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REPORTS, etc., intended for insertion in current number, should reach the Office, (198, Fleet-street), by 12 o'clock noon, on Wednesdays.

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

HERVEY LODGE (No. 1260).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, in the Zetland Room, Freemasons' Hall, the walls of which bear, among other portraits, that of the worthy brother to whom the lodge owes its name. Bro. Southwood, W.M., presided, and performed the ceremonies of passing and initiation. Afterwards Bro. John Hervey re-installed Bro. Southwood as W.M., and the following brethren were invested as his officers for the year:—Bro. E. J. Goodacre, S.W.; Bro. Spalding, J.W.; Bro. Dr. Jabez Hogg, P.G.D., Treasurer; Bro. Charles Atkins, Secretary; Bro. C. W. Roby, S.D.; Bro. Foot, J.D.; Bro. Latreille, I.G.; Bro. Rosenthal, D.C.; Bro. J. R. Cox, and Bro. Abraham, W.S.; Bro. Dean, Organist; and Bro. C. T. Speight, T. During the ceremony Bro. H. G. Buss, Assistant G.S., performed the duties of D.C., and a vote of thanks was afterwards passed to Bro. Hervey and Bro. Buss for the services they had rendered. Bro. Hervey, on behalf of himself and Bro. Buss, acknowledged the compliment, after which Bro. C. Atkins read the communication from Grand Lodge containing the resolutions with respect to French Masonry passed at the Quarterly Communication on the 6th of March last. The brethren then adjourned to banquet, which was luxuriously provided in the Crown Room of Freemasons' Tavern by Bro. Best, and served under the vigilant superintendence of Bro. Dawkins. Among the brethren who sat down were Bros. Hervey and Buss, G.S. and A.G.S.; Col. Peters, F. Binckes, D. Defries, Maidwell, Libbis, Lambie, Green, Harrison, Walker, Morgan, J. Richardson, R. C. Davis, H. Massey (*Freemason*), J. W. Morris, R. B. Leigh, Thos. Bolton, James Barth, J. J. Wortwick, H. J. Turner, R. S. Turner, E. J. Bahe, G. J. Brenger, E. Fielding, F. Ough, L. G. Langden, Gec. Singer. The toasts were proposed after dinner, and in the intervals which occurred between the toasts some excellent vocal harmony was given by Bros. H. Upstore, T. Tremere, W. Wells, Edward Collins, and Dean (Organist). Bro. Hervey, responding for the "Grand Officers," said that all the Grand Officers felt an interest in Masonry, and all felt a desire to fulfil the duties they had taken upon them. The W.M. in his speech mentioned this as one of the characteristics of the Grand Officers, and speaking for himself (Bro. Hervey) he was much obliged to the W.M. for so graciously mentioning that to the brethren. He was always well received in the Craft, and the brethren of this lodge which bore his name were in that respect not different from the brethren of other lodges. It was said that a prophet did not get much honour in his own country, but this was not the case with regard to himself and the Hervey Lodge. Had it been so he might not have expected the honours which had been showered upon him by the hands of the brethren. He felt, however, that he had been eulogised in a manner he did not deserve, not only as an individual but as Grand Secretary. It was a very great honour to have his name associated with the lodge, to have it carried down to posterity, who when they asked where did the Hervey Lodge get its name, might be told, from the Grand Secretary of England of 1869. Bro. Buss being associated with him in the toast he would say one thing to the brethren, that if he were deprived of Bro. Buss's services he would be like a man without his right hand. At all times and in all cases his advice and assistance, and he might say, his countenance, was a great help to him. Bro. Buss was one on whom they might rely, and on whom they might look with perfect confidence. Looking on his left he saw the Treasurer of the lodge, and of him he might say that he had fought the battles of the lodge long and well, and had come out triumphant. He (Bro. Hervey) did not think

that any moment was so gratifying to him during his connection with the Hervey lodge as the present meeting. They saw around the board a goodly number of friends, and they had a Master on whom they could rely, and officers in whom they might have confidence. They might, therefore, be sure they would have their reward in experiencing a pleasant and prosperous year. He hoped that the time would come when among the lodges of the metropolis the Hervey Lodge might be signalised for its excellent work, and for its excellence in every particular. The toast of "The W.M." was proposed by Bro. Dr. Hogg, P.G.D., and the W.M. having replied, proposed "The Initiates." Bro. Wunderlich replied, and gave expression to the feeling so often expressed by other initiates, that he was very much taken by surprise when he found what the ceremony was. He certainly was quite unprepared for it; but having discovered what it was he hoped to become a worthy member of the Craft. Bro. Fieldew also replied. Several brethren responded for "The Visitors"; Bro. Binckes replied for "The Charities"; the Treasurer and Secretary replied to the toasts in their honour, and by the time that "The Officers" was proposed, very few of those brethren were left to reply, the hour being very late. The Tyler's toast was given by Bro. Speight, and the brethren then separated.

MIDDLETON.—Imperial George Lodge (No. 78).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Assheton Arms Hotel, on Thursday, February 28th. The W.M., Bro. W. Percival, presided, and was assisted by Bros. F. Fothergill, S.W.; J. Hattor, J.W.; H. Heywood, P.M., Treasurer; S. Hewitt, Secretary; P. Lawton, J.D.; J. Eckersley, I.G.; J. Kent, Tyler. The lodge was opened with solemn prayer by the W.M. The minutes of the last meeting, after being read by the Secretary, received confirmation. It was proposed by Bro. W. Percival, seconded by Bro. D. Reid, "That Bro. James A. Jowett, of the Eccleshill Lodge, No. 1034, be admitted as a joining member." The ballot was unanimous in his favour. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree. Bro. T. B. Smith was asked and answered the questions leading from the Second to the Third Degree and retired, entrusted with the test of merit. The lodge having been opened in the Third Degree Bro. T. B. Smith was raised to the Sublime Degree of a M.M. by Bro. W. Percival, W.M. The traditional history was given by the I.P.M., Bro. G. Bradbury, and the working tools were presented by Bro. F. Fothergill, S.W., the ceremony throughout being very impressive. Bro. J. Sinkinson's resignation was accepted with regret. Hearty good wishes were accorded from Lodges 467 and 1034. Charity was next attended to, and the lodge was closed at 8 p.m. in peace and harmony, when the brethren adjourned from labour to refreshment.

GIBRALTAR.—Inhabitants Lodge (No. 153).—On the 26th ult. a special meeting of this lodge was held, to receive the centenary warrant for their lodge, which was read out by the Secretary, Bro. B. White, as also an apology from the R.W. the D.G.M., Bro. G. F. Cornwell, who was unable, by a previous and unavoidable engagement, to attend. Bro. Stanley, W.M. of "Friendship," 278, E.C., was prevented by sickness accepting the lodge's invitation. The lodge being closed, the brethren, to the number of about sixty, sat down to a banquet in the "Friendship" Lodge Rooms, so kindly and graciously lent by W.M. Stanley. The W.M., Bro. J. Conroy, was supported by Past Masters Bros. Henry, Barker and Cunningham; Beal, 325, I.C.; Jackson, W.M. 325, I.C.; and Valarino, W.M. 115, E.C. Among the visitors were Bros. Cottrell, Bassadone, Turner, Crawley, Evans, Bosano, Peterkin, Bensillo, and Trenerry. The dinner was supplied by Bro. Miranda in a style which would gain reputation to that well-known caterer, and which evoked praise from all. After the viands had been done ample justice to, the W.M. gave the usual opening toasts, "The Queen, Craft, and Royal Family," and "Three Grand Masters," which were received with due honours. The W.M. said the object of the meeting was to celebrate the arrival of the centenary warrant, and he was pleased to see the great number of brethren joining in so freely and agreeably on such a great occasion, the greatest in the history of any lodge. He was fortunate in being the Master of the lodge on such an event. The lodge was formed in November, 1777, with No. 202 for its number, but in consequence of the union of the two Grand Lodges and the formation of the United Grand Lodge on 27th December, 1813, its number became 251. At the alteration of numbers in 1832 it was changed to 178 and on the general re-arrangement of numbers in 1863 it took the number it now bears, 153. It had, like many other lodges, its ups and downs, particularly as it was always more or less a military lodge, whose members were constantly going to other parts of the world. It was well known that had it not been for the great help of such brethren as the late Bros. Tripland and Francis, No. 153 would have had to be transferred to some other lodge. There were some other brethren present who could perhaps enter more minutely into those matters; however, now, he was proud to say, the lodge was in a most flourishing state, having over seventy members and the funds being high too. He would call on all brethren to give three hearty cheers for Lodge No. 153, wishing it a continuance of prosperity and success; to which the whole responded most lustily. Bro. W. J. Henry, P.M., said, though an older brother in the lodge, he really could not go into details; he was only sorry the late Bro. Francis, who died recently, was not present, he could have enlightened them. As it was, he believed the late Bro. Francis worked with herculean strength to keep it afloat, and to him was due the high praise of having fulfilled it. Perhaps Bro. Beale might throw light upon it. Bro. Beale, P.M., said, though a Mason of such long standing and

in this garrison too, he was not aware of the state of this lodge; he could, however, testify to the truth of Bro. Henry's remarks concerning the late Bro. Francis. The W.M. in toasting "Visiting Brethren," said it was always a source of delight to see visitors, but doubly so when they came to do honour to so great an event as this. He coupled Bro. Turner's name with it. Bro. Turner, of 278, said it was always a great pleasure to be in the society of Freemasons, but especially so at a time like the present; he drank to the health and prosperity of 153. The W.M. proposed "The Healths of the W.M.'s in Gibraltar," coupling Bro. Stanley's name therewith, for owing to his kindness they were enabled to use those rooms to-night. He was sorry he was unable to be present owing to sickness. W.M. 325, I.C., Bro. Jackson, and W.M. 115, E.C., Bro. Valarino, responded for their lodges in felicitous terms. Bro. W. F. Cottrell was then called upon for a song. His name is sufficient passport for the quality of it; in fact, a great part of the success of the evening was owing to the inimitable harmony given by this worthy brother during the evening; nor must we forget the help in that line that Bros. C. T. Armstrong, Davis, Bacon, Attfield, Jackson, Nolan, Myatt, Cawley, and others, gave—in fact we had dropped among a most musical lot. The W.M. proposed "The Health of Bro. Cottrell," for his assistance that evening. In responding, Bro. Cottrell said he was always willing to do his mite, and was always gratified when he pleased his hearers. He had visited all the lodges in garrison, and it delighted him much to see the harmony and good feeling existing among Masons in Gibraltar. Whilst he had been a non-commissioned officer he had done his best for Masonry, and now he was an officer should not forget what was required of him. He drank to the health and prosperity of 153. P.M. Bro. Henry proposed "The Health of the W.M.," and said it was a high honour to occupy that position at this time. It was pleasing to see the lodge so flourishing, and he was sure it would not lose its prestige in the hands of the present W.M. Received with high honours. The W.M. said he was rather taken aback by P.M. Henry's glowing account; he did consider it a high honour to be W.M. now, and he would always endeavour to do his duty to the Craft and to this lodge in particular, knowing full well he had the support of all. The harmony of the evening was continued till a late hour, all dispersing with a feeling of having spent a jolly evening.

CROYDON.—East Surrey Lodge of Concord (No. 463).—A large gathering of members of this, one of the oldest and most important lodges in the province of Surrey, celebrated the annual meeting for installation of the newly-appointed W.M., at the Greyhound Hotel, on Thursday, the 4th inst. The lodge was opened at four o'clock by Bro. T. P. Dickinson, P.M., P. Prov. G.R., in the absence of the W.M., Bro. W. Sharp, which, to the great regret of the brethren, was occasioned by illness. Amongst the many present during the evening were the following Past Masters, viz., Bros. C. H. Woodward, P.P.G.J.W.; H. J. Close, P.P.G.S.B.; W. West, P.P.G.R.; H. R. B. Podmore, P.P.G. Supt. Works; R. Price, P.P.G. Supt. Works; A. C. Ebbutt, P.P.G. Purs.; and — Dosell. The officers were Bros. John Close, P.P.G.D.C., S.W. and Master elect; George Yaxley, J.W.; G. Price, Treasurer; C. H. Woodward, Secretary; H. A. Pocock, S.D.; J. S. Sweetter, J.D.; and J. Hooke, I.G. Members — Bros. Ridge, Harland, Silverton, Price, West, Margetson, Hall, Lamb, J. K. Pitt, Bonner, Rogers, Burton, Gillingham, Frost, Watkinson, Nicholls, A. Pocock, Wagner, Ainsworth, Goodwin, Witherham, W. H. Smith, Budden, and several others. Visitors—Bros. James Stevens, P.M. 720, 1216, 1426, &c.; E. Peacock, 1360; G. Woodbridge; B. W. Sewell; W. R. Sheadd, 720; Burlow; Jolliffe, 559; and L. A. Hart, P.P.G.J.D., Kent. The minutes of the preceding meeting having been confirmed, and a ballot taken in favour of Bro. H. F. Margetts, 212, as joining member, Bro. C. H. Woodward, P.P.G.J.W., took the chair as Installing Master, and proceeded to install Bro. John Close, the W.M. for the ensuing year. The well-known abilities of Bro. Woodward rendered the performance of this ceremony perfect in every detail, and elicited hearty applause from the many Past Masters and able Masons present, and the remarks which fell from the newly-installed W.M. in praise of and thanks for the services rendered were unanimously endorsed by the brethren. The officers appointed and invested were Bros. George Yaxley, S.W.; H. A. Pocock, J.W.; G. Price, P.M., Treasurer; C. H. Woodward, P.M., Secretary; J. S. Streeter, S.D.; J. Hooke, J.D. The addresses to the Master, Wardens, and brethren were delivered in admirable style, and the entire ceremony gave practical evidence of the efficient working which characterises this lodge. The W.M. having announced his intention to serve as Steward at the approaching festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, a vote from the lodge funds was carried in support of his list of donations. Propositions for initiation were then taken, and there being no further business lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the large Assembly Room for banquet. On the cloth being cleared, Bro. Close at once gave evidence of his ability as W.M. by proposing, in brief but effective terms, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts. To such as required no personal response he gave great effect by a departure from the ordinary stereotyped form of introduction. A careful allusion to current outdoor events was made in each of the toasts of "The Queen," "The M.W.G.M.," "The Pro G.M.," and the "Deputy G.M. and Officers of Grand Lodge," and the necessity for increased loyalty to both crown and Craft under present circumstances was admirably enforced. For "Provincial Grand Lodge," Bro. Woodward ably responded, and then proposed "The Health of the W.M.," expressing the great pleasure he had experienced in installing the worthy brother whom he had assisted to initiate, and whose progress in Freemasonry had

been such as to reflect credit equally upon those with whom he had been associated as upon himself. He called the attention of the brethren to the fact that the father of the lodge and the parent of the W.M. was that evening amongst them, naturally induced to break the long spell of absence enforced by his great age, that he might see his son placed in the proud position he so many years ago himself occupied, and to celebrate the transactions of the auspicious solemnity with joy and rejoicing; and he (Bro. Woodward) trusted that an equally long and happy life might be vouchsafed to the present W.M., in which he might be enabled to maintain the great respect and Masonic regard in which both father and son were held by the members of the East Surrey Lodge of Concord. Bro. Woodward's remarks were received with considerable enthusiasm, which increased on the W.M. rising to respond, which he did in brief but earnest terms of thanks, and concluded by proposing "The Health of the Past Masters," naming each in order of precedence, and calling upon his father, Bro. H. J. Close, P.P.G.S.B., for response. The venerable father of the lodge at once complied with the request, expressing his great pleasure that he had been spared to witness his son's advancement in the Craft, his regret that his age had precluded his frequent attendance, and his fears that this might be his last opportunity for association with the members in lodge. The greatest attention was paid to the veteran speaker, and if the wishes of those present could prolong a valuable and highly respected life there would yet be many years in store for Bro. H. J. Close. The P.M. jewel of the lodge was to have been presented to the I.P.M., Bro. Sharp, and his absence and its cause were much regretted. "The Health of the Installing Master" having been duly honoured, "The Visitors" had their share of recognition. Bros. James Stevens, P.M. The Great City, 1426, and L. A. Hart, P.P.G.J.D. for Kent, were called upon, and acknowledged on behalf of themselves and others their gratification with both "labour and refreshment." "The Officers" and Tyler's toasts brought to its conclusion a most agreeable evening, which had been enlivened by the admirable singing of Bros. Barlow, Ridge, and others, and recitations by Bro. Harland.

LIVERPOOL—Ancient Briton Lodge (No. 1675).—The monthly meeting of this prosperous lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, on Tuesday evening, the 26th ult., when there was a numerous gathering of members and visitors. The lodge was opened at six o'clock by Bro. Dr. J. Kellett Smith, W.M., and amongst others present were Bros. D. E. Davis, P.M., as S.W.; J. R. Bottomley, J.W.; the Rev. J. Rees Jenkins, Treasurer; Thos. Evans, Secretary; Jno. W. Johnson, S.D.; H. W. Parry, J.D.; Dr. J. E. Howard Pugh, S.; R. Fairclough, Organist; M. Williamson, Tyler; Jacob Davies, Wm. Jones, P.M. 220 and 1299; J. Lloyd, H. Pritchard, J. S. Hobbs, John Parry, O. Evans, R. W. Wynne, Hugh R. Parry, Jos. Wood (Freemason), F. Robinson, Maurice Jones, Walter W. Thomas, J. Truesdale, W. E. Coxen, Hugh Jones, F. H. W. Walker, John Lewis, J. R. Jones, J. Hughes, W. H. Rowlands, W. Williams, A. Thoms, W. Woodcock, Robt. Parry, W. R. Williams, Thos. Lowe, Davies, Jno. Jones, Jno. Deley, and W. Williams. The visitors included Bros. Jno. C. Robinson, W.M. 249; John Hayes, P.M. 249; B. Holgate, 1356; Jas. S. Kelly, 1505 and 673; W. C. Cowell, A. D. Davies, 1035; H. Bolton, 477; J. Parry, 1547; J. King, 823; R. J. Haynes Ireland, Jno. Ashley, 1609; Geo. Jordon, 1350; W. Braithwaite, 673; H. Rourke, 1620; J. Keet, S.D. 1356; T. G. Grundy, 1350; David Thomas. Owing to one of the candidates for initiation being delayed in consequence of an accident on the River Mersey, the order of degrees was necessarily reversed, the Second and Third Degrees being given first, and the First Degree afterwards. The minutes were read, and three candidates for initiation and one for joining were balloted for, their election proving unanimous. Bro. the Rev. J. Rees Jenkins, W.M. 216, and Treasurer of the Ancient Briton, took the chair, and opened the lodge in the Second Degree and passed two to the rank of F.C. The W.M. then resumed the chair, opened the lodge in the Third Degree, and raised two brethren to the Sublime Degree of M.M. The lodge was then in due form closed to the First Degree, and two candidates being in attendance they were initiated by the W.M. The ballot being taken for the W.M. for the coming year, the S.W., Bro. Robert Wylie, P.M., P. Prov. G.S.D., was unanimously elected in his absence (owing to illness), and Bro. the Rev. J. Rees Jenkins, W.M. 216, was unanimously re-elected Treasurer. In returning thanks Bro. Jenkins congratulated the lodge on its financial position: this being its first year of existence it had paid all expenses incurred in its formation, all its current expenses, had voted twenty guineas to the West Lancashire Educational Institution to constitute the W.M. for the time being a Vice President of that charity, and also £10 to the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and widows, £5 to the South Wales Distress Fund, and various sums in casual relief. The lodge at the end of its first year had a balance to its credit of no less a sum than £60. The W.M. having retired for a few moments, it was then proposed by Bro. Bottomley, J.W., and seconded by Bro. Johnson, S.D., that a P. Prov. Grand Registrar's jewel be presented to Bro. Dr. J. Kellett Smith, the W.M., in recognition of the services he had rendered the lodge, and as a memento of his having been its first W.M. After the formation of various committees, appointment of auditors, and other business, the lodge was closed in due form. Fifty-seven brethren afterwards sat down to supper, the W.M. presiding.

COCKERMOUTH.—Skiddaw Lodge (No. 1002).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday evening, the 2nd inst., when there were present Bros. J. Black, W.M.; Dr. Dodgson, P.M.; W. Shilton,

P.M. R. Robinson, P.M. and Treasurer; W. H. Lewthwaite, P.M. and Organist; W. F. Lamonby, P.M. (Freemason); Capt. Sewell, S.W.; T. Bird, J.W.; T. C. Robinson, Secretary; H. Peacock, I.G.; R. Harrison, J. Pearson, J. Evening, J. Towers, T. Armstrong; with Bros. A. Taylor, P.M. Lodge 310, Carlisle, and T. Weatherston, Lodge 371, Maryport, as visitors. The lodge being opened in form by the W.M., and the minutes of the previous ordinary, emergency, and committee meetings confirmed, a ballot was taken for the admission of Messrs. E. L. Waugh and Joseph Hewson into Masonry, both of whom were unanimously approved. Mr. Waugh was not present, but Mr. Hewson, as also Mr. Jos. Borrowscale (previously balloted for), being in attendance, they were admitted and initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Ancient Freemasonry by Bro. Lamonby, P.M., who, the W.M. announced, had asked for permission to perform the ceremony on account of Mr. Hewson being a very old friend of his. Bros. Shilton and T. C. Robinson chaperoned the candidates as J.D. Subsequently, on re-admission, the charge was delivered by the W.M., Bro. Black. The recent resolutions of Grand Lodge in re the alterations in the French Grand Orient Constitutions were read and ordered to be recorded on the minutes. The voting papers belonging to the lodge and individual members were ordered to be forwarded to the Provincial Grand Secretary as usual; after which, on the proposition of Bro. Shilton, and seconded by Bro. Dr. Dodgson, it was unanimously resolved that a letter of condolence should be sent to Bro. Rev. E. M. Rice, M.A., P.M., on the lamented death of his wife, by which deep affliction he is left with four little children, the eldest under five years of age. Bro. Rice being held in high esteem as a P.M., it may be conjectured that the sympathy of his brethren of Skiddaw Lodge is heartfelt and sincere in the terrible blow with which it has pleased the G.A.O.T.U. to visit him. Bro. Lamonby gave notice of motion that at next meeting he would move the lodge proceed to elect a Tyler for the remainder of the current year. After hearty good wishes had been tendered by the two visitors present, the lodge was closed in form.

DERBY.—Hartington Lodge (No. 1085).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, on Wednesday, April 3rd, 1878. Present—Bros. G. Pipes, W.M.; W. Heathcote, I.P.M., and P.G.D. of C.; F. Heathcote, S.W.; W. B. Hextall, J.W.; M. H. Bobart, P.P.S.G.W., Treasurer; J. O. Manton, Secretary; S. Steele, S.D.; J. E. Russell, J.D.; W. L. Dodd, as O.; T. H. Hepworth, as I.G.; S. Pipes, P.M.; J. Smith, P.M.; Lane, Parkins, Orme, Shaw, Mainprize, Atherstone, Wallis, Hart, S.S. Visitors—H. Burns, P.M. 731; and W. Whittaker, Secretary 731. The ballot was taken for Mr. George Arnold, of Derby, who was unanimously elected. Mr. J. A. Hefford and Mr. R. Baxter were initiated into the mysteries of the First degree of the science. A communication from the G.L. having reference to the elimination of the G.A.O.T.U. from the constitution of the Grand Orient of France, and giving the resolutions passed by the G.L. in connection therewith, was read. The Derbyshire Hall Trustees' balance-sheet was presented. Other documents relating to the Masonic Institution for Boys, the Act of Parliament dealing with secret societies, and the Derbyshire P.G.L. bye-laws, were laid before the brethren; and sundry accounts presented by the Treasurer of the lodge were passed for payment. The lodge was closed after a final appeal for the preservation of the Order to the Omnipotent Master, and the brethren then adjourned to the banqueting room, where their number was augmented by several chief P.P.G. officers and others. The evening was much enlivened by discussions of local import to the Craft.

CARLISLE.—Bective Lodge (No. 1532).—The installation festival of this young and flourishing lodge was held on Wednesday, the 3rd inst. The brethren assembled at 4.30 p.m., in their beautiful little temple, in English-street, when the lodge was opened in form by the W.M., Bro. George Potter, the other officers and members present being Bros. Quarter-master-Sergt. Noakes, 5th Foot, S.W. and W.M. elect; Rev. Joshua Tyson, Chap., P.P.G. Chap.; Jas. Cooke, P.M. and Secretary, P.P.G.S.D.; A. Taylor, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; G. Etherington, Treasurer; H. Glendinning, S.D., as J.W.; F. Allan, J.D.; James Haswell, I.G.; T. L. Thorpe, Steward; W. Pratchitt, P.M. 310, P.P.G.S.D.; W. Jobbing, P.M. 412, P.G. Steward; W. Hill, P.M. 412; R. Mitchell, J. McIntyre, G. D. Oliver, R. Atkinson, W. Carrick, J. C. Mason, J. Higgins, Tyler. The visiting brethren present were Bros. G. Alton, P.D., Dr. G.M. Gibraltar; G. W. Kenworthy, P.M. 119, P.P.G.J.W., and Installing Master of the day, John Lemon, P.M. 327, P.G. Treasurer; W. F. Lamonby, P.M. 1002, P.G. Reg. (Freemason); G. J. McKay, W.M. 129, P.G.A.D.C.; W. H. Lewthwaite, P.M. 1002, P.G. Organist, who had charge of the musical arrangements; A. Houston, W.M. 310; G. G. Dalton, J.W. 310; James Black, W.M. 1002; W. H. Hoodless, P.M. 327; W. J. Carrick, S.W. and Sec. 327. The minutes having been read and confirmed, the lodge was opened in the Second Degree, when Bro. Kenworthy took the chair as Installing Master. Bro. Noakes, the W.M. elect, was presented, and subsequently regularly installed in the chair of K.S., in the presence of no fewer than fourteen Past Masters. The ceremony, including the delivery of the addresses to the W.M., Wardens, and brethren of Bective Lodge, was performed by Bro. Kenworthy with all his old verve. Originally, Bro. W. B. Gibson, P.M. 191, P.G. Secretary, had been asked to do the work, but owing to serious illness he at the last moment found a willing and able substitute in Bro. Kenworthy. The officers were appointed and invested as follows: Bros. G. Potter, I.P.M.; H. Glendinning, S.W.; J. Haswell, J.W.; Rev. Joshua Tyson, Chaplain; G. Etherington, Treasurer, (re-elected); Jas. Cook, P.M., Secretary (re-appointed); F. Allen, S.D.; J. Walton, J.D.; J. Ewing, I.G.; T. Thorp,

and G. L. Oliver, Stewards; J. Higgins, Tyler. Bros. Carrick, Thorpe, and Mason were elected General Purposes Committee for the year. After a vote of thanks to the Installing Master, and hearty good wishes from Lodges 119, 129, 310, 327, 412, 872, and 1002, the lodge was closed in form. At half-past six the brethren adjourned to the County Hotel, where a sumptuous banquet was served. Bro. Noakes, W.M., presided, faced by Bro. Glendinning, S.W. Amongst those present, who were not at the lodge, was Bro. J. A. Wheatley, P.M. 310, P.P.G.J.W. The W.M. having given "The Health of Her Majesty," proposed "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., the Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family," and in doing so, said that over 200 new lodges had sprung into existence since their Royal Grand Master had assumed the reins of government; whilst one of the first warrants that his Royal Highness put his pen to was that of Bective Lodge, 1532. Bro. Lemon proposed "The Earl of Bective, M.P., R.W.P.G.M. of Cumberland and Westmorland," a toast which was always received by Masons throughout the length and breadth of the two counties with unbounded enthusiasm. It was a happy augury that Lodge 1532 was named after his lordship, for it could not do otherwise than flourish. For a small province Cumberland and Westmorland had progressed wonderfully, and they certainly were greatly indebted to Lord Bective for the rapid strides that Masonry had made under his lordship's rule. There was also no doubt much of their success was due to Lord Bective's right hand man, Colonel Whitwell, M.P., their much-loved D.P.G.M. Bro. W. Carrick next proposed "The R.W.D.P.M., Colonel Whitwell, M.P., and the rest of the Provincial Officers," which he coupled with the names of Bros. J. A. Wheatley, P.P.G.J.W., and G. Lemon, P.G. Treasurer. Bro. Wheatley, in response, said there was a great amount of work done in the province by some one, and done well; and he could not but disclaim any right himself to participate in the honour which accompanied the toast. When they had so old, earnest, and hardworking a brother as the P.G. Treasurer, it was another matter, and he would be better able to dilate on the work of the province. There was also another energetic brother, who all would have liked to have seen present; he alluded to Bro. Gibson, the P.G. Secretary, to whom Masonry owed a deal in the province. Bro. Lemon, in reply, said he was sorry to say that for the very long time he had held office in the province there were many brethren who were very anxious to be honoured with the purple, but, so soon as they were remembered they forgot all about the duties of a Provincial Officer, and were never more seen. That was very shabby, everyone would admit; but it was a fact, and he was sorry to have to open out in that way. He regretted that Bro. Wheatley had not been decorated with the purple before now, as he knew his zeal for the Order had stood out prominently for years past; but he had every confidence Bro. Wheatley would do his duty well as a Provincial Officer. Bro. Potter, I.P.M., next proposed "The W.M., Bro. Noakes," which toast was received with much warmth. He could say that, from the night Bro. Noakes had been initiated in Bective Lodge, he had proved a most painstaking and determined Mason. For two years Bro. Noakes had filled two important offices under him (Bro. Potter)—viz., as Secretary and J.W., in the most energetic manner, and he knew he spoke the universal sentiments of Bective Lodge when he asserted that Bro. Noakes had only received his just deserts in being unanimously elected their W.M. He trusted the brethren whom Bro. Noakes had appointed to assist him in the working of the lodge would render him every assistance during the next twelve months. The W.M., in acknowledging the toast, said he had always taken a great interest in the Craft since the night he first saw light in Bective Lodge. It was one of his hobbies, and he was not ashamed to confess it; and he had two or three of them. From the time of his initiation he considered it was his duty to look forward and prepare himself for promotion, though he never expected so soon to receive that honour, which was the highest a lodge had the power to confer on any of its members. He must confess his great indebtedness to Bros. A. Taylor, Potter, and Cook for the great assistance and instruction he had received from them ever since he was first appointed to a subordinate office. Before sitting down he took the advantage of proposing "The Health of the I.P.M., Bro. Potter," who for two years had so ably presided over Bective Lodge. Bro. Potter said he was glad to know his little services were appreciated during the two years he had been their W.M. He was not sorry to leave office on account of the calls which it made on his time; but at the same time he did not regret having for two years served as W.M. During the short three years Bective Lodge had been in existence many changes had occurred in its membership. Several of the first members had left the city, and one dear brother, their Organist, Bro. Thorpe, it had pleased T.G.A.O.T.U. to take away from them last December. Bro. Cook, P.M., in proposing "The Installing Master," alluded in feeling terms to the absence of the P.G. Secretary, Bro. Gibson. Bro. Kenworthy had, however, performed the ceremony in an admirable manner, and they could not too warmly thank him for coming amongst them so willingly. It was the wish of the brethren of Bective Lodge to see Bro. Kenworthy there on many a future occasion. Bro. Kenworthy replied, and said that Bro. Gibson, that morning, expressed his deep regret at not being able to be present. He should tell him to-morrow, however, how well he (Bro. Kenworthy) had been received as his substitute, and how kindly they had spoken of him (Bro. Gibson). He also complimented them on having made so excellent a choice of a W.M. Bro. A. Taylor, P.M., proposed "The Newly-invested Officers," coupled with the names of Bros. Glendinning and the Rev. J. Tyson, who returned thanks. The W.M. gave "The Visiting Brethren," to which Bros. Lemon and McKay re-

plied. Bro. Lemon proposed "The Health of their absent Bro. Gibson," trusting he would speedily be restored to health; and adding, that keeping off the two able men who ruled over Cumberland and Westmorland, Freemasonry owed more to their P.G. Secretary than to any one else. Bro. McKay then gave "The Masonic Charities," which, he asserted, with all due deference to the W.M., was the toast of the evening. He was to represent the province at the approaching festival of the Boys' School, and trusted to be able to carry up a good and substantial list. Cumberland and Westmorland had received great benefits from the three Institutions, and it was their bounden duty to do all they could for the maintenance of those great charities. Freemasonry had greatly increased during the past few years, and the demands on their Institutions had in consequence increased. He was glad, however, to know that Cumberland and Westmorland stood so high with respect to the charities. He associated the toast with the name of Bro. Kenworthy, who had done so much for the cause of Masonic charity. Bro. Kenworthy, acknowledging the compliment, said Cumberland and Westmorland would no doubt come forward prominently, as it had always done, and give Bro. McKay a good list. Bro. Cook added that Bective Lodge, a young organisation, could not expect to vie with the older lodges, considering how heavy their preliminary expenses had been, but was glad to say that a special list to raise the sum of ten guineas was almost full, and that would give the lodge a couple of votes for the Boys' School. The Tyler's toast brought the proceedings to a close at eleven o'clock. We have to make special mention of the hospitality extended by Bective Lodge to the visiting brethren, which, from first to last, knew no bounds, and we fear that Bro. Cook, who is a "nunquam dormio" of a Secretary, must have sacrificed a great amount of his own pleasure and comfort in attending to the wants of his brethren from a distance. Bro. Lewthwaite, P.G. Organist, as in the lodge room, superintended the musical department, which was greatly augmented by the talented and almost professional ability of Bro. W. J. Carrick's comic ditties; whilst glees and songs were contributed by Bros. A. Taylor, Kenworthy, Hethington, Black, Lamony, and the W.M., Bro. W. Carrick also afforded a fund of amusement in a sketch of the music usually heard in a farmyard; and Bro. Wheatley's "Charge of the Light Brigade" was a feature in itself. As a whole this was one of the most enjoyable evenings we ever spent.

INSTRUCTION.

EARLOF CARNARVON LODGE (No. 1642). A meeting of this Lodge of Instruction was held at the Mitre Hotel, Goulbourne Road, Notting Hill, on Friday, April 5th. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Webster being the candidate. Bro. Speight then answered the usual questions for passing, and that ceremony was duly rehearsed. Before closing the first second and third sections of this lecture were worked.

Royal Arch.

St. JAMES'S CHAPTER (No. 2).—This distinguished chapter met at Freemasons' Hall, on Thursday last, for its last gathering until December. Comp. Erasmus Wilson is its M.E.Z. for 1878-79, and Comps. Brodie and Middleton its H. and J.; Comp. Hope is its S.N., and Comp. Letchworth P.S. We need hardly remind our readers that Comp. Lt.-Col. Creaton is its Treasurer, and Comp. Muggerridge its indefatigable S.E. (By the way, we wish to express a hope that for various reasons the festival of the Stability Lodge of Instruction will be numerously attended). This chapter contains many excellent and zealous members, and is distinguished alike for its good work and happy unanimity. A most agreeable evening was spent (though there was no work in the chapter) in the social circle, enhanced by a very good dinner, which did equal credit to the "provider" and the "provider." The Companions separated at an early hour, a very laudable example to all Royal Arch Masons, "happy to meet, sorry to part, and happy to meet again." Like the grave man, the admiring husband of Mrs. Leo Hunter, said to Mr. Pickwick, we too can truly affirm that the social gatherings and the agreeable banquets of the St. James's Chapter constitute a "feast of reason" as well as a "flow of soul," to say nothing of those "magnums" which cheer but do not inebriate, Royal Arch Masons especially. Among the companions present were Erasmus Wilson, M.E.Z.; Brodie, H.; Middleton, J.; Hope, S.N.; Muggerridge, S.E.; Letchworth, P.S.; Hemett, A.S.; Lt.-Col. Creaton, Treasurer; Wood, Pierce, Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, and Gover. Comp. Kelly was present as a visitor. The next meeting of the Chapter takes place in December.

KENDAL.—Kendal Castle Chapter (No. 129).—The regular quarterly convocation of this chapter was held at the Masonic Hall, Stramongate, on Tuesday, March 28th, at 2.30 prompt time. The M.E.Z., E. Comp. Joseph Bintley, was supported by E. Comp. John Talbot, H.; E. Comp. G. J. McKay, Prov. G.S.E., J.; E. Comp. John Bowes, P.Z., Prov. G.S.N.; and E. Comp. Titus Wilson, P.Z. The chapter having been opened in ample form, the rest of the companions were admitted, and the minutes of the annual convocation read and declared to be correctly recorded. The ballot was then taken for the following candidates for exaltation:—viz., Bros. J. Scisson, S.D. 119; G. Taylor, J.W. 1051; and F. W. Watson, J.W. 129. In each case the ballot proved unanimously in favour, and the brethren being present were exalted in ample form by E. Comp. Bowes, the historic lecture being given by E. Comp. McKay from the third chair. The duties of P.S. were well performed by that officer, Comp. Banks. Comp. R. Godfrey, S.E., presented a draft copy

of bye-laws for the government of the chapter, which, after due consideration, were adopted and ordered to be sent to the Prov. Grand Superintendent, Lord Bective, for his approval. The annual banquet was fixed for July 4th, at the hotel, Grange-over-Sands, and a committee was appointed to make the necessary arrangements. After the consideration of some routine business, the chapter was closed with the usual solemnities, and the companions separated in perfect harmony, to meet again on the last Thursday in June, when the report of the banquet committee will be made.

LIVERPOOL.—Temple Chapter (No. 1094).—The ordinary meeting of this chapter took place on Tuesday evening, the 26th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street. Business commenced at six o'clock. Comps. R. Washington, Z.; R. C. Yelland, H.; and J. W. Burgess J., were the chiefs present, supported by all the officers, a large number of members, and several visitors. The minutes were read and confirmed, and the ballot was taken for two candidates, resulting in their unanimous election. Comp. J. B. Robinson, P.Z., was elected an honorary member of the chapter. Bro. Sagar, of Lodge 1502, being in attendance, was duly exalted to the Sublime Degree of R.A., the work being performed in a manner which reflected the highest credit on those who took part in it, that of the M.E.Z. and P.S. being especially efficient. The companions subsequently sat down to an excellent banquet.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The monthly meeting of the Committee of this institution was held on Wednesday, in the Board Room, Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Lt.-Col. Creaton presided, and there were also present Bros. Griffiths Smith, S. Rawson, Hyde Pullen, James Brett, Joseph Smith, A. H. Tattershall, J. M. Case, Henry Smith (West Yorkshire), Raynham W. Stewart, L. Stean, Edward Cox, H. Massey (Freemason), W. Hilton, John Bellerby, S. G. Gordon, Robbins and James Terry (Secretary).

After the reading and confirmation of the minutes Bro. Terry read a letter from His Grace the Duke of Manchester, Prov. G.M. for Norths and Hants, acknowledging the vote of thanks passed at the last meeting of the Committee to his Grace for presiding at the late Festival of the Institution. His lordship said in his letter that he was glad to be of use to the Institution, but he could not believe he was deserving of the praise that the committee had bestowed upon him. Bro. Terry then read the following:—

Report of Finance Committee.			
MALE FUND.			
	£	s.	d.
Balance, 31st December, 1877 ...	225	8	6
Receipts ...	5611	8	7
	5836	17	1

Disbursements ...	1530	0	3
Purchase £2000 Consols, 3 per cent. and Commission ...	1920	0	0
	3450	0	3
Balance on this Account ...	2386	16	10

WIDOWS' FUND.			
	£	s.	d.
Balance, 31st December, 1877 ...	1033	16	4
Receipts ...	4556	10	6
	5590	6	10

Disbursements ...	1211	1	4
Purchase of £1125, 3 per cent. and Commission ...	1c80	0	0
	2291	1	4
Balance on this Account ...	£3299	5	6

SUSTENTATION OF BUILDING.			
	£	s.	d.
Balance, 31st December, 1877 ...	35	16	9
Dividends on £1000, 3 per cent. Consols, Half-year ...	15	0	0
	50	16	9

Disbursements ...	4	1	3
Balance on this Account ...	46	15	6

Total Balance ... £5732 17 10

	£	s.	d.
At Willis, Percival, and Co.'s ...	970	19	10
L. and W. Bank ...	4691	18	0
Secretary, Petty Cash... ..	50	0	0
	£5732	17	16

The report was ordered to be received and entered on the minutes.

Bro. Raynham Stewart moved that £2000 be placed on deposit at a months' notice at the London and Westminster Bank.

Bros. Col. Creaton, J. Farnfield, and Griffiths Smith were appointed as the committee to draw up the report to be presented to the annual meeting in May.

Bro. Terry informed the committee that Bro. Knill, the

collector to the Institution, had renewed his policy in the Guarantee Society, and had produced the receipt in accordance with the conditions of the policy.

Bro. Terry next read the papers from the Bankruptcy Court in re Willis, Percival, and Co., with notice as to the proving the debt of the Institution under the bankruptcy. He also read a letter from Mr. W. S. Read, the General Manager of the Hants and North Wilts Banking Company, announcing that that bank had taken over the business of Messrs. Willis, Percival, and Co., at a sum which would be sufficient to pay the creditors of that firm 9s. in the pound, and that the directors were now carrying on their business at 76, Lombard-street, and were willing to open accounts with the creditors of Willis, Percival, and Co., allowing at once 6s. in the pound, and in special cases a larger sum, of which the creditors could avail themselves on signing a form for that purpose. Bro. Terry said the amount for which the Institution were creditors was £990 19s. 10d. He had consulted Bro. Barrow as to proof of the debt in bankruptcy, and Bro. Barrow was of opinion that the proof should not be given against the estate of the firm, but against the private estate of Bro. S. Tomkins, he being the Treasurer of the Institution. He also was of opinion that there was no necessity to attend at the proof of debts on the 11th inst., but that they should wait and see what was the result of that meeting.

The Chairman said he had seen Bro. Tomkins, who told him that his impression was that the Institution would be paid in full, and that this debt would come out of his private estate. He (the Chairman) thought the course suggested by Bro. Barrow was the proper course.

Bro. Raynham Stewart said the Institution could prove at any other meeting, and therefore they might wait. Proving the debts to the amount of £200,000 would induce the Registrar of the day to sanction the arrangement offered by the Hants and North Wilts Banking Company. He quite agreed with Bro. Barrow that they should not attend and prove against the estate of the firm, but wait and see what the private estate of Bro. Tomkins was likely to yield.

It was then agreed to let the matter rest for the present. It was also resolved that if the Institution had to prove, Colonel Creaton, being a Trustee, should be authorised to take such steps as he might be advised in the matter.

Authority was also given to expend £11 in asphaltting the path in front of the Asylum at Croydon, if the other owners in that private road resolved to asphalt in front of their houses.

Bro. Raynham Stewart gave notice of motion for next meeting: "That considering the attention and services rendered to the inmates of the Institution by Dr. Strong, a sum of 100 guineas be voted to him as a testimonial of the brethren's appreciation of those services."

Bro. Terry was authorised to hire the large hall of Freemasons' Tavern for the election meeting in May, and a vote of thanks having been accorded to the Chairman, the brethren separated.

HENRY MUGGERIDGE TESTIMONIAL.

Bro. E. M. HUBBUCK, P.G.S., Treasurer; Bro. FRANCIS FELLOWS, Hon Secr.			
	£	s.	d.
Amount already announced ...	278	9	6
Cestrian Lodge, No. 425 ...	2	2	0
Old King's Arms Chapter, No. 28 ...	3	3	0
Cestrian Chapter, 425 (Chester) ...	2	2	0
Bro J. F. Jackson ...	2	2	0
" Alfred Sack ...	1	1	0
" G. Knox ...	1	1	0
" B. Peart ...	1	1	0
" Francis Smith, P.M. 201, 998, P.G. Sup. of Works Cheshire ...	1	1	0
" H. S. Crawford ...	1	1	0
" James Salmon, P.N. 425, P.P.G.J.W. North Wales ...	0	10	6
" Hubbard ...	0	5	0
" J. M. Thredder ...	0	5	0
" J. Frost ...	0	5	0
" J. Miller ...	0	5	0
" R. Cutting ...	0	5	0
" T. R. Eames, Sec. No. 22 ...	0	5	0
" E. Hollandt ...	0	5	0
" A. F. Austin ...	0	5	0

Making a total up to April 10th ... £295 14 0
Brethren wishing to contribute to this testimonial will oblige by forwarding their subscriptions, on or before the 25th inst., to Bro. F. Fellows, the Committee Rooms, 1, 2, 3, Little Britain, and 175, Aldersgate-street.

The testimonial will be presented at the Stability Lodge of Instruction Festival, Cannon-street Hotel, on Friday, April 26th.

Supper tickets, 5s. each, to be had of the Hon. Secretary, Bro. F. Fellows, 19, Montague-road, East Dalston

Committee Room, 1, 2, and 3, Little Britain.
April 4th, 1878.

Bro. Sir E. H. Lechmere, Bart., M.P., has been appointed to the office of Grand Master of Worcestershire, rendered vacant by the resignation, through ill-health of Bro. A. H. Koyds.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—This cooling medicine has the happiest effect when the blood is overheated, and a tendency to inflammatory action is set up in the system. One Pill taken shortly before dinner does away with the indigestion, fullness, and flatulency indicative of a weak stomach or disordered liver. A few Pills taken at bedtime act as alteratives and aperients; they not only relieve the bowels, but regulate every organ connected with them; overcome all acrid humours, and encourage a free supply of all the secretions essential to our well being. Holloway's Pills thoroughly cleanse and perfectly regulate the circulation; and beget a feeling of comfort in hot climates and high temperature which is most desirable for the preservation of health.—ADVT.

Reviews.

THE FREEMASONS' MANUAL AND OFFICIAL DIRECTORY OF THE PROV. G. LODGE AND PROV. G. CHAPTER OF KENT, by Bro. THOMAS WARNE, Rochester Journal office.

This is a very well compiled and useful little manual, not only of importance for our Kentish brethren but also for all English Masons. It gives us a list of the lodges and chapters in the province with all the Officers and Past Masters, as well as of the chapters, and the Principals and past Principals and Officers. It also supplies the number of members. By this it seems that in the Province, under Lord Holmesdale's rule there are 43 lodges, and in round numbers 2230 brethren. We regret to note that three lodges have furnished the worthy compiler of this useful little manual no information. We must say this is an unfraternal neglect. There are also, it seems, thirteen chapters and the number of companions is 336. We feel bound to add a most unsatisfactory, though we fear somewhat normal, proportion. This little work gives us also the Prov. G. Lodge and Prov. G. Chapter Bye Laws; they are few and simple and hardly call for notice. The payment to the lodge which receives the Prov. G. Lodge annually of £70, is not only a very "strong Order," but its policy may fairly be questioned. We should like to see the balance sheet of the Province. Bro. Warne is to be commended for this very neat and useful little Masonic Handbook for the good Province of Kent.

LIGHT, No. 1.—A Journal of Criticism and Belles Lettres.

We have been favoured with a copy of this new periodical, and take the opportunity of noticing it. It has a "feuilleton," a weekly supplement attached to it, and among the writers we notice many well known names. We are pleased to meet Mr. Anthony Trollope again, in "The Lady of Launay," having but lately all but wished him good-bye with regret in, "Is he Popenjoy?" There is a lively sketch, termed "Rita, or a Night Ride with the Arrieros in New Castile." There is also a promising commencement of "The impulsive Lady of Croome Castle," by Thomas Hardy. Let us hope that "Light" will continue to shine on contemporary "Criticism and Belles Lettres."

MAY'S BRITISH AND IRISH PRESS GUIDE,—160, Piccadilly, London.

This most useful work has reached its fifth annual issue, and we recommend it to the notice of our readers, for the book is in itself a most remarkable one, containing an accurate account of the whole of that important section of the community, the press of Great Britain and Ireland. All such information is of the greatest importance and interest of us all alike.

As the proprietors truly observe, the work contains descriptive particulars of 3000 newspapers, periodicals, magazines, and serial publications issued in the United Kingdom, and is confidently asserted to be the most comprehensive and reliable directory of the kind now issued.

We may observe that there are 1885 newspapers published in Great Britain and Ireland, and which are tabulated as follows:—

Metropolis	...	486
England	...	1003
Wales	...	59
Scotland	...	172
Ireland	...	145
British Isles	...	20

Of the 1399 provincial papers, 177 may be fairly described as localized editions of, or published in connection with, other journals. Of these the following synoptical table gives us a clear and careful statement:—

When Published.	Metropolis.	England.	Wales.	Scotland.	Ireland.	British Isles.	Total.
Daily Morning	15	44	3	11	14	1	88
Evening	7	36	...	9	3	...	55
Five times a week	1	12	...	...	...	...	13
Four times a week	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Three times a week	5	8	...	2	7	4	26
Twice a week	13	74	5	8	22	4	126
Monday	11	3	1	...	...	...	15
Tuesday	10	40	1	6	1	1	65
Wednesday	29	54	3	20	2	2	110
Thursday	39	67	6	12	10	...	134
Friday	111	222	23	26	11	1	394
Saturday	114	424	16	73	71	6	704
Sunday*	8	...	...	...	...	...	8
Twice a month	12	...	...	...	...	...	13
Fortnightly	10	1	...	1	...	...	12
Monthly	96	8	...	3	3	...	110
Quarterly	2	...	...	...	...	...	2
Irregular and Miscellaneous	3	3	1	1	...	1	9
Total	486	1003	59	172	145	20	1885

* Although there are eight journals recognised as Sunday newspapers (all published in the metropolis), as a fact there is but one, the *Observer*, published on Sunday alone, the others issuing editions on preceding days also.

Noticeable features in the above list are the favour with which the last two or three days of the week are regarded as days of publication, and the large number of monthly newspapers issued in London—the increasing number of

trade journals accounting in a great measure for the latter. It may also be interesting to realise the following account of their publishing prices.

Publishing Price.	Metropolis.	England.	Wales.	Scotland.	Ireland.	British Isles.	Total.
Halfpenny	16	68	...	20	3	3	110
One Penny	129	662	34	118	43	7	993
Three-halfpence	5	67	5	6	5	7	95
Twopence	68	116	15	13	36	2	250
Twopence-halfpenny	2	3	...	2	2	...	9
Threepence	51	26	1	6	29	...	107
Threepence-halfpenny	1	3	2	1	2	...	9
Fourpence	39	5	...	...	13	...	57
Fivepence	17	...	...	...	2	...	19
Sixpence	96	3	...	1	3	...	103
Sevenpence	4	...	...	...	...	...	4
Eightpence	2	...	...	...	...	...	2
Ninepence	4	...	...	...	1	...	5
One Shilling	18	1	...	...	...	...	19
One Shilling & Sixpence	2	...	...	...	...	...	2
Two Shillings	5	...	...	...	...	...	5
Gratis	1	4	...	2	4	1	12

Of the remaining newspapers, many are published at an annual rate of subscription, varying from one shilling to six pounds; some are issued at two separate prices, usually in consideration of the addition of supplementary pages, other are published upon different days at distinct prices, and in several cases the price varies according to circumstances peculiar to the journals themselves. The marked predominance of the penny journals, the popularity of the prices twopence, threepence, and sixpence, and the excess of high-priced newspapers in Ireland compared with Scotland or Wales, are worthy of remark.

The following table gives us an approximate idea of the period during which existing papers have been issued:

When Established.	Metropolis.	England.	Wales.	Scotland.	Ireland.	British Isles.	Total.
Before the year 1700...	2	2	...	1	...	...	5
1700 to 1799 inclusive	11	49	...	6	10	1	77
1800 to 1810	3	17	3	5	4	...	32
1811 to 1820	2	14	...	5	4	...	28
1821 to 1830	9	20	1	4	12	2	48
1831 to 1840	23	45	2	10	18	1	99
1841 to 1850	48	34	2	25	21	3	132
1851 to 1860	68	278	18	41	33	3	441
1861 to 1870	121	249	19	30	24	4	447
1871 to 1876	120	197	5	35	17	4	378
1877	50	70	8	5	2	...	135

It may also be interesting to note, as a mere matter of curiosity, the political bearing of the press:—

Principles.	Metropolis.	England.	Wales.	Scotland.	Ireland.	British Isles.	Total.
Liberal	42	327	30	88	48	7	542
Liberal Conservative	9	35	6	7	10	4	71
Conservative	25	226	9	22	46	3	331
Independent or Neutral	410	415	14	55	41	6	941
Total	486	1003	59	172	145	20	1885

With regard to the religious character of the newspaper world it is also well to remember that of the whole number of newspapers (1885) published in the United Kingdom, there are forty-eight which may be classed as Religious, and representing the Church of England, Roman Catholics, Jews, Baptists, Wesleyans, Presbyterians, and other denomination.

There are eighty-two newspapers regularly illustrated, nine occasionally illustrated; one contains coloured illustrations, and one is illustrated by means of photography.

Five newspapers appear in the French language, including four published in the Channel Islands, one in German, and one in English, French and Spanish; eleven are printed in Welsh, and one partly in Gaelic.

There are also, it seems, 818 periodicals, which are localized as follows:—Metropolis, 598; England, 131; Wales, 20; Scotland, 43; Ireland, 25; British Isles, 1. Of these 574 are published monthly.

The undermentioned periodicals, first established in the previous century, are still published:—

Gentlemen's Magazine, 1731; Gospel Magazine, 1766; Wesleyan Methodist Magazine, 1778; Curtis's Botanical Magazine, 1786; Evangelical Magazine, 1793; Methodist New Connexion Magazine, 1797; Philosophical Magazine, 1798.

There are issued several periodicals in the Welsh and French languages, one in Arabic and Hindustani, and others are partly printed in Gaelic and the Lancashire dialect.

The number of illustrated publications, both newspapers and periodicals, increases in a marked degree each year, and the extending introduction of illustrations produced by photographic, chromo-lithographic, and other new processes affords gratifying evidence alike of improving taste and corresponding progress in the methods of production.

Out of 287 illustrated periodicals, twenty-three contain

coloured plates, and eight are illustrated by photography—eighteen are only occasionally illustrated.

No less than eighty-one periodicals are devoted to the juvenile portion of the community, nearly every one containing illustrations.

The number of trade organs is continually increasing, there being now 104 publications issued in connection with specific trades. Among the newly-issued examples may be mentioned the British and Foreign Confectioner, Cabinet and Upholstery Advertiser, Country Brewers' Gazette, Illustrated Carpenter and Builder, Ironmongers' Review, Meat and Provision Trades Review, and Pétroquier.

Our readers will therefore see what interesting and carefully compiled information, for all who are interested in the subject, Mr. May's "Press Guide" contains.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF EAST LANCASHIRE.

The annual Provincial Grand Chapter of the Royal Arch Masons of East Lancashire was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester, on April 4th, the Most Excellent Prov. G. Superintendent (Colonel Le Gendre N. Starkie) presiding.

The Prov. G. Chapter was opened by Comp. Edmund Ashworth, Z. Social, 62. The Prov. G. Superintendent and his officers, marshalled by the Prov. G. Director of Ceremonies entered the chapter at three o'clock.

There were present Comps. J. L. Hine, Prov. G. Second Principal; J. A. Birch, Prov. G. Third Principal; J. Tunnah, P.G. Scribe E.; W. O. Walker, P.G. Scribe N.; J. Gibb Smith, Prov. G. Principal Sojourner; James Hall, Past Prov. G. Principal Sojourner; W. F. Towel, Past Prov. G. Principal Sojourner; John Cass, Prov. G. First Assistant Sojourner; John Jones, Prov. G. Second Assistant Sojourner; T. J. Hooper, Prov. G. Treasurer; Joseph Brooks, Prov. G. Sword Bearer; John Heap, Prov. G. Standard Bearer; J. Sillitoe, Prov. G. Director of Ceremonies; and J. L. Goodwin, Prov. G. Organist, and others, only one Chapter in the province being unrepresented.

After the usual business the Prov. G. Superintendent reappointed and invested Comps. J. L. Hine, J. A. Birch, John Tunnah, and J. H. Sillitoe in the offices previously held by them; and also appointed and invested Comps. Edmund Ashworth, Prov. G. S.N.; Dr. P. Royle, Prov. G. Principal Sojourner; H. A. Bennett, Prov. G. First Assistant Sojourner; Ernst Linck, Prov. G. Second Assistant Sojourner; T. S. Ainsworth, Prov. G. Registrar; F. Heywood, Prov. G. Sword Bearer; J. Bladon, Prov. G. Standard Bearer; and James Varley, Prov. G. Organist. Comp. J. Wildgoose was unanimously appointed Treasurer and duly invested.

The Prov. G. Superintendent and the Prov. G. Officers retired, and the chapter was closed.

The usual banquet followed, over which the Grand Superintendent presided.

Obituary.

THE LATE BRO. J. B. FORSHAW.

Many brethren in West Lancashire will hear with regret of the death of Bro. John Baldwin Forshaw, of the Bath Spring Brewery, Ormskirk, which took place at his residence in Derby-street, in that town, recently, at the early age of thirty-four years. Bro. Forshaw had been suffering for four months from a very severe bronchial affection, under which he succumbed, although his position during the illness was sometimes encouraging, and promised to realise the fond hopes of his family and friends in a restoration to health. Bro. Forshaw was universally respected in the neighbourhood; and in his death the town of Ormskirk has lost one whose name and influence promised to have many useful and satisfactory associations. He was a young man possessing a most amiable disposition—kind, courteous, and large-hearted—and instances might be mentioned of the exercise of that unostentatious charity "which blesses him who gives as well as him who receives." Like his brother, the late Bro. Philip Baldwin Forshaw, who died in June, 1876, he was a great friend and supporter of Masonic Institutions, and took a lively interest in the success and working of the local lodges, being at the time of his death the W.M. of the West Lancashire Lodge, No. 1403; and there is this remarkable incident in the Masonic career of the two brothers that Bro. P. B. Forshaw at the time of his death was W.M. of his mother lodge, 580 (Harmony), having previously been W.M. of 1403. Bro. Forshaw was a kind and affectionate husband and parent, and leaves two sons and two daughters. He enjoyed the respect and esteem of his numerous work-people, who by his death have lost a liberal and an indulgent master. His remains were interred in the new family vault, at Ormskirk Parish Church.

BRO. G. BUBB, P.M. 180.

It is with regret we have to announce the death of Bro. Geo. Bubb, P.M. and Treasurer of the St. James's Union Lodge, 180, in his fifty-fifth year, which took place on the 3rd inst. after a painful illness of three months. His death will throw a gloom over the several lodges of which he was a member; his jovial and fraternal disposition made him an universal favourite amongst the brethren, to whom he was ever ready to afford assistance and instruction when needed.

The W.M. of his mother lodge issued the following letter, which was responded to by a considerable attendance of the brethren on the ground:—"Dear Sir and Brother, —It is my melancholy duty to inform you of the death of our esteemed Bro. Bubb, P.M., which took place on the 3rd inst. Thinking you might possibly like to pay a last mark of respect to him, I beg to inform you the funeral will reach Finchley Cemetery on Monday, at eleven o'clock. I beg to state that those brethren attending will do so simply

in a friendly manner, in no way bearing a Masonic character. Yours fraternally,—L. BURGOYNE PILLIN, W.M., 180."

The lodge will be in mourning till October 10th. Bro. Bubb was also W.M. of Maidenhead Lodge, J.W. of Londesborough, and P.S. St. James's Union Chapter.

IN MEMORIAM SIR GILBERT SCOTT.

On Sunday afternoon Dean Stanley preached a funeral sermon in Westminster Abbey. There was a very large attendance. Choosing as his text the words of the Psalmist, "The house of God," the Dean began by observing that our idea of the Invisible almost inevitably made for itself a shell or husk for the visible, and that was the germ of religious architecture. That was the reason why the most splendid buildings in the world had been temples or churches; that was the reason why the most spiritual, even the most Puritanical religion, clothed itself with the drapery not only of words and sounds and pictures but of wood and stone and marble. The Friends' meeting-house was as really a house of God, and, therefore, a decisive testimony to the sacredness of architecture as the most magnificent cathedral. He proceeded to say that he desired to bring before them the religious aspect of the noble science and art of the architect. On the previous day there was laid within those walls the most famous builder of his generation. Others might have soared to loftier flights, or produced special works of more commanding power, but no name within the last 30 years had been so widely impressed on the edifices of Great Britain, past and present, as that of Gilbert Scott. It was the singular fortune of his career that it coincided with one of the most memorable revolutions of taste that the world had witnessed. That peculiar conception of architectural beauty called Gothic was altogether unknown to Pagan or Christian antiquity. Born partly of Saracenic and partly of German parentage, it worked its way into perfection by the mysterious instinct which travelled through Europe in the Middle Ages. It flourished for four centuries, and then died as completely as if it had never existed. Another style took its place. By Catholic and Protestant it was alike repudiated. By the hands of French and Italian prelates, no less than of English and Scottish Reformers, its traces were obliterated. Suddenly, in the first half of this century a new eye was given to the mind of man. Gradually, through various channels—in this country through the minute observations of a Quaker student—the vision of the past rose before the world. The glory and the grace of our soaring arches and of our stained windows were seen as they never had been to mortal eyes since the time of their erection. To imitate, to preserve this ancient style in all its marvellous beauty was the inevitable consequence, he might almost say the overwhelming temptation, of this new discovery. The hour had come when the ecclesiastical architecture of the past was to be roused from its slumber, and with the hour came the man, who became the incarnation of the taste of the age. Those who knew Gilbert Scott and valued him, who leaned upon him as a tower of strength in their difficulties, who honoured his indefatigable industry, his childlike humility, and his unvarying courtesy, felt that in him they had lost one of those gentle guileless, upright souls who in their memories might still elevate, their own souls heavenward.

OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE BOAT RACE.

The following are the crews, with their latest weights:—

		St.	lb.
1. W. A. Ellison, University	...	10	12
2. D. J. Cowles, St. John's	...	11	3
3. H. B. Southwell, Pembroke	...	12	7
4. W. H. Grenfell, Balliol	...	12	9
5. H. Pelham, Magdalen	...	12	10
6. G. F. Burgess, Keble	...	13	2
7. T. C. Edwards-Moss, Brasenose	...	12	2
H. P. Marriott, Brasenose (stroke)	...	12	0
F. M. Beaumont, New (cox)	...	7	4
CAMBRIDGE.			
1. H. R. Jones, Jesus	...	10	11
2. J. Watson-Taylor, Magdalen	...	11	8
3. T. W. Barker, First Trinity	...	12	7
4. R. J. Spurrell, Trinity Hall	...	12	1
5. L. G. Pike, Caius	...	12	8
6. C. Gurdon, Jesus	...	13	0
7. T. E. Hockin, Jesus	...	12	7
E. H. Prest, Jesus (stroke)	...	10	13
G. L. Davis, Clare (cox)	...	7	6

The Court Circular announces from Osborne that her Majesty and Princess Beatrice witnessed on Tuesday the funeral of her Majesty's much-regretted head gamekeeper, Mr. Land, who had been seven years in the Queen's service.

GRAND CHAPTER OF PRINCE MASONS OF IRELAND.—The triennial convocation of the Princes Grand Rose Croix of Ireland will be held at Freemasons' Hall, Dublin, on Thursday, the 25th April, 1878, at six o'clock p.m., when the Hon. Judge Townshend, LL.D., President of the Order, will preside, and present to Grand Chapter his report as to the progress and present position of the Rose Croix Order in Ireland. The banquet will take place at seven o'clock.

American Art at the Paris Exhibition will be represented by some 105 pictures, including a dozen water-colours. The greater number of paintings are by New York artists, there being only five from Boston and three from Philadelphia, while about twenty-five will be contributed by American artists abroad.

NOTES ON ART, &c.

Says a correspondent in the *Graphic*, it was our good fortune to receive an invitation to a "studio warming" in fancy dress from an artist well known as one of the strongest of the *Graphic* staff, and a member of the Institute of Painters in Water Colours. It must be confessed that ordinary fancy balls are rather dismal affairs, and, if you do note an effective costume, you may feel sure that some artist has had the arrangement of it. Now, in the present case—that of Mr. Charles Green's party at Charle-côte—the studio itself, with its gallery, the quaint staircase, the attendants in costume, and the 150 guests, nearly all artists, who looked thoroughly at ease in their dresses, helped to produce a most brilliant effect, and to give an extraordinary reality to the scene. Many of our readers will recollect, in our last Christmas Number, the coloured print of the charming procession of the Children's Calico Ball, drawn by our host, who may be considered an authority on costume. It was this feeling, we imagine, on the part of the visitors that caused them to take especial pains with their appearance. Among those costumes which struck us as being particularly effective were Maximilian, who looked as if he had just been standing for one of Albert Durer's drawings; an admirable make-up as Irving in Hamlet, a capital Henry the Eighth, and Charles the First, a charming but too cheerful-looking "Alsace," a regular homely-looking Dutch couple; one young lady in white satin, with an enormous poke bonnet as worn by our grandmothers; the two Elizabethan figures in Mr. Pettie's last year's Academy picture of "The Duel," one in black satin and the other in white; a Venetian Senator to the very life; two Cavalier Brothers, James the First's period; an admirable Huguenot in white, a burly Austrian officer, &c.; but we find it a very difficult task to only mention a few of the costumes when nearly every one may be considered to have been a success.

A relic of Conventual London has been found at Kilburn during some alterations on the North-Western Railway. It is a brass plate and effigy of the time of Edward III., supposed to have belonged to the coffin of an abbot of Kilburn Priory, which was once attached to Old Westminster Abbey.

The *Whitehall Review* notes that a dramatic recital will be given by Mrs. Monckton and Sir Charles L. Young, on Wednesday evening, May 8th, at the Steinway Hall, in aid of the St. John and St. Elizabeth Hospital, Great Ormond-street, for the reception of female patients suffering from incurable or long-standing disease. The entertainment will be under the patronage of the Dowager Marchioness of Londonderry, Lady Alice Garsford, Lady Harriet Wegg-Prosser, Lady Georgiana Fullerton, Lady Constance Bellingham, the Lady Beaumont, the Lady Herbert of Lea, the Lady O'Hagan, Hon. Mrs. Pereira, Hon. Mrs. A. Fraser, Mrs. Russell, of Aden, and Mrs. Bertram W. Currie. The programme will include selections from the works of John Tobin, Miss Procter, Lord Lytton, Sheridan Knowles, Leigh Hunt, T. Hood, C. Swain, &c. For the benefit of those who have never seen these accomplished amateurs, I may say that Mrs. Monckton and Sir Charles Young are not merely "readers" but appear in dialogues and scenes.

BETHNAL GREEN BRANCH MUSEUM.—The Lords of the Committee of Council on Education have directed that a special Loan Exhibition of furniture, cabinet work, and ornamental wood work used in the interior of dwellings shall be held in the Bethnal-green Museum during the summer months, commencing on the 1st of May. This will occupy the space rendered available on the ground floor of the museum by the removal to Paris of the Prince of Wales's Indian presents till lately shown there. Their Lordships understand that the manufacture of household furniture is largely carried on in the East of London; hence they believe that the proposed Exhibition will be of special interest in that district. Her Majesty the Queen has been graciously pleased to direct that a selection from the furniture of the Royal Palaces shall be included in this Exhibition.

The National Gallery has acquired a picture by Gian Girolamo Savoldo, the Brescian painter, and which until lately was hanging in the Casa Fenaroli, Brescia, as a Zingara by Titian. The painting, however, is believed to be the same picture seen by Ridolfi in the Casa Averolda at Brescia, and described by him as a Magdalen going to the Sepulchre, particularly as the Berlin Museum contains a nearly similar painting done by Savoldo, and bearing his signature. The picture in the National Gallery is a half-length of a young woman with her head enveloped in a white silk veil, while in the background are ruined buildings, and a vase set on a stone. In the distance are shores like those of the Venetian lagoons, and the day is just breaking.

WELSH LITERATURE.—The Archbishop of Canterbury has conferred the degree of Bachelor in Divinity on the Rev. David Howell, vicar of Wrexham, North Wales, for his services in the promotion of Welsh literature and the intellectual culture of the people of Wales.

Our Contemporary the *Graphic*, generally so admirably edited and illustrated, is we think, with all deference, making a mistake in its reproduction of the "Historic d'une Crime," and above all in the unwelcome and painful illustration which accompanies it this last week. We say this in all friendliness to and liking for the *Graphic*.

The Nottingham Museum, which has been in course of formation for some time past, is to be opened in June by the Prince and Princess of Wales. Loans have been promised from several important collections, and owners of works of art are asked to contribute.

An Exhibition of Drawings of the Isle of Wight by Mr. Elijah Walton is now being held at the Burlington Gallery.

Masonic and General Tidings.

The Provincial Grand Craft Lodge of Cumberland and Westmorland, will hold its half yearly meeting on Friday the 26th inst., at Keswick, under the banner of Greta Lodge, No. 1073.

We believe we are correct in stating that the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England, will hold a meeting at Keswick, on Friday, the 26th inst.

THE TELEPHONE.—One of the most interesting and valuable applications of Professor Bell's telephone in the United States was seen in a recent railway disaster near Hartford, Connecticut. An excursion train, returning from Moody and Sankey's revival meetings, plunged through a bridge, killing or wounding many passengers. Brought by telegraph wires to Hartford, the news was taken up by a system of telephone wires connecting a chemist's shop with the residences of twenty-one physicians. So prompt was the summons that in half an hour the physicians, fully equipped, were at the railway station, where a wrecking train conveyed them to the scene of death and suffering. Thirteen thousand telephones are now in operation in the United States.

WIGAN INFIRMARY.—The Wigan Infirmary will receive at least £150 as the result of the exhibition of pictures painted by Captain Charles Mercier, which consisted of between 60 and 70 of his works.

Bro. P.G.M. John W. Simons, Masonic Editor of the N.Y. *Dispatch*, has just been presented by some of his admiring friends and brethren with a magnificent gold chronometer, in heavy gold hunting case. We are always glad to note a case of this kind. True, virtue is its own reward, but virtue plus a chronometer nicely encased, guarantees down weight in the balance.—*Key-stone*.

A new Mark Lodge is about to be opened at Whitehaven, making the fifth, in the Province of Cumberland and Westmorland.

The National Gallery will be closed, for cleaning, from Monday, the 15th inst., to Saturday, the 20th inst. inclusive, but will be re-opened to the public on Easter Monday and during the whole of the Easter week, including Thursday and Friday, days ordinarily reserved for students.

The Committee of the Free Library, The Hall, London-street, Bethnal-green, have received a donation of twenty volumes from his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to the above institution.

The quarterly convocation of the Metropolitan College of the Rosicrucian Society took place on Thursday last. A report will appear in our next.

The Vice-President of the Committee of Council on Education has appointed Mr. Bryant to be his private secretary.

ECLECTIC CHAPTER (No. 1201).—Monday, the 29th inst., is the day fixed upon for the consecration of this chapter, which ceremony will take place at the Holborn Restaurant, at 5 p.m. All Royal Arch companions are fraternally invited to be present. The banquet, which we are informed, will be of a recherché nature, one of the best of the season, will be served in the Prince's saloon, at 6.30 p.m. The tickets for the banquet (price 21s.) may be obtained of Comp. John Mason, 17, Millbank-street, S.W.

Public Amusements.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.—It was a courageous thing on the part of Mr. Gilbert when his Comedy "The Ne'er do Well" was pronounced a failure, to undertake to re-write and re-construct it, but "The Vagabond" as the piece is now called, displays nothing beyond the author's courage. The first act, which is by far the best of the three, would not be unworthy of a promising beginner, but "certes" is not worthy of the author of "Pygmalion and Galatea"—and the second and third acts are simply absurd. The story is just the kind of story that a schoolboy would tell, presuming he had the knowledge to put it into dramatic form—it displays unqualified ignorance of human nature; the men are absolute prigs, and the women something worse, both are the creations of an author who has utterly discarded Pope's axiom—"The proper study of mankind is man" for the men would not be tolerated in society, and the women would never be found there. Both as a writer of fairy comedy, and of modern comedy, Mr. Gilbert has no rival; no one can write as well as he in the one, none so bad in the other. Bro. Neville as "The Vagabond" in the first act displays the rich advantage of his marvellous power of acting.

FOLLY THEATRE.—"Les Cloches de Corneville" is a bright, merry and tuneful comic opera, and will certainly hold the boards for many a week to come. As the miser, Gaspard, Mr. Shiel Barry fairly electrifies his audience in the second act. No such true tragic form has been seen on the stage since the death of the elder Kean. Playgoers in search of excitement will find their best hopes realised by a visit to the Folly.

ALHAMBRA.—Ever since Mr. Charles Morton has had the management of this house it has "flourished exceedingly well." "The Grand Duchess," produced here for the first time on Monday last, was a "palpable hit," and is, in truth, a worthy successor to "Madame Angot." The songs and tunes are too well known to need comment, but never since its introduction to London has this comic opera of Offenbach's been so well mounted, so well played, and withal so well received. From among the London sights at this season commend us to "The Alhambra."

Owing to the great pressure on our columns, the report of the grand concert at Manchester is unavoidably postponed until next week.

TO OUR READERS.

The FREEMASON is a Weekly Newspaper, price d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Subscription, including postage:

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

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

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

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

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

NOTICE.

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

TO ADVERTISERS.

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

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

NOTICE!

Friday next, being Good Friday, the "Freemason" will be published a day earlier than usual, namely, on Thursday morning, at 8.30.

Answers to Correspondents.

"Freemasonry in New Zealand," under consideration—Thanks.

"Ocarina," in our next.

"Amherst Lodge, Westerham." Too late this week. In our next—Thanks.

The following also stand over:—A Century of Masonry; Presentation to Bro. J. Dennis, P.M. 907; Reports of Lodges, 41, 1225; Prov. G. Priory of Devon.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

"May's British and Irish Press Guide;" "Medical Examiner;" "La Chaine D'Union;" "Hull Packet;" "The West London Express;" "The Broad Arrow;" "Light;" "Die Bauhute;" "Corner Stone;" "The Advocate;" "Proceedings of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar for the State of New Hampshire, for the year 1877;" "Proceedings of the Fourth Annual Council of Deliberation A.A.S. Rite for the District of Vermont;" "La Voz de Hiram;" "Dr. J. T. Loth's Guide, with Plan to Paris and its Environs;" "The Hebrew Leader;" "Der Triangel."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

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

BIRTH.

BISHOP.—On the 7th inst., at Durham House, Mitcham, the wife of M. H. Bishop, of a son.

GRIFFITHS.—On Feb. 9th, at Sydney, N.S. Wales, the wife of G. N. Griffiths, Esq., of a daughter.

STEELE.—On the 7th inst., at High-street, Kensington, the wife of B. Steele, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

BIRKETT—SMITH.—On the 6th inst., at St. Thomas's, Stamford-hill, Daniel Maule Birkett, M.A., of Queen Elizabeth's School, Sevenoaks, to Edith, daughter of the late T. E. Smith, of Upper Clapton.

GRIFFITHS—NUNN.—On the 4th inst., at Christ Church, Highbury, Thomas Griffiths, P.M. 907, of 54, Monkwell-street, and Alwyne-road, Canonbury, to Clara, third surviving daughter of R. Nunn, Esq., of Highbury Grove, N.

YATES—BATTEN.—On the 6th inst., at St. George's, Tufnell Park, Harry Charles Yates, Esq., of Nottingham, to Anna Norah Machray, daughter of A. Batten, Esq., of Tufnell Park.

DEATHS.

BUBB.—On the 3rd inst., at 167, New Bond-street, George Bubb, aged 55.

BELLAMY.—On the 2nd inst., Lewis Robert Bellamy, Esq., of Gloucester-place, Greenwich, aged 71.

GREEN.—On the 5th inst., at Kent Villas, Hall-road, Handsworth, Birmingham, William Green, aged 62.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 1878.

CHARITY REFORM.

We have read with much interest and attention the report of the annual meeting of the Charity Organization Society, which took place on Tuesday week, under the distinguished presidency of Lord Aberdare. And while we most heartily and gratefully concur in a portion of the useful work of the Society—we will add, its very valuable labours—namely, the investigation of applications for relief, and the detection of fraud and imposture, we do not shut our eyes to a mistake which underlies many of the assertions and accompanies the work of the Society—namely, the confounding of two things essentially distinct, "honest poverty" and "mendacious pretence." To speak more correctly, to our mind, the Society lays down a "hard and fast" line which, while it is useful as against the rogue, no doubt presses hardly on the truly destitute, who for many reasons shrink from publicity of any kind. We shall all admit the need and the importance of such a society for systematic, kindly, careful enquiry, but we doubt very much if we are any of us prepared after all, seriously and deliberately, to endorse its peculiar dealing with charity qua charity. For we fear that under the auspices of the Charity Organization Society, (though we admit freely with the best intentions), charity would soon lose its gracious and distinguishing characteristic, and would be reduced to a minimum of gifts, somewhat ostentatiously announced, somewhat grudgingly bestowed. This we apprehend, is not true charity, either on a religious or Masonic definition, and though it may perhaps be true philosophically that "call it by any other name" it will "smell as sweet," yet we make bold, despite all the Organization Societies in the world, to avow our humble opinion, that such a principle of giving is not, and cannot rightly be termed, charity. There are three special fallacies which accompany the statement of Lord Aberdare, according to our appreciation of them, and we say it in all deference, which we think we are bound to animadvert upon in the ever charitable columns of the *Freemason*. The first is the educational scare. Lord Aberdare is reported to have said that "great political economists had declared that the world would have been better without the endowments for charities, and the same thing had been said in regard to the endowments for education. Without going so far as these views he could not help seeing that great mischief accompanied the good done by many of the institutions and charities." Now we beg to set off against Lord Aberdare the opinion of George Canning, who declared that it was to the public schools of this country (all, more or less, the greater ones especially, "endowed schools,") we owed a large portion of our national spirit and greatness. We do not profess to understand even by implication what is the "great mischief" to which Lord Aberdare so mysteriously alludes as accompanying these educational endowments. For when one remembers that great network of endowed Grammar Schools and eleemosynary institutions like Christ's Hospital, in which countless Englishmen of all ranks and conditions have received and still receive the invaluable blessings of a good education, and are thereby enabled to fight the rough battle of life, and rise successfully to the highest posts in "Church and State," we cannot but feel, (with all deference to Lord Aberdare), how mischievous and paradoxical all such assertions are. We on the contrary have no hesitation in saying, that it is to those very educational endowments, which some affect to decry just now, that we owe at this moment our power and prestige among the nations of the world! But as we live in an age of paradox and perversity, we never feel astonished at the speeches made at public meetings, which being "ad hoc," "pieces d'occasion," as the French say, are neither true, absolutely true, in the abstract, nor worth very much in the concrete. What are all the opinions of political economists, many of whom have said, like Mr. Mills, many

very puerile and silly things, compared to the hourly, daily experience of us all alike in countless ways, and in ceaseless results? Practically nil. Then again, "The hospitals," Lord Aberdare went on to say, and as the "reports of the Charity Organization Society showed, were, by the indiscriminate administration of medical relief to all who came to certain of the London institutions, proved to be great obstacles in the way of provident dispensaries, by supporting which the people would learn to be self dependent and self-reliant. Then some of the societies carried on by the subscriptions of living persons had drawbacks of a serious nature, keeping up unnecessary establishments and maintaining those habits among the people which the charitable desired to eradicate." To such a "broad," and we feel bound to add "bald" statement, we beg most respectfully to demur, and with it we most utterly disagree. That it may be perfectly right to set up self-supporting hospitals we do not wish to deny, though in so doing the good Samaritanism of the great medical profession is thereby impinged upon, we think, against the wish of the great mass of that most useful and distinguished body of our fellow citizens. To the working man—whether in town or country—the hospital is the greatest of blessings, and among many noble institutions in our free and favoured land none are so goodly, so valuable, and so unselfish as our admirable charitable hospitals. Long may they flourish, and perfectly may they develop, so long, that is, as suffering humanity has the utmost need of services which are beyond all price, and care which is most beneficent. Lord Aberdare spoke strongly, we are told, against the "canvassing" system in connexion with charities, and said that when he "saw these operations, a parody upon the words of Madame Roland came into his mind—Oh Charity, how many evils are done in thy name!" We really could hardly have supposed that a statesman of Lord Aberdare's eminence could have "taken up" with such a piece of "pure bathos." We shall all remember poor Madame Roland's dying words, (if true), and feel how correct they have been shown to be not so long ago, in Paris itself. But to hear them parodied by so grave an ex-Cabinet Minister as Lord Aberdare, in order to advocate the abolition of canvassing, is a great strain on our mental equanimity! The evils of canvassing surely hardly deserved such an exaggerated apostrophe. After all, they are of a very limited and humble kind at the most, if they exist at all, and to say the truth, as far as we have seen the canvassing system—and we have seen much of it—a great deal may be advanced in its favour. But like Scribe's play—it is after all a "tempête" in a "verre d'eau," or, as we say, "a storm in a teapot," and demands neither the indignation of the Charity Organization Society, nor the denunciation of retired statesmen. But everything just now is exaggerated amongst us, and as we deal in "bunkum" and extravagance of assertion in our public appearances, so in our private life, this tendency to inaccuracy is sapping amongst us, the reverence for candour, fair dealing, sincerity, and loyalty, which ought ever to characterise our dealings with each other. The evils attendant on Charity administration cannot be cured by the remedies of quacks, or the nostrums of the "unqualified practitioner." They have to be dealt with with a kind but firm hand, with care and discrimination, and above all with common sense and practically. How this should be realized we will humbly essay to demonstrate in our next impression.

LA CHAINE D'UNION.

Our excellent contemporary, under the able management of Bro. Hubert, gives us a most admirable number for April. In it, among other matters which we allude to elsewhere, Bro. Le Brun, a French architect, repeats the story of the initiation of the late Pio Nono, but this time at Thionville, on the authority of a M. Desforges, who had been his "parrain," or godfather, in the initiation—what we should of old have called his "voucher." According to M. Desforges, Pio IX. was once an officer in a French cavalry regiment, under Napoleon I., he had, like Master Shallow, if not his little "law-suits," his little love episodes. This is a new state-

ment altogether. M. Desforges is very positive of the fact, for when told of the Pope's allocution against the Freemasons, he says: "Pio IX. avait été reçu Francmaçon," "Pius the Ninth was received a Freemason." Despite this categorical statement, like Lord Eldon, we still "doubt," and "doubt" very greatly. We think that there must be what the French call some "mal entendu," some mistake. We have thought it, however, well to mention the averment to our readers.

THE LONDON HOSPITAL.

As Freemasons are always interested in all that relates to the alleviation of the sufferings and sorrows of humanity, we are anxious to call attention to the proceedings of a great meeting which took place, under the auspices of the Lord Mayor, on Thursday week, at the Mansion House. As it has been well pointed out in the *Times*:—"There is, perhaps, no charitable institution in London more deserving of public support than the London Hospital, and yet for some reason or other it is lamentably deficient in funds. It is possible that its financial condition is less generally known than it deserves to be. The endowed hospitals of London—St. Bartholomew's, Guy's, and St. Thomas's—are known to all; they are better placed than the London Hospital for the purpose of attracting notice. They are the seats of flourishing medical schools, and their extensive endowments give them a dignity and importance in the public estimation. The London Hospital, though as important as any of these, enjoys few or none of their advantages. It has an endowment, it is true, but it amounts only to £13,600 a year, while, although it is most carefully and economically managed, its expenses amount to no less than £47,000 annually. The large deficit of over £30,000 a year is made up as far as may be by voluntary contributions; but so difficult is it found to awaken active benevolence on behalf of the institution, that it is stated to be now on the brink of insolvency, and, unless further public support is forthcoming, it will shortly be necessary to reduce the expenses by closing no less than 400 of the 790 beds. This step would be a signal calamity for the whole of the east of London. The population in the midst of which the London Hospital is situated amounts to more than a million, and is almost without exception poor; it is supported in the main by heavy manual and bodily labour; and the mere number of accidents which are treated in the wards of the hospital is said to be three times greater than the average even of metropolitan hospitals; it amounted to 12,035 cases in 1877. All the accidents from the docks, from the great warehouses of the City and East-end, from the intricate network of railways, whereon the traffic, especially in heavy goods, is incessant, find their way to its wards; and in addition to all this, and to the general treatment of sickness in a population living a hard and, it is to be feared, an improvident life, under the most unfavourable conditions of atmosphere, dwelling, and general sanitary arrangements, the London Hospital is the largest children's hospital in London. The simple statements of these facts, and doubtless others not less significant which may be brought before the meeting to-day—will suffice to press the claims of the London Hospital on the benevolence of the public." The cogency of these various reasons was pointedly felt by the large influential meeting on Thursday, after admirable speeches from H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge, Mr. Hubbard, M.P., Monsignore Capel, Sir Edmund Hay Currie, Mr. Coope, M.P., the Duke of Westminster, Mr. T. F. Buxton, the Chief Rabbi, &c. It was unanimously resolved—"That, whereas the income derived by the London Hospital from endowments was less than £14,000, while its necessary expenditure was nearly £44,000 a year, a special fund be established for maintaining the charity during the next five years, and that a committee of appeal be formed in order to obtain contributions for the purpose." Among the donations announced were the following:—Mr. Coope, M.P., and Mr. T. Fowell Buxton, £1000 a year each for five years; Messrs. Rothschild and Mr. J. G. Barclay, each £500 a year for the same period; Mr. J. H.

Buxton, Messrs. Peek Brothers, Messrs. Barnettts, Messrs. Mann, Crossman, and Co., and Mr. Baring, M.P., £200 a year each for a similar term; Messrs. Charrington and Head, £1000 a year for three years; Mr. Andrew Johnston, £1000; Mr. Leopold de Rothschild and friends, £1200; Messrs. Baring Brothers, £1000; and Mr. John Hodgson and Mr. Wm. Hodgson, £500 each. We are specially glad to commend so good a work to the notice and sympathy of all our readers. We are pleased to note the following remarks which fell from Monsignore Capel, in which as Freemasons we heartily concur:—"In the London Hospital the stupid prejudice of religious animosity was not permitted to enter, and whatever their religious convictions, the meeting might well lay them aside in that splendid and unsectarian effort to supply the needs of the suffering and the dying."

THE "BAUHUTTE."

We are always sorry to disappoint hopes or baulk expectations, "av they be virtuous," as Paddy says, but we feel bound to dispel at once the gentle illusions into which our good friend and brother J. G. Findel seems to have fallen. He has an idea, forcibly expressed in sonorous German, that there is in England, so to say, a reaction against the dicta of Lord Carnarvon and the resolution of Grand Lodge. Anything more hazy, more foggy, and more mistaken never yet accompanied even the reveries of the hermetic, or the exaggerated aspirations of the enthusiastic. If there is a point on which the great, the distinct, the overwhelming majority of English Masons is agreed, it is this, that we will have no "part or lot" with those perverse and unmasonic proceedings of the Grand Orient of France, that we faithfully abide by our ancient landmarks, and that we will not knowingly admit into our goodly phalanx the avowed atheist, the open unbeliever. If, on the one hand, our view is most strongly "quieta non moveat," &c., on the other "semper eadem" is our abiding motto. English Freemasonry, as ever, manfully repudiates iconoclastic changes and revolutionary programmes.

THE BUDGET.

The statement of the Chancellor of the Exchequer on Thursday week, was very clear, but very serious. There was an admitted increase on the year of £1,198,000, and a balance as between estimated and realized income £617,298. But of this increase £750,000 was absorbed by payments on account of the Vote of Credit. So far, £3,500,000 had been spent on that head, though no more would be spent under that vote except on supplementary estimates, and the balance had been made up by £2,750,000 Exchequer Bills. The Chancellor of the Exchequer stated that the expenditure for 1878-1879 would be

Permanent Charge of Debt	£28,000,000
Interest on Local Loans	425,000
Interest on Vote of Credit Exchequer Bonds ...	94,000
Charge of Suez Loan	200,000
Other Consolidated Fund Charges	1,760,000
Army	15,595,800
Home Charges of Forces in India	1,080,000
Navy	11,053,901
Civil Services	14,816,475
Customs and Inland Revenue	2,793,068
Post Office	3,313,215
Telegraph Service	1,114,972
Packet Service	773,245

Total Expenditure for 1878-79 ... £18,019,676
The Revenue of the year 1878-79 he estimates at the following amount.—

Customs	£19,750,000
Excise	27,500,000
Stamps	10,930,000
Land-tax and House Duty	2,660,000
Income-tax	5,620,000
Post Office	6,200,000
Telegraph Service	1,315,000
Crown Lands	410,000
Interest on Advances for Local Works and on Purchase Money of Suez Canal Shares ...	1,075,000
Miscellaneous	4,000,000

£79,460,000
Thus there would be a deficiency on the ordinary income of £1,560,000, £2,750,000 debt incurred on Exchequer Bonds, and £1,500,000 Supplementary Military Estimates to be provided for,

which last item, however, may come up to £2,000,000. In order to meet this deficiency the Chancellor of the Exchequer proposed to raise the tax on dogs to 7s. 6d. (it will probably be 10s.), to add 2d. on the pound to the Income-tax, 4d. to the Tobacco Duty, and under this altered state of things the estimated receipts for 1878-79 would be £83,280,000, and the estimated ordinary expenditure £81,019,076, leaving £2,260,924 available for the deficiency caused by the Vote of Credit and Supplementary Estimate. It seems very hard on us, all that England, anxious for peace, should be compelled thus to prepare, at costly sacrifices, for the burdens and contingencies of war. At the same time we are patriots, and quite endorse the old adage, "Si vis pacem, para bellum." As Freemasons, and as men of business, we shall ardently hope for the prevalence of peace—and a better look out for trade.

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.]

PALMAM QUI MERUIT FERAT.
To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In a recent number of the *Freemason* your congratulations were offered to Bro. Dr. Morris, the House Committee, and Bro. Binckes, on the remarkable result of passing two seniors and twenty-two juniors at the last Cambridge Local Examination, an achievement which I venture to suggest should not pass unnoticed by the General Committee convened for Monday next.

That so large a percentage of "our boys" should have been entered for examination is in itself a fact creditable alike to pupils, tutors, and managers, though it may be doubted if either of them would have ventured to predict so successful an issue.

A vote of recognition by the subscribers is surely due to those who have so ably supported (or, should I say, enhanced?) the reputation of the Freemasons' School.

Yours fraternally, H. T. THOMPSON.

THE GENESIS OF SPECULATIVE MASONRY.
To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Continuing the subject* upon which you kindly allowed me to expatiate at some length last week, I propose in my present communication to consider the two widely disseminated theories of Masonic Genesis, and in this—and perhaps it may be necessary to add in a subsequent letter or two—to discuss whether the popular notion of their divergence is altogether conclusive of their character.

Now, broadly speaking, we may contrast these two aspects as the Hutchinsonian and the Andersonian propositions, as farther expounded by Oliver and Preston.† The former school contend for an antiquity of the Craft almost romantically mythological, and presumably, if not absolutely, demonstrably unhistorical, and for a symbolism certainly very extravagantly derived; the latter class of speculators seem, in palpable opposition, to assume a prosaic origin of our Order almost as materially vulgar as our modern system of trades unionism, i.e., the guild organisation.

I remember when a school boy reciting the well-known metrical fable of the Chameleon, and, anent of this controversy, the lines come back to my mind—

"My children," the Chameleon cried,
(Then first the creature found a tongue)
"You both are right and both are wrong."

So between these two theories I think there may be found a middle term—In medio tutissimus ibis.‡ These two apparently conflicting notions may be reconcilable.

From the earliest period of man's habitation of the earth the guild principle, originating in gregariousness, may have been adopted, and adopted in a form recognising that allegiance to a personal Deity which must undoubtedly ever remain the chief landmark of our Order.

And here let me remark, in all charity and brotherly love, that I must assume, as a postulate, in considering these theories, that belief in T.G.A.O.T.U. is the landmark of the Craft. I cannot speculate upon the poss-

* See our last impression—letter on "The Covering and the Core."

† See Kenning's "Masonic Cyclopædia," under each of these four heads.

‡ I once read a capital story illustrating this quotation. A brother lost himself in exploring the wilds of Australia. He came to a place where three roads met. While debating in his mind which path to take, a Maori (an aborigine) came up, with little more on him than the traditional streak of paint and a feather. The traveller contrived to make known his indecision, accompanying his request for information pro majore cautela, as the lawyers say, with the Masonic sign. To his surprise and delight the latter was returned, and his dusky brother vocally responded "In medio tutissimus ibis," which turned out to be the proper advice. The mystery was afterwards solved when the European found that his nude brother had returned to the wilds after graduating at the University of Sydney, having been admitted to the light in a lodge held in the latter city while pursuing his university studies.

ibility of the reconciliation of the apparently differing schools without insisting upon this creed as necessarily involved in my proposition. Mr. Hallam, in his wonderfully learned work, says: "It is idle to argue from the principles of the English Constitution with those who have abandoned her communion." In like manner my excogitations will be thrown away upon those who beforehand have irrevocably made up their minds that Freemasonry is only a system of social combination to carry out the Benthamite theory of the greatest good of the greatest number, a kind of "we are jolly good fellows, and so say all of us" association, a "mutual admiration and help society," and so forth. To those who hold these views the guild theory, even stripped of Anderson's æsthetic attributes, will, of course, be all-sufficing, and they may spare themselves all further trouble of investigating the arguments for a probably higher derivation of the Order.

This, as it seems to me, is the error into which the members of L'Orient have fallen. I designedly refrain from using the conventional phrase brethren. There are individuals in the world whose spinal columns appear to consist rather of cartilaginous than of osseous matter. There are creeds which pride themselves on the absence of creed—"Lucus a non lucendo," believing because they don't believe, like Mr. Montague Tigg, in the novel, and so extravagantly tolerant, that with the old French Royalist, who was more loyal than the king himself, they cannot tolerate anybody who does not go their own lengths in what they are pleased to call toleration. "Everybody in my kingdom," says the proclamation of the burlesque monarch, "shall do as he pleases, and if he don't, he shall be made to do it!" Such would seem to be the principle of our French so-called brethren, but if—and as I believe—the theory of the Divine origin of our Order has sufficient plausibility to command our intelligent acquiescence, Masonic communion with those who thus violently remove the chief landmark is impossible, and we are bound to regard them not as co-heirs, but, as usurpers of our traditions and privileges; not of the household of faith, but impostors, using both terms not as abusive epithets, but in their naked meaning, i.e., impostors—those who claim to inherit when there is no continuity of descent; impostors, those who pretend to a character to which they have no title.

For if I rightly interpret the Hutchinsonian theory, as expounded by the late Dr. Oliver, there is ascribed to Freemasonry an origin almost coeval with the first habitation by man of this planet, and the institution is regarded by those who hold these views as an esoteric community, consisting of those few living members of the family of man who constituted the salt of the earth—the very limited circle of those who recognised an abstract deity, amongst, but apart from, vast majority whose dullness of preception would only enable them to conceive a concrete god.

"Lo! the poor savage, whose untutored mind Sees God in storms and hears him in the wind," as Pope says.—Such a proposition I fully admit seems fantastic and extravagant, and I am conscious that in pursuing the enquiry as to how far it is based upon probability—or should I not rather say possibility—I am treading on very difficult and possibly very dangerous ground. But I beg my brethren to recall the moment when their own footsteps were entirely tentative, when in a halting posture and the most humble of humble, the lowliest of lowly, attitudes, they advanced falteringly to the light, and imagine that I am so groping now, propounding nothing as ascertained, nothing as positive, but diffidently hazarding a few crude speculations that have from time to time passed through my mind.

But, secured with this proviso, I can venture boldly to examine the most startling hypothesis. Assume that such an organisation as I have above indicated grew up, take for granted the learned doctor's most extravagant view—we can discard it whenever we will and whenever we find ourselves under any necessity to do so—and what we have then to enquire is whether the marks by which the gradually increasing family of true believers recognised its members were substantially the same as those now employed in speculative Freemasonry.

Because if they were, mere ritual, mere technical tradition, becomes insignificant, immaterial to the enquiry. The exact and historical truth of the legend of the Third Degree, so much, and with so much plausibility, questioned is no longer of importance. All that can be said of it is that whenever it was invented it was found to be—as it is still found to be—a convenient method, by means of a myth, of imparting a truthful principle of vital importance to the existence of the Order. We may even go so far as to admit its most recently ascribed origin; we may even contemplate with equanimity the theory that ascribes it to a legend invented to form a point of reunion for the Royalists after the tragedy outside the Banqueting Hall window in 1649, although that deed, as Milton justifiably boasted with becoming dignity, "was not done in a corner," because, whatever shape the story has been fashioned into by succeeding generations, we can detect in it traces of the very earliest inculcation of the lesson that teaches the sometimes necessary duty of martyrdom.

Let me try to make my present proposition plain. Ex hypothesi that the . . . and . . . of the Three Degrees have been employed from the times of the earliest combinations formed amongst mankind—from even before the probably apocryphal event which forms the subject of the Third Degree, but that the varying circumstances of man have from time to time necessitated the invention of legends or the adoption of the known circumstances of actual events, to give practical illustrations of the . . . communicated.

Take for example the last theory I have alluded to. If my speculation as to the cartoon by Raffaele,* if the conjecture of my courteous brother, H.H.B.† as to the picture

by Sebastian del Piombo* had any value, the invention of these means of recognition cannot be attributed to an event occurring long after both of these great artists were in their graves, but an antecedent and perhaps almost forgotten ceremonial may have had fresh point given to it by a recent tragedy, in which the fervent mind of the loyal Mason would conceive he detected some resemblance to the martyrdom with the particulars of which he had long been familiar, and thus the decapitation of Charles I. may have furnished "un raison d'être" for perhaps the revival, if not the continuance, of the Third Degree, although we need not go so far as to assert that it was "post hoc propter hoc," that the legend was born of the political event rather than that the latter recalled the former.

I propose to continue this investigation in your next, if your courtesy will allow me space, and if you are not apprehensive that the dryness of the disquisition will repel your readers.

And with fraternal regards, I remain, dear Sir and Brother, yours very faithfully,

S. P.,
P.M. 905, 1491.

LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Though the question of, in any way, altering the existing composition of the Lodge of Benevolence, is probably shelved for a (Masonic) generation, it may be permitted, without cavilling at the decision of the majority, to regret the summary manner in which that decision was expressed.

The letter of Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, in your last impression, induces me to offer a few remarks on this subject.

The number of country lodges is 920,

" " " town do. is 276,

and the following is a comparative statement of their contributions to the fund of Benevolence for the year ending 30th September, 1877, that being the latest date up to which the accounts of Grand Lodge have been published:—

Quarters ending	COUNTRY.
31st December, 1876	£678 1 4
31st March, 1877	1822 4 0
30th June, 1877	1374 17 4
30th September, 1877	845 1 10
Total	£4720 4 6

Quarters ending	TOWN.
31st December, 1876	£455 17 6
31st March, 1877	935 3 6
30th June, 1877	349 8 0
30th September, 1877	284 2 0
Total	£2024 11 0

Quarters ending	TOTALS (Country and Town).
31st December, 1876	£1133 18 10
31st March, 1877	2757 7 10
30th June, 1877	1724 5 0
30th September, 1877	1129 3 10

Grand Total

It appears, therefore, 1stly, that the country lodges outnumber the town lodges by more than 3 to 1.
2ndly. That the country contributions are to those of the town nearly in the ratio of 5 to 2, or to exhibit this result in another form, every £67 received as quarterage by the Fund of Benevolence, is made up as follows:—viz., £47 is paid by the country lodges and £20 is paid by the town lodges.

Now, can it be seriously contended that the present Lodge of Benevolence, whose function it is to administer the united contributions of town and country, is a really representative body? That it may be so, in theory, I admit, since the Masters of all lodges in England are members; but, as a matter of fact, the Masters of country lodges generally, and those in our distant provincial towns especially, are seldom or never in a position to attend. To bring home to us, how our country brethren really are circumstanced in this respect, let me by way of illustration state, what I believe would be, a parallel case. Let us suppose that all future meetings of the Lodge of Benevolence, as at present constituted, were to be held at Liverpool? It will not, I trust, be construed into an absence of faith in the zeal of my metropolitan brethren, if I assume that the necessity of a journey to Liverpool once a month would seriously affect the regularity of their attendance.

The natural result would be, a transference of the actual power of the Board, to the brethren at or near Liver-

* These two great works are readily accessible. Every brother in the metropolis may examine them for himself. The former is at the South Kensington Museum; the latter in the National Gallery.

† These figures have been arrived at by separating the items of contribution to the Fund of Benevolence, as shown in the quarterly reports of Grand Lodge; the totals, however, exhibit a discrepancy of £9 2s. 3d., when compared with those of the March and June quarters, as appearing in the official balance sheets, abstract of which is subjoined.

Quarters ending	TOTALS (Country and Town).
31st December, 1876	£1133 18 10
31st March, 1877	2748 6 7
30th June, 1877	1724 4 0
30th September, 1877	1129 3 10

Grand Total

pool; and I submit, that under the system at present existing, the entire power of the Lodge of Benevolence is exercised by the London members, who therefore vote away, not only their own contributions, but also the far greater contributions of our country brethren.

I think that at the last Quarterly Communication a right decision might have been facilitated had we asked ourselves two very simple questions, viz.:—

1stly. Is the present system under which the Lodge of Benevolence is administered a satisfactory one?

2ndly. Is the change proposed by the Board of General Purposes a substantial improvement upon the existing system?

As regards the 1st question: Is the present system satisfactory?

The Presidents of the Board of General Purposes and the Lodge of Benevolence have said, "No," whilst Bros. Binckes and Mason have said, "Yes;" and there the matter rests, at least so far as argument and free discussion are concerned.

By those, however, who sought for an open expression of the views and opinions, of all brethren, who were specially conversant with the actual working of the Lodge of Benevolence, a strong feeling of disappointment was experienced, at being debarred, through the impatience of the majority, from hearing what our Bros. Nunn and Brett, the worthy Vice-Presidents of the Board, and also Bros. Rawson, Joseph Smith, and other regular attendants, might have been able to contribute towards the general information.

To pass to the second question: Would the proposed change have been a substantial improvement upon the existing system?

I submit that it would:

1stly. On the ground that the cumbersome character of the Board would disappear.

2ndly. That the change would provide a Board composed more or less of the same members, whereby unity of action would be better secured than at present.

3rdly. That the proposed reconstitution of the Board would render it a really representative body.

In conclusion, the statement will be permissible, as an individual expression of opinion, that the present Board of General Purposes is so truly representative a body, that any proposal brought before Grand Lodge, bearing the endorsement of the Board's unanimous approval (as in the late resolutions respecting the Lodge of Benevolence), would be absolutely certain to meet with the cordial and well-merited support of a large section of the Craft.

Yours fraternally, R. F. GOULD.

THE ROYAL ARCH.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I have been advised to send these letters to you for publication in your able journal.

I am, yours truly, N. H. LAMB,
Scribe E Unity, 1151.

Fowey, Cornwall, April 4, 1878.

[Copy of letter sent to Grand Scribe E.]

"I beg to call your attention to "Grand Chapter Constitutions" issued in 1875, to page 18, paragraph 51, and shall be glad of your opinion on the following case.

"At our chapter meeting Principal Sojourner and Scribe N. were balloted for by scrip for the third chair, or J.: by a majority Scribe N. was elected to succeed to that chair in June next. Several Past Z.'s considered that on account of Scribe N. being only an assistant to Scribe E., it is not a qualification to the third chair.

"Your reply thereon will oblige."

[Copy of reply.]

"Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.,

"27th March, 1878.

"Dear Sir and Companion,—

"The Scribe N. or an Assistant Sojourner being an installed Master are eligible to be elected to the J. Chair, in accordance with the R.A. Regulations, Art. 51, page 18. The laws say distinctly—'have served the office of Scribe or Sojourner.' Either of the Scribes and the three Sojourners are all equally eligible for the J. chair if Installed Masters.

"Yours fraternally, &c."

THE VENERABLE BEDE.

To the Editor of "The Times."

Sir,—In the account of your extract from the apostolic letter by which the Scottish hierarchy was restored, Mr. J. Whitaker, in *The Times* of the 2nd inst., imputes an error to his Holiness. He states that the Venerable Bede was not a contemporary of St. Ninian, as the Pope, in his cursory view of the Scotch Church, according to your version, had declared, but lived 241 years after St. Ninian's death. I beg leave to inform you that the passage in the letter of the Pope which Mr. Whitaker is referring to is textually as follows:—

"It is told that about the end of the fourth century St. Ninian, who, as the Venerable Bede testifies, was instructed at Rome in faith."

Hoping you will kindly insert this rectification,

I remain, your obedient servant,

Amsterdam, April 4. F. A. VAN DEN HEUVEL.

[We think it right to give this explanation of the alleged error.—ED.]

ERRATUM OR MISPRINT.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

By a misprint in the leader, "Financial Prospects," the difference between estimated and actual revenue was stated to be £1,189,000, whereas it should have been actually £617,298. The actual increase of the year is correctly given at £1,198,000.

Yours fraternally,

THE WRITER OF THE ARTICLE.

* See my letter in your impression of the 9th ult.

† See correspondence in your columns of the 16th ult.

CONSECRATION OF THE DOBIE CHAPTER, No. 889.

The consecration of this, the sixth chapter in Surrey, took place on Thursday, at the Griffin Hotel, Kingston. The ceremony was conducted by General Brownrigg, C.B., Grand Superintendent of the Province, who was assisted by Comps. S. Compton, Prov. G.H.; the Rev. C. W. Arnold, Prov. G.J.; C. H. Woodward, Prov. G.S.N.; and Dr. E. Eager, Prov. G.A.S.

After the opening ceremonial, The Rev. C. W. Arnold, G.C., then delivered the following oration:—M.E. and companions, such able orations have lately been given by Comps. Dr. Harcourt and Simpson at the consecrations of the Weyside and Wanderers' Chapters, and they have so exhausted the subject by their remarks that I find some difficulty, companions, in selecting a subject to-day which may steer clear of those tracks already traversed by such well known Masons; and yet when I call to mind that we have met to-day to consecrate a Holy Temple where we may meet in social compact to reveal God's most holy name, I see at once a subject of the greatest interest opened out to me, and one which seems to me of great importance to Masonry at the present time, when what you and I deem to be the great basis on which our system rests has been deliberately swept away by the majority of lodges in a neighbouring country. By tradition the history of our Order is curiously blended with that of God's people Israel, so that their seasons of prosperity and adversity are as it were landmarks in the annals of Masonry. At the zenith of their power that glorious temple was erected by King Solomon, which the Most High accepted as His dwelling place, and in which He manifested forth His presence by the sacred fire and the Shechinah. But the Sacred Volume tells us how again and again the people forgot the presence and even the very existence of God, until, vexed at their repeated idolatry, he allowed them to be carried into captivity, and that noble temple was spoiled of all its riches, and reduced to a heap of ruins. So, too, our history tells us that the genuine secrets of Masonry were lost soon after the completion of the temple, and the most holy name of God remained buried in oblivion for many generations, until it was accidentally recovered during the building of the second temple. We are told that the Jews after their return to their country never relapsed into the sin of idolatry, which had been so severely punished. Now this sin of idolatry, and their subsequent repentance, seems to me to be allegorically represented in Masonry by the loss and recovery of the name of the most High. Again, when that second temple arose from the ruins of the first we read that those, who had seen the glories of the former temple, wept at the remembrance of it; but God comforted them by saying, "the desire of all nations shall come and I will fill this house with glory. The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, and in this place will I give peace, saith the Lord of Hosts." This prophecy was fulfilled, but not in the manner expected. The desire of all nations came, the angel of the everlasting covenant who hath redeemed us from evil, and his bodily presence gave greater glory to the latter house than the former ever enjoyed. But when he came to his own, he was rejected as had been foretold in the sacred volume, and as a consequence that second house was utterly destroyed and the people sown throughout the nations to this very day. What then was the sin which caused their ultimate ruin? It was formalism. The name of God was, indeed, most jealously guarded, and His law most rigorously fulfilled to the very letter even in the smallest minutiae, but the spirit of that law was utterly neglected, and the heart was not given to God. And now see how Masonry in its teaching would especially guard against the sins of the periods it represents. Am I not right in saying that Craft Masonry calls for the recognition of God at every step? Under the names of the G.A.O.T.U., the G.G., and the M.H., His blessing is invoked in each degree. In the centre of the lodge is situated the Sacred Symbol, calling attention to His omniscience, His omnipotence, and His omnipresence. Before the W.M. lie the open pages of the V. of the S.L., the revelation of God's will to man. It is the standard of Masonic truth, the guide of our actions, and the rule of our faith. Every obligation is sealed upon its sacred pages, and the Mason is taught to square his actions according to the dictates of that Sacred Volume, if he wishes to become a living stone fit to be built into the temple not made with hands eternal in the heavens. At his entrance into our Order the initiate has the name of God constantly brought before him from the time he is asked the question, "in whom do you place your trust?" until he is told "that the working tools of a Master Mason direct him to bear in mind and act according to the laws of his Divine Creator, that when he is summoned from this sublunary abode he may ascend to the G.L. above, where the world's G.A. lives and reigns for evermore." Still further than this: Craft Masonry teaches the doctrine of the immortality of the soul, inviting us to contemplate death without terror, and assuring us that "even nature bears witness that in this perishable frame resides a vital and immortal principle which inspires a holy confidence that the Lord of Life will enable us to trample the king of terrors beneath our feet and lift our eyes to that bright morning star whose rising brings peace and salvation to the faithful and obedient of the human race." And just as Craft Masonry guards against the sin of idolatry by the constant mention of the name of the G.A.O.T.U., so Arch Masonry guards against formalism in all its precepts. At our entrance into the chapter we pray that we may have "a proper frame of mind to worship God in Spirit and in truth;" we ask to have our "hearts cleansed by the inspiration of God's Holy Spirit;" we confess that "without His Divine and

special favour we must for ever be found unprofitable servants in his sight," and "that we look forward with holy confidence to his gracious promises, by which alone we hope to pass through the ark of our redemption into the mansions of eternal bliss and glory." Still further we are taught that "our dependence is upon God," that "perfection is not attainable on this side the grave but that perfect holiness belongs to God alone"; that God judges not by outward appearance but looks to the heart alone." What, then, is the conclusion that we draw? It is this,—that the great basis on which the fabric of Masonry is built is that sincere belief in the Most High, which is exemplified by a life of personal piety and virtue, resulting from the indwelling presence of His Holy Spirit. On this alone can our three great principles be based: for brotherly love is but the reflection back to earth of the love we bear to God; relief is but the natural outlet that we seek to show the sincerity of that love; and truth can only be found in the revelation of God to man. And if this basis be not firmly and securely laid, then faith is vague, and hope is dim, and charity begins and ends in selfishness. Thus would our arch of moral virtues crumble into dust when the test is applied, and could never raise us to the presence of the Most High. In conclusion, companions, it is my earnest hope that in answer to our prayers this chapter may ever be the depository of God's Holy Name in that highest sense I have endeavoured this day to attach to it; and that each member may feel the serious responsibility that rests upon him to exhibit by life and conversation the sincerity of his profession, and that his heart is really animated by the Spirit of the Living God.

The ceremony was then completed, and the Principals were duly installed by Comp. Compton.

After the ceremony the companions lunched at the Griffin, and honoured the usual toasts.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The monthly meeting of the General Committee of this Institution was held on Saturday last, at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. G. J. Row presiding. Amongst other brethren who attended were Bros. S. Rawson, D. M. Dewar, R. B. Webster, W. Mann, W. Paas, John Boyd, Hyde Pullen, J. G. Chancellor, W. F. Collard Moutrie, A. Durrant, the Rev. Dr. Morris (Head Master), Benj. Head, S. Rosenthal, H. Massey (*Freemason*), Joyce Murray, C. J. Rushworth, Raynham W. Stewart, — Winter, Leopold Ruf, C. F. Matier, and F. Binckes (Secretary).

The minutes having been read and confirmed, Bro. Binckes read the letter from Messrs. Lawrance, Plews, and Baker, solicitors, announcing the failure of Messrs. Willis, Percival, and Co., the bankers of the Institution, on the 28th February. Asked as to what amount this Institution suffered by the failure, Bro. Binckes said £1720.

Bro. Binckes then read the list of twenty-four boys from this Institution, who, out of twenty-five, distinguished themselves at the late Cambridge Local Examination, which list has already appeared in the columns of the *Freemason*. Bro. Binckes also said he had received from the examiners the following information—that out of a list of 230 candidates for first-class honours at these Examinations in one year only eighteen had been successful, and out of these eighteen as many as six came from the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys (applause).

The brethren then considered the new petitions for being placed on the list for election to this Institution in October. Of these there were four, and the whole of the petitioners were placed on the list.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart then said that the brethren had seen in the public journals that Messrs. Willis, Percival, and Co. having failed, the Hants and North Wilts Bank proposed to pay the creditors of the former firm 9s. in the pound instead of 10s., and he was very glad to find that the offer had not entirely fallen to the ground. He was only too delighted to find there was such a good prospect for the Masonic Institutions. But there arose a question in his mind whether the Institutions had assented to the proposal. He thought the Committee should pass a resolution assenting to this. He had heard it intimated that the payment of that 9s. was dependent on the banking accounts of the creditors being kept at the Hants and North Wilts Bank. If any one had that idea it was a fallacy, because if the creditors of Messrs. Willis, Percival and Co. to the amount of £200,000 had resolved to accept the 9s. in the pound, and the resolution was ordered by the Judge in Bankruptcy to be registered, that was sufficient. He certainly should not retire from the position he took at the last meeting of the General Committee that the banking account should be kept at the London and Westminster Bank, but he thought the Committee should sanction the acceptance of the 9s. in the pound.

Bro. Binckes said he had received no official notice of the resolution of the creditors to accept 9s. in the pound. Bro. Terry, on behalf of the Benevolent Institution, had received such a notice, but the Boys' School had not.

Bro. Winter said he understood that in the event of creditors continuing the accounts they had had with Messrs. Willis, Percival, and Co., at the Hampshire and North Wilts Bank, they were to receive 9s. in the pound. In the event of their removing the accounts what would they receive?

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart replied that whether they continued the accounts with the new bank or not it could make no difference. By the registration of the resolution of the majority of the creditors they were all bound to receive 9s. in the pound. He thought it would be as well to give notice of motion that those who acted for the Institution should be at liberty to accept any composition that might be offered. An application was made by Lawrance, Plews, and Baker on Thursday, after the Hants

and North Wilts Bank had failed to get admission to the Clearing House, to have a resolution of the creditors registered to accept from this bank a composition of 9s. in the pound. This resolution was come to by creditors to whom Messrs. Willis, Percival, and Co. were indebted to the amount of £200,000. He thought the Committee of the Masonic Boys' School should say, take the 9s.

Bros. Winter and Joyce Murray said a resolution was not required. It must be accepted.

The subject then dropped.

Bro. Binckes read a letter from Miss Hall, the matron of the Institution, thanking the Committee for raising her salary at last meeting from £100 to £130.

Outfits were granted to four boys, who, having left the Institution, had obtained situations, and conducted themselves satisfactorily to their employers.

Bro. Binckes informed the Committee that one candidate for next election had been removed from the list by his friends, they having got into circumstances which enabled them to educate and maintain him themselves. The list was therefore reduced from seventy-eight to seventy-seven, and it was now proposed that thirty-one boys be elected instead of thirty.

On motion duly made and seconded, it was resolved to elect thirty-one boys next Monday.

Bro. Binckes having read an application from the mother of a boy who, since the holidays, had been unable to return to the school on account of ill health, for the allowance to educate him in her neighbourhood, it was resolved that the application be granted.

Bro. Clarence Harcourt then brought forward the case of one of the late boys, Greene, the son of an old friend of his, who had, after every effort to persuade him to the contrary, resolved to pursue his studies for the medical profession. The boy was a very clever, industrious, and steady boy, who had won many prizes. The lad's mother was in very indifferent circumstances, and could not afford to pay his fees for him, which would amount to £100; and in addition to that expenditure he would have to maintain himself while he was studying. He moved that a grant be made to the lad. He thought the boy was likely to succeed in what he undertook, and if the brethren voted him a sum of money towards his expenses he thought he would render himself worthy of their generosity.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart said the Committee had not the power to allow more than £20.

The Rev. Dr. Morris seconded the motion, the lad having distinguished himself. If he could raise £50 towards his expenses, the other £50, he thought, would be found elsewhere.

Bro. Binckes said he had received a letter from a brother to the effect that if this Institution assisted Mr. Greene some friends would also assist him.

The sum of £20 was then granted unanimously.

Bro. Clarence Harcourt thanked the Committee for their kindness.

Bro. Binckes referring again to the loss sustained by the Boys' School and the Benevolent Institution through the failure of Messrs. Willis, Percival, and Co., said that several brethren thought something might be done to stimulate the Craft to make an effort to recoup those Institutions. That matter had been before the Committee of the Benevolent Institution at its last meeting, but was deferred till next Wednesday, the Committee thinking it was premature as yet to take that step. A circular was drawn up for making a joint appeal, and he (Bro. Binckes) undertook to bring the subject before the General Committee of the Boys' School. At the time when he consented to do this he had no idea of the dividend being so large as they had just heard. He did not know whether the opinion of the brethren would be altered by the information they had received as to the large dividend, but he would read the special circular which had been drafted, and leave it to them to say whether he should inform Bro. Terry that it had received the imprimatur of the Committee. Bro. Binckes then read the draft circular, and added that a question had been raised whether brethren who might subscribe should receive votes for their money, or in what manner a return should be made to them.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart said he thought the subject was wholly premature. They did not know yet what the loss was, or whether there would be any loss at all. Because Bro. Tomkins had been unfortunate they had no right to make that misfortune an excuse for getting money, or to profit or trade on it. He would put it to the brethren that they should know the result first. When they knew the result, whether there would be a loss, and what the loss was, it would be quite time enough to make an appeal to the brethren. But if he was rightly informed, and as he expected, that the Masonic Charities would not be allowed to suffer, he did not think they had a right to make the failure of Messrs. Willis, Percival, and Co. a pretext for getting more money. Our noble Institutions stood on a firmer basis, and required no failings or faults of a brother to erect a ground on which to come before the Craft for support. Let them not trade upon the misfortunes of a brother. When the necessity came they would deal with it. At the present time there was no necessity, and therefore he would move—"That at the present moment all action in the matter proposed be deferred."

Bro. Clarence Harcourt said he was disposed to second that motion, because, if he understood the position, it was that the business of Messrs. Willis, Percival, and Co. had been taken over by the Hants and North Wilts Bank, who had agreed to pay the creditors of Messrs. Willis and Co. 9s. in the pound. He believed that left the private estates of the partners free; and he understood it was not the intention of these brethren that the debts to the Masonic Institution should be otherwise paid than in full. He had no doubt, however, that if a deficiency did occur it would

be met by the Craft, and he thought this was a reason why the consideration of the matter should be delayed. The brethren, if they adopted this motion, did not absolutely state that they would not make the appeal proposed, but only deferred it. He seconded the motion.

The motion was adopted. Bro. Binckes said it would be necessary at the next Quarterly Court to appoint a Trustee of the Institution in place of Bro. Bentley Shaw, deceased. He had written to Lord Leigh, Prov. G.M. for Warwickshire, to know if he would undertake the office. His Lordship was one of the best friends of the Institution; he had taken the chair on three occasions of its festivals, and had nobly supported the Institution. A better selection he (Bro. Binckes) thought could not be made. He had received a telegram from his Lordship that day agreeing to accept the office.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart gave notice that at the Quarterly Court on Monday, he would propose "That Lord Leigh be elected a Trustee of the Institution in the room of Bro. Bentley Shaw, deceased."

The proceedings then terminated.

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

The following remarks, from the pen of Bro. Hubert, in the last number of the *Chaine d'Union*, deserve notice and perusal:

I cannot dispense from communicating, and without retrenchment, the account of the meeting of the Grand Lodge of England, which it was occupied with the consideration of the modifications introduced in the text of our Constitution, and of the resolution it came to in respect of it. I should have preferred that this Masonic jurisdiction, so justly esteemed, and so important, had waited a little before it came to a decision. The public debates which have been the consequence of the resolution of September, 1877, of the Assembly of the Grand Orient, and in which I have taken a great share, have established in an undeniable manner, that, notwithstanding the said vote, nothing has been changed which the Grand Orient taught before. This affirmation, which in its entirety is reiterated several times in the "Bulletin Officiel" of the Grand Orient of France, and by voices the most authoritative, could not but appease inquietude and make to cease the apprehensions of all who feared for a moment that we dared to go to the end of the possible consequences of Vote IX. They have stopped in time on the brow of the hill. Let us rejoice. Ah! it will be soon enough to proclaim a schism, if ever it could happen that that which we have received with eagerness, acknowledged with joy, the assurances, the affirmations contained in the "Bulletin" of the Grand Orient, and which have appeared since the last convent, only covered a snare. I know too well the President of the Council of the Order, Bro. St. Jean; I know too well his sentiments to raise the least doubt in this respect. He would be the first to follow us on our retreat, if there was any failure of the contract of honour, taken and avowed.

WEDDING AT CHRIST CHURCH, HIGHBURY.

The above pretty little church was on Thursday, the 4th inst., the scene of a gathering at once animated and interesting, some 300 ladies and gentlemen, many of the former in superb toilettes, having assembled on that occasion to witness the marriage of Bro. Thomas Griffiths, P.M. 907, of 53, Monkwell-street, and Alwyne-road, Canonbury, to Clara, third surviving daughter of Richard Nunn, Esq., of Highbury Grove. The company assembled long before 11 o'clock, the hour appointed for the ceremony, and Mr. Birch, Organist, had played a succession of voluntaries, when the bridesmaids, of whom there were six, each daintily robed in pale blue silk with gloves and bonnets to match, and all bearing bouquets of choice blooms, took up their station at the church doors, and then the bride, who wore a white silk dress, wreath, and veil, entered, leaning upon her father's arm, and the ceremony, conducted by the Rev. W. Chapman, the vicar, began, and was most impressively solemnised. On the return of the tied, Mendelssohn's grand wedding march pealed out its glorious strains, and if the old adage "Happy is the bride that the sun shines on" has any significance then must the fair young wife have been happy indeed, for the morning was deliciously warm and unclouded, and indeed Bro. Griffiths looked supremely happy to have so happy a bride for the sun to shine on, and many were the ardent wishes uttered for their future happiness. Among the wedding guests who sat to breakfast were Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Goad, Mr. and Mrs. Gillingwater, Mr. and Mrs. Culver, Mr. and Mrs. Harnett, Mr. and Mrs. Speight, Miss Speight, Mr. W. Speight, jun., Mr. and Mrs. Hastings Miller, the Misses Miller (two), and Master Sydney Miller, Mr. and Mrs. N'Anson, the Misses N'Anson (two), Mr. C. Blankley, Mr. T. C. Hastings, Mr. Birch, Mr. and Mrs. Salmon, &c. The bridesmaids were Miss Louisa Nunn, Miss Speight, the Misses N'Anson (two), and the Misses Miller (two). "The Health of the Bride and Bridegroom" was proposed in an eloquent and able speech by Mr. E. J. Thompson (member of the Metropolitan Board of Works), and drank in two double magnums of champagne purposely presented by Bro. White, W.M., Chard, P.M., and Hastings Miller, P.M., of the Royal Albert Lodge, 907, (the mother lodge of Bro. Griffiths), who suitably responded. The happy pair soon after sped away to Hastings, there to spend the honeymoon. In the evening a dance was given, which kept the guests employed for many happy hours; and we as heartily as they did wish our brother and his bride long and continued happiness. The wedding presents, consisting chiefly of plate, were both numerous and costly.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The second meeting of the Stewards for the forthcoming Festival of this Institution was held on Thursday evening, at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. John Boyd in the chair. There were also present Bros. George Phythian, B. H. Swallow, Wm. Stevens, E. Kidman, Henry Watts, J. Lewis Thomas, J. C. Dwarber, J. T. Power, F. Perkins, A. P. Wordsworth, T. Massa, William R. G. Farmer (46), Letchworth, J. Lewis Worship, W.M. 1414; H. Massey (*Freemason*). Bro. F. R. W. Hedges attended in place of Bro. Little (Secretary).

Bro. Lehnemeyer's tender for music was accepted.

It was resolved to write to the Board of General Purposes asking for the use of the large hall for the concert.

Bros. Peter de Lande Long, J. Lewis Thomas, W. Stephens, George Phythian, John Mason, and Letchworth, were appointed the dinner committee, with the addition of the President and Treasurer.

The next meeting was appointed to be held on Friday, 3rd May, at five p.m.

A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the proceedings.

FREEMASONRY IN WORCESTERSHIRE.

We hear that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W. Grand Master, has been pleased to communicate (through the Grand Secretary) to our W. Bro. Sir E. H. Lechmere, Bart, M.P., of Rhydd Court, Worcestershire, his wish that he should accept the office of Grand Master of the Province of Worcestershire, vacant by the resignation (through failing health) of A. H. Royds, Esq., which honour Sir E. H. Lechmere has acknowledged and accepted. We are sure this appointment will give great satisfaction to the Province generally, by whom he will be most heartily welcomed. It will be remembered that some years since our distinguished brother filled the office of D. Prov. G.M. of Worcestershire, was twice elected to fill the chair of Worshipful Master of the Semper Fidelis Lodge, 529; is a member of the Worcester Lodge, No. 280, and a P. Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters of England. It may interest some of our readers to know the present appointment is the fifth on the roll of Grand Masters for this province. The first appointment was made in the year 1752, Lord Carysfort being Grand Master, when "a deputation was granted to Sir Robert de Cornwall, Baronet, as Provincial Grand Master for the counties of Worcester, Gloucester, Salop, Monmouth, and Hereford." The second Prov. Grand Master was appointed in 1792 by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Grand Master, who selected for this honour John Dent, Esq., M.P. for Lancaster; he held office until the close of the year 1826. But the Masonic records of Worcestershire contain no information of the visits of either of these brethren, so distinguished. From 1826 Worcestershire appears to have been under the control of the Grand Registrar, until the appointment of the third Prov. Grand Master, Henry Charles Vernon, Esq., of Hilton Park, Staffordshire, and Malvern, Worcestershire, a Past Senior Grand Warden of England and a D.P.G.M. of Staffordshire, in 1851. After this brother's retirement through ill-health in 1866, A. H. Royds, Esq., of Falinge, Rochdale, Lancashire, and of Crown East Court, Worcestershire, was installed as the fourth Grand Master of the province of Worcestershire, who now retires, as above stated, from failing health. Sir E. H. Lechmere is therefore the fifth Prov. Grand Master for Worcestershire. Long may he rule.

Multum in Parbo; or Masonic Notes and Queries.

My esteemed Bro. R. W. Little, whose illness we all deplore, has sent me a curious little "Almanach des Francs Maçons pour l'année Commune, 1775," printed at Amsterdam, as a contribution to Masonic Lodge-ology. It gives a short account of Dutch Masonic history, and the names of the lodges then in the united province. Though there are difficulties in the history of Dutch Masonry, as Bro. Hughan's recent extracts from London papers show, yet it is incontestable that in 1756, December 26, the representatives of eleven, (some say fourteen) lodges formed a Grand Lodge (as in Cyclo), at The Hague.

Just as its previous existence is hazy, so are its late gatherings apparently uncertain, though we note that this little work states the Grand Lodge met on the 17th April, 1774. In 1778 there were fifty-three lodges under the Grand Lodge of Holland, though many of them were dormant; the earliest of them, the "Concordia vincit Animos," the latest of these, "Le Temple du Bonheur," founded in 1773.

All these lodges, the book tells us, are "lawful," duly constituted, and, notwithstanding, some are in Holland and its Colonies, they are all united to the Grand Lodge.

The following five, lodges in virtue of a convention with the Grand Lodge of England, are said to be under Provincial Grand Masters:—

La Candeur, founded in 1763.

La Parfaite Amitié, founded in 1765.

La Bienfaïsan, founded in 1765.

La Paix du Bas Rhin, founded in 1767.

La Croissante des Trois Clefs, founded in 1768.

In my next I will give the names of the Dutch lodges in 1775.—Ed. F. M.

A report of the presentation to Bro. J. Dennis, P.M. 907, unavoidably stands over.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS

For the Week ending Friday, April 19, 1878.

SATURDAY, APRIL 13.

Quarterly Gen. Court, Girls' School, at 12. See Advt.
Lodge 108, London, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 173, Phoenix, F.M.H.
" 1361, United Service, Greyhound Hot., Richmond.
" 1415, Campbell, Mitre Hot., Hampton-court.
" 1423, Era, King's Arms Hotel, Hampton-court.
" 1446, Mount Edgecumbe, Swan Tav., Battersea.
" 1607, Royalty, Alexandra Palace, N.
" 1671, Mizpah, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.

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, APRIL 15.

Quart. Gen. Court Boys' School, at 12.—See Advt.
Lodge 1, Grand Master's, F.M. Tav.
" 8, British F.M.H.
" 21, Emulation, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 58, Felicity, 101, Queen Victoria-st.
" 185, Tranquillity, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 720, Panmure, Balham Hot., Balham.
" 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.
Encamp. 131, Holy Sanctuary, 33 Golden-sq. W.

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.
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, APRIL 16.

Board of Gen. Purposes, at 4.
Lodge 30, United Mariners', Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
" 95, Eastern Star, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 162, Cadogan, F.M.H.
" 194, St. Paul's, Cannon-st. Hot.
" 435, Salisbury, Café Royal, 68, Regent-st., W.
" 857, St. Marks, Surrey Masonic Hall.
" 1339, Stockwell, " " "
" 1605, New Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., N.
Chap. 890, Hornsey, Anderton's Hot. Fleet-st.

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, 'r'iangle, 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.
Leopold, Woolpack Tavern, Bermondsey-st.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
Mount Edgecumbe, 19, Jermyn-st., St. James's.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17.

Gen. Com. Grand Chap. at 3.
Lodge of Benevolence, at 6.
" Grand Stewards, F.M.H.
" 174, Sincerity, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
" 190, Oak, F.M.H.
" 700, Nelson, M.H., William-st., Woolwich.
" 969, Maybury, Inns of Court Hot.
" 1044, Wandsworth, Spread Eagle, Wandsworth.
" 1150, Buckingham and Chandos, F.M.H.
" 1349, Friars, Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars.
" 1382, Corinthian, George Inn, Cubitt Town.
" 1624, Eccleston, Grosvenor Hall, Ebury-st, S.W.
" 1673, Langton, 101, Queen Victoria-st.

Chap. 192, Lion and Lamb, Cannon-st. Hot.

Rose Croix Bard of Avon, 33, Golden-sq., W.

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 Hot., London-street, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
La Tolerance, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Whittington, 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, APRIL 18.

House Com. Girls' School, at 4.