfully and fraternally yours,

R. P. BENT, P.G.C.,  
Late Chaplain at Gothenburg, Sweden.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

While thanking Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G. Chaplain, right brotherly for his excellent advocacy in behalf of the motions he brought forth at the last meeting of G.L., permit me, as originator of this "German Question," to make a few remarks.

Whatever may be the original constitution of the G.L. of the Three Globes, if it is not in accordance with the principles of true Freemasonry it is not a right and lawful system.

That it is not in accordance with the principles of true Freemasonry will be acknowledged by every Freemason who has in his heart the words of the first chapter of our Book of Constitutions, namely: "Let a man's religion or mode of worship be what it may, he is not excluded from the Order."

The question therefore arises, can G.L. of England admit an official representative of the G.L. of the Three Globes, or any other G.L. which is as unlawful as that? (compare Lord Zetland's declaration as reported in Bro. Simpson's speech in the *Freemason* of 8th Dec., page 528, 3rd column.)

It cannot admit such a one until the Book of Constitutions of that G.L. of the Three Globes is revised according to the principles of true Freemasonry.

That it can be revised, is shown very clearly indeed by the revision of the Book of Constitutions made by the G.L. of Royal York of Friendship, when a similar obnoxious clause to that in question was repealed.

While admiring the wisdom of our M.W. Pro G.M., the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, not to "hurry to a decision that evening," I hope that G.L. will at its next meeting carry the motions two and three of Bro. Simpson, as it has done with motion one.

Yours fraternally,

S. STRAUSS,  
Chaplain of Harmony, 600.

#### THE GRAND ORIENT AND THE GRAND LODGES OF SCOTLAND AND IRELAND.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I have been favoured from the Grand Orient of France with two letters (copies) one addressed to the Hon. Bro. Hyde Clarke, London, and the other to the Ill. Bro., E. Borough, Dublin, and as I think that they are important documents respecting the action lately taken by the Grand Orient of France, I have translated them, and beg you to insert them in your next publication.

Yours fraternally,

J. T. LOTH, 33°.  
P.M. and G. St.—Representative  
of the Grand Orient of France  
at the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

A.L.G.D.G.A.D. L'Univ.  
GRAND ORIENT OF FRANCE.

O. de Paris, 14th November, 1877.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I hasten to reply to your letter of the 10th inst. The Grand Orient of France have not abolished the Masonic formula, "To the glory of the Great Architect of the Universe," as you appear to believe, still less have they made profession of Atheism. In their General Assembly of September, 1877, they purely and simply proclaimed absolute liberty of conscience as a right belonging to every man; and out of respect for this liberty they expunged from their constitution a dogmatic formula, which seemed to a great majority of their members to be in contradiction with liberty of conscience itself. I see by your letter, and by the resolution of the Grand Lodge of Ireland of which you apprise me, that this modification of their Constitution by the Grand Orient of France has unfortunately been misunderstood and badly interpreted abroad. I believe it would be otherwise if they would give themselves the trouble to take cognizance of the discussions upon this question, which took place in our General Assemblies of September 1876 and 1877.\*

From the date of foundation until 1849, the Grand Orient of France had thrived and prospered without formulating in their code any dogmatic creed. They, in common with the founders of the Order, understood that Freemasonry should remain, in every state, a neutral ground, to which men of all opinions could be admitted, and should there be respected, and on which all honourable men, without distinction of nationalities, religions, races, or colour, could shake hands.

In 1849, under the influence of peculiar circumstances, which I have neither to vindicate nor qualify in this letter, the Grand Orient of France departed, at least in appearance, from this broad basis of ideas and principles; they then inscribed, for the first time, in their fundamental law, a dogmatic affirmation, which, since that period, has never ceased to cause confusion in their ranks.

In 1877, in the plenitude of their rights, and after a profound study of the question, being desirous of putting an end to so regrettable a state of affairs, they returned to their original starting point. By proclaiming absolute liberty of conscience they placed themselves in accord with the original laws of Masonry, with modern ideas, with progress; they showed themselves humane and tolerant in the face of inhumanity and intolerance, that is all.

Will the Grand Lodge of Ireland and the Great Masonic Powers of the Globe attribute to them as a crime this return to the pure sources of the institution? I do not think so, I cannot believe it, because I suppose them just and intelligent and animated by fraternal sentiments; and if I were charged to appeal to them, before all I should address myself to the Grand Lodge of Ireland, for, better than any other, they should know the value of liberty of conscience and have the highest appreciation of it.

Such, dear Sir and Brother, are the reflections which your letter suggests to me. However incomplete they may be, I am sure they will suffice to put you on your guard against the errors disseminated respecting the latest labours of the Grand Orient of France, and you will shortly receive the official report of these labours, by which alone you can form a sound judgment on the question.

Accept, dear Sir and Brother, the assurance of the sentiments with which I have the honour to remain,

Yours fraternally  
(Signed) THEVENOT,  
Chief Secretary.

To the Hon. Bro. Hyde Clarke, London.

A.L.G.D.G.A.D. L'Univ.  
GRAND ORIENT OF FRANCE.

Cabinet of the President, Council of the Order,  
O. of Paris, 28th November, 1877.

Sir and Very Illustrious Brother,—

We have received the letter informing us that you resign the representation of the Grand Orient of France at the Grand Lodge of Ireland. Your determination, it seems, is based upon the circumstances that the Grand Lodge of Ireland have decided, not only to break off all connection with the Grand Orient of France, but also that they should address a circular to the lodges of their jurisdiction, inviting them to refuse our Freemasons admission to their lodges. It would appear that this decision, which has not been notified to us, was taken in consequence of certain modifications made in our statutes by the last General Assembly of the Grand Orient of France.

While formally accepting your resignation, Sir and Very Illustrious brother, we cannot refrain from expressing our surprise and regret at the precipitation wherewith the Grand Lodge of Ireland have acted in this matter, without even having sought official information respecting the considerations which gave rise to the vote of our last General Assembly. In those proceedings, permit me to observe, there is a forgetfulness of the sentiments of Masonic fraternity, which, we are persuaded, will strike you, as it has done us, and in any case it is painful for us to note such an act of intolerance on the part of a Masonic power with which the Grand Orient of France have for so long a period maintained fraternal relations. In this letter I shall not endeavour to demonstrate to you how much the Grand Lodge of Ireland have been mistaken in their construction of the vote of our last Assembly. That is a duty which I hold in reserve until such time as the Grand Orient of France shall have received notice of the regrettable decision you mention. Let it suffice for me to affirm that, in modifying an article of their statutes the Grand Orient of France by no means intended to make profession either of atheism or of materialism, as would seem to be understood. No alteration has been made either in the principles or in the practice of Masonry;

and French Freemasonry remains what it has always been, a fraternal and tolerant brotherhood, which respects the religious faith and political convictions of its adepts, and leaves in these delicate questions to each one the liberty of his conscience. Labouring, as it does, with a view to the moral and intellectual perfecting of men and to their well-being, it requires of those who desire to be admitted to its fold those sentiments of honesty and love of good which permit of their co-operating usefully in its work of progress and civilisation.

We think, Sir and Very Illustrious Brother, that these are the true precepts inculcated by Freemasonry, and we should be much surprised if they did not dwell in the hearts of all Freemasons of every land, to whatsoever rite they may belong.

In conclusion, Sir and Very Illustrious Brother, we express our most sincere wish that the misunderstanding which constrained you to resign your office of representative of Grand Orient of France may disappear, and that we may once more be permitted to entrust you with that mission to the Grand Lodge of Ireland.

Accept, Sir and Very Illustrious Brother, the assurance,  
&c., &c.

(Signed) DE ST. JEAN,  
The President of the Council of the Order,  
For exact copy (Signed) THEVENOT,  
Chief Secretary,

To the Very Ill. Bro. Edward Borough, Dublin.

\* Bulletin of the Grand Orient of France, October, No., 1876, pages 373 to 409, and September No., 1877, pages 236 250.

#### THE COSMO.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

A pamphlet entitled "A Masonic Mistake" has come into my hands, and induced me to write a few lines to you. It appears to me that such a communication, which apparently intended as a "trade circular," is neither very courteous nor very amiable, and is entirely inconsistent with the true principles and real teaching of Freemasonry.

It is, in fact, a deliberate attack from some interested individual on your publisher, and his useful and valuable Cosmopolitan Calendar.

Even supposing that such hostile criticism is justified, I think it right to say this. Every one knows that in a compilation of such magnitude as the "Cosmopolitan" errors of various kinds must creep in, even with the best intentions in the world, and with the utmost care of comparison and compilation. I note, for instance, that even in our excellent Grand Lodge Calendar, published under official authority, there are no less than twenty-three errors in the days of meeting of eighty-six lodges, and nine errors of the same kind in regard to thirty-five chapters. So far as regards this province very few chapters meet more than four times a year, but the "Calendar" does not mention the months of meeting. I have carefully compared the dates given in Grand Lodge "Calendar," as "corrected from the books of the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter," with the small Calendar compiled by the Prov. Grand Secretary of East Lancashire, the dates of which I have verified in many instances. This I think proves how very difficult it is to arrive at entire accuracy in detail.

I also observe that Grand Chapter is said to have voted a sum of money to the sufferers from the fire at St. John, New Brunswick, in 1879. Of course it will be said that this is a mere mistake of the printer's devil. But don't you keep one at the office of the *Freemason*? And cannot you throw the blame of any errors or omissions in the "Cosmopolitan" on his guilty shoulders?

Were it not for the "Cosmo," how could I learn anything about the Mark, the K.T., the Rose Croix, or any of the higher degrees, for some of which I hold a great veneration, the meetings which I am always anxious to be present at, in the course of one's wanderings? Your "Cosmo" has rarely misled me, either in England or on the Continent, and I must bear my record to its value as being what it professes to be, in addition to its giving the greatest amount of information for the money, and as quite reliable, in every way. I am, dear Sir and Brother,

Yours fraternally, SENIOR DEACON.

#### THE "NATIONAL REFORMER."

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I see in the *National Reformer*, a letter addressed to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales respecting the Grand Orient of France and the Grand Lodge of England. The only answer which the epistle requires is, I think—"A Mason is obliged, by his tenure, to obey the moral law; and if he rightly understand the art he will never be a stupid atheist, nor an irreligious libertine. He, of all men, should best understand that God seeth not as man seeth. Let a man's religion or mode of worship be what it may, he is not excluded from the Order, provided he believe in the glorious Architect of Heaven and Earth and practise the sacred duties of morality."

I am, yours fraternally,

AN ENGLISH MASON.

P.S.—English Masons are not unprepared for the fight, as threatened somewhat in the *National Reformer*.

The London *Freemason* has been enlarged to twenty pages—weekly. This is one of the best, if not the best, Masonic periodical of the day. There is an immense amount of reading matter in its pages, and the leading articles are ably written. We are indebted to the *Freemason* for items of English Masonic news.—*The Canadian Craftsman*, Nov. 15th, 1877.

CONSECRATION OF THE HAMMERSMITH MARK LODGE NO. 211.

On Saturday last another lodge, with the above title, was added to the roll of the rapidly increasing Mark Degree. The brethren began to assemble at the Windsor Castle Hotel, King-street, Hammersmith, at 3 o'clock, but the ceremony did not commence until after 4 o'clock, when there were present amongst others, a very goodly and distinguished array of Grand and Provincial Grand Officers. We noticed Bros. Binckes, Grand Secretary; Stevens, P.G.J.O.; Levander, G.R.; Mann, P.G.R.; Wilkins, G.S.O.; Cottebrune, P.G.S.B.; Cozens, P.G. Organist; Poore, G.I.G.; H. Binckes, Assist. G. Sec.; Tebb, P.G.S.W., Midx. and Surrey; Shackleton, P.G.D.C., of the same province; Thiellay, W.M. No. 1; Horsley, M. No. 1, 32; Dixon, P.M. 32; Holmes, P.M. 107; ois and Williams, St. Mark's Lodge; Harty, Bon Ac-Lodge; Davies, 16, Ottawa; Loewenstark, 86; Barney, Adams, 176. The founders present were Bros. J. son, Thistle; Baldwin, Lebanon Lodge; T. C. Walls, Francis Burdett, all P.G.O.'s of the Craft in Middlesex; F. Walters, a P.G. Officer of the Mark Degree; Dunham Thistle; D. Smith. The officer appointed by the M.W.G.M. to conduct the ceremonies of consecration and installation was Bro. F. Binckes, G.S., who appointed Bros. Stevens as S.W.; W. Mann, J.W.; Wilkins, D.C.; and Poore, I.G., as his assistants. There being no Chaplain present, the G.S. delivered a short but telling address as a substitute for the usual oration. The impressive and beautiful ceremony was then carried out in its entirety by the Consecrating Officer. In certain parts of the ceremonial Bros. Cottebrune, Levander, and Cozens rendered valuable assistance. The W.M. designate, Bro. Mason, was then duly installed, and having invested Bros. Baldwin and Walls, the S. and J. Wardens designate, was about to appoint his officers when it was reported that the R.W.P.G.M. Middlesex and Surrey, Lieut.-Colonel Burdett, had arrived. A procession having been formed, that gallant and genial officer and distinguished Mason was duly and formally escorted into the lodge, and saluted in ancient form. The investiture of the officers was then resumed, Bros. Dunham being appointed M.O.; Harty, S.O. (pro. tem.); F. Walters, Sec.; Smith, Assist. Secretary. A vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Binckes for the manner in which he had carried out the dual ceremonial, and it was ordered to be entered on the minutes. Bros. Colonel Burdett, F. Binckes, H. Binckes, Stevens, Levander, Mann, Wilkins, Poore, and others whose names we could not catch, were elected honorary members. A number of propositions for advancement and joining having been given, the lodge was closed, and after a somewhat wearisome interval the brethren re-assembled at the banquet table. By this time the number of the visitors had been swelled by the arrival amongst others of Bro. Sabine, P.G.A.D.C. At the conclusion of the repast, which reflected great credit upon the caterer, Bro. Gilbert, the W.M. gave the customary royal and Mark toasts, which were received with excellent "fire." The name of Colonel Burdett having been mentioned in connection with the Grand Officers, that R.W. brother arose and said that it afforded him great pleasure to reply. The present members of Grand Lodge, he said, were not only always ready, but they were in every respect capable of discharging any duty that they might be called upon to do, but of himself for obvious reasons he would say nothing. He had visited one of the oldest Mark Lodges the previous evening namely, the Thistle, and he was pleased to have seen one of its members installed into the chair of the newest lodge in the Order that day. It was also very gratifying to him to find that the degree was on the increase both in London and in the provinces. As the Grand Master of Middlesex and Surrey, he was proud of the rapid growth they had made in Mark Masonry, and he ventured to predict they would eventually become the chief strongholds of the Order, and he should always endeavour to further the good cause as long as he had the honour of presiding over the destinies of the united Provinces. In conclusion he thanked them for electing him an honorary member. "The Health of the W.M." was proposed by Bro. Binckes, G.S., who stated on rising that he had been requested to do so by the P.G.M. of Middlesex and Surrey, which compliment conferred upon him by the gallant colonel he highly appreciated. The founders of the Hammersmith Lodge had made a wise selection in nominating Bro. Mason as first Master. This lodge was also established under very auspicious circumstances. He had no idea that Mark Masonry would have taken the lead in Hammersmith, but such was the case, for they were, he was informed, the pioneers of a coming Craft lodge to be held in that very house. He was pleased to meet there that day the R.W. Bro. Colonel Burdett, whose zeal in all Masonic matters was unremitting. In installing Bro. Mason into the chair he had performed a very pleasing duty, because he was as good a man and brother as possibly could be found to preside over the destinies of any lodge. When their W.M. did him, the speaker, the great honour of asking him to consecrate their lodge, subject to the approval of the M.W.G.M., he determined that nothing should be wanting on his part to render it a great success, and he was gratified to think that everything had passed off so well. In conclusion, the Grand Secretary complimented the lodge upon possessing two good Wardens, whose interest in Masonry was widely known, and a most indefatigable Secretary in the person of Bro. Fred. Walters, who, in writing to him upon the prospects of No. 211 had forcibly stated, "We mean to make the Hammersmith Mark Lodge a great success." He heartily echoed their Secretary's words, and further wished them every happiness and every prosperity, and hoped that the interests of the Order would not suffer at their hands. The W.M. made an excellent and humorous reply, which space prevents our giving in detail. "The In-

stalling Master" followed, and gave Bro. Binckes, in reply, an opportunity of touching at length upon various matters connected with the Order, and which were listened to with great attention by the brethren. "The Visitors" came next, and having been coupled with the name of Bro. Charles Horsley, that veteran Mason made a terse but pertinent response. The W.M. in proposing the health of "The Officers," congratulated himself and the members generally upon having such good working brethren as Bros. Baldwin, Walls, Walters, Dunham, and Harty, occupying the principal positions in the lodge. Bros. Baldwin and Walters having briefly replied, the Tyler was called upon to discharge his duty and the brethren separated.

During the proceedings Bros. Cozens, Walls, and others instrumentally and vocally entertained the brethren. The first regular meeting of the lodge will be held on the third Saturday in January next.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF LINCOLNSHIRE.

The third annual meeting of this lodge was held at Alford on Thursday, 20th November, under the banner of the St. Wilfrid Lodge, No. 209. The proceedings of the day commenced at 11.15 a.m., by the consecration of the St. Wilfrid Lodge, the ceremony of consecration being performed by Bro. Binckes, Grand Secretary, in his usual perfect style.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was presided over by the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master Mason, Bro. John Sutcliffe, of Stalingbro' House, near Grimsby, and a large number of distinguished Master Masons were present, amongst whom were the R.W. Bro. John Sutcliffe, Prov. G.M.M.; Bros. W. Watkins, P.P.G.S.W., as Deputy Prov. G.M.M.; R. Cotton Carline, Prov. G. Reg., as Prov. G.S.W.; W. W. Copeland, Prov. J.W.; F. Higgins, as Prov. G.M.O.; M. Crowden, Prov. G.S.O.; J. E. Mason, as Prov. J.O.; the Rev. D. Ace, D.D., P.P.G. Chap., as Prov. Chap.; Jack Sutcliffe, Prov. Treas.; Robt. Gough, Prov. Sec.; T. A. Handsley, as Prov. S.D.; C. Brookes, as Prov. J.D.; W. H. Roberts, Prov. D. of C.; Hasten Clark, as Prov. Asst. D. of C.; H. S. Close, Prov. Sup. of W.; G. M. Lowe, M.O., Prov. Sword B.; C. W. Cheesman, as Prov. Organist; F. C. Johnson, as Prov. I.G.; Geo. Motley, Prov. Steward; W. H. Parkinson, Prov. Steward; Charles Mann, Prov. Tyler; W. H. Radley, P.P.G.S.W.; F. S. Judd, P.P.G. Assist. D. of C.; Thos. Slater, P.P.G. Sword Bearer; T. M. Wilkinson, S.O. Remigius, 117; J. E. Fox, Sec. Remigius, 117; R. Goodman, P.P.G.D. of C., W.M. John-of-Gaunt, 172; J. Loughton, S.O. John-of-Gaunt, 172; C. F. Liversidge, S.D. John-of-Gaunt, 172; B. Box, Tyler John-of-Gaunt, 172; W. Marshall, P.P.G. Steward, W.M. Sutcliffe, 188; Geo. Lister, S.D. Sutcliffe, 188; R. Boggett, Past M.O., 188; Henry Barker, Sec., 188; Henry Wardale, Tyler, 188; John Nelson, 188; C. Genney, 188; Charles Smyth, S.W., 209; R. Garfit, J.W., 209; W. O. Taylor, 209; Edward Soulbey, 209; John Mawer, 209; C. Mason, 209; C. H. Bycroft, 209; W. N. Mason, 209; R. Lanphier, 209.

The visitors were the V.W. Bro. F. Binckes, Past G.J.W. Grand Sec.; Bros. Martin Kemp, P.M. 182; Henry Preston, J.W. 182; M. Haberland, 182.

The Prov. Grand Secretary read the following list of brethren from whom letters had been received, regretting their non-attendance:—Bros. James Terry, C. Harrison, M.D., Jno. N. Scherling, Walter Reynolds, A. Kirk, F. Watson, C. Scorer, H. Watson, Hesketh Smith, P. P. Dickinson, Geo. Housham, T. E. Jacobson, Jno. Moxon, W. Pollitt, T. C. Lazenby, the Rev. J. G. Bayles, W. M. Green, S. Walmsley, Captain Coates, the Rev. B. A. Galland, M.A.

The usual routine of a Provincial Grand Lodge having been gone through, and the officers for the ensuing year invested, the R.W. Prov. G.M.M.M. then called upon the brethren for one to volunteer to undertake the office of Grand Steward, which office W. Bro. D. Ace, D.D., P.P.G. Chaplain, undertook.

The Treasurer's accounts having been previously submitted and passed, and found in a healthy state, there being a balance of over £30 in hand, the R.W. Prov. G.M.M.M. said for his part he had always been opposed to Masonic lodges hoarding up money. He thought it was far more desirable to circulate it for the benefit of distressed Masons, and he suggested that a portion should be voted to strengthen the Mark Benevolent Fund, and on the motion of Bro. Dr. Ace the sum of £10 10s. was so voted. The Prov. G. Master subsequently added £5 5s. to this, and Bro. R. Boggett volunteered to undertake the office of Steward at the Mark Benevolent Festival, which is usually held in May in each year.

The R. W. Prov. G.M. appointed and invested the following brethren as the Prov. Grand Officers for the ensuing year:—

- Charles Harrison, M.D., 117 ..... D.P.G.M.M.M.
G. M. Lowe, M.D., 117 ..... Prov. G.S.W.
W. Marshall, 188 ..... Prov. G.J.W.
R. Goodman, 172 ..... Prov. G.M.O.
R. Boggett, 188 ..... Prov. G.S.O.
Charles Smyth, 209 ..... Prov. G.J.O.
Jack Sutcliffe, 188 ..... Prov. G. Treas.
R. Cotton Carline, 117 ..... Prov. G. Reg. of M.
R. Gough, 188 ..... Prov. G. Sec.
F. M. Wilkinson, 117 ..... Prov. G.S.D.
C. F. Liversidge, 172 ..... Prov. G.J.D.
W. H. Roberts, 188 ..... Prov. G.D.C.
Hasten Clark, 188 ..... Prov. G. Asst. D.C.
Robert Garfit, 209 ..... Prov. G. Sup. of W.
T. C. Johnson, 209 ..... Prov. G.S.B.
Geo. Motley, 172 ..... Prov. G. St. B.

- Frederick Higgins, 209 ..... Prov. G. Org.
John Nelson, 188 ..... Prov. G.I.G.
J. E. Fox, 117; John Loughton, 172;
Henry Barker, 188; J. Eardley
Mason, 209 ..... Prov. G. Stewards.
Charles Mann, 117 ..... Prov. G. Tyler.

The R.W. Prov. G.M. exceedingly regretted that Bro. the Rev. B. A. Galland, the W.M. of the St. Wilfrid Lodge, was unable to be present through illness, and in his absence appointed him Prov. Grand Chaplain, and deputed Bro. Smyth, the S.W. of the St. Wilfrid Lodge, to invest him to that office.

Before closing the lodge, the R.W. Prov. G.M.M.M. stated that in routine the lodge will be held at the fine old city of Lincoln next year, on which occasion he expected to have a most numerous and popular gathering. The Masons of Lancashire—his native county—had done him high honour, and he had in return invited the R.W. Prov. Grand M.M.M. for Lancashire, with all his present officers, to honour Lincoln with a visit, and he fully expected they would do so, when he, with the Lincolnshire brethren, could acknowledge his obligations, and give them a hearty reception, such as Masons know how to give.

A magnificent banquet was served at the White Horse Hotel to between fifty and sixty brethren, guests of the Prov. Grand Mark Mason, Bro. Sutcliffe, who occupied the chair. There was also a liberal supply of choice wines to add zest to the repast and to the loyal and Masonic toasts which followed. The menu comprised the various edibles in season, including a plentiful supply of game, and the bounteous provision elicited the personal thanks of Bro. Sutcliffe to Host Hibbit. During dinner the founder of the feast took wine respectively with the brethren on the right and the left, and with the St. Wilfrid Lodge. In proceeding with the toast list before the tables were cleared,

The Chairman apologetically remarked that the time was getting very valuable and very precious, as some brethren had to leave in a short time for their homeward journey, and he must therefore call upon Dr. Ace for the usual prayer after meat.

Grace having been said, The Chairman loyally called upon the brethren to join him in drinking the toast of "The Queen and Mark Masoary," which was followed by the singing of the National Anthem.

The Chairman then said the next toast he had to propose would meet with a hearty response, namely, "His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales," who was at the head of Masonry, and not only that, but as the Heir Apparent to the throne they should drink his health, and also that of "The Princess of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family." (God bless the Prince of Wales.)

The Chairman, without any delay, proceeded to say that the next toast he had to propose for their approval was that of "The M.W. the Earl of Limerick, the Grand Mark Master Mason; The Provincial Grand Masters of other Mark Provinces; and all Grand and Provincial Grand Officers Present and Past." It was a routine toast, but still a compliment which it was incumbent upon them to pay to the head of their institution. They had looked to the Earl of Limerick with a great amount of interest for the moveable Grand Lodge which he had promised to hold in this district in the autumn of the present year, but after many attempts Bro. Binckes had failed, for the Earl was so engaged that he could not attend. He coupled with the toast the name of Bro. Binckes, Grand Secretary.

Bro. Binckes, in responding, remarked that the Right Worshipful Master had imposed upon him a heavy duty to discharge, because it was a very comprehensive toast. They started with the Most Worshipful Master who held the reins over this province—the Earl of Limerick, to whom their Right Worshipful Master Sutcliffe had made a happy allusion, but he did not know that it was from the reason named that the Earl did not hold a moveable Grand Lodge, because he was in Ireland, and had engagements there, and from one cause or another the Moveable Grand Lodge fell through. Speaking of the selection of Provincial Grand Officers, he said it was exceedingly difficult to make a selection without giving offence where the qualifications of all were so equal. But they could always make themselves happy under disappointment. (Hear, hear.) They lived in the hope that the day would come when the merits of each individual brother would be acknowledged. There were two estimates of every man—the one formed of himself and the other formed by other people, and he thought the estimate formed by other people was the most correct. (Hear, hear.) With reference to himself he was exceedingly happy to be once more amongst them, and exceedingly pleased to see such a good attendance, so ably presided over as they were by their Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Mark Master. (Applause.)

Bro. Binckes proposed "The Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Mark Master for Lincolnshire, Bro. John Sutcliffe." Had he known when responding to the last toast that this honour would have been put in his hands he should have curtailed his observations. Three years ago he had the honour of installing Bro. Sutcliffe as a Provincial Grand Officer. The honour fell to him (Bro. Binckes) by accident. He could say a good deal with regard to the distinguished brother in connection with this toast, but he need not occupy time in recounting his most valuable and good qualities, which were probably better known by those present than by himself (Bro. Binckes), although he knew something of both. He was one of the hardest Provincial Grand Masters he ever served under, and now only allowed him a minute-and-a-half to propose his health, and he must therefore call upon them by the heartiness of their reception of it to make up for the want of what he would say if he had time to say it, but he believed a better Grand Master could not be served under (applause), nor one better deserving of their best support. (Applause.) He wished him good health, that he might for many years fulfil the position he now held

and the arduous duties devolving upon him as they had seen him that day. (Great applause.)

Bro. Sutcliffe, on rising, was received with loud applause and cheering. He feelingly acknowledged the very great kindness with which the proposition of his health had been received, as proposed by Bro. Binckes, who by his splendid and eloquent flow of language expressed himself in a style which no other man scarcely could do. He (Bro. Sutcliffe) hoped to have the opportunity of meeting his brethren for some years to come (hear, hear), and they would not find much change in him. (Applause.) For their kindness he could only say he would fulfil his office in every way he could, but it was no use his being placed in the chair unless he was supported by the various lodges. He expressed himself as pleased with the satisfactory state of things in the province.

The Chairman, without resuming his seat, said he had great pleasure in proposing "The Health of the Worshipful Masters, Past Masters and all Officers and Brethren of Lodges in the Province of Lincolnshire." The lodges were all working harmoniously. They did not lose strength, but gained a little. They had at the head of their lodges four good and enthusiastic Masons. Dr. Lowe and Brother Goodman were unsurpassed by any men. Bro. Copeland, who presided over another, was one of their principal names and principal characters. For the Alford Lodge he was exceedingly pleased in submitting for their consideration a first-rate tip-top man, who would be a great ornament to the province, and he greatly regretted that he had not been present that day (the Rev. Basil A. Galland, M.A., rector of South Thoresby). With men like those they must progress. They did not want to progress rapidly; they wanted quality and not quantity. He coupled with the toast the name of Dr. Lowe.

Bro. Dr. Lowe expressed the satisfaction which the Masters of the lodges felt in their Provincial Grand Master, whom they endeavoured to imitate, and they did all they could to serve him, and, owing to him, no sooner were Masons initiated in the Craft lodge but they were anxious to join the Mark lodge. With regard to Lincoln, they were not quite so prosperous as they might be. They kept Masonry very popular, especially Mark Masonry, and before another year the lodge would be increased. He knew from the pulse of Lincoln that it would be so. The Grand Lodge would probably be held in Lincoln next year under very agreeable auspices, and they would give a good reception. He hardly expected that they should do equal justice to what they had seen that day, for he had travelled through the province and not seen it better done or better served. (Applause.)

The Chairman said the next toast under ordinary circumstances would have been the Deputy Provincial Grand Mark Master and other Provincial Officers of Lincolnshire, but they must excuse him for passing over that toast, seeing that the Lincoln and Gainsboro' brethren must depart almost immediately. He would therefore take up "The Visiting Brethren," who came from Hull, South Lincolnshire (St. Botolph's), and Bro. Binckes. He had been in the habit of seeing the Lincolnshire brethren more numerous than that day, but the geographical position of Alford was such that they could not come. But although the brethren from Hull and Boston were very few, they were glad to see them in all Mark lodges, and he hoped to have them on a future occasion. In conclusion he asked the brethren of the district to drink to the brethren of Hull, Lincoln, Boston, and Spalding, and Bro. Binckes, wishing them many years of happiness and prosperity, and coupling with the toast the names of Bro. Kemp, Bro. Radley, and Bro. Preston.

Bro. Preston (Hull) wished the Provincial Grand Mark Master every prosperity, hoping that the Mark Degree would prosper. The brethren from Yorkshire had great pleasure in meeting him on this occasion.

Bro. Radley (Boston) expressed his gratitude for the opportunity of observing the working of a Mark lodge. Although on the "black list," they of the St. Botolph's Lodge not being able to work a Mark lodge in a high degree, they would have liked to do so. They came there because, being presided over by such a distinguished and painstaking brother, it was the least duty they could render at his hands. All his brethren then present felt their position somewhat, and he hoped the outcome would be that they should not keep out of the pale of Masonry another year, especially as the Prov. Grand Master held out to them the temptation of a meeting, which they hoped would be the best under the Mark Masonic prestige in Lincolnshire, and he would say if it was not taken up in Boston he would join some other lodge. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. Kemp, in an eloquent speech, proposed "The Masonic Charities," which he described not as charities, but as truly benevolent institutions, referring particularly to the Boys' Schools and their economical management. There were very few institutions, but some grumbling person might say there is some extravagance here, or some mismanagement there, but it could not be said of the Boys' Schools, and he would say that there was no Institution in the land that could compare with the Masonic Institutions in London. He had mentioned the name of Binckes in connection with them, but he could not possibly pass over the name of Sutcliffe. (Great applause.) Before he had the pleasure of an intimate acquaintance with their Prov. Grand Master he read of his noble doings. He did not envy the Province of Lincolnshire very much, but he envied them of their Grand Master. They had a Mark lodge in Hull—a baby one-and-a-half year old, and when compared with the lodge they had consecrated that day it showed how Mark Masonry was progressing. The Hull lodge was No. 184, and that established at Alford was 209, showing the great increase in so short a time. He hoped to have the pleasure of meeting their Provincial Grand Master for many years to come. (Hear, hear.) He was reminded

by seeing Bro. Jack Sutcliffe take office—which was not the first instance in Masonry—that he was a worthy son of a worthy sire. (Great applause.) The names of the Right Worshipful Grand Master and his son Jack, with the name of Binckes, would never pass away, with whom he would also mention the name of Boggett, a Mark Master at Hull, in connection with the Masonic charities.

Bro. Binckes, in responding, gave some particulars of the position of the Boys' and Girls' Schools, which had £40,000 funded property. They were not hearing up all their income for posterity, but had expended £3,000 to £3,500 in enlarging the Boys' Schools and had increased the number from 140 to 180. His brother Jack Sutcliffe, whose name had been associated with his good father's noble deeds, and whose efforts in the future would be in excess of those that had gone before, would find a most genial occupation in providing for aged Freemasons, thereby on the one hand supporting them in their closing years, and in the other case starting them in life with that education which all wished to start with.

Bro. Jack Sutcliffe observed that after such a brilliant speaker as Bro. Binckes it was difficult for him to gain their attention. He failed to see how his name could be connected with the Masonic charities, because he had done very little in comparison with other active Masons. He had done something in the Craft and Mark lodges, and went up to London well satisfied with his position in respect to other lodges. He was nobly and well entertained, and in a manner which afforded him great gratification. He was introduced to many brethren whose acquaintance it was an honour to have. What little he had done for the Masonic charities he had done with great pleasure indeed. His heart was with the great Masonic movement, and if they wished him to continue in the position he now held he should endeavour to increase what he had hitherto done. (Applause.)

Bro. Boggett (Hull) also responded, remarking that when they went up with their lists they were not second. (The Provincial Grand Mark Master: "And you shall not be second this year.") He was going to represent the Lincolnshire Province of Mark Masons, and he hoped the brethren in the Mark Degree would assist him. He had the promise from one brother of 5 gs., and if he wanted more he was to go again. Last year Bro. Sutcliffe sent him 5 gs., and this year he hoped to have the name of every officer in the Sutcliffe Lodge—every officer in the county. He hoped to have the biggest list at the Mark Festival.

Bro. Copeland said he had a toast to propose that did not appear in the list. It was the practice of Masonry to recognise merit where merit was due, and the brother that he had to bring before their notice had merit as his peculiar forte. He was a brother who had served very long and very arduously in this province, namely, "Bro. Grand Secretary Gough." (Applause.) They all knew, especially those who were first connected with this province, the very great amount of work that Bro. Gough had to perform. (Hear, hear.) He deserved their thanks for what he had done in the lodge and in the province. That was all they could do at present, but he hoped at some future time some further recognition would be forthcoming. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. P.G.M.M. Sutcliffe: Before this toast is submitted to you I must say that Bro. Gough has been laid and man with me, and he is my book-keeper. He has only one senior in our establishment. He has my full trust as a book-keeper, and he has my full confidence as a Mason. He not only discharges his duties as a servant, but he discharges his duties as a Mason. (Applause.)

Bro. Gough thanked the P.G.M.M. and all present very much for drinking his health, the proposal of which had come upon him unexpectedly. As most of them were aware, talking was not his forte, and as to the working part he left them to be the judges, thanking them for their confidence.

The Chairman then proposed a toast which he said ought to bring a smile over the faces of all brethren, namely, "The Ladies." It was a toast which was often brought before a meeting as a matter of mere routine, being placed sometimes in the hands of some young butterfly who did not know anything about it—(laughter)—who did not know how to propose it. However, as an old married man, and the father of a family he could say they were a great comfort and solace, as the brethren would feel when they arrived at his time of life. In our youth we enjoyed their society, and they administered to our comforts in many respects as married men, and in our old age they had to be our nurses. He did not know what his home would be without his wife—his good old wife, who at that time would be very anxious and wondering how "John" was getting on. (Laughter.) She would be saying to herself, "Now will he come home cross or pleased?" (Laughter.) But in a general way he went home from a Masonic meeting in a much better temper than from elsewhere. (Applause.) Therefore he had very great pleasure in proposing the health of "The Ladies." Young and old admired them and loved them. He coupled with it the health of the Provincial Grand Organist, Bro. Higgins.

Bro. Higgins felt the difficulty of his position in this case, for he as a bachelor could not tell what the ladies would wish to say under such trying circumstances. He considered that married Masons occupied a more difficult position than bachelors, for they might be assured that when they went home they were put through a most trying ordeal, and if they did not give satisfactory answers think of their faces, and think of their tongues. (Laughter.) They bachelors had no such trying questions put to them. Still the ladies would be only too glad to second his poor efforts in returning thanks for them.

The Chairman having proposed, "All poor and distressed Masons," the proceedings were brought to a conclusion by the usual parting toast.

## METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS

For the Week ending Friday, December 21, 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 day of meeting.

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15.

Lodge 1364, Earl of Zetland, Old Town Hall, Hackney.  
" 1641, Crichton, 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, DECEMBER 17.

Lodge 1, Grand Masters, F.M.H.  
" 8, British, F.M.H.  
" 21, Emulation, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.  
" 185, Tranquillity, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.  
" 193, Confidence, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.  
" 720, Panmure, Balham Hot., Balham.  
" 862, Whittington, F.M.H.  
" 901, City of London, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.  
" 1319, Asaph, F.M.H.  
Chap. 12, Prudence, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.

#### LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.  
Strong Man, Old Rodney's Head, Old-st., E.  
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.  
St. George's, Globe Tav., Greenwich.  
London Masonic Club, at 101, Queen Victoria-st. E.C.,  
2nd and 4th Monday every month, at 6 o'clock.

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18.

Board of Gen. Purposes.  
Lodge 30, United Mariners, Guildhall Tav.  
" 73, Mount Lebanon, Brid. Hou. Ho., London-bdg.  
" 95, Eastern Star, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.  
" 162, Cadogan, F.M.H.  
" 435, Salisbury, F.M.H.  
" 857, St. Marks, S.M.H.  
" 1339, Stockwell, S.M.H.  
" 1695, New Finsbury Park, Seven Sisters Tav., N.  
Chap. 11, Enoch, F.M.H.  
" 19, Mount Sinai, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.  
Rose Croix, Canterbury, 33, Golden-sq.

#### 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.  
Florence Nightingale, F.M.H., William-st., Woolwich.  
Constitutional, Bedford Hot., Southampton Bdg. at 7.  
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, 23, Gresham-st.  
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.  
Mount Edgecombe, 19, Jermyn-st., St. James's.

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19.

Lodge of Benevolence.  
" 700, Nelson, M.H., William-st., Woolwich.  
" 969, Maybury, Inns of Court Hot., Lincoln's-inn.  
" 1349, Friars, Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars.  
" 1382, Corinthian, George Hot., Millwall Docks.  
" 1507, Metropolitan, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.  
" 1624, Eccleston, Grosvenor Hall, Ebury-st., S.W.  
" 1673, Langton, 101, Queen Victoria-st.

#### LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Confidence, Railway Tav., Railway-place, Fenchurch-st.  
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.  
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, at 8.  
Lewis, King's Arms Hot., Wood Green.  
Royal Jubilee, 81, Long Acre.  
Langthorne, Swan Hot., Stratford.

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20.

House Com. Girls' School, at 4.  
Lodge 49, Gihon, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.  
" 169, Temperance, White Swan, Deptford.  
" 179, Manchester, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.  
" 813, New Concord, Rosemary Branch, Hoxton.  
" 1139, South Norwood, Public Hall, South Norwood.  
" 1287, Great Northern, F.M.H.  
" 1475, Peckham, Surrey M.H.  
Chap. 79, Pythagorean, Ship Hot., Greenwich.

Mark Bon Accord, 2, Red Lion-sq., W.
7, Carnarvon, 68, Regent-st., W.
Encamp. E., Observance, 14, Bedford Row.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Chatham Arms, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
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., Millbank.
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, DECEMBER 21.

House Com. Boys' School, at 4.
Lodge 6, Friendship, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.
201, Jordan, F.M.H.
Encamp. 6, St. George's, Albion, Aldersgate-st.
Rose Croix, Invicta, 33, Golden-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
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., at 7.
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.
William Preston, Feathers Tav., Up. George-st., Edgware-rd.
Hervey, 99, Fleet-street, at 8.
Earl of Carnarvon, Mitre Ho., Goulborne-rd., Notting-hill.
Pythagorean Chapter, Portland Ho., London-st., Greenwich.
Sir Hugh Myddelton, 25, King Edward-st., Liverpool-rd., N.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, December 22, 1877.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 17.

Lodge 613, Unity, Palatine-Buildings, Southport.
703, Clifton, Clifton Arms, Blackpool.
1502, Israel, M.H., Liverpool.
Chap. 32, Jerusalem, M.H., Liverpool.
Everton L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18.

Lodge 667, Alliance, M.H., Liverpool.
897, St. Helen's Loyalty, Fleece Inn, St. Helen's.
986, Hesketh, Grapes Inn, Croston.
1225, Hindpool, Hartington Hot., Barrow.
1256, Fidelity, Bull Hot., Poulton-le-Fylde.
1276, Warren, Stanley Arms, Seacombe.
1325, Stanley, M.H., Liverpool.
1570, Prince Arthur, M.R., N. Hill-st., Liverpool.
Merchants L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
Boole L. of I., 146, Berry-st., Bootle.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19.

Lodge 86, Loyalty, Crown Hot., Prescot.
448, Faith, Gerard's Arms, Ashton-in-Makerfield.
537, Zetland, M.R., Birkenhead.
580, Harmony, Wheat Sheaf, Ormskirk.
758, Ellesmere, M.H., Runcorn.
823, Everton, M.H., Liverpool.
1061, Triumph, M.H., Lytham.
1086, Walton, St. Lawrence's School, Kirkdale.
1345, Victoria, Cross Keys Hot., Eccles.
1553, Duke of Lancaster, Athenæum, Lancaster.
De Grey and Ripon L. of I., M.R., N. Hill-st., L'pool.
Downshire, do., M.H., Liverpool.
Mark Lodge, 31, Fidelity, Norfolk Arms, Hyde.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20.

Lodge 203, Ancient Union, M.H. Liverpool.
342 Concord, Militia Rooms, Preston.
425, Cestrian, Eastgate-row, Chester.
905, Combermere, Seacombe Hot., Seacombe.
950, Hesketh, Royal Hot., Fleetwood.
1032, Townley Parker, Howard's Arms, Whittle.
1070, Starkie, Black Horse Hot., Kirkham.
1299, Pembroke, Rawlinson's Hot., W. Derby.
1576, Dec, Union Hot., Papkgate.
St. John's L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
Duke of Edinburgh L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
Harmonic L. of I., Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21.

Hamer L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EAST LANCASHIRE. For the Week ending December 22, 1877.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 17.

Lodge 1030, Egerton, George Hot., Heaton Norris.
1170, St George, F.M.H., Manchester.
467, Tutor, Red Lion Hot., Oldham.
Chap. 345, Perseverance, Old Bull Hot., Blackburn.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18.

Lodge 126, Silent Temple, Cross Keys Inn, Burnley.
1052, Callender, F.M.H., Manchester.
1534, Concord, George Hot., Prestwich.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19.

Lodge 128, Prince Edwin, Bridge Inn, Bury.
221, St. John, Commercial Hot., Bolton.
277, Friendship, F.M.H. Oldham.
325, St. John's, F.M.H., Salford.
581, Faith, Drover's Inn, Openshaw.
633, Yarborough, F.M.H., Manchester.
1129, St. Chad, Roebuck Hot., Rochdale.
1161, De Grey & Ripon, Corporation Hot., Ardwick.
1218, Prince Alfred, Commercial Hot., Mossley.
1634, Starkie, Railway Hot., Ramsbottom.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20.

Lodge 42, Relief, Albion Hot., Bury.
116, Royal Lancashire, Swan Hot., Colne.
268, Union, Queen's Arms Ashton-under-Lync.
283, Amity, Swan Hot., Haslingden.
345, Perseverance, Old Bull Hot., Blackburn.
350, Charity, Grapes Inn, Stoneclough.
364, United Brethren, Royal Oak, Clayton-le-dale.
367, Probity & Freedom, Bull's Head, Rochdale.
369, Limestone Rock, M.H., Clitheroe.
462, Bank Terrace, Hargreaves Arms, Accrington.
934, Merit, Derby Hot., Whitefield.
1011, Richmond, Crown Hot., Salford.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21.

Lodge 152, Virtue, F.M.H., Manchester.
993, Alexandra, Midway Hot., Levenshulme.
For Masonic Meetings throughout Scotland see Scottish Freemason, which can be obtained at the Office of this journal, 198, Fleet-street, London.

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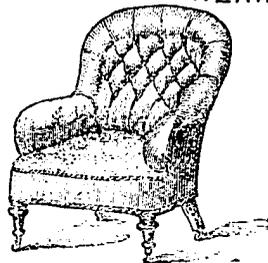
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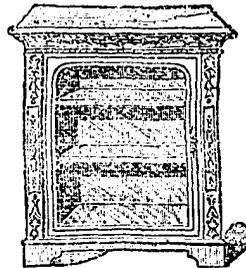


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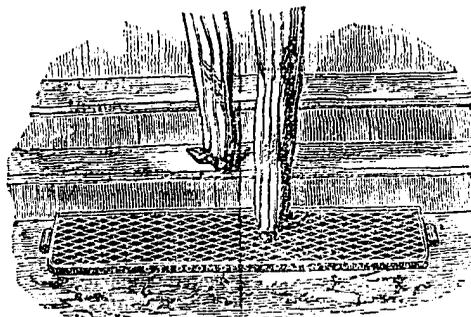
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