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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

LODGE OF FAITH (No. 141).—The last regular meeting of this lodge for the season was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on the 30th ult., when there were present amongst others Bros. Mallett, W.M.; C. Dairy, S.W.; Rumball, J.W.; Carter, P.M., Treasurer; Stuart, P.M., Secretary; Heaphy, I.G.; Walls, P.G.O. Middlesex (*Freemason*), W.S.; Clark, D.C. Past Masters Peavor, Green, Themans, Kennett, Waywood. The visitors were Bros. F. Walters, P.P.G.D. of Middlesex, &c.; Lewis, 87; Moss, Orpheus; Green, 111; Andrews, 382; Watson, Belgravia; Lovell, W.S., Marquis of Ripon; H. J. Lardner, West Smithfield; Butt, Jun. W.S., West Smithfield; Moss, 1275; Neave, 1314. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M., with the assistance of his officers, raised Bro. Holmes, and passed Bros. Jannion and Moss (1275), the ceremonies being well performed. A notice of motion to decrease the annual donation to the benevolent fund in connection with the lodge was postponed to the next meeting in consequence of the mover, Bro. Hopwood, P.M., being absent through illness. The lodge having been closed the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet. The preliminary toasts having been disposed of the W.M. took occasion to drink the health of "The Provincial Grand Officers of Middlesex," coupled with the name of Bro. Walters, who made an able response. The W.M. followed and gave Bro. Stuart an opportunity of congratulating Bro. Mallett upon the manner in which he had discharged the duties of his high and onerous position during his year of office, and which term was now drawing to a close. This toast having been received most warmly, the W.M. made a brief reply, and immediately gave "The Visitors." The toast was acknowledged by nearly every visiting brother present, and their respective replies were to the effect that their visit to the Faith Lodge had been in every way most agreeable to them. "The Officers" came next, and was acknowledged by Bros. Dairy and Rumball. During the proceedings Bros. Moss, Walls, and others entertained the brethren, who separated at a comparatively early hour until the last Tuesday in September next.

LODGE OF ISRAEL (No. 205).—This old lodge held its last meeting for the present season on Tuesday, the 30th ult., at the City Terminus Hotel. Bro. A. M. Cohen, P.M., W.M., presided, and among the other brethren in attendance were Bros. C. Bassington, S.W.; H. G. Phillips, J.W.; Chas. F. Hogard, P.M., Secretary; Lewis Norden, S.D.; Joseph Da Silva, Steward; I. P. Cohen, I.P.M.; S. M. Harris, P.M.; H. M. Harris, P.M.; Wolff Littaur, P.M.; Francis Buckland, P.M. Visitors: Henry Cohen, 548; Joseph Sabar, 1502; S. Boas, jun., 185; L. Cooper, 141; Joseph John Nathan, and H. Massey (*Freemason*). The work performed was initiating Mr. A. Abrahams, passing Bros. M. Cohen, A. Cohen, and C. Richmond, and raising Bro. T. Hogotoren. Two brethren had their petitions to the Lodge of Benevolence read and recommended; sums of money were voted to cases of distress; and on the W.M. stating that he was Steward of the lodge for the next festival of the Boys' School the lodge voted ten guineas to his list. A very feeling letter was read from Bro. Charles Coote, P.M., Treasurer, apologising for his absence on account of ill health; and the brethren then closed lodge, and adjourned to a choice little supper. The usual toasts followed, and the W.M. in proposing the toast of "The Initiate," said he felt satisfied from that brother's behaviour that evening, from his belonging to a very honourable and learned profession, from his being sufficiently young to become thoroughly acquainted with every duty of Freemasonry, and from his proposer and seconder, Bros. S. M. Harris, P.M., and H. M. Harris, P.M., being respected members of the lodge, the brethren would all be delighted at having him amongst their number. The very names of his proposer and seconder were a sufficient guarantee of his being a worthy member, and that he would become an honour to the Lodge of Israel. Bro. Abraham Abrahams

in reply said he fully appreciated the honour conferred on him by the brethren admitting him as one of their members, and he thanked the W.M. for his very kind and flattering remarks with respect to himself and his proposer and seconder. He trusted he should never do anything that would bring discredit on Freemasonry or on the Lodge of Israel. The W.M. next proposed "The Visitors," and said that although this was an off night, and a slight repast was placed before the brethren, he was sure that the visitors felt such an interest in Freemasonry that they would rather the lodge were divested of a banquet entirely than that charity should not be extended by the lodge. He then referred to each visitor individually, and called upon Bro. H. Massey to respond. The reply having been given, Bro. I. P. Cohen, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M.," with whom, he said, all the brethren must have been much gratified, both for his working in the lodge and his presidency at the hospitable board. Both had shown that there was no deficiency on the part of the W.M., and the brethren had been convinced that they had elected the right man. He trusted that he might for many years be among the brethren. His whole heart and soul had always been in the welfare of the Lodge of Israel; he was quite sure it was still so, and that so it would always continue. The W.M. responding, said it was true he had been for many years a member of the lodge, and he warmly reciprocated Bro. Cohen's sentiment that he might for many years yet be a member of the lodge. It had at all times been his most earnest desire from the time of his initiation to make himself as useful a member of the Lodge of Israel as he possibly could. He trusted that during his career of a great many years as a member of the lodge he had made himself useful in many capacities, not only as W.M. for the second time, but when thirty years ago he first became W.M., and in the interval which had since passed. On many occasions he had acted, and he hoped he always should act, as the peacemaker of the lodge. In his opinion there was no character so advantageous or useful as a brother who made it his especial duty to try to make peace among brethren. He was very happy to say that in later years he had not been called upon to discharge this duty, for the Lodge of Israel had been harmony itself. He did not think the oldest members could say that for the last twenty years there had been any cavilling in the lodge; but before that time he had a great deal to do in keeping the lodge together. In this he had been successful. The lodge had prospered, and was prospering, because they had introduced brethren whom they were at all times glad to see. Whether as a P.M. of thirty years, or as W.M., he should do all that lay in his power to study the interests of the Lodge of Israel and the comfort of its members. The W.M. next proposed "The Benevolent Fund of the Lodge of Israel," and said there was nothing so creditable or so useful to the lodge as this fund. It also gave the lodge greater credit among the visiting brethren. It was not every lodge that could boast of a Benevolent Fund. As president of that fund he had had an opportunity of knowing its usefulness. He was quite sure that in the hands of its Treasurer, Bro. S. M. Harris, and its Secretary, Bro. Hogard, the fund would prosper. For the information of the younger members of the lodge he would say the fund was founded to assist those members of the lodge who required assistance, and it was kept up by the subscriptions and donations of members of the lodge only. Nothing was accepted from visiting brethren. Bro. S. M. Harris, in reply, said he felt as great an interest in the fund as the W.M., and he believed every member of the lodge felt the same interest. The Benevolent Fund of Grand Lodge was open at all times to all Masons, but that of the Lodge of Israel was strictly and solely confined to members of that lodge, their widows, or children. When they gave from this fund it was with no niggard hand. Bro. Hogard said he had been through the books, and he found that in twenty years there had been thirty-one distinct claims on the fund. One of the peculiarities of the fund was that if necessity arose a brother was not relieved once only, but as many times as his unfortunate circumstances required. As a proof that no niggardliness was shown he would inform the brethren that he found one case was relieved with £76 10s.; another with £50; three with £30; nine with £25; one with £35; and four with £20. The whole amount given in twenty years was £568. Bro. I. P. Cohen, I.P.M., replied for "The P.M.'s," and said there were no P.M.'s in any lodge more willing to assist the W.M. than the P.M.'s of the Lodge of Israel. It did not matter what office might be vacant, they were at all times willing to fill it. Nothing gave him greater pleasure than to do all he could to satisfy the brethren, and it was his aim to prove himself worthy of the confidence reposed in him. The W.M. in giving "The Health of the Officers" complimented all those brethren on their efficiency; and the officers having responded, the Tyler's toast was given, and the brethren separated. Bro. Alfred Abrahams sang a capital patriotic song in the course of the evening.

NEW CROSS LODGE (No. 1559).—May is the most charming of all months, and on Saturday last the weather was delightful to a degree, bringing to one's mind the thoughts of water picnics, country drives, and other enjoyable recreation. But the brethren of 1559 (and a considerable number of visitors) had but one thought in common, and that, to do honour to Bro. Walter Simmonds, whose recent severe illness has been the cause of much sorrow to the lodge, over which he now presides. It was a goodly muster followed Bro. H. Keeble, W.M., into lodge, which when duly formed was composed of the following brethren: Keeble, P.M. 1275, W.M.; E. H. Thielley, P.P.G.S.B. Mdx., P.M., S.W.; Walter Simmonds, J.W.; Louis Beck, S.D.; H. J. Green, P.M. 1275, &c., J.D.; W. Cowley (acting as), I.G.; T. Grummant, Sec.; F. Walters, P.G.J.W. Mdx. P.M., Treas.; Kippis, P.G.O. Kent P.M. Organist; Ernest E. Smith, D.C.; A. B. Church, Tyler;

Alex. Macgillivray, Fry, Knibbs, H. Metham, T. Metham, A. Priest, R. Steers, Jas. Moss, W. Scurr, Hiram Henton, together with the following visitors: Bros. C. Horsley, P.P.G.R. Mdx., P.M. 69, 382, &c., &c., G.S. 32; Govan Macdonald, P.M. 1158; J. Lightfoot, P.M. 147; D. Rose, P.M. 73; G. Brown, P.M. 169; John Walter, W.M. 1158; E. Mallett, W.M. 141; Dr. W. Bull, 804; W. Miller, 65; Penney, 147; W. H. Stannier, 1475; and F. Hilton, 1475. The lodge having been opened, the Secretary read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were confirmed, and then the ballot was taken for and in unanimous favour of Mr. G. Fry and William Clark. Messrs. W. Peverley (elected at the previous meeting) and W. Clark were then admitted and most impressively initiated into the mysteries of the Craft, both brethren listening with peculiar attention to the solemn charges so admirably rendered by Bro. Keeble. Having received the congratulations of the W.M. and brethren, the initiates withdrew, and preparatory to the opening in the Second Degree, Bros. T. Metham, A. Priest, and W. Scurr, were interrogated and gave convincing proofs of the progress they had made in the service. In due course they were passed to the degrees of F.C.'s. Bro. H. J. Green, P.M. 1538, &c., then presented Bro. Walter Simmonds, J.W., W.M. elect, who duly pledged himself and took the oaths and obligation of office, after which (all below the degree of W.M. having retired) a Board of Installed Masters was formed, and Bro. Keeble, assisted by Bro. Green, installed his successor. The M.M.'s were duly admitted, followed in classes by the remainder of the brethren, who duly hailed and saluted their new ruler. Now followed that portion of the ceremony so interesting to those whom it immediately concerned, and pleasing to all who love to see merit suitably rewarded and honours conferred on those to whom they are due, viz.: the appointment and investiture of officers. The choice of the W.M. does him great credit, and augurs favourably for the future well-working and conduct of the lodge. The appointments were made as under:—E. H. Thielley, P.G.S.B. Mdx., P.M., &c., S.W.; Louis Beck, W.M. Rothesay, J.W.; H. J. Green, P.M. 1538, S.D.; Ernest E. Smith, J.D.; W. Cowley, I.G.; A. B. Church (reinvested 3rd time), Tyler; H. Keeble, I.P.M. (reinvested 2nd time), Sec.; Fredk. Walters, P.G.J.W. Mdx., P.M., &c. (reinvested 3rd time), Treas.; T. Grummant, D.C.; J. Moss, W.S.; A. Macgillivray, C.S., all of whom were enthusiastically received on their appointment. The W.M. having risen for the first and second time, the Secretary read a communication from Grand Lodge. At the third rising, the W.M. announced a pleasing duty which fell to his lot to perform. It was the presentation, on the part of the members, to Bro. Hy. Keeble, the retiring W.M., of a testimonial of their esteem, and the high estimation in which they held him. A splendid Past Master's jewel, mounted in rare brilliants, and with the New Cross emblem in gold and enamel, was meant as a recognition of the thorough efficiency with which he had discharged the onerous duties of his year of office. A beautifully chased silver snuff box (well stocked with choice dust) and a tastefully emblazoned address on vellum were intended to convey to him the gratitude and thanks of the members for the untiring energy with which he, the principal founder of the lodge, had bestowed on its behalf since its consecration in Feb., 1876. Bro. Keeble replied most modestly, assuring the brethren that what he had done for the lodge was as nothing in comparison to what he would do if spared by the G.A.O.T.U. This pleasant episode concluding the business of the day, the lodge was closed in due form, and with solemn prayer. Then came an adjournment to the new banqueting hall, built quite recently, for the accommodation of the Masonic patrons of the New Cross Public Hall. The brethren having bored the bounties of the festive board to the satisfaction of themselves and the caterer, the W.M. gave the usual royal and Masonic toasts, which were received with Masonic loyalty. The W.M. gave "The Officers of Grand Lodge," on whose behalf Bro. Horsley replied, and then Bro. Keeble, P.M., called upon the brethren to drink deeply to the health (and the best of health) of their newly-installed W.M., Bro. Simmonds, whose recovery from a painful illness was the cause of so much rejoicing to a large circle of his personal friends assembled there that day. With enthusiasm the brethren responded and heartily smacked the New Cross fire. The W.M. assured the brethren that he should never forget the hearty manner in which they had received him, neither could he express his thanks sufficiently for the honour they had that day conferred on him. With renewed health he should lay himself out to labour unceasingly for the welfare of the lodge over which he had presided, and after the enthusiastic manner in which his health had been responded to he was confident that he should be supported cordially by his officers, who to a brother were thoroughly acquainted with their duties. The healths of the I.P.M. (responded to by Bro. Keeble in a humorous speech) and those of "The Visitors" were next honoured, Bros. John Walker, W.M. 1158, for the W.M.'s, and David Rose, P.M. 73, for the P.M.'s, responding, the latter paying a feeling tribute to the W.M., whose illness had cast so heavy a gloom over all present at the last meeting of the lodge. The toast of "The Officers" was responded to individually by the newly-invested, and that of "The Initiates" by Bro. Clark. The Tyler's toast brought pro forma the evening to a close, although many lingered to drink renewed health and long-life to Bro. Simmonds and prosperity to 1559. During the evening Bro. Kippis, P.G. Org. Kent, P.M., Org. 1559, delighted the brethren with the entrancing touch of his fingers on one of his own instruments, and accompanied Bros. Walter, Cowley, Horsley, and Petherley in some capital songs.

BATH.—Royal Cumberland Lodge (No. 41).—A regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Ma-

sonic Hall, Bath, on Thursday, 2nd inst. (the last of the session), but as there was only some routine business to be done there is little to report. The lodge was opened at 7.50 p.m., Bro. Wilkinson, W.M., in the chair, supported by Bros. T. J. Brown, P.M.; Capt. Peel Floyd, P.M.; Moutrie, P.M.; Carey, P.M.; and Slunn Dill, P.M. 906, &c. The officers were all in their places—Bros. Ashley, P.M., Treas.; Wilton, D.C.; G. Falkner, S.W.; P. Braham, J.W.; F. S. Gummer, Sec.; W. Hunt, S.D.; C. W. Radway, J.D.; Capt. Robinson, I.G.; Mercer and Holmes, Stewards; Bigwood, Tyler. The minutes of the last regular lodge were duly passed. A letter was read from Bro. Dr. Hopkins, P.M., pleading continued illness as excuse for absence. The W.M. addressed the lodge on the recent election of the boy Cooper to the Boys' School, commenting on the very indefatigable manner in which Bro. Dr. Hopkins had worked to secure the same, and proposed cordial votes of thanks to the sister lodge, the Royal Sussex, No. 53, and the Royal Albert Edward, No. 906, for their kind co-operation in the matter. Letters were ordered to be written to them. The D.P.G.M. of Somerset, Bro. Else, had written to the lodge to the effect that our P.G.M., the Earl of Carnarvon, would represent the province at the ensuing festival. A sum of five guineas was offered by the Treas., Bro. T. P. Ashley, P.M., &c., and the W.M., Bro. J. Wilkinson, to the Stewards' list, making 10 guineas. Some small accounts were ordered to be paid. Three new names were proposed for initiation. Altogether the meeting was very cordial and well attended; several visitors and P.M.'s. being present. The candidate for passing was again absent on account of severe illness. The lodge was closed with solemn prayer, and in perfect harmony, at 9 p.m.

RINGWOOD.—Lodge of Unity (No. 131).—The brethren of this very old lodge assembled at their duties on Thursday, April 25th, at the old historic hotel, the White Hart, Ringwood, where, for 102 years, the lodge has been carried on by succeeding generations of Masons. The house where the lodge has met for so many years has a most interesting history, and Bro. Edmund Low, P.M., who is well skilled in the Craft, is nothing loth to speak out concerning the interesting legends which gather round a house 750 years old, as moss gathers round the old trees in the neighbouring forest where Rufus met his death. In the "History of Signboards," by Mr. J. Camden Hotten, it is related that King Henry VII., with Phillip, Archduke of Spain, and many nobles and ladies, enjoyed a day's hunting in the New Forest, hunting a white hart, which after a day's running crossed the river Avon (which flows near to the hotel and affords capital fishing), and was run down near to the old "house of entertainment." The noble animal was about to be sacrificed, when the ladies of the company interceded for the white beast, clad by nature in the garb of innocence and purity. Its life was spared, and the king, who dined at the hotel, requested that the sign of the house should thenceforth be "The White Hart," in memory of the run and the delivery of the hunted beast. The keeper of the woods and forests, Halliday Wagstoffe, was that day knighted on the spot. The Unity Lodge was established in 1754, at Lynton, but, as a framed and glazed warrant given by Bro. Henry Dagge, Deputy Grand Master of Hampshire in 1776, shows, the numbers had fallen, and as there were brethren around Ringwood anxious to have the advantage of a lodge near at hand the Lodge of Unity was transferred to the White Hart. Bro. Stephen Marker, who had been presented "as a person of good morals, great skill in the Craft, true and trusty, and a lover of the whole Fraternity wherever dispersed over the face of the earth," was the first Master at Ringwood. The lodge room has a copy of the *Salisbury Journal* of 1776, giving an account of the transfer of the lodge, and this states that "there was a very numerous and respectable assemblage" upon the occasion, that the brethren marched to church accompanied by large numbers of brethren from the adjacent towns, and headed by a fine band—the rector preaching a sermon suitable to the proceedings. Thus in 1876 Lodge of Unity was able by these records to obtain the acknowledgment of its centenary. Bro. the Rev. Gordon Brown, of Bournemouth, is the W.M. now, but he was absent on Thursday, and Bro. Dyer, P.M., presided in his absence. Bros. Ward, being S.W.; Stephen Master, J.W.; Stock, S.D.; Street, J.D.; Alexander, I.G.; and Bro. Low directing the ceremonies with that ease which is the accompaniment of perfect knowledge. Three brothers were passed in a very creditable manner. If we may be pardoned giving the lodge a hint, we would suggest that they should have a weekly lodge of instruction at Ringwood. The lodge could give its warrant for this, and the system in London of each member paying a few pence a meeting for expenses could be adopted, with the advantage of affording the younger members the means of learning their duties, as well as giving those acquainted with the ceremonies the pleasure of imparting their knowledge. In the many brothers of the rod and line who make the White Hart their very pleasant head-quarters (and the comforts they meet with there will induce the visitors to come again) will be at times found brothers of the "mystic tie," ready to help or be helped in Masonic learning. At the after gathering of the brethren they gave a cordial greeting to Bro. While (*Freemason*), P.M. 228.

WARRINGTON.—Lodge of Lights (No. 148). The regularly monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, on Monday, the 29th ult. The W.M., Bro. Joseph Pickthall, was supported by Bros. J. Rymer Young, S.W.; C. E. Hindley, J.W.; W. Sharp, P.M., P.P.G.J.W.; John Bowes, P.M., P.P.G.J.W. Cumberland and Westmorland; James Paterson, S.D.; Thos. Grime, J.D.; Arthur Peake, I.G.; Jno. Armstrong, W.M. No. 1250, Treas.; Thomas Jones, John Harding, P.M.; Alderman Epherd, P.M.; James Hannah; B. L. Pier-

point; Thos. B. Carter; R. W. Francomb, J. W. Thorp, Thomas Morris, Jno. Pierpoint; Thos. Domville, Tyler. Among the visitors we noticed Bros. Finney, P.M. 1250; Capt. Robt. G. Webster, 960, Camptown; Charles Petty, 447; Shaw Green, 1250; and Sam. Wood, 1134. The lodge was opened with the usual solemnities, when the minutes of the previous meeting were read and declared to be correctly recorded. The ballot was then taken for Bro. W. Kinsey as a joining member, and afterwards for Dr. Alexander Mackie, a candidate for the mysteries and privileges of the Order. In both cases the ballot was unanimously in favour, and Dr. Mackie being present was impressively initiated by the W.M.; the charge was delivered by Bro. Past Master Bowes. After some routine business the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment, which was served in an excellent manner by Mrs. Pennington, of the Nag's Head Hotel. After supper the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were well cared for. Alderman Hephred proposed "The Health of the Initiate" and expressed the great pleasure the lodge had to number amongst them a gentleman of Dr. Mackie's position and talents. Bro. Dr. Mackie in a long and interesting speech acknowledged the toast, in the course of which he said he had for many years had a strong desire to become a Mason, and now that he had been initiated he felt he had discharged an important duty to himself. After the other toasts, which were interspersed by some excellent songs by Bro. Petty, the Tyler's brought the proceedings to a close.

BEDFORD.—Stuart Lodge (No. 540).—The brethren held their last meeting of the season on Wednesday, April 24th, at their rooms at the Swan Hotel, when there were present:—Officers—Bros. Dr. Rhys Williams, W.M.; Captain Colburn, S.W.; R. H. Coombs, J.W.; Col. Stuart, I.P.M.; Rev. Canon Brereton, Chaplain; J. R. Bull, P.M., acting S.D.; Stafford, acting J.D.; Carter, I.G.; Dr. Prior, P.M., Sec.; Alderman Sergeant, P.M., Treas.; Cookson, P.M., acting Organist; with Reynolds, Tyler. Brethren P.M.'s Rev. Faussett Ward and Boughton Smith, Bros. Harris, Moore, Chibnall, Kilpin, Thompson, Whittaker, Jarvis, Allen, Jessop, Foster, and De Deune. Visitors: Bros. Haydon, Old Union, 46; Rogers and Morris, of Chicheley, 607, Thrapstone. The former of these brethren was present at the last lodge, and so liked his reception in his mother lodge that he said he would come again, and so came. Bros. Allan, S.D., Thordy J.D., and Piper, Organist, sent excuses for absence, which were held by the brethren to be reasonable. The minutes of the former meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. Foster was raised to the Third Degree, and Bro. Jessops passed to the Second. The working generally was praised by Col. Stuart in proposing the health (after supper) of the W.M., who in returning thanks spoke most highly of the share of labour taken by the Deacons; indeed, he said that he had never seen it surpassed even in the best of London lodges. This is perhaps the more surprising when it is remembered that the places were filled on the spur of the moment, the Senior Deacon never having so officiated for certainly 20 years. This only goes to show that work once well done is always well done and always available, and we heartily commend this good and worthy labour of the past to the attention of the younger members of the lodge, and urge them to emulate so excellent an example. It was announced that the candidates, both boy and girl, to whom the lodge had given their votes were successful. Labour being ended, the brethren, to the number of 26, sat down to refreshment.

DERBY.—Hartington Lodge (No. 1085).—A meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Derby, on Wednesday, May 1st, 1878. Present: Bros. Geo. Pipes, W.M.; Wm. Heathcote, P.G.D. of C., and I.P.M.; Jos. Heathcote, S.W.; W. B. Hextall, J.W.; M. H. Bobart, P.P.S.G.W., Treas.; J. O. Manton, Sec.; P. Wallis, as S.D.; J. E. Russell, J.D.; G. F. Edwards, P.G.O. Org.; W. Butterfield, 10; Past Masters, W. Naylor, P.G. Sec.; and S. Pipes, P.P.S.G.D.; Bros. Eaton, Popplewell, Atherton, G. Hill, Stokes, Hefford, Baxter. Visitors: Bros. G. T. Wright, P.P.J.G.W.; and T. Merry, W. M. 731. The circular convening the lodge was read at 7.30 p.m. The minutes of the last meeting were confirmed. Mr. George Arnold was admitted to the First Degree of Freemasonry by the W.M. The charge relating to the initiation ceremony was delivered by the J.W. to Bros. Hefford, Baxter, and Arnold. Voting papers of the Institutions for Aged Freemasons, and for Widows of Freemasons, were received and signed by the W.M. Notices relating to the meeting of the Derbyshire Provincial Grand Lodge at Wickworth Town Hall, on May 9th, at mid-day, and other local matters were read. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banqueting hall.

LIVERPOOL.—Dramatic Lodge (No. 1609).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday afternoon, the 23rd ult., and proved one of the most interesting and successful since the consecration ceremony. Bro. W. J. Chapman, W.M., presided in his place in the E., and amongst the officers and members present were Bros. J. Bell, I.P.M.; B. B. Marson, P.M., P. G.S.B.; L. Courtenay, S.W.; J. Mackenzie, J.W.; A. Woolrich, Treas.; J. Atkinson, Sec.; R. Burgess, Organist, J. Pyer, S.S.; W. Savage, J.S.; W. H. Ball, Tyler; W. M. Annand, Dr. Whittle, Bond, D. Fleming, R. Eyles, J. Ashley, P. W. Sanderson, T. J. Osborne, J. H. Owens, T. Avann, I. de Free, Treas. 1502; P. Lowndes, H. Leslie, L. B. Brough, J. M. Boyd, J. Keet (acting, I.G.), T. Shrapnell, Dr. R. H. D. Johnson, Alan Robertson, T. S. Bailey, M. Robson, R. Williams, J. Capell, J. Ballard, R. F. Carter, F. Duncanson, H. P. Squire, W. Coates, R. F. Cowdell, J. W. R. Brown, J. Penney, W. Heap, &c. The visitors included Bros. Barry Sullivan (the eminent Shakespearian artiste), of St. Nicholas's Lodge, Aberdeen

J. Jacobs, 724; W. T. Tueski, I.G. 1502; G. Colonna, 102; J. H. Seymour, 541; J. H. Clynds, 63; F. Groom, 724; R. Brown, 1620; John Howson, 568; H. Round, 328; J. Bolton, P.M. 667; D. W. Davies, Sec. 606; H. Braithwaite, 673; J. R. Bottomley, 1675; &c. Bros. Annand, Heap, Dr. Whittle, Owen, and Sandeman were passed to the Second Degree, and Brother Matt. Robson raised to the Sublime Degree of a M.M. The W.M. announced that letters had been received from the widow of the late Bro. George Belmore, and also from Bro. Lionel Brough, acknowledging the valuable efforts which had been made by the members of the Dramatic Lodge towards securing the election of a son of the deceased comedian on the foundation of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. At a later period the efforts of Bro. Lowndes, a member of the Dramatic Lodge, in connection with the work of obtaining votes for the boy, were also cordially recognised by a special toast, and in acknowledging the compliment Bro. Lowndes referred to the assistance which had been so kindly given by the brethren in East Lancashire and elsewhere. As the day of meeting of the "Dramatic" was the 314th anniversary of Shakespeare's birthday, occasion was taken to propose his immortal memory. This was done by Bro. Henry Leslie in a speech of remarkable eloquence and power, and the toast was then drank in solemn silence. A substantial sum was voted for the relief of a distressed widow, whose husband had been killed a few weeks before. The votes of the lodge were promised to the Prov. Grand Sec. towards securing the election of a candidate for the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, and the remainder of the evening was spent in the harmonious manner so peculiarly characteristic of the Liverpool Dramatic Lodge.

LIVERPOOL.—Ancient Briton Lodge (No. 1675).—The first annual meeting of the members of this lodge after consecration was held on Tuesday, the 30th April, at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, where there was a large attendance. The lodge was duly opened at 5 o'clock by Bro. Dr. J. K. Smith, P.P.G.R., the W.M.; supported by Bros. D. S. Davies, Acting P.M.; R. Wylie, P.P.G.S.D., S.W.; J. R. Bottomley, J.W.; T. Evans, Sec.; J. Johnson, S.D.; R. Fairclough, Organist; and G. O. C. Rothwell, P.M. 1356. The private members present included Bros. J. R. Jones, J. Davies, Josh. Woods, T. H. Walker, John Lewis, C. Martin, J. Hughes, Jacob Davies, M. Oxley, W. G. Carchie, W. Woodcock, J. H. Hobbs, John Williams, Maurice Jones, Walter W. Thomas, John H. Jones, W. E. Coxon, G. Charney, Hugh Jones, John Lees, Hugh Pritchard, D. Davies, J. A. Lloyd, Joseph Wood (*Freemason*), A. Thomas, W. C. Cowell, W. Holden, Hugh R. Parry, Thos. Jones, R. W. Wynne, William Williams, W. Lockyer. The visitors present were Bros. H. Burrows, W.M. 673; S. J. McGeorge, P.G.R., P.M. 241; R. Williams, 1609; J. Hallow, P.M. 673 and 1505; J. R. Goepel, P.M. 155 and 823, P.P.G.D.C.; J. Hayes, P.M. 249; John Hill, 1609; A. Woolrich, 1609; Julius Gardner, 484; J. Busfield, 216; John Peters, P.P.G.S.W., N. Wales and Shropshire, P.M. 597; Robert Parry; W. J. Chapman, W.M. 1609; T. Holden, 1182; J. Skeaf, P.G. Org.; Daniel Davies 1035; Isaac Williams, 320; F. Barnett, S.W. 249; T. J. Hughes, 216, and M. Williamson, Tyler. The minutes of the preceding regular meeting and those of the lodge of emergency were read and confirmed unanimously, after which Bro. Dr. McGeorge, P.G. Reg., and Bro. J. T. Callow, P.M. 673 and 1505, presented Bro. R. Wylie, P.P.G.S.D., S.W., the W.M. elect, to receive, at the hands of Bro. Dr. Smith, the benefits of installation. The attractive ceremonial was performed by Bro. Smith in his well-known style, and after the W.M. had been saluted in the degrees, he invested the following brethren as his officers for 1878-79:—Bros. Dr. J. K. Smith, I.P.M.; J. R. Bottomley, S.W.; T. Evans, J.W.; J. W. Johnson, Sec.; W. E. Coxon, A.S.; the Rev. J. Rees Jenkins, Treas. (by proxy); R. Fairclough, S.D.; Dr. J. H. Pughe, J.D.; H. Jones, I.G.; H. Pritchard, S.S.; A. Thomas, J.S.; and M. Williamson, Tyler. Bro. Dr. Smith, I.P.M., presented the lodge with a silver salver, and a cordial vote of thanks was given to him for the gift, the same to be recorded on the minutes. Bro. Wynne Parry tendered his resignation as a member of the lodge, which was accepted with much regret, this expression of feeling, on the motion of the S.W., to be recorded on the minutes. The brethren were then called from labour to refreshment, provided by Bro. W. Vines, P.M. 220, in his best style, the attendance being most excellent. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given from the chair, "Bro. Lord Skelmersdale, P.G.M., and the P.G. Officers of West Lancashire" being acknowledged by Bro. Dr. McGeorge, P.G. Reg. Bro. Dr. Smith next gave "The W.M.," and in doing so referred to Bro. Wylie's undoubted Masonic worth, and the large amount of time which he devoted to the best interests of the Craft, along with the promotion of the welfare of the Masonic charities. The W.M., in reply, said he could not forget that he had done no more than his duty in the past, and reminded the brethren that he could do nothing in the chair during the year without the hearty support and co-operation of the brethren, which he hoped to enjoy during the time he occupied the chair. The W.M. next proposed "The I.P.M.," and presented Bro. Dr. Smith with a P.P.G.R.'s jewel, enlarging upon the important services he had rendered to the Craft in general and that lodge in particular. In response, Bro. Dr. Smith thanked the W.M. for his kind expressions of opinions and stated that the past year had been the happiest he had ever spent in Masonry. He intended to remain a member of the "Ancient Briton" so long as he lived. He had experienced no trouble nor difficulty in ruling the lodge, and its prosperity was shown by the good balance at the end of the year, after having given £40 in charity. "The Visitors" was acknowledged by Bro. Peters, P.P.G.S.W., North Wales and Shropshire; Bro. W. J. Chapman, W.M. 1609; and Bro. J. Hayes,

P.M. 249. "The Masonic Charities" was coupled with the name of Bro. J. R. Goepel, P.P.G.D.C., who expressed a hope that every lodge in the province would do all in its power for the London charities, as well as those nearer home and near their hearts in West Lancashire. Bro. Skeaf, P.G.O., responded for "The Musical Brethren," and a pleasant programme was furnished by Bros. Busfield, Hughes, Hill, and others. The proceedings afterwards closed in peace and harmony.

INSTRUCTION.

PERCY LODGE (No. 198).—The Fifteen Sections were worked by the members of the Royal Standard, in this lodge of instruction (by invitation), held at the Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, Islington, on Saturday, April 27th, 1878. Bros. T. Cull, S.D. 1146, W.M.; S. J. Byng, W.M. 902, S.W.; P. Dickinson, P.M. 1298, J.W.

FIRST LECTURE.

1st Section	...	Bro. S. Boaz, 185
2nd "	...	J. M. Lockwood, S.D. 198
3rd "	...	H. B. D. Dunn, S.D. 1698
4th "	...	C. G. Sparrow, 192
5th "	...	J. W. Wright, P.M. 1298
6th "	...	J. Davies, 193
7th "	...	J. A. Powell, J.W. 186

SECOND LECTURE.

1st "	...	Bro. J. Eldridge, P.M. 167
2nd "	...	P. Dickinson, P.M. 1298
3rd "	...	G. W. Saul, S.W. 1201
4th "	...	S. J. Byng, W.M. 902
5th "	...	F. G. Chant, 193

THIRD LECTURE.

1st "	...	Bro. J. Shackell, P.M. 193
2nd "	...	G. H. Hunter, J.W. 1298
3rd "	...	J. Davies, 193

The brethren acquitted themselves in the working of the different sections in the most masterly manner, and the W.M. put the questions in a manner that called forth the admiration of all present. There were present about fifty brothers, who came from far and near, and one and all expressed themselves highly delighted at the very enjoyable evening.

WELLINGTON LODGE (No. 548).—The annual festival of the above lodge took place on Monday, the 29th ult., at the White Swan Hotel, High-street, Deptford, and so far as the attendance was concerned left nothing to be desired on the part of its promoters, some sixty of the brethren and visitors assembling to enjoy the splendid working of the lodge, and its wonted hospitality. The lodge was opened at 7 p.m. precisely, Bro. James Griffin, P.M. 933, P.Z. 933, 79, &c., Preceptor of it, filling the chair, supported by the following officers: Bros. Macdonald, P.M. 1158 S.W.; Batchelor, D.C. 548, J.W.; Goldsmith, Sec. 1531 S.D.; Grammont, Sec. 1559 J.D.; Catterson, S.D. 548, I.G.; and Gibson, 1475 and 1531, Secretary of the lodge. The minutes of the previous meeting having been confirmed, the 1st and 2nd section of the First Degree were splendidly worked, Bro. Gibson being the interrogator. Bro. Capon, of the Pattison Lodge, No. 913, and Bro. Gosherson, of No. 193, were then elected members unanimously. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to a superb banquet. Among the visitors present were Bros. Clever, 171; Gosherson, 193; Seag, 73; Wilson, 177; Capon, 913; and C. Jolly, 913 (*Freemason*). The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been duly honoured, Bro. Griffin rose to propose "Success to the Wellington Lodge of Instruction." He said it was their connection with the Wellington Lodge of Instruction that brought them together that evening, and he was pleased to recognise so many brethren round the table who were members of it. Nothing would have gratified him more than to have seen many more present; however, he was pleased to see the lodge so well supported. (Cheers.) There could be no doubt that unavoidable circumstances kept them away, for he felt sure that if they could have known the company they were to have met they would have been here under any circumstances possible. He felt sure that when they heard how happy and pleasant an evening they had passed they would regret it as much as he did. (Hear hear.) Their Bro. Macdonald, who had been associated with the lodge so long, and had so recently retired from the position of Secretary, they felt the loss of very much (hear, hear), for he was "au fait" with all the circumstances of it, and he could only express in the name of the lodge their regret at that brother's decision, and ask them to drink to the toast that he had now the honour to propose, coupled with the name of Bro. Macdonald (Cheers.) Bro. Macdonald, in the course of an able and lengthy address, said he felt very gratified to see the manner in which the toast had been received. Their W.M. had told them that he had worked hard for the best interests of the lodge, and that those efforts had not been without success (Applause.) He remembered when he first joined the lodge in November, 1871, how few there were belonging to it, and how when he became W.M. of his lodge, 1158, he determined to do all that he possibly could to make that, the Wellington Lodge, a good Lodge of Instruction. At that time he found it a very small one, numbering only four or five members. He then thought there was something wanting to ensure its success. Bro. Dilley was at that time their Preceptor, and so small was the attendance that they thought it would be better to adjourn the lodge for six months. They then got Bro. Terry to work the ceremony of consecration, and never in the whole of his life had he witnessed the ceremony of consecration worked in such a manner as Bro. Terry worked it. (Applause.) That was the turning point in the existence of the lodge, from the average of nine attendances per year they increased to 12, and this year Bro. Gibson would be in a position to give a better account even yet of the increase made by it. (Cheers.) He had the honour to be Preceptor to one of the most flourishing lodges of instruction in the district,

the Star Lodge, and in a splendid peroration Bro. Macdonald wished the Wellington Lodge of Instruction, under its excellent Preceptor, Bro. Griffin, and its Secretary, Bro. Gibson, many happy and successful years, and concluded by proposing, "Long Life, Success, and Prosperity to its Preceptor, Treasurer, and Chairman, Bro. Griffin." Bro. Griffin, in response, said he remembered the lodge meeting in very short numbers, and expressed his pleasure at seeing the progress it had made of late. After paying a high tribute to the exertions of Bro. Dilley, who he declared had been the means of resuscitating the lodge, and who, through business, had been debarred from attending to it as his heart desired, had, in retiring, thrown his mantle upon his (Bro. Griffin's) shoulders, a fact he regretted much, because he was not only taken up with Craft Masonry, but in the Royal Arch he had important duties to perform, that took up his time materially. He regretted that for the last four years he had not an opportunity of visiting Grand Lodge, and after expressing the great pleasure he felt at receiving their kind congratulations, both as Preceptor, Treasurer, and Chairman, resumed his seat amid applause. The next toast was that of "The Visitors," and Bros. Jolly, Kelly, Downs, Wilson, and Seag responded. The toast of "The Officers," was next given, to which Bros. Batchelor, Gloster, Goldsmith, and Grammont replied. Bro. Gibson, as Secretary, said he hardly deserved the compliment paid him, as he had only been Secretary one month, and the position he was in to be able to tell them something of the success of the lodge was due entirely to Bro. Macdonald. (Cheers.) He felt proud to be appointed Secretary, and should endeavour to do the duties appertaining to the office with credit to the lodge. (Cheers.) The average of last year's attendance was twelve, during the present it had been sixteen and a half. They had missed but one meeting and that was the Bank Holiday, in August last. (Cheers.) Bro. Macdonald then, in glowing terms, proposed "The Masonic Press," coupled with the name of Bro. Jolly, who briefly replied, and then the Tyler's toast concluded a most enjoyable evening. The harmony was most excellent and well sustained, and the catering of the Bros. Porter was all that could be desired.

STAR LODGE (No. 1275).—As announced in our last week's issue the Fifteen Sections were worked in this lodge on Saturday, the 27th April, when over 50 brethren assembled to witness and take part in the work. At a few minutes past seven the lodge was opened by the Preceptor, Bro. Govan Macdonald, P.M. 1158, who after the usual preliminaries, and before a very critical audience, in which were no less than nine Preceptors, commenced the important business of the evening, in which the following brethren assisted:—

FIRST LECTURE.

1st Section	...	Bro. Hilton
2nd "	...	Hassell
3rd "	...	Grumman
4th "	...	Phillips
5th "	...	Andrews
6th "	...	Milburn
7th "	...	Rose

SECOND LECTURE.

1st "	...	Gloster
2nd "	...	Pulsford
3rd "	...	Waterman
4th "	...	Sadler
5th "	...	Shaw

THIRD LECTURE.

1st "	...	Callerson
2nd "	...	Church
3rd "	...	Milburn

The working throughout was of a very first-class character, and well maintained the reputation of this excellent lodge for its correct working. At the conclusion of the business hearty and unanimous votes of thanks were passed to the Preceptor, Bro. Macdonald, and to the brethren who had so ably seconded his efforts. We are given to understand the Charitable Association in connection with this lodge will commence its third session next month. Already nearly one thousand pounds have been paid to the Masonic Charities through this Association, and we heartily wish the members success in their third undertaking.

LIVERPOOL.—Mariners' Lodge (No. 249).—After a highly successful year's work of instruction, the members of this lodge of instruction celebrated their anniversary by dining at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, on Thursday evening, the 25th April. Bro. J. Hayes, P.M. 249, Preceptor, presided, and opened the lodge of instruction, supported by Bros. J. C. Robinson, W.M. 249, acting as P.M.; Whalley, S.W.; Bottomley, J.W.; Parry, I.G.; Barnett, Treasurer; W. Corbett, Secretary; Thornton, Vernon, Jenaway, Delamere, Morris Davies, John Pye, J. H. Walker, J. N. Pendleton, W. Mooney, G. C. Beecham, R. Fairclough, J. P. Jones, J. B. MacKenzie, and others. After the lodge of instruction minutes had been read and confirmed, the brethren, dispensing with labour for this occasion only, proceeded to refreshment under the presidency of the esteemed Preceptor, and during the after proceedings a number of toasts and songs were given, which made the time pass most pleasantly. Amongst the former were "The Queen and the Craft," "The Preceptor," "The P.M.'s of the Lodge of Instruction," "The Honorary Members," "The Secretary," "The Treasurer," and "The Past Preceptors." Song and sentiment rendered the meeting a peculiarly happy one, and the brethren separated at an early hour.

The consecration of the *Montgomery Lodge* No. 1741, took place on Thursday last, the 9th inst., at the King's Head Hotel, Diss, Norfolk. Bro. J. C. Chittock being the first Worshipful Master. A report of the proceedings will appear in our next.

Mark Masoury.

ST. MARK'S LODGE (No. 1).—The May meeting of the above lodge was held on Tuesday last, at the Freemasons' Tavern. There were present Bros. Thiellay, W.M.; Dubois, S.W.; Newman, J.W.; Levander, P.M., Treas.; Kenning, P.M., Sec.; Shepherd, I.G.; Dr. Brette, P.M.; Horsley, P.M.; Cubitt, P.M.; Wilkinson, Santer, Williams, D'Almaine. Visitor, Bro. Wm. Stanton Moses. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for the admission of Bro. J. B. Lambe, of the Lodge of Prudent Brethren. It being unanimously in his favour, he was advanced to the degree of Mark Master. Bro. Dubois was elected Worshipful Master for the ensuing year; Bro. Levander, P.M., Treas.; and Bro. Gilbert, Tyler. It was proposed by Bro. Horsley, P.M., seconded by Bro. Levander and carried unanimously, that a letter of condolence be sent to the widow of the late Bro. R. Wentworth Little.

HAMMERSMITH LODGE (211).—A meeting of this young but increasing lodge was held at the Windsor Castle Hotel, Hammersmith, when there were present, Bros. Mason, W.M.; Baldwin, S.W.; T. C. Walls, J.W. (*Freemason*); Dunham, M.O.; Adams, acting S.O.; A. Tisley, J.O.; Haynes, S.D.; Goodall, I.G.; Page, Steward; F. Walters, P.G.I.G., Secretary; Stevens, P.G.I.G. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. Stevens, by permission of the W.M. advanced Bro. J. Bartlett to the Degree of a M.M., the ceremony being carried out with that well-known brother's ability. A notice of motion having been given as to the election of a brother as an honorary member with all the privileges of a subscribing one, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to an excellent collation, catered for by Bro. Gilbert. The visitors were, Bros. Dubois, P.M., Mount Lebanon; Adams, W.M. 191 (Craft). At the conclusion of the repast the preliminary toasts were given briefly but pertinently by the W.M. Bros. Stevens and Walters responded for the Grand Officers, past and present. In proposing the health of "The W.M." Bro. Stevens took occasion to congratulate the lodge upon possessing so zealous and active a brother at their head. The Hammersmith had commenced well under Bro. Mason's auspices, and there was no doubt but that it would eventually become a very successful lodge. He was pleased to see that the officers did their work well, and he in conclusion remarked that although the number of their members was not at present large, yet they possessed most excellent quality. The W.M. having acknowledged the compliment, proposed "The Health of the Newly-advanced Brother," who made a suitable response. In giving "The Visitors," the W.M. said that although they only had two visiting brethren that day yet they were pleased to welcome them, and he hoped that their reception had been in every way pleasant to them. Bro. Dubois in reply expressed the gratification that he and his co-visitor had experienced in their visit to the lodge that day. He had been present at their consecration, which was most influentially attended, and he had then augured that the Hammersmith would make great strides in the Degree, and he was pleased to see that they were getting good results, and that his expectations in other respects were being fully realized. "The Officers" was acknowledged by Bro. Baldwin, S.W., in a few well-chosen words. During the proceedings Bros. Stevens, Mason, Tisley, Walls, Goodall, and others entertained the brethren, who separated at an early hour until the third Saturday in October next.

BATH.—Royal Cumberland Lodge (T.I.).—The quarterly meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, on Thursday, April 25th, when an unfortunate concurrence of circumstances prevented the attendance of many of the members, notably the W.M., who is suffering under sudden domestic bereavement. The lodge was opened at quarter to six by Bro. James J. Dutton, P.M., in the chair. Among those present were Bros. Carey, I.P.M.; Dr. Hopkins, P.G.W. of Grand Lodge, Chaplain; John Dutton, S.W.; Rubie, J.W.; C. Wilkinson, Sec.; Braham, M.O.; Murlis, Reg. as S.O.; Dingle, J.O.; Penlay, as I.G. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The report of the Audit Committee, with financial statement which was very satisfactory, was presented and passed. For the first time the officers wore handsome jewels, recently purchased. Nine of these were presented by the officers who wore them, and a vote of thanks to them was passed, also to Bro. Dr. Hopkins for the great trouble he had taken in procuring them. Bro. Gregory was introduced and duly advanced to the rank of M.M.M. by the acting W.M., the symbolism of the working tools being explained by Bro. Braham. Bro. Dr. Hopkins then took the chair, and duly installed Bro. John Dutton as W.M. for the ensuing year. The following were appointed as officers: Bro. Cater, I.P.M.; Dr. Hopkins, Chaplain; Rubie, S.W.; C. Wilkinson, J.W.; Murlis, M.O.; Radway, S.O.; Dingle, J.O.; Jacob Smith, D.C.; F. Wilkinson, Reg.; Braham, Sec.; Howes S.D.; Mercer, J.D.; Penlay, I.G.; Peach, Steward; Bigwood, Tyler. The Installing Master concluded the ceremony with the usual addresses, which were received with acclamation, as also was a vote of thanks to him for his services on the occasion, more especially as at much inconvenience he had left his home, where he had been detained nine weeks by illness, for the sole purpose of performing the duty. The Secretary was ordered to address a letter of sympathy and condolence to the I.P.M. on the death of his brother.

Bro. Alfred Durrant, P.M. 1185, and M.E.Z. elect, Lewis Chapter, has been nominated to fill one of the vacancies in the House Committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

GRAND LODGE OF SCOTLAND.

The Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Scotland was held in the Freemasons' Hall, Edinburgh. The throne was occupied by Sir Michael Shaw-Stewart, Bart., Grand Master Mason of Scotland; supported by Bros. F. A. Barrow, Senior Grand Warden, and the Right Hon. Lord Inverurie, Junior Grand Warden. Among those on the platform were the Rev. A. Thomson Grant, Grand Chaplain; Colonel W. M. Neilson, Prov. Grand Master, Glasgow; R. F. Shaw-Stewart, Senior Grand Deacon; William Hay, Grand Jeweller; Thomas Halkett, Grand Bible Bearer; J. Coghill, Dir. of Ceremonies; Captain Hills, Marshal; Bro. Wm. Officer, representative of the Grand Orient of Egypt; William Mann, D. M. Lyon, Grand Secretary. There was a large attendance from Glasgow and the other Western provinces, among those present being—A. Thomson, Pr.M., No. 605; D. Reid, Pr.M., No. 200; J. Findlay, R.W.M., No. 333; J. Morgan, R.W.M., No. 219; George Fisher, R.W.M., No. 129; Paisley; W. H. Bickerton, Prov. Grand Secretary, Glasgow; J. Harley, R.W.M., No. 354; R. Nisbet, Pr.M., No. 340; A. McPherson, No. 129; P. Blain, J.W., No. 129; J. C. Shand, No. 428; Thomas White, R.W.M., No. 592; A. Brown, No. 438; Jas. Colquhoun, S.W., No. 442; J. Monro, I.P.M., No. 360; W. Maclean, Secretary Prince's Lodge, Glasgow; J. Fife, R.W.M., No. 465; J. Mackie, R.W.M., No. 7; T. Allan, R.W.M., No. 18; J. Scott, R.W.M., No. 215; J. Tweed, R.W.M., No. 591; G. G. Heys, S. W., No. 307; M. Stark, R.W.M., No. 219. A letter of apology for absence was read from Colonel Campbell of Blythwood, Provincial Grand Master, Renfrewshire. After Grand Lodge had been opened and raised to the sublime degree, the Grand Secretary submitted the minutes. Bro. Nisbet moved that the portion referring to the election of the Finance Committee be not approved. The effect of the resolution which was adopted was to throw the management again into the hands of a few brethren of that district exclusively, the same as it had been for many years before. Things got into muddle from sheer neglect or utter incapacity on the part of those who held the office prior to 1877. At the time the first work of the Grand Committee was to elect a new Finance Committee, when one member was chosen from the East, one from the South, and one from the West. These gentlemen had effected great reforms in the Committee, but at the very first opportunity Brothers Barrow and Adam Thomson, who represented the West and South, were out, and in their place two brethren from Edinburgh were elected, so that the exclusive management of the financial affairs was again placed in the hands of that district. Brother Bickerton seconded the motion, and held that in justice to Freemasonry and in justice to the brethren, the two members who had been put out of the committee should be re-elected. The Grand Lodge had never been so prosperous as when Bros. Barrow and Adam Thomson were members. In that year £2000 had been put into the bank, and they had this sum at their credit, while in former years it was the very reverse. They were bound to acknowledge their services, and he therefore seconded the motion for their reappointment. Brother Mann denied that confidence had been restored to the Grand Lodge by the election of the gentlemen referred to. This was the greatest mistake and nonsense ever spoken. ("Oh, oh.") The Finance Committee had no more to do with restoring confidence in regard to the affairs of the Grand Lodge than they had to do with the affairs of Timbuctoo. Their affairs were put on the proper footing before the Finance Committee were appointed. A new Grand Secretary had been appointed, and he challenged anyone to say that a single mistake had occurred in his accounts, and all the committee had to do was to check them. The alteration in the committee was made because the gentlemen referred to were at a distance, and there was a difficulty in signing cheques. By a large majority, it was agreed to remit the matter back to the committee for reconsideration. Brother Adam Thomson pointed out that a member of one of the committees did work for the Grand Lodge, and passed his own accounts. The brother referred to said his work was very trifling. In future, however, he would not accept work, but retain his seat on the committee. In the minutes of the Grand Committee a recommendation was made that a special communication should be held on 21st May for the adjustment of the laws and constitution, but after some discussion it was agreed that the matter should be considered at a meeting on 5th August.

The Grand Secretary intimated that reports of the proceedings of the Grand Lodges of Nova Scotia, Tennessee, New Brunswick, Virginia, Minnesota, and West Virginia had been received, and the thanks of the Grand Lodge were awarded.

Charters were issued in favour of the following lodges:—St. John's, Victoria, Hong Kong, China; Southern Star, Geraldine, New Zealand; the Taieri Lodge, Outram, Otago, New Zealand; St. Vincent, Port-Wakefield, South Australia; King Solomon, Montreal, Canada; St. John's Lodge, Kingston, Jamaica; Argyll, Montreal.

The minutes of the Grand Committee contained a report in regard to the proceedings of the Provincial Grand Lodge of India as to a complaint of Bro. Moreland that the Grand Secretary had written directly to some of the lodges in India, instead of communicating with them through the medium of the Provincial Grand Lodge. The committee stated that it was only necessary to say that as each lodge was directly responsible to Grand Lodge for its dues and return of intrants, it was the duty of the Grand Secretary to collect them from the lodges themselves wherever practicable, and not through the Provincial Grand Lodges; and it would be a dangerous precedent to exclude the Grand Secretary from direct communication with any subordinate lodge. They therefore recommended that the present commission should be recalled and another granted term of the constitution. Brother Moreland said that course which had been adopted would have the effect

of alienating the lodges in India. Brother Hay said that nothing would be further from their intention than to offend these lodges, but they could deal with them in no other way. It was ultimately agreed to remit the matter for reconsideration.

With regard to the Grand Orient of France, on the recommendation of the Grand Committee resolutions were adopted similar to those of the Grand Lodge of England, which express profound regret at the step taken by the Grand Orient in removing from its constitution an assertion of belief in God. The Grand Lodge cannot recognise as true and genuine brethren any who have been initiated in lodges which either deny or ignore that belief, and direct all Worshipful Masters holding of Grand Lodge not to admit any foreign brother as a visitor unless he has been initiated in a lodge professing a belief in God, or acknowledges his belief in an essential landmark of the Order.

Bro. Adam Thomson, seconded by Bro. Bickerton, moved, "That the whole of the financial income of Grand Lodge, from whatever source, benevolent fund included, shall come under the direct supervision of the Finance Committee; and that no individual brother, trustee, or committee shall be allowed to operate upon any fund or account belonging to Grand Lodge, unless sanctioned by said Finance Committee and approved of by Grand Committee or Grand Lodge, and any brother or committee violating the above shall be in duty bound to refund the same." The motion was adopted, and the Grand Lodge was then closed in ample form, after a sitting of nearly four hours.

FREEMASONRY IN INDIA.

MASONS' TREAT TO THE ORPHANAGE CHILDREN.

The members of St. John's Lodge, Secunderabad, entertained the children of the Orphanage at this station. At first the little ones engaged in sports—the boys throwing the cricket ball, racing, jumping, &c., and the girls racing, skipping, breaking the egg, and both boys and girls the tug of war. The children entered heartily into the several competitions, and some of the events caused no little merriment to the children themselves as well as to the spectators, who were not so numerous as they generally are on these occasions. Very few indeed of the ladies and gentlemen of the station were present. The band of the 29th Regiment was present and played some splendid music during the sports, which terminated a little before sunset. The successful competitors were then called and received their prizes from Lady Chamberlain, who handed them to the children with a kind word or remark to each. Of the boys little Philbin carried away the most prizes, and little Lizzy Ross among the girls. The contribution of prizes over, the little ones were marched to the Freemasons' Hall, headed by the band playing a lively march, where a delicious tea awaited them. After the grace was sung the children were helped to everything on the table, and regaled themselves heartily. Cake and tea were also handed round to those present, and the children sang the grace after meat. They then sang two songs before Lady Chamberlain and the other ladies and gentlemen left, not, however, before three cheers were called for, and heartily responded to, for her ladyship; three more for the Worshipful Master, officers, and brethren of Lodge St. John, and three more for the Rev. Mr. Morley. Tables were then removed, the hall cleared, the band struck up, and away tripped several of the boys and girls, in company with others, through the mazes of the dance—quadrille, waltz, lancers, galop, and Circassian circle, and then it was time for the children to retire. They were marched back to the Orphanage, the band playing before them, at about eight o'clock, after having thoroughly enjoyed a very pleasant evening.

PROVINCIAL PRIORY OF BURMAH.

Of the United Religious and Military Orders of the Temple and St. John of Jerusalem, Palestine, Rhodes, and Malta, for British Burmah, under the Great Priory of England and Wales, and the Dependencies thereof,—Col. Harvey Tuckett Duncan, C.S.I., Provincial Prior,—holden at the Masonic Temple, Cantonments, Rangoon, on Thursday, the 15th day of November, A. L. 5881, A.D. 1877, A.O. 759, at half-past eight, p.m. Present: The eminent Sub-Prior, Sir Knight H. Krauss. Great Officers: E. Sir Knight Jos. Dawson, Treasurer and Acting Provincial Chancellor; Sir Knight E. H. Stone, "Royal Deccan" Preceptory, Secunderabad, as Provincial Constable; E. Sir Knight Major D. A. Patterson, "Excelsior" Preceptory, 21st Royal Scots Fusiliers, Rangoon, as Provincial Marshal. Officers: Frater J. H. Clarkson, as Guard.

The Provincial Sub-Prior having taken his seat upon the Throne, opened the Provincial Priory in form.

The acting Provincial Chancellor called the muster roll.

The minutes of the last Provincial Priory, holden on the 1st day of December, 1876, were read and declared to be correctly recorded.

Apologies for unavoidable absence from several Sir Knights were read, accepted, and ordered to be recorded.

The Acting Provincial Chancellor submitted the Provincial Treasurer's accounts since the last Provincial Priory, showing a balance to the credit of the Provincial Priory of Rupees 119-8-6.

The Provincial Sub-Prior informed the Sir Knights that the Sub-Marshal of the Convent General had announced the death, on the 11th May last, of Sir Knight the Right Honourable the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot, G.C.T., &c., &c., and that directions had been given that all Knights meeting in their Preceptories, Great Priories, or Convent General, should wear mourning for six months.

The Provincial Sub-Prior announced with great regret the death, on the 14th July last, of Sir Knight J. White, Provincial Marshal.

A letter dated 7th November, 1877, from V.E. Sir Knight Colonel H. T. Duncan, C.S.I., Provincial Prior, British Resident at Mandalay, was read, intimating that he had that day posted a letter to the Vice-Chancellor of the Great Priory of England conveying resignation of the Provincial Priorship, and that he had strongly recommended that the E. Sir Knight selected by the Sir Knights of the province should be appointed to the vacant office.

E. Sir Knight Jos. Dawson was elected Provincial Treasurer.

The following appointments for the ensuing year were then announced:—E. Sir Knights H. Krauss (P. E. Sub-Prior), Provincial Sub-Prior; E. G. Man, Provincial Prelate; W. H. Porter, Provincial Chancellor; W. Ford, Provincial Constable; Capt. H. P. Law, Provincial Marshal; Jos. Dawson, (P. E. Sub-Prior), Provincial Treasurer; J. Mack, Provincial Registrar; C. A. Small, Provincial Sub-Marshal; Frater J. H. Clarkson, Guard.

Sir Knights W. Ford and C. A. Small were appointed by the Provincial Sub-Prior to serve on the Provincial Priory Committee.

The Provincial Priory was closed in form at 9-15 p.m.

Treasurer's account was as follows: the balance on 30th December, 1876, was Rs. 149-0-6; total receipts were Rs. 191-0-6. Expenses were: by rent and lighting of Masonic Temple, on 30th December, 1876, Rs. 12-0-0, by refreshments on same date Rs. 6-4-0, one dispatch box Rs. 26-0-0, labelling box Rs. 7-4-0. Printing proceedings Rs. 20-0-0. Total expenses were Rs. 71-8-0, leaving Balance on 5th November, 1877, of Rs. 119-8-6.

INDIAN CIVILISATION.

Dr. Birdwood C.S.I., R.N., of the India Office, London, in the preface to his valuable hand-book to the Indian Court of the Paris Exhibition, points out how the commerce between Europe and India first originated along the southern shores of Europe and Asia, or Litus Ariarum, as he calls it, and how the course of that commerce through the Euphrates Valley and Egypt influenced the destiny of the nations of Western Asia and the Mediterranean through all time. Separate notices are given of the articles of Indian and Eastern commerce which illustrate its historical development. In the concluding chapter of his work on the knot and flower pattern, Dr. Birdwood traces the Indian cone pattern through all its diversities of form to the lotus bed and bunches of the date palm fruits, and the flower pattern to the lotus flower and fawns of the date palm and soma flowers. He traces these forms through all their variations, as the honey-suckle and palmette of Greek and Roman decoration, the shell ornament of the Renaissance, and the forms observed in Persian, Indian, and Chinese art. Dr. Birdwood connects the ornamentation of Oriental carpets with the veils of ancient temples, which were embroidered by women with the emblems of the deity worshipped, the chief emblem being the date palm as the tree of life, with the knot and flower pattern derived from it, and the lotus and soma plant—all emblems of the fulness and pleasures of life. Dr. Birdwood holds that all Indian art has been profoundly influenced by Assyrian, Persian, and Greek art through 3000 years of intimate commercial intercourse through the Euphrates Valley, and by Vasco de Gama down to the discovery of the way to India by the Cape of Good Hope.

This is a "moot point" of some importance in the great Aryan question, which deserves the notice of expert and students.

FINE ART AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.—The Picture Gallery at the Crystal Palace, always a source of attraction and a source of cultivation of taste as well as of interest to the visitors, will for the ensuing season, be open to the public, its walls displaying throughout their entire extent a fresh collection of modern oil paintings and water-colour drawings. Of the former no fewer than 825 are exhibited and of the latter 394, being examples not of English only but also of French, Belgian, and German artists. For some five or six years past the directors have offered gold, silver, and bronze medals to be competed for in the following classes:—For history or figure subjects in oils; for the best pictures of any other kind, including landscapes, sea pieces, animals, &c.; and for the best water-colour drawings irrespective of subject. Two gold, eight silver, and six bronze medals are offered to foreign artists as an inducement to them to contribute and compete. There was also a splendid gold medal provided for the best oil picture, without regard to school, style, or subject, painted since the year 1872. That profit as well as distinction is secured by the artists may be gathered from the fact that of the forty pictures in respect of which medals were awarded last year, no fewer than twenty-five were sold at the prices at which they were appraised. Mr. G. D. Leslie, B.A., Mr. G. A. Storey, A.R.A., and Mr. P. R. Morris, A.R.A., were engaged during several hours "judging," and in the result awarded the following prizes:—The special gold medal for the best picture exhibited was taken by Professor C. Lasch, an English artist, for his picture "The Orphans" (43). For figure subjects the gold medal was awarded to Mr. A. Stock for his picture, "Our Soldiers—Past and Future" (661); for landscape to Mr. F. W. Meyer in respect of his picture, "Autumn Twilight—Dinas Lake" (74); and for water-colour drawing to Mr. J. A. Houston, the subject of his piece being the "Death of Warwick, the King Maker" (1075). To foreign artists a gold medal was awarded to C. Winneberg for his picture "In the Scripture Gallery" (541), and one to V. Wieshaupt for his "View on the Maes" (356). Twelve silver medals and six bronze were taken by English and eight silver and six bronze by foreign artists. The exhibition, it may be added, is in point of merit about the average, and there is some proof that the gallery progresses yearly in the estimation of the public.

Reviews.

THE MAGAZINE OF ART (Illustrated).—Part 1 Cassell, Petter, and Galpin.

This is a new publication of this indefatigable firm, which is full of interest and promise. The letter-press is admirable, the engravings most artistic. We shall follow its onward career with the deepest interest, and hope before long to call the attention of our readers to it again. It is a very cheap sevenpenny-worth indeed.

MAXIMS AND MISCELLANIES FOR MERCHANTS AND BUSINESS MEN. By HENRY TURNER. London; William Tegg and Co.

This seems to be a very cheap (6d.) and seasonable "brochure," and well worth perusal and thinking over. But alas, just now we do not like to think; it is a somewhat trying process for our minds. We like others to think for us, so perhaps these maxims may command some little attention among the classes for whom they are mainly designed. Let us trust that it will be so, as men of business have minds, and souls too, (let us not forget), as well as other classes in the community. The maxims appear to be sensible, practical, and readable.

BULLS AND BEARS; A LAY OF LONDON CITY.—Kerby and Endean.

We have read this little poem with pleasure. It is very suggestive in perusal, and easy in rhythm. It well deserves attention and patronage, and as our space is so limited in the *Freemason* that we cannot give any of the "speaking" verses, we have forwarded it to the editorial authorities of the *Masonic Magazine*, by whom it will no doubt be dealt with fully in the June number.

PRINCE BISMARCK—FRIEND OR FOE. Wm. Ridgway, 169, Piccadilly.

This is one of the numerous pamphlets which the prospect of war has evoked from the inner consciousness of combative contemporaries. We do not apprehend that much yet is clear as regards the actual "mind" of the great statesman, but this we think we may believe, that he will not allow Pan Slavism to infringe upon Teutonic rights, nor can he regard with complacency any Russian "pourparlers" which serve to make the Black Sea a purely Russian lake, to close the Dardanelles, and to interfere with the free navigation of the Danube. Prince Bismarck knows too well the real danger that is lurking over Europe, as behind all these negotiations, not to be "forewarned and forearmed." There is in our opinion a still wider question as regards Europe, which looms in the distance of diplomatic dispatches and congressional meetings. We think the pamphlet ably and spiritedly written.

SEBASTOPOL TRENCHES, &c. By COL. REYNELL PACKE, C.B. Kerby and Endean.

This is a very prettily got up and well printed book, which carries its readers back to old days of fame and fighting, of anxiety and alarm. It records the gallant deeds of our brave army, it reminds us of good soldiers like old Lacy Yea, and Col. Egerton, and Hedley Vicars, and many more, who found the best of all endings, in our opinion, a soldier's death and grave. The book is printed in a very remarkably clear and pleasant type, with a good margin, and for all who like to be reminded of these eventful days (sad as they were to many, as God knows,) will find much to interest and gratify in Col. Packe's unpretending but well written pages. To recall the "Trench Life" of the Crimea is an "oft told tale" to many of us; some know it so well that we must content ourselves with mentioning this new book to-day, and warmly commending it to the notice of our many military, and naval, and, for the matter of that, civilian readers. If, as Dr. Johnson thought, the interest of a book was proved by "that which you took up for a short time and then wanted to go back to," we think we can predicate the same of "Sebastopol Trenches."

KENNING'S MASONIC CYCLOPEDIA.

The estimable and able Editor of the *Freemason*, Bro. A. F. A. Woodford, has sent us (though too late for review) his magnificent volume, "Kenning's Masonic Cyclopædia," so beautifully printed by our dear and excellent Bro. George Kenning. I am very sensible of this gift, and return my best thanks to Bros. Kenning and Woodford, though I am only able to give so short a notice of the book. But I specially congratulate a country in which there is a sufficiently intellectual Masonry to render possible such books, so important and so precious, by purchasing them. I have always desired that for my own country, I have tried to make them understand all the necessity, all the utility of such a literature to French Masons, but it is the voice in the desert.—HUBERT.—*Chaine d'Union*.

MEETING IN FAVOUR OF BRO. HEDGES' CANDIDATURE FOR THE SECRETARYSHIP OF THE GIRLS' SCHOOL.

(Communiqué by a Correspondent.)

On Monday a meeting of brethren favourable to Bro. Hedges took place at the Freemasons' Tavern, when resolutions in favour of his claims as a candidate were passed, and a numerous committee appointed to canvass for votes and conduct his election. The first list of the Committee appears in the advertising columns of the *Freemason*, and this will be considerably increased next week. The next meeting of the Committee will take place on Wednesday next. For name of Secretary, and for any other information see advertisement.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The Committee of this Institution met on Wednesday at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. Colonel John Creton, V.P., in the chair. There were likewise present Bros. Raynham W. Stewart, S. Rawson, Griffiths Smith, C. A. Cottebrune, L. Stean, Thomas Cubitt, Charles John Percival, A. H. Tattershall, John G. Stevens, James Brett, J. A. Farnfield, Geo. Bolton, Edw. Cox, H. Massey (*Freemason*), and James Terry (Secretary). After the reading and confirmation of the minutes, Bro. Terry read the report which will be presented to the subscribers at the annual meeting on Friday, and which the Committee appointed at last meeting to draw up had drafted.

The Committee of the Institution were then renominated the name of Bro. Dilley being nominated in place of the late Bro. Little.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, in pursuance of his notice given at last meeting, moved the presentation of a testimonial to Bro. Dr. Strong. He said that Dr. Strong, the honorary surgeon to the Institution, had devoted much time and great attention to the annuitants in the Institution at Croydon. He was ready at all hours, at all times, and all seasons to attend to the brethren and widows who were in the Institution. He had lately received the distinction of honorary Vice-President; but he had no pay for his office of surgeon to the Asylum. It was true he had been allowed £25 a year for drugs, but that was at a time when the Institution had in it only eighteen annuitants, there were now thirty-three. If he had been allowed only £20 a year for his services ever since he had held the office, the sum would amount to far more than that which was proposed to be voted to him as a testimonial. They could not think of offering a medical practitioner less than £20 a year for his services, and as Dr. Strong had been seventeen years the Honorary Surgeon to this Institution, he would if he had been paid this sum have received an amount far above that which he (Bro. Stewart) now asked the brethren to vote in the shape of a testimonial. He moved "That considering the great attention and services rendered to the inmates of the Institution, a testimonial of the value of 100 guineas be voted to H. J. Strong, Esq. M.D., in recognition and appreciation of those services."

Bro. Griffiths Smith seconded the motion, which was then put and carried unanimously.

Bros. Col. Creton, S. Rawson, Benj. Head, Raynham W. Stewart, J. A. Farnfield, and James Terry, were appointed a committee, to consider and decide upon the testimonial, its presentation, and when that should take place.

Bro. Cutbush having recommended a gardener, to fill up the place now held temporarily, the committee accepted the recommendation and appointed the applicant.

Col. Creton said that this subject reminded him of another which he had thought of. They had no place at the Institution for the gardener to reside in, and it was very important that they should have a man on the premises or near them, whose assistance might be obtained in an emergency. All the inmates of the Institution were old, and in the event of their being taken ill at night, the gardener might be called up, to be sent on a special errand. He (Col. Creton), had made enquiries about a cottage next the Institution, which he believed could be purchased. He did not propose to take any action that day, but if the committee would empower him and the Secretary to make further inquiries into the matter, they would state at a future meeting what they had done in the meantime.

After a few remarks from the brethren the Committee approved of this course, and the meeting was brought to a close in the usual manner.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The General Committee of this Institution held its meeting for May on Saturday, last, at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. Raynham, W. Stewart, V.P., in the chair. Bros. S. Ranson, S. Rosenthal, G. M. E. Snow, Jesse Turner, L. Ruf, R. B. Webster, H. T. Thompson, Hyde Pullen, Jesse Turner, Murray, Don. M. Dewar, W. H. Perryman, Robert Tyrell, H. W. Hunt, H. Massey (*Freemason*), and F. Binckes (Secretary) also attended. Two applications for outfits were granted, and the only other business was the reception of the nomination of Bros. Chancellor, Head, Hunt, Moutrie, Murray, Paas, Pullen, Roebuck, Row, Rosenthal, Stewart, S. Wood and Alf. Durrant for the House Committee; and Bros. Boyd, Dosell, Head, Mann, D.W. Pearse, Grabham, Jesse Turner, Alex. Wallace, Webster, and Pullen, for the Audit Committee. A notice of motion for for increasing the salary of Mrs. Walden, the assistant matron, was also given.

THE WEST LANCASHIRE MASONIC EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION.

A meeting of the General Committee of this admirable Institution was held at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, on Friday evening, the 3rd inst., to consider applications with respect to children to be put on the foundation of the charity. About 20 candidates were selected and recommended for the charity, and a sub-committee was appointed, to consider alterations and amendments of the rules of the "West Lancashire" Masonic Educational Institution.

The picture galleries of the South Kensington Museum have been lately enriched by the loan of an early Florentine portrait (400 years old) of a young maiden in all her grace and beauty.

NOTES ON ART, &c.

TURKISH ANTIQUITIES.—An agreeable variation on the daily news from Constantinople is the report of the completion of the Museum of Antiquities in the Turkish capital. In 1875 Arifi Pasha, the Minister of Instruction, ordered the renovation for this purpose of an old kiosk on the Seraglio Point, built in 1471 by the conqueror of Constantinople, and the work has been pushed steadily forward, even despite the war, until now a spacious edifice, richly decorated with marble, is ready to receive the archaeological collection of the city. Visitors at Constantinople who have found their way to the dark, dusty hall in the arsenal where quantities of valuable antiquities were crowded together in chaotic confusion, will appreciate the value of this ample provision for their exhibition, especially for the extensive collections resulting from Schliemann's excavations at Troy. A school of archaeology is to be established in connexion with the museum.—*Nature*.

A Chinese Play is to be performed at one of the Berlin theatres, under the direction of the Celestial Embassy to Germany. The interpreter belonging to the Embassy has translated the piece into German, and the drama will be brought out with correct costumes and native scenery.

A fresh Arctic Expedition in search of the records of Sir John Franklin, is being prepared in America, the leader being a young cavalry officer, Lieutenant Schwatka. When serving against the Indians last year he read an account of the discovery of some Franklin relics, mentioning the probability of the existence of a cairn in the Arctic regions, and resolved to go in search of it. The owners of the vessel which brought home the relics are ready to fit out the necessary expedition, and the Lieutenant will accordingly start in June for Repulse Bay, with a crew of some six white men and twenty Esquimaux, well-armed, as the travellers expect to meet with a hostile tribe of the Nachillas, a savage race believed to inhabit the neighbourhood of the cairn. The vessel will winter in Repulse Bay, and the search party intend to leave in May, and make a sledge journey to the cairn, supposed to be between 400 and 700 miles distant. Here they will spend the summer and winter, returning in the spring of 1880 to Repulse Bay, where, lest the first vessel should be crushed in the ice, a second ship is also to be sent. The expedition hopes to be back in America in the autumn of 1880.

The Zoological Gardens were visited in 1877 by 781,377 persons, a larger number than in any preceding year except 1876. The additions to the collection during the year numbered 1560, of which 506 were presented, 324 bought, 181 bred in the Gardens, and the remainder obtained by deposit or exchange.

The wealth in old tapestries existing in the Vatican, some of it stowed away in cupboards or otherwise hidden, has always been suspected, and has recently been made known by Eugene Muntz in his articles on the tapestries of the Vatican in the *Cronique des Arts*. Whether in consequence of this revelation, or from other reasons, the present Pope has now commanded that all the various pieces disposed about the building shall be collected and arranged in chronological order for exhibition. It seems that for two centuries the Kings of France were accustomed to send every year a piece of Gobelin's tapestry to the reigning Pope, and as the manufactories of Flanders in the 14th and 15th centuries also contributed their share, it may be imagined what a large quantity has been accumulated. The well-known tapestries executed in Flanders from Raphael's celebrated cartoons will alone be excepted from this collection, as they are already exhibited, but even without these famous works the Vatican collection cannot fail to be of the highest interest.—*Academy*.

The Paris Salon does not open until the 25th inst. The opening had already been deferred on the 15th, so as not to interfere with the inauguration of the Exhibition.

NOTTINGHAM CASTLE.—From the contents of a telegram received by the Nottingham Town Clerk from Paris a hope has been revived in the town that the Prince and Princess of Wales will yet be present at the opening of the Castle as an art museum, and a deputation has been appointed to wait on the Prince or his secretary in reference to the matter, immediately on their arrival in this country from Paris. As has been stated, the Town Council are willing to postpone the ceremony for some time to suit the Prince's convenience, and it is now hoped that he and the Princess may find it possible to visit the town in August or September.

THE GRESHAM LECTURES.—The Mercers' Company have given notice that the lectures founded by Thomas Gresham will be read to the public gratuitously on the following days, in the theatre of Gresham College, Basinghall-street, commencing each day at 6—namely, Physic (Dr. Symes Thompson), 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th of May; Divinity (the Dean of Chichester), 14th, 15th, 16th, and 17th of May; Geometry (the Dean of Manchester), 21st, 22d, 23d, and 24th of May; Law (Dr. Abdy), 27th, 28th, 29th, and 31st of May; Rhetoric (Mr. Dallin), 4th, 5th, 6th, and 7th of June; and Music, (Dr. Wylde), 11th, 12th, 13th, and 14th of June.

In consequence of the temporary indisposition of Herr Anton Rubinstein, the 55th festival of the Lower Rhine, to be held at Düsseldorf, will, with the unanimous desire expressed by the Committee of Management, be conducted by Joseph Joachim. There can surely, in this instance, be no cause for grumbling.

MM. Erckmann-Chatrian have brought out a new book in Paris—*Les Contes Vosgiens*—stories of their favourite Alsace.

Baron Adolphe Rothschild has lately given, it is said, £14,000 for two fine bronzes recently discovered at Venice.

TO OUR READERS.

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

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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.

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.

NOTICE.

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

TO ADVERTISERS.

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

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

Answers to Correspondents.

The following stand over, having arrived too late:—Letters from Bro. James Stevens, H. T. Thompson, "One of the Candidates;" Reports of Lodges 360, 1460, and 1674.

J. W., No. 15.—Freemasonry is not a benefit society, and is clearly not the society J. W. wants.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

"Westminster Papers;" "La Chaine d'Union;" "Masonic Monthly;" "Medical Examiner;" "Official Directory for the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cornwall;" "Key-stone;" "London Figaro;" "Hull Packet;" "Prince Bismarck, Friend or Foe?" "The Liberal Freemason;" "Bauhütte;" "The Spiritualist;" "Broad Arrow;" "La Voz di Hiram;" "Risorgimento;" "Freemasons' Repository;" "Royal Cornwall Gazette;" "The Sunderland Times;" "The Corner Stone;" "Der Triangel;" "Islam, its Origin, Genius, and Mission;" "Notes and Essays on the Christian Religion: its Philosophical Principles and its Enemies;" "Canadian Craftsman."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

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

BIRTHS.

ALLWORK.—On the 1st inst., at Brownlow-street, Liverpool, the wife of the Rev. A. Allwork, of a daughter.

GARRETT.—On the 8th ult., at Greenhalgh, Bangalore, India, the wife of J. P. Garrett, of a son.

ROGERS.—On the 1st inst., at the Kings-parade, Cambridge the wife of A. Rogers, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

BINNEY—CADMAN.—On the 30th ult., at Christ Church Pitsmoor, Sheffield, Joseph Binney, of Sheffield, to Charlotte Elizabeth, daughter of H. Cadman, of Underwood House, Sheffield.

DEATHS.

BIRCHALL.—On the 3rd inst., at Ribbleson-hall, Preston, Lieut.-Col. Birchall, P.G.D., P.G.W.; East Div. Lancashire.

DYER.—On Sunday morning, the 5th inst., at Blackheath, Ellen Dyer, aged 48, beloved wife of George Dyer, 90, Regent-street, London.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, MAY 11, 1878.

LODGE AND CHAPTER SUPPORT OF OUR CHARITIES.

We have often said before, and we beg to repeat it to-day, for the special information of all whom it may concern, that one of the "weak spots" in our "feasts" and efforts of charity is inadequate lodge and chapter support. We are going to lay down a bold axiom at the outset, which is this, that every lodge and chapter should at least be a Life Governor of all the Masonic Charities, and surely this is not too much to ask. It is undoubtedly never advisable, as they say, to "overdo" it in anything, and as we know well that some lodges and chapters are not so wealthy as others, it is, perhaps, more wise to suggest a "minimum" rather than a "maximum," in the first instance. And here let us note, in the first place, that this "minimum" is not yet reached by a large majority of lodges and chapters. The bulk of both are not even Life Governors of any of the Charities, and until all lodges and chapters are qualified, as we have ventured to suggest, we must add the expression of our humble opinion, that with them profession is one thing, and practice another. It is idle to talk of charity and brotherly love, if we do nothing to demonstrate to others our practical realization of the one or the other. And knowing well, as we do, the large sums which the social amenities of our system cost some lodges and chapters annually, we do feel strongly that the time has come, when we should look into the matter a little more closely than some of us seem to like to do, and try and realize for ourselves what is the exact margin as between our theory and our practice in this respect. For at this very moment we may well remember our noble Charities are maintained in working efficiency by the reiterated efforts of a liberal individualism. The same ever warm-hearted brother is Steward for one or even two of the Charities yearly, but just as a large proportion of lodges and chapters do not qualify, so a very large proportion of our numerous brotherhood do nothing either for the Charities. Let us illustrate our argument by a case very much indeed in point. In the voting paper for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution forty-four Vice-Patrons constitute the entire number as sent up by Prov. G. Lodges, Lodges and Chapters, and sixty-one Vice-Presidents; while in the Girls' School there are 167 London lodges, twenty-seven lodges of instruction, and fifteen chapters, Life Governors. It may be right to add, that in these lodges many of the offices and chairs are also qualified as Life Governors. But we are not now concerned with the proportion of subscribing and non-subscribing lodges and chapters. In the provinces 642 represent the number of Life Governorships of Provincial and District Grand Lodges, lodges and chapters. And though in this enumeration, as before, many lodges have qualified for special offices and chairs, the chapters are woefully deficient. The same remarks would apply to the Boys' School. Such is surely a very "Flemish account" of lodge and chapter work amongst us, and calls for improvement and reform. For what, we now beg to ask our brethren, is the inevitable consequence of the present position of affairs? As every thing depends upon personal efforts, the appeals made to brethren individually are many and incessant. In fact, it is not too much to say that in order to receive adequate support for our Charities a good deal of "touting" for help, (we use the word in no offensive sense), has to go on amongst us. Such a state of things is prejudicial to the Charities in various ways. It lowers their actual status; it weakens the great principle of Masonic beneficence; it absorbs the time and energies of the Secretaries, and by compelling them to go about from lodge to lodge on tours of Masonic mendicancy, weakens their health and does not elevate their position. It throws upon them, in fact, work which they ought not to be called upon to perform. The constant visitation of lodges

interferes not a little with their office work, their home life, and is a great strain alike on their mental and bodily energies. It is no exaggeration to assert, then, that just as the bulk of the lodges and chapters do nothing for the Charities, so a great majority of the Craft do nothing either, while many seem to think that they have duly attended to the claims of Masonic Charity upon them by paying one shilling to a pious Masonic raffle. We fear, too, that above all and beyond all it is the fixed opinion of many that the proper expenditure of the lodge funds is to be found in the claims, first of all, of its social necessities. We trust therefore that our good brethren and kind readers will pay us the compliment of thinking over our allegations and our remarks. They are neither unreal nor exaggerated, and proceed from no spirit of hasty or cynical fault-finding. Believing honestly that there is a great grievance and a great misunderstanding amongst us in respect of the true meaning and work of Masonic Charity, we beg respectfully to call the attention of all our many readers to the matter, and shall be happy to receive all communications on the subject. One suggestion we venture to make in conclusion, and which we trust will be accepted by our brethren as it is offered by us—namely, that during 1878 every lodge and chapter should make itself Life Governor of one of the Masonic Charities, and continue the good work until each lodge and chapter can say that they are Life Governors of all the Masonic Charities. Here is a proper work for us all, and one that will do us more good than the most eloquent speeches, or the most sumptuous banquets.

THE VACANT SECRETARYSHIP OF THE GIRLS' SCHOOL.

The candidates for this vacant post—vacant by the lamented death of Bro. Little—are apparently increasing in number. The *Freemason*, while it is friendly to all candidates, favours officially none. We have our individual opinions, as to needful qualifications and the like, but it has appeared to the Proprietor and Editor more respectful to the Life Governors to leave the matter to their honest and impartial decision. We think it right to say this, because the pressure of "circulars" is very heavy just now, both on us and on our waste paper basket, and because, to say the truth, we have perused appeals which are very questionable in good taste, and constitute, in fact, an impertinence to those who are just as well able to ascertain the real value of a candidate as some most injudicious friend. While testimonials and recommendations are all very proper and becoming, we do not require any one to tell us for whom we ought to vote.

THE TASTE FOR MASONIC LITERATURE.

Bro. Hubert congratulates us in England on our taste for Masonic literature. We wish we could think that we deserved his fraternal praise. We fear it must be conceded, that "Masonic literature" has got both to "find its level" and pay its way, and that so far, with the most devoted efforts and sacrifices, its success, and, above all, its remuneration, represent the "unknown quantity." There is, indeed, a certain style of literature highly in vogue and very popular: we mean the "Menu" Literature. No doubt it is important in its way, and is highly to be commended, as elaborate in taste, artistic in design, and as pleasant suggestive of much material enjoyment and contentment. It probably pays, and we wish we could say the same of Masonic literature generally. We fancy that, if he chose, our good publisher could tell an amusing if "over true tale" thereabout. But we must not disclose the solemn "aporreta" of Masonic literature in Great Britain.

THE FRENCH MASONIC ORPHANAGE.

We have lately given two Irish returns, and we think it well to give a French one, which appears in the *Chaine d'Union*, (so ably edited by our worthy friend and Bro. Hubert), for May. It seems that on the 24th February, 1877, there was in

band £205 in round numbers, and that the receipts from February 24th, 1877, to February 24th, 1878, amounted to £800 in round numbers—in all £1000. This sum of 29,776.64 francs is made up of various items (which we need not allude to here), while the expenditure is 22,133.34 francs, or £810 in round numbers, leaving about £296 in hand. We are not told what is the number of orphans provided for, but we think we shall agree, in wishing, for the French Freemasons, an extension of their charitable works.

CHARITY ORGANIZATION.

In our recent remarks we alluded to the last report of the Charity Reform Association. Such was a mistake. The report alluded to was not the last, nor was it apparently an official report, but sent as a report by a kind friend. The Charity Reform Association is clearly not responsible for that report nor amenable to such remarks.

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.]

SOJOURNERS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I feel quite sure that Comp. Buss is right. The word in the Grand Chapter Constitutions is "Sojourners," and if Installed Masters it is quite clear that they are as eligible for the Third Chair as the Principal Sojourner himself.

I am, yours fraternally,

A P.Z.

GRAND LODGE OF CUBA.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Our Grand Lodge has been recognised hereto by 19 in U.S.A., and that of Scotland. We are working according to true Masonic principles, and have already founded two schools, one for male and one for female poor children. A project for an asylum is also on the table.

As we intend asking the sanction of the government for our work, I most earnestly request that you may send us a transcript of the Act of Parliament permitting the institution of Freemasonry throughout the United Kingdom. I hope you will do us this favour cheerfully.

Our first Grand Annual Communication took place on the 24th ult., extending during four days. Proceedings will doubtless soon be sent to the Grand Lodge of England. Bro. G. Gonzales Amador was elected G.M.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, fraternally yours,

E. A. LECERFF,

Grand Lecturer and Member Com. on Foreign
Corresp. G. L. of the I. of Cuba.

GRAND LODGE OF THE ISLAND OF CUBA.

OFFICERS FOR 1878.

Gregorio Gonzales Amador.....	Grand Master.
Brenvenido Hernandez	S.G.W.
Juan B. Hernandez	J.G.W.
Aurelio Almeida	G.S.
Julio P. Durège	G. Treas.
E. A. Lecerff	G. Sec.
Florencio Cancio	G.S.D.
Eduardo A. Salles	G.J.D.
Joaquim Cruzado	G.M. of Cer.
José E. Sallés	G. Almoner

THE ROYAL ARCH DEGREE AND ITS TRACING BOARD.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I have been very much impressed and pleased with the important address delivered by Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, on the occasion of the consecration of the Eclectic Chapter. There seems considerable difficulty in historically appreciating the Royal Arch Degree—but at any rate an accident has enabled me to discover and become possessed of an important and probably unique historical document in relation to it, which now hangs on my walls. I know of nothing like it, and it is manifestly no forgery. You will say, what is it? I will, therefore, proceed to describe it. Its dimensions, in its glazed frame (which is certainly one hundred and twenty years old), are fifteen inches by ten inches. It is on paper and coloured. At the top is a parallelogram coloured yellow—displaying in the centre an equilateral triangle, bearing these letters:



Immediately beneath this is an arch—the capstone of which is removed, and placed on the left to admit the rays of an all-seeing eye, with ten rays in number, which irradiate

a purple-covered table, fringed with gold and supported on a pediment amidst clouds, and blue radiance surrounds this arch. The arch bears the words "Holiness to the Lord." This arch rests on the well-known three pillars of Wisdom, Strength, and Beauty. The Ionic column supports the left side of the arch. On the Doric column is a representation of Charity, and from behind the column is a hand protruding and pointing downwards, holding a plumb line. The Corinthian column is in front on the right side. At the base of the Corinthian column is a pickaxe and crowbar—at that of the Ionic column a shovel. Between the columns next to the Ionic column is a three-legged round table, on which lies the volume of the Sacred Law, with a triple Tau over it; next to the table stands J., by his side Z., and leaning against the base of the Doric column is H. These three personages are suitably and emblematically garmented, and the flooring of the arch on which they stand is green, the round table being hung with a drapery of three colours. I venture to think that every Royal Arch companion will rejoice that this important document has not been lost. As I said before, it is in my belief unique, and I shall take great care that it shall be preserved for the benefit of Masonry—*simplex munditiis*.

I remain, dear Sir and Brother, sincerely and fraternally yours,

KENNETH R. H. MACKENZIE, IX^o,

Supreme Grand Secretary Swedenborgian Rite.
Hounslow, 4th May, 1878.

THE PRIMITIVE ILLUMINATI.*

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

There is a chapter of learning well known to and beloved by the wearers of wig and gown, which professes to define the distinction between latent and patent ambiguities. The secrets of Craft Masonry would seem, in their treatment by public writers to have been most delicately dealt with so as to partake of both characteristics. Undoubtedly, the occult marks of recognition between the brethren have been, I will not say displayed, rather they have occasionally been allowed to appear, in type, but they have been so communicated that while they have appeared patent to the brother they have remained latent to the cowan. My readers who have courteously followed me so far, will long ere this have discovered that I exquisitely relish an anecdote, when in point, to enliven a dry disquisition. Well, I think I can illustrate my meaning, anent this proposition, by a little story. An old Scottish laird owned a—we will say—a free trader, to use the polite euphemism formerly employed to designate a smuggling vessel: "an honest factor" on the coast acted as owner's agent in disposing of the cargo when successfully run; peering over the accounts when presented by this officer the pawky principal often found himself sorely exercised by an item "to hire of saddle and bridle," so much, and when this invariable charge had many times appeared, he, one day, asked an explanation, "Ye ken laird" said the factor, "That I nae charge ye the hire of the wee bit berstie that I hae to ride to breeng ye the accoonts but ye wad nae that I suld be out of pocket by paying for the loan of the furniture." "Nonsense," said his employer, "Let me never see such an item among your disbursements again." The next time the owner scrutinised the sheet carefully, and triumphantly pointed out to his myrmidon, "There! there! Sandy, I tauld ye ye could doo vary weel wi' 'out 't had ye the min its nae there." Ah, laird, laird," responded the honest man, "its there, seure eneugh, but ye canna see 't!" The fact being that a judicious splitting up of the sum of the mulet had divided the exaction between other, and, to the laird's audit, less exceptionable items. In like manner the secrets of Freemasonry may be very fairly discussed in print, if sufficient caution be used that to the outer world want of light may preclude the discovery. In the supposititious ceremony I am about imaginatively to describe, points of resemblance to the modern method of admitting to Craft privileges may doubtlessly be detected. On the other hand, points of divergence cannot escape observation. But both will, I hope, only be palpable to those who possess the key. For

"Which pretender is and which is King,

God bless us all is quite a different thing."

It is not my business to indicate identity nor to point out dissimilarity. "Herein the patient must minister to himself."

Let me recapitulate the essentials, the primitive illuminati—to employ, I hope, a perfectly neutral term—would, presumably, desiderate in a candidate for their companionship. They would exact a perfect freedom of inclination to embrace their tenets, to partake of their privileges, and to share their dangers. Mental vigour and bodily potency—I will not say prowess—would be indispensable, for the safety of the whole community, might, at a critical moment, be entirely dependent on the discretion and physical ability of any one individual member. These would be the contributions he must bring to the common stock. To ascertain that he possessed them the emeriti would pursue a course of strict investigation, which I will call Examination. This proving satisfactory, a pledge, must be exacted from him, for which we have a technical word, but which may be expressed to the outer world, as a guarantee of duty with a sanction attached. Let us call this the Sanction. So far—again to employ a very expressive technicality derived, like the word sanction in its more extended meaning from the lexicon of the long robes—the contract would be, but unilateral. But one party to the engagement has hitherto bound himself; to render it bi-lateral—another technical word—the other party to the agreement must signify his or their willingness to recog-

nise and be bound by the terms. This form may be denominated Reception. To make it available he or they must confer something upon the contractee—a consideration—or the bargain would be that simulacrum of a pact abhorred by lawyers, a mere nudum pactum. Let us call this equivalent, Communication—there is another world will occur to the initiated—and the hypothetical ceremony is complete. For the sake of brevity and mnemonic convenience I will formulate it thus: (1) Examination; (2) Sanction; (3) Reception; (4) Communication.

I proceed to examine these purely imaginary heads abstractedly as if, never having heard of speculative—or even operative—Freemasonry, we were called upon to devise the organisation of such a community as I have been supposing to exist in the very earliest ages of mankind.

And, in the first place, to understand the essentiality of the requisite of Examination we must investigate a little more in detail the state of the society at large in which our hypothetical occult missionary operations were to be performed. It is difficult at this distance of time to apprehend how few comparatively of the denizens of the nomad world were at any one period in a state of moral and physical freedom. Some philosophers have pronounced that war is the normal state of man. Be that as it may in the present day, in the ancient world he would be a bold man who would maintain the contrary to have been the case. Unless the illuminatus would confine the blessings of his profession to those of his own household he must perforce have sought for converts in the members of friendly or hostile tribes. With respect to the former there would perhaps at no time have been any insuperable difficulty in ascertaining the qualifications of candidates, but with the latter his ministrations must have been largely employed upon captives taken in war, or acquired by purchase when affiliated to his sept. But here a difficulty would arise. The freedom desiderated must obviously have been not merely physical but moral. Now the instances of absolute moral freedom among captives taken in war, or obtained by barter, must necessarily have been comparatively few; physically free men—men who had achieved their absolute emancipation—may have been numerous, but, for reasons to be hereafter adduced, the examiner was bound to satisfy himself that the neophyte had been born free, and that, at the age when he was entitled to, or the period at which he acquired, his emancipation, he was under no such disability of quasi serfdom as bound the freedman to his patron in the more modern states of society in Greece and Rome—nay, why should I exclude even our own country? for down to, at all events, the infancy of our first Masonic pundit Elias Ashmole, a considerable section of our fellow countrymen were under that disqualification of semi-bondage which the feudal law had imposed, and the shadow of which even endured to almost our own time in the absurd fictions of copyhold tenure. The candidate's moral freedom must, then, have been assured by the satisfaction of the examiner that he was under no such influence—call it legitimate or illegitimate as you will—as that possessed by the patron over his liberated bondman. I am personally inclined to think that a connection of reciprocal protection and dependence, analogous to that, which from that of patron and freedman, developed into that of lord and serf in more modern times, existed from the very earliest period of human history, but, if I can establish the necessity for absolute freedom from this implied condition of deference to a quasi controller on the part of the candidate, I have said enough for my theory. That the fair sex have never been regarded as wholly emancipated in this sense will account, not only for their ineligibility in our modern system of speculative Freemasonry, but also for their exclusion from the privileges of all the ancient systems of religion. The Roman law, following the Mosaic tradition, ever held the female as in potestas—either to the head of the family or to the husband. In other words the individual not morally free was ever regarded as exposed to a vis major potentially inimical to the safety of a society, the first condition of which was its occult organisation. Hence, too, the necessity that the candidate be of full age—I repeat that our modern legal notion of maturity at twenty-one years, purely indigenous to our country, is an arbitrary and variable standard adopted for convenience sake, and probably unfixed at the early period we are considering—and born free—and at the time of his candidature morally and physically at liberty to adopt or reject the system presented for his contemplation. Then he must have been physically potent—I say nothing of personal valour—philosophically speaking the assumption must be that all men, bodily perfect, possess the same attributes of material courage. But this physical potency must be considered under two heads—again patent and latent. I will not enlarge upon them. There are obviously patent disqualifications in the absence of a member necessary to active offence or defence; and for latent modifications of the presumable virile capacity, the curious in such matters can examine for themselves how that great authority, Blackstone, treats the subject of the law of "Mayhem," and they will see what I mean, and, if they should be inclined to pursue the subject farther, that part of the Volume of the Sacred Law, which treats of the subject of the necessary physical endowments of the Jewish Priesthood—in Leviticus I believe it is—followed by the uninterrupted usage of the Romish Church, from its foundation to the present time, will sufficiently indicate the personal ability to which I allude.*

Again, if we bear in mind the object of the possession of physical potency, namely the fulfilment of the im-

* See preceding numbers: "Coincidence and Design," and "The Genesis of Speculative Freemasonry." J.

* See a passage (not to be quoted here) in Butler's "Hudibras" on this subject, describing the traditional examination of a candidate for the Papal chair.

perative obligation of being ready at all times to defend, with personal prowess, the assailed brotherhood, which is poetically illustrated in a part of our Masonic tradition by the equipments of the builders of the second Temple, we shall further understand, how it was that not only the maimed and the impotent, but their fair sisters also, were not considered qualified to contribute the requisite strength to a necessarily militant community.

Now we have our mythical postulate of an age to discern the character of the fraternity into which he seeks admission, in a condition of life in which he can exercise his free will, and qualified to be regarded as responsible for the consequences of its expression and attendant obligation, and of a bodily vigour that will render him presumably a useful member of a society which cannot afford to extend its privileges to any but those of ability to preserve, and if need be, to defend them.

Satisfied on all these points, the next thing required is an assurance of his intelligent recognition of his new and self-imposed duties.

What form would that recognition probably be made to take?

Now, again, to revert to the language of the law, there are duties, or, as jurists call them, obligations due to society, with and without a sanction. Enquirers may profitably consult Paley's Ethics as to this, but the knowledge is very trite. I am almost ashamed to expatiate on the distinction. An obligation without a sanction is, as everybody knows, that general moral duty, the breach of which will not entail a forfeit exacted by society from the delinquent. Thus the sins of lying and incontinence (with the qualifications to which I will immediately refer) entail only moral opprobrium. They are obligations without a sanction. But if a man or woman so lies that he or she inflicts that injury upon his or her fellow creature which the law regards as within its remedial function by vindication, e.g. if he or she obtains goods by false pretences, or tells a lie with the solemn formality entailed by an oath or affirmation legally administered, or if he commit the sin of fornication in such a manner as to entail injury by violence, the law attaches a sanction, and liability to punishment at the hands of the state is incurred.* The assumed community of the early illuminati conceived the necessity of such a sanction to be inflicted by the hands of the members of their society on a defaulting member, and therefore the guarantee of fidelity presumably exacted from a candidate necessarily expressed a penalty, the nature of which I reserve for consideration in my concluding dissertation, although I fear I cannot promise the patient reader that most desirable consummation in my next communication.

I am dear Sir and Brother, yours faithfully,
S. P., P.M. No. 902, 1491.

CHARITY VOTING REFORM.

To the Editor of the "Freemason"

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Permit me to call attention to the injustice unwittingly done to the Charity Voting Reform Association, by your leading article last week.

By some peculiar misapprehension you were attacking, not our "last official report," but a leader of the *Times*, which appeared about a month ago. "We do not," to use the press phrase, hold ourselves responsible for *Times* or other articles. So I will only add that, while on the whole, we approve of the article in question, and certainly of its tone, we do not subscribe, as an association, to some of the broad assertions which it puts forth.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, fraternally yours,
K. J. SIMPSON.

[The mistake, as Bro. Simpson well puts it, was quite unwittingly made. The remarks came in pamphlet form, and we assumed, too hastily, that it was an official report. We have written to the Secretary.]

* How aptly proverbial wisdom, vulgarisms and archaic terms, come in sometimes to condense an elaborate proposition. The theory of sanction is familiar to us all in the axioms, differently rendered, "one man may steal a horse (i.e. incur a legal penalty and luckily escape), where another dares not leap over a hedge," or in other words "one man may escape the consequences of a felonious act where another will be mulct in damages for a trespass," or, as I prefer to read it, "one man may steal a horse (parenthesis as before) where another dares not look over a hedge," i.e. one man may escape the legal penalty of a felony where another incurs only moral censure for the mere sin of covetousness, in itself an inchoate felony, but "actus mon facit reum, nisi mens sit rea" is the principle of the jurist, recalling our Blessed Lord's sublime philosophy "The man who looks upon a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her in his heart." Take again (it is bathos, but it is very reverently adduced, and I am never to be deterred from using an archaic illustration when it usefully serves my purpose—the old officer of the legend was of such renowned bravery that he could with equanimity endure to be called a coward)—the common notion of a sanction entertained and expressed to this day in the vulgar doggrel

"He wot prigs wot is't his'n
When he's cotched he's sent to pris'n."

Bro. Faulkner Leigh will give a concert on the evening of Thursday, 23rd May, at St. James's Hall, in aid of the three Royal Masonic Institutions. Patrons, H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, and the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, R.W.D.G.M. of England. Artists: Miss Annie Sinclair, Madame Patey, Bro. Faulkner Leigh, and Messrs. Maybrick and Thurley Beale. Conductors: Sir Julius Benedict and Herr Ganz. Tickets can be had of the Secretaries of the Institutions, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's Inn.

CONSECRATION OF ST. MARY'S CHAPTER, No. 63.

A chapter attached to St. Mary's Lodge, No. 63, now 140 years old at least, was consecrated on Thursday, the 2nd inst., at the Star and Garter Hotel, Kew Bridge. The ceremony was to have been performed by Comp. John Hervey, G.S.E., but his health on that day was so indifferent that he was unable to attend. Comp. Thos. Fenn, P.G.S.B., however, who had been set down for Second Principal on the occasion, took the chair of First Principal; Comp. Col. Burdett, that of Second Principal; and Comp. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, P.G.P.S., that of Third Principal. Comp. George Kelly was S.E., and H. G. Buss, D.C. The other companions present were Comps. James Glaisher, Ernest Emil Wendt, George Brooke, J. A. Rucker, Magnus Ohren, W. Mann, C. C. Dumas, Frank Pearce, the Rev. P. M. Holden, Marcellus Higgs, Theodore Distin, J. Large, G. T. Carter, W. Ackland, George Mickley, Frank Pearce, J. H. Wall, J. Peeke Richards, H. Martin, R. H. Evans, E. Randell, F. W. Natusch, Montague Gossett, W. H. Smallpeice, J. H. Paul, J. Richards, R. Risdon, Benj. Hinchcliff, F. H. Rooke, H. Massey (Freemason), and Charles B. Payne.

After the formal opening of the chapter and the admission of companions below the rank of Installed Principals, Comp. Fenn, addressing the brethren, said that they were assembled to constitute and consecrate a new chapter. He was sure it must be a subject of deep regret to them, as it was to him, that their excellent and worthy Comp. John Hervey should be too unwell to occupy the M.E.Z. chair. The day before Comp. Hervey was unusually well. He had been unwell for a long time; but he was so unusually well the day before that he thought he would be able to be present. He was, however, so unwell now, so seriously ill, indeed, that his doctor would not permit him to come to this consecration. He (Comp. Fenn) could not address the companions as Comp. Hervey usually did on these occasions, because he felt in that position he could not so with such words of authority as Comp. Hervey did, from the high position he held, which gave to his words great force. Comp. Woodford, however, had consented to address the companions very shortly, and he was sure the companions would be glad to listen to that reverend companion.

The ceremony then proceeded, and Comp. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford delivered the following oration:—

M.E. and Companions,—As it is only last Monday, the 29th, that I delivered one oration on Royal Arch Masonry, I am somewhat afraid lest I should appear to be both intrusive and wearisome in this, my second appearance in so very short a period of time. But I know that I may rely on your forbearance and friendly criticism to make allowance for any obvious defects or unavoidable tedium, and I therefore, without further preface, at once address myself to my proper and present duty. And as I think it may do us good on this most interesting occasion, the inauguration of a new chapter, to listen to a few didactical expositions of the teaching of this Sublime Degree, and of our duty as Royal Arch Companions, I propose to confine myself to such an humble effort this afternoon. I, for one, am glad to see Royal Arch Masonry increasing and extending amongst us, and I know of no portion of our mystic ritual better deserving the attention of the studios, the thoughtful, the reverent. But when I set myself to my task I found that it was not so easy to put together what seemed new and appropriate; for though appropriate, it was not new, and some of it though new might not appear to all equally appropriate. I, therefore, took another step. I summoned to my aid some good old teachers of the past, familiar friends and faces in my Masonic library, and I have prepared a little lot of Masonic mosaic work, which, I hope and believe, is alike consistent and yet clearly brought out, and will commend itself to the expert Masters of the Royal Art amongst us, as it may, I hope, improve and edify the youngest Royal Arch Mason now present. I need not now dilate on the excellencies of the Royal Arch Grade, its many beauties or its sublimer lore; but we may well remember, it appears to me, M.E. Sir, that it forms the culmination of our whole Masonic system. It is the apex of that beautifully constructed pyramid which rests on the broad basis of Craft Masonry in the Entered Apprentice Degree. And here I pause for a moment to remind my hearers how very wonderful after all is the position and preservation of the Masonic Order, to which it is our privilege to belong in the world. As an "Ancient Brother," as he termed himself, though under the Grand Lodge of England, writing in 1820, said—and said so eloquently—"we trace the footsteps of Masonry in the most distant ages, the most differing nations of the world. We find it among the first and most celebrated citizens of the East, we deduce it regularly from the first astronomers on the plains of Chaldee, we observe it, among the wise and mystic kings and priests of Egypt, the sages of Greece, the philosophers of Rome, and even the rude and Gothic builders of a dark and degenerate age, whose vast temples still remain among us. In no civilized age has Masonry been neglected. The most illustrious characters—kings, princes, and nobles, sages and legislators, authors and artists—have thought it their glory to protect and honour it. And, therefore, we are happy to think, that for the dignity and promotion of the science lodges and chapters are opened in every quarter of the globe. For it has been remarked, that in whatsoever else men may dispute and disagree, yet they are all unanimous to respect and support a singularly amiable institution, which annihilates all parties, conciliates all private opinions, and renders those who by their Almighty Father were made one flesh, to be also of one heart and mind, bound, firmly bound, together by that indissoluble tie, "the love of their God and the love of their kind." Though, perhaps, we must fairly admit that there is in this high eulogium of Masonry a little of hyperbole, perhaps, yet I trust we may

safely and fairly contend that it is in its main outline essentially true. Belonging then to so useful, to so kindly a brotherhood, what are the abstract doctrines we profess? what the concrete acts we perform? I will leave out this afternoon the second head, as leading us into too wide a subject for our little time, and simply confine myself to our professed teaching as Masons, and above all Royal Arch Masons. As Geometrical Master Masons (as we were once called), now admitted into the Sublime and Supreme Degree, I will say that our first great teaching is the devout recognition of the great and Triune Jehovah, the Architect and Ruler of the universe, the Divine Maker and the Saving Ruler, "Eternal Judge of all men." How amiable, companions, is the goodness, how amazing the power of this world's Adorable Maker! Must we not indeed say unto the Most High, "How marvellous and yet how beneficent are all Thy works?" For this great creation of ours most remarkably demonstrates to the thinking mind, of the Royal Arch Mason especially, the enduring characteristic of the Divine Power, and Wisdom, and Goodness, shewn forth in every portion of it, great or small. We are taught, as in Masonry, so especially in this sublime grade, in these our various symbols, a more lively sense of the Divine presence and nearness. "All the rolling worlds above, all the living atoms below, together with all the beings that intervene between these wide extremes, are vouchers for an ever present God. The Deity has not left Himself without witness, the marks of His footsteps are evident in every place, and the touches of His hand distinguishable in every creation. Thy name is so high, O Thou all-supporting, all-informing Lord, and that do Thy wondrous works declares in words familiar to us all, as the Psalmist beautifully express it. Thy goodness warms us in the morning sun, and refreshes us in the evening breeze, Thy glory shines in the lamp of midnight, and smiles in the blossoms of spring. We see a trace of Thy incomparable grandeur in the boundless extent of things, and a sketch of Thy exquisite skill, Thy handiwork, and design in even those almost evanescent sparks of life, the insect race." Like the Poet, we all may say and cheerfully say to day. "The Hand that made all these things and us is Divine." How stupid therefore must that mind be amid such a multitude of remembrances thronging on every side forgets God for a single moment. Grant us, O Thou Great I Am, Thou source and support of universal existence, an enlightened eye to discern Thee in every object, and a devout heart to adore Thee on every occasion. And then, in the second place, the sublime laws and works of Nature's Great Geometrician will naturally prompt Royal Arch Masons to make the blessed volume of His Inspired Word, which contains the reverential study and continual guide. By the assistance of this unerring counsellor, we shall be enabled, through God's assistance, as it has been very properly put, to "fill every sphere of duty with exactness and honour, and by uniting in the faithful discharge of all the sweet and endearing offices of social life, we shall ever be anxious to distinguish and exalt the Order of which we are members." But there are certain other great and distinguishing principles which belong to us as Royal Arch Masons, by which we may safely seek to direct our course, under God's help, through this transitory scene, through this great wilderness the world, and to which we will now shortly direct our attention. Faith, Hope, and Charity though belonging to our Masonic profession generally, specially ought to mark us Royal Arch Masons. An ancient authority thus discourses on this subject: "Faith is that blessed tree, which by our assiduous cultivation and the influence of God's Holy Spirit bringeth forth good fruit, and leads to everlasting life. By faith we are instructed in the true condition of our situation here, and the laws of our nature and duty are laid before us in the fullest and clearest manner. Our understanding is led forth into a future state, all eternity is unveiled before us, and we see the great truths of light and immortality in the clearest light. Hope is the Anchor of Prudence, on which we may confidently rest in dependence for safety in every honourable pursuit. It enlightens every heart with its refulgent rays, cultivates the ingenious mind, fosters its virtuous endeavours, and invigorates the completion of every laudable design with promptitude and perseverance. Hope is a star of the first magnitude, by which we are enabled to guide our earthly vessel through the boisterous sea and tempestuous passions of life; but the port once gained, hope will enable us to ride with safety at her placid moorings, and to weather out the voyage of life with pleasure, with happiness, and with comfort. The chief dogma of our Masonic profession is Charity, for it animates the hearts with that philanthropy which directs us never to permit a fellow creature in distress to pass us by until we have sought to mitigate his wants, to relieve his distress. Happy is the companion amongst us who 'hath sown in his heart the seeds of beneficence.' The produce thereof will be charity and love. He assists the poor in their trouble, he rejoices in witnessing the prosperity of all men; he censures not his neighbour; he believes not the tales of envy and malevolence, neither does he repeat slanders. He forgives the injuries of others. Revenge and malice have no place in his bosom, for evil he returneth not evil. He hateth not even his enemies, but requites their injustice with friendly admonition, promotes as far as in him lies, among all men, peace and good will, unity, love and harmony." And thus again all Royal Arch Masons will ever remember that they are called to a "faithful discharge of those duties which charity and brotherly love delight in, and should at all times be ready to manifest the sincerity of their hearts by cheerfully administering to the wants of every fellow creature in calamity, penury, or affliction. To strew flowers in the path of misery, says another old formula, and sprinkle compassion over the ragged thorns of adversity, is not only gratifying to every enlightened mind, but pleasing in the

sight of Him from whom all goodness springs. Therefore, forgetting injuries and selfish feelings, we should be ever anxious to press forward in well-doing, having always in remembrance that we were sent into this world to aid, support, and mutually assist each other. It behoves us as men, as Masons, and companions to be zealous, then, in the exercise of mercy and benevolence—to save, to strengthen, to support, to assist a brother of the dust, a companion in misfortune. To be the friend of indigent merit, to wipe the tear from affliction's cheek, to soothe the miseries of some deserted, helpless human being, are duties still incumbent upon us all as Royal Arch Masons, to uphold and to practice, whether fashionable or unfashionable in the world around us, and while we avow them, and while we do them, let us also seriously reflect on the great danger which awaits all who deviate from the path of rectitude, and always let us endeavour to be true to our trust and profession. The tongue of a companion should be void of offence and without dissimulation. Speaking truth with discretion, censuring with moderation, he should ever be an advocate in the cause of virtue and brotherly love. To defame a companion—to suffer him to be defamed without interesting ourselves for the preservation of his good name and character—is really without excuse. Defamation, remember, is always wicked. Slander and evil speaking are the pests of civil society, are a disgrace to every degree of moral or religious profession amongst us, are the poisonous bane of all brotherly love! Remember that you are brethren. Value, therefore, the reputation of your brother, your companion as your own; even if he deserves not your esteem and friendship, he has a claim on your kindness and consideration. Speak not evil of one another. He who speaketh evil of his brother, judgeth his brother, and judgment is not the prerogative of man. Thus, then, we see, M.E. and companions, in conclusion, that the principles of Masonry, as reiterated especially in the Sublime Degree, would make us kind, considerate, gentle, merciful, charitable, and tolerant. Wherever our Order extends its influence, let the orphan cease to weep, and on the sound of our voice let the widow forget her sorrow. Let our conduct at home be the constant happiness of our families. Let our carefulness and affability be conspicuous in our journey through life, and let charity, toleration, goodwill, and beneficence be the noblest fruits of our Masonic profession. Faithful sojourners and loyal companions, may these words of some of the doctors of our Masonic Israel strike a chord on your minds and hearts to-day which shall best accord with this interesting ceremonial, and best advance the interests of our great common Order, the happiness of the companions, and the welfare of mankind. You have my hearty good wishes for a prosperous future to St. Mary's Chapter.

The chapter was then formally consecrated, and dedicated, the Rev. P. M. Holden, acting as Chaplain in that particular portion of the ceremony only wherein the censer is carried round the chapter. When the ceremony had been completed, Comp. James Glaisher, P.Z., was installed Z.; Comp. F. F. Wendt, H.; and Comp. George Brooke, J. Comp. W. Ackland was requested to take the chair of P.S., and Comp. George Kelly the office of Treas. Votes of thanks were then passed to the Consecrating Officers, who were also unanimously elected honorary members of the chapter. Comp. T. Fenn thanked the Principals and companions for the honour thus conferred on himself and the other consecrating companions, and after Comp. Kelly had read a long list of proposed joining members and candidates for exaltation, the chapter was closed, and the companions adjourned to a choice banquet, provided by Comp. Stanbury. In due course the toasts were proposed.

In giving the toast of "The Pro G.Z. &c.," the most Ex. Z. said that the work of the Grand Officers was highly appreciated by all companions who knew what good Masonic working was. It was highly gratifying at the first meeting of the St. Mary's Chapter to see one of the newest made Grand Officers, who had been invested only the night before, present to support the other Grand Officers who performed the consecration. Then there was another Grand Officer present who had delivered a beautiful oration, which all the companions had listened to with profound attention, and were sorry when it was concluded. Of the performance of the First Principal's duty by Comp. Fenn it was unnecessary to say more, and impossible to say enough. Of another of the Grand Officers, Col. Burdett, he could not say in his presence everything he would like to say; but he might inform the companions that he was never absent when a good work was to be done.

Col. Burdett in replying said that the M.E.Z., had alluded to him as being always ready to come forward when any good work was to be done. Now, not only was he, but every Grand Officer of the Grand Chapter was ready to come forward to advance the interests of Masonry. The companions were all perfectly aware that it was not possible for the Grand Principals, Z., H. and J., to come forward as the other Grand Officers were able to do occasionally; and therefore the Grand Officers below the Principals supplied their place, which, as he (Col. Burdett), had done, had been only as far as he was able, and he was quite sure that many present had done more for the interests of Royal Arch Masonry than he. He had only to refer to the worthy companions who had consecrated the St. Mary's Chapter. The ceremony he had seen that evening had gratified him very much, indeed more than anything else for a long time. He came to the chapter for the express purpose of seeing the work performed. It was not however only to the Consecrating Officers they had to look for the working. Those who were installed had to take up the work, and he felt confident that those in the chairs and those who would succeed them would carry out the duties of their respective offices in a manner that would be creditable to the whole Order. Royal Arch Masonry was now stepping in the right direction; its work was

commencing properly, and for the last two or three years was carried on in a highly efficient way.

The M.E.Z., said, he approached the next toast with pleasure, but with much fear. The toast was that of the "Consecrating Officers." The companions who had so readily come forward to consecrate the chapter had by their readiness and by the style in which they performed their duties, laid all the promoters of the chapter under a lasting obligation to them. Not one of the companions was insensible to that. Their Ex. Comp. Fenn by his fluency and impressiveness gave zest and earnestness to every sentence both in the consecration and the installation of H. and J., but his truly Masonic character was evinced in the correspondence which took place relative to their consecration, in which Comp. Fenn showed that he was quite ready to take whichever chair he might be asked to fill.

Comp. Fenn, replying, said he really did not know how to acknowledge the more than complimentary terms in which the M.E.Z. had proposed this toast. He was sure he might say without exaggeration that all the companions who had assisted at the consecration had felt with him extremely gratified at being present at the inauguration of a chapter which promised to be so prosperous and such a great credit to the Order as the St. Mary's Chapter. He had mentioned in the chapter how grieved he was that Comp. Hervey was not able to be present. It had been Comp. Hervey's earnest wish to be present; in fact they could all understand that he would naturally wish to install his companion in office, Comp. Wendt, as one of the Principals; and one of his stipulations was that if he felt himself unable to come and perform the work, and it devolved upon him (Comp. Fenn) to do the other duties, he at least would install Comp. Wendt. Unfortunately, when he (Comp. Fenn) called on Comp. Hervey that evening he found him too unwell to come; and much as the companions must regret his absence, and sincerely as he (Comp. Fenn) did also, he was sure no one regretted it more than Comp. Hervey himself. He saw so many of his friends around him—there were so few in fact among them that he did not know as members of St. Mary's Lodge and the Old Union, that he felt perfectly satisfied that if they observed the recommendation which had been offered to them not to admit any members into the chapter that they did not personally know and could personally approve of, they had the elements there not only of a most select but of a most prosperous chapter. He did not know that he had ever witnessed at a consecration of a chapter the elements of so prosperous, respectable, and estimable a chapter as this might be expected to be—so sociable and so harmonious; because he knew the companions of the St. Mary's and the Old Union were united in a way which promised the greatest unanimity. He could only hope and sincerely trust that the unanimity which they all desiderated might be consummated in this chapter. He hoped to have the opportunity of occasionally visiting the companions and observing the progress that they made. Comp. Fenn then proposed "The Health of the M.E.Z.," but said he did not know how to do so in adequate terms. Comp. Glaisher had spoken of him in such terms that he (Comp. Fenn) could not hope to excel him in compliments. But he knew it was not necessary to compliment the M.E., because he was so well known as an earnest Mason, and one who had the interest of the chapter at heart. Under his auspices the chapter must be prosperous.

The M.E.Z., in acknowledging the toast, said that the companions had soldered another link in the chain of Masonry in addition to those that they had already soldered. They had chosen him as the first Z., and he could assure them that he had the prosperity of the chapter at heart. To the utmost of his ability he would endeavour to promote it. Comp. Fenn had indicated what the chapter ought to be; he (Comp. Glaisher) trusted it would be—a credit to the Craft and a great benefit and pleasure to the companions. The M.E.Z. afterwards proposed "The Health of the H. and J." They were his two colleagues in office; upon them he should be much dependent; but they had pledged themselves to act and co-operate with him, and sure he was from his experience of them that they would do so.

Comp. Brooke said it was more than twelve months since the subject of this new chapter was first mentioned—at Grand Festival in 1877. Those first words passed between himself and a companion whose absence to-night occasioned the only regret there was at that meeting. That was Bro. Hollingworth, who wished to become a Royal Arch Mason, and a member of the St. Mary's Chapter very soon. He (Comp. Brooke) regretted that Bro. Hollingworth did not that evening fill the chair which he (Comp. Brooke) filled. It was a great gratification to him that the subject which he and Bro. Hollingworth broached at the Grand Festival, in 1877, had been carried out, and that the chapter had as its M.E.Z. the worthy Comp. Glaisher. He (Comp. Brooke) had experienced great pleasure in the performance that evening of Comp. Fenn, to whom he was indebted for almost all he knew in Masonry. Comp. Fenn first gave him an interest in Masonry, as it was from the time of his attendance at the Emulation Lodge of Improvement that he dated his interest in Masonry. He was also very much gratified with the support he had received from Comp. Kelly, who had acted as S.E. that evening, whose support had kept together St. Mary's Lodge, and would make St. Mary's Chapter a chapter that would hold its own with many older chapters. He trusted that this youngest of Royal Arch Chapters would one day distinguish itself; and if it did it would be mainly indebted to the way in which it had been brought about by Comp. Geo. Kelly. The M.E.Z. next proposed "The Visitors."

Comp. C. C. Dumas in reply said the Old Union received great pleasure in seeing St. Mary's Chapter established. The Old Union Lodge had had for one of its P.M.'s the esteemed Secretary of St. Mary's Lodge. The Old Union would welcome at its next meeting their old

member, the S.E. of the St. Mary's Chapter. No one knew better than he (Comp. Dumas) the high services, the kindness, the most satisfactory business that could possibly be conceived, that had been rendered by Bro. Kelly to the Old Union Lodge, and he doubted not that S.E. Kelly would fulfil in the chapter everything he had fulfilled in the Old Union Lodge, and would also bring to all the energies he had brought to the Old Union Lodge. That lodge was largely represented at this meeting. He had hoped that some one else would have responded to this toast, but no one could wish greater success to the St. Mary's Chapter than the members of the Old Union, and as representing in some sort the Old Union Lodge, and in some way the Old Union Chapter, various circumstances had led him to wear the collar of Haggai at the consecration of St. Mary's Chapter, and he should ever remember it with pleasure.

Comp. Montague Gosset also replied.

Comp. Kelly, S.E., replied for "The Officers," after which the companions returned to town. The ceremonies in chapter were musically accompanied by Comps. Marcellus Higgs, J. Large, G. T. Carter, and Theodore Distin; the same companions also performing an excellent selection of music after the banquet.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

The installation meeting of the Lodge of United Good Fellowship (No. 809) was held at Wisbech on Thursday, the 25th ult., when Bro. George Carrick, the I.P.M., was again installed W.M. for the ensuing year. Additional interest was given to the occasion by the holding of a Provincial Grand Lodge at the same time. The use of the Town Hall was kindly granted by the Mayor, and the Council Chamber metamorphosed into an imposing lodge room.

At four o'clock the Craft Lodge was opened by the W. M., assisted by the following officers:—Bros. A. W. English, S.W.; Thos. Squire, J.W.; W. Exley, P.M., Treasurer; John Leach, P.M., Secretary; the Rev. Walter E. Browne, Chaplain; R. A. Douglas Lithgow, M.D., S.D.; William Bray, J.D.; Jas. D. Collins, P.M., acting as I.G.; C. K. Ellis, Organist; and J. P. Holmes, Tyler. The minutes of the last regular lodge having been duly read and confirmed, Bro. the Rev. C. Cecil Sumner, of Lodge 44, was unanimously elected a joining member. An announcement was then made that the W. Deputy Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Deighton, P.G. Deacon of England, and the Prov. Grand Lodge of Cambridgeshire demanded admittance. The brethren having been duly marshalled in procession by Bro. Bothamley, P.M., M.C., re-entered the lodge and the D.P.G.M. and his officers were received in proper form. The customary salute having been given, Prov. G. Lodge was duly opened with prayer, the roll of lodges called over and other general business transacted. The D.P.G.M. (in the unavoidable absence of the Prov. G.M., the Earl of Harwicke, who was still suffering from the effects of his late accident) then appointed and invested his officers as follows:

George Carrick, P.M. 809.....	Prov. S.G.W.
A. M. Robinson, P.M. 441.....	Prov. J.G.W.
Rev. C. Cecil Sumner, 809	Prov. G. Chaplain
Rev. D. Hall, 441	Prov. G. Chaplain
Thos. Nicholls, P.M. 441	Prov. G. Treasurer
W. J. Basham, P.M. 88	Prov. G. Reg.
Edward Haggis, P.M. 441	Prov. G. Sec.
R. Fairbairn, 859	Prov. G.S.D.
J. Taylor, 441	Prov. G.J.D.
W. Bray, 809	Prov. G.S. of Works
W. H. Jarrold, 88	Prov. G.D. of C.
F. Jackson, 859	Prov. G.A.D.C.
C. R. Ellis, 809	Prov. G.S.B.
W. J. Dewberry, 441	Prov. G. Organist
W. J. Goulding, 859	Prov. G.Purst.
Thos. Wood, 88	Prov. G. Tyler

The Prov. Grand Lodge was then closed, and the Craft Lodge having been opened in the Second Degree, Bro. Carrick was for the second time installed into the chair of K.S., the ceremony being most carefully and impressively performed by the W.D.P.G.M., assisted by Bros. Jas. Neal York, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., and J. R. Ling, P.M., P.P.J.G.W., acting as S. and J. Wardens. The W.M. then appointed and invested his officers in the following order:—Thos. Squire, S.W.; R. A. Douglas Lithgow, J.W.; Rev. Walter E. Browne, Chaplain; William H. Exley, P.M., Treas.; John Leach, P.M., Secretary; William Bray, S.D.; C. R. Ellis, J.D.; Arthur Chas. Thacker, Organist; Charles Parker, I.G.; A. Bothamley, P.M., M.C.; J. P. Holmes, Tyler; and A. H. Ward, W. H. Exley, H. G. Wigmore, and R. J. Weaver, all P.M.'s, Stewards.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Installing Master, and ordered to be entered on the minutes. Bro. Patrick, P.M., in a few well chosen words presented the W.M. with a handsome P.M.'s jewel, unanimously voted by the lodge at their last meeting. The W.M. in acknowledging the same observed that this added one more to the many kind favours he had received from the lodge, and begged to thank the brethren most heartily for the kind feeling which had prompted them to bestow upon him so handsome a gift. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Rose and Crown Hotel, where a really superb banquet was provided by Host Bro. Tidnam.

The following brethren of 809 were present in lodge or at the banquet in addition to those already named, viz.—Bros. Augustus H. Ward, P.M., P.P.J.G.W.; Thos. Patrick, P.M., P.P.S.G.W.; Capt. Aveling, P.M., P.P.J.G.W.; G. F. Phillips, P.M., P.P.J.G.W.; H. J. Wigmore, P.M. P.P.S.G.D.; Jas. D. Collins, P.M., P.P.G. Regr.; W. Welchman, Charles Parker, J. P. Broadhurst, James L. Rae, F. J. Wise, W. A. Peck, W. Poppleton, Henry Hudson, Geo. F. Young, Leonard Hamson, S. J. Miller,

W. Grimley, W. Tidsam, and amongst the visitors were Bros. John Deighton, P.M. 645, Past Grand Deacon. Deputy P.G.M. Cambs.; F. J. Wace, P.M. 859, P.S.G.W.; Jas. R. Ling, P.M. 88, P.J.G.W.; A. F. Doudgan, P.M. 441, P.P.S.G.W.; A. M. M. Robinson, P.M. 441, P.P.G.D.; Thos. Nicholls, P.G. Treas.; Fred. Bailey, P.P.J.G.D.; W. J. Basham, P.M. 88, P.P.S.G.D.; James Neal York, P.M. 88, P.P.S.G.W.; B. Clennell, W.M. 88, P.J.G.D. Edward Haggis, P.G. Sec.; W. H. Jarrold, Treas. 88; Joshua Taylor, S.W. 441; G. Cole, J.W. 441; Fred. Dewberry, J.D. 441; Charles Boning, I.G. 441; Thos. Wood, Prov. G. Tyler; W. Watford, P.M. 5; G. W. Page, W.M. 107; Rev. E. J. Alvis, 107, P.P.G. Chaplain Norfolk; Mark Cox, S.D. 898, J. A. Gifford J.D. 898; Joseph E. Phillips, 403; Rev. C. Cecil Sumner, 44; W. J. Goulding, 859; and others.

After the loving cup had gone round the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed. The W.M. in giving that of "The Prov. G.M., the Earl of Hardwicke and the Officers of P.G. Lodge," said although they must deplore the absence of his lordship, yet that in his Deputy they had a most efficient and willing substitute. The province of Cambridgeshire might not be numerically a strong one, and the work to be performed by the D.P.G.M. might not engross the same amount of time as in other provinces, but every assistance was willingly given by the D.P.G.M. to the various lodges under his rule. The W. the D.P.G.M., in acknowledging the toast, expressed the great pleasure it had afforded him to assist at the installation of as worthy a brother as their W.M.; and Bro. Haggis, Prov. G. Sec. in responding said that his visit to the Wisbech brethren would be one to be looked back to with feelings of the greatest pleasure and delight, and on behalf of the P.G. Lodge he thanked the members of 809 for the extremely hospitable manner in which they had been received. Bro. Collins, P.M., P.P.G. Reg.; in proposing "The Health of the W.M.," regretted that it had not been placed in abler hands, but it was perhaps only right that the toast should come from one who knew the W.M., and could speak of the way he had performed his work during the past year. He (Bro. Collins) could only say that looking at their W.M., either as a Mason, as a man of the world and citizen, or in his business capacity, there was not one in the lodge more suited to fill the Master's chair than Bro. Carrick. The toast was most cordially received and drank with musical honours. The W.M. in reply said that his position amongst them that day was a somewhat singular one. He ought in the ordinary course of things to be returning thanks as I.P.M., but he could assure them it was with feelings of the greatest pleasure that he was addressing them as their W.M. When he was installed last year he had asked his officers and the Past Masters to rally round him, and that with their assistance he would endeavour to discharge his duties to the satisfaction of the lodge. He could with the greatest pleasure say that they had done so. To his officers and the Past Masters especially he tendered his warmest thanks. He was glad to say that in their lodge the Past Masters, who ought to form its backbone, did not as soon as they had filled the Master's chair cease in their attendance. The W.M. in the course of his remarks alluded to the recent action of the Grand Orient of France, and rejoiced that 809 had sent up to Grand Lodge a resolution heartily concurring in the line taken by Grand Lodge of England. Bro. W. H. Exley, P.M. and Treas. in proposing "The Masonic Charities," suggested that the amount collected that evening should be appropriated towards providing the nomination of a bed at the Hunsanton Convalescent Institution, and this was heartily agreed to, and on the charity box being opened Bro. Exley declared that nearly sufficient had been collected to provide a bed; and that he would himself gladly make up the small difference required. The W.M. said that in order that the Charities might not suffer, and as a mark of his gratitude for the kindness of the brethren in re-electing him W.M., he would be glad to represent their lodge as Steward at either the Boys' or Girls' forthcoming festival. During the evening some excellent songs were given by Bro. Rev. E. J. Alvis, 107, P.G. Chap. Norfolk, and Bros. Collins, Chennell, Douglas Lithgow, Ellis, and others, and the Tyler's toast brought to a conclusion admittedly one of the most enjoyable and successful gatherings ever held in the Wisbech Lodge.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORLAND.

The half-yearly meeting of the Provincial Grand Craft Lodge of Cumberland and Westmorland was held in Penrith on Friday, the 26th ult., at the New Crown Hotel, under the banner of the Lodge of Unanimity, No. 339. The Earl of Bective, M.P., P.M. 1074, R.W. Prov. Grand Master, opened the Provincial Grand Lodge in due form, at half-past one o'clock, supported by the following officers: Bros. Colonel Whitwell, M.P., P.M. 129, P.G.W. of England, R.W. Deputy Prov. Grand Master; W. Kirkbride, P.M. 339, P.P.G.S.W., as P.G.S.W., in the unavoidable absence of Bro. Sir R. C. Musgrave, P.M. 339; J. A. Wheatley, P.M. 310, P.G.J.W.; Rev. Dr. Simpson, P.M. 129 and 812, P.P.G.S.W., P. G. Chaplain of England, as P.G. Chaplain; John Lemou, P.M. 327, P.P.G. S.W., Prov. G. Treas.; W. F. Lamonby, P.M. 1002, P.G. Reg. (*Freemason*); W. B. Gibson, P.M. 119, P.P.G. S.W., Prov. G. Sec.; T. Atkinson, P.M. 872, P.G.D.C.; G. J. McKay, W.M. 129, P.G.A.D.C.; J. L. Paitson, W.M. 119, P.G.S.B.; W. H. Lewthwaite, P.M. 1002, P.G. Org.; J. W. Young, P.M. 1400, P.G. Pars.; T. B. Arnisson, P.M. 339, P.P.G.D.C.; W. James, P.M. and Treas. 1074, P.P.G.J.W.; G. W. Kenworthy, P.M. 119, P.P.G.J.W.; W. White, P.M. 119, P.P.G.S.D.; F. W. Hayward, P.M. 310, P.P.G.S.W.; J. Whitehead, P.M. 812, P.P.G. Reg.; W. Lamonby, W.M. 1073, P.P.G.

Tyler; T. Mandle, P.M. 371; J. C. Hunter, P.M. 962 and 1225; James B. Thwaites, W.M. 339; J. Wood, W.M. 962; R. Wharton, W.M. 812; S. Pusey, W.M. 1074; Capt. F. R. Sewell, S.W. 1002; H. Glendinning, S.W. 1532; James Haswell, J.W. 1532; W. Rollinshaw, J.W. 1074; W. Bell, S.W. 1390; G. Murchill, Sec. 310; W. Blaylock, I.G. 310; D. Crowden, 1073; W. Gaspey, 1073; Jos. Abbott, R. Milbourne, and J. Lumb, 339; G. Fitzgerald, 119.

The minutes of the annual festival held at Cockermouth in September last, under the banner of Skiddaw Lodge, 1002, were first read and confirmed. The dues from lodges and fees of honour from officers were next received, and the Prov. Grand Secretary announced that the total number of subscribing members in the province was 948, against 937 last year. One lodge (1220, Silloth) had not sent in their returns, although twice written to. The Prov. Grand Master animadverted in strong terms on the conduct of the defaulting lodge, and he added that it became a question whether a new bye-law should not be made inflicting a fine on lodges neglecting to make the returns ordered by the Constitutions.

The next question was the recommendation of the place for the celebration of the annual festival, in September. Bro. Wharton, W.M., on behalf of Lodge 812, invited the Prov. Grand Lodge to Appleby, which was supported by a P.M. of the same lodge. Bro. Bell, S.W. Lodge 1390, invited the Prov. Grand Lodge to Millom, which was supported by a brother of that lodge. The Deputy Prov. Grand Master mentioned that Lodge 129, Kendal, was also looking anxiously forward to again having the honour to entertain Prov. Grand Lodge, as it was some years since they were there. Kendal, however, would not like to stand in the way of Millom, which was a most enterprising lodge, and had been remarkably successful, since its institution. For himself, if Millom were decided, he should be most glad to accept their invitation. The Prov. Grand Master said it was very gratifying to have so many kind invitations. He thought the claim laid between Appleby and Millom, as the provincial festival had never yet been held at either place. Then, again, as the Millom brethren put in an invitation last year, he should decide in their favour. (Applause.)

The report of the Charity Committee then came up for consideration. Amongst the recommendations was a vote of £5 to the aged widow of a brother of Lodge 119. The committee also recommended that the sum of ten guineas be voted from the Provincial Benevolent Fund towards furthering the election of a widow of Lodge 119 as an annuitant for the Royal Masonic Institution, on condition that the lodge in question raised an equal amount. In the meantime, a sum of £5 was recommended to be voted to the said old lady, between now and the election. It was further recommended that the sum of twenty guineas be voted to the Royal Benevolent Institution, to be divided between the two funds. Finally, the committee recommended the favourable consideration of Bro. McKay's notice of motion, referred to hereafter. On the motion of the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, seconded by Bro. Lamonby, P.G. Reg., the report was unanimously adopted.

Bro. McKay, P.G.A.D.C., next brought forward his notice of motion, as follows:—"That the sum of one hundred guineas be voted by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cumberland and Westmorland to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys; and that the same be entered in the name of the R.W. Prov. Grand Master for the time being." He need not say that there were strong reasons why this vote should be made. The first of all was, that there were only four votes in the Boys' School belonging to this province; and, in fact, they were almost the only province that possessed so few votes. They could not do less than vote this sum, for, by so doing, they would be performing a graceful act towards their Prov. Grand Master, and substantially show the high esteem in which they held his lordship. (Applause.) He alluded to the recent severe pecuniary loss sustained by the Boy's School, and now was their opportunity to express their sympathy. If the Provincial Grand Lodge voted one hundred guineas, the Prov. Grand Master would be constituted a Vice-President, with ten votes at each election, or twenty votes annually, in perpetuity, in addition to the few votes the province now possessed. He therefore moved a resolution in accordance with his notice of motion. (Applause.)

Bro. Wheatley, P.G.S.W., seconded the motion, which was agreed to unanimously.

The Prov. Grand Master said he hoped the day would not be far distant when they would be able to do something in connection with the other charitable institutions of the Order. (Hear, hear.) The Deputy Prov. Grand Master congratulated the Prov. Grand Master on the position the province now occupied. They had only voted a pound or so more than the P.G. Secretary had that day received in dues and fees. (Applause.) He was also very glad to see they had been the first to make the vote since the great loss which the Boys' School had suffered. (Hear, hear.)

The P.G. Secretary said he wished to draw the attention of Masters of lodges in the province to a bye-law, which made it imperative that all lodge votes should be forwarded to him for the benefit of provincial candidates. He had received 51 votes for the Girls' School, and 79 for the Boys' School, from lodges.

Bro. Lamonby, P.G. Reg., asked for permission to make extracts from the old documents and books belonging to the province, in the hands of the P.G. Secretary, to be used in the compilation of his projected work on the history of Craft Masonry in Cumberland and Westmorland. After some discussion, in which it was the general opinion that the work should be issued by the authority and under the auspices of P.G. Lodge, the P. Grand Master moved, Bro. Rev. Dr. Simpson seconded, and it was carried, that Bro. Lamonby be granted the use of the said documents, on

condition that he held himself responsible to the P.G. Secretary for their safe keeping.

This was all the business, and the Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed in due form.

Subsequently the brethren lunched together, under the presidency of the R.W. Prov. Grand Master. There was no programme, and the proceedings were confined to a few complimentary toasts.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF WEST LANCASHIRE.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Chapter of the Western Division of Lancashire was held at the Town Hall, Preston, on Tuesday, the 26th April, at two o'clock prompt. Comp. the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, Second G.P., Prov. G. Superintendent, presided on this occasion, and amongst those who were present were Comps. Rev. A. Brooke, Scribe N.; Jas. Sumner, Princip. S.; B. B. Marson, Assist. Soj. 2; Thos. Armstrong, Treas.; Edward Airey, Sword Bearer; Joseph Skeaf, Organist; Peter Macmurdrow, Steward; Edward Simpson, P. Sword Bearer; H. W. Johnston, P.P.G.J.; Thos. Burton, P.P.G. 2nd A.S.; Jas. T. Callow, P.G.S.B.; Jno. Case, P.P.G.J.; W. Harrison, P.G. and P.P.G.S.E., 113 and 314; H. H. Whitehead, P.P.A.S., 113 and 314; W. Goodacre, P.P.G.P.S. Ches., Z. 1445; Robert Wylie, P.P.G.D.C., P.Z. 292; J. R. Goepel, P.P.G. 1st. A.S., P.Z. 86 and 216; R. Pearson, P.P.G. Reg., P.Z. 995; Jno. Baxendale, P.P.G. As. S., P.Z. 580; Thos. Chesworth, P.G.R.; W. B. Lambert, P.Z. 298, 613, 580; J. J. Greaves, P.P.G.O., P.Z. 113; C. Fryer, P.Z. 113; J. W. Turley, P.Z. 241; G. Morgan, M.E.Z. 86; W. J. Chapman, J. 1356; George Cornfield, M.E.Z. 995; M. Haslum, H. 1225; L. R. Barnes, P.Z. 113; P. J. Edelsten, P.Z. 148; F. G. Hunt, M.E.Z. 113; W. Caltam, H. 113; W. W. Elton, J. 113; James Whiteside, P.Z. 314; W. B. Brown, 113; Thomas Clark, P.Z. 673; John Wells, M.E.Z. 580, H. 1086; John Wainwright, P.Z. 613, F. F. Young, 580; J. F. Roberts, P.Z. 613; Peter Robert Roe, 113; Samuel Wylde, P.Z. 580; John Jones, P.Z. 216; Henry Pearson, P.Z. 249; Joseph Wood, Treas. 249 (*Freemason*); John Brooks, H. 1345; H. Ellmer, J. 1375; E. B. Harding, M.E.Z. 1345; D. Jackson, Treas. 220; George Nelson, 1225; Richard Stanton, A.S. 1051; John Seaton, P.S. 220; Joseph J. Crookell, P.S. 1051; H. G. Bell, N. 113; W. Williams, 345; J. E. Jackson, H. 249; P. Mc F. Neill, M.E.Z. 213; H. Gill, 1086, 1094; E. Johnston, J. 203; S. Gordon, 1094; T. Barratt, S.N. 613; Edward Barber, S.E. 113; Peter Ball, Janitor.

After the P.G. Chapter had been opened in due and solemn form, the minutes of the previous convocation were read and unanimously approved.

On the motion of Comp. J. R. Goepel, P.P.G. 1st. A.S., seconded by Comp. J. T. Callow, P.G. St. B., Comp. Thomas Armstrong was unanimously re-elected Treasurer, and from the accounts which he submitted it appeared that the funds of the P.G. Chapter were in a flourishing condition. Comp. P. Ball was also re-elected P.G. Janitor.

Comp. Lord Skelmersdale then proceeded with the appointment and investiture of officers, of which the following is a complete list:—

W. Harrison, 113	Prov. G.H.
E. B. Harding, 1345	Prov. G.J.
H. S. Alpass, 680 (re-appointed)	Prov. G.S.E.
P. Macmurdrow, 1094	Prov. G.S.N.
L. R. Barnes, 113	Prov. G.P.S.
J. W. Turley, 241	Prov. G. 1st. A.S.
J. Whiteside, 314	Prov. G. 2nd. A.S.
T. Armstrong, 216	Prov. G. Treas.
J. F. Roberts, 580	Prov. G. Reg.
S. Wylie, 580	Prov. G. Swd. B.
G. Cornfield, 995	Prov. G. St. B.
J. Jones, 216	Prov. G.D.C.
J. Skeaf, 216	Prov. G.O.
P. J. Edelsten, 148	Prov. G.S.
P. Ball	Prov. G. Janitor.

On the motion of Comp. R. Wylie, P.P.G.D.C., seconded by Comp. J. R. Goepel, P.P.G. 1st. A.S., the sum of forty guineas was voted from the P.G. Chapter funds (in addition to ten voted last year) to constitute the P.G. Superintendent (Comp. Lord Skelmersdale) a Vice-President of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

His Lordship, in acknowledging this vote, which was carried by acclamation, said he had great pleasure in stating that it was fully expected the London Charities would in no way suffer by certain untoward circumstances, but that the money would be fully made up. He also announced his intention of considering whether or not it would be for the convenience of the companions to hold the annual Prov. Grand Chapter meeting on the same day as, and immediately preceding, the business of the Prov. Grand Lodge. The experiment, at all events, he thought was worth a trial. (Hear, hear.)

The Prov. Grand Chapter was then closed, and the companions subsequently banqueted at the Bull Hotel.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—This purifying and regulating Medicine should occasionally be had recourse to during foggy, cold, and wet weather. These Pills are the best preventive of hoarseness, sore throat, diphtheria, pleurisy, and asthma, and are sure remedies for congestion, bronchitis, and inflammation. A moderate attention to the directions folded round each box will enable every invalid to take the Pills in the most advantageous manner; they will then be taught the proper doses, and the circumstances under which they must be increased or diminished. Holloway's Pills act as alteratives, aperients, and tonics. Whenever these Pills have been taken as the last resource, the result has always been gratifying. Even when they fail to cure, they always assuage the severity of the symptoms and diminish the danger.—ADVT.

SPECIAL EDITION.

A Special Edition of the *Freemason*, will be ready early on Saturday Morning, containing a detailed report of the proceedings at the Annual Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls with the List of the Stewards, and the amounts brought up by each.

Masonic and General Tidings.

The quarterly meeting of the Liverpool Masonic Hall Committee was held a few evenings ago at the Hall in Hope-street, Liverpool, and as there were two very important motions affecting the constitution of the House Committee on the agenda paper, there was an unusually large and influential gathering, in anticipation of a long and animated discussion on each of the propositions. Bro. R. Wylie, P.P.G.S.D., occupied the chair, Bro. W. J. Lant, P.M. 823, the vice-chair, and after the minutes of the previous meeting had been read by Bro. J. T. Callow, P.M. 637, Secretary, the Chairman called on the brother who had given notice of the first motion to bring it forward. He was, however, conspicuous by his absence, and the motion ungloriously fell to the ground. Thereupon the brother whose name was identified with the second motion then got up, and, amidst considerable merriment, intimated that he desired to withdraw it. This request was granted, and thus a meeting which was expected to last a considerable time came to a close most suddenly, the whole of the proceedings not lasting more than two minutes.

The members of the lodges in the Province of Middlesex are to wear Masonic mourning for three months in consequence of the lamented death of their Deputy Grand Master, Bro. Robert Wentworth Little.

At the Court of Bankruptcy, on Tuesday, the Case of Willis, Percival & Co. was heard before Mr. Registrar Pepps.—Henry Willis, Samuel Tomkins, and Samuel Leith Tomkins, bankers, carrying on business at Lombard-street, under the firm of Willis, Percival, & Co., had petitioned for the liquidation of their affairs. A scheme of arrangement agreed to at a meeting of creditors on April 30th was submitted to the Court. The creditors resolved that an agreement made between Mr. Turquand, trustee of the estate on the one part, and the Hampshire and North Wilts Banking Company on the other, should be adopted. This agreement provided, inter alia, for the sale of the whole of the joint or separate assets of the debtors, and the goodwill of their banking business to the Hampshire and North Wilts Banking Company at the sum of £265,000, and such further sum as should be required to pay the creditors a dividend of 9s. in the pound; the debts due by the firm under the late partnership with Henry Willis, deceased, and the separate debts of each partner to be paid in full, and also all the costs of the proceedings; in the event of £265,000 being more than is required for the purposes aforesaid, the surplus to be refunded to the Hampshire and North Wilts Bank. The statement of affairs showed assets at £295,662 as against liabilities £563,517, or equal to a dividend of 10s. 5d. in the pound. After the trustee had investigated the accounts, he found that the figures were liable to certain deductions—the liabilities to £529,908 and the assets to £262,053, which latter item he finally reduced by £10,000 put down for costs, thus placing the net assets at £252,053. Under these circumstances, Mr. Penn, the chief clerk, reported that the arrangements, taking into consideration the delay and risk consequent upon realization in the ordinary mode, appeared to be for the benefit of the creditors. The resolutions were confirmed by the Court.

The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon opened the new municipal buildings at Newbury, Berkshire, on Tuesday last. Upon his arrival an address was read by Mr. H. B. Godwin, town clerk, in which his lordship was thanked for the great interest he had always manifested in the welfare of the ancient borough, the address concluding as follows: "We would express our sincere hope that your lordship may be granted many years of health and happiness, and to see your children's children perpetuate the virtues and accomplishments of the House of Herbert."

Her Majesty the Queen, accompanied by the Crown Princess of Germany and Princess Beatrice, left Windsor Castle at eleven o'clock on Tuesday morning for the metropolis. As they passed from the Royal waiting room at Windsor to the carriage her Majesty and the Princesses graciously acknowledged the salutations of the bystanders; and the Crown Princess of Germany (Princess Royal) and the Princess Beatrice remained standing as the train quitted the station. At Paddington there was a large concourse of persons, who gave the Royal party a most hearty welcome as they drove under escort to Buckingham Palace.

The Saddlers' Company has voted 25 guineas to the China Famine Fund, and five guineas to the National Dental Hospital.

SLAMMING OF RAILWAY CARRIAGE DOORS.—Several correspondents have addressed letters to a contemporary on this subject, and one, signing himself "Quietas," asks "can nothing be done to stop the intolerable nuisance of slamming railway carriage doors? If the doors must be closed quickly and firmly," he remarks, "surely the thunderclap which results may be obviated by the insertion of a little indiarubber lining, such as serves a similar purpose to the doors of numerous public buildings."

At the Croza sale in Paris, works of Laret Delacroix and Messonier were sold at high prices. "Le Liseur," by the last great artist, fetched £1080. £12,000 were realized.

The consecration of the Royal Savoy Lodge, No. 1744, will take place at Ashley's Hotel, Covent Garden, on Tuesday, May 14th, at four o'clock. The ceremony will be performed by Bro. James Terry, G.D.C. Herts., assisted by Bro. H. G. Buss, A.G.S., Bro. J. Willing, I.P.W. 177, P.M. 1507, is the W.M. designate; Bro. John Douglas, (Standard Theatre), W.M. elect 1507, the S.W. designate; and Bro. F. H. Clemow, 1507, the J.W. designate. The musical arrangements will be under the direction of Bro. Carter, assisted by Bro. Theodore Distin, &c., &c. The ceremony will be in ample form. The lodge already consists of thirty Masters, P. Masters, and brethren of old lodges.

The Pope's Apartments at the Vatican have been re-decorated since the death of Pius IX., and are now furnished somewhat scantily, the name and arms of Leo XIII. being emblazoned on all the furniture. The Pope has converted the room in which his predecessor died into a dining-room, hung with red damask, and containing a table in centre, at which His Holiness sits on a throne. The former dining-room is now Leo XIII.'s bedroom, which is hung with yellow damask, and has a brass bedstead in an alcove formed by columns, while it communicates with the library. The audience room is ornamented with red and yellow satin, and contains seats covered with red, two handsome cabinets, and a writing-table. Lastly comes the Salle du Trône, where the Pope hears a sermon each Friday in Lent, the preacher standing at the foot of the throne, while Leo XIII. occupies unseen a species of wooden confessional, and the Cardinals are seated round the hall on benches. Anent Papal matters, His Holiness has been slightly scandalised by his new Secretary, Cardinal Franchi, having a billiard-table put up in his apartments, as the Cardinal has been recommended to play billiards for an hour daily for the sake of his health.

We are glad to hear that Mr. Holman Hunt is returning to this country with a new and powerful picture.

An autumn exhibition of pictures is in process of arrangement at Newcastle-on-Tyne.

The Bank of Bengal has reduced its minimum rate of interest and discount from 6 to 5 per cent.

The Minister of Public Instruction and Chancellor of the University of France, has conferred on Bro. the Rev. Dr. Brette, one of the highest honours the University can bestow, viz., the rank and title of "Officier d'Académie," in recognition of the services he has rendered to Public Instruction by his educational works.

Among the most important inventions of the age is Bro. Charles Brothers's Safety Sash Window. Every one will admit the ordinary sash window is open to many objections. If the sash line breaks or the window wants cleaning, &c., the sashes have to be partially taken out by removing the beads, or the servant has to do the work from the outside, often at imminent peril. Now the invention of Mr. Brothers obviates these inconveniences, and possesses special points of merit that will commend themselves to all architects, builders, and householders. The model sash window we examined at the Museum of Building Appliances, 23, Maddox street, W., is to all appearance an ordinary window, including frame and weights, but is hung on centres, and is made to open like a casement, which purpose, in fact, it answers. A frame or lining is introduced in the usual rebate or opening of the brickwork, in which the ordinary window case is wedged; gun metal or other centres are fixed at the top and bottom of frame one side, and the whole sash and its frame is hung at its inner edge, and made to open *en bloc* into the room. In examining the model we find the parting beads are fixed, and never require to be touched—a point of particular moment, avoiding repairs, the loose fitting of the sashes, and the consequent liability to become dirty. The hanging of the sash frame obviates the necessity of taking off the beads, and the removal of sashes, to repair, clean, or paint, for by unlocking the opening stile of frame the whole window, with its weights and sashes, opens into the room, and is completely under control. But to facilitate repair of lines, the back linings, thin pieces of stuff hinged, are made to open as flaps, thus enabling any one to replace new lines or weights, as the sash lines are fitted to a certain length with hooks and eyes. When the window-frame is open the limit to which the sashes can subsequently be raised or depressed can be determined by the locking arrangement, effected by a master-key provided for the owner or tenant of the house. Say an opening of four or five inches is permitted, this will be too small a space for any one to get access through from the outside, and thus no collusion with inmates would serve the purposes of the burglar. At top an excellent adjustable ventilator is fitted, and on closing the sashes they fasten themselves, thus superseding the ordinary catches and introducing the better principle of unfastening instead of fastening the window. When the sash-frame is shut on the outer frame it is locked in place by the master-key and becomes proof against tampering.

RED CROSS OF CONSTANTINE.—The Imperial Grand Council of Illinois have appointed Bro. Charles Fitzgerald Matier as their Grand Representative at the Imperial Grand Council of England.

Among others the following deaths have been announced in April: Lawrence Macdonald, sculptor, at Rome; Alexander Jean Antigua, "genre" painter, in Paris; Alexander Viollet-le-Duc, art critic, brother of the great architect; and Sir Gilbert Scott, architect.

An official communication was received at Aldershot on Wednesday evening stating that her Majesty the Queen will visit the camp on Monday next, and will inspect the whole of the troops at the North Camp; parade ground, returning afterwards to Windsor.

Public Amusements.

GLOBE THEATRE.—A grand special morning performance (we quote from the bills) was given at this Theatre on Wednesday April 24th. The occasion was the début of Miss Agnes Leonard, and the piece chosen for representation was "Love's Sacrifice" a drama produced nearly half a century ago at Covent Garden, but seldom seen of late years on the London Stage. Although of considerable literary merit, and admirable in many respects, "Love's Sacrifice" is hardly likely to become a favourite with audiences of the present day, who prefer quicker development of plot, and are apt to grow impatient over long speeches in blank verse. We do not say taste has improved in these matters, but only state a fact.

The heroine Margaret Elmore was, of course, played by the young débutante. Gifted with a graceful figure, a charming young face, and the most bewitching manners, Miss Leonard looked the part to perfection, and in the first act where these qualities were the chief requisites, she made a very favourable impression on the audience; as the play proceeded, however, it was clear that she lacked power, her voice at times being almost inaudible, and in the scene with Lafont in the fourth act, it became evident that she has not, as yet, mastered even the elements of her art, she never once rose in the situation and throughout the rest of the play her inexperience both in elocution and acting were painfully apparent. The only praise we can give is that she was perfect in her words, and more than once acted as prompter to some of the others. The audience was a friendly one, and there were repeated calls before the curtain, but it would be mistaken kindness to persuade Miss Leonard that her impersonation was a success. "There is no royal road to learning" and success on the stage can only be attained by long and careful study. To appear before a London audience for the first time, in a part which would try the powers of the most experienced actress, is to say the least ambitious. The other parts were most of them well filled. Mr. John Maclean played Matthew Elmore with much feeling, and in the third act won loud and well deserved applause. Mr. James Fernandez was admirably "made up" as Lafont, and played the part in a thoroughly artistic manner. Mr. Barnes as Eugene de Lorme made a fairly good lover, but we have seen him to better advantage in other parts. Mr. Billington made a dashing St. Lo and was particularly good in his scene with the lively Hermione, admirably played by Miss Ellen Meyrick. Mr. H. Paulson was funny as the clerk Jean Ruse, and was well supported by Miss Cicely Nott as Manau. Mr. Huntley as the Friar was too melodramatic, and would have been more appreciated by a "transpontine" audience.

MASONIC SONGS.—A selection of Masonic Songs set to popular airs, written by Bro. E. P. Philpots, M.D., F.R.G.S., is now ready, forming a handsome volume, bound in cloth, with gilt edges, price 3s. Sent post free from the office of this paper on receipt of stamps or post-office order value 3s 2d.—ADVT.

In addition to the numerous gifts of works of art to the Liverpool Gallery of Art, Mr. George Arkell, banker, has presented to the Town Council seven valuable works in oil from his collection at Anfield House. They include "Ruins of a Temple and Amphitheatre," by G. D. Roberts, R.A.; "King Richard III. of England," by S. A. Hart, R.A.; "The Trial of the Earl of Strafford," by William Fisk; and "The Parable of Forgiveness," by J. Eckford Lander.

A Festival in aid of the Benevolent Society of Blues was held at the Albion Tavern on Thursday last. Bro. John Derby Allcroft, M.P., Treasurer of Christ's Hospital, presiding.

In consequence of the 22nd inst. being fixed for her Majesty's ball, Mrs. Smith's evening party at the Admiralty will take place on Tuesday, the 21st inst.

The Installation meeting of the Phoenix Lodge, No. 173, takes place at Freemasons' Hall this (Saturday) afternoon—A report of the proceedings will appear in our next.

The consecration of the Farringdon Without Lodge, No. 1745, took place on Thursday last at the Holborn Viaduct Hotel. W. Bro. James Terry, P.M. 228, 1278, and 1366, and Grand D. of C. Hertfordshire, assisted by W. Bro. Wm. Clarke, G.D. of C. Suffolk, were the consecrating officers. A full report will appear in our next.

The 89th annual dinner of the Royal Literary Fund, took place on Wednesday evening, at Willis's Rooms, the Dean of Westminster in the chair. A very distinguished company were present.

The traffic receipts of the London and South-Western Railway for the past week show an increase of £8,497; the London General Omnibus Company an increase of £105; and the Grand Trunk Railway of Canada, a decrease of £7,530.

Mrs. Monckton and Sir Charles Young gave a dramatic recital on Wednesday night, for the benefit of the St. Elizabeth Hospital, Great Ormond-street.

The Queen has signified her intention of conferring the honour of knighthood upon the following gentlemen:—Mr. Jacob Dirk Barry, Recorder of the High Court of the Province of Griqualand West; Mr. Thomas Elder, member of the Legislative Council of the Colony of South Australia; Dr. Salvatore Maudie, L.L.D., Judge of the Court of Appeal of the Island of Malta; Mr. Edward Eyre Williams, late Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of the Colony of Victoria.

MASONIC PROGRAMME.

We have been requested by a correspondent to publish the following translation from the Spanish, which we do with pleasure:—

This is submitted to persons wishing to become Masons, before they are proposed in open lodge, for their complete knowledge of the aspirations of Masonry, and to proceed after their agreement to them to the other usual formalities, of which this present document shall be the heading.

Masonry desiring that any person likely to become one of its members may not fall into a delusion, and wishing in good time to offer a proof of his good faith, it is but fair to give to that person exact ideas of the object of the Institution, and to enable him to repudiate those vulgarities which engender absurd and erroneous conceptions, ridiculing only him who conceives them.

When a candidate offers himself for Masonry, this feels it his duty to examine his conduct and customs, and for that purpose appoints a special commission of enquiry, independently of the voice and advice of other members.

If the information acquired are unfavourable the Society goes into a minute examination of the particulars, to prove them as clear as the midday light, after that proof, if the information are definitely unfavourable, the name of the candidate is no longer heard amongst Masons.* If on the contrary, the information are favourable, a secret ballot takes place by white and black, this last excluding. In this case the rejection is not an offence, it is sufficient if a member believes that the candidate will not find in Masonry what he is aiming at, to refuse him his vote. Masonry does not purport satisfying any egotistical aims nor private interests: its object is highly noble, its mission entirely humane. Its views are, the moral progress, charity and philanthropy amongst all men of right conscience and good customs. To pretend to penetrate in the Society with the idea of making of it a step to private interests or unavowable aspirations, would be ridiculous and absurd; to enter it without finding in oneself all the abnegation which Masonry demands would be a deception.

Masonry has secrets founded on morality and justice which cannot be penetrated, and obligations which cannot be forfeited; but neither one nor the other are in the least opposed to the laws, to religion, nor to morality. The candidate who is guided by curiosity does not reach his purpose; the mysteries and secrets are communicated by degrees conferred only to worthy men alone. He who ties himself with a solemn obligation and breaks it, does not hurt the Society in the least; the evil falls only on him who had not constancy and honour to fulfil a duty which he voluntarily imposed on himself.

Masonry does not interfere with the religious creed of its members nor tries to penetrate their peculiar dogmas; it is sufficient to know that the candidate has a religion and that he believes in God and in his works. We never open our doors to receive an atheist, who denies the existence of the Supreme Creator.

Masonry does not want wealthy men, but it cannot admit persons not having a profession or material means to keep themselves and families, and, without detriment to these first duties, having a small surplus to contribute to the expenses of the Society and to help the needful.

Masonry would fail in its object by tolerating disputes and variances amongst its members; all differences must be settled between themselves, avoiding, as far as possible, an appeal to strangers. Thus, a candidate when admitted, if he meets a member with whom he is at variance, he is obliged to depose all resentment and treat him as a friend, but if the difference should be of such nature not to be settled amicably, he must expose his reasons to the Master of the lodge, previous to appeal to strange judges, and justice shall be afforded to his demand.

Masonry requires a small part of the time of its members to attend the duties of their lodge when summoned, this not being avoidable, unless by legitimate or provable causes.

Finally, the candidate is expected to exercise temperance, be industrious and steady to his profession, faithful to his master or employer, to practise virtue, to share his bread, with the needful, and not to eat the other's without paying for it, to show the true way to the strayed traveller, to discountenance all vices condemned by morality, and finally to help his brothers, with all means in his power and as far as his own circumstances permit.

The candidate who, imbued with these principles, finds himself capable of following them, will please to sign the following declaration:—

I, A, B, C, of my own free and spontaneous will and accord, and under my word of honour, being well acquainted with the Masonic Programme, and the duties described thereon, offer myself as a candidate for Masonry, desiring to become useful to human kind.

In testimony thereof, I sign the present with my guarantee

Date

Signature

Age
Profession
Native of
Religion

Considering that Mr. is a fit and proper person to be a Mason, I beg to propose him as a member of the lodge

Signature.

*A circular is sent to all other lodges.—Note of translator.

The Masonic Magazine for January, 1876, containing a portrait and an account of the life of the Hon. Mrs. Aldworth, the Female Freemason, is still in print, and may be obtained at the office of this paper, 198, Fleet-street. Price 6d., post-free 7d.—[Advrt.]

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS

For the Week ending Friday, May 17, 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, MAY 11.

- Lodge 173, Phoenix, F.M.H. (Installation.)
" 176, Caveac, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 1328, Granite, F.M.H.
" 1361, United Service, Greyhound Hot., Richmond.
" 1685, Guelph, Red Lion, Leytonstone.
Chap. 1293, Burdett, Mitre Hot., Hampton Court.
" 1423, Era, Island Hot., Hampton Court.

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, MAY 13.

- Lodge 5, St. George and Corner Stone, F.M.H.
" 193, Confidence, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 957, Leigh, F.M.H.
" 1366, Highgate, Gatehouse Hot., Highgate.
" 1571, Leopold, Woolpack Tav., Bermondsey-st.
Chap. 720, Panmure, Horns Tav., Kennington.
" 1118, University, F.M.H.

- Rose Croix, Holy Sanctuary, 33, Golden-sq.

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, MAY 14.

- Lodge 46, Old Union, Westminster Palace Hot.
" 167, St. John's, Holly Bush Tav., Hampstead.
" 211, St. Michael's, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 548, Wellington, White Swan Tav., Deptford.
" 1269, Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
" 1593, Royal Naval College, Ship Hot., Greenwich.
" 1604, Wanderers, F.M.H.
" 1614, Covent Garden, Ashley's Hot., Covent-gdn.
" 1744, Royal Savoy, Ashley's Hot., Covent Garden.
(Consecration.)

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 Edgcombe, 19, Jermyn-st., St. James's.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15.

- Presentation to Bro. Henry Muggeridge, Guildhall Tavern,
Gresham-street, 6.30.
Lodge 619, Beadon, Greyhound Tav., Dulwich.
" 700, Nelson, M.H., William-st., Woolwich.
" 969, Maybury, Inns of Court Hot.
" 1382, Corinthian, George Inn, Cubitt Town.
Chap. 141, Faith, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
Mark 144, Grosvenor, 68, Regent-st., W.
" 181, Francis Burdett, Albany, Twickenham.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Confidence, Railway Tav., Railway-place, Fenchurch-st.
Burdett Coutts, Salmon and Ball, Bethnal Green-road.
Jordan, Devonshire Arms, Devonshire-st., W., at 8.
Mt. Lebanon, Horse Shoe Tav., Stones-End, E.
Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London-street, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
La Tolerance, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., 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 16.

- Lodge 55, Constitutional, Inns of Court Hot.
" 169, Temperance, White Swan, High-st., Deptford

- Lodge 813, New Concord, Rosemary Branch, Hoxton.
" 1278, Burdett Coutts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
" 1320, Blackheath, Crown Hot., Blackheath.
" 1365, Clapton, White Hart Hot., Clapton.
" 1623, West Smithfield, Market Hot., W. Smithfield.
Chap. 742, Crystal Palace, Clarendon Hot., Anerley.
Mark 7, Carnarvon, Mitre Tav., Hampton Court.
Encamp. E. Observance, 14, Bedford-row.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Union Waterloo, Chatham Arms, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., 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 17.

- Com. and Election R.M.B.I., F.M.H.
Lodge 6, Friendship, Willis's Rooms, St. James's
" 143, Middlesex, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 780, Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge.
Encamp. 48, Kemeys Tynte, 33, Golden-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Harp Tav., Jermyn-st., W.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st., at 7.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Westbourne, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, 79, Whitechapel-road, at 8.
Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
St. Luke's, White Hart, King's-rd., Chelsea.
Chigwell, Prince's Hall, Buckhurst-hill.
Royal Standard, The Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's-rd., N.
Ranelagh, Bell and Anchor, Hammersmith-rd.
William Preston, Feathers Tav., Up. George-st., Edgware-rd.
Hervey, 99, Fleet-street, at 8.
Earl of Carnarvon, Mitre Hot., Gouborne-rd., Notting-hill.
Pythagorean Chapter, Portland Hot. London-st., Greenwich

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, May 18, 1878.

MONDAY, MAY 13.

- Lodge 314, Peace and Unity, Militia Rooms, Preston.
" 613, Unity, Palatine-buildings, Southport.
" 703, Clifton, Clifton Arms, Blackpool.
" 721, Independence, Eastgate-row, Chester.
" 1021, Hartington, Custom House Bds., Barrow.
" 1350, Fernor Hesketh, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1398, Baldwin Castle, Dalton-in-Furness.
" 1496, Trafford, Northumberland Hot., Old Trafford.
Chap. 148, Elias Ashmole, C.R., Warrington.
Derby L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
Egerton Mark Lodge, 165, Bedford House, Rock Ferry.
Walton Conclave, Skelmersdale Hall, Liverpool.

TUESDAY, MAY 14.

- Lodge 241, Merchants, M.H., Liverpool.
" 897, Loyalty, Fleece Inn, St. Helen's.
" 986, Hesketh, Grapes Inn, Crosston.
" 1250, Gilbert Greenall, M.H., Warrington.
" 1256, Fidelity, Bull Hotel, Poulton-le-Fylde.
" 1713, Wilbraham, Walton Institute, Walton.
Stanley L. of I., 214, Great Homer-st., Liverpool.
Prince Arthur L. of I., 80, N. Hill-st., Liverpool.
Liverpool Red Cross Conclave, M.H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15.

- Lodge 86, Loyalty, Crown Hotel, Prescott.
" 178, Antiquity, M.H., Wigan.
" 428, Sincerity, Angel Hotel, Northwich.
" 484, Faith, Gerard's Arms, Ashton-in-Makerfield.
" 580, Harmony, Wheat Sheaf, Ormskirk.
" 758, Ellesmere, M.H., Runcorn.
" 823, Everton, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1086, Walton, Skelmersdale H., Kirkdale.
" 1276, Warren, Queen's Arms Hotel, Liscard.
" 1345, Victoria, Cross Keys, Eccles.
" 1353, Duke of Lancaster, Athenaeum, Lancaster.
" 1730, Urmston, Lord Nelson Hotel, Urmston.
Chap. 580, Unity, Wheat Sheaf, Ormskirk.
De Grey and Ripon L. of I., M.H., N. Hill-st., Liverpool.
Downshire L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, MAY 16.

- Lodge 203, Antient Union, M.H., Liverpool.
" 343, Concord, Militia Mess Rooms, Preston.
" 425, Cestrian, M.R., Chester.
" 605, Combermere, Seacombe Hotel, Seacombe.
" 1299, Pembroke, Rawlinson's Hotel, West Derby.
Chap. 249, Mariners, M.H., Liverpool.
Duke of Edinburgh L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
St. John's L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, MAY 17.

- Hamer L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
SATURDAY, MAY 18.
Chap. 178, Harmony, Royal Hot., Wigan.

For Masonic Meetings throughout Scotland see *Scottish Freemason*, which can be obtained at the Office of this journal, 198, Fleet-street, London.