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ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The annual festival of this Institution was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Tavern. His Grace the Duke of Manchester, Provincial Grand Master for Northampton and Huntingdon, presided, and was supported by the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, Provincial Grand Master for Cornwall; Bros. John Hervey, Grand Sec. Samuel Tomkins, Grand Treas.; Col. Creton, C. A. Cottebrune, Thos. Cubitt, Joseph Smith, Dr. Barringer, Dr. Strong, and H. C. Levander. The Stewards were numerous, and the list comprised the names of Joseph Smith, P.G.P., President; The Rt. Hon. the Marquis of Hartington, M.P., R.W. Prov. G.M., Derbyshire, Vice-President; The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, R.W. Prov. G.M. Cornwall, Vice-President; R.W. Bro. Linstead, T. G., Dist. G.M. Hong Kong, Vice-President; V. W. Bro. Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, P.G. Chap.; W. Bros. C. Hutton Gregory, C.M.G., P.G.D., P.M. 197; Bentley Shaw, V.P., J.P., D.L., P.G.D., P.D.P.G.M.W. Yorks, Prov. G. Supt. W. Yorks, P.M. 275; W. J. Hughan, P.G.D., P.M. 131; Chas. A. Murton, P.G.D., P.M. and Sec. 83; Daniel J. Moore, M.D., P.G.S.B., P.M. 281; Butler Wilkins, D. Prov. G.M. Norths and Hunts, Prov. of Norths and Hunts; Thomas W. Tew, J.P., D. Prov. G.M. West Yorks, P.M. 910; Montagu, J.M.P., P.P.D.G.M. Dorsetshire; George Corble, Prov. G.W. Essex, P.M., 453; J. T. C. Winkfield, Prov. G.J.W. Berks and Bucks, P.M. 591, J.W. 8; E. Comp. John Palmer, V. Pat., Prov. G.W. Berks and Bucks, Z. Chap. 1348; H. Massey (Freemason); W. Bros. F. H. Wilson Iles, M.D., P.P.G.W. Herts, Prov. of Herts; William Harrison, J.P., D.L., F.S.A., P.P.G.W. East Lancashire, 113; Capt. John V. Ordsworth, V. Pat., P.P.G.W. West Yorks, P.M. 380; Henry Day, P.P.G.W. West Yorks, 208; R. H. Griffin, P.P.G.W. Norths and Hunts, P.M. 442; Capt. A. T. Perkins, J.P., P.P.G.W. Somerset, W.M. 446; James Shilcock, P.P.G.W. Herts, P.M. 449; C. A. Newham, P.P.G.W. Staffordshire, P.M. and Treas. 526; J. P. Platt, P.P.G.W. Cheshire, P.M. 537; Chas. Fitzgerald Matier, P. Dist., G.W. Greece, P.M. 645; Fredk. Wood, P.P.G.W. Essex, P.M. and Treas. 1000; W. H. Gill, J.P., P.P.G.W. West Yorks, P.M. 1019; R. Joyne Emmerson, P.P.G.W. Kent, P.M. 1206; Lieut. Col. S. Clerke, P.P.G.W. Devon, P.M. 1383; Rev. Henry Deane, B.D., Prov. G. Chap. Oxon, Sec. 357; Rev. H. J. Hatch, P.P.G. Chap. Essex, P.M. 160; E. Comp. Rev. Dr. Brette, P.P.G. Chap. Middlesex, H. Chap. 1194; W. Bros. H. J. Browne, Prov. G.R. Cambridge, S.D. 4; Fredk. West, Prov. G.R. Surrey, W.M. 1328; W. H. B. Tomlinson, J.P., P.P.G.R. West Yorks, 154; G. Davenport Pochin, P.P.G.R. West Lancashire, P.M. and Treas. 1375; W. Bros. H. C. Levander, Prov. G. Sec. Middx., P.M. and Sec. 142; H. A. Dubois, Prov. G.D. Middx.; H. Smith, Prov. G. Sec. W. Yorks, P.M. 302; J. Mason, Prov. G.D. Middx., P.M. 1567; Ex. Comps. E. Bowyer, (V.P.) Prov. G.J.D. Herts, Z. 1471, A. Soj., Chap. 174; W. Bros. R. Wylie, P.P.G.D. W. Lancashire; N. Gluckstein, P.P. G.D. Essex, 185; J. Walker, P.P.G.D. Staffordshire, Treas. 419; E. Grisbrook, P.P.G.D. Berks and Bucks, P.M. 771; H. W. Charrington, P.P.G.D. Surrey, Sec. 1395; W. Newton, P.P.G.D. Notts, W.M. 1661; J. Tanner, P.P. G. D. Essex, W.M. 1707; G. P. Brockbank, P.P.G.D. E. Lancashire, 1723; George Kenning, P.P.G.D. Middx.; S. Gauntlett P.G.S. of W. Wilts, Prov. of Wilts; J. Boatwright, P.P.G. Sup. of Works Herts, W.M. 403; Wm. Clarke, P.G.D. of C. Suffolk, P.M. 114; the Rev. John J. Burton, P.P.G.D. of C. Cambridge, P.M. 114, 10; Wm. Hicks, P.P.G.S.B. Kent P.M. 77; James Richard Boor, P.P.G.S.B. Surrey, P.M. and Sec. 370; Capt. R. Williams, P.G. Org. Middx., 1257; W. J. Nosworthy, P.P.G.O. Somerset, P.M. and Sec. 814; R. Gooding (M.D., B.A.) G. Steward, W.M. 1; E. P. Deacon, G. Steward, S.D. 2; F. H. Rooke, P.G. Steward, P.M. 46; E. Comp. G. W. Ormerod, P.G. Steward Devon, P.Z. Chap. 303; W. Bros. C. L. Mason, P.G. Steward, W. Yorks, P.M. 304; W. J. Cruch, Prov. G. Steward Herts, P.M. 1278; Ex. Comps. H. Phythian, P.P.G.S.B. Middx., M.E.Z. Chap. 1293; J. Platt, P.P.G.P. Soj. W. Lancashire, P.Z. 613, P.M. and Sec. 313; G. W. Verry (V.P.), P.G.P. Soj. Herts, Z. Chap. 1385; W. Bros. E. C. Mather (V.P.), 23; C. J. Percival (V.P.), J.W. 1607, 174; E. C. Woodward (V.P.), P.M. 1637; J. D. Allcroft (V.P.), W.M. 1657; Henry Godfrey (V.P.) P.M. 82; Edward Cox, (V.P.), P.P.G.S.W. Norths and Hunts, Treasurer; A. W. G. Weeks, 3; John H. Hale, 5; J. H. McQueen, P.M. 11; D. Nicols, W.M. 12; John Nidel Smith, S.D. 14; John Mowlem Burt, W.M. 18; Joseph W. Zambra, P.M. 21; George Waterall, P.M. 22; Joseph Farmaner, W.M. 28; Charles Davey, J.W. 30; Henry

E. Wallis, 33; Alfred Williams, P.M. 49; A. Melhuish, W.M. 55; Jas. S. Burroughes, 58; R. G. Barton, 60; W. H. Barber, P.M. 1201, 65; George J. Grace, P.M. 73; T. Huntley, 87; A. A. Silberberg, W.M. 95; John Alderson Scott, P.M. 101; George Pearson, W.M. 103; James Kirk, W.M. 104; Wm. Harrison, S.W. 104; Herbert Finch, P.M. 104; Thos. Burrows, 104; J. Henry Burrows, 139; G. H. Waterfall, 139; R. B. Webster, P.M. 140; George Graham Bell, 144; Angus Stewart, 147; J. T. Briggs, P.M. 157; Major W. E. Williams, J.W. 162; Charles Denton, W.M. 169; Joseph Clever, P.M. 171; George Watson, 172; Francis Robt. Vine, P.M. 173; James Kew, P.M. 179; A. Stoner, P.M. 180; Charles W. Noehmer, P.M. 186; Maurice Spiegel, J.W. 188; Edward Jones, W.M. 192; Henry Leah, W.M. 193; George Cooper, P.M. 198; James Hill, P.M. 228; Edward Hyde Hewett, W.M. 235; E. Goodhugh Fox, 235; Edwin Simpson-Baikie, 238, P.M. 708; John Johnson Field, 250; James Saltner, 250; John Brewer, W.M. 251; Rev. J. Amos, J.D. 1678, S.D. 256; Sir Offley Waterman, Bart. 259; William Harrap, P.M. 290; Alfred Robertshaw, W.M. 302; Benjn. Broughton, P.M. 302; Robert Craig, P.M. 304; Major George Barlow, P.M. 321; John Lovell Hamshaw, 418; Christian Dybdahl, W.M. 435; Charles Henry Edmonds, 452; Henry O. Wakeman, 478; Henry Hollis, W.M. 504; James Elborn, W.M. 511; T. S. Taylor, S.W. 1421, 933, 554; Albert Downing Everingham, S.W. 569; G. M. Knight, W.M. 574; Adam Leigh, 657; H. C. Soper, W.M. 704; W. T. Gamble, W.M. 706; Samuel Solomon, W.M. 732; H. A. Stacey, P.M. and Treas. 733; J. W. Hobbs, P.M. 749; Rawson Kelly, W.M. 750; Major C. Harding, P.M. 778; William Hallett, W.M. 781; George Bubb, W.M. 795; Thomas Francis, P.M. and Sec. 804; Thos. J. Cusworth, W.M. 813; John Nicholas, W.M. 822; Edward Sedgwick, 802; George Thomas Limn, S.W. 871; Benjamin Sidney Wilmot, W.M. 874; Charles Scrutton, P.M. 898; Richard Noakes Field, P.M. 902; G. F. Lancaster, P.M. 903; F. A. White, W.M. 907; Captain E. T. Clark, P.M. 910; A. F. Rowley, P.M. 917; James K. Abel, W.M. 957; C. W. Thompson, W.M. 1601, S.W. 969; Comp. John Newton, Z., Chap. 975; Bros. Benjamin Watson, 1019; John Laggett J.D. 1096; John Barker, P.M. 1102; G. R. Corner, P.M. 1139; Wm. Henry Sharman, 1158; Frederick Garbett, W.M. 1178; Rev. Dr. Morris, 1185; James Terry, (Secretary to the Institution), Hon. Sec.; E. J. Hartly, P.M. 1201; A. C. Bradley, (P. Soj. Chap. 1216) 1216; George H. Grimwood, P.M. 1224; David Moses, W.M. 1237; F. M. Tindall, P.M. 1239; John, Wills, 1257; J. Pigot, 1288; Clayton Palmer, (LL.D.) 1293; William Krautler, S.W. 1303; Samuel Carrington, S.D. 1314; Edward Terry, W.M. 1319; Edwin Gilbert, P.M. 1326; D. Steinhauer, 1326; Arthur John Ireton, W.M. 1348; Comp. Wm. Lutwyche, Z. 1365; Bros. J. P. Collier, W.M. 1366; W. H. Buckley, 1375; W. W. Morgan, junr; 1385; Thomas Taylor, 1410; Robert John Smith, 1425; Fredk. Hollis Field, W.M. 1436; J. J. Cattle, P.M. 1441; J. Louth Clemence, W.M. 1452; Zaccheus Hinchliffe, 1462; Daniel P. Holness, D.C. 1471; H. Vickery, I.G. 1475; J. E. Walford, W.M. 1489; T. Williams, P.M. 1507; John Bustard, 1513; Thomas Barlow, 1538; William Ramsey, P.M. 1539; J. S. Hammond, 1563; Charles William Cox, J.W. 1566; J. G. Rimell, 1602; G. Simpson, 1611; Joseph Howes, 1623; Edmund Durham, 1639; W. T. Christian, W.M. 1662; Geo. Hy. Calderwood, 1677; J. Matthew Klenck, (P.M. 1339, Z. Chap. 1339), W.M. 1686; Charles K. Killick, W.M. 1693; Wm. Thos. Purkis, W.M. 1695; J. J. Murray, 1700; W. H. Farnfield, W.M. 1716; W. H. Snelling.

There were also many ladies present, who were entertained at an excellent concert in the Temple. After dinner the usual list of toasts was proposed. The Chairman in giving "The Queen," referred to the volume recently published by Her Majesty containing the correspondence of the late Prince Consort, and said that it exhibited the sense which Her Majesty entertained of the loss which she and the country endured by the death of Prince Albert. The Chairman next gave "The Health of the M.W.G.M., the Prince of Wales," who, he said, exhibited great interest in all matters concerning Freemasonry, and also in everything which had any reference to the happiness and welfare of the English people. After this toast had been duly honoured the Chairman gave "The Health of the Pro Grand Master," and alluded to the great event of his Royal Highness's installation at the Albert Hall, when the Earl of Carnarvon gave an admirable address. For himself he might say he never heard anything more able or more thoroughly Masonic than the Earl of Carnarvon delivered on that occasion. The Chairman in very few words proposed "The Deputy Grand Master and the rest of the Grand Officers," and called upon Bro. Hervey, Grand Sec., to reply to the toast. Bro. John Hervey, in reply, said that the Grand Officers felt very grateful for the manner in which this toast had been proposed and drank, for they all felt great interest in the charities of the Order and were delighted at seeing this Institution so well supported on the present occasion. Nothing pleased the Grand Officers more than to see the Masonic Institutions flourishing, and this pleasure was greatly increased when they knew that they were well regulated and under proper control. When they saw such a large assemblage of Masons present as at this festival they felt that the Institutions were well supported and that there was every prospect of their being maintained. The Chairman next proposed "Success to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons." He said he had now to perform the principal duty for which he had been asked to attend, and he had no doubt the brethren would allow him to express the gratification he felt at seeing such a

large assemblage of Masons as were then present to support the Institution. On the Monday previous he had had the good fortune, under the guidance of Bro. Terry, the Secretary, Col. Creton, and Bro. S. Rawson, to visit the asylum at Croydon, where he had the pleasure of meeting Bro. Dr. Strong, who so successfully, attentively, and assiduously looked after the health of the inmates of the Institution. No doubt many of the brethren present had seen that asylum, and consequently he need not inform them of what he there witnessed. He was glad however, to be able to state that he experienced great satisfaction at what he there witnessed, and felt sure, by the admirable manner in which the Institution was conducted, that the greatest care was taken of the comfort and welfare of the inmates. When brethren knew that many of the brethren and widows in the Institution had been in their former days in affluent circumstances they could not but feel pity that they were reduced to be the objects of sympathy. One lady he saw there had some years ago moved among the higher classes of society, and had in her time been the partaker of many of the luxuries of life. She was now dependent upon the generosity of the brethren of whom her dead husband had been one of the compcers. It must be a great satisfaction to the brethren that they were able to relieve those of their fellows who had associated with them in lodges. The Institution whose cause he was advocating came to their relief, and he was happy to say that its management was by no means lax. Its rules were very strict. No Mason could become a candidate for its benefits if he was not 60 years of age or if his income was as much as £40 a year. At the next election there would be seventeen more candidates than could be admitted. With reference to the rules of the Institution he thought they were in favour of "women's rights," because whereas Masons must be sixty years of age before they could be put on the list, widows were eligible at fifty five-years of age. (Laughter.) But the widows could not receive the benefits of the institution if they had more than £30 a year. There were twenty-two more candidates among the women than could be admitted at next election, for there were ten vacancies and thirty-two candidates. Under these circumstances he was sure that Masons would feel the necessity of assisting this most admirable Institution, and he was happy to say that the Province to which he belonged had in a measure done its duty, and relieved itself from the reproach to which it had formerly been open of having received greater benefits from the Institution than it had given to it. He hoped that that large gathering of Masons he saw before him was an evidence of a large subscription towards the funds of the Institution, which he commended most heartily to the liberal intentions of the brethren. (Cheers.)

Bro. Samuel Tomkins responded. After what had been said the Treasurer had little to say. Grand Secretary had observed that it was very gratifying to Grand Officers to see the noble charities of the Order well supported; and of late years this had been particularly the case; for each year showed a larger amount subscribed than had been the case before. Without an undue conceit about Freemasonry there was no doubt cause for congratulation on the support given to the Masonic Charities. Of late years there had been a very large influx into the ranks of Masons; and if it progressed in the same proportion in future years there must be an increased demand on the charities of the Order. If the brethren did not lay themselves out for an increase in their charity, and set an example to those who came after them to support the charities, they would be found unequal to their work. Masons had a grave obligation on them to do what they could for the charities, and it was their duty to exert themselves to the utmost to produce success for the charitable Institutions. If they followed up their obligations, the success of the charities was secured, and the success which had been obtained that night filled him with the hope that the other charities would be well supported.

By the special and kind provision of Bro. James Terry the indefatigable Secretary of the Institution, we are enabled to give a correct London and Provincial list:—

LONDON:—
No. of Lodge. Bro. Joseph Smith ... £ s. d.
" A. F. A. Woodford... 35 5 0
" Geo. Kenning ... 10 0 0
" W. W. Snelling ... 75 0 0
1 " Ralph Gooding, (M.D., B.A.) 25 0 0
2 " E. Barker Deacon ... 80 0 0
3 " A. W. G. Weeks ... 29 8 0
4 " H. J. Browne ... 31 0 0
5 " John H. Hale ... 30 0 0
8 " J. T. C. Winkfield ... 22 2 0
10 " Rev. John J. Burton ... 78 8 0
11 " J. H. McQueen ... 81 10 0
12 " D. Nicols ... 59 10 0
14 " John Nidel Smith ... 30 16 6
18 " John Mowlem Burt... 24 11 0
21 " J. W. Zambra ... 42 0 0
22 " Geo. Waterall ... 35 0 0
23 " E. C. Mather ... 27 10 0
28 " Joseph Farmaner, (not Steward) 56 7 0
30 " Charles Davey ... 76 0 0
33 " Henry E. Wallis ... 19 10 0
46 " F. W. Rooke ... 83 0 0
49 " Alfred Williams ... 116 10 0
55 " Alfred J. Melhuish ... 188 0 0
58 " J. S. Burroughs ... 41 19 0
60 " R. G. Barton ... 26 7 6
65 " W. H. Barber ... 22 0 0
73 " George J. Grace ... 26 7 6
83 " Chas. A. Murton ... 22 0 0
87 " T. Huntley ... 26 7 6
95 " A. A. Silberberg ... 22 0 0
101 " John Alderson Scott...

of funds poured into its Treasury. He could answer for one extremity of the country which was perhaps scarcely known to many of the brethren, but which was well-known to him, the poor and not very popular province of Cornwall. That province had not perhaps done much, but it was increasing its support, and he thanked the brethren belonging to that province for doing something towards redeeming its name, and coming to its festival. But he had to propose the Health of the Chairman, although it was not for him, in his grace's presence, to speak at great length. He would however say of him that he was regarded as a genial friend, and a popular neighbour by those amongst whom he lived. He was also looked upon as a true Bro. Mason and an excellent Prov. Grand Master. Last but not least he was a man who whenever he undertook to do anything did it well, as he had that night. The noble Earl concluded by proposing "The Health of the Chairman."

The Chairman in replying, said as a matter of course he was gratified by the way in which the brethren had received his name and also by the kind, the flattering and friendly terms in which Lord Mount Edgumbe had submitted it to the brethren. In passing, he must congratulate his lordship upon the magnificence of the subscriptions from his province, which must be the envy of all the provinces but one, the Province of Herts. (Hear hear.) He (the Chairman) certainly hoped that when he undertook a duty he did it, if not well, at least to the best of his ability. It was very gratifying to him to see before him such a large assemblage, and it was equally gratifying that under his presidency such an enormous subscription had been made to this excellent charity, which they were met to do honour to. He trusted that when they were assembled for matters of peace and charity there was such heartiness among Englishmen that they would not forget their country. He was convinced it was so in this assembly by the ringing cheers which followed Lord Mount Edgumbe's remarks about the sacrifices every Englishman would make for his native land. Not only was it so here, but it was also the case in the colonies, for he could assure the brethren that not only their brother Masons, but their countrymen who were not Masons in the colonies were as heartily, loyally and truly Britons as we ourselves, and only required organization and system to give full support to the country from which they sprang whenever it might be in danger. (Prolonged Cheers.) He trusted with Lord Mount Edgumbe, that lugubrious anticipations might not be realised and that the brethren might never be assembled at a meeting of a less Masonic nature than they were then. He also hoped the future festivals, not only of this charity, but of the other charities, might be as successful as that one. (Cheers.)

Col. Creaton proposed "The Sister Charities." In the Girls' School, twenty-five extra children had recently been admitted, and at the Boys' School, preparations were being made for admitting thirty more boys. These additions would of course entail additional expenditure, but he trusted that the brethren would follow the example which had been shewn that night and support those other two Institutions as liberally. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. F. Binckes replied, and commenced his observations by congratulating the Benevolent Institution on the splendid success it had just had. He knew that the country was suffering from what was commonly called "commercial depression," and we all had our sympathies and anxieties. But in the midst of all the country's depression the Masonic Institution were well supported. It appeared to him an absolute fact, and it was one that carried to his mind a large amount of satisfaction that whatever might be the distress that aggravated the world at large the heart of Masonry was so sound that its Institutions never suffered. He read the reports of other Institutions outside Freemasonry which told him that they all suffered more or less by sacrificing their invested funds to make up their income from year to year. Freemasons' Institutions however never appeared to lack the support which they wanted. After all said and done this was a very good testimony borne by Freemasons themselves to the admirable organisation and management of the Institutions. He congratulated the Benevolent Institution on its success, and trusted that in future years it might have still further success. He now came to a melancholy portion of his duty, to announce that through illness Bro. Little, the Secretary of the Girls' School, was absent, but he hoped that this would not in any way lessen the support to be given to that school. He hoped rather that it would have a larger amount of support. He was happy to say that for himself God had given him strong health, and he was able to exercise it on behalf of the Boys' School. That he should always exercise, and he hoped the brethren would rally round the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys at the next festival, when the Duke of Connaught would preside.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, P.G.D., proposed "The Health of the Stewards, to which Bro. Joseph Smith, President of the Board, replied; and after Bro. C. Hutton Gregory, P.G.D., had proposed "The Ladies," the brethren joined the concert party in the temple, and spent the remainder of the evening in listening to a musical entertainment, which, under the direction of Bro. S. Lehmyer, was performed by Madame Liebhardt, Miss Webster, Madame Thaddeus Wells, Miss Blanche Navarre, Miss Helene Arnim, Mr Dudley Thomas, Bro. Fredk. Penna, Mr. Stanislaus, Mr. Henry Horscraft, and Bro. Wilhelm Ganz.

Bro. the Rev. K. J. Simpson, Past Grand Chaplain, will preach a sermon on behalf of the Colonial and Continental Missionary Society, at St. Jude's Church, Mildmay Park, on Sunday next, the 17th inst.

Bro. the Rev. Dr. Abbott, Head Master of the City of London School, has been elected a member of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge.

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Treasury.

ROBERT BURNS LODGE (No. 25).—The meeting of this lodge for the installation of W.M. was held on the 4th inst., at Freemasons' Hall. There were present on the occasion Bros. W. A. Malony, W.M.; G. R. Sherrill, S.W.; F. J. Robins, J.W.; Thos. Wingham, P.M., Treas.; John Dyte, P.M., Sec.; J. Lindner, S.D.; J. S. Hodson, J.D.; M. D. Loewenstark, I.G.; and C. Wynne Assis. Sec. The following were amongst the visitors present:—Bros. Col. Burdett, P.G.M. Middx.; Hyde Clarke, P.G.M. St. Columbia; Fredk. Walters, P.G.D. Middx.; Matthew Cooke, P.M.; John Coutts, P.G.P.; J. R. Gallant, P.M.; J. L. Calpin, H. C. Levander, H. J. Gabb, Henry Venn, Sir John Palmer, J. Austin, George Coleman, Wm. Kirley, W. H. Holroyd, H. Dodson, Sir C. J. Palmer, J. Reinhardt, Chas. Martin, Wallace Wells, A. S. Wiedle, J. L. Thomas, F. Arnold. The members present were Bros. Wm. Dunn, A. Millar, J. Sanson, J. W. Harvey, Fredk. W. Farmer, Wm. Andrews, F. Biggs, Wm. Brown, J. Batson, H. J. Batson, Thos. Vernon, W. Ponsford, J. Hutchinson, G. A. Denton, S. Morcroft, S. L. Ford, E. W. Collins, J. D. Bellamy, besides several other brethren. The lodge was opened in due form and the minutes of the last lodge were read. The W.M. then opened the lodge in the Second and Third Degrees and Bro. Dunn was raised to the degree of M.M. Afterwards Bro. W. A. Malony W.M. duly presented Bro. G. R. Sherrill, S.W., W.M. elect, for installation, and Bro. W. Watson installed him as W.M. for the year ensuing. The proclamations and salutations in each of the degrees having been severally performed, the following officers were appointed by the W.M.: Bros. Robins, S.W.; Lindner, J.W.; Hodson, S.D.; Loewenstark, J.D.; Wynne, I.G.; John Dyte, Secretary; Deacon, Assis. Secretary; Bley, D.C.; Wilson, P.M., W.S. The W.M. then invested Bro. W. A. Malony, P.M., with a P.M.'s jewel, unanimously voted to him at the last meeting of the lodge. Bro. Malony in a short address thanked the brethren for the great honour they had done him in presenting him with such a mark of their esteem and regard, and assured them of his lasting attachment to the lodge, and the interests and welfare of the brethren. Nothing more presenting itself in the shape of business for the brethren to dispose of, the brethren closed lodge, and adjourned to Freemasons' Tavern, where a splendid installation banquet was prepared by Bro. Best, and superintended by him and his manager, Bro. E. Dawkins. The toasts were subsequently proposed and honoured. After the toast of "The Queen," and "The M.W.G.M.," had been proposed and drunk, the W.M. proposed "The Pro G.M., the Deputy G.M., and Grand Officers," and referred to Col. Burdett, as a Grand Officer who took a lively interest in Freemasonry, and as one under whose active encouragement Freemasonry had made rapid strides that were unexampled, more particularly in his own province. Col. Burdett, he said, had also endeared himself to all with whom he came in contact, and hence he was one of the most popular of Provincial Grand Masters. Another Past Grand Master, Bro. Hyde Clarke, who was present, was one of the most able as well as the most agreeable of men, who had a world-wide reputation as a distinguished and accomplished scholar, whose vast knowledge of men and things was only equalled by his love of Freemasonry. After Col. Burdett had responded, Bro. Hyde Clarke made a few humorous observations about the name of the lodge, which he reminded the brethren was founded before Robert Burns was born. As may be imagined, these remarks created considerable amusement. Bro. W. Watson, P.M., the father of the lodge, responded for the P.M.'s, and stated that this was the fortieth installation meeting of the lodge that he had attended. The toast of "The W.M." was proposed in very complimentary terms by Bro. W. A. Malony, P.M. Bro. Sherrill, W.M., in responding, thanked the members of the lodge for having elected him to that high office. It was an office he might well be proud of, for the Robert Burns Lodge was a very famous lodge, and was distinguished alike by its antiquity, its charity, and the harmony and fraternal feelings which prevailed amongst the brethren. In return for the confidence of the brethren which had been bestowed on him he promised to use his best endeavours to promote the prosperity of the lodge and the happiness of all its members. The other toasts were afterwards given and responded to, and the brethren separated. The musical arrangements, which were most ably conducted, were entrusted to Bro. J. S. Hodson, and gave the greatest satisfaction to the members and visitors of the lodge.

PHENIX LODGE (No. 173).—This very prosperous lodge having some weeks ago debated the subject amongst its brethren as to whether an entertainment could not be given to the lady friends of the members of the lodge, it was determined to give a ball, and a committee having been constituted, they arranged that the ball should be held at the Freemasons' Tavern on Monday, Feb. 4th. The ball accordingly took place in the large hall. The W.M. and Committee, Bros. Phillips, Finch, Allen, Blyth, Wiles, Foxley, Culverhouse, Burford, Colwill, Bolding, and Bros. Davie and Güterbock, as joint Hon. Secs., were early in attendance to receive the company, who commenced to arrive soon after 9 o'clock. Bros. Phillips and Bolding acted as M.C.'s. Dancing was commenced at 9.30, and continued until one, when supper was served in the Crown-room, the W.M. in the chair. A most recherché, ample, and elegant supper was served by Bro. Best, and the attention was admirable. The W.M., in proposing "Prosperity to the Phoenix Ball," said that the brethren felt they owed a debt of gratitude to the ladies. It was the ladies who so carefully tended the brethren on their return from the lodge; who greeted them with a

cheering smile of encouragement and congratulation when they arrived home, wearied after the laborious working of the lodge, and the slight refreshment of the banquet; it was the ladies who encouraged them to work and excel in Masonry; and why? Because they found that Masonry made them better men, better husbands, better fathers, he was even about to say better sweethearts, and in the desire to acknowledge the ladies' appreciation of Masonry the brethren had invited them to this ball, which, as this was the first attempt on the part of the Phoenix brethren, he could not but say was a great success, there being 136 present, a goodly company for the first try. He hoped the ladies would continue to support Masonry, and render the ball an annual success. The toast of "The Ladies," proposed by the W.M., was responded to by Bro. Davie, who in very felicitous terms thanked the brethren and gentlemen for so heartily drinking their health, and assured the brethren of the ladies' continued support, more especially as long as they invited them to the annual ball of the Phoenix Lodge. Dancing was then re-commenced, and continued until the early morning, every one on leaving expressing how enjoyable an evening had been spent; the catering and arrangement of Bro. Best having given the greatest satisfaction, as also the orchestral arrangements which were provided by Chappell and Co.

LION AND LAMB LODGE (No. 192).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, on Thursday, the 7th inst. There were present Bros. Edward Jones, W.M.; Henry Legge, S.W.; F. Fellows, J.W.; George Kenning, P.M. and Treasurer; T. Cohn, I.P.M.; George Newman, P.M.; George Abbott, P.M.; E. King, P.M. and Steward, W. T. Rickwood, S. D. and Secretary pro tem. S. T. Lucas, J.D.; E. J. Kellerway, D.C.; W. H. Lee Davies, Org.; R. H. Goddard, Thomas Fisher, W. Figs, J. Cook, George Borer, J. Lorkin, R. E. Bright, Robert Clark, C. G. Sparrow, R. J. Sutherland, R. J. Dart, G. T. Smith, John Kent, Charles Cunn, B. Perkins, John Crotty, James Copelin, Thomas Agutter, H. A. Carter and Edwin Hunter. Visitors: Bros. G. C. Young, 820; T. Cracknell, 1524; W. Hallett, W.M. 781; J. N. Thompson, 1695. The lodge was opened in the First Degree, and the ballot was taken and declared to be unanimously in favour of Mr. J. Guy and Mr. Thomas Parker, who were then regularly initiated into Freemasonry. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and Bro. John Crotty answered the usual questions; the lodge was then opened in the Third Degree and the said brother was raised to the sublime degree of a M.M. The lodge was resumed in the First Degree and the lodge regularly proceeded to elect a W.M. for the ensuing year. The choice of the brethren was unanimously in favour of Bro. Henry Legge, S.W. The election of a Treasurer for the ensuing year was next taken, and Bro. George Kenning was declared to be unanimously re-elected. Bro. Kenning having expressed his thanks to the lodge for their continued confidence, the Audit Committee was elected with the addition of Bro. H. A. Carter, T. Fisher, and R. H. Goddard from amongst the members. Notice of motion was given by Bro. George Newman, P.M., seconded by Bro. R. Bright, that a P.M. jewel value ten guineas be presented to Bro. E. Jones, the W.M. in recognition of his services during the past year. The lodge was then closed in due form and adjourned. At the banquet which followed, the usual toasts having been regularly disposed of, of the I.P.M., Bro. T. Cohn, gave in felicitous terms "The Health of the W.M.," and congratulated him upon the efficiency of his working. The W.M. having responded proposed "The Health of Bro. Legge, S.W., the W.M. elect," whom he wished, as he had no doubt he would have a prosperous year of office. Bro. Legge having expressed his thanks for the hearty reception the brethren had given to the toast, promised to do his utmost in keeping up the prestige and traditions of an old lodge like the Lion and Lamb, which stood high in Masonry for its liberality to the several Institutions and to the Craft in general. The toasts of the P.M.'s, Treasurer and Secretary pro tem. and the Officers all met with an equally hearty reception, and the Tyler's toast, brought one of the most agreeable meetings of the year to a close.

PERFECT ASHLAR LODGE (No. 1178).—The regular meeting of this well established lodge was held at the Bridge House Hotel, Southwark, on Thursday 7th inst., Bro. F. Garbet, W.M., opened the lodge. He in an able manner initiated Messrs. G. and W. Wainwright, Callingham, Stockwell, and Tomlins, and passed Bro. Allen, to the Second Degree. On the motion made by Bro. W. T. Lover, P.M., and duly seconded, it was unanimously resolved, that ten pounds be taken from the lodge funds and be spent in purchasing a Life Governorship of the Royal Benevolent Institution Male Annuity Fund in name of the W.M., for the time being. The amount to be placed on the list of the W.M., who was representing the lodge at the forthcoming Festival. Some candidates were proposed for initiation at the next lodge meeting. Bro. Willets (1076) was unanimously elected a joining member. After business a good banquet was served under the auspices of Bro. G. H. Spencer, which gave general satisfaction. The regular toasts were given and responded to. After a few hours of an agreeable reunion the brethren separated. There were present Bros. F. H. Ebsworth, P.M., Treasurer; F. Walters, P.G.D. Middlesex, P.M. Secretary, Dr. Dixon, P.M.; G. J. Grace, P.M., D.C. J. H. Harmsworth, P.M., W.S., C. Deakin, P.M.; J. Stock, S.W., T. Simpson, J.W., J. J. Bell, S.D.; F. Quincey, J.D.; G. H. Forder, I.G., besides some 40 members. There were several visitors.

KENNINGTON LODGE (No. 1381).—On the 5th inst., this lodge held its installation meeting at the Club House, Kennington Oval, when there were present Bros. Higgins, W.M.; Reeves, S.W., W.M. elect; Walls, P.G.O. Middlesex, J.W. (Freemason); Kohler, S.D.; Speedy, J.D.; Webb, I.G.; Page, P.M., P.G.S., Treasurer; Stuart, P.M. 141, Secretary; Everett, I.P.M.; Koch, P.M.; Gardener, P.M.; Drysdale, P.M.; Pope, P.M.; Honeywell,

P.M.; Dobie, Assist. Organist; Robinson, D.C.; Marsden, W.S.; Stokes, A.W.S. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M. raised Bros. Pim and Stevenson, the ceremony being well performed. The report of the Audit Committee having been received and adopted, the ceremony of inducting Bro. Reeves to the chair was performed by Bro. Higgins, assisted by Bros. Drysdale as S.W.; Littell as J.W.; Pope as I.G.; and Everett as D.C.; the whole of the impressive ritual being carried out by the I.P.M. in a manner that left nothing to be desired. The officers invested were Bros. Walls, S.W.; Kohler, J.W.; Speedy, S.D.; Webb, J.D.; Marsden, I.G.; Page, Treasurer; Stuart, Secretary; Honeywell, Organist; Robinson, D.C.; Stokes, W.S.; Stranger, A.W.S. The lodge being closed, the brethren adjourned to the Pavilion, where an excellent banquet, superintended by Bro. Timewell, awaited them. The visitors were Bros. Clark, P.M., P.P.G.S. of Works, Middlesex; Littell, P.M. 860; Pain, P.M. 1339; Keen, P.M. 1415; Poupard, W.M. Ivy; Hancock, J.W. 1687; Weeks, Secretary 1641; Everett, jun., 177; Davies, 177; Downie, 186; Moore, 548; Clemence, 749; Spencer, 1260; Trimmings, 1507; Holloway, 1622. The preliminary toasts having been disposed of, "The Health of the W.M." was proposed by the I.P.M. in very kind and flattering terms, and having been duly honoured, Bro. Reeves replied by stating, that in the proudest moment of his Masonic life, he felt more than he could possibly express in words. On the night of his initiation he had formed so high an opinion of Freemasonry that he inwardly determined to strive for the position which he then had the honour of holding, namely, that of Master. He had been highly impressed with the ceremonial that day, and he hoped to have a useful and happy year of office, and to discharge the duties of the trust reposed in him in a satisfactory manner, aided by the valuable counsels of the Past Masters. In conclusion, he felt gratified at the warmth in which his health had been proposed by the I.P.M. and received by the brethren. "The Visitors" having been duly proposed and acknowledged, the W.M. gave the "Past Masters." In introducing this toast the W.M. said, that on that particular occasion the services of the I.P.M. would necessarily bear a more prominent position than those of the other representatives of that body, because it was his pleasing duty to present Bro. Higgins with a Past Master's jewel, as a souvenir of his year of office, and as a slight acknowledgment of the valuable services he had rendered to the lodge. Their I.P.M. was a good working Mason, and possessed other qualities which he personally highly esteemed. This toast having been duly drunk, the I.P.M. replied by stating that when he took the position of Master last year he entered upon the duties with a certain amount of diffidence, but thanks to the kind assistance of the Past Masters he had experienced no difficulties. He felt it his duty on that occasion to express publicly his obligations to those brethren, and notably to Bros. Everett, Page, and Stuart, the three Past Masters, who had not only lightened his labours, but had made their discharge a positive pleasure. In conclusion, he thanked the members for the very handsome jewel that he that evening had been presented with, and hoped that he should live many years to wear it as a memento of their esteem. The remaining toasts were "The Treasurer and Secretary," and "The Officers." During the evening Bros. Honeywell, Walls, and others, instrumentally and vocally entertained the brethren, who separated at a late hour until the first Tuesday in the ensuing month.

GRANITE LODGE (No. 1328)—The installation of the new Master of this lodge was performed last Saturday at Freemasons' Hall. During the eight years of the lodge's existence a steady and continual success has attended it, and the number of its members is at the present time considerable. As a proof of its success it is only necessary to look at the balance sheet, which on Saturday last was read by Bro. J. Lewis Thomas, Secretary, and approved and passed unanimously. From this it appeared that its receipts for the past year amounted to £460, and its expenditure to £351 2s. 10d., leaving a balance in favour of the lodge of £109 os. 3d. To this balance had to be added the sum of £107 7s. 6d., members' subscriptions due, payable and paid at the installation meeting. The balance therefore in hand at the present time, exclusive however of the banquet and expenses of the installation meeting of 1878, was £216 7s. 9d. The management of the lodge business therefore must have been of the best, and the result reflects the greatest credit on all the brethren who have hitherto borne a part in it. The brethren's opinion of this management found expression in the gifts made to the late Treasurer, Bro. Hackford, an account of which will be found in the course of this report. Lodge was opened at five o'clock p.m. by the W.M., Bro. Frederick West, Provincial Grand Registrar, Surrey, a brother who has passed a most successful year in the chair of the lodge, and who has done his work to the entire satisfaction of all the brethren. At the opening of the lodge he was supported by all his officers and a large attendance of brethren and several visitors. After the lodge had been opened, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed, Bro. Reginald C. Mount, S.W., and W.M. elect, was presented to Bro. West for installation. Bro. West then proceeded to install Bro. Mount, and placed him in the chair of King Solomon for the year 1878. After the processions and salutations in the Three Degrees, and the presentation of the working tools, the warrant of the lodge, the Book of Constitutions and the bye-laws, the W.M. invested the following brethren as officers to assist him during his year of office: Bros. R. Payne, S.W.; J. Rhodes, J.W.; Bosworth, Treas.; J. L. Thomas, P.M., Sec.; the Rev. J. Welsh Thomas, Chaplain; Turner, S.D.; Frank Kirk, J.D.; Oswald Gardner, I.G.; Algernon Mount, M.C.; Cecil Saunders, Organist; Thomas Wilson, W.S.; and Bro. Woodstock, Tyler. Bro. West then delivered the addresses to the Master, Wardens, and brethren, and on resuming his seat was

greeted with enthusiastic cheers. The W.M. immediately rose, and, addressing Bro. West, said he did not think it was possible he could have a more pleasant duty to perform than that which now fell to his lot. He was authorised by the lodge to present Bro. West with a P.M.'s jewel in open lodge. It was needless to tell Bro. West how worthily the brethren thought he had won that jewel, because he was aware that at the last lodge the brethren voted him something else to be added to it. That something else took the form of a smaller jewel, which also he (the W.M.) had great pleasure in presenting. Although Bro. West had won them both, the latter was an especial mark of worth, as it was given in respect of the excellence of the work Bro. West had done. He trusted that Bro. West would live long to wear both these jewels, and to look back on his year of office in the Granite Lodge as being the most successful it had had. (Hear, hear.) Bro. West in acknowledging the present said it was a very proud moment for him to receive at the hands of the W.M. of the Granite Lodge such tokens of esteem. He had done nothing more than every Englishman would do, and what he undertook to do when he went into the chair. However, it was very pleasing for him to find the brethren thought he had fulfilled his duties. He trusted that he should be able to preserve these jewels and wear them amongst the other P.M.'s of the lodge; and whenever he looked at the jewels they would remind him of the kindness he had received during his year of office at the hands of the brethren. (Cheers.) Bro. Hackford, Past Treasurer, was then presented to the W.M., who, addressing him, said he had already performed one very pleasing duty, and before he entered the chair he did not think it would have fallen to his share to have to perform another such pleasurable task. Another jewel was to be presented to Bro. Hackford, but he thought a higher and older member of the lodge would have been called upon to present it. But he was sure that, whoever had to present it, it could not be presented with better feelings than he possessed on the matter. The jewel was a token presented by the members of the lodge, unanimously voted by every member of the lodge for the work of Treasurer while he had held that office, for the kindness and geniality he had always shown, for the advice he had always been ready to give, and for the many excellent qualities he had exhibited. In recognition of the esteem and respect in which he was held by the brethren, they presented Bro. Hackford with this jewel, and he trusted he might live long to wear it. (Cheers.) In acknowledging the presentation, Bro. Hackford said the brethren would not expect him to say much. It had fallen to his lot that night to be placed in a very unpleasant position, inasmuch as he could not find words to express his deep sense of the honour he felt had been conferred upon him by the members of the Granite Lodge. To the W.M. for the very kind manner in which he had been pleased to present the jewel he was deeply grateful. He was also grateful to the lodge. For the past seven years he had endeavoured to do his duty as Treasurer of the lodge. For the first two or three years the office had been a sincere, but during the remainder of the period he certainly had had a great deal of work, and he felt he had guarded the funds truly and well, or he would not have had this jewel presented to him. It had been said by some one that if a man needed praise all he had got to do was to die, and then men would speak well of him. He thought he was wiser than the ancient Greeks, as he had elicited praise without dying. He thanked the lodge not only or especially for the jewel, but for the kindness of the brethren in giving it him simply for doing his duty; and he thanked them not only for the jewel but for enabling him to have a life governorship for his daughter in the Aged Freemasons' Institution. He not only announced to the brethren members of the lodge but also to the visitors, that the vote for the jewel was so large that only one half was required for the jewel, and the other half was then invested in the purchase of the life governorship he had mentioned. He felt this compliment deeply, because when it should please the G.A.O.T.U. to call him to the Grand Lodge above, which would in due time happen, his daughter if spared by Providence might still look upon her position as a governor in the Aged Freemasons' Institution with pleasure and gratitude to the Granite Lodge, and might in some slight degree experience the estimation in which her father was held by the lodge. He must say one word on behalf of his friend Bro. James Lewis Thomas, who had assisted him so ably in his duties during the time he had been Treasurer. Bro. Oliver and his predecessors had been of great assistance to him while they were the Secretaries of the lodge, and he thanked them very much, but he must especially thank Bro. Thomas for making his (Bro. Hackford's) duties very light. He was sorry to resign his position; but he felt bound to do so; he could not help it; for on the nights when the Granite Lodge met he might be north, south, east or west, he did not know where, and he thought he was only doing right under those circumstances to resign. Wishing prosperity to the lodge and that his successor might be found as good as he he had been (and he had not the slightest doubt he would be superior), he thanked the brethren very heartily. Before the lodge was closed Bro. J. Lewis Thomas, Secretary, read the correspondence, among which was a circular from the Boys' School soliciting a Steward for the next festival, which is to be presided over by the Duke of Connaught, G.S.W., and as no brother had yet offered himself for that office, Bro. F. West, I.P.M., said he should be happy to take it upon himself. Lodge was then closed, and the brethren retired to Freemasons' Tavern, where a splendid repast was provided for them in the Crown Room. After dinner the usual list was proceeded with. The toasts of "The Queen and the Craft" and "the M.W.G.M." having been duly honoured, the W.M. gave that of "The Pro G.M., &c." to which Col. Burdett, Pro. G.M. Middlesex responded. In doing so he said he had been so often called

upon to reply to this toast that he had considerable difficulty in diversifying what he had to say; still at the same time he felt that the brethren round the table and their W.M. would be most ready at every possible time to support not only the Pro G.M. but the Dep. G.M., in all the work they had to do. They might be sure that the work of those noblemen would not be so easily carried out if it were not for the support they derived from the Masters of different lodges and their officers. For himself he might say he was very much gratified, and no doubt the Pro G.M. and Dep. G.M. were equally gratified at the support they received from their subordinate officers, and from the reports they received from them of the manner in which Masonic duties were performed in the lodges they had the honour to visit. It was the province and duty of the Grand officers to visit various lodges and to see how the duties were there performed, and to report upon what they saw to the Grand Lodge, whether the work was or was not properly carried out. He had had a great deal of pleasure in being present that evening at the Granite Lodge, for he had found there that the work was most satisfactorily performed by the I.P.M., Bro. Fred West, who was unquestionably an experienced Mason. Bro. West had been but a short time a member of the Order, but he had given proofs of his experience for the last twelve months as Master of this lodge. He had shown that he was thoroughly able to perform the duties required of him, and it was additionally gratifying to find that he completed his year of office by installing in the chair his successor in as able and complete a style as he (Col. Burdett) had ever witnessed. From the way in which the newly installed Master had invested his officers and conducted the subsequent business of the lodge there was a full reason for certainty that he also would discharge the duties of the chair as ably as his predecessor. The Wardens who had been appointed had also shown their skill and ability, and this was a proof that the W.M. had made a wise selection. (Hear, hear.) Bro. F. A. Philbrick, G.C., P.G.D., also acknowledged the toast and said he could almost wish that the W.M. had spared him from answering for the toast. After what the brethren had heard from Col. Burdett he was sure that anything he could say must fall flat. At the present moment he was unhappily suffering from that which if he had not had a very strong feeling of goodwill towards the Granite Lodge would have kept him away from one of the most pleasant evenings he had ever passed in his life. He trusted he might be excused, after what had fallen from Col. Burdett (with every word of which he thoroughly agreed, regarding the value of the Grand Officers in seeing the progress of lodges and the satisfaction it gave them to witness the accession to the Masonic ranks, the strength of this lodge, the mode in which it worked, the harmony and unity which pervaded its members, and the principles of Masonry which were enshrined in their practice), from saying much; but while in every way concurring with Col. Burdett's remarks he trusted he might be pardoned if he ventured to utter a word of advice. A time of adversity had its difficulties and dangers; but a time of prosperity must be carefully kept up by sincere and earnest work, by a desire to keep that standard which had been attained already, by a thorough and earnest desire and effort on the part of every one concerned in the lodge, more particularly the officers, to support the dignity of the lodge, to make its working at least not inferior in the future to what it had been in the past, and to maintain unsullied that reputation which had been so well won, and which so eminently befitted the lodge at the present moment. He did not say for one single moment, nor would he intend to imply, that in the Granite Lodge there were elements which would tend to depreciate that which the brethren had already attained; but he did venture to say that that high position they had attained in the Craft, which of late years had made great strides forward, which had risen in public estimation beyond whatever was known in the history of Freemasonry, which, when at a critical period of its existence it lost its head, the Heir to the Throne, he would not say condescended, but came forward to be its chief in England, the lodges of this country must be careful—and the Granite Lodge in particular, which had so distinguished a reputation, would be careful—to maintain and to extend the name of English Freemasonry in all that was good, both in the Masonic principles which were embodied in our Order, and in the working of the lodge and the harmony and unity of its members. (Hear.) Bro. F. West rose to propose "The Health of the W.M." On the present occasion he had particular pleasure in proposing the toast, for the W.M. and himself were initiated together in this lodge along with Past Master Muggidge, and he was happy to say that on one occasion the three chairs were filled with the first three initiates. The brethren had seen two of them pass the chair, and they had installed to-night the third. They might therefore imagine that it was with considerable feelings of pleasure that he (Bro. West) performed that ceremony; and he must say that when he called upon Bro. Mount to take the obligation he felt that in doing so he was simply asking him to take a vow which he himself (Bro. West) conscientiously believed Bro. Mount was able to carry out, and which he believed in twelve months, when he was occupying a position among the P.M.'s, the brethren would be as convinced as he was now of his fitness for the important post which he had taken that evening. To be Master of a lodge like the Granite Lodge (and he was proud to hear so much said of it by the Grand Officers present, though it was not the first time he had heard such remarks concerning this lodge by Grand Officers) was a circumstance to be proud of; but it must make a Master conscious of having very great duties to perform. He sincerely hoped that as the lodge had been through its time of difficulties, as all new lodges must, it was now on the way to success, even if it had not already attained it. It had attained it in

numbers, and he hoped it would attain it in work. He really believed that the W.M., who had given them that evening a very fair sample of what he could do, meant to carry out the duties of the chair in a manner worthy of this great lodge. If he did that, if he kept up the reputation of the lodge, it was all they could expect of him; and if he did so, every one of the brethren would be thoroughly satisfied when they placed on his breast one day, as he (Bro. West) hoped they would, a P.M. jewel, they would say he had done well, and that his breast was worthy of the reception of that jewel. He could only hope that as Bro. Mount had received the charter of the lodge pure and unsullied, he would hand it to his successor in a similar state. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) The W.M. in reply said he sincerely thanked the brethren for their enthusiasm in drinking the toast so ably proposed by Bro. West. It was now rather more than six years ago that he had the honour of sitting at that end of the table, and he felt very diffident, as he was then the humblest Mason in the room. But he felt more diffident now; for although the light of Masonry had shone on him six years it had not taught him to reply for the honour bestowed upon him. When he became the youngest member of the lodge the lodge was one of the youngest members on the roll of lodges. It spoke much for Freemasonry that 400 lodges had been consecrated to Masonry since this lodge was founded. He hoped that every man who enlisted himself under the banner of Freemasonry might prove a good man and true. It was not every man who came into it who sufficiently entered into all the details of the working of a lodge. It was not every Mason who could afford to put his hand into his pocket for Masonic purposes so often as the dictates of his heart would lead him to do so; but he thought every Mason should uphold the brotherhood by being true, and honourable, and kind, and amiable, and forbearing, and by practising all those virtues which Freemasonry taught us. Then he thought that each one of us might be indeed proud when it was said of him, "Yes, he is a Freemason." (Hear, hear.) The W.M. afterwards proposed "The Visitors," and hoped they had enjoyed the hospitality of the lodge as much as the lodge had enjoyed their company. Bros. John Boyd and Crickmate (Dorset) responded. Bro. F. West, I.P.M., replied to the toast of "The P.M.'s." Speaking on behalf of himself, he very much regretted there was not a more experienced orator to return thanks for the P.M.'s. The W.M. had alluded to two matters which made him feel very proud in rising to respond. First of all he referred to the working of the lodge. Of that he (Bro. West) could say nothing but that he did feel that what little he had done he had done to the best of his ability, and he was pleased that that little had been appreciated by the brethren. He thought he was justified in saying so when he looked on his breast and saw that they had placed there a token of respect for what he had done. That special mark of their approval of his conduct in the chair was far more than he ever expected when he entered it, and he could only say that he should prize that jewel far more than any other jewel he had ever won in his life. He hoped that those who came after him would place a similar value upon it. When he took upon himself the duties of Master of this lodge he was very much impressed with the way in which their worthy Bro. Cotebrunc, who then performed the ceremony, pointed out to him the duties he had to perform, and he took it that there were many great duties a Master had to perform. His first and supreme duty was to work the lodge himself; secondly, he ought to be able to manage the affairs of the Fourth Degree with equal skill; thirdly, his aim ought to be to promote the happiness of the brethren at large. Those three objects had been in his mind for the last twelve months and had given him great anxiety. He hoped, however, he had done so to the brethren's satisfaction, and he trusted that in handing over the warrant of the lodge as he had that day to his successor, he had left it in his hands untarnished. Then, the grand principles we were taught as Master Masons were to extend the blessings of peace and the bounties of charity. The bounties of charity every Mason was bound to extend, and he hoped that the Master of this lodge would in future be able to stand Steward for one of our Masonic charities. The blessings of peace could only be conferred by T.G.A.O.T.U., and without wishing to enter into any political views, at the present moment he ventured to say that that word was a bye-word not only in the hearts of all Masons but in the whole of our English country; and in fact if we were put to the test he believed that so far as possible the word would have such a unanimous echo, the very earth would shake, and the heavens quake, at the outburst which would follow the proposition made. He was afraid he had occupied too much time already, but he could not help referring to one other remark which the W.M. had made with respect to the Province of Surrey honours which he (Bro. West) had obtained this year. When the W.M. and he entered Freemasonry neither of them thought they would get into the chair in six years, and far less did he (Bro. West) think he should have the high office in the province which he now held. It should be a lesson to all the brethren to try their utmost, for he believed Grand Office both in G.L. and in the provinces, was open to all; and none of the brethren who were sitting round the table were unable to get them, or could have the slightest knowledge how soon they might be blessed with that honour. He therefore put it to them in the strongest terms that it was their duty not only to be ready to perform their office as Master Masons, but to fill any office the Master might offer them, or the Prov. G.M. might offer them. If they were not ready they could not blame the Master or the Prov. G.M. for passing them over; and he thought the time had come when every Mason who had any aspiration to higher honours than he held already should be always ready to take an office. It was no good his entering the chair in the position of an

E.A., for when he entered the chair (and he hoped every brother in this lodge wished to enter the chair) he would feel that when he was presented to the P.M.'s, and was asked whether he could conscientiously accept the duties of the lodge on the conditions which were put forward, the statement that he could would be made with a bona-fide belief that he would carry out the spirit and not the very letter of the words which were uttered on this occasion. After thanking the brethren heartily Bro. West said he was now quitting the active duties of the lodge, but trusted that in so doing he might not sever the connection with the brethren. He hoped to continue with them in friendship and happiness, and that they might continue till the moment should arrive when his soul should be called from this earth to rise to those regions of the endless expanse above, and that when he should be severed from them temporarily they might again meet in the Grand Lodge above, where the World's Great Architect lived and reigned for ever (cheers). The other toasts were then given and responded to, and the brethren separated. Bros. G. T. Carter, W. Winn, Stedman, Rhodes, and other brethren sang some excellent songs during the evening.

DUKE OF CONNAUGHT LODGE (No. 1524).—The installation meeting of this lodge, which is held at the Havelock Hotel, Albion-road, Dalston, took place on Thursday, the last day in January, when there was a large attendance of brethren to witness the proceedings. Bro. John Birstow Shackleton, the W.M., presided, and, after the ordinary lodge business had been transacted, Mr. Edward Silk was balloted for, and being approved, was initiated, the ceremony being performed very efficiently by Bro. Shackleton. The principal business of the day was then proceeded with, the W.M. elect, Bro. Bernard Meyer, J.W., being presented for the benefit of installation, was duly obligated, and a Board of Installed Masters having been formed, was presented to them and duly installed into the chair of K.S. The ceremony of installation was performed by the outgoing Master, Bro. Shackleton, in a very impressive manner, Bro. William Henry Lee, P.M. and Secretary, acting as D.C. on the occasion. Among the visitors present were Bros. J. Poore, 720; J. Whitfield, 1000; G. Allison, 1298; W. J. Judge, 185; W. T. A. Winsor, 860; F. A. Hawthorn, 1489; J. J. Woolley, 1604; F. Carr, 1607; E. Somers, 1602; J. Fanny, 1602; C. J. Haines, 1679; W. H. Wallington, 360; W. A. Morgan, 1044. After the banquet, which was a very good one, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were drunk, but the speeches in which they were proposed were extremely brief. The brethren did not separate till a late hour.

ALDERSGATE LODGE (No. 1657).—The first installation meeting of this lodge since its consecration was held on Monday evening at the Castle and Falcon, Aldersgate-street, under the presidency of Bro. John Derby Allcroft, W.M. The brethren present on the occasion, in addition to the W.M., were Bros. the Rev. Dr. P. H. Ernest Brette, S.W.; Chas. Hogg, M.D., J.W.; George Kenning, P.M., Treas.; Thos. Jones, Sec.; W. H. Froom, J.D.; A. J. Altman, I.G.; W. W. Landell, the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, P.G.C.; and the Rev. R. Lee, M.A.; Dr. Alder Smith, W. S. Chapman, Alfred Brookman, Samuel White, John Jackson, H. C. Levander, John Hervey, G.S.; H. G. Buss, A.G.S.; E. G. Jolliffe, the Rev. P. M. Holden, Thos. Benskin, Hyde Pullen, P.G.S.B.; and visitors: Bros. Joshua Nunn, P.G.S.B.; H. Massey (Freemason); H. J. Protheroe, A. Shellard, Col. James Peters, F. W. Cosens, and John Elwin. After opening of the lodge, and the reading and confirmation of the minutes, Bro. Allcroft invited the Grand Secretary to perform the installation, and thereupon the Rev. Dr. Brette, S.W., and W.M. elect, was duly installed Master of the lodge for the year ensuing. The Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, P.G.C., acted as Chaplain of the lodge. After the installation the following brethren were invested as officers to assist the W.M. during his year of office:—Bros. Dr. Charles Hogg, S.W.; A. J. Altman, J.W.; George Kenning, P.M. Treasurer; Thos. Jones, Secretary; W. H. Froom, S.D.; Bros. the Rev. Richard Lee, J.D.; Dr. Alder Smith I.G.; E. J. Jolliffe, D.C.; Samuel White, and W. S. Chapman, Stewards; Thomas Benskin, W.S.; and W. Steedman, P.M., Tyler. The new W.M. then commenced his work for the year by passing to the Second Degree Bro. John Jackson, the grandson of Bro. W. W. Landell, and performed his duties with great skill. This ceremony over, he rose and said that a most agreeable duty devolved upon him. At the last meeting of the lodge in Nov., the brethren were pleased to vote unanimously a P.M.'s jewel to their first W.M., Bro. John Derby Allcroft, and he now presented the jewel to him. It bore the following inscription: "Presented to Bro. John Derby Allcroft, by the Aldersgate Lodge, No. 1657, as a mark of esteem and in recognition of the courteous manner in which he discharged his duties of First W.M., 1877." He had the greatest pleasure in presenting this jewel in the name of the brethren. As he would have an opportunity of speaking about Bro. Allcroft at the banquet table he would now just content himself with saying that the brethren offered this jewel as a very small mark of their sincere regard and affection for Bro. Allcroft, and they hoped he might live long to enjoy that esteem and affection. Bro. Allcroft replying, said he thought he should best consult the convenience of the lodge in the midst of their work if he copied the example of the W.M., and reserved the remarks he had to make on the subject of this jewel till they had arrived at the proper period after banquet. Bro. Allcroft then gave notice of motion for increasing the fees of the lodge, and Bro. Landell suggested that a printed list of the members of the lodge should be supplied to every brother who was a member. Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to an exceptionally choice banquet provided by Bro. Benskin. The customary toasts followed, Bros. Cosens and Elwin,

(who had favoured the lodge with his company at great personal inconvenience), diversifying the formalities with some excellent singing. After the toasts of "The Queen and the Craft," "The M.W.G.M.," "The Pro G.M.," "The Deputy G.M., and the rest of the G. Officers, Past and Present," had been honoured, Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, P.G.C., in responding to the toast of "The Grand Officers," said, W. Sir, Officers and Brethren:—It is always a great privilege for anyone to have to respond in a meeting of his brother Masons, for the Present and Past Grand Officers of England, and I venture to esteem it not only a particular privilege but a very great pleasure personally, this evening, that my name has been so kindly associated with that toast in the Aldersgate Lodge. It was my happiness a year ago to officiate at the consecration of this new lodge, and I rejoice to be permitted to be present at the installation of its second W.M., as I am convinced that he is most entirely calculated to act in such a manner as to conduce to the harmony and happiness, to advance the efficiency and prosperity of this young lodge. (Applause.) The brethren present, doubtless have, as I have, a lively remembrance of the promising circumstances under which this lodge was inaugurated, when our esteemed Bro. P.M. Derby Allcroft, took the chair for the first time. I sincerely hope that the good fellowship, cordiality, and brotherly feeling of the members will ever be maintained, and that the Aldersgate Lodge has a goodly career of Masonic work and Masonic beneficence before it. (Applause.) It appears to me, W. Sir, that on an occasion like this, when many old and distinguished members of our Order are assembled together, and many young members are present, that it cannot be inopportune to say a word or two, on the great and praiseworthy claims of our ancient and honourable institution on the attachment of its members, and the good will of mankind. Freemasonry is a most peculiar society, for it conciliates firm friendships amid men of the most contracted views, and while it discountenances all religious and political controversies, it binds together in one brotherhood men of different nations and opinions in a common union of sympathy and interest. Within the doors of the lodge there are none of those unhappy differences and disputes which often so agitate the outer world. Masons are a "band of brothers," they meet as brethren, work as brethren, part as brethren, happy to meet, happy to part, and happy to meet again, (applause.) Among them are none of those rivalries and severances and jealousies, which so militate often with, and mar the peaceful progress and general happiness of the human race. I have been, W. Sir, for many years now a Freemason, having been initiated in 1842, and I have always found, that to belong to the brotherhood was a great blessing, for it taught me the useful lessons of toleration and forbearance in respect of the opinions of others. I have spent, as all have spent, many happy hours within the lodge, afar, in its tranquil retreat, from those petty questions and hurtful contests, those unkindly words and uncharitable acts, which too often make the course of the world without. (Applause.) In Freemasonry I have met men of all shades of belief and modes of thought. In Freemasonry I have associated with true and loyal and honourable men, animated towards each other by that intense feeling of active sympathy and unselfish regard, which ought always to characterize Freemasons. I feel proud of belonging to that great body, which under our Royal Grand Master has so wonderfully sped forward, and is now in such undimmed prosperity, presenting to the world—a goodly appearance of charitable work, an animated front of happy and peaceful union. (Applause.) In other countries I am sorry to say, France and Belgium especially, questions are now agitating Freemasonry which seem to undermine the whole framework of the Order. Standing in the safe and sacred path of the past, and by the truths and traditions which we have received from our forefathers, it is the determination of English Masons never to deviate from the ancient landmarks of the Order, and I believe, I speak the sentiment of all English Freemasons when I say, that nothing will induce us to tamper with the venerable and cosmopolitan teaching of Freemasonry. As God fearing, and God acknowledging men and Masons, we never will allow our good old Masonic Bark to drift from its moorings to the Rock of ages. (Applause.) Let me in conclusion remind the junior members of the lodge, that the future work and prestige of English Freemasonry are in their hands, and that they are bound to take up those duties which the older members of the Craft have performed, and I will say so well, in their time and generation. Remember, I repeat, that the happiness, prosperity, and union of the Order are dependant on the zeal and assiduity with which the successors of us the old Masons display in promulgating the tenets, and upholding the charitable work of the Craft. (Cheers.) Let me thank you once more on behalf of my brethren, the present and past Grand Officers, for the kindness with which you have received the toast connected with their names. (Applause.) The W.M. next proposed "The Installing Master, the Grand Secretary of England." (Cheers.) He said that to this illustrious brother they were all very much indebted, as he was kind enough last year to come and consecrate the lodge, and this year he had come again to perform the ceremony of installation of the second Master. The debt of gratitude which he (the W.M.) owed to Bro. Hervey was such that he would like to find some new words to express that gratitude. Bro. Hervey was an honorary member of perhaps a thousand lodges, certainly of some hundreds, and as he had, he supposed, in the course of time visited them all, he (the W.M.) was quite sure that all the eulogistic terms which could possibly be used by human tongues had been repeated more than once by the brethren, when they tried to express their sincere admi-

ration for his talents and devotion to Freemasonry. He felt convinced that every note on the key-board of praise, every string on the harp of eulogium had been touched already, and now whilst he endeavoured to find for himself a new strain or an untrodden path, he was obliged to have recourse to the old classics and to the old people of Rome and Greece, and say that he wished it was still the custom at banquets to adorn the honoured guests with "*convivales coronæ*." Still he did not think that such a wreath would be good enough for such a guest as Bro. Hervey. He (the W.M.) would rather, as they said in the ceremony of the evening, remember that, as Masons, they did not belong to the popular or uninstructed world, but to a select body of men. Therefore, let them suppose, for a moment, that they belonged to the patrician and priestly order of the "Salii," who used to wear, in ancient Rome, at their festival held about this time of the year, the "*corona subtilis*" a wreath, composed of the choicest leaves of the most beautiful roses sewn together. And then, he would, with all the skill he could possibly impart to his fingers, weave the most delicate wreath. And as King Solomon has compared the object of his admiration and love to the "Rose of Sharon," he would entwine some leaves of that beautiful flower with lilies of the valley and place that fragrant wreath on the venerable head of Bro. Hervey. This might be he hoped, a new and fresh tribute of the unbounded esteem and affection of the brethren for the Grand Secretary of England. He (the W.M.) trusted this would not be taken as flattery, for he only expressed the sentiments of his heart, as he felt the greatest admiration for the talents of Bro. Hervey and his devotion to the Craft. (Great cheering.) Bro. Hervey, in reply to the toast, said that when a man found himself in a difficulty the best thing he could do was to face it and endeavour to get out of it as he best might. That was his case at the present moment. The little service he had rendered that evening, certainly, he could scarcely think, with all deference to the W.M., had justified the high encomiums he had been kind enough to pass on him (Bro. Hervey.) True it was, at all times, his services were at the order of his brother Masons, and he was always glad when he could be of any service. If he had been of any service that evening he was pleased, and he could only say that he felt it an honour, having consecrated the lodge twelve months ago, to be asked by the I.P.M. to perform the installation ceremony. If those duties had been acceptable to the brethren and the W.M., he was amply repaid, and he could only return the brethren his cordial thanks for the kindness with which the W.M. had proposed his health, and say how pleased and glad he was to have had the opportunity of placing the W.M. in the chair, which he was sure he would honour. Bro. J. D. Allcroft next rose to propose "The Health of the W.M." He said that if there was a position in which a man would desire to be placed it was that position in which he was then placed, to speak of their friend of the Craft and brother in the chair, as the Master of the lodge, because he could look back to the time before this lodge was instituted, and to the friendship and esteem that he had formed for some years for their W.M. It was a great happiness in life when Providence cast men into a place where they were surrounded by very nice people whom they could love, and respect. God had been good to him in that respect, by casting his lot in many ways, and certainly in fulfilling that part, and among the pleasures that he had obtained in that way was the becoming acquainted with, and having the friendship of the W.M. The W.M. was one of those men, as he (Bro. Allcroft) read character, and as his experience of life taught him, who most thoroughly fulfilled those old Masonic duties of brotherly love, relief, and truth. In every one of those points he would challenge any man in the city of London to find any fault with Bro. Brette. He would hold him up as a very strong and sound pattern of all those qualities. And now when they came within the lodge and saw the way in which he had passed through the office of S.W., and the way in which that night he had carried out the duties of the chair, he thought as sitting in the Chair of K.S. he was a very worthy successor of all who had ever filled such a chair before him. He thought from the sample they had seen that evening they had every reason to be gratified and proud with the prospect that was before them of the way in which the work of this lodge would be conducted in the year that was to come. He would now ask the brethren to join him in offering their testimony on those points, and to drink with him to their friend, Bro. Brette, good health, every blessing during his year of office, a long continuance of the many favours that he had received, and might he have an increasing rise in his various degrees beyond those he had already obtained. They all knew the steady perseverance of his character and the determination with which he took up everything, and the hearty goodwill he threw into all his pursuits. (Great cheering.) The W.M. in answer, said he did not know how to reply to Bro. Allcroft's kind expressions and the enthusiasm of the brethren. He could only say that in accepting office, he had made up his mind to work, and that if God Almighty gave him strength during the ensuing year he hoped he would have plenty to do and many candidates to initiate. He assured the brethren, that in the absence of any candidates, he would take good care that they should have explanations of some of the tracing boards or even some lectures on the different degrees, as he had made up his mind that during his year of office their Bro. Junior Warden would never call them to refreshment without having had labour to perform. Were he not suffering from a bad cold he would have liked to say a few words about the duties of the chair, as he understood them, but he would wait for another occasion, and content himself with thanking the brethren from the very bottom of his heart for their kind expression of good wishes towards him, and he hoped that this night twelve

months when he retired from the chair he would have earned by honest work their esteem and regard. (Cheers.) The W.M. next proposed "The Masonic Charities," and reminded the brethren that about ten days after the lodge was consecrated last year he had the honour of representing it at the festival of the Benevolent Institution with a list of £100. This year the I.P.M. was going to be the Steward to that fund, on Wednesday, (the 13th). This year also Bro. Altman was to be the Steward for the Girls' and Bro. Allcroft for the Boys'. They were anxious that the Aldersgate Lodge should take a conspicuous place among the Stewards of those festivals, and in proposing this toast he would couple with it the name of Bro. Landell, who had always been advocating the cause of the charities. (Applause.) Bro. W. W. Landell, P.G. Steward, said he had been a Mason for fifty-six years, come April, and it had always been his wish to take that part which a Mason ought to take. He hoped he had done so, but he had not done so in large amounts, but frequently; and he thought Bro. Hervey would find his name in some place or other. What he gave, however, was given in good will. That was called a personal remark, but he mentioned it for an encouragement to those who might follow him, to whom the W.M. had addressed his exhortation. He would very heartily recommend them to gratify themselves by going to Grand Lodge and the Lodge of Benevolence, where they would see the bounty dispersed month by month. It was one of the most exciting and satisfactory sights any one could witness. After a man had roved about the city of London fourscore years and found himself in a lodge like this, where his name was mentioned with respect, it was very gratifying, but it was not the individual himself but the Craft which had brought that honour upon him; it was his obedience to that Craft, that love to it which tied him to it, which enabled him to stand before the brethren now in that honoured position. He would say that the smallest mite—the widow's mite—given in hearty Masonic feeling, that was worth all the rest. He had already done his part, but he should not let that principle drop, for he should animate his son, his grandson, (Bro. John Jackson) to subscribe always. He thought he had done his duty only, and if he could extend his feelings to his grandson he should be pleased. His time on earth was now but short, but if T.G.A.O.T.U. spared him he might teach his grandson to be useful in his generation, to imbibe the principles of the W.M. in the chair, and to tread in his (Bro. Landell) footsteps, who loved the society so much, that though in a humble way, he had tried to assist it. Let him give in sincerity, and exhibit that brotherly love, relief, and truth which he had promised to adhere to. In this spirit he had supported the Institution. Fifty years ago he became a subscriber to the Girls'; to the Boys' afterwards; and he thought it was the least he could do to recommend his grandson to follow him up. He trusted he might be privileged to thank the W.M., and to hope that he had up to the present moment upheld the principles of Masonry, and when he was not able to take office himself his friends and scions might recollect that he (Bro. Landell) had been a good Mason. (Great cheering.) The W.M. proposed "The Health of the I.P.M." Twelve months ago the lodge was proposed, and it was owing to the great munificence and liberality of Bro. Allcroft that it was started. On Wednesday Bro. Allcroft would be a Vice-Patron of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and at the next festival of the Girls' School he would be Vice-Patron of that Charity. Lastly, at the Boys' Festival, in June or July, he would be Vice-Patron of that School also. This was a great honour for the Aldersgate Lodge to see their first W.M. Vice-Patron of the three Masonic Charities, in the same year. The brethren knew what Bro. Allcroft had done outside Masonry, in the City of London, at Christ's Hospital, of which he was the Treasurer, and in the country at large. In whatever position he was he won the greatest esteem, and he (the W.M.) respecting him very highly in the Institutions he had mentioned, (Christ's Hospital), still felt that respect enhanced when he found he was an old Mason. Bro. Allcroft was initiated in 1847, and when it was proposed to start the Aldersgate Lodge the brethren thought they could not do better than to have him for their first W.M. The brethren had that evening presented him with a P.M.'s jewel as a mark of their esteem and respect, and they hoped that he might be long spared to enjoy the affection of all those who were near and dear to him, as well as the esteem and friendly regard of his fellow citizens, but especially the deep regard, great affection and high esteem of all the brethren of the Aldersgate Lodge. (Cheers.) Bro. Allcroft replied. He said the jewel presented to him he should cherish and love, and he hoped, look upon with great delight so long as God should spare him. It was one of those jewels which he should feel the greatest pride in wearing, and he hoped to be spared to come from year to year into the Aldersgate Lodge. It would be to him a remembrance of the brethren's kind forbearance, in the year that had passed. He regretted he had not had a more efficient training before he undertook (unadvisedly and rashly as he thought) the office of Master of this lodge. He had been a Mason thirty years, and that period added on to a man's life made it very difficult for him to pick up the threads of his duty and to store them up in his mind. His mind was full of figures, of little boys and girls, and domestic duties which were paramount with him. There was one pleasure which he should always remember. In the past year the ceremonies of initiation, passing and raising had been beautifully performed by Bro. Hyde Pullen, and he (Bro. Allcroft) thanked him now very much for having done so. The Aldersgate Lodge was now well started, and it would prosper. It had been his ambition that it should succeed and be one of the best of lodges. When he should be relegated to the quiet place of worn out men and put on one side, he hoped to enjoy seeing the work well performed. He wished to say to the young Masons that there were great

openings in Masonic life before them, if they would persevere and thoroughly master the subjects which came before them, and give their mind and heart to the principles and duties of Masonry and the cultivation of them, the lodge would from year to year grow. He was quite sure the working of Bro. Brette, would be such as to induce them to strive to come up to his standard. The toasts of "The Visitors," "The Treas. and Sec." and "The Officers," followed, and the Tyler's Toast brought a charming evening to a conclusion.

BATH.—Royal Cumberland Lodge, (No. 41).—The annual festival was held at the Masonic Hall on Thursday, February 7th. The lodge was opened at 4.15 by Bro. F. Wilkinson, W.M., supported by Bros. Brown, I.P.M. and P.G.S.W.; Falkner, S.W.; C. Wilkinson, J.W.; Ashley, Treas. and P.M.; Braham, Sec.; J. Turner, P.M., as Dir. of Cers.; Gummer, S.D.; Hunt, J.D.; Radway, I.G.; Robinson and Mercer, Stewards; Bigwood, Tyler. The P.M.'s present were Bros. Major Preston, P.P.G.S.W.; Moutrie, Dr. Hopkins, P.P.G.S.W. for Warwickshire. There were also many members of No. 41. As visitors, Bros. Genl. Doherty, P.P.G.S.W. and P.M. 53 and 906; E. T. Payne, P.G.D., P.M. 53, and P.G. Treas.; Col. Ford, P.M. 53, and P.P.G.R.; Gauntley, P.M. 632, and P.G. Sup. Wks.; Dill, P.M. 906, and P.G.P.; H. Culliford Hopkins, W.M. 379; Edwards, W.M. 53; Sumsion, P.M. 855; H. Gore, P.M. 379; E. Jones, P.M. 68; F. Neebe, 1254; Freeman, Stewd. 906. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Many letters of apology for absence were read, chiefly on account of illness. A grant of ten guineas was made to the Girls' School, to be placed on the list of the D.P.G.M., who proposes to attend the annual festival as a Steward. The bye-laws were read by the Sec. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, but the W.M. announced that the candidate named in the summons could not make it convenient to attend, therefore the installation would be proceeded with. The chair was taken by Bro. Ashley, as Installing Master. Bro. F. Wilkinson was presented on his reappointment as W.M. by Bro. Moutrie. The usual preliminaries were gone through, including the reading of and assent to the charges, and the obligation of W.M. elect was administered. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, in which Bro. F. Wilkinson was again placed in his chair, as in this case it was unnecessary to open a Board of Installed Masters. Bro. Brown was re-invested as I.P.M., after which the Installing Master called on Bro. Dr. Hopkins to give the Masonic application of his jewel containing the 47th proposition of the 1st Book of Euclid, with which request he complied. The lodge was brought down to the Second and then to the first Degree, the usual salutations and proclamations, &c., being given in each case. The following brethren were appointed and invested as officers for the next year: Falkner, S.W.; Braham, J.W.; Ashley, Treas.; Gummer, Sec.; Wilton, D.C.; Hunt, S.D.; Radway, J.D.; Robinson, I.G.; Mercer and Holmes, Stewards.; Bigwood, Tyler. Bro. Ashley concluded the ceremony by delivering the addresses to the W.M., Wardens, and brethren in so eloquent a manner as to elicit loud applause from those present. The W.M. briefly thanked the brethren for the honour conferred upon him by his re-appointment as W.M. Bro. Dr. Hopkins proposed a cordial vote of thanks to the Installing Master for his services, remarking that, accustomed as he had been for 30 years to witness installations, he had never seen one performed more efficiently even as to the correct rendering of it, but in the present instance it had moreover been characterised by unusual eloquence, gracefulness, fervour and deep feeling, and from his own personal experience he could testify to the care and attention requisite for so perfect a ceremony. As one of the oldest P.M.'s present (though not of this lodge) he could not refrain from the earnest expression of his gratification, which he was sure would meet with a hearty response on the part of the brethren. This was seconded by the W.M. and carried by acclamation. Bro. Ashley briefly acknowledged the compliment and the earnestness with which it had been offered. Votes of thanks were also passed to the officers of the past year and to the visitors. The lodge was closed at 6 o'clock, and the brethren adjourned to the Castle Hotel for the annual banquet.

NORWICH.—Union Lodge (No. 52).—The annual installation and banquet of this lodge (W.M., Bro. Tyssen-Amhurst) took place on Tuesday, 14th inst., at the Norfolk Hotel, the ceremony being effectively performed by that worthy veteran of Freemasonry, Major Penrice, D.P.G.M. of Norfolk. Colonel Boileau was the gallant brother on whom this honour fell, and he afterwards appointed his officers as follows:—Chas. Cubitt, S.W.; Sir Francis Boileau, J.W.; A. H. Santy, S.D.; Spencer Stevens, J.D.; R. H. Walpole, I.G.; G. C. Stephens, Secretary and Treasurer; Waldo Cholmeley, Chaplain. Mr. H. S. Gilman, of Gowhatty, Assam, India, was an initiate. The banquet which followed was of a recherché character; there was a large gathering of the lodge and visiting brethren, among the latter being Lord Suffield, R.W. Prov. G.M. of Norfolk, who, in response to his health, made the gratifying announcement that Bro. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales had intimated to him his willingness to lay the foundation stone of the projected Masonic Hall, should the time fixed be convenient. The ground is being cleared, and we may expect to see the work commenced shortly. The usual routine of toasts followed, and the proceedings were of a most pleasant character.

KING'S LYNN.—Philanthropic Lodge (No. 107).—This lodge is par excellence the pick of the province so far as membership is concerned, while its working is admirable. The Duke's Head has the finest lodge room in Norfolk, "which nobody can deny," and Jolly Host Marshall, the Royal Posting Master, leaves not a stone unturned in ministering to the comfort and requirements of the brethren, at the head of whom stands the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M. of all England; indeed we believe

(Continued on page 95).

Reviews.

"Unclaimed Money: A Handy Book for Heirs and Next of Kin." By EDWARD PRESTON. Allen, 11, Ave Maria Lane.

Everybody, it is said, likes "Money," and nobody certainly objects to find himself entitled to a nice little sum, lying snugly in the "Unclaimed Dividends." We think, then, that Mr. Preston deserves the thanks of the community for the publication of his interesting little work. The only objection to it is that it is practically incomplete and imperfect. What we want is not a general statement, but a careful list of all unclaimed dividends, whether in Consols or South Sea Stock. We never could conceive why there should be any "reticence" on the part of our officials in the matter. It is so manifestly "pro bono publico" that all such facts should be made known, that we cannot conceive, except upon the most antiquated principles of the "Circumlocution Office," why such information should any longer be denied to the public. We are well aware of the old stereotyped objection of Mr. Chief Clerk Grogan, that such "mistaken publicity will lead to a great deal of correspondence, cause many lawsuits, encourage many impostors, and in fact, give a great deal of trouble to the office." Even supposing that it does so, we have to think of the public, not of the office, and it is so manifestly for the general good, that we wonder in these reforming days any hesitation remains at the subject. We desiderate a proper official publication, to be had at a cheap rate, of all unclaimed sums in Dividends, South Sea Stock Prize money, and the Chancery Suitors' Fund, as there can be no doubt, that much money which is now locked up would be claimed by the representatives of those, who are in utter ignorance of the existence of such sums of money at all. This would be for the good of trade and all concerned. Mr. Preston gives us for instance a tantalising selection of unclaimed South Sea dividends. Why does he not publish the whole original list?

The work is both amusing and interesting in the highest degree.

"Catalogue of Books in the Library of the Supreme Council, 33, Golden-square."

We have received and studied with gratification this interesting Catalogue. It is the most complete of any public Masonic or quasi Masonic body in this country. Unfortunately Grand Lodge has no library much in our humble opinion to the discredit of English Masons and English Masonry, but at present we fear there is little prospect of rousing our English Craft from their mistaken and culpable apathy. The Supreme Council, wise in their generation, have now got together a very important collection of books, and we congratulate them sincerely and admiringly on the fact, as a fact. We have run through the Catalogue, and are struck by its fulness under some heads if we are equally affected by its weakness under others. But nothing can be done in a hurry, and least of all can a Masonic Library be easily collected. As was to be expected while it abounds in Hermetic and high grade publications, it is deficient in early Craft books. It also seems to want many German and modern works, but when we have said this, we have said all. It is a most interesting and valuable collection, and those who have got it together, and those who have arranged it, claim the greatest encomiums from all Masonic readers and students. We wish, as we said above, that we could see our way to hope, that our Grand Lodge will follow so good an example. It ought to have the finest Masonic Library in the world, but alas! it has practically none, and we do not see at present any prospect of such a good work being carried out. If ever it comes about, it will have, we feel, to be done by private Masonic munificence, by those who take a deep and real interest in Masonic archaeology, MSS. and old books.

"Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, November, 1877."

We have looked over these printed minutes, and feel bound to notice them. They deal mainly with that mournful state of things which has existed until recently in the Grand Secretary's office, in Edinburgh. Bro Bickerton, of Glasgow, on the principle most good and true, "Fiat justitia ruat cælum," has impugned the careless supervision of the "Finance Committee." We think that he has done his duty in calling attention to the subject, but having done so, he had better "leave well alone," and let "bygones be bygones." If the past is not pleasant to contemplate under any aspect, let us trust and believe, as we well may, that under the energetic administration of Bro. D. Murray Lyon, the Scottish Grand Lodge has an assured present and a prosperous future before it.

"East Anglian Hand Book."

This useful and interesting work has again appeared, and we wish its zealous Editor and Publisher all success.

"The Historie of Leadenhall" preserved by Dowling and Son.

How our forefathers would have stared at this remarkable specimen of the "puff politic," and ingenious trade advertisements? It is both very skillfully devised, and ably drawn up. If, as we doubt not, the produce of Messrs. Dowling's entrepôt be as good as this little book is well got up, we feel sure that Messrs. Dowling's customers will have no cause to complain, and we feel bound to offer them our "heartly good wishes," as we fully realize the importance and value of what they so liberally and temptingly offer to careful providers and hungry citizens.

"Masonic Jewel" A. WHEELER, Memphis, U.S.A. A most capital and readable Masonic Magazine.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF HAMPSHIRE AND THE ISLE OF WIGHT.

A convocation of this Provincial Grand Chapter was held by the Prov. Grand Superintendent, Comp. W. W. Beach, M.P., at the Masonic Hall, Ryde, on the 1st. inst., the Prov. G. Supt. occupying the chair of First Principal; Comp. Hickman, that of H.; and Comp. Booth, that of J.

The following companions, amongst others, attended: Comp. E. Booth, 394, P.P.G.S.; Joseph W. Dyson, 130, P.G. 2nd A.S.; J. H. Biggs, 130, P.G. Janitor; H. J. Guy, 342, P.P.G.S.B.; J. T. Craven, 342, P.G. Std. Br.; William Payne, 342, P.P.G.S.B.; R. J. Turney, 342, P.G. Std. Br.; G. S. Lancaster, 487, P.P.G. 2nd A.S.; H. T. Cecil, 487, P.P.G.D.C.; Robt. Osborne, 487, P.P.G.O.; Joseph Exell, 417, P.G. Janitor; T. Batchelor, 487, P.G. S.N.; M. E. Frost, 487, P.G. Treas.; J. B. Thomas, 394, P.G.P.S.; J. E. Le Feuvre, 394, P.G.S.E.; J. Harrison, 804, P.P.G.A.S.; G. F. Lancaster, 903, P.P.G.B.B.; J. W. Palmer, 175; George Pack, 175 W. Menzies, 175; J. Hall Smith, 145; J. Parkes, 175; F. Newman, 175; M. Morgan, 175; J. Langden, 175; R. L. Loveland, A. Platt Wilkes, 175; H. Cawte, 175, P.P.G. Std. Br.; H. J. Guy, 342; George P. Arnold, 342; J. C. Stroud, 359; W. Bowyer, 359; G. N. Godwin, 257; J. Winterbottom, 257; L. P. Palsgrave, 487; W. Outridge, 487; Arthur W. Brown, 487; R. W. Downman, 903; H. Sleeman, 903; S. Mason, 1141; C. C. Petley, 175; C. C. Petley, 175; C. B. Whitcombe, 903; J. Willmott, 487.

The minutes of the last Prov. Grand Chapter, held at Southampton, having been read and confirmed, the Prov. Grand Treasurer produced his accounts, showing a balance in hand of £45, and these having been adopted, Comp. Booth, P.P.G.J., proposed, and Comp. Batchelor, P.G. S.N., seconded the re-election, of Comp. M. E. Frost as P.G. Treas., which was, as a matter of course, carried unanimously Comp. Frost being extremely popular among his brethren and companions. His re-election having been suitably acknowledged, the Prov. Grand Superintendent appointed and invested the following companions as his officers for the ensuing year:

- W. Hickman, 394 Prov. G.H.
- H. Carrott, 175 Prov. G.J.
- J. E. LeFeuvre, 394 Prov. G. Scribe E.
- R. L. Loveland, 257 Prov. G. Scribe N.
- G. F. Lancaster, 903 Prov. G.P. Soj.
- H. Sleeman, 903 Prov. G. 1st Asst.
- J. T. Craven, 342 Prov. G. 2nd Asst.
- M. E. Frost, 257 Prov. G. Treas.
- Dr. A. G. P. Wilks, 175 Prov. G. Reg.
- W. Bowyer, 353 Prov. G. Swd. Br.
- J. W. Willmott, 342 Prov. Std. Br.
- C. B. Whitcombe, 903 Prov. G. D. of C.
- R. Osborne, 487 Prov. G. Org.

At the conclusion of the proceedings the companions sat down to an excellent dinner at the Pier Hotel, and all separated, well pleased with their reception by the East Medina Chapter, it being the first occasion since the Isle of Wight was united to Hampshire that the Prov. Grand Chapter have met in the island.

It may be mentioned that during the past year two new chapters have been constituted in the province, one attached to the Gosport Lodge, No. 903, and the other to the Oakley, No. 694, at Basingstoke.

COMPLIMENTARY CONCERT TO A LIVERPOOL FREEMASON.

On Monday evening, the 4th inst., a grand complimentary concert was given by the Liverpool brethren to Bro. Joseph Busfield, of the Harmonic Lodge, No. 216, at Hope Hall, Liverpool.

This concert was given in recognition of the professional services which that brother has graciously rendered at numerous Masonic gatherings in the district. The entertainment was under the special patronage of Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M. of England and P.G.M. West Lancashire, and amongst those present was a large number of Masonic brethren. A choice and carefully selected programme was very successfully rendered, the various artistes being warmly received by a highly appreciative audience. The vocalists were Mrs. Skeaf, Miss Jackson, Miss Armstrong, Bro. Busfield, Bro. Armstrong, Bro. T. J. Hughes, and the members of the Apollo Glee Club. Mr. Weston solo violoncello, and Bro. Joseph Skeaf, P.G.O., pianist, also assisted. The arrangements were carried out by a committee comprising some of the principal Masonic brethren in Liverpool.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales will, by command of the Queen, hold a levee at St. James's Palace, on behalf of her Majesty, on Monday, March 11th, at two o'clock.

In the February number of that excellently conducted serial, the *Masonic Magazine*, is given the first part of an interesting Hermetic work, with several quaint wood cuts. The remarks of the editor upon the present aspect of Masonic affairs deserve to be read in every English lodge.—*Sunday Times*.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Old Sores, Wounds and Ulcers.—The reading with which Holloway's unguent removes all obstructions in the circulation of the vessels and lymphatics, explains their irresistible influence in healing old sores, bad wounds and indolent ulcers. To insure the desired effect the skin surrounding the diseased part should be fomented, dried, and immediately well rubbed with the Ointment. This will give purity to the foul blood and strength to the weakened nerves, the only conditions necessary for the cure of all those ulcerations which render life almost intolerable. No sooner is this Ointment's protective powers exerted than the destructive process ceases and the constructive business begins—new healthy growth appears to fill up the lately painful excavated pit.—Advr.

NOTES ON ART, &c.

The Commissary General of the French Ministry on Commerce has issued a notice relative to the Exhibition, asking members of commissions, including the presidents, vice-presidents, and secretaries of foreign commissions for the service of the Exhibition, to deposit their photographs (two copies in carte-de-visite size), with names written legibly on the back. The cards of entrance will then be transmitted.

A singular phenomenon has just been witnessed at the village La Clappe, about three miles from Draguignan (Var). A plot of ground planted with vines and olive trees slowly sank in and disappeared, leaving a gulf of a funnel-shaped form about 120 feet in diameter at the surface and forty feet at the bottom. At the depth of 100 feet may be seen water, in which the earth has been swallowed up.—*Post*.

The sword and decorations belonging to King Victor Emmanuel were presented with great ceremony on Saturday to the municipality of Turin by Prince Amadeus.

M. Gustave Doré is engaged on a colossal group of sculpture for the Paris Exhibition, representing Death suffocating Genius under palm-trees.

M. Offenbach has two new works on hand just now. He is finishing an opera-bouffe, the *Blue Bird*, for the Paris Gaité; and is also writing a Spanish piece, to be brought out during the Exhibition.

At a recent lecture at Vienna, before a large audience, Dr. E. Lewy, says *Nature*, proved that the human skin is completely impenetrable for the chemical contact of mineral waters. This annuls all common views regarding the bathing cures effected by the various mineral springs.

A new Lifeboat, designed and built by Captain Hans Busk on the same model as those he has given to other stations, has been presented by the designer to the Seamen's Orphan Home at Brixham. The boat is specially notable for lightness, weighing little over a ton, while the craft of the National Lifeboat Institute average four tons, and yet can carry quite as many persons as the latter. She carries twelve oars, double-banked, and is very handy under canvas, even when filled with water, being provided with capacious gun-metal air cases, which give her marvellous buoyancy, while she can be launched with great facility.

At Dresden, a new "Royal Theatre," built on the same place where the old one stood (which was destroyed by fire in 1869), has been opened in presence of the King and Queen. Semper, the architect, is said also to be known in England. The new theatre is described as one of the finest in Europe, surpassing (says a telegram to the *Daily News*) by the most artistic application of the noblest forms of renaissance the opera-houses at Paris and Berlin.

Fans of Natural Flowers are now used by Transatlantic brides, while the attendant bridesmaids carry flower-balls, and the guests wear bonnets composed of real blossoms.

Post cards in India have been introduced by an economically-minded Colonel, who petitioned the Government to issue these cards, and on being refused took upon himself to print a special form, duly inscribed with the Royal arms, and leaving space for address and half-anna stamp. The Post in India is obliged to carry letters of any form or kind under a certain weight for half-anna, and although the postal authorities have remonstrated and requested the withdrawal of the cards, the Colonel continues triumphant. He now intends to print regular post-cards, and to supply the general public with packets similar to these sold in England.

It is related in the *Times* despatches from Paris that an English maidservant, twenty-one years of age, named Harriot Harrington, has been admitted into the Infirmary of the Prefecture of Police, who is reported to have drunk during the month of January ninety-five litres of wine and forty litres of brandy, and to have uttered for some days no sounds but those of barking like a dog—according to Dr. Durand, an effect of over drinking.

Hippophagy in London will shortly have a fair trail, as two Frenchmen intend to open shops for the sale of horseflesh as food under the auspices of the Paris Society for Promoting Hippophagy. The Society has asked the Lord Mayor for permission to carry on the business, stating that although the English population might perhaps be repugnant to this kind of food, there are plenty of Frenchmen in London to support the scheme, and the Lord Mayor has replied that his permission is unnecessary, but that he wishes the experiment the success it deserves. Londoners, however, are more dainty in the matter of eating than Parisians, and it is hardly likely that the experiment will succeed here so quickly as in Paris, where, since the first boucherie was opened in 1866 the number of horses, asses, and mules consumed has risen from 2,102 in 1867 to 10,619 in 1877, while there are now sixty-one boucheries in Paris alone, and many in the other principal towns of France.

THE "STATIST."—A new weekly journal under this title is to appear in March, and will present, we are informed, some novel features. It will contain a set of tables analysing and comparing the principal facts as to the state of trade and the money market in a new and comprehensive manner. Several of the leading statisticians and economists are among the contributors, including some of the contributors to the *Economist* for many years before Mr. Bagehot's death. Besides thorough discussions on all matters of trade and national finance, the journal, it is understood, will also contain a series of papers on the different rates and conditions of profit in the various descriptions of joint-stock enterprise, particularly railways, banks, insurance companies, telegraphs, and tramways; and there will be a correspondent's page, in which the editors will reply to inquiries on business matters which may be addressed to them.

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.

NOTICE.

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

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

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

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

ADVERTISEMENTS to ensure insertion in current week's issue should reach the Office, 198, Fleet-street, by 12 o'clock on Wednesdays.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The FREEMASON has a large circulation in all parts of the Globe, its advantages as an advertising medium can herefore scarcely be overrated.

Answers to Correspondents.

THE MASTERS LIGHT.—We think it better not to encourage ritual discussions.

BOOKS &c., RECEIVED.

"Debrett's Peerage, Baronage, and Knightage, 1878," "Bauhutte," "Medical Examiner," "Hull Packet," "Broad Arrow," "Risorgimento," "The Indent and General Prices Current," "Proceedings of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts," "Proceedings of the Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of the State of Virginia," "The Advocate," "The Masonic Herald," "Freemasonry: the Three Masonic Graces, Faith, Hope, and Charity," "The Saint Christopher Advertiser," "The Voice of the People, (St. Kitt's)," "New York Dispatch," "The Radius Time Table," "Der Triangel," "Voice of Masonry," "Weston Times."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

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

BIRTHS.

DAKIN.—On the 9th inst., at Champion Park, Denmark-hill, the wife of T. B. Dakin, of a son.

DEHANE.—On the 8th inst., at 14, Woodfield Crescent, London, W., the wife of H. E. Dehane Esq., of a daughter.

PENFOLD.—On the 18th ult., at Weymouth, the wife of F. Penfold, Esq., Paymaster, R.N., of a daughter.

SIMPSON.—On the 8th inst., at Denmark-terrace, Brighton, the wife of R. Simpson, of a son.

STANTON.—On the 10th inst., at Marquis-road, Finsbury Park, the wife of H. A. Stanton, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

POWLES—PLUMMER.—On the 9th inst., at St. Mary's Stratford Tony, Wilts, Thomas Yardley Powles Esq., of Walton-on-Thames, to Jane, daughter of the Rev. M. Plummer.

DEATHS.

BENNETT.—On the 9th inst., Charles Bennett, P.M., 25, Chancery Lane.

BIRON.—On the 9th inst., at Lympne, Kent, Edwin Biron, aged 44.

JONES.—On the 7th inst., at Great College-street, Camden Town, John Jones, in his 63rd year.

PENFOLD.—On the 22nd ult., at Rodwell, Weymouth, Arthur, son of F. Penfold, Esq., Paymaster R.N.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1878.

THE FESTIVAL OF THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The first great festival of our metropolitan charities has taken place, and with the following noteworthy result:—Bro. Terry announced as the result of the efforts of the Stewards, that £11,090 had been received for this excellent charity. We congratulate the Stewards, the Committee, and Bro. Terry on this auspicious commencement of the charitable campaign on behalf of our Benevolent and Educational Institutions in 1878, under the distinguished Presidency of Bro. the Duke of Manchester.

The analysis of the returns requires a little more time than we can give to it this week, especially considering our printing exigencies, but we shall hope to return to the subject, always interesting to Freemasons, next week.

THE INSTALLATION ENGRAVING.

We had intended saying a few words about this most interesting and completed "magnum opus," most creditable to Bro. Harty—but owing to pressure on our columns defer our remarks until next week. A copy of this remarkable work of art is now on view at 198, Fleet-street.

THE SCOTTISH RITE.

Bro. Hubert announces in the *Chaine d'Union* for January that the Congress of the "Rite Ecossais" is to be held this year in London. This is a fact of which we were previously ignorant, and which comes upon us with some surprise, nay, and we will add, regret. Of the expediency just now of such a meeting in London we have, we confess, the gravest doubts. In the present state of serious uncertainty as regards much of continental Freemasonry, and the exact position of the Scottish Rite in the great controversy going on, and which seems to our insular and perhaps foggy minds very hazy indeed, we cannot hold out any hopes that such a gathering in London will be looked on approvingly by any large number of English Masons. We doubt very much whether the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Rite in England, judging from the wisdom and caution which have characterised their proceedings, will be very desirous to encourage an assembly which may prove to be a serious embarrassment to themselves. For these questions must at once present themselves to every reflecting Masonic mind, "Cui bono?" What does it all mean? What are they "up to?" Whither are they going? Whatever interest such proceedings may have for members of the Scottish Rite, they can have none for Craft Masons, who do not recognize the right of that body to the claim of a Masonic jurisdiction of any sort in their territorial limits, that is to say, without the "zone" presided over by a lawful Craft Grand Lodge. Whatever rights the Scottish Rite has over those grades which are peculiar to it, and which sever it distinctly from Craft Masonry, and which no one seeks to dispute or deny, it cannot have any jurisdiction over symbolic lodges. But, unfortunately, in some parts at any rate, symbolic lodges are worked under the Scottish Rite, and therefore though we admit the practice, in Europe at any rate is the reverse, at least, nearly so, all Craft Masons must regard with some natural apprehension any attempt to establish a quasi-rival jurisdiction, an "imperium in imperio," and can only concede to the Scottish Rite its undoubted position as a so-called High Grade, though no higher in fact, and far less ancient, than symbolic Masonry. We hope, therefore, that the announcement is incorrect, and that the Congress will meet elsewhere. We are all in peace happily in England. We have no insane commotions, sterile debates, or childish logomachies; and while the supreme and sovereign authority of the Grand Lodge is conceded, a most wise and kindly toleration is entertained to all the "High Grades," their independent position is recognized, their indigenous rights un-

questioned. In fact, all the evil and all the controversies that have arisen from time to time have emanated from the attempt to combine two antagonistic jurisdictions, Craft and Chivalric Masonry. We hope, then, that either Brussels or Paris will be the "locale" of the meeting. The former place would, by its Exhibition, be an attraction to the members of the Scottish Rite, and as the Congress is not qua a Congress likely to result in much positive good, Paris is undoubtedly the place where it can do the least possible harm.

THE DEATH OF THE POPE.

Since last we addressed our readers the death of the Venerable Pontiff Pio Nono has been announced. With his rule as Chief Bishop of the Roman Catholic Church we have nothing whatever to do, but as the late benevolent Pontiff was both by implication and directly concerned with Freemasonry, we think it well and seasonable to devote a few lines to his memory. It has been said that he was a Freemason, but that assertion rests on no valid authority. So far, all the allegations advanced, and all the evidence adduced, are historically unreliable, and may safely without hesitation be relegated to the "Limbus," of things mythic. The explanation of these repeated assertions is now probably to be found in this, that in the early years of his life, at a time when he was a liberal among Italian liberals, and associated with Mazzini and others, he was received into one of the numerous forms of secret Italian associations which then abounded whether as Carbonari or under some other euphonious appellation, like the "Decisi." But that Pio Nono was a Freemason, we do not believe, having carefully examined into all available evidence on the subject, and finding none that will satisfy the imperative demands of historical accuracy and straightforward matter-of-fact. But Pio Nono is known to Freemasons as having revived in the form of an allocution in our humble opinion as the most unwise advice of the Roman Curia, the slumbering Papal denunciations against, and condemnation of Freemasonry everywhere. If such anathemata, whose wild threats and empty menaces failed one hundred and fifty years, how much more must they do so to-day, when all such claims of infallible authority are little likely either to receive assent or to command adherence. But we do not think that we are to blame the good old Pope too severely for this fresh proof that the present Roman Catholic authorities have in no way degenerated from the pious perversity of their predecessors in office. Pio Nono himself was a kindly, pleasant, cheerful worthy man, who, at another epoch, might have done more than he did do, but who has through Ultramontane excitement left a most doubtful legacy to the Roman Catholic Church of a ceaseless contest with the government, the ideas, the civilization of the epoch, and that on the worst and lowest of all grounds, the material possessions, the personal privileges, the asserted right of the spiritual (?) power as opposed to the temporal! We trust that the Roman Catholic Church will learn wisdom by experience, and that a "tertium quid" of accommodation as between an infallible spiritual authority and a legal earthly government. Let us hope, too, that the New Pope will leave us Freemasons alone, who never seek to quarrel with any religious body or temporal power in the world. We have thought it but proper to pen these few lines in respect of the deceased and well-intentioned Pontiff, and to say, in all Masonic sincerity, "Peace to his Manes!"

THE AMENITIES OF MASONIC CORRESPONDENCE.

We have perused some recent correspondence in the *Standard*—a monthly magazine, published at Bombay in September—with the deepest feelings of pain, and we will add humiliation. For surely such letters, (be the blame on which side it may), exhibit Freemasonry in a most ridiculous and unseemly light to the whole outer world. What will "profanes" think of us "Sons of Light" who rush into print on any

alleged or practical wrong, and pour forth the angry diatribe and the bitter sarcasm and the vehement retort, without the slightest consideration for the feelings of a brother, the habit of gentlemen, or the welfare of the brotherhood at large? We have often said, and we repeat it today, that Freemasons in print often prove that not only they are mortal—most mortal, with a vengeance—but make everyone also come to the conclusion that they can be if they like it the most uncharitable, the most censorious, and the most implacable of mankind. We sincerely hope that mutual friends in India will intervene to prevent the repetition of such a scandal in the pages of professedly Masonic journals, and which can only result in greatly lowering the prestige and popularity of Freemasonry in Hindostan. But we think it well, having said this, to lay down certain laws in respect of Masonic publications, which appear to us to be both needed and most seasonable. It is quite clear, in the first place, that any brother has a right to start and conduct a Masonic journal, be there one or "many Richards already in the field," and that no publisher has a Masonic or moral right to object to the appearance of such an "interesting little stranger." Masonry is free, and the Masonic press is free, and we are among those who consider, that under some proper restrictions and with some necessary limitations, (as must always be in the assertion of first principles), the extension and increase of Masonic journalism, are good things "per se." The *Freemason*, for instance, has no fear of competing interests, or open opposition. It would hail all properly conducted Masonic journals as fair rivals in an honest race of industry and experiment, and we therefore cannot conceive why any other Masonic Editor or Publisher should feel aggrieved by the appearance of another creditable Masonic journal or magazine. But unfortunately, as the great Bard has it, "here's the rub." In order to start a new Masonic paper or magazine with "eclat," it is considered advisable too often to condescend to sensationalism, and to inaugurate a new venture, by a personal attack on an existing and perfectly legitimate Masonic enterprise. There may be room for two or three, one or more than one, and no one objects to this new "petit sujet," but that is not enough. In order to establish a footing it is needful to "abuse the plaintiff's attorney," and to cast stones at the existing publication, which has been long well conducted, and commands a considerable amount of Masonic support and consideration. And no doubt it is very difficult for one who has laboured hard for years when he finds his property affected and his character aspersed, not to lose his temper, and to retort. But he had far better not do so. Such attacks are generally very petty and very worthless indeed, and often are, yes, even very dirty. For instance—a new publication has a right to say that it is set on foot, to endeavour to gratify the wishes of many friends, and to subserve the interests of the Craft, but it has no right to come before the Order with both a "suppressio veri," and a "suggestio falsi." It has no authority, morally or Masonically, to put forward deliberately mendacious assertions, and publicly to impugn the motives of a brother, who has sought to conduct a previously existing journal with probity and ability. Thus competition has always an indisputable right of existence, but personality and the vulgar twaddle of low malignity ought to be denounced and repudiated by all true Freemasons. We are always permitted to puff ourselves, but we have no pretence to depreciate the good wares of our neighbours, either to undersell them in the market, or so "place" our own. As an illustration we would say this further. If the new applicant for fame states that it proposes to improve all Masonic journalism, and ignores its predecessor's efforts; if it asserts that for itself it is immaculate, and that the actual possessor of the position is animated by the lowest of trade considerations; if it declares that it henceforth will devote itself to branches of neglected study, which very branches have long formed the staple of the intelligent pages of its older rival—then it commits every offence conceivable against "good form," Masonic

fair play, truth, and decency, and deserves to be left in that obscurity which is its natural position. It seems a great pity that such a state of things should exist in Masonic journalism, but so it does, and we have seen several instances of it, and always deprecate it, and always deplore it, alike for the honour of Masonic journalism, and the good of the Masonic body. The *Freemason* has never claimed any special position for itself, or objected to any extension of the Masonic press. On the contrary, it welcomes all friendly journals which conform to the laws and spirit of Freemasonry, and seek to uphold its cause and assert its principles. But it cannot, and will not, tolerate personality, open or secret, general or particular. It can hold and does hold no intercourse with, just as it lends no recognition to, such journals, which apparently are guided and governed only by personality, which spare no taunt, and hesitate from no insinuation, and which can only serve to render Masonic journalism a bye-word and a discredit to the outer world. Conscious in its own good motives, strong in its own strength, the *Freemason* pursues its prosperous career, hoping for better days for Masonic journalism, deprecating all unseemly and unmasonic words, ever remembering that it seeks honestly to represent, as before England and the world, that good old Order, whose unchanging teaching is ever best set forth in general toleration and brotherly good will.

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.]

ROSLIN CASTLE.

To the Editor of the "*Freemason*."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In your Masonic Notes and Queries in your valuable paper of the 2nd inst., a P.M. of No. 1, S.C., asks for my authority for stating in my letter to you on Roslin Castle, that the dignity of Grand Master Mason of Scotland was conferred on William St. Clair by James II., in 1455. I simply quoted Bro. Skerr's own words as given by him on reading the paper on the above subject—as reported in the *Scotsman* paper of December 11th last, (I think.) If P.M. will peruse the *Freemason* of 2nd inst., page 68, in the notice taken of Freemasonry in New Zealand, he would then see my statement repeated from another quarter of the universe.

Will Bro. Skerr be able to solve the subject?

With fraternal regards, I remain, yours truly,
GEO. W. CHIRNSIDE.

COLE'S LIST OF LODGES.

To the Editor of the "*Freemason*."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Referring to an extract from the *Gloucester Journal*, in your last issue, I have selected the following three lodges from "Cole's List," in my province (Cumberland and Westmorland):—

120 (no name), at Whitehaven, in Cumberland, second Monday March, 19, 1740.

261 (no name), at Whitehaven, in Cumberland, second Monday May 4, 1761.

289 (no name), at Workington, in Cumberland, first Monday Sept., 23, 1762.

No. 120 is now extinct, but No. 261, which bears the title of Sun, Square, and Compasses, is one of the most flourishing lodges in the north of England, although many years since it was on the rocks of oblivion, and only preserved from total wreck by the strenuous self-denying, and pecuniary efforts of two or three Past Masters, not one of whom, I believe, is alive to tell the tale. Sun, Square, and Compasses Lodge celebrated its centenary in 1861, but I am not aware they have a medal. The present number is though 119, 143 appears on the firing glasses and gas globes. With regard to No. 289, in "Cole's List" that lodge is defunct; but another (now strong in) numbers was constituted in 1863, Sun and Sector, No. 926. It is interesting to note that the furniture, archives, jewels, and bible of Lodge 289, are now used by Lodge 962, in fact, if I remember rightly (I was not initiated till two years later), it was stated in the local prints at the time, that the whole of the furniture, &c., were accidentally discovered locked in a box at the Green Dragon Hotel, in Workington, shortly before the new charter was applied for. We have another centenary lodge in this province, No. 129, Union, Kendal, instituted in 1764, the year after the publication of "Cole's List," referred to. A few days ago, casually looking over that magnificent work of Bro. D. Murray Lyon, the Grand Secretary of Scotland, on "The History of the Lodge of Edinburgh, (Mary's Chapel)," I find it noted that the third oldest lodge in Cumberland and Westmorland (Union, No. 310, Carlisle), originally had its charter, dated 1784, from the Grand Lodge of Scotland, the only instance, as Bro. Lyon observes of Scotch Grand Lodge coming over the borders. Thirteen years later, however, Union Lodge applied to the Grand Lodge of England for a charter, under which they have worked since

1797. Another remark, and I have done. My mother lodge, (Skiddaw, No. 1002), was instituted in 1864, and about that time, I heard it mentioned that a lodge had existed fifty or sixty years previously in Cockermouth, the name of which could not be remembered, although it was stated very authoritatively that the locale was the Ship Inn. Referring to a newspaper clipping recording the consecration of Skiddaw, I notice that the charter of the old lodge at Cockermouth, is stated to have been transferred to Batley, in Yorkshire; Lodge No. 264, in that town, dates its charter from 1788. Does any old brother in Batley know whether there is any truth in such a statement. Has our energetic and erudite Brother W. J. Hughan, in his possession a later list of lodges than 1763, that is to say, approaching the last decade of the eighteenth century. I had one myself years since, formerly belonging to my grandfather, a P.M. of Lodge St. John, No. 92, Banff, S.C.; but whether it was English or Scotch I cannot remember, being only a school boy at the time. However, it is lost, more likely destroyed. I have in my possession my grandfather's apron, now well on to a century old, but in excellent preservation, and a decided curiosity in its way. My object in mentioning these matters in connection with the lodges in Cumberland and Westmorland, but more especially the reputed old lodge at Cockermouth, is that it is my intention shortly to publish a little brochure on the history of Craft and Royal Arch Masonry in the two counties.

Yours fraternally,
W. F. LAMONBY, P.M. 1002.
P.G. Reg. Cumberland and Westmorland.

PROVINCIAL SCHOOLS.

To the Editor of the "*Freemason*."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

As your columns have been open to one of my provincial confreres, to permit of his making known his desire to see more general and immediate result from our charitable donations, I have no doubt you will grant me space to endorse his views. The brother in question has been stirring us up, as he states in his second letter. Some of us don't like it, but while we refrain from giving our absolute adhesion to the project of a Provincial Educational Fund at present, we do not venture to offer very effective opposition. We seem to have a tacit understanding that something of the sort is wanted, but who will undertake to put the affair in motion in face of that official inertia of the powers above, that quietly wears out the "go" in any movement not emanating from the aforesaid powers, by the simple method of putting it out of their consideration—"cutting" it, in fact. The brother in question has ventured to perform the operation commonly known as "taking the bull by the horns," and the rest of us watch with some curiosity the result of his endeavours. If successful in leading the animal into pleasant and profitable pastures, we will go and share his honour. If the intractability of the animal prove too powerful, and the cause is consequently relinquished, we can but afford the usual consolation—"I told you so." But seriously, sir, I am one of those who are of opinion that it is quite possible to effect a great benefit by educating our unsuccessful orphan dependents in the provinces, without diminishing the resources of our grand London Institutions, whose benefits are only too well-known to myself. For if it be said that any provincial movement will injure the schools, by taking away some of the subscriptions, may it not be retorted that by enforcing such costly and cumbrous elections as have frequently been necessary to secure admission, they are doing an injury to those who have a right to their benefits by the sheer waste of money (in purchasing or securing votes) which would educate a child during the whole period it would need education. The schools are now, or shortly will be, enlarged, and it will be known definitely how many children they will be able to accommodate. Why not let that number be adopted as the maximum, so that the normal expenses may be ascertained and the various provinces may know what is annually required for their support? I am sure the amount would never fall short, and the local Institutions would receive the surplus contributions of the brethren. Let purchasing of votes be abolished, and some means be adopted, say ballot, by which admission may be secured, without the present turmoil, for any vacancies that arise. If, as you suggest, there could be schools, each to be maintained by one, two, or three provinces, from which children could be drafted by ballot to the central schools, and at which the unsuccessful candidates could be retained until future election, or an opportunity for placing them out in the world, I believe there would be more real benefit accrued and less disappointment, not to say ill-feeling. The various "vested interests" will not see things in this light; but the time will shortly come when the continued want of success will disgust the brethren, who now waste their energies and means, and isolated movements to remedy the evil will be inactive till the schools will find their own resources falling off, from no reason but their own inaptitude to note the signs of the times. Let the matter be fairly and impartially considered by the school authorities and some of our leading metropolitan and provincial Craftsmen, and an arrangement may be come to which will effect mutual benefit to schools and provinces, without causing any one to fear they are treading on anybody else's toes.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

P. M. LINES.

Recordership of London.—At Tuesdays meeting of the Court of Aldermen it was decided to make no alteration in the office and duties of Recorder, as defined in 1856. The resignation of Mr. Russell Gurney, Q.C., M.P., was referred to the Common Council.

Multum in Parvo; or Masonic Notes and Queries.

Can any brother give me the date of Wm. Preston's will and the names of his executors?

MASONIC STUDENT.

Can any brother procure for me the date of Anderson's will and the name of his executor?

MASONIC STUDENT.

Can any brother give me extracts from lodge minutes previous to 1717?

MASONIC STUDENT.

Obituary.

BRO. CHARLES BENNETT, 33 and P.M. 25.

It is with feelings of sincere regret that we announce the sudden death on Saturday evening last of Bro. Charles Bennett, P.M. 25, who for many years has held the appointment of official short handwriter to Grand Lodge. Bro. Bennett leaves a widow and a large family of sons and daughters to mourn his loss, which however will be as keenly felt by a numerous circle of friends and acquaintances, (to whom he was known as a warm-hearted and most amiable man) as at the domestic hearth. The best testimony Bro. Bennett's true character is the fact that he never made an enemy.

Bro. GEORGE NELSON.

We have to record the death of Bro. George Nelson, of Limba Magna, Near Lincoln, aged 36. The circumstances connected with his death were somewhat sudden, being well and in his usual health on the previous Tuesday, attending the market at Hull, and died on Saturday, the 10th inst. For many years he has been a member of the R. N. L. Militia, and up to his death filled the post of captain. He was P.P.G.D.C. for Lincoln, and was a warm supporter of the Ancholme Lodge, Brigg, and his memory will long be associated with the brethren.

LIVERPOOL MASONIC HALL.

The annual meeting of the Liverpool Masonic Hall Committee was held on the 25th ult., at the Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, where there was a very large attendance of brethren. The statement of accounts submitted by the Hon. Treas., Bro. J. R. Goepel, P.P.G.D.C., was of the most complete and satisfactory kind, and the compliments he received from the brethren present were well merited, as his balance-sheet was a model of clearness and fullness. Bro. Robt. Wylie, P.P.G.D., was elected Chairman of the Committee; Bros. W. J. Lunt, P.M. 823, Vice-Chairman; J. R. Goepel, P.M. 823, P.P.G.D.C., Hon. Treas. (re-elected); and J. T. Callow, P.M. 673 and 1505, was re-elected Hon. Sec.

FREEMASONRY IN AUSTRALIA.

LODGE OF JUDAH, 338, S.C., MELBOURNE, VICTORIA.

The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, Lonsdale-street, on the evening of Tuesday, 4th December, 1877. The lodge having been opened in ancient form and with solemn prayer at 7 p.m., A. H. Bennett, Esq., having been previously proposed, was balloted for and declared duly elected, and initiated into Freemasonry in a very eloquent and impressive manner by Bro. P.M. John Little, retiring R.W.M. This being the evening for the annual installation of office bearers, Bro. P.M. Goldstein in a very able and efficient manner installed the following brethren, viz.: Bros. James Moore, R.W.M.; John Little, D.M.; J. T. Arnold, S.M.; Cederberg, S.W.; Spink, J.W.; Cahill, P.M., Treasurer; Millar, Secretary; Rev. Rintel, P.M., Chaplain; Burton, S.D.; Coverlid, J.D.; Browne, I.G.; Davidson, S.S.; Wright, J.S.; Levy, Tyler. Thereafter, Bro. Goldstein, P.M., in a few well chosen remarks, presented to Bro. Henry Spink, J.W., a Past Secretary's gold jewel, with suitable inscription, in recognition of valuable services, and as a mark of esteem from the lodge, also Bro. Little, P.M., presented to Bro. W. Perraton, Organist, a gold locket, as a token of esteem from the choir of the lodge. There was a large attendance of P.G. Officers, W. Masters, Past Masters, and visiting brethren, from the various lodges in the province. And as showing the interest taken in the welfare of this lodge by the past office bearers, it may be stated that seven of its Past Masters were present during the evening. After the lodge was closed in peace and harmony, the brethren to the number of over an hundred, adjourned to a substantial banquet prepared by Bro. Paul, when a most enjoyable evening was spent. Bro. Rapiport, P.M., one of the founders of the lodge, in a very able speech, gave some interesting reminiscences of the early days of what is now one of the most prosperous lodges in the province. Visiting Bro. Rev. J. Bagley, Portland, kindly officiated as Chaplain.

The Right Hon. Earl Granville will preside at the anniversary festival of the London Association of Foremen Engineers, to take place at the Cannon-street Hotel in March.

The Eastern Extension Telegraph Company announce the repair of their Singapore-Batavia Cable, thus restoring direct telegraphic communication with Java, Australia, and New Zealand.

The "Whitehall Review," of to-day contains a crayon portrait with a biographical sketch of the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, M.W., Pro. G.M.

PUBLIC NIGHT OF THE PRUDENT BRETHREN CHAPTER, No. 145.

The annual, public night devoted by this admirably worked chapter, to a rehearsal of various selections from the lectures &c., of the Royal Arch Degree occurred on Tuesday last at Freemasons' Hall, and the whole of the programme provided for the enjoyment of the Companions was faithfully carried out. The companions present on the occasion were Comps. Edward Moody, Z.; E. H. Thiellay, H.; John C. Cox, J.; George S. States, S.E.; Henry Venn, S.N.; D. Haslett, P.S.; O. M. Belfrage, 2nd A.S.; Herbert Dicketts, John Boyd, John M. Stedwell, Thos. Bull, Ed. W. Braine, John Chinnery, James Moon, T. de Léliva, C. A. Woods, W. Moul, W. F. Masters, J. Waugh, R. Douglas, Jermyn Boyd, Henry Hall, C. J. Pringle, Thos. Wm. Chard, Lent, C. J. W. Davis, Geo. Purkess, John J. Bird, T. W. Reed, P.Z. 180; A. Treadwell, N. 177; G. Bozey, P.Z. 414; Thomas Cubitt, P.Z. 177; A. Bassington, 753; J. Wright, Z., 946; C. Hopwood, 19; H. Murray, P.D.G. Supt., China; J. A. Matthews, Holy Zion, Wm. Kirby, P.Z. 25; John Constable, Z. 141; W. L. Verry, 40; George B. Chapman, 975; B. H. Webb, 174; Fred Brown, 174; Robert Lyons Campbell, 45; Henry Lovegrove, 72; A. C. Bedwell, J. 946; Thomas Cull, 1st A. 1365; John Smith, 105, S.C.; J. A. Smith, 1, S.C.; G. R. Shervill, Z. 534; James Stevens, P.Z., 720; John Seex, Z. 186; E. C. Mather, Mount Zion; Col. H. S. Somerville Burney, P.Z. 784, H. C. Levander, P.Z. 76; W. J. Ferguson, N. 1056; Henry Ashwell, 1305; Geo. J. Rome, Z. 1185; E. H. Stammwitz, 538; John Green, S.W. 975; H. Thompson, 619; J. J. W. Ockenden, 1423; George Dyer, 186; W. Smallpeice, Z. 21; C. P. Cobham, 453; and S.E. 1329; B. H. Swallow, P.Z. 77; Thos. W. Wentworth, 185; Fred. P. Morrell, Z. 357, P.G.S.B.; W. S. Goodall, 784; S. Rawson, P.D.G. Sup., China; Edw. B. Grabham, 19; Geo. A. B. Fletcher, St. James's Union, and H. Massey, (Freemason). The three chairs were occupied by Comp. Edward Moody, Z.; Comp. Thomas Bull as H.; and Comp. J. C. Cox, J.; Comp. Haslett, was P.S.; Comp. Jermyn Boyd, as 1st Assistant, and Comp. C. A. Woods, as 2nd Assistant. After the formal opening of the Chapter the following work was performed:—Comp. John Boyd, P.Z. 145, called the attention of the companions to the connection of Royal Arch Masonry with the Craft. The First Clause of the First Section was worked by Comp. H. Venn, No. 145. The Second Clause of the First Section, by Comp. J. C. Cox, J. 145. The Third Clause of the First Section (Ancient), by Comp. D. Haslett, P.Z. 145. Comp. J. C. Cox delivered the historical lecture. Comp. J. Jermyn Boyd, No. 145, gave the history of Moses' Rod. Comp. Thos. Bull, P.Z. 145, delivered the symbolical lecture. Comp. C. A. Woods, No. 145, gave an illustration of the four principal banners and ensigns. Comp. Edward Moody, Z. 145, explained the traditional ceremonies, sacred signs and mystical part of this degree, and Comp. John Boyd, P.Z., illustrated the symbolism of the Royal Arch jewel and Platonic bodies. It should be observed that all the above work was executed by members of the Prudent Brethren Chapter, and the manner of execution, which was given unhesitatingly by all the companions engaged in it, deserves the highest praise, and reflects the greatest credit on the companions and on their persevering instructor, Comp. John Boyd. The companions were enthusiastically cheered as they respectively resumed their seats. Before the chapter was closed a vote of thanks was proposed by Comp. S. Rawson, and seconded by Comp. John Constable, and this having been carried unanimously, was communicated to the M.E.Z. by Comp. H. Murray, and acknowledged by Comp. Moody, who said that the companions of the chapter were as much obliged to the visitors for their presence as the visitors were to the chapter. A further and special vote of thanks by the visitors to Comp. John Boyd was proposed by Comp. James Stevens, and seconded by Comp. G. R. Shervill, and carried unanimously. Comp. John Boyd replied, and the chapter was then closed. The companions afterwards adjourned to a cold supper at Freemasons' Tavern. After supper some toasts were delivered very briefly and without firing, as the large hall of the tavern in which the supper was given was not tyled. The M.E.Z., therefore said he would give "The Health of the Queen," and the company were to couple with it, mentally, the heads of the Royal Arch Masonry without mentioning their names. The next toast was that of the Visitors, and the M.E.Z. apologised for the apparent slowness of the toasting but said that when the meeting was arranged the large hall was engaged in order to meet the possible requirements of a large concourse of companions. As that hall was not tyled of course the firing could not be given. Comps. H. Murray, Past Dist. Sup. China, replied and thanked the companions of the chapter for the cordial manner in which they had received the visitors. Perhaps they would allow him at the same time to mention that he mentally returned thanks for the manner in which the companions associated with the former toast the rules of the order. That night had been one of the most agreeable nights in Royal Arch Masonry that any of the visitors had experienced, and as Comp. Rawson had said in the Chapter they had had a great treat. The thanks of all Royal Arch Masons were due to the Prudent Brethren Chapter for having organised the proceedings which must greatly tend to promote the dissemination of a knowledge of the degree and the mystical ritual which had been so ably descanted upon. There were some points dilated upon that came with the true force of eloquence and the charm of novelty on companions like himself who had sojourned long abroad, and were deprived when there of the advantages which many round the table had enjoyed at the constant Royal Arch Meetings in England, especially

at those which had the benefit of possessing such talented interpreter of the ritual, as those who had worked that evening. Comp. Moody next proposed "Comp. John Boyd," who he said he fancied he could see mentally frowning (laughter). The companions looked to Comp. Boyd as the head of this Chapter: it was he who started it, had worked hard, and was still working hard to carry it on with the same vigour as that with which it was started. To him all the companions owed their best thanks. Comp. John Boyd in reply said he wished the companions would understand that he returned thanks mentally, but as they would not he was obliged to speak. He hoped that on some future occasion at similar meetings they would find they had many rising members who felt great interest in Royal Arch Masonry. He was quite sure there was plenty of talent besides that which had been shown that evening. Many others would like to come forward and give the lectures, illustrations, and explanations which had been given that night. But there was a great deal more to be learned than that, and he trusted that on some other public night, when other Chapters perhaps had followed the example of the Chapter of Prudent Brethren a better acquaintance with Royal Arch Masonry would be found to exist among the companions of the Order. There was a good field open to those who felt disposed to examine it. There was one very beautiful and interesting lecture on the origin of Royal Arch Masonry, not exactly as was now understood and taken as a rule, but going further back. He need scarcely say it was traditional; many of the things in Royal Arch Masonry were traditional. But what he alluded to took us back to the Nine Arches of Enoch. On the next occasion of their meeting on a public night he should be very pleased to give that part. He hoped what had been done would prove an incentive to others to try. They had plenty of opportunities now to attend chapters of instruction and gain the knowledge that was requisite. Companions must not think that the ceremonies of the Royal Arch were all that was to be learned. As far as regarded himself he was very much pleased to have been able to afford any instruction, and to give assistance in any way to promote the knowledge of the degree, and he was also very much pleased that companions by energy and hard work had been got to learn what they had so well explained in the chapter. (Hear, hear). Comp. Dicketts proposed "The Health of the M.E.Z.," which having been replied to, Comp. J. Stevens proposed "The Working Companions," and to this toast Comps. Thomas Bull and J. Jermyn Boyd responded, and the proceedings were shortly afterwards brought to a close.

A Handsomely Framed Artiste signed proof of the "Grand Historical Engraving," of the Installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, as M.W.G.M. is now on view at the office of the *Freemason*, 198, Fleet-street, London.

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE.—The 1000th performance of Mr. H. J. Bryon's comedy, "Our Boys," takes place on Tuesday next, on which occasion the entire gross receipts will be handed over to the Lord Mayor for distribution amongst charitable institutions.

THE FISHMONGERS' COMPANY.—During last month the officers of the Fishmongers' Company seized at Billingsgate Market and on boats lying off that place over six tons of fish as unfit for human food. The fish numbered 8435, and included 900 herrings, 125 lobsters, 10 plaice, 3500 smelts, 90 thornbacks, and 3700 whiting; and, in addition, 1 barrel of oysters, 1 bag of escallops, 33 bushels of periwinkles and 74 of sprats, 196 gallons of shrimps, and 1 cwt. of eels.

THE MASONS' STRIKE.—A correspondent writes to a daily contemporary that the strike of the London masons is virtually terminated, and that although some show of holding out may yet be made, the men have practically come to recognise the hopelessness of the struggle. The conflict is supposed to have cost the operatives £30,000.

Rome is to have a new Gallery for Fine Art Exhibitions, erected at the cost of the State, and situated in the new Via Nazionale, between the Corso and the Piazza Termini.

A meeting of the Committee which was appointed at last Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge, to consider and report upon the recent action taken by the Grand Orient of France, has been held during the present week.

GRAND LODGE OF CUBA.—It affords us (*New York Despatch*) great pleasure to announce that at the annual meeting of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, held 17th inst., at Trenton, a resolution recognizing the Grand Lodge of the Island of Cuba was unanimously adopted, this making, we believe, the fourteenth Grand Lodge that has recognized the claim of Cuba to a place in the family of regular Grand Lodges.

At a court meeting held a few days since, the Leathersellers' Company voted the sum of £546 for distribution among various charities in London. The Brompton Hospital and University College Hospital were granted 30 guineas each, eight other institutions 20 guineas each, and 30 others 10 guineas each.

Bro. W. Dixon has been elected an associate of the Institution of Civil Engineers.

MASONIC SONGS.—A selection of Masonic Songs, set to popular airs, written by Bro. E. 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.

(Continued from page 90).

H.R.H. subscribes to no other lodge in the kingdom, and has more than once honoured the Philanthropic with a visit. For many years it was under a cloud, but like all things in Lynn, since Sir L. Jarvis brought the docks into the town and Royalty took up its quarters in the neighbourhood, everything is changed for the better, and prosperity reigns in the old western capital. The installation of a worthy Brother (George W. Page, London and Prov. Bank Manager), last Monday afternoon, was well performed by P.M. C. T. Ives, P.P.G.A.D.C., assisted by P.M. G. S. Woodwark, P.P.G.J.D., and a strong board of other P.M.'s, visiting brethren, &c. After the ceremony the W.M. invested his officers thus:—Bros. W. Seppins, S.W.; Sir W. H. B. Ffolkes, Bart., J.W.; Rev. J. Bullivant Slight, Chaplain; R. Cruso, Treasurer; J. Green, Secretary; R. Binnington, S.D.; John S. B. Glasier, J. D.; G. H. Ladyman, I.G.; Rev. E. J. Alvis, Organist; C. Miller and J. D. Thew, Stewards; Wm. Wolsey, Tyler. Banquet (of which 45 brethren partook) was served in Host Marshall's best style. Grace having been said by the Chaplain, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given in proper style from the chair. Then followed "The R.W. Prov. G.M. of Norfolk and the Prov. G. Officers"—for whom Bro. Sir W. H. B. Ffolkes and Bro. Morris, P.G.S.D., responded—the latter also acting as toastmaster throughout the evening. The W.M. next made a happy response for his health, and the Installing Master—a most useful aid to the Craft in Lynn—did ditto for his. Again Bro. Morris rose to reply for "The Immediate and other P.M.'s"; and for "The Visitors" (poetically proposed by Bro. Thew) Bros. Carrick, W.M., and Phillips, of Wisbech Lodge; Bell, Mayor of Saffron Walden; and J. H. Ladyman and P. Soman, from Norwich, said each a few words in response. The S.W. and J.W. replied for "The Lodge Officers" and Bros. Allen and Green for "The Initiates." "The Masonic Charities" found a warm advocate in Bro. E. J. Alvis, and a handsome collection resulted. By the way, this worthy brother contributed some delightful harmony—vocal and instrumental—during the evening, while the Philanthropic is happy in the possession of a capital glee party. The Tyler's toast concluded a most pleasant evening.

WELLINGBORO.—Wentworth Lodge (No. 737).—The installation of the W.M. took place on Monday week, the ceremony being performed by Bro. Butler Wilkins the D.P.G.M. Norths and Hunts, in his usual impressive manner. Bro. J. H. Hall was the W.M., and immediately appointed the following officers:—Bros. W. T. Hewens, S.W.; Jno. Slinn, J.W.; Thos. Cook, P.M., Treas.; L.C., Knight, Sec.; E. Emsted, S.D.; W. Renshaw, J.D.; C. Mathews, I.G.; Jno. Wallis, Stwd.; W. Mathews, Tyler. Amongst the visiting brethren were Bros. C. E. Watler, W.M. 87; J. T. Green, and J. U. Stanton, P.M.; V. F. Gadsby, Jno. Baillie, A. Troup, 360; H. Hitchman, P.M.; E. Hall, W. Hanger, S. S. Harding, B. Genner, 455; W. Oldham, P.M. 466; &c. The brethren adjourned from labour to refreshment, when an excellent banquet was served in Host Wallis's usual style. After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, which were received in a most hearty manner, the brethren spent the remainder of the evening in harmony and thorough good fellowship. Bro. J.T. Green, P.M. 360, officiated as D.C. in his usual happy manner, and added considerably to the pleasure of the gathering. The W.M. may look forward to his year of office being both a pleasurable one to himself and a prosperous one to the lodge.

NORWICH.—Cabbell Lodge (No. 807).—The brethren of this lodge met at the Rampant Horse Hotel for the purpose of installing Bro. A. J. Berry as W.M. for the ensuing year. There was a full lodge and a goodly sprinkling of visitors, including Bro. J. C. Chittock (Sincerity), Bros. Dunsford and Youngman (P.M. Perseverance), Bro. J. A. Gooch (W.M. Perseverance), Bro. Mackley (W.M. Walpole), Bro. Riches (W.M. Sincerity), &c. The ceremony of installation was most ably performed by Bro. A. E. Atkinson, assisted by Bro. Campling, P.M. The W.M. then appointed his officers as under:—Edward Pankhurst, S.W.; S. N. Berry, J.W.; G. Green, S.D.; L. Butters, J.D.; E. Crofts, I.G.; R. A. Madge, Organist; J. Boatwright and J. Hunt, Stewards; J. W. Lacey, Treasurer; and Geo. Baxter, Secretary. This brother on being appointed was thanked by the W.M. for the untiring manner in which he had always furthered the interests of Masonry, and the brethren enthusiastically endorsed all the W.M. had said. The banquet was well served by Host Coleman, while his wines were choice as usual. When these latter were left on the table with dessert, the W.M. gave "The Queen and the Craft," Bro. H. J. Minns taking the National Anthem solos in fine style. This gentlemen's singing during the evening was loudly applauded. The healths of the M.W. Grand Master, the Pro G. Master, and the D.G. Master of England (the Prince of Wales, Earl of Carnarvon, and Lord Skelmersdale) followed in quick succession. Then came the G.M. and D. G.M. of Norfolk (Lord Suffield and Major Penrice) with the officers of the Province. Bro. Dunsford, P.G.P., replied for the past, and Bro. T. J. Mackley, A.G.D.C., for present officers. The latter brother took occasion to mention the warm interest the Grand Master and his Deputy took in the Masonic Hall, which scheme was in a forward condition. For "The Visitor" Bro. P.G. Offord (Perseverance) offered a few appropriate remarks bearing testimony to the harmonious working of Lodge Cabbell (applause). Bro. Regimental Sergt-Major Donald (5th Lancers) was called on to respond to a toast novel in a Masonic lodge—"The Army, Navy, and Volunteers"—and he did it in gallant style. The I.P.M. spoke of the pleasurable year of office he had just passed through, and gave the W.M.'s health. Cheers having subsided, the W.M. rose and declared that was the proudest moment of his life—a truism stale but true. He should endeavour to carry out the

duties of his position with credit to the lodge and honour to himself. Bro. T. Campling responded for the "Installing Master." The S.W. (in the vice-chair) proposed "The Press," for which Bro. Soman (Freemason), replied. The Secretary (Bro. Baxter), a very worthy officer, was cheered to the echo. "The Lodge Officers," "Past Masters," and "The Ladies" having been toasted, the clock pointed to high 12; and home was the word.

CREWKERNE.—Parrett and Axe Lodge (No. 814).—The installation of Bro. George Summers, of Yeovil, as W.M. of this lodge for the year ensuing took place on Tuesday, at the George Hotel. The ceremony was conducted by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master for Somerset, Bro. R. C. Else, and the board of Installed Masters numbered twelve. At the close Bro. Summers invested the following: Bros. Dr. Westcott, I.P.M.; Tompsett, S.W.; Dr. Hughes, J.W.; Harris, P.M., Treasurer; Ireland, P.M., Secretary; Coombs, S.D.; Hussey, J.D.; Nosworthy, P.G.O., Organist; Bennett, I.G.; J. Budge, P.M., D.C.; Rugg, P.M., and Foxlow, Stewards. A cordial vote of thanks was tendered to the Installing Master for his attendance, and to the I.P.M., and there was a good attendance of brethren at the subsequent banquet.

HAMPTON WICK.—Wolsey Lodge (No. 1656). The members of this rapidly increasing Provincial Lodge met at the White Hart Hotel on the 4th inst., for the despatch of business. Among those present were Bros. W. Hammond, P.M. 201, 1326, 1512; P.P.G.D. of Midx. W.M.; Baldwin, P.M. 1423, P.G.P. Midx. acting S.W.; Bond, P.M. 889, J.W.; T. C. Walls, P.G.O. Midx. acting S.D., (Freemason); Hurst, P.M. 1512, J.D.; Forge, acting I.G.; The Rev. T. J. C. de Crespigny, P.M. 708, P.P.G.C. Midx. Chaplain; J. Hammond, P.M. 201, and Hon. I.P.M.; T. W. Ockenden, S.D. 1512, Sec.; Marvin, D.C.; Scott, W.S. The visitors were Bros. Stokes, Irish Constitution, Eyres, Nova Scotia, Murphy, 1512. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed the W.M. assisted by the I.P.M., raised Bros. Aylen and Darling, passed Bros. Humphries and Burchill, and initiated Messrs. Chandler, Abbott, Jobbins, Turner and W. S. White, the ceremonies of the three degrees being carried out by Bro. Hammond with his accustomed ability. The election of W.M. resulted in favour of the J.W., who had written a letter stating that in consequence of very severe indisposition he would be prevented from attending that evening. Bro. Nuthall was re-elected Treas. The by-laws having been read, a Past Master's jewel was voted to Bro. Hammond. It was also resolved that a letter of sympathy should be written by the Sec. and forwarded to the W.M. elect, expressing a hope for his speedy convalescence. The lodge after sitting nearly five hours was then adjourned until the first Monday in March next, and the brethren partook of a collation, and at its conclusion the W.M. stated that as they had scarcely a half-hour at their disposal he should propose the toasts but briefly. "The Provincial Grand Officers" was acknowledged by Bro. the Rev. C. de Crespigny, in a short but able speech, and he immediately after proposed "The Health of the W.M.," whom he considered was one of the best working Masons and most genial Masters he had ever met. This toast having been briefly acknowledged "The Initiates," "The Visitors" and "The Officers" brought the proceedings to a close.

LEEK.—St. Edward Lodge (No. 966).—The festival of St. John and installation of Bro. Thomas Wardle, the W.M. elect of the St. Edward Lodge, took place on Thursday, 30th ult. There was a good attendance of brethren, and the ceremony of installation was efficiently performed by Bro. W. Needham, the retiring W.M., who was assisted by Bros. Ball, P.M.; Bedsmore, P.G.O.; and J. Ingamells, P.M. 460. The following officers were appointed and duly invested with their respective jewels:—Bros. E. Gailey, S.W.; F. L. Milner, J.W.; the Rev. C. C. Ward, Chaplain, J. Flower, Treasurer; J. Ball, Secretary; Wm. Allen, D.C.; J. M. Wright, S.D.; W. Lowe, J.D.; G. L. Magnier, I.G.; W. Broster, Steward; P. Hodgson, Tyler. After the lodge had been closed the brethren adjourned to the Swan Hotel, where an excellent banquet was provided, about thirty brethren being present. The W.M. presided. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured, amongst the speakers being Bro. J. S. Crapper, P.M. 418, P.P.G.A.D.; Bedsmore, P.G.O.; H. Cartledge, 418; Hallowes, P.M., and others. Bro. Needham was highly complimented on the admirable manner in which he had conducted the affairs of the lodge during the past year. Bro. Gibson, P.M., proposed "The Masonic Charities," to which toast Bro. the Rev. C. C. Ward and Bro. Needham responded. It was stated that last year a benevolent fund was instituted in connection with the lodge, the object of which is to render instantaneous relief to any distressed past or present member of the lodge who may require assistance before application can be made to the provincial or other charitable associations connected with the Order. The first year the sum of £10 18s. was contributed to this fund and placed in the bank. The sum of £10 10s. was contributed by the brethren present at the banquet, and it was expected that the fund would be considerably augmented this year by absent members of the lodge. Bro. Bedsmore and others supplied some excellent music, and the evening was spent very harmoniously and pleasantly.

COCKERMOUTH.—Skiddaw Lodge (No. 1002).—The first monthly meeting of this lodge, after the installation, was held on Tuesday evening, the 5th inst. There were present Bros. J. Black, W.M.; Capt. F. R. Sewell, S.W.; W. H. Lewthwaite, P.M. and Org. as J.W., in the absence of Bro. Bird through severe illness; R. Robinson, P.M. and Treas.; T. C. Robinson, Sec.; C. Gibson, S.D.; H. Peacock, I.G.; Dr. Dodgson, P.M.; W. Shilton, P.M.; J. Bolton, G. Brash, J. Evening, J. Fearon, T. Armstrong, J. Towers, and R. Harrison, Bro. R. Robinson kindly officiated as Tyler, Bro. Poth being con-

finned to his bed. After the lodge had been opened in form and the minutes of the preceding meeting read and confirmed, Bros. Armstrong, Fearon, Harrison, and Towers gave proof of their proficiency in the First Degree, and were all subsequently passed to the degree of F.C. by the W.M., who performed the ceremony in the most workmanlike style, also explaining the tracing board. This being Bro. Black's first official act in the chair, he cannot be too highly complimented on the ability and energy thus early displayed; and a word of praise must likewise be meted out to the S.W., and the other new officers, more especially Bro. Capt. Sewell. The F.C.'s lodge having been closed, the W.M. invested Bro. R. Robinson, P.M., as Treasurer for the year, which office he has been elected to four times consecutively. Two candidates having been proposed for initiation, Bro. Dr. Dodgson proposed, and Bro. Captain Sewell seconded, Bro. L. L. B. Dykes, J.P., of Dovenby Hall, Apollo Lodge, Oxford, as an affiliating member of Skiddaw Lodge. Bro. Dykes's late lamented father, we may mention, was Provincial Grand Master of Cumberland and Westmorland. He succeeded the late Right Hon. Sir James Graham, Bart., M.P., and the next Prov. Grand Master was Bro. the Earl of Bective, M.P., who for ten years and upwards has ruled over the province so felicitously and successfully. After the last proclamation, the lodge was closed in form.

DERBY.—Hartington Lodge (No. 1085).—The annual installation meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, February 5th, at the Masonic Hall. Present: Bros. W. Heathcote, W.M.; S. Pipes, I.P.M.; M. H. Bobart, P.P.S.G.W., Treasurer; W. B. Hextall, Secretary; S. Steele, J.D.; J. E. Russell, M. of C.; W. L. Dodd as O.; W. Butterfield as I.G.; J. O. Manton, S.; W. Stone, Tyler; W. Naylor, P.G. Secretary and P.P.G.S.W.; T. Hiffe, P.P.S.G.W.; Leech, Stokes, Griggs, Shepherd, Parkins, Lane, Mainprize, Gore, Walters, Popplewell, Coulthurst, Ratcliffe, and Pragnell. Visitors: Bros. T. Cox, P.P.S.G.W.; J. Smith, P.P.J.G.W.; G. T. Wright, P.P.J.G.W.; A. G. Taylor, W.M. Tyrian Lodge; J. Brown, W.M. Arboretum Lodge; T. Roe, jun., P.M. 802; J. Small, P.M. 787; W. Cox, P.M. Hartington Lodge, Barrow-in-Furness; E. R. Ward, S.W. 253; T. Merry, W.M. elect, 731; and T. Cay, 802. The lodge was opened at 6 p.m., and after the usual preliminary business Bro. M. H. Bobart took the chair, and Bro. Geo. Pipes was presented to him by two P.M.'s for the benefit of installation. The ceremony was very ably performed, the customary addresses being delivered in a most impressive and efficient manner in the several degrees. The newly appointed Master invested Bros. J. Heathcote, S.W.; W. B. Hextall, J.W.; M. H. Bobart, Treasurer; J. O. Manton, Secretary; S. Steele, S.D.; J. E. Russell, J.D.; T. H. Hepworth, M. of C.; G. T. Edwards, O.; W. Butterfield, I.G.; J. Pateman, S.S.; and W. Stone, Tyler. He then rose to perform the pleasing duty of presenting a handsome P.M.'s jewel to his predecessor, Bro. W. Heathcote, subscribed for by members of the lodge. The accounts were presented by the auditors, and Grand Lodge certificates handed to and signed by Bros. W. Stokes, and C. Leech. A circular from the P.G. Secretary, on behalf of the Institution for Aged Freemasons was then read, and a sum of five guineas voted towards the funds of the charity, to be placed on the list of the R.W.G.M. of the province, the Marquis of Hartington, who undertook to act as a Steward at the annual festival. Two gentlemen were proposed as candidates for initiation into the mysteries of science, and, after "hearty good wishes" from the visiting brethren to the W.M., the lodge was closed in ancient and solemn form. The brethren proceeded from their labours to sumptuous banquet, a pleasing souvenir of the evening being the "Freemason Masonic Apron," Menu cards.

WREXHAM.—Square and Compass Lodge (No. 1336).—The festival of St. John was celebrated on Tuesday, the 5th inst., by the officers and brethren of this lodge. There was a large gathering of members of the fraternity present. The proceedings were opened according to the rites and ceremonies of the institution, and after some business had been disposed of, the leading event of the meeting was commenced, viz., the installation of Bro. E. Smith as W.M. for the ensuing year. The ceremony was ably carried out by Bro. J. Lewis. Not a few brethren belonging to lodges in other parts of the country attended to celebrate the anniversary, and all joined in solemn invocation for a blessing to rest on the newly-installed Master. Bro. J. F. Edisbury undertook and carried out in a most able manner the musical portion of the proceedings. After the brethren had saluted the W.M. in the usual manner, he proceeded to invest the following officers with their respective badges—Bros. T. Eytton-Jones, S.W.; J. C. Owen, J.W.; J. F. Edisbury, Treasurer and Organist; John Williams, Secretary; Howel Davies, S.D.; J. W. M. Smith, J.D.; Rev. A. L. Taylor, Chaplain; R. J. Williams, W. Garratt Jones, William Pierce, and J. A. Chadwick, Stewards; C. K. Benson, I.G.; and Thos. Lee, Tyler. The lodge being closed, the members of the fraternity repaired to the Wynnstay Arms Hotel, where a high-class banquet had been spread by Bro. J. B. Murless. Among the visitors were: Bros. J. Salmon, P.P.G.J.W., W.M., 1674; W. Matthews, P.G.A.D.C. Cheshire, P.M. 721; F. L. Wheeler, 721; N. Retemeyer, 21; R. C. Edwards, W.M. 721; H. P. Swindells, S.W. 721; E. Jones, J.W. 721; Thomas Goodier, P.M. 292; R. F. Brooker, 117; Algernon Potts, W.M. 1477; James Knox, J.W. 425; F. A. Dickson, W.M. 425; W. Aston, S.W. 1432; J. B. Murless, J.W. 1432; R. O. Anwyl, J.W. 1369; W. James, 1477; J. C. Robinson, P.M. 425; Walter Evans, 463. After the repast was finished the following toast list was gone through:—"Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen and the Craft," "His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M. of England," "The M.W. Pro G.M., the Earl of Carnarvon, and the Officers of the Grand Lodge," "The R.W.P.G.M., Sir W. W. Wynn, M.P.," "The R.W.D.P.G.M., and the Past and Present Officers of Grand

Lodge," "The Worshipful Master," "The Installing Master," "The Visiting Brethren," "The Retiring Master and Past Masters of the Lodge," "The Officers of the Lodge," "The Masonic Charities," and the Tyler's toast.

WATERLOO.—Skelmersdale Lodge (No. 1380).—The annual installation meeting of the members of this thriving suburban lodge, of which Bro. Lord Skelmersdale, Deputy Grand Master of England, and R.W.P.G.M. of West Lancashire, was the first W.M. in 1872, when it was consecrated, was held on Monday, the 4th inst., at the Queen's Hotel, Waterloo, Bro. the Rev. T. W. Richardson, W.M., was in his place in the E. at the opening, and the names, as per Tyler's book, embraced those of Bros. G. Broadbridge, P.M., P.P.G.D.C.; R. H. Exton, jun., S.W.; R. Brown, P.M. 241, Treas.; R. H. Exton, Sec.; F. W. Barnes, S.D.; and J. Almond, Org. The members present were Bros. H. A. Tobias, H. Davis, F. Smitton, J. Cobham, P.M. 241; R. Gittins, R. W. Hickson, S. Warner, W. Watt, and R. Lamb. The visitors included Bros. G. Peet, W.M. 241; J. W. Baker, P.M. 241; W. Harrison, I.P.M. 897; W. Pughe, W.M. 1620; T. H. Sheen, J.W. 241; P. W. Juncker, 786; T. Smitton, 1570; H. Bulley, P.G.S.B. Eng.; G. Turner, P.G. Treas.; and J. Wells, P.G. Purs. The lodge was opened according to ancient form, and the minutes were read and unanimously confirmed. Bro. G. Broadbridge, P.P.G.D.C., afterwards proceeded, in an effective manner, to install Bro. E. Ford, jun., as the W.M. of the lodge for the ensuing year; and the usual charges were given efficiently by Bro. R. Brown, P.M. 241. The following were the officers invested: Bros. Rev. T. W. Richardson, I.P.M.; J. Cobham, S.W.; R. H. Exton, J.W.; F. W. Barnes, Sec.; R. Brown, Treas. (re-elected); John Brown, S.D.; R. W. Hickson, J.D.; F. Gittins, I.G.; and W. H. Ball, Tyler. It was unanimously resolved to vote five guineas from the funds of the lodge, to be supplemented by private subscriptions, for the purchase of a testimonial to Bro. the Rev. T. W. Robertson, I.P.M., in recognition of the zeal and courtesy he had displayed during his year's occupancy of the chair. The brethren after business sat down to a splendid banquet, and during the evening Bro. R. Brown (Treasurer) presented the lodge with a most artistic portrait, in oil, of Bro. Lord Skelmersdale, the work of art being executed by Bros. Brown, Barnes, and Bell, whose fame as photographic artists is known throughout the United Kingdom.

HAMPTON.—Era Lodge. (No. 1423).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday last at "The Island Hotel," when there were present Bro. Thiellay, P.P.G.S.B. of Middlesex, W.M.; Sabine, P.M. P.P.G.S.B. of Middlesex, S.W.; W.M. elect, Devereux, J.W.; Wolfe, J.D.; Johnson, I.G.; Dubois, P.M. 142, P.P.G.S.D. of Middlesex, Treasurer; F. Walters, P.M., P.P.G.J.D. of Middlesex, Secretary; Moss, P.M., P.P.G.R. of Middlesex, Baldwin, P.M., P.G.P. of Middlesex; W. Hammond, P.M. 1512, P.P.G.D. of Middlesex; Miller, P.M., P.P.G.O. of Middlesex, Organist, and others. The visitors were Bros. H. Potter, P.M. (Robert Burns); T. C. Walls, (Freemason), S.W. 1381, P.G.O. Middlesex; Ockenden, S.D. 1512; Aston, S.D. 1656; Scholes, 193; Belinfante, 435; Graham, 894; Weekes. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed and the report of the Audit Committee read and adopted, the ceremony of installing Bro. Sabine into the chair of K.S. was at once proceeded with. The officer elected by the lodge to perform this onerous duty was Bro. Baldwin, who appointed Bros. Dubois as S.W. Miller as J.W., Hammond as J.G. and Thiellay as D.C. to assist him in the ceremony. We before have had occasion in detail to compliment Bro. Baldwin upon the great efficiency he displays in the working of this important and beautiful ceremonial and therefore it is only necessary to state that his latest effort was in every way successful. Amongst the officers invested for the ensuing year were Bros. Devereux, S.W.; Wolfe, J.W.; Johnson, J.D.; Wright, I.G.; Dubois, Treas.; Walters, Secretary; Falconer, D.C.; J. H. Pearson, W.S.; Dr. Riley, A. S. Gilbert, P.G.T. of Middlesex, Tyler. A vote of thanks having been passed to the Installing Master the W.M. in a neat address presented the I.P.M. with a very handsome jewel which had been voted unanimously by the lodge. The lodge then voted ten pounds to head the list of Bro. Dubois, as Steward to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution and the W.M. gave notice that a like sum should be voted to the list of Bro. Falconer as Steward for the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. The lodge was then closed and the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet, which was well catered for by Bro. Tagg, the creature comforts being greatly enhanced by the elegant manner in which they were served. The Royal and Craft toasts having been done full justice to, the W.M. proposed "The Health of the R.W.P.G.M. of Middlesex," who, in consequence of other engagements was unable to be present. In the course of his remarks, which were frequently interrupted by the applause of the brethren, the W.M., said it appeared to be the greatest delight of their P.G.M. to mix frequently and that without restraint with the members of his numerous lodges. The appointment of Col. Burdett to preside over the destinies of the province marked an era in the history of English Freemasonry, because it had been attended in so short a time with such great success. His popularity in lodge, at the banquet and in the various official positions he held was very great, and he possessed all the genial and other characteristics of an "old English gentleman." In conclusion, the W.M. said that during the time that the gallant Colonel had held sway in Middlesex, no serious disagreement had taken place in any of his lodges, and that the various P.G. appointments which he had from time to time conferred, had given universal satisfaction. "The D.P.G.M. of Middlesex, and the rest of the P.G.O.'s Past and Present," was proposed by the W.M.'s permission, by Bro. Moss who in the course of a

very able speech, said that on that auspicious occasion it was only kind and reasonable that they who were in the enjoyment of good health should wish that the same blessing might speedily be restored to one who had been sorely stricken down by the hand of affliction, namely, Bro. Little. The thought that his name had been kindly remembered by the members of the Era Lodge would cheer their D.P.G.M. in his sick chamber. In conclusion the speaker warmly said that he considered Bro. Little to be one of the brightest and most intelligent ornaments and exponents of modern Freemasonry. The above toasts were heartily drunk, and the latter was acknowledged by Bro. Hammond. Telegrams were then sent to the P.G.M. and his Deputy, and shortly afterwards the following replies were received:—"From the P.G.M. of Middlesex to the Era Lodge. A thousand thanks for your extreme consideration, and I heartily return the compliment in a flowing bumper of champagne to the health of the W.M." "From Bro. R. W. Little.—Best thanks to the Master and brethren for kind wishes. I am happy to say that I am progressing favourably. Bro. Levander is now with me." "The Masonic Charities" was coupled with the name of Bro. Dubois, and was duly acknowledged by him in a speech which appealed strongly to the sympathies of his hearers upon behalf of the objects of those excellent institutions. "The Visitors" toast was responded to by Bros. Potter and Scholes. "The Health of the W.M." was warmly proposed by the I.P.M. and having been received with excellent "fire," Bro. Sabine made a very brief and modest reply to the effect that he had endeavoured throughout his Masonic career to conscientiously discharge his duties and to advance in every possible way the charitable principles of the Order. He had tried to do his best for the "Era" from the day of its foundation to the present time, and he hoped to retire from the chair in the possession of their fullest amount of esteem and confidence, and in conclusion he cordially thanked them for having done him the honour of electing him to preside over them. In consequence of many of the brethren desiring to return to town the remainder of the toasts were but formally given, and for the same reason but briefly responded to. They were "The Past Masters," "The Treas. and Sec." and "The Officers." During the proceedings vocal and other selections were given by Bros. Enman, Walls, Graham, Scholes and others.

NORTH WOOLWICH.—Henley Lodge (No. 1472).—The last meeting of the above lodge before the installation of its W.M. elect, Bro. A. J. Manning, took place on Tuesday, the 5th inst., at Bro. West's house, the Three Crowns, the W.M. presiding, supported by the following officers: Bros. Manning, S.W.; W. T. Turner, J.W.; J. Henderson, Sec.; J. Plume, S.D.; Dr. W. Vance, J.D.; E. J. Lloyd, I.G. The Past Masters present were Bros. E. West, P.M. 1076 and P.P.G.O. for Herts; B. B. Brayshaw, P.M. 1046, 1437, 1462, and P.G.S.B. for Essex; W. Graham, P.M. 700; who on being received as an honorary member of the lodge was as well present. The visitors included Bros. W. Page, P.M. 1076; T. D. Morley, 13; and C. Jolly, 913 (Freemason). The lodge having been opened in due form and the minutes of the last meeting passed, Mr. Morgan was, after approval, initiated into Freemasonry. The next business before the lodge was the election of W.M. for the ensuing year, and after an unanimous ballot, Bro. A. J. Manning was, amid applause, pronounced elected to that distinguished position, for which he gracefully returned thanks. Bro. F. Geller was then re-elected as Treasurer, and after a letter had been read by the W.M. in which the late respected Tyler, Bro. Steadman, begged to withdraw from that office, Bro. W. Page, an old and esteemed Past Master of the Capper Lodge, was unanimously elected for the ensuing twelve months. A Past Master's jewel was then voted to the W.M., and the lodge was closed. The brethren then partook of one of Bro. West's neat and prettily served supper, and upon re-assembling round the social board, the W.M., with the assistance of the officers and brethren, did full justice to the usual loyal and Masonic toasts. Bro. West then proposed the toast of "The W.M.," who responded. In response to that of the Past Masters of, and belonging to the Henley Lodge, Bro. Graham in the course of an eloquent reply, after Bros. West and Henderson had spoken, said he hardly knew how to express himself for the eulogiums that had been passed upon him both by the W.M. and the Past Masters who had preceded him. He had known the lodge since its foundation, and he was happy to say that it was an offspring from the lodge in which he had received, not only the benefits of initiation, but in which he had had the honour of being installed among its proud array of W. Masters, the "Nelson." (Cheers.) Therefore he felt it a great honour to respond to the toast of the Past Masters of the Henley Lodge, and if at any time his humble services should or could be of any benefit to any member of it, he should not only feel it a pleasure but a duty to place them at their request. (Applause.) After a long experience of Freemasonry, he assured them that if they only endeavoured to carry out its beautiful teaching—be truthful, honest, upright, and above all charitable in their dealings with one another—acting up to their principles, and uniting brotherly love with every action of their life, they would, while not only be doing their duty to their fellow-creatures generally, but in its best attributes, following the tenets so admirably laid down for their guidance in the pure and perfect Freemasonry so well taught them in their sublime ritual. (Loud cheers.) He strongly advised every young Mason present to join the lodge of instruction attached to the house, and concluded a brilliant address by assuring them that his services were at all times, should they require them, at their call, and resumed his seat amid much applause. Several other toasts followed, and the Tyler's toast concluded the proceedings.

BRIGHTON.—St. Cecilia Lodge (No. 1636).—The annual installation and banquet of this lodge took

place on the 31st ult. at the Pavilion. The ceremony of installation took place in the afternoon, when Bro. James Eberall was unanimously elected and installed as Worshipful Master of the lodge, the ceremony being impressively rendered by Bro. John H. Scott, Deputy Prov. Grand Master. The brethren afterwards adjourned to the banqueting-room, where the annual banquet took place, under the presidency of the newly-elected W.M., the vice chair being occupied by Bros. Sandeman and Foat. The usual Masonic and other toasts were given, interspersed by some excellent pianoforte solos by Bro. Kuhe, and songs by several of the brethren.

WALTHAMSTOW.—Beaconsfield Lodge (No. 1662).—A general meeting of this lodge was held at The Chequers, March-street, on Saturday, the 2nd February. Present: Bros. W. T. Christian, W.M.; W. Groome, S.W.; W. G. Hallows as J.W.; J. Pinder, P.M.; F. Hallows, Secretary; T. Franklin, S.D.; J. H. Cambridge, J.D.; M. Hunt, as I.G.; T. Upward, Organist; A. Delvali, W.S.; Gilchrist, Tyler. The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The candidates for passing not having arrived, the W.M., assisted by the brethren, worked the first section of the lecture. Bros. Harris and Putney were afterwards examined and entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the two candidates were regularly introduced and passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree, and the election of W.M. for the ensuing year was proceeded with. The choice of the brethren being unanimous in favour of Bro. W. Groome, S.W. Bro. W. S. Christian was elected Treasurer, and Bro. Gilchrist, Tyler. A Past Master's jewel was unanimously voted from the lodge funds to the outgoing W.M. for his able and efficient services to the lodge during his term of office; a Past Master's jewel was also voted to Bro. J. Pinder for his services as P.M. of the lodge. The Audit Committee was then appointed, and the lodge was closed in due form and adjourned until Saturday, the 5th October. The brethren afterwards sat down to an excellent supper, after which the usual Masonic toasts were given by the W.M. Amongst the visitors present were the following brethren, viz.: Bros. W. Mackey, P.M. 861; E. Swain, W.M. 1602; J. Glynn, 33; J. G. Baxter, jun., 206; R. Shephard, 861; F. Middle, 645; R. Dallas, 860; G. Edwards, 907; W. Snellgrove, 907; A. Turner, 1228, and others. The following members of the lodge were also present, viz.: Bros. Burnard, Rubery, Stockwell, Moffatt, Shingle, and others.

INSTRUCTION

NORTH WOOLWICH.—Capper Lodge (No. 1076).—The annual banquet of the above excellent lodge of Instruction took place on Thursday, the 31st of January, and thanks to the prestige attached to the superb catering of Bro. E. West, at whose house, the Three Crowns, the lodge is held, was most satisfactory in its results, that worthy brother, who is a Past Master of some three or four lodges and as well a Past Provincial Officer of Herts, being both in his capacity of host and teacher of Masonry, deservedly popular. After partaking of the good things so liberally provided by Bro. West, Bro. J. White, W.M. of the mother lodge, No. 1076, filled the chair. Bro. F. Brien, in the vice chair. Among the principal visitors and members present were Bros. J. Dorton, I.P.M. 1076; S. Watkins, P.M. 1076; E. West, P.M. 1076; H. Sisley, P.M. 1076; J. Gaskell, P.M. 1076; T. Day, P.M. 1076; P. McCarthy, J.W. 1076; J. Jobb, J.D. 1076; Jas. Mitchell, Hon. Sec. 1076; A. J. Manning, S.W. 1472; E. J. Lloyd, I.G. 1472; Dr. W. Vance, J.D. 1472; B. Goodale, 1327; W. Brown, Treas. and P.S.W. 1076; C. Jolly, 913 (Freemason); and others. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given by the W.M. with exceeding taste and aplomb, never exceeding the prescribed limits by a single word, but in suave, and truly Masonic spirit, he dwelt upon the usual worn themes, and in a most felicitous manner gave expression to those sentiments most welcome to Masonic hearts on such occasions, and carried with him, as he deserved, the hearty good wishes of every one present. The toast of "The Capper Lodge of Instruction and its Preceptor," was given with the usual honours, and was well received. Bros. Vance and Brown, as Treas. and Sec., receiving an ovation to which they modestly responded. To that of "The Officers of the Capper Lodge, No. 1076," Bros. White, Brien, McCarthy, and Jobb eloquently responded, and to Bro. Gaskell's call for the suffrages of the company for their meed of praise of the W.M.'s presiding, Bro. White, the response was most enthusiastic. After the W.M. had responded, in his own quiet but effective manner, he in felicitous terms proposed the toast of "The Masonic Press," and regretted that at his lodge, the Capper, they never had the honour of a report in that excellent paper, the *Freemason* of which he was a constant subscriber, and while he felt envy at seeing the Woolwich Lodges so well represented, he felt that their lodge at Tidal Basin had been neglected; he trusted Bro. Jolly would pay them a visit, and record their doings in that valuable and truly Masonic paper. (Cheers.) After an enthusiastic call, Bro. Jolly responded and expressed the gratification it would afford him to enrol the Capper Lodge among the many he had the privilege and the honour of reporting. (Applause.) After the worthy host had been highly complimented for his excellent menu, the company separated, pleased and satisfied with their most enjoyable evening.

EARL OF CARNARVON LODGE (No. 1642).—The meeting of this lodge was held on Friday, the 8th inst., at the Mitre Hotel, Gouldbourne-road, Notting-hill. Present: Bros. Adkins, W.M.; Spiegel, J.W.; Woodmason, J.D.; Smout, sen., J.W.; Tellerboro, J.D.; H. Dehane, I.G.; Savage, P.M. Preceptor; Penn, W.M.; Murlis, P.M.; W. Bartle, J. Bartle, Newland,

Hutton, Collett, Wood, Chalford, Smout, jun. Sec., and Eskell. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Hutton being the candidate, also the ceremony of passing. Bro. Eskell, P.M., was elected a member of this lodge of Instruction, and promised to be present as often as he could, and give all the assistance in his power. Bro. Smout sen., was elected W.M. for the next meeting.

LEICESTER.—Union Lodge.—The annual festival of this lodge, which meets under the joint sanction of the Town Lodges took place at Freemasons' Hall, Leicester, on Friday, the 8th inst., when there was a large attendance. The Seven Sections of the First Lecture were worked as under:—

- First Section by ... Bro. Thos. Colman, J.D., 297.
- Second do. " T. A. Wykes, W.M., 523.
- Third do. " I. P. Chamberlain, J.G., 279.
- Fourth do. " J. Read, S.D., 1391.
- Fifth do. " T. Worthington, P.M., 50.
- Sixth do. " John T. Thorp, P.M., 523.
- Seventh do. " Edgar Taylor, 523.

The questions by Bro. George Toller, jun., P.M., 523, 1560, G.S.B. The whole of the lectures were given with the most praiseworthy correctness, and at the close of the proceedings a hearty vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to those concerned.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The monthly meeting of the Committee of this Institution was held on Thursday at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. Col. Creton, V.P., in the chair. There were also present Bros. S. Rawson, Raynham W. Stewart, Capt. John Wordsworth, F. Adlard, Griffiths Smith, Thos. Cubitt, Joseph Smith, J. G. Stevens, W. Hilton, Charles Lacey, L. Steam, H. Massey, W. T. Nettleship, and James Terry Secretary.

After the reading and confirmation of the minutes the Secretary reported that the result of the festival of the previous evening, was £11,126 13s. 6d. with 9 lists to come in. Bro. Raynham W. Stewart proposed a vote of thanks to his Grace the Duke of Manchester, K.P., Prov. G.M. Norths and Notts, who presided on the occasion.

Capt. Wordsworth seconded the motion which was put and carried unanimously.

Bro. James Brett, P.G.P., moved a vote of thanks to the President, Treasurer, and members of the Board of Stewards for the great exertion evinced by them on the occasion of the festival.

Capt. Wordsworth seconded the motion.

Bro. Joseph Smith acknowledged the compliment, but said that the great exertion came from the Secretary. He then gave notice of motion for next meeting that in consequence of the great success of the two last festivals a gratuity of £50 be presented to the Secretary.

Bro. Terry then said that Bro. Wills the horticulturist lent the beautiful flowers and shrubs which adorned the great hall where the concert was held.

Bro. Joseph Smith moved a vote of thanks to Bro. Wills, and said that the great hall was never so beautifully decorated before.

Capt. Wordsworth seconded the motion which was put and carried nem. con.

Bro. Terry afterwards read the warden's report which stated that Bro. Cutbush having offered to send in a number of Standard rose tree to the asylum and the offer having been accepted, the trees were sent in on the 9th February.

A vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Cutbush for the present.

Bro. Raynham Stewart said that in consequence of the great success of the festival he should ask the brethren to invest £3000 which was placed to meet any deficiency there might be at the festivals. As however the festival was a great success he should move that five additional widows be elected next May. There were at present but eleven vacancies for widows, and 42 candidates. There were 31 men and fifteen vacancies. There were 130 widows now in the fund and 145 men.

Fifteen vacancies were declared for the male fund, and eleven on the female fund.

Bro. Stewart moved the five additional vacancies, and the motion having been seconded by Bro. Joseph Smith, was carried, and the vacancies for the women for the next election were ordered to be sixteen.

On the motion of Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, seconded by Captain Wordsworth, the £3000 above mentioned was ordered to be invested.

The balloting papers for next election were thereafter settled. A letter having been received from Bro. Hurst, of Yorkshire, suggesting that money should be invested to provide for the future,

Bro. Stewart contended that the course the brethren were now pursuing was the right one.

The Chairman said that if at any time the funds should not be sufficient to meet the demands made upon them the number of annuitants would have to be reduced. He hoped, however, that no necessity for such a step would ever happen. The brethren had really done that day the very thing that Bro. Hurst had suggested.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the proceedings.

The annual and amalgamated ball of the brethren of the Royal York Lodge, 315, and the St. Cecilia Lodge, 1636, took place at the Royal Pavilion, Brighton, on Tuesday, the 12th inst. At the banquet, which was presided over by Bro. S. T. Frost, W.M. 315, upwards of 100 were present, including many ladies. Later on they were joined by a large party of ladies and gentlemen in the ball room, who kept up dancing with much spirit to the strains of Bro. Dervin's excellent band. Bro. Hawkes, S.W. 313, acted as hon. sec., and to his exertions a great part of the success of the evening is due.

Masonic and General Tidings.

We have much pleasure in stating that their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales have graciously consented to inaugurate the new buildings of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, and that the Most Worshipful Grand Master will appoint a day in March for the ceremony.

LORD CARNARVON.—In reply to a vote of thanks passed by the Committee of the Anti-Slavery Society, Lord Carnarvon refers with satisfaction to the fact that under his administration of the Colonies slavery was abolished on the Gold Coast.

The Queen has conferred the vacant Green Ribands of the Order of the Thistle upon the Duke of Hamilton and Brandon, Premier Peer of Scotland, and upon the Marquis of Lothian.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.—The total amount received at the Festival of the Institution on Wednesday last was £11,126 13s. 6d., with nine lists to come in.

BRO. ARCHIBALD FORBES AT MANCHESTER.—On Monday, Bro. Archibald Forbes delivered a lecture to a large audience in the Free Trade Hall, Manchester, on his personal experience as War Correspondent of the *Daily News*. The lecturer's graphic description of the passage of the Danube, the fighting in the Shipka Pass, and the two first assaults on Plevna, were listened to with intense interest, and the various touches of humorous and personal adventures were also peculiarly acceptable to the audience, who frequently expressed their admiration of Bro. Forbes's gallantry, and their appreciation of the public services which he has rendered.

Early on Wednesday morning, a fire occurred at Bro. the Earl of Zetland's town residence, No. 19, Arlington-street, Piccadilly. The brigade steamers were instantly in attendance, and by their means the flames were confined to the basement. Captain Shaw, in his official report, states that the fire originated by the overheating of a stove adjoining, and the following is the extent of the damage:—Back room on first floor and contents nearly burned out, roof over damaged by fire and cutting away, library on ground floor and contents severely damaged by fire and heat, and the rest of the building and contents slightly by heat and smoke.

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales has been pleased to appoint the Rev. F. A. Hervey, M.A., as Domestic Chaplain, vice the late Bro. the Rev. Wm. Lake Onslow, P.G.C.

Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Holmesdale, M.P., R.W.P.G.M. Kent, has kindly consented to preside at the seventh annual meeting of the United Kingdom Railway Officers' and Servants' Association, which will be held at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, on Wednesday week, the 27th inst.

The Belgrave Lodge of Instruction will be removed to the Harp Tavern, Jermyn-street, Regent-street, on Friday, 22nd February, on which occasion the Fifteen Sections will be worked. Bro. T. H. Pulsford, P.M. 1158, &c, in the chair; Bros. E. Farwig, S.W. 180, S.W.; G. Willson, Organist 1321, J.W. The lodge will be opened at 7 o'clock precisely.

BIRKBECK LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTION.—Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane.—This Institution, which was established in 1823, and is the parent of the large number of Evening Class organisations is, no longer able to accommodate the large number of students seeking its educational advantages. Lord Northbrook, proposes that a movement should be set on foot to obtain suitable premises, and the Lord Mayor has promised to preside at a Meeting, to be held at the Mansion House, on Wednesday next, at three o'clock, for the purpose of inaugurating a fund to provide the Institution with a building suitable to its large and important operations.

The Annual Display and Assault of Arms of the City Gymnastic Club, will take place at St. James's Hall on Saturday next. A detachment of Her Majesty's Scots Guards will be in attendance. Full particulars as to time, prices &c., may be obtained of the Manager Bro. Albert Austin.

The Queen has been Graciously pleased to appoint his Grace the Duke of Abercorn, K.G. (M.W.G.M. of Ireland), to be the bearer of the Order of the Garter to his Majesty the King of Italy. General Lord William Paulet, G.C.B.; Admiral the Hon. Sir Henry Keppel, G.C.B.; Lord Frederick Spencer Hamilton, Attaché in her Majesty's Diplomatic Service, the Earl of Mount Edgumbe, Viscount Newport, M.P., will be attached to his Grace's mission. Mr. V. Buckley of the Foreign Office has been appointed Secretary.

Bro. H. P. Matthews announces his annual Evening Concert to take place at the Town Hall, Shore-ditch, on Monday evening the 18th inst. Bro. Matthews is a comic vocalist of great ability; his songs being always good and free from vulgarity.

THE PRINCESS MARY VILLAGE HOMES.—The Prince of Wales has consented to preside at a dinner to be held on the 20th March next, in aid of the funds of the Princess Mary Village Homes for little Girls, situated at Adlestone in Surrey. Upwards of 150 little girls are now in these homes, for whose maintenance funds are urgently needed.

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

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS
For the Week ending Friday, February 22, 1878.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16.
Lodge 715, Panmure, Cannon-st. Hot.
" 1364, Earl of Zetland, Old Town Hall, Hackney.
" 1641, Crichton, S.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, FEBRUARY 18.
Lodge 1, Grand Masters, F.M. Tav.
" 8, British, F.M.H.
" 21, Emulation, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 58, Felicity, 101, Queen Victoria-st.
" 185, Tranquillity, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-st.
" 720, Panmure, Balham Hot., Balham.
" 862, Whittington, F.M.H.
" 901, City of London, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
" 907, Royal Alfred, F.M.H.
" 1159, Marquis of Dalhousie, F.M.H.
Chap. 12, Prudence, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 1319, Asaph, F.M.H.

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, FEBRUARY 19.
Board of Gen. Purposes, at 3.
Lodge 30, United Mariners', Guildhall Tav.
" 73, Mount Lebanon, Bridge House Hot.
" 95, Eastern Star, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 162, Cadogan, F.M.H.
" 165, Honour and Generosity, Inns of Court Hot.
" 194, St. Paul's, Cannon-st. Hot.
" 435, Salisbury, F.M.H.
" 1339, Stockwell, Surrey M.H.
" 1695, New Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., N.
Chap. 11, Enoch, F.M.H.
" 19, Mount Sinai, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 186, Industry, F.M.H.
" 1348, Ebury, Moipeth Arms, Ponsonby-st., Millbank.
Rose Croix, Oxford and Cambridge, 33, Golden-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.
Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville rd.
Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, 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 Bldgs., 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 Edgumbe, 19, Jermyn-st., St. James's.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20.
Gen. Com. Grand Lodge and Lodge of Ben., at 6.
Lodge 140, St. George's, Trafalgar Hot., Greenwich.
" 174, Sincerity, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
" 190, Oak, F.M.H.
" 700, Nelson, M.H., William-st., Woolwich.
" 969, Maybury, Inns of Court Hot., Lincoln's Inn.
" 1044, Wandsworth, Spread Eagle, Wandsworth.
" 1150, Buckingham and Chandos, F.M.H.
" 1349, Friars, Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars.
" 1382, Corinthian, George Inn, Cubitt Town.
" 1507, Metropolitan, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 1624, Eccleston, Grosvenor Hall, Ebury-st., S.W.
" 1673, Langton, 101, Queen Victoria-st.
Rose Croix Chap., Bard of Avon, 33, Golden-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.
Confidence, Railway Tav., Railway-place, Fenchurch-st.
Burdett Coutts, Salmon and Ball, Bethnal Green-road.
Jordan, Devonshire Arms, Devonshire-st., W., at 8.
Mt. Lebanon, Horse Shoe Tav., Stones-End, E.
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., Anclrey.
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, Red Lion, Poppin's-court, Fleet-st., at 8.
Lewis, King's Arms Hot., Wood Green.
Royal Jubilee, 81, Long Acre.
Langthorne Swan Hot. Stratford.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21.
 House Com. Girls' School, at 4.
 Lodge 23, Globe, F.M.H.
 " 49, Gihon, Guilhall Tav., Gresham-st.
 " 55, Constitutional, Inns of Court Hot.
 " 63, St. Mary's, F.M.H.
 " 169, Temperance, White Swan, High-st., Deptford.
 " 179, Manchester, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
 " 181, Universal, F.M.H.
 " 733, Westbourne, Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
 " 813, New Concord, Rosemary Branch, Hoxton.
 " 1139, South Norwood, Public Hall, South Norwood.
 " 1287, Great Northern, F.M.H.
 " 1475, Peckham, Surrey Masonic Hall.
 " 1512, Hemming, Lion Hot., Hampton.
 Chap. 79, Pythagorean, Ship Hot., Greenwich.
 Mark Lodge, Bon Accord, 2, Red Lion-sq.
 " 7, Carnarvon, Regent M.H., W.
 Encamp. E., Observance, 14, Bedford-row.
 " 128, Oxford and Cambridge, 33, Golden-sq.

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, Ponsoby-st., Milbank.
 Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
 The Great City, M.H., Masons' Avenue.
 High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
 Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
 Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.
 Great Northern, Berwick Arms, Berners-st., Oxford-st.
 Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22.

Lodge 197, Jerusalem, F.M.H.
 " 569, Fitz-Roy, Hd.-qtrs. Hon. Art. Co., City-rd.
 " 861, Finsbury, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
 Chap. 749, Belgrave, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
 " 862, Whittington, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st., at 6 p.m.
 Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
 Belgrave, Harp Tav., Jermyn-st., W.
 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, 79, Whitechapel-road, at 8.
 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.
 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 Hot., 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, February 23, 1878.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18.

Lodge 1502, Israel, M.H., Liverpool.
 Chap. 32, Jerusalem, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 1051, Rowley, M.R., Lancaster.
 Everton L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19.

Lodge 667, Alliance, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 1225, Hindpool, Hartington Hot., Barrow.
 " 1276, Warren, Stanley Arms, Seacombe.
 " 1325, Stanley, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 1384, Equity, Commercial Hot., Widnes.
 " 1570, Prince Arthur, M.R., N. Hill-st., Liverpool.
 Merchants L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
 Bootle L. of I., 146, Berry-st., Bootle.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20.

Lodge 537, Zetland, M.H., Birkenhead.
 " 823, Everton, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 1061, Triumph, M.H., Lytham.
 " 1086, Walton, Skelmersdale Hall, Kirkdale.
 " 1345, Victoria, Cross Keys Hot., Eccles.
 " 1353, Duke of Lancaster, Athenæum, Lancaster.
 " 1403, West Lancashire, Commercial Hot., Ormskirk.
 De Grey and Ripon L. of I., M.R., N. Hill st., Liverpool.
 Downshire Lodge, M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21.

Lodge 203, Ancient Union, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 343, Concord, Militia Rooms, Preston.
 " 425, Cestrian, Eastgate-row, Chester.
 " 605, Combermere, Seacombe Hot., Seacombe.
 " 1299, Pembroke, Rawlinson's Hot., W. Derby.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22.

Lodge 1393, Hamer, M.H., Liverpool.
 Chap. 680, Sefton, M.H., Liverpool.

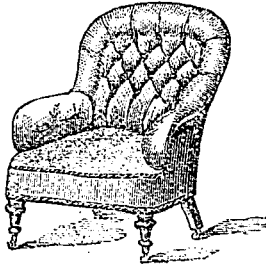
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23.
 Chap. 178, Harmony, Royal Hot., Wigan.

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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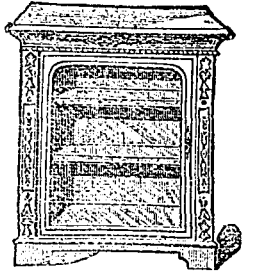
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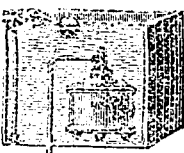
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