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GRAND FESTIVAL.

The Grand Festival of English Freemasons was held on Wednesday, at Freemasons' Hall, and for the first time since his installation as Grand Master, in 1875, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales attended Grand Lodge. His Royal Highness had a few days previously expressed his determination to attend and preside at the appointment and investiture of Grand Officers for the year, but the fact was at His Royal Highness's special request not generally communicated to the Craft or the public. Consequently, Grand Lodge was not inconveniently crowded, although at least five hundred brethren were present. This, however, was only noticeable as regarded the brethren below the dais, for upon that post of distinction there were far fewer Past Grand Officers than usually attend the Quarterly Communications. His Royal Highness had also intimated that his Royal brother-in-law, the Crown Prince of Denmark, Grand Master of Danish Freemasons, would be a visitor at Grand Lodge on the same occasion, and this fact also was among the mysteries of Freemasonry. In the early part of the day it was quite evident to passengers along Great Queen-street that something out of the common was about to happen, as preparations more than ordinary were going on outside the hall and also outside the tavern. The tavern especially attracted attention, as waggons were standing before the door with choice exotic plants and palm trees of twenty-five feet high. As the day wore on there were many persons standing about watching for any sight that might happen to turn up, and in the afternoon, when a body of police arrived to keep the way, the number of sightseers considerably increased. Grand Lodge was according to custom to be opened at five, but as early as four o'clock the brethren began to assemble, though five o'clock had nearly arrived before the Temple could be said to be anything like full. It was some 20 minutes past five when Bro. Willing, Grand Organist, was called upon to play upon the organ, and immediately afterwards the procession of Grand Stewards, and Grand Officers entered the hall. When His Royal Highness the Most Worshipful Grand Master entered the inner porch there was deafening applause, which was continued for some time after he had taken his seat on the throne. The Earl of Carnarvon took his stand on the left of the Grand Master, and Lord Skelmersdale on the right. The Grand Wardens were not present, and Capt. Platt, Past Grand Junior Warden, was summoned to the chair of Senior Grand Warden, and the Rev. Dr. J. Edmund Cox, Past Grand Chaplain, to the chair of Junior Grand Warden.

Among the other brethren present were Sir Albert Woods (Garter), Lord Suffield, Colonel Burdett, A. E. J. McIntyre, Q.C., J. B. Monckton, Captain N. G. Philips, Colonel Creton, H. G. Browne, Dr. Jabez Hogg, Raynham W. Stewart, J. M. Case, Rev. G. R. Wigram, Joseph Smith, J. A. Rucker, E. E. Wendt, C. W. C. Hutton, Joshua Nunn, James Mason, Rev. H. A. Pickard, Rev. C. W. Arnold, Rev. Sir J. Warren Hayes, C. Hutton Gregory, A. J. D. Filer, John Boyd, Thos. Cubitt, C. E. Willing, J. M. Clabon, F. P. Cockerell, Thos. Fenn, Peter de Lande Long, Rev. R. J. Simpson, R. Grey, H. J. P. Dumas, Rev. C. J. Martyn, E. P. Albert, Wilhelm Ganz, John Havers, Henry Tombs, E. J. Morris, Brackstone Baker, C. C. Dumas, R. Giddy, G. Toller, W. T. Howe, Sir Michael Costa, Hyde Pullen, Wilhelm Kuhe, J. Wright, F. Robinson, S. G. Foxall, Charles A. Murton, S. Rawson, General Brownrigg, Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, J. M. P. Montagu, Col. Somerville Burney, Bro. G. C. H. Lewis, Kingston, Jamaica, William H. Lucia, J. L. Thomas, H. G. Buss, H. C. Levander, F. Binckes, James Terry, A. A. Pendlebury, T. Bull, Capt. Wordsworth, Griffiths Smith, Jno. Palmer, W. Dodd, W. H. Lee, N. Green, H. Gloster, E. M. Haigh, S. Tisley, C. Atkins, H. Massey (Freemason).

After Grand Lodge had been formally opened, The M.W. Grand Master rose and said—Brethren, His Royal Highness the Crown Prince of Denmark, Grand Master in Denmark, is a visitor here this evening. I therefore call on the Grand Director of Ceremonies to form a deputation for the purpose of conducting him into this Grand Lodge.

Sir Albert Woods, Captain Philips, and a few Grand Stewards then left Grand Lodge, and shortly afterwards returned with the Crown Prince of Denmark, the brethren rising and receiving the illustrious brother with hearty applause. The Earl of Carnarvon vacated his seat on the immediate left of the Grand Master, which was then occupied by the Crown Prince, after he had saluted the Prince of Wales. The Earl of Carnarvon took his seat between the Crown Prince and General Brownrigg.

The M.W. Grand Master thereupon rose and said—Brethren, we are assembled here this evening in Grand Lodge for the purpose of investing the Grand Officers with the insignia of their offices; but, besides that, we are also here to do welcome to a distinguished guest who has consented to come to Grand Lodge to-night—my illustrious relative the Crown Prince of Denmark, Grand Master of Danish Freemasons; and I feel sure you will give him a most hearty welcome. (Great applause.) For my own part, brethren, I can assure you it gives me the greatest gratification to receive him on this occasion.

The Crown Prince of Denmark having bowed acknowledgments,

Sir Albert Woods (Garter) called on the brethren for the salute due to the exalted rank of the Grand Master of Denmark, and the salute was given with the same precision as the celebrated salute in the Albert Hall three years previously. When the brethren had resumed their seats,

His Royal Highness the Crown Prince of Denmark rose, and, speaking in excellent English said—Your Royal Highness and Brethren, receive my warmest thanks for the kind way in which you, your Royal Highness, the Grand Master, and the Grand Lodge of England have received me at this moment. I feel proud of being received here so well and by the welcome of all the brethren here. I hope that the bonds of friendship and brotherhood between England and Denmark may increase more and more. (Great applause.) Thanking you once more for your kind reception, I wish you all health, happiness, and prosperity. (Renewed applause.)

The M.W. Grand Master then called on Grand Secretary to read the minutes of last Quarterly Communication as far as related to the election of the Grand Master.

Grand Secretary having read the minutes.

The Earl of Carnarvon rose and said—Most Worshipful Grand Master, I believe it devolves upon me, as a matter of form, to put these minutes for confirmation. All those therefore that agree in the confirmation of those minutes, will signify their assent in the manner common to Masons.

The minutes were then unanimously confirmed, amidst loud applause.

The customary salute was thereupon given at the call of Sir Albert Woods. The brethren having resumed their seats,

The Prince of Wales rose and said (after loud and long-continued cheering)—Brethren, I am glad to have this opportunity of personally expressing to you my warmest thanks for your having so unanimously elected me again to be your Grand Master. (Applause.) It has been a source of great regret to me that some years have elapsed since I had the advantage of being present at Grand Lodge. I sincerely trust that so long a time will not elapse again. (Renewed cheering.) Various causes over which I had no control were the only reason of my absence. Brethren, let me assure you that although I have not had the opportunity (I have not found the time) to occupy myself with Freemasonry as much as it is my wish and desire, still you may be sure that I do my best to uphold your interests, which lie near to my heart. (Applause.) I thank you again for your kind and cordial reception of me this day. (Renewed cheering.)

The following brethren were then appointed Grand Officers for the year:—

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G., &c. (re-elected)	M.W.G.M.
The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon (re-appointed)	Pro G.M.
The Right Hon. Lord Henniker	S.G.W.
The Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale (re-appointed)	D.G.M.
Sir Harcourt Johnstone, M.P.	J.G.W.
Rev. H. A. Pickard	G. Chap.
Rev. W. A. Hill	G. Chap.
A. E. J. McIntyre, Q.C. (re-appointed)	G. Reg.
John Hervey	G. Sec.
E. E. Wendt (re-appointed)	G.S. for G.C.
Erasmus Wilson	S.G.D.
Col. Shadwell H. Clerke	S.G.D.
J. M. P. Montagu	J.G.D.
Raphael Costa	J.G.D.
F. P. Cockerell (re-appointed)	G.S. of W.
Sir Albert W. Woods, Garter (re-appointed)	G.D. of C.
James Lewis Thomas	A.G.D. of C.
William H. Lucia	G. Swd. Br.
C. E. Willing (re-appointed)	G. Org.
H. G. Buss (re-appointed)	Asst. G. Sec.
W. T. Howe	G. Purst.
W. Wilson	A.G. Purst.
C. B. Payne (re-appointed)	G. Tyler.

Bro. Grand Secretary then read the following list of Grand Stewards for the year:—

Edward Fenner	Lodge 1
Robert Douglas	23
John Knight Stead	21
Thomas Greetham	2
Hugh Richard Mackintosh, M.D.	4
Frederick Newton	5
W. Thackeray Marriott, Q.C.	6
John Thomas Cox Winkfield	8
Charles Henry Turner	14
William Fickus	26
Spencer John Herapath	29
James Henry Vaughan	46
Charles Tomson Kingsford	58

Thomas Stoward	60
Thomas Robert Marshall	91
Edward Caffin	Lodge 99
George Hindlay	197
John Aird	259

The M.W. Grand Master then authorised Bro. Samuel Gover Foxall to take the rank and wear the clothing of Past Grand Pursuivant.

Grand Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet at Freemasons' Tavern.

The Grand Banquet took place at six o'clock in the large hall of the Freemasons' Tavern. It should be stated that, according to ancient custom, eighteen lodges alone out of nearly two thousand possess the privilege every year of each sending one of its members, being a Master Mason, as its representative to Grand Lodge to act as Grand Steward for the year. Besides the duties appertaining to their office at the meetings of Grand Lodge, these brethren are constituted as a Board of Grand Stewards, with a President, Treasurer, and Honorary Secretary, with the special duty of arranging and carrying out the details of the Annual Grand Festival. In virtue of their office, the Grand Stewards wear a distinguishing apron and collar of red, instead of blue, and, owing to the limited number entitled to wear the same, it is much prized and sought after among the Craft. As the Grand Stewards are changed every year, and are generally strangers to each other, it is a somewhat difficult task at their first meeting to make choice, haphazard, of the most fitting brethren to fill the important office of President, Treasurer, and Honorary Secretary to this Board, since mainly on the shoulders of these three officials, and especially on those of the Secretary, depends the success or otherwise of the grand festival. The selection this year appears to have been most fortunate in the persons of Bro. Dr. R. Gooding, B.A., as President, Lodge No. 1; Bro. Charles Martin, Treasurer Lodge No. 23; and Bro. Thomas Adair Massey, P.M., Honorary Secretary, Lodge No. 21. The other Grand Stewards were Bros. Edward Parker Deacon, No. 2; Capt. Henry Anthony Bennett, No. 4; Major Horace Scriveni, No. 5; Christopher J. T. Fawcett, No. 6; John Philip Probert, No. 8; Alfred Isaac Bristow, No. 14; Arthur H. Henry, No. 26; Charles Oxtoby Barker, No. 29; Dr. G. Henry Savage, No. 46; Charles E. Smith, No. 58; John Wordsworth, No. 60; Watson Surr, No. 91; Alexander Bell, No. 99; Thomas Donnithorpe, No. 107; and Frederick H. Goldney, No. 259. The efforts of these gentlemen to produce a banquet and concert worthy of the occasion have been well seconded by Bro. C. E. Willing, Grand Organist, assisted by Bro. W. Kuhe, P.G.O.; Madame Patey, Miss José Sherrington, and Madame Osborne Williams; Mr. Edward Lloyd, Mr. Lyndon Hodges, and Mr. Wadmore. Solo violoncello, Herr Schuberth; Solo cornet-à-piston, Bro. Howard Reynolds. The banquet was ably served under the supervision of Bro. Dawkins, the manager, and prepared by Bro. A. Best, the new proprietor of the Freemasons' Tavern. Bro. J. Wills supplied the floral decorations, which were most elaborate. The invitation card was an admirable example of mediæval architecture and mystic Masonic emblems, and carries the mind back to the period when the Guild of Masons was not speculative but operative, and when every Master Mason affixed his Masonic mark to his work—good and true. This card, the design of the Honorary Secretary, deserves a little study. Foremost in the centre is the Book of Books, from whence is derived truth and light; above it is represented the All-seeing Eye of the Great Architect of the Universe in the centre of a blazing star. The initiated will also recognise three other symbols of the Deity. This is somewhat significant at this moment, when the Grand Orient of France has, by a late decree, expunged all reference to the Great and Supreme Architect of Heaven and Earth from its system of Masonry. On the left hand are the traditional pillars at the porch of King Solomon's Temple, and the winding stairs which led to that inner chamber known to the initiated, surmounted by the arms of Grand Lodge. On the right hand are the arms and monogram of his Royal Highness the Most Worshipful Grand Master, with a list of the Stewards of the year, and the badge of their office, overlaid cornucopie, emblematical of the good things which they provided at the banquet. At the bottom, as the base of Masonry, in five scrolls, are the words—Charity, Prudence, Fortitude, Temperance, Justice. The installation of the M.W. Grand Master and the appointment of the officers for the year took place, as already stated, in the Temple, after which the Grand Master, the Crown Prince of Denmark, and other distinguished brethren adjourned to the banquet, when some 250 guests sat down. Among those present supporting His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales were Lord Carnarvon, Lord Skelmersdale, Lord Suffield, the Marquis of Londonderry, Lord Henniker, Sir Watkin W. Wynn, Sir Harcourt Johnstone, the Rev. Sir J. W. Hayes, Sir Albert Woods, General Brownrigg, Lieut.-Col. Clerke, Bros. J. Havers, A. E. J. McIntyre, Q.C., J. M. Clabon, W. A. F. Powell, J. Fenn, Colonel Creton, John Boyd, J. B. Monckton, Griffiths Smith, H. C. Levander, W. Whitehead, J. D. Keighley, J. W. Wells, and others.

Grace before dinner was said by the Grand Chaplain (the Rev. H. A. Pickard), and at its conclusion was beautifully sung by the vocalists.

In proposing "The Health of the Queen,"

The M.W. Grand Master said—Brethren, the first toast that it will be my privilege to give you to-night will be one which will require but very few words from me, as I know it is a toast which is drunk with enthusiasm by all loyal Englishmen, and I think I may safely say the Craft are as loyal as any community in this country. I have the pleasure of giving you "The Health of Her Majesty the Queen, the Patroness of our Order."

The toast having been most heartily received, was followed by the singing of the National Anthem.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master then said—Brethren, the next toast which it is now my pleasure to give you is one which is not usually given at these annual festivals; but it is one which I feel convinced all of you will receive most heartily, and agree with me in the propriety of giving it, that of "The Foreign Grand Lodges." The good feeling which exists with all foreign Grand Lodges and our own is well known, and I think it is highly desirable, for many reasons, that that good feeling should be kept up. Goodwill and interchange of courtesies between those countries that have Grand Lodges and support Freemasonry deserve our encouragement at the same time. With that toast it affords me the greatest gratification to couple the name of my illustrious relative the Grand Master of Denmark (Great applause.) Besides the pleasure which it gives me, and I know all the brethren, to receive him here to-night it is peculiarly agreeable to me to drink his health, and to receive him here, as it was under the auspices of his father-in-law, the late King of Sweden, that I was admitted into the Craft. After my initiation, now nearly ten years ago, I was received most cordially and most kindly by the Grand Lodge of Denmark. My illustrious relative was not a Freemason then, but before leaving there I said to him I hoped the day would not be far distant when he would become a member of the Craft, and preside over its destinies in his own country. That event has occurred, and I am glad to think that he very shortly followed my example. I know there is much I should like to say, but I feel that before him it would be out of place, and I know that he would not wish me to do so; but the cordiality with which I know he has been received here to-night I can assure him on the part of Grand Lodge and the brethren assembled here to-day is entirely the outburst of good feeling on their part, and I feel convinced it is an example which will be followed by other Grand Lodges.

The toast having been received with the greatest enthusiasm,

The Crown Prince of Denmark said—Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Officers, and Brethren, I thank you for the kind way in which you, Most Worshipful Grand Master, have proposed my health, and you, my brethren, have received this toast. I have been very much delighted at the way in which His Royal Highness has remembered my loved and so much lamented father-in-law. My dear brother-in-law gave me at the time he was initiated the advice to enter into the Craft, and I followed with pleasure his advice, which I never regretted, I assure you. I was also made a member of our glorious and ancient Order by the late King of Sweden. I have always been happy to be a Freemason; but I feel proud especially to-day, when I have the pleasure of being associated with English Freemasons, brothers of the Grand Lodge of England. Certainly, brethren, you will excuse me as a foreigner not to be able to express all the feelings I feel in my heart (loud applause), but I assure you the remembrance of this day will never be forgotten by me. I cannot sit down without expressing my earnest wish, as I have before said in Grand Lodge, that the relations between our Danish and English Freemasons may always be as cordial and hearty as they are between me and my beloved brother-in-law, the Grand Master, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, whose health I have the honour and the pleasure now to propose with that of the Princess of Wales, praying the Almighty to bless them both and his good family, and to endear them to the hearts of our ancient Order and the Grand Lodge of England. I propose "The Health of the Prince and Princess of Wales."

This toast was also drunk with loud and long-continued cheering.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master, who on again rising was received with prolonged cheering, said—I tender my illustrious relative my sincere and heartfelt thanks for the excessively kind manner in which he was good enough to propose my health, and to you brethren, for the very kind way in which you have received it. This is by no means the first time that I have had the honour of meeting the brethren together, and especially on similar occasions to the present. (Cheers.) With the guests we have here it is a still greater pleasure for me to be present at this our annual gathering. I have had frequent occasions of expressing to the brethren, not only here in London, but also in different parts of the country, the interest I take in everything connected with Freemasonry. (Cheers.) I have said before this evening that I am not able to appear as frequently amongst you as I could wish. That is not my fault, as my wish is to be amongst you as much as possible, but I have so many engagements to attend to that I am prevented from having that pleasure. (Hear.) As there are still several other speeches to be made I will not say more now. But, before sitting down, it affords me the greatest pleasure and gratification to propose a toast, and it is that of "The Most Worshipful the Pro Grand Master, the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, and the other Grand Officers, Present and Past." (Cheers.) To them I beg personally to tender my thanks for the kind way in which they have supported me on this and all occasions, and for undertaking the duties which by rights I ought not to leave them to perform; but as they kindly undertake that task so often, and assist me so efficiently, I feel certain, from past experience, that it is impossible for me to leave it to better hands than theirs. (Cheers.) I beg now most cordially to propose this toast, which I know will be received most enthusiastically to-night, and with the toast I have to couple the name of the Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon. (Cheers.)

The Earl of Carnarvon, in responding, said—Most Worshipful Grand Master and brethren, the task has devolved upon me, through the kindness of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, of replying for the Grand Officers here present, and when I look round and see the blaze of purple and the multitude of insignia that adorn the breasts of those for whom I

have to answer, I am satisfied that their presence best speaks for itself. Brethren, they represent two classes at least; first, those who have received this day at the hands of your most Worshipful Grand Master the insignia of office for the ensuing year. In their name I would merely say that they will attend most sedulously, and discharge the duties committed to them; and that as the office which they hold is high and the honour is valued, so that office becomes higher in their eyes, and the honour becomes still more valued, inasmuch as they have received it at the hands of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. (Great cheering.) And, brethren, the second class are those who in former years have received the like honours; and for them I would say that Grand Lodge is deeply indebted for their services, for their experience, for the knowledge which they so freely give on every occasion. Many occasions of difficulty there are, and yet that knowledge and experience, as I well know, have been freely and well given. There is a third class here present, those who hold office in their several provinces; but I see that the toast forms a separate one, and I will not interfere with the eloquent address which I have no doubt is now being revolved in the mind of the Provincial Grand Officer who will address you. This only I will venture to say, that one and all of us unite in doing honour here this evening to our illustrious Grand Master, and in bidding hearty welcome to the illustrious guest whom he has brought here to-night. That illustrious and foreign guest has had the opportunity of addressing you this evening, and he has well known how to take advantage of it (applause); and, following the idea of that song which has been sung, I would venture to say that just as his ancestors centuries and centuries ago conquered us by force of arms, so now he by his graceful address, by his charm of manner, and by the mastery of our own language, has conquered and stolen away our affections. (Loud and long-continued cheering.)

Lord Henniker, Senior Grand Warden.—Most Worshipful Master and Brethren, I regret that the duty of proposing this toast has not fallen to the lot of some better known brother than myself, because I feel that I can hardly do proper justice to it. It is a toast which is always well received at Grand Festival in London and in every province in the country; and therefore my task is not so hard as it might otherwise be. It is "The Health of the Provincial Grand Masters" (cheers). Your Royal Highness is aware, as also are all the leaders of the Craft, that although you rule over a most powerful body in Grand Lodge, and although Masons in the provinces fully acknowledge and are ready to obey in every way the dictates of Grand Lodge, yet that we will not place ourselves second in enthusiasm for the benefit of Masonry in the provinces to those who rule the Craft in this great city. (Hear, hear.) I do not think it necessary for me to add another word; but as my life as a Mason at present has been that of a Provincial Grand Officer, and almost confined to the provinces in which I live, I am obliged to return my thanks to his Royal Highness for the compliment he has paid me in placing me in the high position I hold—(cheers)—a compliment which I shall do my best to show that I fully appreciate by trying in every way in my power to benefit the Craft during my year of office. (Cheers.) And perhaps I may add this, as another Provincial Grand Officer in my province (Bro. W.H. Lucia) has been appointed to an office in Grand Lodge to-day, that I think the province in which I live will take the compliment indirectly through us as a great one from his Royal Highness. (Hear, hear.) With these few words, perhaps, I may be allowed to propose "The Health of the Right Worshipful the Provincial Grand Masters of England," and to couple with it the name of General Brownrigg. (Cheers.)

General Brownrigg, Provincial Grand Master for Surrey, in replying, said—Most Worshipful Grand Master and Brethren, greatness has its privileges as well as its disadvantages, and I consider it a very high privilege being called upon to return thanks for that distinguished body of brethren whose health has just been proposed. I believe your Royal Highness is a better judge than any one else of the way in which the duties of the Provincial Grand Officers are performed. If they did require any incentive beyond their wish to serve the Craft to do their duty well, that incentive would be found in having your Royal Highness as their chief. If any incentive were wanted to increase their wish to do right it would be that. And I must say there is another thing which I would remark upon especially, not only in my own province, but in those I have had the privilege of visiting—it is extremely gratifying to see the kind and cordial way in which the Provincial Grand Master is received and the support he invariably obtains from all under him. That is a greater incentive than any other to Provincial Grand Masters to do their work fearlessly and conscientiously. (Great cheering.)

Lord Skelmersdale, Deputy Grand Master, said—Your Royal Highness and Brethren, I need not assure you that it gives me great pleasure to propose to you the toast of "The Health of the Stewards of the Festival." I am quite sure you will all agree with me that without these Stewards we should have had a very bad time of it. I have had the honour of presiding and dining in this room many times, but I may say with all honesty that I have never seen a festival or fête carried out better than it has been to-day (Hear.) I have no doubt that in any case the Stewards would have been prepared to do their duty; still it was not till a late hour in the preparations that we heard we should probably be honoured by the presence of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and therefore, I say, all the more honour to them for having carried out their work so thoroughly and well (cheers). I must also thank them for the music we have heard to-night, although I am sorry we have not heard more of it. Brethren, I ask you to give them the most cordial response to this toast of the Board

of Stewards, with which I will couple the name of Bro. Gooding. (Cheers.)

Dr. Ralph Gooding, President of the Board of Grand Stewards, in replying, said—It is with great pleasure I rise to thank you for the kindness you have done us, and the honour you have shown us in thus proposing our health to so august an assembly as I see before me. In carrying out the work of our office I may say we have been unanimously agreed. There has been only one under-current running in our minds and in our inmost hearts, and in that one under-current there has been one definite object in view, and one definite object only—the maintaining and upholding the dignity and prestige of this the Grand Lodge of English Freemasons. If whatever we have done, Most Worshipful Grand Master, and anything we have done, has been attended with any sort of success, we are only too proud of having been able to render any service to this Grand Lodge. I am well aware that to make any lengthened remarks at this late period of the evening would be entirely unbecoming on my part, but still, I cannot help recording my vote of thanks for the able manner in which our Secretary (Bro. T. Masey) has carried out the duties of his office. This is the most laborious part of the work of the Grand Stewards, and on this occasion it has been heavier than usual; but still I cannot help admiring, as President of the Board, the way in which the Secretary has carried out the work of his office. With regard to myself, the moment I heard his Royal Highness was coming among us to-night I endeavoured to carry out my duty, and I looked forward with pleasurable anticipation to the result; and I can only say that by the result I have been fully rewarded for any labour I have had.

The toast list having been concluded, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales left the chair, amid great cheering at the comparatively early hour of nine o'clock. The brethren returned to the Temple, where they were joined by a large number of ladies, who had witnessed the banquet from the gallery, and finished what must have been an agreeable evening to all present by listening to a concert, in which the artistes were Miss José Sherrington, Mme. Patey, Mme. Osborne-Williams, Bro. Howard Reynolds, Mr. Edward Lloyd, and Mr. Wadmore, Past Grand Organist Bro. Herr Kuhe, accompanying on the pianoforte. The proceedings throughout were of the most satisfactory character. Bro. Barker officiated as toast master.

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

PANMURE LODGE (No. 720).—A regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Balham Hotel, Balham, on Monday, the 15th inst., when were present Bros. D. Trusler, W.M.; C. P. McKay, S.W.; W. Sheudd, J.W.; W. Smith, S.D.; E. Mitchell, I.G.; M. Spiegel, D.C.; Lambert, Steward; James Stevens, P.M.; W. Payne, P.M.; Chas. Pulman, P.M.; Thomas Poore, P.M. and Sec; W. Steedman, Tyler; G. Lilley, Brenner, A-h, Gunner, Pascall, Mulley, Syer, Treves, Huntley, Glenister, Sanders, Lavers, and others. Apologies from several absent P.M.'s and members were read. Lodge was opened in the Three Degrees and worked down. Bro. Lavers was passed to the Degree of F.C. Candidates for initiation not being present the ballot for approval was deferred. The election of W.M. for the ensuing year resulted in an unanimous vote in favour of the S.W., Bro. McKay. Bro. Thos. Poore was re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. W. Steedman, Tyler. It was resolved that to mark the appreciation of the lodge for a second year's service as W.M. by Bro. Trusler, the P.M. Jewel voted to him at the expiration of his first year of office should be provided with a suitable bar and inscription, and that a further recognition should be made by the presentation of an article of value to be selected by himself. Bros. Gunner and Syer were elected on the Audit Committee. The lodge having been closed the brethren adjourned to refreshment, and spent the remainder of a very agreeable evening in harmonious intercourse.

ROYAL ALBERT LODGE (No. 907).—The installation meeting of the above lodge took place on Monday, the 15th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, when Bro. Joseph Smith, P.M., and P.G.P. England, the first Master and founder of it, was once more placed in the proud position of the head of it, as W.M. for the ensuing year. The lodge was opened by Bro. F. A. White, W.M.; and the minutes of the previous meeting having been confirmed, Bro. Todd was most impressively raised to the Sublime Degree. Bro. White then proceeded to install his successor, who was presented by Bro. P. M. Lewis in a few well chosen and appropriate sentences, and who, after the usual ceremonies, was placed in the chair of K.S. and saluted in due form. He then invested his officers as follows:—Bros. R. Jennings, S.W.; G. T. Barr, J.W.; the Rev. J. M. Vaughan, P.M., and P.P.G.C. Middlesex, Chaplain; J. A. Farnfield, P.M., Treasurer; W. H. Farnfield, P.M., Secretary; H. T. Butt, S.D.; W. Wordley, J.D.; Wallis, G.; H. Lewis, P.M., D.C.; and W.S.; T. Cozens, Organist; — Harrison, Tyler. Bro. White then concluded his important task by giving the three charges in a superb manner; his working of the whole ceremony was faultless, and was the subject of high encomiums from all present. Bro. J. Dennis, who in the unavoidable absence of Bro. W. Farnfield acted as Secretary, then read the resolutions passed at Grand Lodge with reference to the Grand Orient of France. It was then proposed, and unanimously resolved, that a vote of thanks should be presented to Bro. White, and

recorded upon the minutes of the lodge, for the very able and efficient manner in which he had discharged the duties of Installing Officer, to which Bro. White suitably replied, and the lodge was closed in due form. The brethren then adjourned to the banquet. Among the visitors were Bros. E. P. Albert, P.M. 188 and P.G.P. England; T. G. Day, P.M. 1076, W.M. 1437, and P.G.S. of Works Essex; J. Tydeman, W.M. 1327, P.M. 1437, and P.P.G.P. Essex and Hertfordshire; F. Walters, P.M. 73, and P.P.G.D. Middlesex; W. Gamble, W.M. 706; E. Mallett, W.M. 140; N. J. Fenner, P.M. 162; T. Meekham, P.M. 1288; D. Batts, P.M. 1351; F. Parker, P.M. 34; W. F. Green, 861; W. C. Young, 1716; W. Griffiths, 706; W. Marsden Smith, 185; J. Cox, 813; R. Crouch, 103; H. Lardner, 1623; R. Warren, 1437; W. White, 1693; J. Harvey, 771; Jas. Abbott, 1716; C. Smith, 1716; H. Pratt, 192; W. Prevost, 861; G. Walker, 813; Lewis M. Myers, 188; G. D. Richmond, 890; J. Mills, 1716; C. Jolly, 913 (*Freemason*), and others. The following Past Masters of the lodge, besides those placed in office, were present:—C. Chard, J. Dennis, S. Moore, T. Hastings Miller, P.P.G.O. Middlesex; T. Griffiths, and R. E. Stephenson. The W.M. gave "The Queen and the Craft," saying that as loyal Masons they never forgot their duty to their Sovereign. The next toast was that of "His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Grand Master of England," who, the W.M. said, was their Sovereign, under whom they were proud of serving. His many important duties rendered it impossible for him to be with them so much as they might wish, and so the law was to have a Pro Grand Master, and in Lord Carnarvon they had an excellent Master. Lord Skelmersdale, their D.G.M., was one they were proud of, and the whole of them had done good suit and service in the cause of Freemasonry. They had one Grand Officer present, Bro. Albert, and around the room he saw several Provincial Grand Officers, who really looked nice in their purple and gold. They one and all had obtained their position by merit, and it was by merit alone that the officers at Grand Lodge obtained their position. He therefore asked them to drink the toast as it deserved. Bro. Albert, in response, said the W.M. had very ably expatiated upon the good work done by their Grand Master and Pro G.M., and in their name he thanked him. The unanimity and excellent Masonry shown to exist in the Royal Albert Lodge that day might make Grand Lodge proud to have such a one under its banner. Upon the invitation of the W.M., Bros. Day, Miller, Walker, and Tydeman said a few words for their respective provinces, the latter observing that although the province he represented (Hertfordshire) was one of the smallest, yet it was the first on the list for its subscriptions at the last annual festival of the Benevolent Charity. Bro. White then rose to propose the toast of the evening, that of "The W.M.," and said it was one that upon all occasions, and more especially on such as the present, was honoured in that lodge. Bro. Joseph Smith, P.G.P. of England, was the first Master and father of the lodge. It was to him that they owed their birth. He had always supported them in the most able manner, and in every difficulty they looked to him for aid and counsel, and it was always theirs for asking. It had fallen into his hands, to be once more Master of their lodge, through their S.W. feeling that he could not afford the time necessary to carry out the duties attached to that office with credit to himself, or dignity to the lodge. It was with deep regret that they had heard Bro. Allen's determination, but it was only an instance of that brother's honest and perfect Masonry to resign such a splendid opportunity, instead of taking the honours of a position that he felt himself unable to attend to. Such a true spirit of Masonry was worthy of him and of the lodge, and they thanked him for it. That was the cause of their placing Bro. Smith in the chair, and he felt sure no one could have helped them out of their difficulty better than he, or with more satisfaction to the lodge. Bro. Smith thanked their respected and esteemed Immediate Past Master and the brethren for their cordial reception of the toast. He had not the least doubt that a good many young Masons would ask themselves why an old Past Master was called upon to take the chair. In the first place the S.W. should have taken it, it was his undoubted right to take it, but in this case, to the honour of their S.W., he found that its duties were such that he said to himself, "I will not take the chair unless I can do honour to the position that I am chosen for." If it had been a young lodge he should have said to him "Take it," but in a lodge like the Royal Alfred he should tell him, "No, wait another year, work up, and then you may take it with honour to yourself and credit to the lodge." Under those circumstances what was the lodge to do? Why, fall back upon its Past Masters, and as among them there was not the least jealousy, they said, "We will offer it to the oldest Past Master of the lodge." There was not a Past Master who could not have performed the duties, but they had chosen to honour him. He asked them still to give him their support, and he would be a true and faithful Master to them. He asked them to work with him for the good of that lodge and Freemasonry in general, and he would never give them cause to repent placing him for the second time in the proud position of W.M. of the Royal Alfred Lodge. In response to the toast of "The Visitors," Bro. Betts, in the course of an eloquent address, thanked them for the Masonic treat given him that day, and passed a high eulogium upon the splendid manner in which Bro. White performed the installation ceremony. He also expressed the pleasure it afforded him to see "his dear old friend, Joe Smith," in the chair of K.S., and placed further response in the hands of Bro. Fenner, who said that after the eloquent speech of the brother who had preceded him he felt that there was little left for him to say. He felt it a pleasure to be able to endorse every word that brother had said, but the working of the Royal

Albert Lodge, so ably and so eloquently honoured by Bro. Betts, was no surprise to him, although he was most agreeably entertained. He came there for a lesson, and he got it. There were few lodges in that great metropolis where the work was so well done as in that one, and where with good work, genial and hearty hospitality went hand in hand together. It was a satisfaction and a pleasure to the large number of visitors present that he felt sure they would not soon forget. Bros. Gamble, Smith, and Abbott also responded. The toast of "The Past Masters" followed, and in putting it the W.M. said they were the pillars of the lodge. The oldest was Bro. John Farnfield, who was always with them and always at work for them. The next was Bro. William Farnfield; he was their Secretary, and he had done good suit and service in the lodge. Bro. Chard was their Wine Steward, but his duties were so great that he had to call in a junior to assist him. Bro. Lewis was one who felt a pleasure in good service, and could help them now and then with a capital song. Bro. Dennis was everything to everybody, and was respected and esteemed as he deserved, and had a handsome testimonial presented to him for good work and good temper. Bro. Miller had gone to Middlesex for provincial honours, and right well did he deserve them, although from his excellent Masonry he might have got them at home. Bro. Griffiths was their "safe man;" he had done good suit and service in the lodge. Bro. Moore was "Prince Albert," and during his year of office they had a good one, and he kept them well in order. Bro. Stevenson, too, had given them every satisfaction. And now he came to the last, but not the least, who sat in that chair, and whose worth and modesty they all knew as well as he did. They had passed a vote of thanks to him for good work done in the lodge, and he was worthy of that reward. He had made many sacrifices for the lodge, but the result was that he had left a large balance in their favour, and now, said he, Bro. White, we are so pleased with your conduct, and so satisfied with your endeavours, that this jewel has been placed in my hands by the brethren, so that I may present it to you, and in placing it upon your breast let me say that I wish in their and my name, many happy years may you live to wear this token of their approbation that you so well and honourably have earned. The W.M., continuing, said he had received a great many jewels in his time, but none had ever been to him like the first received in Freemasonry. But there was something more. Bro. White could not go to Grand Lodge without a collar and jewel, and that when he went there he might properly represent that lodge, they wished as well to present him with a collar and jewel, so that he might do so, and might he live long to wear it with credit to himself, and honour to the lodge. Bro. White, in reply, said the Past Masters had requested him to respond first. He thanked the W.M. for the kind and generous manner in which he had spoken of him. The W.M. had told them how highly he prized the first jewel presented to him, and he (Bro. White) should, he felt sure, always prize those jewels higher than anything that could or might be presented him in the future. Their W.M. had as well said that he had done his duty during the past year to their satisfaction. He trusted he had done it in such a manner that he retired from it with their good wishes and esteem. What he had done well he had to thank the Lodge of Instruction for. It was there he had gained confidence. There was an excellent lodge at Bro. Chard's house every Tuesday evening, and that good brother gave them every facility for carrying it out in a proper manner. He concluded a feeling reply by strenuously advocating its claims upon young and ambitious Masons. Bro. J. Farnfield briefly responded, and then his and his brother's health as Secretary and Treasurer was proposed and responded to. "The Officers" followed. An especial honour was paid to P. S. W. Hallet, and then Bros. Lewis and Chard had their meed of praise, and well they deserved it. The Tyler's toast concluded the proceedings. A selection of vocal music (under the direction of Bro. Fred. H. Cozens) was splendidly rendered by Bros. Lester, G. T. Carter, Montem Smith, F. H. Cozens, and Chaplin Henry.

WANDSWORTH LODGE (No. 1044).—On Wednesday, the 17th inst., a meeting of this lodge was held at the Spread Eagle Hotel, Wandsworth. Bro. H. P. Jones, W.M., presided. There were also present the following officers and members:—Bros. W. A. Morgan, S.W.; A. N. Newens, J.W.; H. Wilson, Treasurer; J. Frost, Secretary; A. B. Walker, S.D.; W. J. Huntley, J.D.; J. J. Holland, I.G.; J. Wardroper, Steward; S. Steed, Tyler; E. H. Boddy, P.M.; P. Cooke, P.M.; F. H. Newens, P.M.; J. G. Carter, P.M.; F. Reed, J. Stirk, R. Walker, H. J. Newens, G. W. Smith, G. Fortescue, W. Springett, Percy Denham, and A. A. Denham. The following visitors honoured the lodge with their presence:—Bros. Willey Wright (the well-known barrister), R. H. Smith, A. B. Morgan, M. Halford, and E. Carter. A good feature in Freemasonry—as showing its liberty and universality—was the presence of Bro. Halford (a coloured brother from a New York lodge), who is now studying in England for one of the learned professions. The chief business of the evening was to initiate Mr. T. J. Tucker, pass Bro. Percy Denham, and raise Bro. J. Newens, which was faultlessly done by the W.M., Bro. H. R. Jones, assisted by his officers. The Treasurer and Tyler were re-elected, and Bro. W. A. Morgan was chosen as W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. Jones, the retiring W.M., was unanimously voted a jewel for the ability he had shown as president of the lodge. A banquet followed, which was served in the best style by Bro. Dougherty. The customary toasts were given, together with those of "The W.M. Elect" and "The Retiring W.M.," both of which were enthusiastically drunk and replied to. "The Visitors" was eloquently replied to by Bro. Willey Wright,

Bro. Halford, and others. The proceedings soon after terminated.

KENNINGTON LODGE (No. 1382).—The last meeting of this lodge was held at the Surrey Club House, Kennington Oval, on the 2nd inst., when there were present amongst others Bros. Reeves, W.M.; T. C. Walls, P.G.O. Middlesex, S.W. (*Freemason*); Hohler, J.W.; Webb, J.D.; H. Higgins, I.P.M.; Page, P.G.S., Treasurer; W. Stuart, P.M. 141, &c., Secretary; Marston, I.G.; Robinson, D.C.; Stokes, W.S.; Stranger, A.W.S.; Honeywell, P.M. (Dobie), Organist; and Past Masters Kock, Gardner, Everett, Drysdale. The meetings of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the communication from the Grand Lodge upon the subject of the recent act of the Grand Orient of France was read. There being no other business of any kind to be transacted the lodge was duly closed, and the brethren partook of an excellent banquet. The visitors were Bros. Maloney, P.M. 25; Parsons, P.M. 749; Schutze, 185; Koch, 186; Downie, 186; Coleman, 186; Good, 749; Cox, 1314; Cooper, 1441. The customary preliminary toasts having been duly honoured, the I.P.M. in a few well chosen sentences, proposed "The Health of the W.M." Bro. Reeves, in reply, said that he was sorry that there had been no "work" to perform in the lodge that day, because he should very much have liked to have shown their visiting brethren what the Masonic capabilities of the members of the Kennington lodge were. He was gratified that there were so many present, and he hoped to meet as many when they met again six months hence, and that they should also be enjoying the same amount of good health as they were then in the apparent possession of. "The Visitors" followed, and was acknowledged by all the visiting brethren present. "The Past Masters," "The Treasurer and Secretary," and "The Officers" brought the proceedings to a close. During the proceedings Bros. Honeywell, Stokes, Everett, and others entertained the brethren, who separated at a late hour, highly pleased with the manner in which the last reunion of the season had been conducted.

LANGTON LODGE (No. 1673).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday week, at the London Masonic Club, Queen Victoria-street. Bro. H. D. Stead, W.M., presided; and the other brethren present were Bros. Joseph Langton, S.W.; F. Dobbing, J.W.; J. K. Sted, Treasurer; J. A. Reid, S.D.; S. Rosenthal, J.D.; W. L. Rosenthal, Chaplain; Joseph J. D. Langton, A. Cooper, J. B. Crossley, C. E. Barnett, Jos. Morrell, J. A. Dickson, E. Y. Marner, L. J. Smith, John H. Hackworth, Thomas Greener, 14; Walter Beard, 101; W. W. Morgan, 211; H. Massey (*Freemason*); Rev. P. M. Holden, John G. G. Horsey, 180; Fountain Meen, Organist 1185; and W. Pawley (Holmesdale). After the confirmation of the minutes, Bros. Joseph Morrell, P.M. No. 111, Past Prov. G. Superintendent of Works Durham, and John Morrell, P.M. No. 111, Past Prov. G.I.D. Durham, were elected joining members. The W.M. afterwards initiated the Rev. William Barnard Banyard, and Mr. Henry Hill Banyard, in the earliest mysteries of the Order; and then passed to the Second Degree Bros. Faber and Hackworth. Bro. R. E. Barnes was then re-elected as Tyler, after which the W.M. installed Bro. Joseph Langton as Master of the lodge for the year ensuing. The brethren appointed to office were Bros. H. D. Stead, I.P.M.; F. Dobbing, S.W.; J. A. Reid, J.W.; the Rev. Dr. Rosenthal, Chaplain; J. K. Stead, P.M., Treasurer; W. F. Taunton, Secretary; S. Rosenthal, S.D.; J. D. Langton, J.D.; A. C. Barnett, I.G.; T. A. Rumpff, Steward; J. B. Crossley, Steward; Joseph Morrell, P.M., D.C.; and R. E. Barnes, Tyler. Bro. H. D. Stead then delivered the addresses, and completed his year of work in admirable style. The brethren unanimously expressed their approval of the work by loudly applauding it, and gave a substantial token of their approbation by voting him a ten guinea Past Master's jewel. The S.W., Bro. F. Dobbing, informed the brethren that he had taken on himself the office of Steward for the lodge at the forthcoming festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls on the 10th May, and that he had already obtained several subscriptions on his list. He appealed to the lodge for a lodge donation if the funds would allow of it. The Treasurer, Bro. J. K. Stead, said he had no hesitation in saying that the lodge funds would allow of it, as the balance sheet, which all the brethren had heard, showed a large balance in favour of the lodge. The lodge thereupon voted ten guineas to Bro. Dobbing's list. Bro. J. A. Reid, J.W., in accordance with notice of motion, afterwards moved, and Bro. F. Dobbing, S.W., seconded the motion, for raising the fees of the lodge for initiation and joining. The brethren after some discussion agreed to do so, though not to the amount originally proposed by the motion. The circular from Grand Secretary's office containing the resolutions come to at last Grand Lodge with reference to the Grand Orient of France was read by Bro. Taunton, Secretary, and lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to a choice banquet, the tables for which were elegantly adorned with fruit and flowers. After banquet the toasts were proposed, and the W.M., in giving the toast of "The Earl of Carnarvon," said the brethren had that evening seen what a warm interest his lordship took in Freemasonry. The document read by the Secretary would give to the brethren's minds the correct impression that Masons were not presided over by dignitaries who were ornamental only, but useful as well. They must all approve of the step which the Pro Grand Master had taken with regard to the Grand Orient of France, and they all ought to feel thankful that men in the position of the Prince of Wales, the Earl of Carnarvon, and others took the interest in Masonry that they did. In giving the toast of "Lord Skelmersdale and the rest of the Grand Officers," the W.M. said he always thought when he mentioned Lord Skelmersdale's name in that building that his lord-

ship was especially endeared to the brethren, and specially entitled to a warm reception of this toast, as he was the only one of the highest dignitaries of Grand Lodge who had visited the London Masonic Club, and had expressed the hope that he might often come there to meet the brethren. When this toast was mentioned, therefore, there was no doubt it would be warmly received, not only on account of Lord Skelmersdale's official position of Deputy Grand Master of England, but also as having been a guest of the club—who had appreciated the comforts the club could afford. Bro. H. J. Stead, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M.," and said that the last act of his late exalted position was to welcome two joining members, and his first act in his private capacity was to propose the health of the W.M. The brethren knew that the W.M. was not exactly the father of the lodge, but he was unquestionably its godfather, and on that account the brethren owed him more than ordinary honour. He (Bro. Stead) had very great pleasure in proposing the W.M.'s health, in the full conviction that the lodge had now a W.M. who would do his duty and study the interest of the Langton Lodge. The drinking of the toast having been followed by the singing of the song "When the heart is young," by Miss Mary Davies, in such excellent style that the brethren desired a repetition of it, the W.M., in replying to the toast, said he had no doubt that the song which had intervened between the proposition of the toast and the answer to it had obliterated from the brethren's memory the toast itself. The toast was to him a very flattering one, and he was only going to intrude upon the brethren for one moment to return thanks for the very kind manner in which it had been proposed and received. It had been to him a source of very great pleasure to be installed in the chair that afternoon, and he only hoped he should be able to carry out the wishes of all his friends in the lodge in being their W.M., not as good, but approaching as nearly as possible as good as their late W.M.; at all events that would be his endeavour, and he hoped he should succeed. Any shortcomings they might discover on his part the brethren must place to his want of ability, and not to a want of desire to be what he ought to be. To save time, while he was on his legs, he begged now to propose another toast, one which he was sure the brethren would receive with the greatest cordiality—more so, he thought, than any other toast they had yet received that evening. It was in his opinion the toast of the evening. The brethren had as a lodge (he was speaking now simply to the members of the lodge, though visitors too knew something about it, but the members knew all about it) during the last year been presided over by a W.M. who, he (the W.M.) thought, was second to none. His manner of working, his kindness, his affability, in fact everything that a W.M. ought to possess, he thought Bro. Stead had possessed in a most eminent degree. He, therefore, proposed "The Health of the I.P.M.," and he was sure in using those words he said sufficient to induce the brethren to drink that health with the greatest amount of cordiality. The toast having been most warmly received, Bro. H. D. Stead, in reply, said he thanked the W.M. most sincerely for the very handsome manner in which he had introduced it to the brethren's notice, and the brethren in general for the cordial reception they had given to it. Language, at all events such as he could command, would, he assured the brethren, be utterly out of his power to use to express what he felt. He had had a splendid year; he had met with a most flattering reception; and he felt deeply grateful for it. He promised the brethren to use his best exertions at all times on behalf of the Langton Lodge. To the toast of "The Initiates," both those brethren responded, and Bro. the Rev. P. M. Holden replied to the toast of "The Visitors." All the officers replied to the toast of "The Officers," and Bro. Barnes having given the Tyler's toast, the brethren separated. A charming selection of vocal harmony was given by Miss Mary Davies, Mr. Edward Collins, Mr. Sidney Tower, Mr. Forington, and Mr. James Matthews, under the direction of Bro. Fountain Meen.

ALLSAINTS LODGE (No. 1716).—The third regular meeting of this lodge was held on Friday, the 5th inst., at the Town Hall, Poplar, there having also been since its consecration in September last three emergency meetings, in order to keep pace with the business. The W.M. took the chair exactly at six o'clock, and having opened the lodge, the minutes and the dispensation obtained from the M.W.G.M. for the initiation of Mr. Charles Edwin Fenner, a minor nephew of the esteemed Treasurer of the lodge, were read. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the W.M. examined and entrusted Bro. Phillips, who retired, and after opening in the Third Degree, regularly raised Bro. Phillips to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree, and Bro. Bowket and Furrey, candidates for passing, were examined, entrusted, and retired, and the lodge resumed, and these brethren were in due course passed. The W.M. then gave place for Bro. John Dennis, S.W. of the lodge, but P.M. of the Royal Albert Lodge, 907, and who is intimately connected in business with Bro. Fenner, the Treasurer of the lodge, and therefore anxious to initiate the candidate, Mr. C. E. Fenner, which ceremony he performed with his accustomed ability, and Mr. T. L. Kennett at the same time also received the benefit of light. We may mention that Mr. C. E. Fenner is about to join the house of Bro. Heunam, of Hiogo and Yokohama, whose name is well known as a leading authority in Masonry in Japan, and many were the wishes for success and good health expressed by the brethren of the All Saints lodge for Bro. C. E. Fenner in his new career.

LANCASTER. Lodge of Fortitude (No. 281).—The monthly meeting of the lodge was held on the 10th inst., in the Masonic Rooms, Athenaeum, Lancaster. There was a good attendance, Bro. J. Jowett, W.M., presiding. The lodge having been opened in the First Degree, the

minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed. There being no special business before the lodge, the first, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, and seventh sections of the lecture on the E. A. Degree were worked, the brethren who took part in the same being Bros. Jowett (W.M.), Taylor (I.P.M.), Cordwell (S.W.), Warbrick (J.W.), Crookell (S.D.), Pilkington (I.G.), Johnson (J.S.), and Stanton. A cordial vote of thanks was accorded the brethren at the close of the working. A communication was read from Grand Lodge stating the course they felt it necessary to take relative to the action of the Grand Orient of France in eliminating the G.A.O.T.U. from their ritual. The principle adopted by Grand Lodge was warmly approved, and the resolution ordered to be entered on the minutes. The usual proclamations were then made, which elicited hearty good wishes from the visiting brethren, after which the lodge was closed in peace, love, and harmony.

NORTHAMPTON.—Pomfret Lodge (No. 360).—At this lodge, on the 4th inst., there was a good attendance. Amongst those present were T. Whitehouse, W.M.; F. Gadsby, S.W.; H. W. Parker, J.W.; S. J. W. Sanders, Chaplain; J. S. Norman, S.D.; T. R. Wood, J.D.; Geo. Ellard, I.G.; Geo. Robinson, P.M., Sec.; J. U. Stanton, P.M., and Jno. Bingley, Stewards; M. A. Boeme and B. Wilkins (D. Pr. G. M.), P.M.'s; Bros. Atkins, Allen, Brigham, Brown, Barnes, Dorrell, Aldridge, Williams, Jeffery, Spoor, &c. Amongst the visitors were George Haynes, 1489; J. H. Hale, W.M., and N. T. Hewens, S.W. 737; J. Ackroyd, 297; B. Genner, Sec. 445, &c. Bros. E. Haynes and J. Sadler were duly passed to the Second Degree, the W.M. performing the ceremony. Bro. R. Howes, P.M. 445 (G. Treas. Norths and Hunts), was elected a subscribing member of the lodge. Mr. Thos. Chapman, of Northampton, was duly elected and initiated, the W.M. again performing the ceremony. After the business was concluded the remainder of the evening was spent in a brotherly and harmonious manner.

CHACEWATER.—Boscawen Lodge (No. 699).—Monday, the 15th inst., was an epoch in the history of Freemasonry at Chacewater, when the brethren of the Boscawen Lodge held their first annual installation festival in their new and commodious hall, which, although only partially furnished as yet, is very comfortable, and a decided improvement. Bro. John Paull, P.M., W.M., presided, and ably and impressively installed Bro. John Francis Hooper, W.M. for the ensuing year, assisted by Bro. John Thomas, P.M. No. 589, and a large Board of Installing Masters. The newly-installed W.M. then invested the following as his officers:—Bros. John Paull, I.P.M.; John Alfred Moyle, S.W.; James H. Hodge, J.W.; Rev. G. L. Church, Chaplain; John Ninnes, Treasurer; W. P. Hugoe, P.M., Sec.; Charles Rapson, P.M., Asst. Sec.; Samuel Harris, S.D.; James Buckingham, J.D.; John Estlick, I.G.; O. Matthews, O.; Chas. James, D.C.; Thos. H. Merritt and Jos. Retallick, stewards; W. Lean, Tyler; and John Paull, jun., Assistant Tyler. W. Bro. Rev. G. L. Church, P.M., was elected Steward of the Cornwall Masonic Annuity Fund, and five pounds was voted to be placed at the disposal of the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, Prov. G.M., as Steward of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. The business being completed and the lodge closed, the brethren adjourned to their banqueting-room, where an elegant repast was spread by Bro. N. Paull, of the Britannia Hotel, to which ample justice was done by about fifty brethren, under the able presidency of the W.M., the vice-chairs being occupied by the Wardens, supported by Bros. John Paull, I.P.M.; E. Trewbody Carlyon, P.M. 331, P.G. Sec.; Rev. G. L. Church, P.M. 699; W. H. Jenkins, P.M. 331; S. G. Moyle, P.M. 699; John Ninnes, P.M. 699; W. Bray, P.M. 699; John Hall, P.M. 699; W. P. Hugoe, P.M. 699; John Thomas, P.M. 589; Charles Rapson, P.M. 699; W. T. Davey, P.M. 699; S. Mitchell, P.M. 699; T. Mitchell, P.M. 1006; J. Chegwidan, W.M. 1544; R. H. Heath, P.M. 589; W. H. Treseder, W.M. 589; E. Edwards, I.P.M. 131; J. H. Ferris, J.W. 311; O. Matthews, Organist 699, and others. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and cordially responded to. A special feature of the evening was the presentation of a beautifully illuminated and framed testimonial to Bro. John Paull, I.P.M., and Installing Master, subscribed for by the brethren of this lodge, on which was the following inscription:—"To the V.W. Bro. John Paull, P.M., P.P.S.G.D. Cornwall. This testimonial of esteem is offered by the brethren of the Boscawen Lodge, No. 699, of Free and Accepted Masons, Chacewater, in token of the fraternal affection entertained for him, and as a heartfelt, though but slight, acknowledgment of the valuable services rendered by him for a number of years, having ably filled the office of W.M. of the lodge in the years 1864 and 1877, and efficiently performed the duties of Secretary for nine years. The brethren hereby desire to record their sense of Bro. Paull's services, contributing as they have so greatly to the successes of the lodge during the past 20 years.—Chacewater, 28th January, 1878." The presentation was made in a few choice remarks by Bro. E. T. Carlyon, in which he said that having known Bro. Paull for more than 20 years he was able to say that he (Bro. Paull) possessed the true principles of the Order, which was feelingly responded to and duly appreciated by the recipient, with evident signs of deep emotion at the unexpected token of esteem. The testimonial was brilliantly illuminated on vellum by Messrs. Lake and Lake, of Truro, with their usual display of artistic taste. The toasts to the officers, visitors, host and hostess, &c., were given and responded to, interspersed with songs by Bros. Kistler, J. A. Moyle, R. H. Heath, and others, and altogether one of the most successful and enjoyable festivals the lodge has ever experienced was spent, and the brethren separated at a reasonable hour.

WELLINGBOROUGH.—Wentworth Lodge (No. 737).—This lodge met on Monday, April 1. Amongst those present were Bros. J. H. Hale, W.M.; N. T. Hewens, S.W.; J. Slinn, J.W.; E. Hempstead, S.D.; W. Renshaw, J.D.; C. Mathews, I.G.; L. C. Knight, Sec.; Wallis and Dainty, Stewards; T. Cook, P.M., Treas.; B. B. Aris, P.M., &c. Amongst the visitors were Bros. B. Wilkins (D. Pr. G. M.), P.M.; W. Kingston, P.M.; J. U. Stanton, P.M.; F. Gadsby, S.W.; A. Darrell, 360; Genner, Sec. 455, and J. Ackroyd, 297. Mr. Willan Jackson having been balloted for and elected, was duly initiated by the W.M., Bro. Wilkins giving the charge. At the conclusion of the initiation, Bro. Kingston gave the lecture on the First Tracing Board, much to the satisfaction of the brethren of the Wentworth Lodge, who decided that a vote of thanks to him be placed upon their minutes.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—The Holmesdale Lodge (No. 874).—The regular meeting was held at the Royal Sussex Hotel, on Wednesday, the 17th. The lodge was opened in the First Degree. On reading the minutes of the previous meeting, Bro. Burton suggested that the clause relating to the P.M. jewel should stand as it was first proposed, viz., "That a P.M.'s jewel of the value of eight guineas be presented to the I.P.M.," which was carried. The other minutes were also confirmed. Mr. G. Ramsbotham was balloted for, which proving unanimous, he was regularly initiated into the mysteries of the Craft, and the E. A. charge was given by the W.M. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, when Bros. Arnold and Williams, being candidates for raising, were interrogated, entrusted, and withdrew. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, when they were duly raised to the Sublime Degree of a M.M. The lodge having been resumed to the First Degree, the W.M. in a few well-chosen words presented Bro. B. S. Wilmot, I.P.M., with a P.M.'s jewel, after which Bro. Burton rose and asked the W.M. if he would kindly present a testimonial to Bro. Wilmot as a small tribute of esteem and affection he was held in by the junior members of the lodge, which the W.M. duly presented at the same time, saying it gave him a great deal of pleasure in doing so. Bro. Wilmot rose and thanked the brethren one and all for the present, and for the kind way they had assisted him during his year of office. A candidate having been proposed and hearty good wishes having been given, the lodge was duly closed, and the brethren adjourned till the 3rd Wednesday in May. The usual enjoyable banquet followed, the W.M. being equally competent at his hearty rendering of the customary toasts and compliments. The brethren present were Bros. W. B. Bacon, W.M.; B. S. Wilmot, I.P.M.; H. D. Williams, S.W.; W. H. Hodgkin, J.W.; J. Burton, S.D.; G. Dunkley, J.D.; W. F. Elers, P.M. Treas.; R. W. Delves, I.G.; Waterman, D.C.; W. Delves, P.M.; G. Farrer, M. Williams, A. Noakes, and C. Graham.

LIVERPOOL.—Prince of Wales' Lodge (No. 1035).—The ordinary meeting of this flourishing lodge was held on Thursday, the 10th inst., at Skelmersdale Hall, Liverpool. Bro. J. W. McWean, W.M., took the chair, and opened the lodge in due form. There were also present Bros. Thos. McWean, S.W.; R. R. Forshaw, J.W.; J. P. Bryan, S.D.; W. Forrester, J.D.; John Smith, I.G.; G. Morgan, P.M., Treas.; A. Willis, I.P.M.; Sculthorpe, P.M.; McNab, P.M.; Fozzard, P.M.; W. Donkin, Sec.; John Whaites, Assistant Sec.; A. C. Forshaw, Organist; Seddon and Nicholson, Stewards; and also a large number of members and visiting brethren. The Secretary read the minutes, from which it appeared that the communication from Grand Lodge regarding the Grand Orient of France had been duly registered therein. The W.M. proceeded very efficiently to initiate Mr. M. Wright, and Bros. G. Henry, McGhie, and Black, having been examined, proved satisfactory, when the lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and they were passed by the W.M., whose working was equally perfect with that in the first. He was supported in a thoroughly efficient manner by his senior and junior officers. Several relief cases were brought forward and referred for enquiry. The lodge having been closed with solemn form and prayer, the brethren sat down to supper in the banqueting room, and a very pleasant evening was spent, enlivened by the vocal efforts of the brethren.

LANCASTER.—Rowley Lodge No. (1051).—The regular meeting of the members of this lodge was held at the Masonic Rooms, Athenaeum, Lancaster, on the 15th inst., Bro. A. Sheriff, W.M., occupied the chair of K.S., and was supported by Bros. T. Jackson, I.P.M.; Holme, S.W.; Taylor, J.W.; J. T. Jackson, S.D.; T. Bell, J.D.; S. J. Vince, I.G. The minutes of previous meetings having been read and confirmed, the ballot was severally taken for the Rev. William Henry Browse Tucker, and Mr. Harved Pennington Robinson, which proving unanimous they were admitted in the order above named, and duly initiated into the mysteries of the Craft, the working being well and carefully gone through by the W.M., the working tools being presented by the J.W. A communication was read from Grand Lodge respecting the Grand Orient of France, and ordered to be entered on the minutes. Bro. Helme, S.W., then gave a brief resumé of the business transacted at Grand Lodge, which he had attended as a S.W. of the Rowley Lodge, and which was listened to with much attention. The usual proclamations were then made, and the lodge closed with the usual formalities.

KESWICK.—Greta Lodge (No. 1073).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Monday evening, the 22nd ult., at the Court Buildings. There were present Bros. W. Lamonby, W.M.; D. Pape, S.W.; R. P. Hunter, J.W.; J. Barron, Treas.; W. Wilson,

Sec.; G. P. Abraham, Org.; Jno. Scott, S.D.; Joseph Hodson, J.D.; J. Armstrong, I.G.; W. Gasply, D.C.; J. Wales, D. Crowder, A. Pettitt, T. Usher, T. Mayson, and C. Thomson, Tyler. Bro. W. F. Lamonby, P.M. 1002 (*Freemason*), was present as visitor. After the minutes of the last meeting had been read and confirmed, a ballot was taken for the admission of Mr. Francis Jackson, which proved satisfactory, and he will be initiated next lodge night. A long discussion next took place on Bro. Wales' notice of motion, to remove the lodge to its old place of meeting at the Keswick Hotel, on account of the unsuitability and discomfort of the present premises. Bro. Hunter, while admitting the disadvantages connected with the present lodge room, would rather that the lodge acquired some property in the town, in preference to going back to an hotel. A full ventilation of the subject, however, followed by a show of hands, showed that the brethren present were, with two exceptions, in favour of removing to the Keswick Hotel, and it was so agreed, in accordance with the Book of Constitutions. The W.M. and two Wardens were appointed a committee to make the necessary arrangements for removal. The W.M. expressed his regret that so few members availed themselves of the lodge of instruction called by him recently, and trusted that the effort would be more successful next time, and more encouraging to the brother who so kindly came from a distance to instruct. After "Hearty Good Wishes" from the visitor present, the lodge was closed in form.

LIVERPOOL.—Temple Lodge (No. 1094).—The brethren of this admirable lodge, which has for the period of thirteen years occupied a capital position amongst the lodges in West Lancashire, met at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, on Wednesday afternoon, the 10th inst., for the purpose of assisting at the annual installation of the W.M. The interest in the event was clearly evinced by the attendance of a large and most influential number of brethren, several of whom hailed from the neighbouring province of West Lancashire. The whole of the proceedings were marked by a unanimity and fine feeling which equally gave undoubted evidence of the harmony which has so long and so prominently marked the Temple Lodge. Punctually the lodge was opened at four o'clock by Bro. R. C. Yelland, W.M., and there were also present during the afternoon Bros. Dr. E. M. Sheldon, P.M.; Richard Washington, P.M.; Dr. J. Kellett Smith, P.P.G. Registrar, P.M.; Richard R. Martin, P.M., acting J.W.; Thomas S. Williams, S.W.; Joseph Wood, Treasurer (*Freemason*); Thomas Martin, P.P.G.D.C., Secretary; T. Birch, S.D.; H. B. Jones, I.D.; J. Alexander, I.G.; J. Skeaf, P.G.O., Organist; E. J. Callow and J. Tyson, Stewards; Thos. Carr, B. A. Drake, Robt. Bethel, M. Yeoman, H. Horspool, Wm. Pye, D. Critchley, John Cave, E. Stephens, Wm. Jones, Richard Ingham, W. Callow, E. W. Boulding, H. Jones, J. Pye, Dr. Spier, Thos. Durrant, J. Dean, and Peter Ball, Tyler. The visitors' list embraced the following names—Bros. Thos. Daniels, 1620; R. C. Mellor, P.M. 605, P.P.G.J.D. North Wales and Salop; Chas. Williams, W.M. 348 (Bolton); J. H. McQuiston, 241; R. Whittaker, P.M. 350 and 678, P.P.G.D. of C. E. Lancs.; Hy. Greenwood, P.G. Purs., P.M. 348; Thos. Yeatman, 667; G. J. Townsend, W.M. 1286; F. H. R. Adams, 37; Dr. E. H. D. Johnson, 1609; P. B. Gee, P.M. 1264; R. Martin, jun., P.M. 1182; T. B. Homerwood, Reg., Rio de Janeiro; John Killing, 126; John Lloyd, P.M. 249; H. Robinson, W.M. 249; J. W. Burgess, W.M. 1325; J. Busfield, 216; Rich. Brown, P.M. 241; J. B. Mackenzie, J.W. 1609; Rich. Seddon, 1035; J. Curtis, 1035, and J. R. Bottomley, J.W. 1675. After the minutes had been confirmed, Bro. R. C. Yelland, W.M., concluded his second year's occupancy of the chair by most effectively installing Bro. Thomas S. Williams as the W.M. of Temple Lodge for the coming year. The following were the officers appointed, elected, and invested—Bros. R. C. Yelland, I.P.M.; R. R. Martin, P.M., D.C.; Richard Washington, P.M., S.W.; and T. Birch, J.W. Bros. Joseph Wood, Treasurer (*Freemason*), and T. Marsh, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., Secretary, were next called together to the east, and were each cordially invested with their respective collars and jewels for the thirteenth time. In doing so the W.M. thanked Bros. Wood and Marsh in his own name and in the name of the lodge for having again consented to fill offices which they had so long and faithfully filled with honour to themselves and with satisfaction to the brethren. The assistant and subordinate officers appointed were Bros. H. B. Jones, S.D.; J. Alexander, J.D.; H. Horspool, I.G.; J. Skeaf, P.G.O., Organist; J. Tyson, E. J. Callow, and Thomas Carr, Stewards; and Peter Ball, Tyler. Hearty good-wishes were given to the newly-chaired W.M. by about a score of representatives of other lodges, and the business proceedings came to a close with perfect harmony. A most récherché banquet was subsequently served in the lodge dining hall to about sixty brethren, under the genial presidency of Bro. T. S. Williams, who, in conjunction with Bro. Yelland, I.P.M., gave the loyal and Masonic toasts which ordinarily stand on the list. The W.M., in giving "The West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution," referred to the excellent work which Charity had been the means of carrying out. Bro. Richard Brown, P.M. 241, the Honorary Secretary, acknowledged the toast. He said that if the brethren cast their minds back over the last thirty-five years they would readily see the great amount of excellent educational work carried out by the Institution, which had been the means of sending men and women into the world, fitted to fill their several positions honourably and creditably. The accumulated capital was now something like £13,000, but he wished the brethren to remember that the time for saving more had gone by, because the claims on the charity were now enormously increased. At present there were 100 children being educated in different schools throughout the province, and in addition to these there were now applications for about

twenty-three additional children to be put on the foundation. In these circumstances, they must expect that during the next three or four years the expenditure would be something like £600 per annum. He therefore appealed for the increased liberality of the brethren generally, and trusted the Temple Lodge would show an example in this respect. Bro. Dr. Sheldon, P.M., proposed the next toast, "The V orshipful Master," in most eloquent terms, and in response Bro. Williams, W.M., thanked the brethren for the honour which had been conferred on him by his elevation to the chair. He assured them that no effort would be wanting on his part to maintain the dignity of the high office and fulfil its duties to the best of his skill and ability. The toast of "The Visiting Brethren," proposed by Bro. T. Marsh, P.M., and Secretary, was acknowledged by Bro. Dr. R. H. D. Johnson, P.M., (first Master of the lodge), and Bro. R. Whittaker, P.P.G.D.C. E.L. The W.M. next proposed "The Installing Master" (Bro. Yelland, I.P.M.), and in doing so he presented him with a case of handsome silver teaspoons, sugar tongs, &c., in recognition of the services he had rendered to the lodge. On the outside of the case containing the spoons was a silver plate bearing the following inscription:—Presented by the members of the Temple Lodge, No. 1094, of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, to Bro. R. C. Yelland, P.M., as a token of brotherly love, and in recognition of his services for having twice filled the Master's chair. April, 1878." The gift was suitably acknowledged by Bro. Yelland. "The P.M.'s of Lodge 1094," was acknowledged by Bro. Marsh, P.M., and Bro. Dr. Sheldon; and "The Officers of the Lodge" was very happily acknowledged by Bro. J. Wood, Treasurer, and Bro. R. Washington, P.M., S.W. An excellent musical programme was furnished during the evening by Bros. J. Busfield, Gilfillan, Queen, R. Brown, J. Pye, and J. Skeaf, (who presided at the pianoforte).

LEWES.—Pelham Lodge (No. 1303).—On Friday, 12th inst., the annual meeting of this lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, when Bro. W. Kraeuder was installed as W.M. for the ensuing year. The ceremony was performed by Bro. F. Noakes, P.M., assisted by Bro. W. W. Turner, D.C. In a few appropriate words he presented Bro. George Stone with a Pat Master's jewel for the efficient discharge of the duties of W.M. during the past year. The newly-appointed officers were Bros. G. Stone, I.P.M.; W. H. Hodgkin, S.W.; H. Hauxwell, J.W.; J. Sedman, S.D.; W. W. Turner, J.D.; J. C. Lucas, D.C.; A. Adams, I.G.; R. Crosskey, Treasurer; T. R. White, Secretary; H. Hall, Tyler. The business ended, an adjournment was made to Bro. Whitcomb's, Bear Hotel, for refreshment, and he supplied an elegant and most enjoyable repast. Among those present, in addition to the officers of the lodge, were Bros. V. P. Freeman, Prov. G. Secretary; J. M. Kidd, Prov. G.D.C.; J. Eberall, W.M. St. Cecilia; A. J. Hawkes, W.M. Royal York; J. Farncombe, P.M. South Saxon, and P.G.S.; E. S. Byass, W.M. Ockenden; R. J. Pope, Royal York; E. Martin, P.M., and H. Davey, W.M., Royal Brunswick; C. G. Reed, P.P.G.S.D.; J. T. Whatford, P.M. Lodge of Friendship; S. Tanner, S.W. South Saxon; R. H. Ellman, P.M.; F. Neakes, P.M.; H. F. Mackay, P.M. The proceedings throughout were of a most pleasant character.

PLUMSTEAD.—United Military Lodge (No. 1536).—The regular monthly meeting of the above lodge took place at the Masonic Hall, on Anglesea Hill, on Friday, the 12th inst., and was of more than ordinary interest on account of the fact that the W.M., Bro. G. Spinks, and some three or four other members have since the last meeting, owing to the vast military preparations now in hand, been commissioned as officers in Her Majesty's army, while others who have received promotion in the non-com. ranks are under orders to remove from the garrison to distant quarters, so that a large attendance of the brethren and visitors assembled to do honour to whom honour most certainly in this case was due, and at the same time bid God speed to their departing friends. The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting confirmed. Beside the W.M., the following officers were present—H. Picken, S.W.; H. Shaw, J.W.; W. Murphy, Treasurer; G. Kennedy, Secretary; D. Deeves, S.D.; H. Wilking, J.D.; H. Harding, Org.; A. Brooks, I.G.; T. Holleyman, D.C.; and J. Lackland, I.G. The Past Masters present were W. Weston, I.P.M.; R. Croisdale, 706; C. Coupland, P.M. 913, P.P.G.J.W. Kent. Among the company were Bros. G. W. Reed, W.M. 13; T. Vincent, I.P.M. 913; F. H. Field, W.M. 558, W.M. 1436; A. Penfold, P.M. 913; J. G. Holmes, P.M. 407, P.D.G.S.W. Malta; G. Davis, P.M. 13; J. P. Donally, S.D. 706; T. E. Hassall, W.S. 17; J. Topp, 913; J. Holland, 1585; R. Fisher, 398; F. Battersly, 903; J. Haslett, 913; E. Spinks, 158; and C. Jolly, 913 (*Freemason*). The lodge was in mourning for our late Bro. J. Henderson. The business before it consisted of the balloting for as a joining member of Bro. the Rev. E. A. Rust, Chaplain of the Forces, Apollo University Lodge, No. 358; the result of which was announced with enthusiasm to be unanimous. The ballot was then taken for Messrs. E. Turner, staff-serjeant, R.A.; W. Hall, serjeant, C.B., R.A.; and R. Richardson, quarter-master-serjeant, A.S. Corps, and up in approval those gentlemen were fully initiated into Freemasonry. Bros. H. Penfold and T. Reed were then passed to the Second Degree, and Bros. J. Hunter, W. A. Rowley, and P. Slocombe received the benefits of the Third, the whole being worked by the W.M. and his officers in the most effective manner. Several alterations were then made in the bye-laws, and the lodge was closed. At the refreshment table the W.M. gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, both Grand and Provincial, and then Bro. Weston gave the toast of the W.M., saying the time was now drawing near when he would have to give an

account of his stewardship, and when that account was given it would be found worthy of the lodge and of the man. (Cheers.) It was something he felt especially gratified at in having the opportunity of proposing their W.M.'s health that night, for, and no doubt many of them might guess the reason, it was because of Bro. Spinks' ability, perseverance, rectitude, and unblemished character as a good soldier. Her Majesty had conferred upon him one of the highest honours she could confer upon a soldier, and had given him a commission in her gallant army. (Loud cheers.) That, however, would not endear him in their hearts more than before, for to them he had been a good and true soldier, and they had given him some nine months ago the highest rank they could give him—no, but by the firmness, tempered with justice, that had ever distinguished his government of that lodge, they distinguished in him a skilled general and a good Mason. (Applause.) He trusted he might long enjoy with every happiness and prosperity the honour conferred upon him, and be, as he had been to the lodge, a credit to the choice of his Sovereign. (Loud cheers.) Bro. Spinks, who felt the reception given him, thanked them heartily for it, and also for their kind and warm congratulations. With regard to the lodge, he believed that it had gained for itself a degree of prosperity such as even the most sanguine of its founders could have hardly expected. With the four that had joined that evening, it had 124 members good upon its books, and he trusted by the end of his year of office to leave it in a sound position, both financially and otherwise. For their generous good wishes and congratulations to him in his new position he could only thank them from the bottom of his heart. (Cheers.) With the toast of "The Visitors," the names of Bros. Penfold, Topp, Holland, Donally, and Hassell were coupled, and they replied, Bro. Penfold, in his own neat manner, paying a high tribute to the excellent working of the lodge, and he declared the warm, genial hospitality and brotherly love evinced enough to move the heart of a misanthrope, for he considered Masonry to be a thing to make one another happy, and here every one seemed happy—he himself was so, and he trusted the success and prosperity of the lodge might long continue. (Applause.) "The Initiates" followed, and was acknowledged. In response to the toast of "The Past Masters," Bro. Weston said that he had had so often to respond to that toast that he hardly knew what to say that would be either new or interesting, but on behalf of himself and P.M. Croisdale he thanked them. There was one thing he should like to speak about, and that was their Lodge of Instruction; it was held every Monday, at Bro. Capon's, the Royal Alfred, Raglan-road, where he and Bro. Croisdale, who were its Preceptors, would be glad to welcome any brother. As soldiers, they took pride in their duties, and in doing them well they were acknowledged to be the best horsemen, the best shots, and the best drilled soldiers in the world. Then why not be as well the best Masons? (Applause.) The proceeds were to be devoted to the Masonic charities, and he trusted they one and all would join it. (Cheers.) The W.M. was sorry that the Girls' Festival came off so soon, as he had five guineas in hand, and with his Warden, had intended to have a life governorship for the lodge, which object he trusted to accomplish before he left the chair. "The Health of Bros. Masters and Slocombe," the former of whom is going to Fife, and the other to Leith Fort, was then proposed and responded to. "The Officers" toast followed, and Bro. Shaw responded. After the Tyler's toast, Bro. Brooks, as usual, gave a verse of the National Anthem; then the gallant fellows changed hands, and, in honour of their departing comrades, sang "Auld Lang Syne" heartily, and so separated.

TWICKENHAM.—Francis Burdett Lodge (No. 1503).—The last regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Albany Hotel on the 1st inst. The lodge was opened at 6 o'clock precisely, and there were present, amongst others, Bros. S. H. Knaggs, W.M.; Court S.W.; W. Taylor, J.W.; Tomlinson, P.P.G.D.; Norfolk, Treas.; W. Wigginton, P.M., P.P.G.S. of Works Middlesex, Sec.; Saunders, P.G.S., Middlesex, I.P.M.; C. Horsley, P.P.G.R. Middlesex; Palmer, I.G.; Walls, P.G.O. Middlesex, D.C.; Richnoll, W.S.; Court, jun., Asst. Org. Bro. the Rev. W. Arnold, G. Chaplain of England, &c., &c., was the only visitor. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M., with the assistance of his officers, most ably initiated Mr. Skinner into Craft mysteries. There being no other business before the lodge, it was duly closed, and the brethren partook of a collation. The customary routine of toasts was fully gone through. The toast of "The Provincial Grand Officers" was acknowledged in fitting terms by Bros. Horsley and Wigginton. "The W.M." was proposed by the I.P.M., and briefly responded to by Bro. Knaggs. "The Health of the Initiate" followed, and gave Bro. Skinner an opportunity of making a neat little reply. The toasts of "The Past Masters" and "The Officers" brought the proceedings to a close. The next regular meeting of the lodge will be held on the second Wednesday in July next.

ALFORD.—Hamilton Lodge, (No. 1600).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on the 15th April instant. The lodge was opened at 7 o'clock by the W.M., Bro. Robert Garfit, P.G.S., being supported by all his officers and a full attendance of the brethren. The minutes of the previous lodge were duly confirmed, and Bro. Frederic Higgins, S.W., the W.M. elect, was presented by Bro. Charles Smyth, I.P.M., P.P.G.P., for installation. The usual preliminaries were gone through and the obligation administered by the W.M. The Board of Installed Masters was opened by Bro. C. Smyth, who installed the W.M. elect into the chair of K.S. according to ancient custom Bro. R. Garfit was invested as I.P.M. After the address to the chair, the processions, proclamations, salutations, and presentation

of working tools, &c., &c., the W.M. invested the following brethren to assist him during his year of office, viz.: Bro. T. C. Johnson, S.W.; Bro. C. Brooks, J.W.; Bro. the Rev. B. A. Galland, M.A., P.M., P.P.G.S.B. Oxon, Chap.; Bro. T. C. Johnson, Sec.; Bro. E. A. Young, S.D.; Bro. Dr. T. A. Handsley, J.D.; Bro. Dr. G. Bosson, I.G.; Bros. J. E. and W. N. Mason, Stewards. Bro. C. Smyth then completed the beautiful ceremony of installation by giving addresses to the Wardens and the brethren generally. Bro. the Rev. B. A. Garland, Chap., delivered an address upon the beauties of Freemasonry. There being no other business, the lodge was duly closed. A Past Master's jewel will be presented to the I.P.M., Bro. Garfit, at the next regular lodge.

Royal Arch.

PORTSEA.—Royal Sussex Chapter (No. 342).—This chapter met on the 3rd inst. to elect and install principals and officers for the ensuing year. After the minutes were read the Principals and officers were balloted for, with the following result:—E. Comp. A. Riddell, Z.; G. A. Green, H.; R. J. Turner, J.; Comp. W. Payne, E.; G. P. Arnold, N.; J. W. Willmott, P.S.; E. Comp. Craven, P.Z., Treas. The Principals having been regularly installed in a most able and efficient manner by E. Comp. Main, P.Z., the companions were admitted; the M.E.Z. invested the remainder of the officers. Comps. Parkhouse and Adames were appointed A.S., and Copus, Janitor. A cordial vote of thanks was given to P.Z. Main for the excellent manner in which he had performed the duties of Installing Principal, also to P.Z. Craven for the manner in which he had carried out the duties of Z. After the chapter was closed the companions partook of a banquet provided by Comp. Sherman, 487, in his usual efficient style. The usual Masonic toasts were given, interspersed with music, and a most agreeable evening was spent.

Mark Masonry.

YEOVIL.—William-de-Irwin Lodge (No. 162).—The Installation meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, April 10th, at the Chough's Hotel. The W.M. elect, W. Bro. W. Wynn Westcott, P.M. 814, was duly installed by the V.W.D.P.G.M., Bro. F. G. Irwin. The officers were then invested as follows: Bro. W. J. Nosworthy, I.P.M. & Sec.; Bro. George Summers, S.W.; Bro. P. S. T. Colmer, J.W.; Bro. John Chaffin, P.M. Treasurer; J. T. Davies, M.O.; A. Price, S.O.; R. Baker, J.O.; G. Rugg, S.D.; F. Newell, I.G. After the closing a lodge of Royal Ark Mariners was opened, and Bro. Westcott installed as N.; G. Summers, J.; and P. Colmer, S. The brethren then adjourned to a banquet, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

INSTRUCTION.

ST. LUKE'S LODGE (No. 144).—The 'Fifteen Sections' were worked in this Lodge of Instruction, White Hart Tavern, King's-road, Chelsea, on Good Friday night, the 19th inst. Business commenced at 6.30 p.m. agreeably to summons. Bro. P.M. Ardin, 511, Zetland, occupied the chair, and was ably supported as follows: Bro. P.M. Blay, S.W.; Bro. P.M. Sedgwick, J.W.; Bro. Markland, S.D.; Bro. Williams, J.D.; and Bro. Pollard, I.G. The lodge was opened in the First, Second, and Third Degrees respectively, and then resumed to the First, when the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The working of the Sections then commenced, and the 7 of the 1st Lecture were got through at about 7.45 p.m., when the brethren were called from labour to refreshment. After an interval of ten minutes work was again resumed. Those who have the pleasure of knowing Bro. Ardin, whether as a Mason or in his public capacity, felt assured that under his able preceptorship, the working would be as near perfection as possible, nor would they have been disappointed, for everything progressed to the end without a single hitch; the workers also deserve the greatest credit for the manner in which they got through their several Sections—where all did so well, it would be invidious to particularise. The gathering was extremely satisfactory, there being a good many visitors, four of whom were proposed and elected joining members, and who expressed, in returning thanks, their warm appreciation of the very creditable way in which the work had been performed, in fact that they had never had the pleasure of hearing it done better. A vote of thanks was proposed, and carried unanimously, to be recorded on the minutes, by Bro. P.M. Pulsford, who followed his proposition by well-merited eulogiums on the very able and efficient manner in which Bro. P.M. Ardin had discharged the duties of the chair. The W.M. in replying made a very happy speech, this brought the proceedings to a close, the universal dicta being that it had been a most enjoyable evening. There being no further business the lodge was closed in perfect harmony at 10 p.m. The following is a list of the brethren who worked the Sections:—

FIRST LECTURE.			
1st Section	...	Bro. Greig	1694
2nd "	...	" Ducker	1687
3rd "	...	" Markland	144
4th "	...	" Pulsford, P.M.	1158
5th "	...	" Camron, P.M.	180
6th "	...	" Blay, P.M.	144
7th "	...	" Woods	145
SECOND LECTURE.			
1st "	...	Bro. Hill	858
2nd "	...	" Hancock	571
3rd "	...	" Cater, P.M.	9
4th "	...	" Coulton, P.M.	382
5th "	...	" Sedgwick, P.M.	180

THIRD LECTURE.			
1st "	...	Bro. Egan, P.M.	858
2nd "	...	" Pollard	855
3rd "	...	" Carlstrom	733

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER.

The following is the agenda of business for Wednesday, 1st May:—
The regulations for the government of the Supreme Grand Chapter during the time of public business, to be read.

The minutes of the last Quarterly Convocation to be read for confirmation.

Installation of Principals, and appointment and investiture of officers for the ensuing year.

The report of the Committee of General Purposes:—

The Committee of General Purposes beg to report that they have examined the accounts from the 16th January to the 15th April, 1878, both inclusive, which they find to be as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
To Balance, Grand Chapter...	...	274	19 11
" " Unappropriated Account	...	212	1 11
" Subsequent Receipts	...	430	11 3
	£917	13	1

	£	s.	d.
By Purchase of £300 Consols @ 95½ and Commission	...	286	2 6
" Disbursements during the Quarter	...	207	0 10
" Balance	...	204	13 10
" " in Unappropriated Account	...	219	15 11
	£917	13	1

of which balances there is in the hands of the Grand Treasurer a sum of £388 17s. 4d., and in the London and Westminster Bank £35 12s. 5d.

The Committee have likewise to report that they have received the following petitions:—

1st. From Companions David Macrorie as Z., Abraham Myers as H., Sydney James as J., and eight others for a Chapter to be attached to the Southern Cross Lodge, No. 997, Invercargill, to be called "The Southern Cross Chapter," and to meet at Invercargill, in the Colony of New Zealand.

2nd. From Companions William Wynne Jendwine as Z., George Albert Rooth as H., George Haslehurst as J., and six others for a Chapter to be attached to the Scarsdale Lodge, No. 681, Chesterfield, to be called "The Scarsdale Chapter," and to meet at the Masonic Hall, Chesterfield, in the County of Derby.

3rd. From Companions Franklin Thomas as Z., James Bertwistle as H., Thomas Turner as J., and twelve others for a Chapter to be attached to the Limestone Rock Lodge, No. 369, Clitheroe, to be called "The Limestone Rock Chapter," and to meet at the Masonic Hall, Church-street, Clitheroe, in the County of Lancaster.

4th. From Companions James Willing as Z., Jonathan Richard Stacey as H., William John Ferguson as J., and seven others for a Chapter to be attached to the Metropolitan Lodge, No. 1507, London, to be called "The Metropolitan Chapter," and to meet at the Metropolitan Club, 269, Pentonville-road, King's Cross, in the County of Middlesex.

5th. From Companions Thomas Joseph Sabine as Z., James Catley Mason as H., Edward Spencer Stidolph as J., and seven others for a Chapter to be attached to the Chaucer Lodge, No. 1540, Southwark, to be called "The Chaucer Chapter," and to meet at the Bridge House Hotel, High-street, Southwark, in the County of Surrey.

6th. From Companions George Everett as Z., Edward Joseph Page as H., William Mann as J., and seven others for a Chapter to be attached to the Kennington Lodge, No. 1381, Kennington, to be called "The Kennington Chapter," and to meet at the Surrey Club House, Kennington Oval, Lambeth, in the County of Surrey.

7th. From Companions James Hill Sillitoe as Z., John Rains as H., Joseph Potts as J., and eight others for a Chapter to be attached to the Chorlton Lodge, No. 1387, Chorlton-Cum-Hardy, to be called "The Chorlton Chapter," and to meet at the Masonic Rooms, Chorlton-Cum-Hardy, in the County of Lancaster.

8th. From Companions William Elliott as Z., Robert Drake Kendall as H., John Marshall as J., and six others for a Chapter to be attached to the Ryburn Lodge, No. 1283, Sowerby Bridge, to be called "The Ryburn Chapter," and to meet at Central Buildings, Sowerby Bridge, in the County of York.

9th. From Companions Edmund Heywood as Z., Thomas Hindle as H., John Tennant as J., and six others for a Chapter to be attached to the Lodge of Equality, No. 1145, Accrington, to be called "The Chapter of Equality," and to meet at the Red Lion Hotel, Accrington, in the County of Lancashire.

10th. From Companions John Edward Walford as Z., William Stephens as H., Thomas Hastings Miller as J., and seven others for a Chapter to be attached to the Marquess of Ripon Lodge, No. 1489, London, to be called "The Ezra Chapter," and to meet at the Metropolitan Societies Asylum, Ball's Pond-road, Islington, in the County of Middlesex.

11th. From Companions James Lewis Thomas as Z., John Bosworth as H., Frederick West as J., and six others for a Chapter to be attached to the Granite Lodge, No. 1328, London, to be called "The Granite Chapter," and to meet at Freemasons' Hall, London.

12. From Companions William James Stanley as Z., James Cunningham as H., James Conroy as J., and eight others for a Chapter to be attached to the Inhabitants

Lodge, No. 153, Gibraltar, to be called "The Prince of Wales's Chapter," and to meet at Engineer's Lane, Gibraltar.

13th. From Companions Alexander Meyrick Broadley as Z., William Kingston as H., Edward Rosenbusch as J., and seventeen others for a Chapter to be attached to the Lodge of Ancient Carthage, No. 1717, Tunis, to be called "The Chapter of Ancient Carthage," and to meet at the Masonic Hall, Tunis, in North America.

The foregoing petitions being in all respects regular, the Committee recommend that the prayers thereof be respectively granted.

(Signed) JOHN CREATON,
President.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF WEST YORKSHIRE.

On Tuesday last the annual meeting of Prov. Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire was held in the large room of the Church Institute, Leeds, under the united banners of the seven Leeds lodges. The preliminary lodge was opened in the three degrees by the W.M.'s of the various lodges, the position of each officer being allotted by ballot, as follows:—Bro. Thos. Winn, Goderich, 1211, as W.M.; Bro. Fleming, Goderich, 1211, as I.P.M.; Bro. D. R. Glover, Fidelity, 289, as S.W.; Bro. T. C. Taylor, Philanthropic, 304, as J.W.; Bro. John Bell, Alfred, 306, as S.D.; Bro. A. Whitehead, Zetland, 1311, as J.D.; Bro. Geo. Wilson, Excelsior, 1042, as I.G.; Bro. J. Britton, Defence, 1221, as Tyler.

Immediately on Provincial Grand Lodge entering, and taking their respective chairs, Bro. Winn, addressing Sir H. Edwards, Bart., Prov. Grand Master, said, on behalf of the seven Leeds lodges, he heartily welcomed the R.W. Prov. Grand Master, and trusted the gathering that day would tend to increase the happiness and pleasure he felt in occupying the high and honourable position he did in the Craft. (Applause.)

After the Provincial Grand Lodge had been duly opened, with prayer and reading of a passage of Holy Scripture, the Right Worshipful Prov. Grand Master (Sir H. Edwards) and the Deputy Prov. Grand Master (Bro. T. W. Tew, J.P.) were saluted in ancient style, and in the heartiest manner.

Bro. Sir Henry Edwards responded, but owing to the pressure on our columns, we are reluctantly compelled to defer his remarks till our next.

Bro. Tew having briefly replied, the roll of lodges was called over, showing that sixty-one out of sixty-four lodge in the province were represented, there being about 400 brethren present—one of the largest gatherings for some time.

The next business was the investing of the officers for the ensuing year, as follow:—

Rev. A. W. Hamilton Gell, 139	...	Prov. S.G.W.
J. R. Armitage, 302	...	Prov. J.G.W.
Rev. W. Collis Leekis, M.A., 837	...	Prov. G. Chap.
Rev. Israel Parkinson, M.A., 61	...	Prov. G. Chap.
R. I. Gritchley, 208	...	Prov. G. Treas.
J. C. Malcolm, 306 and 304	...	Prov. G. Reg.
H. Smith, 387	...	Prov. G. Sec.
T. Ruddock, 275	...	Prov. S.G.D.
W. B. Alderson, 495	...	Prov. J.G.D.
A. H. Kirk, 208	...	Prov. G.S. of W.
F. W. W. Booth, 387	...	Prov. G.D.C.
W. Cooke, 1302	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
F. M. Tindall, 1239	...	Prov. G. Swd. Br.
C. Harvey, 904	...	Prov. G. Org.
R. D. Kendall, 1283	...	Prov. G. Purs.
H. F. Ward, 458	...	Prov. A. G. Purs.
G. F. Crowe, 1211; J. Fawcett, 904;		
D. A. Shaw, 827; J. Beadle,		
1042; W. W. Macvay, 1542;		
W. Pratt, 1034	...	Prov. G. Stwds.
J. Lee, 200	...	Prov. G. Tyler.
J. Sheard, 208	...	Prov. A.G. Tyler.

A proposition of Bro. J. G. Hutchinson, P. Prov. G. Regis., seconded by Bro. Malcolm, Prov. G. Regis., to alter the 53rd bye-law for the purpose of establishing a local fund for charitable purposes, caused considerable discussion, and an amendment to defer the further consideration of the matter for three months was ultimately carried by a large majority.

A vote of condolence to the widow and family of the late Bro. Bentley Shaw, P.D. Prov. G.M., expressing the heartfelt sympathy of Provincial Grand Lodge, was then unanimously carried.

It was stated that for the purpose of perpetuating the memory of the late Bentley Shaw, Sir H. Edwards offered to subscribe £50 towards £1050 to obtain a presentation to the Girls' School, to be called the Bentley Shaw presentation.

The Prov. Grand Lodge was then closed, after which many of the brethren repaired to the Queen's Hotel, and partook of a sumptuous banquet, following which the usual loyal, patriotic, and Masonic toasts were given and heartily received.

After the opening of the Paris Exhibition on the 1st of May, Marshal MacMahon will give a grand dinner in honour of the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Aosta.

Tuesday being the anniversary of the birth of Shakespeare, his house and grave at Stratford-on-Avon were visited by large numbers of people. The town was gaily decorated with flags.

With the Jews Passover Week commenced on Thursday, April 18 (Nisan 15, 5638), commemorating the giving of the law from Mount Sinai, as well as the departure from Egypt.

NOTES ON ART, &c.

SIR JOHN SOANE'S MUSEUM.—Mr. James Wild the architect, has been appointed curator of Sir John Soane's Museum in the room of the late Mr. Joseph Bonomi. The appointment is in the gift of the Royal Academy, and is worth £300 a year, with residence in Sir John Soane's Museum, 13, Lincoln's-inn-fields. Only an architect is eligible for the curatorship.

A Canoe Journey from Barcelona to Paris will be made by twelve young Spaniards during the coming summer, according to the *Paris Exhibition*. The canoeists will journey by sea from Barcelona to Cette Languedoc, in whence they will reach the Rhône by the Beaucaire Canal, travel up to the Saône, through the Bourgogne Canal into the Yonne, and thus into the Seine.

JAPANESE STUDENTS.—The intellectual abilities of the Japanese race have been evidenced in a striking manner by a quartette of students from that country now studying in Berlin. One of these, Dr. Dirokita, has lately invented an ingenious optical instrument termed the leucoscope, which measures the variations in the preception of light and colour by the human eye, in accordance with the strictest mathematical laws. Another, who has attained the rank of lieutenant in the Prussian army, has introduced a remarkable simplification into the mechanism of the Mauser rifle, which has succeeded the historic needle-gun. Two more, who are prosecuting their chemical studies under Professor Hofmann, have published for two years past several interesting synthetical researches on the aromatic series.—*Nature*.

SHAKESPEARE IN INDIA.—Lord Lytton, in distributing prizes to the pupils of the Government School at Barrackpore on the 4th of March, took occasion to observe that many of the pupils showed great aptitude in learning and reciting passages from Shakespeare. "This fact," he said to the boys, "has suggested to me one reflection which I wish to mention, not so much to you boys as to your instructors. Shakespeare is a writer whom no one, boy or man, can study without advantage. But the language of Shakespeare has long ceased to be vernacular. In short, for all common conversational purposes it is obsolete. Now I think that what young native students primarily need to acquire from their study of English, at least as regards their oral use of the language, is a correct and pleasing pronunciation of the vocabulary now in daily use. Of course, I do not mean English slang, but the English language, as it is spoken every day by educated Englishmen and Englishwomen. I don't think you are likely to acquire this, and you are certainly not likely to correct your deficiencies of pronunciation, if you confine yourselves to recitations of Shakespeare."—*The Theatre*.

Glycerine and water form the latest favourite method of adulterating milk, as by these means the orthodox amount of solid—the absence of which ordinarily, as compared with pure milk, betrays the aqueous admixture—is thus restored. The fraud, however, has been detected by Dr. Munster, owing to the so-called pure milk not yielding the requisite amount of ash.

The sale of the pictures by the Old Masters belonging to the collection of the late Mr. Munro, of Novar, is announced for Saturday, the 1st of June. The great picture of the collection is the well-known work of Raphael, "The Madonna of the Candelabra," and this is, we learn, to be exhibited at the gallery in Suffolk-street, Pall-mall, so long and till lately occupied by the Society of British Artists, in consequence of the great numbers of persons anxious to see it. Admission will be given by tickets at a charge of 1s., but the entire profits are to be handed over to the fund of the Artists' General Benevolent Institution.

THE METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY.—The usual monthly meeting of this society was held last night at the Institution of Civil Engineers, Mr. C. Greaves, president, in the chair. M. Marie Davie, Captain Hoffmeyer, Professor Ragona, and Dr. Wujekoff were elected honorary members.

M. Jules Verne is going to visit the principal European ports in his steam yacht "St. Michel," in search of materials for fresh miraculous adventures.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—The competition for the Professor's Scholarships was held on Tuesday last. The examiners were Messrs. Clinton, Payton Strauss, and Joachim. There were eight candidates, and the scholarships were awarded as follows:—For the violin, to William Sutton; highly commended, Frank W. Arnold. For any other orchestral instrument, to Charles F. E. Catchpole (horn).

Dramatic composition in Hungary is evidently at a low ebb. The Hungarian Academy recently offered a prize for the best tragedy in the national tongue, but the thirteen works sent in for competition were so poor that the prize had to be awarded to the "least bad."

The parish church of Churcham, Gloucester, which was burnt down in October, 1876, has been rebuilt by Messrs. Waller. The old edifice was of Norman date, and a fac-simile of the well-known tower and spire of Sompting has been erected. The church was opened on Monday, the 8th, by the Bishop of the diocese.

THE WELLINGTON MONUMENT.—The Wellington monument in St. Paul's Cathedral is now complete, and the First Commissioner of Works has handed over the custody of it to the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's. The monument was shown on Easter Monday, and is now visible to all.

The exquisite statuette of the Princess Victoria, so highly praised by Her Majesty the Queen, is to be exhibited, by Her Majesty's permission, at the Academy. Mr. Rowe, the sculptor, was commanded to wait on Her Majesty, at Windsor, to hear her approval.

THE NATIONAL GALLERY.—The annual report of the director of the National Gallery for the year 1877 has just been issued. From it, it appears that the only donation during the year was a painting by George Morland (1763-1804). It represents "The Inside of a Stable," said to be that of the White Lion at Paddington. Two horses and a pony are being led into a stable, while to the left a man is stooping and collecting together some straw. The painting is in oil on canvas, and is 4ft. 9in. high by 6ft. 7½in. wide. It was exhibited in the Royal Academy in 1721, was purchased by the Rev. Sir Henry Bate Dudley, and presented to the Gallery by his nephew, Mr. T. B. Wolfe. The galleries in Trafalgar-square were visited by 1,332,794 persons on the public days during the year, showing a daily average attendance on such days (190 in number) of 7014, being an increase of 1000 per day since the issue of the last report. The collections received on students' days 20,313 visits from the students. Independently of partial studies, 773 oil-colour copies of pictures have been made—viz., 345 from the works of 73 old masters and 428 from the works of 34 modern masters. The whole of the collections of paintings, drawings, and sculpture are contained in the galleries, Trafalgar-square, the paintings numbering 1030.

MEETINGS OF LEARNED AND OTHER SOCIETIES.

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—At the monthly general meeting held at the Society's house in Hanover-square, Major-General H. Clerk, R.A., F.R.S., in the chair, Lord Romily, the Very Rev. Dr. George Case, Major C. Pattison, Lieutenant-Colonel R. Harrison R.E., Mrs. Watt, and Messrs. William Crossman, H. Cundey, D. C. Da Costa, G. B. H. Drew, W. Graham, F. Hallowes, J. Hatton, N. G. Lampson, Thomas Logan, A. Lucas, J. A. Metcalfe, G. R. Miles, R. H. Milward, Charles L. Norman, Arthur Smith, Frederic Smith, E. E. Stahl-schmidt, J. L. Suir, and John Wood were elected Fellows, and Mr. R. B. Shaw and Mr. Henry Durnford corresponding members of the society. Twenty-three candidates for the Fellowship were proposed, and ordered to be balloted for at the next monthly meeting. Among the additions to the Society's menagerie during the month of March were specially noticed an Isabelline bear (*Ursus isabellinus*), received in exchange from the Zoological Gardens, Calcutta; a Le Vaillant's Darter (*Platys levaillanti*), obtained by purchase; and two examples of the very singular water tortoise of the Amazons, generally known as the matamata (*Chelys matamata*), also obtained by purchase. The report of the Council announced to the meeting that Professor Huxley, F.R.S., had accepted the post of Davis Lecturer for the present year, and would give a course of six lectures on Fridays, at 5 p.m., in the Lecture-room at the Gardens, commencing May 17. The subject would be "Crustaceous Animals." These lectures would be to Fellows of the Society and their friends, and to other visitors to the Gardens.

SEAMAN'S HOSPITAL SOCIETY.—A quarterly general court of the governors of the Seaman's Hospital Society (late Dreadnought) was held last week, Captain the Hon. F. Maude in the chair. It was reported that 480 seamen had been admitted as in-patients to the hospital during the past quarter from British and foreign ships, of which number 92 came from the port of London, 34 from Liverpool, 21 from Glasgow, nine from Hull, eight from Newcastle, and 10 from Greenock. From foreign vessels there were received 135 sailors of different nationalities, including, in addition to European seamen, Chilians, Brazilians, Chinese, Lascars, and several other countries. The cash statement for the quarter showed a deficiency of £5 10 10s. 2d. Admiral Shadwell, President of the Royal Naval College, was appointed a member of the committee of management, vice Admiral Fanshawe, C.B., resigned.

THE MOTT ORPHAN FUND.

A grand concert, in aid of the orphan children of the late Superintendent Mott, will be given at the Royal Albert Hall, under the special patronage of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G., on Wednesday, May 1st, at half-past 7. The following artists have kindly volunteered their services:—Madame Lemmens-Sherrington, Miss Anna Williams, Madame Antoinette Sterling, Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. Edward Lloyd, Signor Foli, Mr. Walter Clifford. The London Vocal Union (under the direction of Mr. F. Walker). Mrs. Stirling will recite "The Whaler Fleet." Four military bands, viz.:—2nd Life Guards, Grenadier Guards, Coldstream Guards, and Scots Guards (by permission of their commanding officers), under the direction of Mr. W. Winterbottom, Mr. D. Godfrey, Mr. F. Godfrey, and Mr. J. P. Clarke. Conductors—Mr. F. H. Cohen, Mr. Sidney Naylor, and Herr Ganz. The Council of the Royal Albert Hall have granted the use of the building for the concert free of rent, and the proprietors of the *Whitehall Review* will defray the expenses. The proprietors of the *Whitehall Review* have also presented to the fund 5000 crayon portraits of the late Bro. Mott. These may be purchased wherever tickets are on sale; at all the Metropolitan police stations; and also at the Royal Albert Hall on the night of the concert, price 1s. each. Tickets—Stalls, 10s. 6d.; arena, 7s.; balcony, first and second rows, 5s.; other rows, 2s. 6d.; orchestra, 2s.; gallery promenade, 1s.; boxes from two-and-a-half guineas. Tickets may be had at the Criterion box-office; Mr. Austin's ticket-office, St. James's Hall; the principal libraries; and at the Royal Albert Hall.

We are glad to call attention to this announcement for the benefit of the children of our deceased brother. Many of our brethren will be glad to assist the orphan children of a brother so much respected, and so much regretted, as the late Superintendent Mott.

Public Amusements.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—"Such is the Law," the new drama by Messrs. Taylor and Merritt produced at this theatre on Saturday last, will scarcely add to the reputation of the authors, and does not speak well for a collaboration of talent that bid fair to effect good results. Mr. Tom Taylor's great abilities as a dramatist are beyond question, and Mr. Paul Merritt proved to the world that he had more than average aptitude for constructing a clever and skillful drama in his highly successful "Stolen Kisses," recently produced at the Globe. Thus it was good results might fairly have been anticipated from the collaboration of these gentlemen. Still, it cannot be denied, their new drama is disappointing in many respects, and the blemishes of the piece blot out some bright and lively scenes worthy of incorporation in better matter. The fact of the piece being written with an object, is in itself detrimental to the interests of any play, for on the face of it, the audience must, to a certain extent, have a divided opinion on the subject being dealt with. In the present instance, the subject is the much vexed question of the law relative to a marriage with a deceased wife's sister, and the authors have striven to point out the iniquity of the existing law as it stands. On this basis the authors have constructed an average drama that would do credit to a novice, and might suit less intelligent audiences than assemble at a first-class West-end London theatre. The story is good, the construction tolerable, and the character drawing in one or two instances out of the common; but the dialogue is terribly prosy and spun out, and wearies one beyond measure—at least two-thirds could be cut out without the slightest inconvenience to the development of the plot, and this was fault that the most lenient critic could not pass over. The strongest situation, that at the end of the second act, is marred by the conglomeration of conflicting interests, and the heroine loses our sympathy when we find, the fact of her ascertaining she is not legally married, outweighs the fact of her husband's death, for, in our eyes, she immediately becomes a selfish woman of the usual type. Another fault is that the whole story can be easily guessed from the first act, excepting that old and hackneyed incident of a husband dying and coming to life again. The acting was far too good for the drama, and Miss Cavendish as the heroine has never worked harder to secure success. If the object be not attained, and we much doubt it, it is no fault of the artistes engaged, viz., Messrs. Chas. Kelly, Leonard Boyne, Titherage, Carton, Stephens, and Misses Compton and Rivers.

THE ASKEW MUSICAL SOCIETY gave, on Thursday, 16th inst., a complimentary benefit to Bro. Knight Smith, J.W. of the Ivy Lodge, 1441, the well known Professor of Music in the Masonic, as well as the popular world. The concert took place at the Town Hall, Hammersmith, and we were pleased to see the large room filled with a very select audience, attracted not only by Bro. Knight Smith's fame, but also by the names of Signor Brocolini, Ion Cattle, Carlos Florentine, and others appearing on the very long programme. Having attended Bro. Knight Smith's concert last year at the Ladbroke Hall, which was all that could be desired, it soon became evident that the present affair was not under his management: the introductory valse by some half-dozen instrumentalists being manifestly played without any previous rehearsal. It is but just, however, to the first violin, to say that in the course of the evening his performance of a selection of airs showed him to be an amateur of no mean acquirements. Signor Brocolini's singing of Pensuti's "I fear no foe," was the most telling thing of the evening; Mr. Florentine not appearing to take part in the duet of "Il Rival," which was in the programme. The musical divertissement was varied by recitations, such as "My Uncle," by Bell, and "The grave scene from Hamlet," the doleful character of which, combined by the long waits, invariably attendant upon unrehearsed performances, gave a depressing tone to the entertainment, which not even the lively efforts of Mr. Stephens in "The Muddle Puddle Porter," etc., or the comic monologue of Mr. Sovely could relieve. We are sorry it is not in our power to congratulate Bro. Knight Smith's friends upon their efforts in his behalf, but trust that the Askew Musical Society may on a future occasion produce a regularly organised concert, such as would do credit to him and those whose names we have mentioned.

"People should really be careful how they lend their property," remarks *Mayfair*. "The other night a certain Bishop lent his carriage to a military nephew who was going out to dinner. The nephew, having been a good deal bored, left early, intending to dispel the feelings of dull pain by trifling away half-an-hour amid the gay delights of the Alhambra. He told the carriage to call again at the end of that time. 'Whose carriage shall I say?' asked a link-man when it came in due course. 'The Bishop of —'s," replied the thoughtless footman. "The Bishop of —'s carriage stops the way," roared the link-man in a voice which echoed round Leicester Square, and penetrated to the lounge in the theatre.

On and after May Day the *City Press* will be issued twice a week (Wednesdays and Saturdays) instead of weekly as hitherto. The paper will be under the same management with regard to both the editorial and the publishing departments. The *City Press* is a newspaper for the Metropolis, and in addition to the record of current events, it treats upon the antiquities, laws, customs, usages, rights, privileges, courts, churches, chapels, charities, club, parochial boards, places, and people of the City of London.

TO OUR READERS.

The FREEMASON is a Weekly Newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Subscription, including postage :

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

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

GEORGE KENNING, CHIEF OFFICE, LONDON, the latter crossed London 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.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

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

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

Several P.O.O.'s are now in hand, but having received no advice we cannot credit them.

Answers to Correspondents.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

"Kelet;" "Der Bund;" "Hull Packet;" "Medical Examiner;" "Keystone;" "Bauhutte;" "The Broad Arrow;" "The West London Express;" "The Corner Stone;" "Voice of Masonry;" "The Masonic Review;" "Proceedings in the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts;" "La Voz de Hiram;" "El Cincel;" "The Advocate;" "The Hebrew Leader;" "Loomis's Musical and Masonic Journal."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

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

BIRTHS.

BENNETT.—On the 17th inst., at The Hotel Windsor, Brussels, the wife of J. R. Sterndale Bennett, Esq., of a daughter.

LAMBERT.—On the 20th inst., at Broadwater Down, Tunbridge-wells, the wife of E. T. Lambert, Esq., of a daughter.

STONEV.—On the 19th inst., at Little Heath, the wife of Major F. S. Stoney, R.A., of a son.

THOMPSON.—On the 7th inst., at Cavendish-square, the wife of E. S. Thompson, M.D., F.R.C.P., of a daughter.

DEATHS.

BLOXAM.—On the 16th inst., at Thornecliffe, Niton, I.W., Mary Jane, widow of J. C. Bloxam, Esq.,

BYAM.—On the 18th inst., at Warblington Lodge, Havant, Elizabeth Augusta, widow of the late Gen. E. Byam, in her 76th year.

CUNNINGHAM.—On the 24th inst., at his residence, Hailsham, Sussex, James Mackay Cunningham, M.D., Assistant-Surgeon R.V.A., and for many years Parochial Medical Officer of Hailsham, aged 75.

KING.—On the 18th inst., at Archer-street, Vauxhall, Edward Henry King, aged 61.

LUTER.—On the 19th inst., suddenly, at Cowes, Isle of Wight, John Luter, much esteemed and regretted.

WARREN.—On the 20th inst., at 21, Finborough-road, South Kensington, Jane, the devoted wife of Edward Charles Warren, Esq., late of Richmond, Surrey, in her 60th year.

The Freemason.

SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 1878.

THE ANNUAL FESTIVAL.

The Annual Festival took place on Wednesday, under the presidency of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., when the following brethren were appointed by the G.M. Grand Officers for 1878-9:—

The Right Hon the Earl of Carnarvon (re-appointed).....	Pro G.M.
The Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale (re-appointed)	D.G.M.
The Right Hon. Lord Henniker. .	S.G.W.
Sir Harcourt Johnstone, M.P. ...	J.G.W.
Rev. H. A. Pickard.....	G. Chap.
Rev. W. A. Hill	G. Chap.
John Hervey	G. Sec.
Æ. J. M'Intyre, Q.C. (re-appointed)	G. Reg.
E. E. Wendt (re-appointed)	G.S. for G.C.
Erasmus Wilson	S.G.D.
Col. Shadwell H. Clerke	S.G.D.
J. M. P. Montagu	J.G.D.
Raphael Costa.....	J.G.D.
F. P. Cockerell (re-appointed) ...	G.S. of W.
Sir Albert W. Woods, Garter (re-appointed)	G.D. of C.
James Lewis Thomas.....	A.G.D. of C.
William H. Lucia	G. Swd. Br.
C. E. Willing (re-appointed)	G. Org.
H. G. Buss (re-appointed)	Asst. G. Sec.
W. T. Howe	G. Furst.
W. Wilson	A.G. Furst.
C. B. Payne (re-appointed)	G. Tyler.

We hope next week to give a summary of the services of our new Grand Officers.

OUR CHARITIES.

We are not among those who think, we say boldly at the outset, that our charities are in the "bad way" some florid speakers would fain represent them to be. The hateful words "jobbing" and "jobbery" have been fully lavished upon them, but as far as we understand English, or the true meaning of the words, altogether unjustly, but at the present day, it may be observed, speakers of all parties and denominations are fond, in their zeal and earnestness, of using hard words, forgetting that they "butter no parsnips," and are "vox et præterea nihil" to the thoughtful and the logical. The theory of a good many, however, just now, seems to be that of the most memorable "Bartolo," that given a certain quantity of abuse, or mud, or contumely, some of it "must stick." We, therefore, dismiss all such allegations as unworthy of calm consideration, the more so as we know them to be, from personal experience of many charities, utterly unfounded. But nothing is perfect here, and amendments and ameliorations may be required in all earthly organizations. Indeed, Old Time often brings with it abuses of a good thing, inasmuch as all of man and of the world is liable ever to a process of deterioration. But when we come to look into the proposed reforms, they amount practically to a revolution. The elections are to take place without canvassing, and the Committees are to have somehow a decisive influence on the result. That is the aim sought for. We have seen a good deal of Committees in our time, and much as we value their services we prefer greatly the open voting system. We are quite sure of this, that any such violent change would be "out of the frying pan into the fire," and that if any tendency to jobbery exists it would be increased an hundred-fold. In charities where the admission represents a considerable monetary value, and is an object to be obtained, it would practically be most unsafe to bring about such a change, and we have no hesitation in saying that under such a system half-a-dozen active men might become the rulers of a large number of our Charities. The recent meeting of the Clergy Orphan Schools, shows that great doubts exist in the minds of many most competent and practical men as to the proposed change, and

until we have clearer evidence we shall reject and resist, any meddling and marring with those great Charities of ours, which have been the means of untold blessings to many, and are such a credit and ornament to our common country.

THE IRISH GRAND LODGE RETURNS FOR 1877.

We give below the printed returns of the Irish Grand Lodge, for which we have to thank a kind correspondent in Ireland, and which call for a few remarks. It will be seen that on the 1st January, 1878, £2018 10s. were owing to Grand Lodge by provinces and private lodges, and that there was on that day an available balance in the Grand Treasurer's hands of £305 10s. 2d., with outstanding liabilities of £673 8s. 7d. This is not, in our humble opinion, a satisfactory state of Irish Masonic finance, and ought not to exist. We repeat what we said last year, that we think it would be far better, and make the accounts more simple and easy to be understood, if, as with us, the funds of Benevolence and General Purposes were kept distinct. As it is, the balance sheet is somewhat involved, and presents (as regards the Charity Fund) an unreal balance. The Irish Grand Lodge also publishes in this return the list of brethren erased from the Register, of those suspended, of those expelled, and of those restored in 1877. We doubt very much the legality of such a proceeding, and therefore do not publish the names, though we have the list at 198, Fleet-street, for the information of our English brethren. We call the special attention of our readers to the following figures:—

	£	s.	d.
To Balance in Bank as per previous Audit,			
General Account	489	8	10
To Balance in Bank Charity Fund Account...	415	18	3
For Annual Dues	471	19	11
" Fees on passing Officers	37	16	0
" " of Grand "	43	1	0
" Committee Dinner Cheques	167	10	0
" Passing Candidates at Committee	217	17	6
" Fines	40	10	0
" Certificates and Registry	928	13	1
" Dispensations	8	0	0
" New Warrants	60	0	0
" Affiliations... ..	95	11	6
" Collections at Grand Lodge	43	13	7
" Charity Fees	263	9	1
" Grant from Charity Fund, returned	5	0	0
" Rent, Grand Royal Arch Chapter, 1877... ..	150	0	0
" " Great Priory, 1877	75	0	0
" " Grand Chapter of Prince Masons, 1877	50	0	0
" Rent, Subordinate Lodges	344	9	6
" " J. Power for Stable of No. 16 (1 year)	14	10	0
" " Masonic Glee Union—1877	5	0	0
" " B. Murphy (for 1876)	50	0	0
" " do. for Gas... ..	86	0	0
" Interest on Masonic Hall Shares (1 year)	10	2	4
" Sundries	6	8	6
" Sale of Publications, per Lodges... ..	53	10	3
" " " " Cash	52	4	4
" Capitation Fees—Dublin Lodges... ..	596	10	0
	£4782	3	8

	£	s.	d.
By Charity Orders	377	4	0
" Rent to Masonic Hall Company, one year	600	0	0
" Head Rent of Nos. 16, 17, and 18, Molesworth-street, to H. Barrington, including No. 16, for 1876	19	11	7
" Consolidated Rates... ..	141	9	2
" Special Water Rate for Organ	2	15	4
" Income Tax... ..	4	8	9
" Insurance	9	13	6
" Salaries, &c.—Deputy Grand Secretary	500	0	0
" " Assistant Secretary	170	0	0
" " Office Assistant	110	0	0
" " Tylers—Bro. Downes	113	6	8
" " " " Bachelor (the late)	39	0	0
" Salaries, &c.—Tylers—Bro. Stevens	20	0	0
" " " " Townley	20	0	0
" " " " Hall Porter and Charwomen	83	4	0
" Printing—Underwood	140	12	5
" Stationery and Certificates—Chambers	143	13	0
" " Curwen and Sundries	13	1	0
" Postages	70	11	6
" Painting, &c.—Messrs. Gibson	789	7	1
" Architect's Fees	38	17	0
" Hodges and Sons	164	16	7
" McDowell—Furniture	45	16	0
" Bolton—Carpenters	41	9	0
" Gasfitting and Plumbing	11	18	6
" Sundry Repairs	16	19	1
" Telford and Sons—Organ... ..	24	1	2
" Coal and Coke, Firewood, Gas and Candles	294	13	0
" B. Murphy—For Committee Dinners, 1877	136	0	0

for he was a true and courteous Knight, and the Ancient and Accepted Rite in this as in other good works lead the way—for was he not a Prince Mason and a Knight-Kadosh.

And lastly, there will be little need to appeal to those Orders which owe their revival and existence in England to Bro. Little's untiring zeal and Masonic ability. I allude to the Knights of the Red Cross and appendant Orders, and also to the Society of the Rosicrucians.

I have no doubt that Bro. Dr. Woodman, with whom our departed brother has been long associated in Masonic matters, has, ere this, taken steps to appeal to the brethren in stronger and more eloquent terms than I can hope to do, and that it only remains for me to enquire the address of the brother who has been appointed Treasurer of the Widow's Fund, in order that I may forward my mite—feeling certain that in the present instance I need not apologise for the trouble I give, knowing that the subject matter of my letter will have your hearty co-operation.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, fraternally yours,

F. G. IRWIN,
P.M. Inhabitants Lodge, 153, &c.

MASONIC CONCERT IN MANCHESTER.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I notice in your issue of Saturday last that you hoped to give a full report of the Masonic concert held in the Free Trade Hall here, on Tuesday, April 9th.

I met Bro. Batchelder on Saturday (the promoter of the concert), and I undertook to intimate to you on his behalf that the press in the neighbourhood have circulated the statement that the whole of the artistes, with the exception of two or three, gave their services; this is incorrect: the lady vocalists were all paid, also the members of the Craft, save one or two of the minor singers. It is unfortunate that reporters should arrive at conclusions, instead of troubling to ascertain facts. Bro. Batchelder will feel greatly obliged if you will attach a correction to your report; feeling that your journal will remedy the evil. I believe the concert will realise a good sum nett.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, fraternally yours,
JOHN EDWARD ILIFF, J.W. 1458.
Manchester, April 16th.

AN OLD MASONIC BOOK.

To the *Editor* of the "*Freemason*."

Dear Sir and Brother.—

Can any of your readers give me some information concerning a book called "The Complete Freemason, or Multa Paucis for Lovers of Secrets."

It has a curious engraved title, without any date (which must, however, be 1763 or 1764). The contents comprise a history of the Order, and the proceedings of Grand Lodge, in Anderson's style; a list of all lodges in London, in the country, and abroad, with days of meeting; and a collection of Masonic songs. A curious feature in the records is a statement that in 1735 the Earl of Crawford was re-elected Grand Master, Lord Weymouth's name being altogether omitted.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,
I.P.M. 533.

CHARITY REFORM.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

A life-long experience has convinced me of the almost impossibility of "convincing any man against his will," of the fact that our charities are at this moment more abused than it is possible for some amongst us to conceive or exaggerate. I may, however, be permitted to say that a very careful examination into the mode of administering our charities has thoroughly convinced me of the truth of Madame Roland's aphorism—"Oh, Charity, how many evils are done in thy name!" Our own special charities may, perhaps, be the exception that proves the rule; but the more our London charities have been examined into, the more unsatisfactory has been the result, and the less have they, apparently, adapted themselves to the changing circumstances of the times. For my own part, I know of no truer charity than that of looking into the necessity for, and the administration of Charity, in order that the benevolent may be protected from the mischief of sham charities, and the really necessitous be made partakers of that intended for their use and benefit. The question is a very large one, and I will not venture to occupy your valuable space by entering upon an elaborate argument for or against the views enunciated in the *Free-mason*, but as you promise in your next issue to show in a "common-sense practical manner" how the evils attendant on the administration of charity may be dealt with, I venture to enclose for your perusal a few printed papers bearing on the subject, and which, I think, clearly expose the previous shortcomings of chautism.

With regard to the abuse of our medical charities, I would direct particular attention to the remarks of Sir William Gull, who, at the meeting you refer to, of the Charity Organisation Society, and in a speech of considerable force, urged the establishment of provident dispensaries, because there were "a million of persons receiving gratuitous medical relief in our metropolitan hospitals," to the great injury of the general practitioner residing near to hospitals, but "not for the relief of the deserving, suffering over poor, who vainly strive to reach them." So great, added Sir William, is this difficulty felt, that he had himself once suggested that hospital letters should be scattered broadcast amongst the applicants, and that those who secured them should not be attended to, they being obviously the strongest." Upwards of 50,000 of such applicants obtain indiscriminate advice and medicine annually at the London Hospital. Now although

EXPENDITURE.			
By Education and Maintenance	...	£945	0 0
„ Breakfasts	28	14 6
„ Salaries	70	0 0
„ Postage	15	2 8
„ Stationery	38	16 11
„ Outfits	40	0 0
„ Travelling Expenses...	10	2 3
„ Incidental Expenses...	22	5 11
„ Miscellaneous Payments	12	5 6
„ Securities Purchased, viz., £500			
Stock, New 3 Per Cent. Annuities		479	10 3
„ Balance on the 31st December, 1877,			
viz., as per Bank Pass Book		535	1 7
„ ADD.—Sub-Accountants' Balances,			
viz., R. L. Whitty Dr. ...		7	5 8
S. B. Oldam, Dr. ...		10	0 0
		<hr/>	
		£2214	5 3

We congratulate our brethren in Ireland on the success of this needed Institution, and trust that our good Irish brethren will pay attention to the remarks and regrets of the Committee.

Original Correspondence.

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

THE LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Whilst feeling that I am unnecessarily occupying your space, because the question is doubtless now settled for an indefinite time, I must yet ask you to allow me to say that I quite agree with you and your correspondents, Bros. Simpson and Gould, that some concentration of our Lodge of Benevolence is, and is ever more and more, becoming a great and crying necessity. At the same time, whilst resisting to the utmost any change in the title or working of the lodge, I must claim for the brethren at large, that any such change should involve no departure from the old lines.

The present representative lodge is a concentration of the lodges in the shape of their W.M.'s, and I respectfully urge that any further concentration should be in the form of making the reduced lodge representative of these representatives.

Such was the scheme that I ventured to propose to Grand Lodge, and such is the scheme, or the basis of the scheme, that I should again urge, if spared to see the time when it shall be again brought forward.

Faithfully and fraternally yours,

WILLIAM TEBBS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Did I think that there was the slightest use in continuing this discussion I should like, in a most amicable and fraternal way, to "break a lance" with our esteemed Bro. Gould, and the undoubtedly able and lucid "Yorkshire P.M." But as I deem it quite a waste of time and words to discuss a subject about which two-thirds of our W.M.s have made up their minds for the moment, I will not occupy more space in your crowded pages than will suffice me to say that, with due submission to both your correspondents, a very great fallacy lies at the bottom of all their arguments, a fallacy which in itself, in my humble opinion, is utterly fatal to the propositions they put forward with such great clearness and such marked ability.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

A MEMBER OF GRAND LODGE.

THE LATE BRO. LITTLE.

To the *Editor of the "Freemason."*

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Although knowing that our Bro. Little was in delicate health, I was shocked to read in Saturday's *Free-mason* of his death and burial, and that he leaves a wife to lament his loss.

Surely the brotherhood of which he was so zealous a member will endeavour in some measure to sweep the thorns from the widow's path.

I am certain the Craft Masons, by whom his worth was so thoroughly recognised, will endeavour to do so in a manner befitting our Order—the Mark Masters and Royal Arch Masons will not forget that he bore the burden and heat of the day, having been Prophet, Priest and King, without receiving a higher wage than the ordinary workman.

The Knights Templar will, I am sure, gladly assist,

RECEIPTS.		
To Balance on the 1st January, 1877 ...		£391 18 0
„ Annual Subscriptions:—		
Annual Governors (Individual) ...		637 13 0
Annual Official Governors ...		105 3 0
„ Life Donations:—		
Vice-Patrons and Vice-Presidents		150 0 0
Life Governors (Individual) ...		116 0 0
Permanent Official Governors ...		215 16 0
„ Received at Breakfasts		3 9 0
„ Miscellaneous Receipts		4 1 0
„ Donation from the Grand Lodge of		
Ireland		100 0 0
„ Bequests		100 0 0

the chairman of the committee admits that a large proportion of these are not fit objects of charity, and dwells upon the paramount necessity of classification, no attempt is made to classify the crowd of out-patients that daily besiege the over-crowded waiting-room of the Hospital. Thus an abuse of charity goes on, and is seriously crippling the resources of the Hospital.

With regard to the value of our educational charities, and the one to which you point, Christ's Hospital, I have to ask your particular attention to the instructive documents just issued, and giving the receipts and expenditure of this charity for the past year. The income for last year amounted to the enormous sum of £78,885 2s. 10d.; of this princely revenue upwards of £15,000 were expended in the management of the estates of the charity, and leaving a balance for the educational purposes of the Hospital of £63,104. If we enquire how was this large sum disposed of, the document referred to only partly tells us. The average number of children maintained and educated in the London and Hertford establishments is said to be 1080, and the average expenditure per child, and quite apart from the special allowances for prizes, University exhibitions, &c., is given at £52 1s. 8d. I do not for one minute say this is a very extravagant sum, but, roughly speaking, it will be seen that only about 1000 children are educated at a cost of £60,000 per annum. Can it be possible that this charity is properly administered? The Endowed School Commission long ago declared it was not; and if I mistake not, a committee of Governors drew up a scheme of reform, but it came to nothing. It is almost too much to expect the Corporation will relax its corrupt grasp on so valuable a patrimony as that of Christ's Hospital, and which at one time the really necessitous poor enjoyed.

I remain, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,
JABEZ HOGG.

THE GENESIS OF SPECULATIVE FREEMASONRY (Continued.)

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

My courteous brethren who have kindly followed my lucubrations thus far must not suppose that I have not perceived an apparent discrepancy in my way of putting the purely speculative proposition that Freemasonry was, in its inception, the recognition of an almost personal God, by the few among the many inhabitants of the early world, which has, doubtless, not escaped their penetration.

In my last letter I intimated my opinion that there was no such thing as a real relapse into Paganism, and, inasmuch as we must assume for present purposes of argument, the historical accuracy of the record contained in the Holy Scriptures, it may fairly enough be asked how, if God revealed Himself to the first man, did their descendants so soon fall away from His knowledge, as we are told they did, and how do I profess to reconcile this with the theory now under examination and its correlative, i.e., that there is no retrogression into Paganism, that the early history of the race is the development of the worship of the concrete into the perception of the abstract?

Let us take the two branches of the proposition. It is perfectly intelligible that those early members of the family of man, to whom the G.A.O.T.U. personally and immediately revealed himself, could never fall away from the belief in his existence, how much or how little soever that belief may have influenced their subsequent lives. Noah could indulge in a degrading vice; but he could not deny the existence of that Being who had directed the construction of the Ark. Lot might fall into abominable sin, but he knew to his dying-day that an Almighty interposition had saved him from the destruction of Sodom. Abraham might descend to telling a lie, but he could not forget that he had talked with God. Jacob could commit a fraud, but denial of the Deity, of whom he had twice experienced direct revelation, was impossible to him. Moses, sorely worn and feeble might fail in faith, but he could not attribute to the golden calf the power that had manifested itself to him on Sinai and in the burning bush. But nothing of this applies to the vast mass of mankind, to comparatively few of whom, as they increased, was vouchsafed direct Divine manifestation. Of the greatly preponderating majority it may be affirmed, not that they fell away from a pure faith in the Deity, but that they had only known it by vague report, or perhaps, in course of time as their numbers increased, myriads had never known it at all. In regarding the society of the antediluvian world, many good people fall into the error of dividing the sheep from the goats, so to speak, by a broad and well-defined line of natural demarcation. So many were true believers—so many were heathen worshippers of false gods. Pure religion or false religion was the chief concern of all men. I venture to think that this is a mistake. I incline to the opinion that, as mankind multiplied, the notion of an abstract Deity became so diluted if I may use the term, as—but for the influence pre-supposed in the theory I am discussing—to be well-nigh lost altogether. Men were engaged in fighting, hunting, fishing, wandering, tilling the soil, herding their cattle, founding settlements, building, marrying and burying. The influence, call it what you will, that we now term religion, would be represented in their society by some visible and tangible entity that they would suppose to have some power to accelerate or retard their enterprises and beyond their immediate interest in the exercise of this force, they would care very little for the existence of the supposed Deity; probably it would never occur to them to inquire into the truth or otherwise of such existence. Hence the savage's belief in omens; the flight of birds—the actions of beasts, the appearances of various natural objects—and the tangible representations of these supposed supernatural agents—prob-

ably in the first instance manufactured for convenience sake, or from affectionate, or the reverse association—come, in course of time, to be invested in the minds of votaries with the attributes of their originals, and thus superstition develops into paganism. Those who have really known the true God do not really turn aside from Him, but the vast majority have never known Him; the believers in the Divine influence have been too few, too widely scattered, to leaven the vast mass.

Thus it is perfectly intelligible how the early history of the aggregate of mankind is the record of the progress from idolatry into spiritual worship; but there is one consideration which apparently qualifies this proposition. The instances warranted in holy writ are numerous where those who presumably had received the benefit of an immediate divine manifestation apparently turned aside to idol worship. The Israelites, or at least a large proportion of them, were not deterred by the miracle enacted before their eyes, when the bed of the sea became dry land, and the flood that immediately afterwards engulfed the army of their pursuer, by the pillar of fire by day and the cloud by night constantly before their eyes, or by the lightning's rending Sinai, from constructing the calf of gold, and turning aside to render it worship. As years rolled by, although the Divine presence among them was in constant manifestation, we see them apparently reverting to idolatry at every available opportunity. The very image that Moses had erected by Divine command as the test of their faith in a Spiritual Being, became in process of time perverted—until Hezekiah wisely destroyed it—into a material object of their veneration. But we must not give these instances of apparent qualification more value than they merit. It must be remembered how largely society is made up of the young, the thoughtless, the self-indulgent, and the indifferent. Unbelief, not ensuing from conviction, but springing from indifference, a disposition to attribute such phenomena as the recalcitrants had seen to natural rather than to supernatural causes, dislike to the purity of life and high tone of morality exacted by spiritual worship—and as the corollary—an almost overwhelming inclination to partake in the indulgences with which the votaries of idolatrous rites always endeavoured to attract proselytes; all these influences taken into consideration, it will be found that my main proposition requires very little qualification, notwithstanding the recorded aberrations of God's chosen people, that there is no individual retrogression into paganism in the sense that the human being who has once recognised the true God substitutes for that belief a conviction of the intelligence, influence, and power of a material idol.

The above disquisition may appear an irrelevant digression, but it was necessary to my speculation, because I desire to present to the mind of the reader a view of the society of the early world which involves three classes of individuals, with their various merging and blending tones of thought and habit. First, I take it that the vast majority of mankind would have no idea whatever of pure spiritual worship, and would be the votaries of superstitious observances taking the form of the worship of material images. Then I divide the minority into two groups, of which the first, immeasurably outnumbering the second, consists of the indifferent, who thoughtlessly adopt the worship of the multitude, again capable of subdivision into the masses who do so for the sake of fashion, luxury, and pleasure, and the not inconsiderable number whose profit is found in ministering to the idolatrous worship and its costly accessories; and, lastly, a very small body of men who either from thoroughly examined and well-believed communicated tradition, from sincere conviction, or from the immediate personal community with the Deity Himself, constitute the esoteric brethren who keep the pure light of faith brightly burning. If I may venture to paraphrase our great poet, I might borrow an illustration from him—

"How far this little candle throws its light
So shines the true faith in a heathen world."

Assuming, as we are bound to assume, for does not a part of our teaching inculcate that He has never left Himself without a living witness among men—that such a leavening influence existed in times of the most remote antiquity, is it permissible, or is too extravagantly fantastical to enquire whether this grain of mustard seed has grown into our goodly tree of to-day, whose branches overshadow all the world? Is modern speculative Freemasonry the outcome of this organization? Are we Freemasons the inheritors in direct descent of this heritage? Is it our birthright? Has Freemasonry, in short, ever since God first breathed into man's nostrils the breath of life, suffered a solution of continuity?

I will, for the present, venture to take it for granted that we may, in a spirit of reverence, but yet very tentatively and diffidently, pursue the enquiry. What is the first thing to be examined? I take it that we must postulate imaginarily a mode of life of these men—men in the world and of the world as they found it, and ask ourselves what would be their probable course of conduct, what would be most likely to be their views of themselves, their mission, and of Mankind—the outer society of mankind—around them.

I apprehend that few brethren will differ from me if I suppose that such a little, little band, opposing, more or less openly, predominant views and habits, never, perhaps, unnecessarily obtruding their notions, but never shrinking from avowing their convictions when necessary, would regard themselves as in the world but not of the world. Those external to their organisation would presumably be their enemies—enemies, however, capable of being converted by the system of affectionate and moral proselytism into friends—but, until that happy conversion, necessarily foes—for, remember, I am not investigating the conditions of a time when even the most elementary notion of what we

now call toleration had entered the minds of man. As against these outer antagonists the esoteric brethren must be united by one supreme feeling of self-preservation, shoulder to shoulder—all for one and one for all—these, or their equivalents, would be the axiomatic mottoes ever present to their minds. By the most tangible of all illustrations there would be constantly proved to them the truth, that union is strength. And if we assume this we get so far in our argument that we establish these two points, viz., that in this early community the two prevailing features were the necessity for esotericism, and, the duty of martyrdom. But let us try a step further. Is it not possible, nay probable, considering that legitimate proselytism must have been by these fratres conscripti considered an undecidable part of their duty—that they would regard admission to their body as analogous to birth? May we not conceive that association in their labours would present itself to them as life? And is it not fairly deducible that the termination—perhaps by a violent end—of the comradeship, should ever be contemplated as possible, and thus the idea of the natural close of life and labour—death—be ever present to them? But yet a stride beyond—Addison makes Cato eloquently allude to

"—that longing after immortality,"

as an ineradicable human instinct; that longing, be sure, was as keen in the hearts of the earliest of our progenitors as in our own. Is it extravagant then to assume that the idea of a reunion with the companions of their former toils suggested itself as a possible solace for the pangs of the inevitable material parting? Thus, then, if there be anything whatever of intellectual value in my excogitations I have succeeded in presenting the creed of these very early workers, in a formula, which I may briefly summarise, as Admission=Birth, Work=Life, Martyrdom=Death!

Yours faithfully,

S. P., No. 902, 1491.

GRAND CHAPTER GRAMMAR. To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I am not quite certain that "Critic" is right in either of his allegations of bad grammar.

In the first case, though the disjunctive be used, yet it may fairly be a question, I think, whether the two offices named, despite the disjunctive, do not constitute two nominative cases. At any rate it is a moot point.

In the last case I feel pretty sure that "Critic" is wrong. Is there not such a thing as being hypercritical?

PUFF.

A QUERY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason"

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I note in the last list of candidates for the Widows' Fund, that two are the relics of farm labourers!

I wish to ask a question, I hope without any offence, is that which represents a weekly wage of 18s., or 21s. at the most, such a position as constitutes a candidate "his own master" or a "free agent," as regards lodge attendance, and the like.

Is it not a mistake to admit such members, I ask, in all kindness? And was our useful charity really intended for any but those who, "through unforeseen circumstances," are reduced to poverty and distress?

I am, fraternally,

QUERIST.

A DESCENDANT OF MILES COVERDALE.

Dear Bro. Havers,

You are always ready to interest yourself in all that appertains to the charities and the Craft, and I, therefore, with your kind consent, call your attention to the fact that an alleged descendant of Miles Coverdale, Bishop, and translator of the English Bible, is among the unsuccessful candidates at the last Boys' School election. I hope to verify the fact shortly, and, if so, I know I shall not appeal in vain to your kind sympathy and powerful aid, and of that of many of my brethren, to render his election in October next a certainty.

I am, dear Bro. Havers, yours fraternally,

A. F. A. WOODFORD, P.G.C.,
10, Upper Porchester-street, Hyde Park-square, W.

ROYAL MASONIC SCHOOL FOR GIRLS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason"

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Unfounded rumours are abroad that I am a candidate for the vacant Secretaryship of the above Institution. Would you kindly insert this, my denial of the same, as I am not a candidate.

Yours fraternally,

H. A. DEBOIS.

115, Chancery Lane, London, April 23rd, 1878.

FREEMASONRY IN NEW ZEALAND.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

The Supreme Council 33° of England, Wales, and the Dependencies of the British Crown, are very unwilling to enter into a controversy with an anonymous writer in your journal, but the letter signed "A 33°" in your issue of the 20th inst., contains so many misstatements that it is necessary they should be corrected to avoid future misconception.

Your correspondent observes, first, that this Supreme Council has recently issued a manifesto "protesting against the recognition" of the Supreme Council of Scotland. This is not the case—the document alluded to simply notified to the bodies concerned, the position which this Supreme Council has, for certain reasons, felt constrained to take up towards that of Scotland, but it in no way im-

pugned the legality of that body as a Supreme Council. "A 33rd" states, 2ndly, that our only objection to the body calling itself the Supreme Council of New Zealand is—not that it was formed by a spurious body, but because it was not formed by us. This is likewise incorrect—although our actual objection is, that by the constitutions of the A. and A. Rite no Supreme Council whatever can plant a similar body in territory already under the jurisdiction of, and occupied by another Supreme Council—as in the case of New Zealand, which is a "Dependency of the British Crown;" still, at the same time, the action becomes, if possible, even more irregular, by the fact that this so-called New Zealand Council has been created by an unrecognised and irregular Egyptian body, itself the offspring of a third irregular one in Palermo, in its turn formed by the spurious Supreme Council of Louisiana, which was founded by the Grand Orient of France in violation of all Masonic principles of territorial rights, Louisiana being within the territory of the Supreme Council, Southern Jurisdiction, United States of America, and the Grand Orient of France not even being a Supreme Council of the A. and A. Rite.

I may add that this Supreme Council has not contemplated granting a warrant to form a Supreme Council 33rd in New Zealand, as hinted at by your correspondent.

There is yet another statement which appears in the letter in question, and which is not in accordance with the facts, viz.: "That in June, 1876, no Supreme Council 33rd exercised jurisdiction in New Zealand, and that it was only on the 24th of January, 1878, that the 'Star of the South' Chapter Rose Croix, under the jurisdiction of our Supreme Council, was opened at Greymouth, in that colony."

The official documents in our archives show that the warrant for the Star of the South Chapter was signed and issued on the 11th May, 1875, and that the chapter was regularly established and opened at Greymouth on the 25th Oct. in the same year, when 11 candidates received the 18th in extenso, since which time the Chapter has been in active work, and I may also mention that there is at the present moment a second chapter Rose Croix, established in New Zealand under our jurisdiction.

I would merely remark, in conclusion, that the tenor of your correspondent's letter clearly proves, I think, that he is neither "a 33rd" under the jurisdiction of the four British Supreme Councils 33rd of England, Ireland, Scotland, and Canada, nor of any of the other lawful and regular Supreme Councils 33rd of the world.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

SHADWELL H. CLERKE, 33rd,
G. Secretary-General Supreme Council 33rd for
England and Wales, and the Dependencies
of the British Crown.

33, Golden-square, London, W., 23rd April, 1878.

LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

The monthly meeting of the Lodge of Benevolence was held on Wednesday week at the Board Room, Freemasons' Hall. Bro. John Clabon, President, occupied the President's chair; Bro. Joshua P. Nunn, Senior Vice-President, took the Senior Vice-President's chair; and Bro. James Brett, Junior Vice-President, the chair of Junior Vice-President. Among the other brethren present were Bro. John Hervey, Grand Secretary; Bro. H. G. Buss, Assistant Grand Secretary; Bro. A. A. Pendlebury; Bros. S. Rawson, J. M. Case, Dr. Woodman, Joseph Smith, Thomas Cubitt, John Coutts, H. C. Levander, Charles F. Hogard, John Constable, Charles Atkins, C. P. Cobham, William Russell, W.M. 77; Edward Hyde Hewett, W.M. 235; Henry C. Reeves, W.M. 1381; Nelson Reed, I.P.M. 1671; Hugh Cotter, W.M. 554; William Goulden, W.M. 548; H. H. Giddy, W.M. 1; James Weaver, P.M. 826; J. Nicholson, W.M. 59; C. Scrutton, P.M. 898; D. R. Still, P.M. 1293; Rev. Dr. Ernest Brett, W.M. 1657; A. G. Creak, W.M. 157; L. Etheridge, W.M. 829; J. M. Klenck, W.M. 1686; James Kew, W.M. 179; A. J. Ireton, W.M. 1348; Daniel Nicholson, P.M. 19; Dr. Shrewsbury, P.M. 91; H. Payne, P.M. 720; and C. B. Payne, Grand Tyler.

The brethren first confirmed grants to the extent of £145, made at the meeting of the lodge in March, which required confirmation; and then proceeded with the new list. There were twenty-five petitioners for relief. One, however, died before the meeting of the lodge, thus reducing the list to the number of twenty-four. Three of these were deferred to a future meeting. The remaining twenty-one were relieved with a total sum of £435, which was composed of one £75, one £50, three £30, six £20, two £15, six £10, and two £5.

The lodge was then closed, after sitting for more than two hours.

A ROYAL TRANSLATOR.—The King of Portugal is continuing his translations from Shakespeare, and is now engaged upon the *Merchant of Venice*.—*Academy*.

MASONIC REBELLION.—To illustrate the folly of subordinates rebelling against their Grand Lodges, the Kentucky *Freemason* relates the following as apropos:—

We read of a bull that planted himself in the middle of the track and challenged an approaching locomotive. Soon the cowcatcher tossed the bovine into the air. An Irishman, who witnessed the unequal contest, exclaimed:

"Be jabbers, I admire your courage, but faith I can't commend your prudence."

A negro climbed a tree after a possum. He gave an account of his exploit, saying:

"I clumb out on a limb and shuck, and shuck, and shuck it, and by'm by I hearn somethin' drop, and what do you think it were?"

"The possum," said the listener.

"No, by golly, 'twas dis nigger," said Pompey.

THE DISRUPTION IN FREEMASONRY.

The recent rupture between the English Freemasons and the Grand Orient of France was preceded by events which, though not generally known outside Masonic circles, possess a political and religious interest for the public at large. It is but one link in a chain of occurrences which seem to foreshadow the separation of the Craft into two great sections—one Theistic and non-political, the other Atheistic and Democratic. It is connected, moreover, in France with a rivalry of very old standing between the brethren of the Scottish Rite and the non-Scottish Rite—the former men of moderate views and of higher social status, little given to proselytising; the latter of more or less decided revolutionary tendencies, and eager propagandists. This long-slumbering feud entered on a more acute phase three years ago, when the Grand Orient not only admitted M. Littré, the Positivist, as a member, but, with significant irony, requested him to read a paper on the duty towards God. M. Littré, of course, declared that it was impossible to tell whether there was a God or not, and that, consequently, no duties in that respect existed. This essay was applauded by a large muster of leading members of the Grand Orient, including M. Gambetta, and it evidently foreshadowed an attack on the first article of the Masonic Constitution, which recognises a Great Architect of the Universe. The late Pope, about the same time, issued a brief, strongly condemning Freemasonry as adverse to all authority, human and Divine; and Mgr. Dupanloup, Bishop of Orleans, followed this up by one of his decisive pamphlets.

In these circumstances the Supreme Council of the Scottish Rite felt it necessary to define their position. Accordingly, at a congress at Lausanne in September, 1875, they reaffirmed the doctrine of a First Cause, and resolved that, though fraternal relations might still be continued with the brethren of the other rite, they would not recognise high grades not conferred by themselves. The precise bearing of this apparent claim to supremacy and of this semi-censure is not very material. Suffice it to say that the Grand Orient regarded it as a challenge, notwithstanding attempts in some quarters to explain away the Lausanne declaration, and to represent it as equally compatible with Theism and Materialism. Shortly before the annual meeting, therefore, September, 1876, the repeal of Article 1 was proposed in the Council, on the ground that absolute freedom of conscience was a principle of the Craft, that Atheists were entitled to admission, and that the article had prevented or retarded the accession of men of eminence. This seems to imply that M. Littré had originally entertained some scruples as to subscribing to the article, and that the subject of his essay was given him for the purpose of satisfying him that that article was an empty form.

The repeal was objected to by the moderates, headed by M. Massicault, now Prefect of Limoges, and a friend of M. Jules Simon, who himself is connected with the Scottish Rite, the Gambetta and Simon rivalry thus extending to Masonry. The moderates, imitating the action of the anti-infallibility bishops at the Vatican Council, argued that the step was inopportune, would be open to misconception, and would excite bitter controversies; that the discussion on a First Cause had been going on two thousand years without result; and that the matter should be left to a future time, when animosities were allayed. The majority of the Council rallied to this view, but when the Congress met the question was revived, and by 110 to 65 it was resolved to submit the resolution to the various lodges. Some of the minority, less timid than the "opportunists" in the Council, boldly defended the article, and urged that its abolition would involve a rupture with foreign branches. At the Congress of 1877 it was reported that 140 lodges out of 211 had pronounced for repeal. The opponents of the measure nevertheless struggled against the tide. The De Broglie Cabinet was then in office, and they remarked that that Cabinet had already closed a number of lodges, and that the moment was very unsuitable for making a change which would give a handle to the enemies of Masonry. The repealers dexterously put forward a Protestant minister, M. Desmons, as their spokesman. He drew up a report, in which it was argued that the disappearance of Article 1 would not imply a profession of Atheism, but merely the admission into the Craft of men of all opinions, and that Masonry should lay down no dogma, always the starting-point of narrowness and persecution, but should welcome every shade of thought. The result was that the article was struck out.

The matter will evidently not end here. The Scottish Rite will probably next autumn break off all relations with the Grand Orient, and the American lodges have already excommunicated the Hungarian Masons, who have sided with the latter. The Italian lodges may also be expected to go with the Grand Orient, while the German Masons may perhaps take an opposite course. All English-speaking lodges will certainly cease to recognise the Grand Orient, as also the Portuguese and South American Masons; for in Portugal and Brazil the Craft emphatically disclaims any hostility to religion, and the Roman Catholic prelates find great difficulty in dealing with men who insist upon being both Catholics and Masons. It is but fair to acknowledge that the anti-religious attitude of French and Italian lodges is partly due to the animosity of the Roman Church, for men loudly denounced as infidels are likely to end by becoming so. How that animosity arose—whether the Papacy from its own stand-point is justified in this inveterate hostility—it is useless to discuss, for there is no probability of a change in its present attitude. Some British Catholics would notoriously like to become Masons, but are deterred by the censures of their Church; and Ultramontane assailants of Masonry are constrained to acknowledge that in this and some other countries it is neither irreligious nor revolutionary. Lord Ripon probably gave assurances on this point in his interview with Pius IX. But wherever the responsibility for these conflicting tendencies may lie, one

thing is clear: that Freemasonry is undergoing a crisis which will probably rend it in twain—one section holding fast to Theism, with all the consequences it involves; the other drifting into avowed Materialism, with aims dangerously akin to those of the International. It is but right that the former should entirely sever themselves from the latter. —*Glasgow News*.

FREEMASONRY IN ST. KITTS.

The following oration was delivered by Bro. Dr. J. K. Dinzey, on the occasion of laying the corner stone of the new Masonic Temple.

Masonic Brethren,—By command of the Worshipful Master, it becomes my duty briefly to address you. We have assembled on this occasion to perform a pleasant duty. The event which we now celebrate is one of the most important, as it is one of the most interesting, incidents in the history of the Mount Olive Lodge. The corner stone of a new lodge has been laid. A larger sphere and more extended career of action is opening to our view. The building, in which the mysteries of our ancient rites were performed, hoary with age, and bearing the scars of many conflicts, has disappeared from our view; and in its place is to be erected a superstructure which we trust may prove, like its moral prototype, perfect in all its parts and creditable to the builder.

Those who have watched the career of this lodge, through her many and varied vicissitudes, who have been true to her in her prosperity, and in her adversity have clung to her with filial affection, cannot but be deeply impressed with the importance of the work that has just been inaugurated.

It is unnecessary, as it would be unsuitable, to enter on this occasion into any explanation of the difficulties we have encountered, the disappointments we have sustained, or the discouragements against which we have waged incessant war, and which at length we have vanquished. There is, we are told, a tide in all human affairs, which taken at its flood leads on to fortune: let us trust that we have been wafted by that wave toward the haven whither we would go. We have endeavoured to move with that wave. The final step has been taken, the rubicon crossed, the second temple will soon be erected, its standard unfurled, and Excelsior inscribed on the victorious banner.

For all this we feel a just, a pardonable pride—pride in the part that we have performed; and pride in the services that have been rendered by beloved brethren who have passed away. Yet we take no praise to ourselves. "Non nobis, Domine, non nobis"—not unto us, not unto us, O God, but unto Thee be all the praise.

The Society of Freemasons, as a charitable, benevolent organisation, should elicit, as it is entitled to receive, the hearty goodwill and sympathy of all mankind. Ignorance and prejudice have endeavoured, though unsuccessfully, to tarnish its fame; but the records of ages, the charitable institutions and achievements of Masonry throughout the enlightened world, and the testimony of illustrious and trustworthy men, have confounded its traducers, and stamped on them the indelible stigma of their own envy and malice. If to aid the indigent, to succour the distressed, to hold out an unseen and helping hand in the hour of need to unfortunate fellow creatures, but more especially to our brethren in Freemasonry, are characteristics calculated to ensure confidence and esteem—then Masonry is clearly entitled to all the merit their possession may claim.

The benevolence of Masonry is confined to no creed, class, or condition; but recognises in every son of Adam a brother of the dust. The world may learn a profitable lesson from the catholic unsectarian character of Masonic charity, by discreetly applying the moral, and diligently following in its footsteps.

It has been said by an illustrious patriot that "it is pleasing to know that the milder virtues of the heart, are highly prized by a Society whose liberal principles are founded on the immutable laws of truth and justice. To enlarge the sphere of social usefulness is worthy the benevolent design of a Masonic Institution; and it is most fervently to be wished that the conduct of every member of the Society, as well as those publications which discover the principles which actuate them, would tend to convince mankind that the grand object of Masonry is to promote the happiness of the human race." Such is the testimony of one who has been called the father of his country—first in peace, first in war, and first in the hearts of his countrymen. One of whom, an eminent statesman and life-long political opponent writes as follows: "His integrity was most pure; his justice the most inflexible I have ever known, no motives of interest or consanguinity, of friendship or hatred, being able to bias his decision. He was, indeed, in every sense of the word, a wise, a good, and a great man." In the face of such testimony let the venomous pens and tongues of the calumniators of Masonry cease their vituperation.

Masonry is neither a political nor a religious organisation. It arrogates neither ecclesiastical functions, nor political importance. But it is a brotherhood, an organisation of men animated by benevolent designs, and directed by rules, regulations, and principles recognised and approved by all religions that acknowledge the existence of God. Religion is the mainspring of Masonry; and Masonry an important, a powerful auxiliary in the indispensable sphere of practical benevolence.

The secrets of Masonry have been for ages the subject of anathema. But brethren, let us console ourselves with the contemplation, that while the secret intrigues of political and other organisations have brought men to the stake, the gallows, and the grave, the secrets of Masonry have not caused a single sigh, a tear to fall, nor one drop of blood to flow. As a lodge, few in number and mode-

rate in means, we have effected much, and still hope to accomplish more. Fortune, a fickle Goddess, has smiled and frowned in tantalizing turn; but true to our aim as the needle to the pole, we as Masons are about to realise as a reward for past sacrifices the fruition of our fondest hopes.

Let us then trust that the Most High, the Grand Geometrician, the Great Architect of the Universe, who guides the destinies of men and empires, may counsel and direct us in this and all our undertakings. That this work, begun in His name, may be continued and ended in Him, obliterating prejudices, relieving distresses, spreading the cement of Masonic love, and may achieve its crowning consummation in glorifying His Holy Name; and thus fulfil its exalted mission in confederating mankind throughout the world in a bond of universal brotherhood.

FREEMASONRY IN NEW YORK.

CORINTHIAN LODGE BALL.

The rain poured down in torrents last Tuesday evening, and fog, nasty disagreeable fog was everywhere; it gave a fantastic appearance to the houses, as though they were phantoms, distorting them until the idea forced itself on the mind that the builder must certainly have had the delirium tremens. The lights in the lamps along the thoroughfare looked dim and ghostly, and flickered painfully, as if they were disgusted at such weather and wanted to be out as soon as possible. Despite these drawbacks, Lyric Hall, on Sixth avenue, was in a blaze of light; now and then bursts of music came rolling out in the murky air, driving away for the moment the damp vapour that clung to everything, and making the lights flare up as though they had been asleep and the sweet sounds had brought them to a realizing sense of their duty. Car after car of the Sixth avenue line came rolling up to the door with its precious freight. Financially the affair was a success, for the large ball room and ante-rooms were completely filled. The music was good, although the selections might have been a trifle more refined. About eleven o'clock Bro. Charles Seymour, Master of the lodge, mounted the stage at the southern end of the hall, and after quietness had been obtained, informed the assembled guests that he took great pleasure in presenting Bro. G. F. Thornton, Secretary, on behalf of the lodge, with a handsome silver set, consisting of eight pieces, placed on a table close by. In continuation he said: "This is a very appropriate present, as I believe our worthy brother is about to celebrate his silver wedding." Loud cheers followed this speech. That it was a genuine surprise to Brother Thornton is certain. He had been led to believe that it was intended for another member, and thus was easily decoyed into mounting the stage with Bro. Seymour. At the mention of his name his astonishment was almost painful. He alternately flushed and paled, but after repeated calls for a speech, regained his composure somewhat and made a few remarks expressing his gratitude for the gift, and returning thanks therefor. His embarrassment and distress were so palpable as to cause shouts of applause and laughter. This over, Bro. Seymour again stepped forward and said that there would be a buffet supper from that time until three or four o'clock; that there was plenty and to spare for all. The guests were at liberty to go when they pleased and as often as they pleased.

At this announcement, each young man who was accompanied by his young lady rubbed his hands with delight, and privately resolved to endure the pangs of hunger for a few hours until the greater portion of those present were satisfied. In imagination he saw himself leading his fair companion to the supper-room, and there enjoying, in a comfortable and cosy manner, the numerous dainties the committee had provided for them. Alas! this vision was a bitter mockery. Three times we endeavoured to gain an entrance into that room, from whence proceeded that appetizing odour of coffee, turkey, and other delicacies, but all we could catch was the tantalizing rattle of knives and forks on plates. Once we were so favoured as to catch a glimpse of the glories within, when the door opened to permit the egress of a coloured waiter. How many envied the prerogatives which his position allowed—that liberty to go in and out of that Mecca of all our hopes! It was a buffet supper in more senses than one, as you had to buffet right and left in order to get to the table. When you did get there, you felt like lifting up your voice and howling or doing something to express your feelings as forcibly as possible. We sympathize very deeply with Bro. Fox. He lost his temper at the guests as they came crowding in, and said several naughty words. Beware, Bro. Fox! There is a hereafter. On this occasion, as well as on all others, those possessing the greatest amount of impudence or cheek succeeded in getting the best supper. Many we are acquainted with considered themselves fortunate in securing a cup of coffee only. Let us hope the Committee will see to this part of the night's enjoyment with more care at their future affairs. Dancing was kept up until five o'clock. It was still raining when we left, and the fog was still hanging around, as if destined to see the thing through on its own account.—*New York Dispatch.*

CHARITY.

"The greatest of these is Charity."

There is not a word in the English language which contains such a depth and height of meaning as the word Charity. In its more common signification, it is used to designate that disposition of mind which invites to almsgiving, and he is esteemed a charitable man who "bestows his goods to feed the poor." But the word is used in a more comprehensive and exalted sense in the Great Light of Masonry. There we read of giving all one's goods to feed the poor without having charity. He

would be thought a very charitable man who should bestow all his goods upon the poor, and as a rule such an one would be possessed with this noble principle to a wonderful extent. But a man might do this and yet be very uncharitable. He might do it to increase his fame, in which case he would be much more selfish than charitable. He would lack that fervent love of his fellow-beings, which lies at the foundation of all true charity. And the world affords many examples of this kind. Instances are not rare where donations are made in a pompous manner, which reveals the animus of the donor. And who has not known people to bestow on strangers with great liberality when a true charity would have dictated the bestowal of a small moiety, and the appropriating of the remainder upon a destitute family at home. But to appear generous in the eyes of the world, causes many to assume the guise of charity, when they possess little of its genuine spirit.

True charity is nearly allied to disinterested benevolence. It does not take time to catechise the needy, further than to know whether they are worthy of confidence, or, in other words, are not impostors. It asks nothing about party issues or sectarianism. It knows no nationality, but regards the race as the children of a common parent, and, Samaritan-like, delights in binding up the wounds and caring for the needy, even though their nationality be unknown. And it heeds the calls of the destitute as quickly when alone as when the multitude is present to applaud. Indeed, true charity is modest and retiring. It prefers that the left hand should not know what is done by the right.

And it may be said, without boasting, that Masonry inculcates such charity. Its spirit is the very opposite of that ostentation which would parade its good works before the gaze of the world. It would rather its votaries should steal away to the homes of the poor, to the couch of the suffering, as quietly as the dew of Heaven falls upon the tender plants, and soothe and refresh by deeds of love and words of kindness. And in these times of parade and show it does seem refreshing to find some of the seeds of true charity germinating and springing up into a healthy growth, even if unseen and unknown to the busy, bustling world. It does afford gratification to know that one institution at least can do good quietly and secretly, and can foster a charity which goes even beyond the bestowing of goods upon the poor and suffering of earth, and provides a place where the king has to meet upon the same level with the poor brother who earns a scanty living for his dependent family by his daily toil.

Masonry has no sneers for the poor, no frowns for the humble unfortunates of earth. It does not honour men for their wealth or birth, but rather for their moral worth and intrinsic goodness of life. Its lessons are all grand, but none more truly so than its lessons of charity.—*Freemasons' Monthly.*

Obituary.

BRO. THOMAS AUSTIN.

On Saturday, the 13th inst., the remains of Bro. Thos. Austin, P.M. 933, and P.Z. 933, were interred in the Tower Hamlets Cemetery, Bow-road. The funeral cortege, which was conducted by Bro. R. Ayton, (P.M. 933), consisted of an hearse drawn by four horses and four mourning carriages. The first carriage contained Bro. Stedman, (a nephew of the deceased), Bro. E. Williams, (the executor), and Mr. Weybret, (an old friend). In the second carriage were Bros. J. G. Stevens, T. J. Barnes, Wainwright, and Myers. In the third carriage were Bros. Bowron, Jonathan Taylor, Tucker, and W. Yetton. In the fourth carriage were Bros. Caudick, T. Yetton, and Eastwood. On the arrival at the cemetery the Rev. Bro. D. Shaboe joined the procession to the church, which was also accompanied by representatives of the following Lodges, viz., 933, 554, 174, 1421, 186, 1306, 1171, 1326, 188, 1637, 1076, 205, 1579, 1445, 1106, and others. After the impressive ceremony of the service for the burial of the dead had been read in the church, the procession was formed, and followed the remains of the deceased to the grave, each brother being supplied with a sprig of acacia. On the arrival at the grave, and after the coffin had been lowered to its resting place, the concluding portion of the service was read; during which the coffin was plentifully bestrewn with acacia sprigs, and a bunch of camellias was added by a lady, the daughter of a P.M. of the Doric Lodge.

Bro. Austin will be remembered for his genial temperament and ability as a Masonic Preceptor, and it may be faithfully recorded, that he carried out to its fullest extent the axiom "To look with the eye of charity on the failings of another."

He was a Life Governor and Subscriber to all the Masonic Institutions.—R.I.P.

BRO. JOHN LUTER.

It is our duty this week to record the sudden death of an old and much respected inhabitant of Cowes. Bro. John Luther, who was for many years in trade in that town, but through losses and declining life he was compelled to give up business. He was the oldest member on the roll of Medina Lodge, having been initiated as far back as January, 23rd, 1832, and passed several degrees in Masonry. Of late years he was the Tyler of the lodge, where he was universally respected by all the brethren. His circumstances latterly required assistance, and the brethren appealed to the Benevolent Fund and obtained a grant of £40 per annum for him. Latterly he often expressed, if it was not for his health, the present time was the happiest he had enjoyed for many years. He was of an amiable disposition, and made, we believe, not a single enemy. Only on Good Friday he was on his accustomed lounge, the promenade of the pontoon, and on leaving,

we saw him, when he appeared in his usual health, going towards his home, which he reached, and almost instantly expired. An inquest was held on the body on Saturday evening, when a verdict of death from natural causes was returned.

Masonic and General Tidings.

A full report of the proceedings at the sixty-first anniversary meeting of the Stability Lodge of Instruction will appear in our next issue.

A Grand Council of the Illustrious Knights K.H. 30°, will be held at the Masonic Hall, 33, Golden-square, on Wednesday, the 8th May, at 4.45 p.m. Punctual attendance is requested.

The Moveable Grand Mark Lodge of England is [not to be held on the 26th, but about Whit-tide, in the Cumberland and Westmorland Lake District. The exact date is not yet fixed by the M.W.G.M.M.M., the Earl of Limerick.

Sir C. B. Adderley is gazetted a Peer of the United Kingdom by the title of Baron Norton, of Norton-on-the-Moors, in the county of Stafford.

Ladies' Christian Homes for Deaf and Dumb Children, from four years of age.—We are requested to insert an appeal on behalf of these Homes. They have only been recently established by the Rev. W. Stainer, but have been the means of bestowing a great amount of benefit upon the poor little afflicted inmates. More than fifty have been received, and there are now eighteen at the Pentonville Road, and seventeen at the Victoria Park Square Homes. Funds are urgently needed for these Homes, and for others that will shortly be opened.

A splendid allegorical picture was exhibited to many brethren of the Craft on Monday last, at Freemasons' Hall, by Bro. Haigh, the composer. The picture, which was painted by Mr. Rosenberg, elicited many marks of pleasure and approval. Bro. Haigh, we hear, intends reproducing this beautiful specimen of the pictorial art in such a form that it will be attainable by lodges and the brethren generally.

Bro. John Houlding, the celebrated W.M. of the Everton Lodge, No. 823, was, on Wednesday, the 17th inst., unanimously elected chairman of the West Derby Board of Guardians, Liverpool, one of the most extensive unions in the country. Bro. E. Dutch, of the Hamer Lodge, No. 1393, was elected vice-chairman, and Bro. Dr. E. M. Sheldon, P.M. 1084, the deputy vice-chairman. A cordial vote of thanks was passed to Bro. H. Livesage, of the Marlborough Lodge, No. 1620, the retiring chairman. At the usual monthly meeting, the same evening, of the Everton Lodge at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, Bro. Houlding was cordially congratulated on the honour which had been conferred on him, an honour which he has deserved by long and faithful services in connection with the administration of the Poor Laws.

The M.W. Bro. His Imperial Highness the Prince Rhodocanakis, of Scio, Grand Master Mason of Greece, was on the 19th of Feb. last appointed by the Grand Master of the Religious and Military Order of the Temple for Scotland a Knight Grand Cross of this Order, of which, if we are not mistaken, only four gentlemen (amongst whom the M.W. Bro. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales) share with His Imperial Highness the honour of being Knights Grand Cross.

At the recent installation meeting of the Pacific Lodge of Freemasons, at Hokitika, a very handsome presentation was made to the Lodge by Mr. Haigh, photographer. It consisted of a life-size crayon portrait of John Lazar, D.G.M., of Westland. Bro. Bevan, on behalf of Bro. Haigh, handed over the gift to the fraternity. There were present about 40 members of the Order, including several members of the Grand Lodge, the Masters and officers of the Totara Lodge and the Lazar Lodge of Kumara. The presentation called forth the highest terms of praise to the artist who executed and presented the work, and the veteran brother whose likeness was portrayed on the wall of the lodge room expressed himself with much feeling in appreciation of the compliment paid him.—*Grey River Argus.*

The ballot for Life Subscriberships in the Girls' School, under Bro. Charles Daniel, I.P.M., No. 65, for which lodge he is Steward at the next festival of this institution, will take place at Bro. Maidwell's, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, on Tuesday evening, at seven o'clock.

EASTER TUESDAY IN THE CITY.—The Christ's Hospital boys on Tuesday last paid their customary annual visit to the Mansion House, and received from the chief magistrate of the City, in accordance with an old historic usage, "a glass of wine and two plum buns each," besides the usual money presents. As the 652 "Blues" filed by the Lord Mayor, the money, which was of the newest coinage, was handed to them—the Grecians (13) received one guinea, the probationers (9) half-a-crown, and the "boys" (594) 1s. each. The Lord Mayor was attended by the Lady Mayoress and the members of his family, a very numerous company being also present to witness the ceremony. Subsequently the Tuesday Spital-sermon was preached at Christ Church, Newgate-street, to the scholars, by the Lord Mayor's private chaplain, Bro. the Rev. Dr. Cox, Past Grand Chaplain, vicar of St. Helen's, Bishopsgate, from Matthew ix., 12: "They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick."

At the meeting of the Geological Society, held recently, a paper was communicated by Captain H. W. Feilden, R.A., F.G.S., and Mr. De Rance, Her Majesty's Geological Surveyor, on the Geographical Results of the Polar Expedition under Admiral Sir G. Nares, F.R.S.

CONSECRATION OF THE ST. JOHN'S LODGE, No. 1736.

On Thursday, the 18th inst., a new Masonic Lodge was consecrated at Halifax by W. Bro. T. W. Tew, J.P., P.M. 910, P.P.G.W., and Deputy Prov. G. Master for the Province of West Yorkshire, in place of the R.W. Prov. G.M., Sir Henry Edwards, Bart. This is the fourth lodge now in existence in Halifax, and its rooms are the St. John's Rooms, King Cross-street, where the ceremony took place. There was an influential assembly of brethren, including Bros. Henry Smith, P.G. Secretary; Isaac Booth, P.S.G.W.; Austin Roberts, P.M. 307, acting as P.G. Registrar; C. T. Rhodes, P.M. 448, acting as P.G.S.D.; the Rev. I. Parkinson, acting as P.G.C.; H. C. Scratcherd, as P.G.J.D.; F. Whitaker, P.P.G.J.D.; W. Schofield, P.G.P.; E. Walshaw, P.G.S.B.; John Simpson, P.G.S.W.; Thomas Ruddock, P.G.S.; Joshua Lee, P.G.T.; W. Gaukroger, W.M. 61; H. R. Waghorn, S.W. 61; G. Scarborough, J.W. 61; Thomas Whitaker, W.M. 448; Charles E. Walshaw, P.M. 484; Richard Jessop, P.M. 448; J. Seed, P.M. 1302; H. S. Roberts, W.M. 408; C. W. Eastwood, Secretary 1231, and others.

A Provincial Grand Lodge having been opened, the elaborate and imposing ceremony of consecration was gone through by the Deputy P.G.M. and his officers, Bro. Tew duly dedicating and constituting the lodge as "St. John's Lodge, 1736." After closing as a Provincial Grand Lodge, it was re-opened as a Craft Lodge, for the purpose of installing the W.M., and investing the other officers. Bro. Booth performed this portion of the ceremony, and installed Bro. William Bealand Spencer, P.M. 408 and 448, as W.M. of St. John's, 1736, after which the following officers were invested with their collars of office:—Bro. Edward Taylor, P.M. 408, as S.W.; Bro. H. S. Holdsworth, J.W.; Bro. Ely Dyson, Treasurer; Bro. E. Taylor, Secretary; Bro. John Green, S.D.; Bro. Alfred Gomersall, J.D.; Bro. W. Nicholl, I.G.; Bro. John Naylor, Steward; Bro. C. E. Law, M.C.; and Bro. R. Riley, I.P.M. After the transaction of ordinary business, the lodge closed with prayer.

The brethren afterwards assembled at the White Swan Hotel, where a splendid banquet was served by Bro. Crocker. Bro. Tew presided, and was supported by Bro. W. B. Spencer, W.M., and other officers already enumerated. Before the toast list was proceeded with, Bro. Tew having to leave early, addressed a few remarks to those present. He said he should be glad to drink the health of the W.M. and officers of the new lodge, whom he warmly thanked for the kind reception accorded to himself and the Provincial Grand Officers that day. It had given them great pleasure to come to Halifax to consecrate the St. John's Lodge, which he believed was the 64th on the list in the province of West Yorkshire. He believed it was the fifth he had the honour of consecrating since Sir Henry Edwards was first placed at the head of the Craft four years ago, and that was a fact which he could not help thinking testified to the great popularity of the Provincial Grand Master. Bro. Tew, concluding, called the attention of the brethren to matters which would come before the next meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge, at Leeds, on Wednesday, especially referring to the proposal to be submitted in respect to the Benevolent Fund.

Bro. W. B. Spencer, in taking the chair vacated by the Deputy Prov. G.M., gave the usual loyal and patriotic toasts, which were cordially honoured.

The next toast was "The M.W.G.M. of England, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales; M.W. Pro Grand Master, the Right Hon. Earl of Carnarvon; the R.W. Deputy G.M., Lord Skelmersdale; and the rest of the Grand Officers, past and present," which was also proposed in appropriate terms by Bro. Spencer, and heartily drunk with honours.

"The R. W. Prov. G.M., Lieut.-Col. Henry Edwards, Bart., and the rest of the Provincial Officers, past and present," was proposed from the chair, and after being enthusiastically honoured, Bro. E. Walshaw responded, expressing his pride at being numbered among the Provincial Grand Officers on that occasion. Bro. F. Whitaker also replied, after which

Bro. W. Gaukroger gave the toast of the evening, "The St. John's Lodge, No. 1736," and in doing so expressed a hope that the lodge consecrated that day would prosper, and that the W.M. and officers might have reason to look back with pride to the occasion when the fourth Halifax was founded. "Prosper the Art" was then sung, after which Bro. Spencer responded. He remarked that at the foundation of all institutions of that kind some one must take the helm, and although he did not seek the office of being the first W.M., yet he felt the honour conferred upon him was very great, and one which he should always remember with pleasure. It was a gratifying thing that the W.M.'s and officers of all the other lodges in the town were among them that day, for it was an evidence of that perfect harmony which it was his desire should—and it would be his endeavour to make it—continue.

In proposing "The Mother Lodge of St. John's, the Three Graces, No. 408," Bro. Spencer alluded to the adventures many of the brethren had experienced in travelling from Halifax to Haworth, and gave several amusing instances of the discomfort experienced at various times on the journey. He was happy to say that the mother lodge was in perfect harmony with the new organisation, and there was no doubt that that would ever continue.

Bro. Robinson and several other brethren from 408 responded, and the toast to "The W.M., P.M.'s, Officers, and Brethren of Lodges Proby 61, St. James's, 448, and De Warren, 1302," was acknowledged by Bros. W. Gaukroger, T. Whitaker, and F. Whitaker.

Bro. Holdsworth proposed "The Visiting Brethren;" Bro. C. T. Rhodes, "The Masonic Charities;" and Bro.

W. Nicholl, "The Ladies," all of which were received with enthusiasm. The final toast, "To all Poor and Distressed Masons," concluded a very successful gathering, rendered more enjoyable by the vocal selections of the quartette party, composed of Bro. F. C. Atkinson, W.M. 1648, Bro. W. Turner, W.M. 1545, Bro. Thornton Wood, I.G. 302, and Bro. Chas. Blagborough, 439, and whose names are a sufficient guarantee of the excellence of their services.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

A special meeting of the Stewards for the ensuing Festival of this Institution, was held on Wednesday, at noon, at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. E. J. McIntyre, Q.C., presided. He was supported by Bro. John Boyd, Honorary Treasurer, Charles Daniel G. Ward Verry, Griffiths Smith, George Bolton, H. Bartlett, E. Kidman, Rev. Dr. Brette, E. Letchworth, Capt. J. Wordsworth, Alfred Layton, Arthur E. Gladwell, H. Massey (Freemason), and F. A. White. Bro. F. R. W. Hedges also attended in place of the late Bro. Little (Hon. Sec.)

After the reading and the confirmation of the minutes of the last meeting.

The Chairman said the lamented death of Bro. Little made it necessary for the Stewards on this occasion to elect an honorary secretary in his place. He did not know whether the brethren had given full consideration to the subject, but they would all agree to a proper candidate, should he be brought forward. Although it was not on the agenda paper, he thought a vote of condolence with the widow of Bro. Little on her sad bereavement should be moved. It might, however, be necessary that this should be moved at a subsequent meeting.

Bro. John Boyd said that Bro. Hedges had been acting as Secretary for a long time and doing a great deal of hard work, and he thought that he should continue to act as Secretary of the Stewards.

Bro. Griffiths Smith seconded the motion.

The Chairman said that Bro. Hedges had admirably performed the secretary's duties, and he quite concurred in the motion.

The motion was then put, and carried unanimously.

Bro. Hedges having thanked the brethren.

Bro. Griffiths Smith moved, and Bro. John Boyd seconded a vote of condolence with Mrs. Little on her late bereavement, and the motion was carried, a letter being ordered to be written to Mrs. Little, and the resolution and letter to be entered on the minutes.

The Chairman next said he had to make an announcement to the brethren, which was not of a very exhilarating character. The whooping cough was at present prevalent in the School, and the visit of the Stewards would consequently have to be postponed *sine die*.

A Brother having intimated that a visit to the School was desirable.

The Chairman said the visit would take place as soon as it would be safe to pay it; and that due notice would be given to Stewards when this would be.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the proceedings.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF CORNWALL.

The second Provincial Grand Chapter of the Royal Arch Masons of Cornwall was held on Thursday, 11th inst., by the Grand Superintendent of that province—the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, at Bodmin. The recent organisation of the private chapters of Cornwall into a Prov. G. Chapter has given a favourable impetus to R.A. Masonry in that county. Among the chapters there has been, generally, an increase of companions, and Craft lodges hitherto unsupplied with Arch Chapters have been seeking to obtain that advancement. Among the lodges which have succeeded in obtaining chapters is the Bodmin Lodge, One and All, No. 330, which obtained permission to open a chapter in connection with itself under the title of the St. Petrock Chapter, the name of the patron saint to whom the ancient parish church of Bodmin was dedicated. The constitution and consecration of that chapter were the most prominent business of the Prov. G. Chapter. The companions assembled in the handsome rooms of the Masonic Hall, Bodmin, at 1.30 p.m., and at 2 a chapter was opened under the presidency of Colonel John W. Peard, P.Z. 1151, Z. pro tem; E.D. Anderton, H. pro tem.; W. Tweedy, J. pro tem.

The Grand Superintendent then entered, accompanied by the Grand Officers of the Province, and assumed the chair of Z., where he was greeted with the usual honours.

Among the officers present at the convocation in addition to those named were Ex-Comps. E. T. Carlyon, Prov. S. E.; R. John, Prov. S.N.; the Rev. A. H. Ferris, Vicar of Charlestown, P.P.S., 231; S. Harvey, P.P.S., 331; H. G. Colvill, J. and H. designate, 1151; R. A. Courtney, P.Z., 510, Prov. G.D.C.; E. Aitken-Davies, P.P.G., Reg. Devon; T. C. Stephens, P.Z., 1151, P.G.St.; J. Bedford Kerswill, P.Z., 1164; Charles Truscott, P.Z., 496; Robert Coath, P.Z., 510, Thomas White, P.Z., 510; John Crossman, H., 1164; John F. Childs, Z., 510; John Hill, P.Z., 1164; John Polkinghorne, J., 1151; J. W. Chegwidgen, P.Z., 510; E. Tonkin, H., 1151; William Luke, H., 331; William Polkinghorne, Z., 1151; George Barnes, Z., 1164; Comps. H. Elliott, Treas. 1151; J. G. Ostorn, S.E., 450; John Stephens, Past P.S., 1151; Joseph Rawling, P.S., 1164; William Nettle, S.E., 510; T. J. Smith, P.S., 469; W. P. Smith, P.S., 1151; Samuel E. Baker, Friends in Council; T. Hawken, 331; W. H. Luke, 1151; J. F. Hooper, 1st A.S., 1006; S. N. F. Cox, 331; F. B. Williams, P.S., 1151; R. F. Stephens, 1st A.S., 496; J. R. Collins, 331; Isaac Dawe, 2nd A.S., 1164; William Rookes, P.G. Janitor; Emma Holmes, P.Z.; &c. &c.

The Prov. G.S.E. stated the wishes of the brethren in

the town to institute a chapter, and Prov. G.S.N. read the petition, which was for permission to establish a chapter, to be entitled the St. Petrock, to meet on the second Tuesdays in the months of January, April, July, and October, and to have for its first Three Principals Ex. Comps H. G. Colvill, P.M., 330, as Z.; T. Hawken, P.M., 1529, H.; and J. R. Collin, P.M., 330, J. The signatories to the petition were those of the Rev. Dr. E. J. Treffry, P.Z. 1151; A. A. Davies, P.Z., 1151; J. R. Collins, 1151; T. C. Stevens, P.Z., 1151; Silvanus Trevel, A.S., 1151; H. G. Colvill, J., 1151; T. Hawken, 331; Wm Sowe, Treas., 1151; Jno. Stephens, P. S., 1151; T. B. Williams, P.S., 1151; W. H. Lamb, S. E., 1151; J. Wellington, J.S., 1151. The Grand Superintendent expressed his approval of the petition, and directed the warrant of constitution issued by the G. Chapter to be read. The warrant was read by the Prov. G.S.N., and announced to be duly signed by Albert Edward, Z., Skelmersdale, H., Warren A. Tabley, J., Jno. Hervey, S.E., N. G. Phillips, S.N. of the G. Chapter. In reply to the usual question, the members of the new chapter expressed their approval of the officers named in the warrant, the three Principals and the officers and members were presented by the D.C., and the Grand Superintendent declared the chapter duly constituted. The consecration of the new chapter was proceeded with by the Grand Superintendent and the presiding H. and J., and the prayer of dedication offered. The Grand Superintendent then declared the St. Petrock Chapter to be a duly constituted, consecrated, and dedicated chapter of H.R.A. The installation of the three Principals followed; Ex. Comps. J. R. Collins and T. Hawken were respectively installed in the chair of J.; T. Hawken and H. G. Colvill respectively in the chair of H.; and H. G. Colvill, in the chair of Z. Ex. Comp. H. G. Colvill, Z., briefly returned thanks for the election of himself and the other Principals to their offices, and to the G. Superintendent for conducting their installations.

The general business of the Provincial Chapter was then proceeded with. The Prov. G. Treasurer's report was presented, received, and adopted. It showed, after making all the current expenditure, a favourable balance of £12 11s. 10d. On the proposition of Ex-Comp. Anderton, seconded by Ex-Comp. P.ard, Ex-Comp. W. Tweedy was re-elected the Treasurer. The Prov. G.S.E.'s report, which was received and adopted, showed that during the past year three new chapters, had been opened in the province, those of Saltash, Launceston, and Bodmin, with a total membership returned of 229. The Holubian Chapter, No. 75, at Falmouth was still dormant. The committee appointed at the last P.G. Chapter to form bye-laws had carried out those duties, and the bye-laws had been circulated throughout the province. Comps. W. Tweedy, E. T. Carlyon, and T. Stephens were appointed a committee to obtain a set of collars and jewels for the Prov. G. Chapter. The following Comps. were invested as the Prov. G. Officers for the ensuing year:—Colonel Peard, H.; E. D. Anderton, J.; E. T. Carlyon, S.E.; R. John, S. N.; H. G. Colvill, P.S.; T. C. Stephens, 1st A.S.; J. Bedford Kerswill, 2nd A.S.; W. Tweedy, Treas.; W. Lake, Regis.; Emma Holmes, S.B.; C. Truscott, jun., St. B.; J. W. Chegwidgen, D.C.; Jno. F. Childs, O.; T. White, 570, W. Polkinghorne, 1151, G. Barnes, 1264, A. A. Davies, 330, Stewards; W. Rookes, Janitor; H. Elliott, 1151, W. Bray, 459, Assist. Janitors. In the evening a large party of companions dined together at the Royal Hotel. The P.G. Sup, the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, presided; Comp. J. R. Collins occupied the vice-chair.

Comp. Sandhor provided an excellent and substantial repast, to which ample justice was done. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given from the chair and the noble Lord who presided, in giving The Health of the Grand Master and the rest of the Officers of the Grand Chapter of England took occasion to remark on the position of the Grand Lodge of England in breaking off all connection with the Grand Orient of France for eliminating the name of the great Architect of the Universe from their ritual—a course of action which his Lordship strongly approved, as without a belief in the Deity Masonry would be nothing. The companions heartily applauded Lord Mount Edgcumbe's remarks. The brethren separated at an early hour.

THE LATE BRO. LITTLE.

Bro. Col. Francis Burdett, Prov. G. Master and Prov. G. Supt Middlesex, writes us as follows:—

"It is with extreme regret that I have not yet had an opportunity of testifying to the manner in which I have always appreciated our late Bro. Little's services, not only in the position he has latterly held as D. Prov. G.M., but of his services to the Province ever since its formation in 1869. Bro. Little has in every instance endeavoured to carry out any project or suggestion for the well-being of the Masonic charities especially, and many other things besides, to the advantage, and in almost all cases with success. No one in the Order can feel his loss more severely than I do, as I always found he was ever ready to assist me in any undertaking that I might require his advice and services. I wish he had been spared for some years longer."

HENRY MUGGERIDGE TESTIMONIAL.—The Presentation will be made on Wednesday, May 15th, at the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, City. Dinner on table at 6.30. Tickets, price 3s. 6d., to be had of the Hon. Sec. Bro. Fellows, 19, Montague-road, Dalston.

The Prince of Wales witnessed the annual athletic sports at the Charterhouse School, Godalming, on Monday last.

Charles Dickens's "Vacant Chair" was sold last week for 31 guineas. The original price of the chair was 16s.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The General Committee of this Institution met on Thursday afternoon, at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Lieut.-Col. Creaton, V.P. and Trustee, occupied the chair. There were also present Bros. Benj. Head, Joshua Nunn, Griffiths Smith, J. A. Rucker, Lieut.-Col. Peters, S. Rawson, Jas. Terry, S. Rosenthal, W. F. Collard Moutrie, F. G. Baker, Rev. J. M. Vaughan, W. Paas, C. F. Matier, Capt. J. Wordsworth, H. A. Dubois, Robert E. Stevenson, W. Stephen, A. H. Tattershall, H. G. Warren, Rob. B. Webster, Herbert Dicketts, C. F. Hogard, John Mason, T. R. Eames, Thomas Massa, E. Letchworth, Peter de Lande Long, John Boyd, Edward Spooner, Thos. W. White, Charles Chard, Geo. Brown, W. Roebuck, Geo. Phythian, Henry Venn, Thos. Kingston, W. H. Farnfield, John Dennis, H. Potter, Henry J. Lewis, and H. Massey (Freemason).

After the formal opening business was completed, the following brethren were nominated for the House Committee for next election:—Bros. John Boyd, H. A. Dubois, Benj. Head, Joshua Nunn, Peter de L. Long, Col. Peters, J. A. Rucker, Griffiths Smith, A. H. Tattershall, Thomas W. White, H. A. Diaper, J. A. Farnfield, John Mason, Capt. Wordsworth, J. L. Mather, E. Letchworth, Rev. J. M. Vaughan, and S. R. n w

The following brethren were nominated for the Audit Committee:—Bros. J. G. Chancellor, Herbert Dicketts, Thos. Kingston, H. C. Leander, Joshua Nunn, W. Paas, W. Roebuck, R. B. Webster, Wm. Bailly, Jardine, H. M. Levy, and J. G. Marsh.

Bro. H. G. Warren gave notice of the following motion:—

In Rule LXXIV, p. 17—to omit the words "in the sum of three hundred pounds" and to insert in lieu thereof, "in such sum as the Committee shall from time to time deem fit."

Also to omit the word "two" in the first line, and add in line four after the word five, "by guarantee society, or otherwise."

Bro. A. H. Tattershall, upon recommendation of House Committee, gave notice of the following motion:—"That the salary of the late Secretary be paid up to Michaelmas next, to his widow, as a mark of the great esteem in which he was held by this Committee."

Two petitions were then received, and the candidates placed on the list for next election.

The next business on the agenda paper was the consideration of the vacancy in the Secretaryship of the Institution, caused by the death of Bro. Little, and Bro. Hedges having read Law 72, which deals with the subject,

The Chairman said he thought the best course to pursue under the circumstances, would be that followed when the last similar vacancy occurred, to appoint a sub-committee to consider and report on the duties and emoluments of the Secretary.

Bro. H. A. Dubois said he thought this was the proper time to mention a matter which was personal to himself. A report had got abroad, that he was to be a candidate for the vacant Secretaryship. That was entirely erroneous, as he was not, and had never intended, to be a candidate for the office.

The Chairman said it was competent for this Committee to appoint a Sub-Committee, which he did not think should be a large Committee, to enquire and report upon the duties and emoluments of the office of Secretary.

The Committee then appointed Bros. Benj. Head, J. A. Rucker, W. H. Farnfield, Joshua Nunn, Colonel Creaton, and Griffiths Smith to be the Sub-Committee on the subject.

On the motion of the Chairman, a cordial vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Alfred Best, the proprietor of the Freemasons' Tavern, for lending the use of the large hall for the last Quarterly Court and Election, on which occasion the brethren experienced so much more comfort than at times when the election used to be taken in the Board Room of Freemasons' Hall.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the proceedings.

H.R.H. Prince Leopold R.W.G.M. Oxfordshire, is at present in Naples.

MARRIAGE OF SIR CHARLES MORDAUNT.—The marriage of Miss Mary Cholmondeley, daughter of the Hon. and Rev. Henry Pitt Cholmondeley, rector of Adlestrop and honorary canon of Gloucester Cathedral, to Sir Charles Mordaunt, Bart., of Walton Hall, Warwickshire, took place at Adlestrop on Wednesday. The bride is a niece of Lord Leigh, R.W. Grand Master for Warwickshire, her mother being a daughter of the first Baron Leigh. The bridegroom, who is the tenth baronet, was born in 1836. The wedding breakfast took place at the rectory, and was attended by a distinguished company. Sir Charles and Lady Mordaunt left Adlestrop in the afternoon.

The Fifteen Sections will be worked in the Star Lodge of Instruction, 1275, at the Marquis of Granby, New-cross-road, on Saturday, April 27th, 1878, by Bro. Govan Macdonald, P.M. 1158, Preceptor; Lodge opens at 7 precisely.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Diseases of the skin.—No case of disease of the skin, be its nature what it may, has failed to be benefited when these potent remedies have been properly applied. In scrofulous and scorbutic affections they are especially serviceable. Scurvy and eruptions, which have resisted all other modes of treatment and gradually from year to year, have been completely cured by Holloway's cooling Ointment and purifying Pills, which root out the disease from the blood itself and leave the constitution free from every morbid taint. In the nursery Holloway's Ointment should be ever at hand; it will give ease in sprain, contusions, burns, scalds, and infantile eruptions, and may ways as safely be applied by any ordinary attendant.—[Adv.]

THE PARIS EXHIBITION.

The Prince of Wales has addressed the following letter to the Council of the Society of Arts in reference to the forthcoming Paris Exhibition:—

"Marlborough House, Pall-mall, S.W.,
April 13, 1878.

"Sir,—As President of the Royal Commission for the Paris Universal Exhibition, I am desirous of ascertaining what assistance can be given towards the visit of artisans who might be delegated to examine and report upon the special technicalities of the various industries which will be displayed at this Exhibition. Similar reports were made during the Paris Exhibition of 1867, and the Society of Arts, always foremost in promoting such undertakings, took an important part in bringing together the very valuable documents which were published at that time. At the Vienna Exhibition, also, reports of a like nature were drawn up, and a small volume containing much interesting information was the result. In the present instance, having undertaken the responsibility of the executive arrangements connected with the Paris Exhibition, I should be glad to hear that the Council of the Society of Arts find that it is in their power to co-operate with the Royal Commission in providing for the funds and organisation which will be necessary in order to carry out the object in view. The Royal Commission will contribute a sum of one hundred guineas out of the vote which has been placed at their disposal for the British section; and as a further proof of the interest which, in common with my colleagues, I take in the promotion of these visits, I propose to request certain members of the Royal Commission to form themselves into a committee for the purpose of co-operating with the Council of the Society of Arts.

"I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,
"ALBERT EDWARD, P."

"To P. Le Neve Foster, Esq., Secretary of
the Society of Arts."

The Council, at their meeting on Monday, expressed their willingness to undertake the duties proposed by his Royal Highness, and to render such assistance as lay in their power to further the object in view. For this purpose they nominated a committee to co-operate with the committee appointed by his Royal Highness, and voted 100 guineas towards the expenses of the undertaking.

The Fifteen Sections will be worked by the members of the Prince Frederick William Lodge of Instruction, No. 753, held at Lord's Hotel, Lord's Cricket Ground, St. John's Wood, on Tuesday, May 7th, Bro. F. G. Baker, P.M., in the chair. The Lodge will be opened at 7 o'clock. Brethren are invited to attend.

ELECTIC CHAPTER NO. 1201.—We are requested to announce that the consecration of this Chapter will take place at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, at half-past 4, and not at the Holborn Restaurant. It is the banquet that is to be held at the last named establishment at half-past six.

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales after leaving the Grand Festival on Wednesday last honoured the Haymarket Theatre with his presence, accompanied by the Princess. His Royal Highness left Marlborough House on Thursday evening for Paris, where it is expected he will remain until the second week in May.

Wednesday last being the thirty-fifth anniversary of the birth of Princess Louise of Hesse (Princess Alice of Great Britain and Ireland), the occasion was celebrated at Windsor with the usual rejoicings. The bells of St. George's Chapel and St. John's Church rang throughout the morning, and the Royal salutes were fired in the Long Walk and at Virginia Water.

The Saddlers' Company, at their meeting yesterday, decided to give £21 to the Eurydice Fund and £26 5s. to the London Hospital.

We learn from the *Gazette* that the Queen has appointed Bro. the Earl of Rosslyn, P.G.M. of Scotland to be her Majesty's High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

A Correspondent sends us (*Globe*) the following dates of Easter Sunday later than April 21 in the present year:—1755, April 23; 1766, April 23; 1791, April 24; 1810, April 22; 1821, April 22; 1832, April 22, 1848, April 23; 1859, April 24.

The number of passengers carried on the North Metropolitan Tramways Company's lines on Easter Monday amounted to 126,503.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS

For the Week ending Friday, May 3, 1878.

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

SATURDAY, APRIL 27.

Audit Com. Boys' School.
Lodge 1293, Burdett, Mitre Hot., Hampton Court
" 1686, Paxton, Crystal Palace.
" 1706, Orpheus, F.M.H.
Red Cross Con. 6, Roman Eagle, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-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 29.

Lodge 79, Pythagorean, Ship Hot., Greenwich.
" 1615, Bayard, 33, Golden-square.
Chap. 1201, Eclectic, F.M.H. (Consecration at 4.30)
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford (Annual Festival at 7.)

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.
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 30.

Lodge 141, Faith, Anderton's Hotel, 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, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Florence Nightingale, F.M.H., William-st., Woolwich.
Constitutional, Bedford Hot., Southampton Bds., 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.
Gen. Com. Grand Chap. at 3.
Lodge of Benevolence, at 6.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1.

Grand Chapter, 6 for 7.
Lodge 1401, Athenæum, Athenæum, Camden-road, N.
" 1549, Abercorn, Abercorn Hot., Gt. Stanmore.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Confidence, Railway Tav., Railway-place, Fenchurch-st.
Burdett Courts, Salmon and Ball, Bethnal Green-rd.
Jordan, Devonshire Arms, Devonshire-st., W., at 8.
Mt. Lebanon, Horse Shoe Tav., Stones-End, E.
Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London-street, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
La Tolerance, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., 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, MAY 2.

Lodge 10, Westminster and Keystone, F.M.H.
" 27, Egyptian, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 45, Strong Man, M.H., Masons' Avenue.
" 231, St. Andrews, F.M.H.
" 554, Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
" 1155, Excelsior, Sydney Arms, Lewisham-rd.
" 1360, Royal Arthur, Wimbledon Club Lecture H.
" 1445, Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., E.
" 1539, Surrey Masonic Hall, S.M.H.
Chap. 174, Sincerity, Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars.
Encamp. 127, Bard of Avon, 33, Golden-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Chatham Arms, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Libury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Milbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, M.H., Masons' Avenue.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.
Great Northern, Berwick Arms, Berners-st., Oxford-st.
Rose, Walmer Castle Hot., Peckham-road, at 8.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.

FRIDAY, MAY 3.

Lodge 706, Florence Nightingale, M.H., Woolwich.
Chap. 3, Fidelity.
" 8, British, F.M.H.

Encamp. 134, Blondel, Cannon-row, Westminster.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st., at 6 p.m.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Selgrave, Harp Tav., Jermyn-st., W.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st., at 7.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Westbourne, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.