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

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

ROYAL SAVOY LODGE (No. 1744).—An emergency meeting of this young lodge was held at Ashley's Hotel, Covent Garden, on Tuesday, Aug. 13th, Bro. Willing, W.M., in the chair. Also present Bros. Adams, P.G.P., as S.W.; Clemow, J.W.; Treadwell, I.P.M.; Stiles, Sec.; Jones, S.D.; Hyland, J.D.; Cook, I.G.; Holt, W. S.; Armstrong, Deller, Barham, Sillis, Smith, and many others. Visitors, Bros. Dunlop, Dawson, J. Jones Bowyer, Daniel, Stock, &c. The brethren assembled in good time and Bro. Maby was raised, Bros. Hixon, Phillipot, J. W. Smith, Howcroft, Lloyd, and Nicol were passed, and Mr. James Smith initiated in a very impressive manner. In fact, the able way the officers performed their respective duties was most satisfactory, the lodge being so young. The brethren (about forty) adjourned to dinner, which gave every satisfaction, everything provided being of the best, and, English waiters having been substituted for the foreign ones, a most enjoyable evening was spent.

GIBRALTAR.—Inhabitants Lodge (No. 153).—It having been unanimously decided by this lodge to remove its quarters from Engineer Lane to the more commodious, better situated, and more airy buildings belonging to Bro. C. T. Armstrong, near Scud Hill, South, this was done, and the brethren met to consecrate the room on the 5th inst. Bro. James Contoy, W.M. was in the chair, supported by Bros. J. J. R. Morgan, P.M., Beale, P.M. 325, I.C.; J. Cunningham, I.P.M.; R. Jackson, W.M. 325, I.C.; and W. J. Stanley, W.M. 278, E.C. The lodge was opened in ancient form, and raised to the requisite degree for the consecration. It was regretted that both the D.G.M. and D.D.G.M. were absent through unavoidable circumstances, as also, P.M. Bro. W. J. Henry through sickness, but P.M. Bro. Morgan came forward with his usual promptitude and love of the cause and performed this most impressive ceremony in a style worthy of its importance, giving a most interesting explanatory lecture thereon. At the conclusion the W.M. proposed and Bro. Cunningham, I.P.M., seconded a vote of thanks to Bro. Morgan, P.M., which was carried by acclamation. The lodge was, notwithstanding the great heat of the weather, numerously attended, there being a number of visitors among the number. Afterwards two candidates were admitted to the mysteries of the E.A. Degree by the W.M. with his well known ability, and six others, as joining members or candidates, were proposed, which augurs well for the lodge in its new rooms. Subsequent to the lodge being closed the brethren adjourned to the comfortable refreshment room attached to the lodge, where they were regaled with a repast in Bro. Davis, the Steward's, able style. The cloth being removed, the usual loyal toasts were drank, then that of "The Visiting Brethren," responded to by Bro. Beale, and to the healths of Bros. C. T. Armstrong and Cunningham for their valuable assistance in preparing the rooms. The brethren separated about the small hours, having spent a pleasant and harmonious evening.

LIVERPOOL.—Mariners Lodge (No. 241).—The usual monthly meeting of the members of this lodge was held on Tuesday evening, the 13th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street. Bro. James Winsor, W.M., occupied the position of K.S., and he was supported by Bros. Councillor George Peet, J.P.M.; J. I. Knight, P.M.; R. Brown, P.M.; Chudley, P.M.; G. Broadbridge, P.M., D.C.; Robinson, P.M.; T. H. Sheen, S.W.; T. Salter, J.W.; Dr. McGeorge, P.M., Treas.; Williams, Sec.; J. Latta, S.D.; T. Whitehead, J.D.; and J. Pendleton, I.G. The ceremony of raising to the Sublime Degree of a M.M. was most ably performed by the W.M., and a very pleasant evening was afterwards spent by the members and visitors.

PRESTON—Concord Lodge (No. 343).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 15th of August, at seven o'clock, in the Assembly Room of the Bull Hotel. The following brethren were present: Bros. A. Beattie, W.M.; Hall, S.W.; Roe, J.W.; Fazaackerley, Secretary; Elton, I.P.M.; R. Robinson, P.M.; Cockshott, P.M., and others. There were also present Bros. Elton, W.M. 113; Jones, W.M. 333; Coptam, P.M. 113; Capt. Whitehead, P.M. 113; Greaves, P.M. 113, and P.P.G.O. E.L., and others. The lodge was opened in due form; the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The ballot was then taken for Mr. James Crossdale, and he was duly initiated into Craft mysteries. The lodge having been opened in the Second Degree, Bro. W. J. Monk, a candidate for raising, was duly and regularly raised to the Sublime Degree. The lodge was then closed down to the First Degree, and, after "Hearty good wishes" from several visiting brethren, was closed in solemn harmony at 7.30 p.m. The brethren then adjourned to a cold collation, served up in good style, and after the usual loyal toasts, "The Queen and the Craft," "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., and the Princess and Family," which were heartily and loyally responded to amidst capital "firing." "The Newly-Initiated Brother" was duly toasted by the W.M., also "The Visitors," both of which were received with that enthusiasm so well-known in Masonic assemblies. "The Health of the W.M." was ably proposed by Bro. Capt. Whitehead, who responded briefly for the honour done him. The Tyler's toast brought a very enjoyable evening to a termination.

KESWICK.—Greta Lodge (No. 1073).—The ordinary monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Monday evening last, in the County Court Room, when there were present Bros. W. Lamony, W.M.; R. P. Hunter, J.W.; W. Wilson, Sec.; W. Thornton, as S.D.; W. Hodgson, J.D.; J. Armstrong, I.G.; W. Gaspey, M.C.; C. Thompson, Tyler; J. Titterington, T. Usher, T. Mayson, Jos. Wales, and F. Jackson. The visitors were Bros. W. F. Lamony, P.M. 1002 (Freemason); James Frederick Clark, Unias Pama, No. 17, Brazilian Constitution. After the minutes were read and confirmed, the W.M. exchanged places with Bro. W. F. Lamony in the West, and Bro. Francis Jackson, having given proof of his proficiency, was duly raised to the degree of M.M. The lodge being reduced, Bro. J. Titterington was presented with his Grand Lodge certificate, and, after closing, the brethren separated in love and harmony at half-past nine.

SUDBURY.—Stour Valley Lodge (No. 1224).—The annual meeting and installation of the new W.M. of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall at the Literary Institute, on Friday, 16th inst. The Very Worshipful Bro. the Rev. C. J. Martyn, Deputy Provincial Grand Master for the Province of Suffolk, and Past Grand Chaplain of England, was duly installed as W.M. by Worshipful Bro. W. H. Lucia, Grand Sword Bearer of England, and Prov. Grand Sec. Suffolk, who performed the very interesting ceremony in a very efficient and impressive manner. This is the fourth time that Bro. Martyn has been appointed to the chair in the Stour Valley Lodge, and the reception given to him on this occasion must have been highly gratifying to our distinguished brother. The W.M. appointed his officers as follows:—R. E. Jones, S.W.; S. Spurgin, J.W.; E. R. Boulter, S.D.; G. Murrells, J.D.; H. Welham, P.M. Steward; W. H. Smith, D.C.; G. H. Inman, I.G.; J. F. Hills, P.P.G.J.W., Treasurer; F. Wheeler, Prov. G.R., Sec.; and H. M. Sholl, Tyler. The visitors present were Bros. Chennell, W.M. 88, Cambridge; S. H. Wright, 516, Stowmarket, P.P.G.J.W.; W. Chisnall, W.M., and F. Grimwade, S.W., 332, Hadleigh; Geo. Thompson, P.M. 1008; T. F. Lucia, W.M., 1008; Rev. E. J. Griffiths, W.M. 1592; W. Armstrong, I.P.M. 1592, and P.P.G.J.D.; Robt. Thompson, J.W., 1008, and P.P.G.S.B.; H. J. Barnard, 1008; and H. Tarrant, 1592. After the initiation of Evelyn Gray, Esq., of the Indian Civil Service, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Rose and Crown Hotel, where Mrs Hansell had provided a most elegant banquet. There was a fair attendance, and under the genial chairmanship of the newly-elected W.M., and the generous hospitality of the brethren of the Stour Valley, a most happy and enjoyable evening was spent.

WALTHAM NEW TOWN.—King Harold Lodge (No. 1327).—The installation meeting of the above lodge was held at the Britannia Hotel, on Thursday, the 15th August. There were present, Bro. Joseph Tydemman, P.P.A.G.P. Essex, the W.M., in the chair, Bros. A. Malcolm, P.G.P. Herts, S.W., and W.M. elect; Thomas Reilly, I.P.M., P.P.G.P. Herts; Samuel Jacobs, J.W.; West, P.M., P.P.G.S.D. Herts, Treasurer; J. R. Young, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C. Herts; Charles Lacey, P.M., P.P.G.J.D. Herts; William Gilbert, P.M., P.P.G.J.W. Herts; Joseph Gaskell, P.M.; Fred Drummond, P.M.; William Bradstock, Secretary; James Knight, S.D.; John Fisher, J.D.; Pritchett, P.P.G. Org. Herts, Organist; John Noyes, D.C.; John Robinson, I.G.; George Eversfield, W.S.; John Lumsden, W.S.; W. Steadman, Tyler; Bull, Lewis, Newman, Woolley, Cox, Creed, Blackmore, Holdsworth, Walker, Kent, Wiggs, Fuller, Calvert, Day, and Price. Visitors: Bros. Manning, W.M. 1172; Jones, J.D. 174; Searle, 1604; Ingersoll, 1237; Smith, 754; Maller, P.M. 754; Bassett, P.M. 212; Edwards, 1675; Clark, 754. The lodge was opened, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The ballot was then taken for two gentlemen, which proved unanimous in their favour, after which Bro. Day was passed to the Fellow Craft Degree, and Mr. John Woollard was duly initiated. Some other business was transacted, when the W.M. vacated the chair in favour of Bro. P.M. West, the Installing Officer, assisted by Bro. P.M. Lacey. The W.M. elect was presented for installation by Bro. P.M. Young, and after the usual

preliminary ceremony, a Board of Installed Masters was formed, and Bro. Andrew Malcolm, the W.M. elect, was duly installed as W.M., the ceremony being most efficiently rendered by Bro. West, assisted by Bro. Lacey. The W.M., after receiving the usual salutes, appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. Tydemman, I.P.M.; Jacobs, S.W.; Knight, J.W.; P.M. West, Treas.; P.M. Reilly, Sec.; Fisher, S.D.; Noyes, J.D.; Robinson, D.C.; Eversfield, I.G.; Lumsden and Price, W. Stwds. A vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to Bros. West and Lacey the Installing officer. The W.M. presented a P.M. jewel, to the I.P.M., Bro. J. Tydemman, as a mark of esteem and respect, and in consideration of the able and zealous manner in which he performed the duties of W.M. during his Mastership. Bro. Tydemman returned thanks in suitable terms. The sum of five guineas was also voted to be presented to Bro. Tydemman to purchase a Life Subscription in one of the charities. Bro. Tydemman in returning thanks expressed the very great desire he had to further the interests of the charities, and volunteered to represent the King Harold Lodge at the next festival of the Girls' School, to which Institution he would pay the money voted. The business of the evening being concluded, the lodge was closed and the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet. After the cloth was removed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and the I.P.M. gave the toast of the evening, which was a happy and prosperous year of office to the W.M., who responded in an eloquent speech. The visitors were then toasted and responded, after which the initiate, officers and Tyler's toasts brought a pleasant evening to a close. The evening was enlivened by some excellent harmony.

PAIGNTON.—Torbay Lodge (No. 1358).—A the annual meeting of this lodge Bro. James F. Chinnoc k was installed as W.M., and afterwards appointed and invested the following as his officers:—James Greenfield, P.P.G.J.D., I.P.M.; F. Palk, S.W.; Rev. N. Platt, P.P.G. Chap., J.W.; Rev. R. Bowden, P.M., Chap.; W. Rossiter, Treas.; W. W. Ellis, Sec.; A. W. Palk, S.D.; C. Perrett, J.D.; B. Fullwood, D.C.; T. Brooks, Org.; S. R. Higham, S.S.; J. Wreyford, J.S.; W. Sawyer, I.G.; and W. J. Tozer, Tyler.

Royal Arch.

METROPOLITAN CHAPTER (No. 1507).—The first meeting after the consecration was held Thursday, 15th inst. at the Metropolitan Club, King's Cross; Comps. Willing, M.E.Z.; Adams, P.Z., P.G.P.H. (owing to the absence of Comp. Stacy); Ferguson, J.; Stiles, E.; and others. The minutes of the consecration having been read and confirmed, a ballot was taken for Bros. Douglass, H. Stiles, Edmonds, Gilbert, jun, Claire and Beattie, which being declared unanimous, they were severally introduced and exalted in a most exemplary manner, as was proved by the attention paid by the candidates to the ceremony. Although this was the first meeting the working was very good, as might naturally be expected with the able tuition of the veteran P.Z., Comp. Thos. A. Adams, whose name is a household word in Freemasonry. A ballot was taken for the P.S., which was declared unanimous in favour of Comp. John Douglass (of the Standard Theatre). A telegram was read from Comp. N. Hudson, regretting his inability to attend. The companions adjourned to the banquet, which gave every satisfaction, the manager of the club, Bro. Cox, having exerted himself to his utmost to please the companions. We heartily congratulate the members of the Metropolitan Chapter on this their first meeting, and feel sure if the companions emulate the working of their officers the chapter will become in a short time as great a success as the Metropolitan Lodge. We were pleased to notice the worthy Comp. Stiles, Scribe, E., quite recovered after his recent severe illness.

CHATHAM.—Royal Kent Chapter of Antiquity (No. 20).—The companions assembled in convocation at the Sun Hotel, on Wednesday, 14th inst., for installing the Principals elected for the ensuing year. The ceremonies were performed by M.E. Comp. Rev. Robinson, M.A., P.G.H., assisted by M.E. Comps. Moore, P.Z., and J. Hunt, P.Z. The esteemed Comps. T. Wyles, was first, Humphrey Wood, second, and F. W. Edwards, third. The investment of officers then took place, and the selection gave every satisfaction to the companions. We are pleased to state that Comp. Capt. George Wattson was called to the front, and presented with a very handsome P.Z. jewel, studded with emeralds and rubies, by way of appreciation of his services rendered for several years. It must also be gratifying to those who have taken so much interest in Masonic charity that ten guineas donation has been sent to the Boys' School. The chapter being closed, the companions adjourned and partook of a splendid banquet, provided by Comp. Willis, which gave every satisfaction. Among the companions present were Comps. B. Thorpe, P.G. Treasurer; H. White, Dr. Butler, 1174; J. Redman, Burfield, Griffin, Spencelayh, Claringbull, Drawbridge, and many others of distinguished merit.

LANCASTER.—Rowley Chapter (No. 1051).—A regular meeting of the Rowley Chapter was held on Monday last, the 19th instant, at the Masonic Rooms, Athenæum, Lancaster. The Principals' chairs were occupied by Ex. Comps. F. Dean, M.E.Z.; W. Hall, H.; H. Longman, J.; who were supported by the following officers and companions: Ex. Comps. J. Daniel Moore, M.D., P.G.S.B. of the Supreme Grand Chapter of England; E. Simpson, P.Z., P. Prov. G.S.B., Treas.; Comps. W. Duff, E.; James Ellershaw, N.; J. J. Croskell, P.S.; Richard Stanton, and H. Hartley, Assist. Soj.; G. Kelland, P.M.; A. K. Allanson, Janitor, and others. The chapter having been opened, the muster roll called, and other business

transacted, Bro. Walter William Wilde, of the Morecambe Lodge, No. 1561, was unanimously elected as a candidate for exaltation in the lodge, and with Bro. George C. Barker, of the Rowley Lodge, No. 1051, were duly and regularly exalted to the Royal Arch Degree by Comp. Dr. Moore, he having been requested by the M.E.Z. to take the chair of First Principal for that purpose, the lectures having reference to the history, symbolism, and mysticism of the degree being delivered by the Principals. Two candidates were proposed for exaltation, and there being no other business before the chapter it was closed in due form.

Mark Masonry.

MARYPORT.—Whitwell Lodge (No. 151),—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday evening, the 15th inst., in the Masonic Hall, Eaglesfield-street, Maryport. There were present: Bros. J. H. Banks, W.M.; W. Armstrong, S.W.; P. Dodgson, J.W., as M.O.; T. Mandle, I.P.M.; Jos. Nicholson, P.M., Treas., as S.D.; Jas. Gardiner, P.M., as S.O.; G. W. Thompson, J.O.; J. Adair, Sec.; W. F. Lamony, Chaplain (*Freemason*); H. Peacock, as J.D.; R. Brown, as I.G.; J. Smith, Org.; R. Harris, Tyler; Jos. Abbott, and others. After the minutes were read and confirmed, Bro. T. Milburn, Lodge of Perseverance, No. 371, who had been previously balloted for, was admitted, and duly advanced to the honourable degree. Bro. Peacock was then presented with his Grand Lodge certificate. Before the lodge was closed a discussion arose on the legality of members advanced in lodges worked under the Grand Chapter of Scotland, having to be re-advanced. It seems that hitherto a Scotch lodge has been worked in Maryport, and the custom has been with Whitwell Lodge to make re-advancement a *sine qua non* for admission as joining members. The bye-law as to joining members, however, has never been altered to meet this case, and Bro. Lamony, who brought the question forward, held that, under the present reading of the bye-law, it was illegal not to admit Scotch Mark Master Masons under the same provisions as those of foreign jurisdiction, i.e., by paying extra fee for registration and certificate. He, however, had no sympathy with so hard and fast a line, even if the bye-laws were so framed as to meet the case in a legal manner, and, in order to test the legality of such a procedure, he gave notice of motion that the bye-law as to joining members be altered, so as to exclude the admission Scotch Mark Masons, unless re-advanced. If that alteration were agreed to next month, he should be much surprised if the Provincial and Grand Lodge authorities confirmed it, and he should further be delighted if a direct negative were moved by some other member. The Scotch Mark Lodge referred to, in Maryport, is, we believe, the last of the Constitution that has not come under the English regime, and, from all accounts, it is now in extremis.

The brethren who, on the evening in question, parted with Bro. Harris, the respected Tyler of Whitwell Lodge, as also Perseverance (Craft) Lodge, No. 371, in full health and vigour, little thought that, in the space of a few short hours, his mortal connection with his brethren would be severed in so awful a manner. On the morning of the day following lodge night (Friday week) Bro. Harris, whilst in pursuit of his avocation, fell off a railway truck and was literally cut in two, death, of course, being instantaneous. He leaves a widow and family of young children.

SURREY MASONIC CLUB.

A meeting was held in the large hall of the Surrey Masonic Club, Camberwell, on Saturday evening last, to hear an oration on "The Beauties and Claims of Freemasonry," delivered by Bro. William Darley, P.M. No. 158, and late Assessor to the Honourable Board of Trade.

The orator was accompanied by the Rev. Dr. Robert Morris, LL.D., of Kentucky, who had kindly undertaken to address the meeting also, and Bro. Hyde Pullen, P.G. S.B. These brethren were conducted to the platform by the indefatigable Honorary Secretary of the Club, Bro. James Stevens, who introduced to the meeting Bro. Hyde Pullen. This brother, he said, had, with his accustomed urbanity, consented to act as chairman on the occasion.

Bro. Hyde Pullen thereupon assumed the chair, and introduced Bro. Darley to his audience.

The following is the substance of Bro. Darley's address: Ladies and gentlemen, and brethren: It affords me infinite pleasure on the present occasion to stand as a humble representative of one of the first institutions upon which the sun ever shone. Wherever the sun rises, wherever the sun sets, it sheds a beneficial influence upon society with which it has come in contact, so that millions in the past have felt the blessed effects of Freemasonry, so that in the present day there are millions who bless the day they were ever associated with it, and generations yet unborn will rejoice under its auspices for the blessings which it will confer upon posterity. I am not dismayed when the tide gets low, well knowing that there shall be a rise. In different times in the history of Freemasonry we find that it has had its abuse and violence, the fury of its enemies, the fire of persecution, the anathemas of the Papacy, and the infidelity of its false friends; but amidst the whole it stands like some bold rock uninfluenced by the storms which play around its head, and unimpaired by age. Freemasonry, what is it in its present acceptation? In its modern acceptation it is recognised as a peculiar system of morality veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols. Some look upon it as a multifarious association of all grand speculations; but when we look back into the vistas of the past and see what it has done, and contemplate the effects it has a tendency to produce on society, we are ready to believe that it had its rise in the heart of the Great Architect of the Universe before the morning stars sang together or ever the sons of God shouted for joy. For its great objects are the extension of philanthropy

brotherly love, relief, and truth are its basis and its noble principle. We have no hesitation in saying that while we are all loyal and patriotic, and stand up for our Queen and our country as Englishmen, I have no hesitation in saying that of all loyal subjects Freemasons stand first; they not only boast of that position, but are recognised by those who hold the highest positions in society, from royalty downwards. There is truth in that assertion—

Kings, dukes, and lords
Have laid by their swords,
Our mysteries to put a new grace on,
And have ne'er been ashamed
To hear themselves named
With a free and an accepted Mason.

And now let us consider the circumstances of the Order, not only in this country but throughout the world. We look back into past years and we find that there are men who have stood prominent in our society, and in the extension of the arts. We have in architecture the name of Sir Christopher Wren, and we have as far as literature is concerned, or poetry, one of the brightest in the person of William Shakespeare. In addition to these we have men who have been instrumental, not only in extending the science of Masonry itself, but who have also been eminent in all the arts and sciences. We look into the papers of the present day, and read of the doings of men who assemble under the auspices of what is called social science. Now we know of no better social science than that of Freemasonry; it awakens our sympathies for one another, and is therefore one of the best of sciences, not only conducing to their welfare, but, acting on the heart, it leads them to feel that they are brethren, leads them not to look at the poor man's coat or the rich man's mantle, but to look into the countenance of a man and, assured that he has the approbation of his lodge, and that he stands well in the estimation of his brethren. That is the social principle that should influence every heart, and it is that must dawn upon the world before the millennium shall arise.

The speaker next referred to some who had erred in Freemasonry, but contended that the system should not therefore be condemned; it was the principle, not the men—the measures, not the representatives, that they were dealing with. "You might as well," he added, "because a doctor makes a mistake condemn the science of medicine."

After making some remarks on the working tools, the orator said it was gratifying to know that Masonry had been instrumental in supporting civil and religious liberty. "While," said he "the Papacy would have kept us down and sent us to the lower regions, it is gratifying to know that there has been one within those realms who had given the people freedom of conscience—Garibaldi, who had worked for the freedom of mankind and the glory of God.

As regards the influence of Freemasonry, the speaker said that there were so many incidents that had come under his personal notice, and under the notice no doubt of those present, that it was hardly necessary for him to recite any in order to satisfy the minds of any of those before him as to the principles of Freemasonry. He, however, narrated a few of his experiences, of which the following is a sample:—

A brother from America was in a vessel that had been in a six weeks' calm; during that time no wind, a heavy rolling sea, short of provisions, and did not know what to do. He sent the rater aloft to look out for the first sail. In the course of time he discovered a vessel in the horizon and made for her. "What ship's that? Where for?" "From America, for Liverpool, short of provisions." "We have a great number of passengers, and no spare stores," and the ship held on her course. Up went our flag, and before it reached the mast-head, the other vessel wore round and came within speaking distance. "Send boat alongside." "What are you most in need of?" "Everything, we have had a six weeks' calm." Thereupon they produced provisions to fill the boat, so much that there was scarcely room for them to row; so much that they were obliged to ask them to stop throwing in any more. The mate went on deck, "Please make out my bill, because my master is very particular." "Not a word, my man." So we help one another; I have done it myself—I have taken the clothes off my back and given them. I was told "There is a brother afflicted." "I will go to see him." I went before I returned home. The door was opened by a female. "Is so-and-so at home?" naming him. "He is just gone." "Just gone out?" "No, just dead." "Indeed," I said, "just dead." "You cannot come in." "I must come in." I went in. Six little children were there. I said to the eldest "Tell me your circumstances." The little fellow did not like to expose their poverty, but the place was bare of everything, and I pressed him, and he then told me that with the long illness of his mother and father everything had gone and they had nothing but what they stood upright in. "Tom, you go down to such-and-such an outfitter's, tell them to rig you out, and get shoes for your sisters, and I'll see if I can't get hold of some ladies to rig the girls out too." The ladies took the case in hand, and brethren took the case in hand, and every one of the children were provided for. Such is Masonry.

The speaker proceeded to urge the high and serious character of Freemasonry; that its fundamental principles were religious, moral, and benevolent, and that it was unfitting that the lodges of such a society should be conducted in the places where they are mostly held at present, instead of such halls as that in which he stood, which did honour to all connected with it. He congratulated the audience on having such a magnificent building to raise the moral prestige of Freemasonry, and to maintain the dignity and high character of the Order. Although there were defects among them they had their ornaments also, namely, the Charitable Institutions. He was proud of the charity and benevolence of the brethren, as exhibited in their endeavours to extend the influence of those institutions, but he deplored, what he asserted as a fact, that £100,000

a year was expended by the brethren in refreshment, and he suggested that they should limit the quantity that they were in the habit of drinking, by which means there would be at least £10,000 a year more to contribute to the happiness of the widows and the orphans. The speaker brought his oration to a close with a reference to the eminent brother, Dr. Morris, who was about to address them. As regarded the future of the Surrey Masonic Club he anticipated a rise in the tide, and trusted that the day would soon arrive when all the lodges in the neighbourhood would be gathered within its walls.

[The foregoing is a fair abstract. A verbatim report was impossible, the speaker's words being rendered indistinct by the reverberation of his powerful voice through the large unoccupied space of the hall.—ED.]

Bro. Hyde Pullen: In introducing Bro. Dr. Robt. Morris to you I may tell you that years and years, many, many years ago, there was a kind friend of Bro. Morris who came to me and sought me out simply as a Mason; he came to me and introduced himself as being known to Bro. Dr. Morris, and simply as a brother come from a good and worthy brother in America. I, of course, received him in all kindly feeling. I exerted myself in every way for this young Freemason. I was then only a young Mason, but I had acquired sufficient of the Masonic quality to receive him in all brotherly kindness. That was the case in that distant time, and it was upon that occasion that I heard of Bro. Dr. Morris, that I listened to the panegyrics of Bro. Dr. Morris, that I listened to the praises of this good brother (who I regret has now passed away) of Bro. Dr. Morris. I can yet assure you that the fraternal feeling between Bro. Dr. Morris and myself has been existing all these years interwoven in our hearts, and on meeting again it was not merely shaking the hand, it was wringing the heart. Brethren, this is the brother I have now to introduce to you. Need I say more?

Bro. Dr. Robt. Morris: Mr. Chairman, ladies, and brethren, I have listened with very great pleasure to the discourse which we have heard from the orator. I have just had a very great pleasure, and I am confident that we shall all read the report of his oration with as great pleasure as we have listened to him. When my good Bro. Stevens invited me to join you this evening I consented, and not only consented, but was delighted at the opportunity of coming. I had heard something of this Surrey Hall, I had heard of the struggles that were necessary to get such an enterprise on foot. How much effort and energy it must have taken to get it to its present extent! I can only wonder that the directors have succeeded in bringing it to this point. I do not wonder at the difficulties; I only wonder that you have succeeded so far. In my long and diversified experience as a Mason I have seen such enterprises tried scores of times only to fail; I have too scores of times seen them a great success. I am going to predict that those who stand here five years hence will see this the centre of Masonry for five miles round. It is for the interest of the brethren now to take hold of this enterprise, to strengthen the hands of those who have done the hard work and make this a great success. That was not, however, what I came to say to-night, I came to say this. The brother gave us some very interesting incidents of his own experience.

The man who stands before you with faded eyes and wrinkled face began more than thirty years ago, and has been going from one Grand Lodge to another, and from one country to another. I was the first man to organise the first lodge in the city of Jerusalem, my flag has fluttered in almost every breeze that moves the atmosphere of the world. I am not speaking in the way of boasting, but after so much experience I mean to say that Freemasonry is the same in every country under the heavens of God. I stood in the city of Jerusalem with one brother, a Mahomedan, one Jewish brother, one an Armenian, Arabs, Franks, Italians, English, and Americans. In that company seven languages were spoken vernacularly; probably twice that number could have been spoken. We exchanged sentiments, and I assure you that our notions were the same. Some of these Masons had been made Masons in Egypt; I was made three thousand miles more west; some in Scotland, some in France, some in Italy, and yet their aims and purposes were precisely the same. Well, I acknowledge of that day's experience I never saw anything like it before. It is easy enough to say here in England—you may take in Ireland, Scotland, and Wales, and France almost the same; but when I take you into Egypt, Syria, Asia Minor, India, China, Japan, and so round the globe, it is remarkable to find Masonry the same everywhere.

And what is the great secret of Freemasonry? How often I have been asked that question, especially by the ladies! It is not a difficult question to answer. The great secret does not consist of its forms and ceremonies; it lies in the breast of man, and is defined by the word charity. And you English Masons (and I say it to your praise) have systematised charity better than elsewhere in the whole world. We have built Masonic halls, published newspapers, but nowhere in the world is the holy law of charity so practical as here. It does seem to me that you London people are moved by the very Spirit of God in the way of charity. I saw an hospital devoted to diseases of the eye. I said, How is it supported? By charity. There are hospitals for the lungs; for all diseases to which human nature is subject, all supported by charity, holy, noble, divine charity. Is it not extraordinary? There is nothing in the world to compare with it.

I went to a charity concert to hear a lady sing, an old friend of mine, you have all heard her name (Madame Hersee), and listening to the singing this idea occurred to me how charity moved so many hearts, and as I sat I scribbled some verses on my programme. They are not worthy of being called a poem, but, with the permission of our venerable and excellent Chairman, to whom I propose to dedicate them, I will ask leave to read them. They are called "The Beautiful Masonic Arch." You know the

keystone is that topmost stone of an arch which, fitted in, keeps the whole structure firm. Well, charity occupies that place in the Masonic system, and charity is the theme of the verses I composed, and which I affectionately dedicate to Bro. Hyde Pullen.

The success of this enterprise will be the establishment of a great charity system in this part of the city. Permit me then to give an incident in my own experience in relation to Masonic charity. Of course, one who travels so much as I do is not much at home. A couple of years ago an old man lay dying who belonged to my lodge, the Master and Wardens and some of the brethren standing round the bed. He asked, in a whisper, "Do you know if Robert Morris is at home? Do you think he would come to preside at my burial to-morrow? Tell him I want him to come and bury me." I must tell you that in our part we make a great deal more of Masonic burials than you do here. In country places brethren will come from far and near to attend the last funeral rites of a brother. So when he was dead they asked that I would go the next day and preside. I said "With great pleasure," and in one sense it was a pleasure. I went, and a great many of our people were present. We went to the house to take the dead body to the grave, and we were surprised to find that all the house contained was scarcely sufficient to make any display of the poorest kind. We went back to the lodge room and arranged to have a lecture for the benefit of the widow. Within a week from when we met we had a lecture. It was a stormy night, and ladies came some of them 20 miles to attend that lecture, but not to hear the lecture so much, but to give something to the widow. The amount was not extraordinary that we raised for her, but in that country, where our expenses are small, it was enough to support her for, perhaps, a whole year. Thus it is always; the very life and soul of Freemasonry all the world through is charity. I recollect that in a lodge in Smyrna, where there was one Englishman, one Greek, one Turk, one Armenian. I learned the next day that it is the custom when the lodge is closed for the night for the Treasurer to hand over all the money to the Committee of Charity, and they are expected to distribute it before the next lodge night, so that when the lodge meets again they are ready to take what may be collected to be given to the poor.

The presence of some ladies to-night suggests to me a thought which to you may be new. We pay a great deal of attention to the ladies, so do you here, so do good Masons everywhere; but in America we confer degrees upon the ladies; Freemasons' wives, daughters, and sisters are entitled to receive at our hands private and most interesting instruction, which is as it should be, for Masonry is intended for the benefit of the ladies. Now these ladies' degrees are a great advantage. When I get to New York you might suppose I would be at home, but I have a thousand miles further to go to reach Chicago, where my daughter lives, and then 500 miles further to go before I get home to my wife. Now and then our ladies travel a great deal, and they often go alone. It is nothing uncommon for a lady to get into a car to go a thousand miles. Our cars, you know, are open right through, and the passengers are all together, so it is impossible for a lady to be insulted there. It happens frequently that some distress occurs, and in such cases a Master Mason's wife or sister makes herself known to the Freemasons, and in that manner gets the benefit of their assistance. And when I tell these ladies that there are 100,000 ladies who have had degrees conferred upon them—it is a fact. They have signs and passwords, and are able to make themselves known to Freemasons. I am not going to tell you what they are; I have no notion of such a thing. It is not the Masonic part of Freemasonry that the ladies receive, but it is a species of adoption; it makes them the sisters of Freemasonry, and they are able to get the benefits.

Having concluded his address, Bro. Dr. Morris recited a poem which he had written twenty or twenty-five years ago, and which, as he said, Bro. Stevens had made popular in this country. The piece is entitled "The Level and the Square," and is doubtless known to most of our readers.

Bro. Hyde Pullen: I can scarcely be required to ask you to give a cordial vote of thanks to our good Bro. Darley. (Applause.) I am sure that the sentiments which he has called forth will be repeated again and again to good Bro. Morris, and in asking your vote of thanks I do not know which I should put foremost, so I will ask that those who heard both brethren will hold up both hands and give a vote for both brethren. Bro. Pullen regretted that this Surrey Masonic Hall was not supported in so spirited a manner as it deserved to be supported; there could be no more appropriate place than this for the Masonic gatherings of the district. He trusted that brethren would come forward and support the Surrey Masonic Club, and to set them an example, which he hoped would be numerously followed, he requested Bro. Stevens, the Secretary, to enrol his name on the list of subscribers.

In responding to the vote of thanks, Bro. Darley also gave in his name as a member of the club.

Bro. Dr. Morris having expressed his acknowledgments, Bro. Stevens proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman for the able manner in which he had presided, which having been seconded, was carried by acclamation.

Some time ago the Prince of Wales resolve to make the experiment of introducing grouse on a moor at Sandringham, and instructed the head keeper at Abergeldie to collect a number of young birds for that purpose. In compliance with this order Mr. Duncan, the keeper, reared a number of birds from the egg and caught others in the brood. Four large hampers of these birds were despatched from Deeside for Sandringham in charge of the keeper.

Obituary.

BRO. SAMUEL JAMES HARVEY.

We record with deep regret the death of our Bro. Samuel James Harvey, late of Camberwell Road, which sad event took place on Monday, the 5th inst.

Although by no means an old Mason, our late brother's services to the Craft were neither few nor small. Initiated about seven years ago in the Royal Jubilee Lodge, he speedily gave token of that zeal and assiduity in the service of Freemasonry which was the distinguishing characteristic of his Masonic life. A diligent student of the Ritual, and a constant attendant at the two lodges of instruction held at the Surrey Masonic Hall, he soon became known and recognised as an authority second only to the well known and deservedly popular Preceptor of those lodges. He became a joining member of the Peckham Lodge, and from the high estimation in which he was held he soon afterwards received promotion to office therein. In his mother lodge, the Royal Jubilee, he likewise accepted office, and at the time of his death held the position of Junior Warden. He was a founder and first Master of the Skelmersdale Lodge (1858), which was established in the spring of last year; and, greatly owing to his zeal and devotion in the furtherance of its interests, the young lodge soon attained to a high degree of efficiency, and gave tokens of vigorous and healthful life.

In Royal Arch Masonry our late brother held office in the Royal Jubilee Chapter, he having been elected to the position of P.S. on the night of his exaltation.

After a long and painful illness, endured with exemplary fortitude and resignation, our brother entered into his rest with the peace and calmness which a blameless life secures. His body was interred in Forest Hill Cemetery on Friday, the 9th inst. and very many of those whose brother he had been attended there to pay the last sad tribute of respect to departed merit.

ALPINE SELFISHNESS.

As many of our brethren are travelling in Switzerland we think it well to publish this useful letter from the *Times* of August 19th:—

Sir,—I am writing to you at this most glorious spot at 5 a.m. I have had no rest, after two or three days of hard mountain work, since before 4. It has been due to the abominable and unnecessary noise made by two persons in the adjoining room and one overhead in a wooden house, with thin wooden floors and thinner wooden partitions, and no carpet. There are at least 100 beds made up every night. My first inclination was to leave my room to expostulate myself, but on reflection I thought that might lead to still more noise, and that if you would kindly assist me to blow off a little of my superfluous indignation in your columns it might do much more good, not only to myself, but to others as well. In this hotel, as in many others at this time of year, the occupants are about seven-tenths British; but my remarks equally apply to the rest, whether speaking our own tongue or not. To enjoy the Alps, of course, it is inevitable to begin the day any time after midnight, according to the expeditions to be taken, and, as a very old Alpine man, I should be the last to discourage them. But, sir, would you impress upon travellers that it would be much more considerate, before beginning their walks, if, on being wakened in the small hours of the morning, they would not holla to their companion, whether wife or friend, to get up; would not roll out of bed on to their heels like an avalanche; would not put on their clump boots in a few minutes and begin their climbing at once; would not go on talking as loud as if they wanted to produce an echo; would not go out to their neighbours' rooms hammering to see if they are getting up, banging the doors after them; and, finally, would not all go down the whole of the bare stairs with as little regard to noise as if they were on a moraine or a railway platform? I think if they would forego doing any of these things and consider they are in the same house, and that a sort of papiermâché one, with dozens of other people, delicate, elderly, and otherwise, they would enjoy their travels quite as much, while not laying themselves out to the charge of unpardonable selfishness.

While suggesting this for the consideration of my own countrymen, I only wish travellers of other countries would do everything but inwardly digest it as well. About 4 a.m. lately, at another wooden house, one or two Germans in the next bedroom added to the other things the nuisance of a song.

Your obedient servant, R. W. J.

Mürten, Switzerland, Aug. 15th.

P.S.—This letter is probably too long for insertion already, but, if it is not, may I add that, though I write it in regard to papiermâché houses in Switzerland, somewhat of the same remarks apply to English and other hotel life? Whether in regard to pitching out of shoes, or banging of doors on going to bed after 10 p.m. or getting up before 8 a.m., or in other inconsiderate ways, a great social and selfish evil exists; and this ought not to be where citizens of the same world are thrown, of necessity or pleasure, into the same place of public resort for a night or longer.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS can be confidently recommended as a domestic remedy for the ailments of all classes and conditions of people. Young and old of both sexes may take this medicine with the certainty of deriving benefit from its use, when disorder or disease is making them miserable. Holloway's Pills are unrivalled for their purifying, aperient, and strengthening properties. They remove indigestion, palpitation, and headache, and are specially serviceable in complaints peculiar to females. Each box is wrapped with printed instructions for the guidance of invalids who will readily understand, from carefully studying them, the best way of recovering health. Holloway's Pills will work a thorough change in the constitutions of the weak and nervous.—ADVT.

Masonic and General Tidings.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Mount Edgcombe (Lord Lieutenant), G.M. of Cornwall, has decided to hold the Provincial Grand Lodge for 1879 under the wing of the St. Matthew's Lodge, Lostwithiel, when the new Masonic Hall for that lodge will be dedicated.

Faithfull Lodge, No. 229, Mark Master Masons, was consecrated last (Friday) evening, at Coker-mouth, by Bro. Colonel Whitwell, M.P., R.W. Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Past Grand Warden of England. A report of the proceedings will appear in our next.

The R.W. Bro. J. H. Neilson (P.M. 620 Dublin), Representative of the Grand Orient of Egypt, P.S.G.W., &c., was elected an honorary member of the ancient Lodge of "Love and Honour," No. 75, Falmouth, on the 12th inst., on the proposition of the W. Bro. W. F. Newman, J.P., P.M., P. Prov. G.D., seconded by Bro. R. Carter, P. Prov. G. Organist. The only other honorary members are the R.W. Bro. W. J. Hughan, P.M. 131, P.S.G.D. England, P.S.G.W. Egypt, elected in 1867, and the Right Hon. and R.W. Bro. the Earl of Mount Edgcombe, G.M. of Cornwall, elected in 1877.

The Coffee Public-House Association, 40, Charing Cross, announce that they are enabled by one of their members to offer a prize of £200 for an essay on the providing, on an adequate scale, of halls or other places of resort and recreation for the working classes, the arrangements to include the sale of refreshments, but not of intoxicating drinks, so as to supply the requirements of the people in that respect, and to realise a profit to meet at least current expenses. The object of the donor of the prize is, not only to draw general attention to this subject, but also to elicit suggestions as to the agency by which an undertaking of such magnitude may be most suitably and effectively carried out. The date fixed for sending in manuscripts is March 1st, 1879.

Mr. John Rankin, a young gentleman of Kilmarnock, has just completed a journey to London and back on a bicycle. He left Kilmarnock on the 23rd of July, and reached the metropolis on the 1st of August, after having made a stay of two days at Sheffield, part of a day at Birmingham, and part of a day at Coventry. The distance of 439 miles was thus run in about six days, making allowance for stoppages. Mr. Rankin left London for home on the 5th of August, taking the east coast route, and reached Glasgow on Saturday evening, thence going to Kilmarnock that night by train. The longest run in one day was from Morpeth to Edinburgh, the distance travelled being 112 miles.

A new Provincial Magazine, entitled "Bicycling," has been published at Newcastle-on-Tyne. It bears the appropriate Shakespearian motto, "Then may I set the world on wheels," is edited by two amateur bicyclists, and contains a variety of bicycling information.

A Statue of Lamartine has been inaugurated with considerable festivities at Maçon, his native town.

The "Vega," the Swedish ship which has just started on an Arctic expedition, is a vessel of 500 tons. The engines are constructed on the so-called Wolff's system, of 60-horse power, and consume ten cubic feet of coal in the hour. As there are some 12,000 cubic feet of coal in the hold, the vessel will be able to steam some 5000 to 6000 miles at a stretch; but from Tromsø to Behring's Straits the distance is at most 4000 miles, and at the station of Yenisei a fresh supply will be shipped, thus in any case securing a sufficiency of fuel. The crew have christened the vessel "The Floating Tower of Babel," as no fewer than nine different languages are spoken on board. The crew counts a compliment of thirty-seven men all told, with provisions for two years, including about 7000lbs. salt beef, 4000lbs. salted pork, 3000lbs. smoked ham, 3000 preserved rumpsteaks, 9500 portions of other preserved meats, and immense quantities of onions, potatoes, greens, coffee, tea, and, naturally, of spirits. Three days a week fresh (preserved) meat is to be served out; and to preserve the crew against scurvy, there is a large supply of lemon juice, pickles, and horseradish.

Ninety-two inspectors and sergeants of police, who have been studying as pupils in the classes of the Ambulance Department of the Order of St. John, under Surgeon Major Shepherd, received on Monday afternoon, at Scotland-yard, their certificates of proficiency in the first treatment of the injured. Captain Harris presided.

Lord and Lady Skelmersdale have left town for Lathom House, Ormskirk.

THE URBAN CLUB.—On Friday the 16th inst., Mr. Robert Stothard, son of the famous Royal Academician, presented the society with an oil painting, his own work, "Going to a Tournament," a knightly scene in ancient Smithfield, including views of the old Hosier-lane, and of the gardens of the Bishop of Ely. The painter of this work of art, now in his 82nd year, was warmly thanked by the club through Bro. Charles Horsley, the chairman on the occasion. During the evening a series of glees were given by Messrs. John Hodges, Moss, Kenningham, and De Lacy, of St. Paul's Cathedral. The club room was crowded.

The Royal Handbell Ringers were honoured, by command of the Prince of Wales, to give a campanological and musical entertainment on board the Osborne, off Cowes, on Monday evening. The company included the King and Queen of Denmark and Princess Thyra. By means of awnings the quarter-deck was converted into a concert-room. The programme consisted of selections from various composers, classical and otherwise. Afterwards the Prince sent for Bro. Duncan S. Miller, the conductor, and requested him to explain to the King and Queen of Denmark the peculiarities of the bells and the art of ringing them.

LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

The monthly meeting of the Lodge of Benevolence was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. J. M. Clabon, P.G.D., President of the lodge, presided. Bro. Joshua Nunn, P.G.S.B., Senior Vice-President, and Bro. James Brett, P.G.P., Junior Vice-President, occupied their respective chairs. There were also present Bros. John Hervey, G.S.; H. G. Buss, Assistant Grand Secretary; A. A. Pendlebury; W. T. Howe, G.P.; S. G. Foxall, P.G.P.; H. T. Garrod, P.M. 749; W. Mann, P.M. 186; S. Rawson, P.D.G.M. China; C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P.; C. P. Cobham, 957; Erasmus Wilson, S.G.D.; Thos. Cubitt, P.G.P.; Hyde Pullen, P.G.S.B.; John Boyd, P.G.P.; Capt. N. G. Phillips, P.G.D.; Col. Shadwell H. Clarke, S.G.D.; J. M. Case, P.G.D.; Griffiths Smith, P.G.S.; C. Atkins, P.M. 27; R. W. Williams, P.G.S.B. Middx.; W. Dawson, W.M. 186; E. H. Hewett, P.M. 235; W. Weston, P.M. 1536; F. Drummond, P.M. 217; Andrew Malcolm, W.M. 1327; Geo. Corner, P.M. 1139; F. B. Williams, W.M. 1538; F. W. Levander, P.M. 1415; G. P. Britten, W.M. 183; J. H. Rowe, W.M. 167; T. Deane, W.M. 77; W. S. Killeen, W.M. 483; A. Middlemas, W.M. 1641; Col. H. S. Somerville Burney, P.M. 697; A. W. Woodley, W.M. 700; F. Adlard, P.M. 7; L. Cornelissen, W.M. 1441; J. H. Watts, P.M. 1201; A. White, W.M. 1076; T. W. Allen, P.M. 733; W. R. Phillips, W.M. 975; E. Terry, W.M. 1319; G. Phythian, W.M. 22; G. Bolton, W.M. 147; L. B. Pillin, W.M. 180; J. Nicholson, W.M. 59; S. Rosenthal, P.M. 435; Hugh Cotter, W.M. 654; W. H. Cohen, W.M. 1298; R. Wyatt, P.M. 1365; E. Kidman, W.M. 1586; H. Potter, P.M. 11; S. B. Phillips, P.M. 173; E. M. Haigh, P.M. 1541; J. H. Thompson, W.M. 1707; J. Douglas Mathews, W.M. 657; J. Tydeman, P.M. 1437; W. Allan, W.M. 1158; Dr. F. W. Ramsay, W.M. 1691; E. L. Stidolph, W.M. 1540; James Cowan, W.M. 1572; G. Fisher, W.M. 1332; Henry Rogers, W.M. 898; John Coe, W.M. 1339; E. C. Massey, W.M. 1297; C. B. Payne, G. Tyler; and H. Massey, P.M. 619 (*Freemason*).

The agenda paper for the next meeting of Grand Lodge was first settled, after which the brethren confirmed grants to the amount of £290, made at last Lodge of Benevolence.

Of the new cases there were fourteen on the list, out of which two were dismissed. The remaining twelve were relieved with £203, consisting of one £40 (£40); two £25 (£50); two £20 (£40); two £15 (£30); four £10 (£40); and one £3 (£3).
Lodge was then closed.

LONDON MASONIC CHARITY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, 15th inst., a meeting, convened by a notice signed by Bros. A. F. A. Woodford and A. Tisley, was held at Freemasons' Tavern, to discuss a proposal for forming a Metropolitan Masonic Charity for furthering the claims of London candidates for the Masonic Charities. Bro. Col. Creton presided, and there were among those present Bros. Woodford, Tisley, J. White, S. Rosenthal, E. Letchworth, J. H. Watt, J. G. Marsh, Erasmus Wilson, Dr. Hogg, Hyde Pullen, J. H. Southwood, A. E. Shadwell, Thos. Massa, and E. C. Massey (*Freemason*).

Letters were read from many brethren who were unable to attend, but concurred in the object of the meeting.

Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, in response to a call from the chair, explained the object of the proposed association. He said that in consequence of similar societies being formed in the provinces, some of the provinces had obtained a very large voting power, which had now become so great as to contrast unfavourably with the voting power of the London district, where brethren had hitherto practised the system of unorganised voting. The effect of this unorganised voting was frequently that a great many more votes were recorded for a candidate than would have secured the election, and, perhaps, the next London candidate failed in consequence, whereas, if organisation had existed, and the votes had been properly apportioned between the candidates, both might have been successful. He disclaimed any intention of blaming the provinces for their action and their meritorious exertions—he recognised and admired their organisation, and admitted that he was one of the organizers of the Charity Committee in the province of West Yorkshire. At the next election for the Girls' School there were eight London cases and twenty-one provincial cases, and nine were to be elected. One provincial case was certain of success. If they had proper organisation they could carry two London cases. But West Yorkshire alone had three candidates and the other provinces had twenty, and without proper organisation in the metropolis the London candidates would not secure their legitimate position. A committee would be able to tell the exact number of votes that would render an election certain, and would apply surplus votes to another deserving case, whereas, as London voting was at present carried on, there was altogether a waste of voting power to secure the empty honour of heading the poll. It was not too much to say that in the hands of a competent committee the whole of the deserving London cases could be secured. All he wanted was to meet the provincial organisation with a similar friendly organisation in London. By means of such an association the election of all deserving London candidates might be a certainty, whereas now it was very doubtful, and would soon be an impossibility.

Bro. A. E. Gladwell read some statistics, showing in the Girls' School, from the report, March, 1878, that London had subscribed £5577, and the provinces £4891; while the number of girls in the Institution was—London girls 72, provincial girls 116; whereas the equitable proportion would be London 102 and provinces 86.

From the Boys' School report, 1878, London contributed £7487, and the provinces £5313; but the number of boys

from London was 49, and provinces 109; but the equitable proportion would be London 75 and provinces 83.

To the Benevolent Institution London had contributed £6012, and the provinces £5028. The London candidates elected were 69 and provinces 169; but the equitable proportion would be London 129 and provinces 109.

Bro. Gladwell read also an abstract from the reports of the Girls' School for five years, from 1873 (close of 1872). In the Girls' School 46 London girls, and 76 provincial. In 1873 London contributed £5700, and the provinces £4000; when the provincial candidates elected were 17, and London candidates 12.

In 1874 London contributed £3951, and the provinces £3883; when London elected 13, and the provinces 18.

In 1875 London contributed £5076, and the provinces £3748; when London elected 8 girls and the provinces 19.

In 1876 London contributed £6218, and the provinces £3942; when London elected 9 girls and the provinces 19.

In 1877 London contributed £5577, and the provinces £4891; when London elected 15 girls and the provinces 20.

Bro. Woodford, in reply to a question by Bro. Erasmus Wilson, said he believed that if at the present moment every province had not its Charity Committee the exceptions were very few. All the provinces as a rule had a Charity Committee, and these acted in connection with other provinces, and the consequence was that when they came up to London, two provinces like West Yorkshire and West Lancashire acting together, they could secure the election of their candidates. London, therefore, must do something to assist its candidates. A Provincial Charity Committee is composed of a member from each lodge in the province; that would not be possible in London on account of there being so great a number of London lodges, but they would be able to provide that London Masons could be fully represented.

Bro. Dr. Hogg thought the object too narrow, and suggested that the operations of the Society should not be confined to London cases, but should extend to all the most deserving cases on the list.

After some further conversation, Bro. Erasmus Wilson called attention to the fact that there was no motion before the meeting.

It was then moved by Bro. Perceval, and seconded by Bro. Falkner, "That it is expedient to form a London Masonic Charity Union," which was put by the Chairman, and carried unanimously.

Bro. A. F. A. Woodford next read a set of bye-laws which had been drawn up for consideration, and Bro. Wilson moved that in order to give the brethren an opportunity of fully considering these bye-laws before proceeding to discuss and settle them the meeting should be adjourned till Wednesday, the 21st inst., at 5 o'clock, at the same place, which, having been seconded, was put and carried unanimously.

The meeting was brought to a conclusion by a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

The second meeting of this Association was held on Wednesday evening, at Freemasons' Tavern. Col. Creton presided. Bros. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford and A. Tisley (Prov. Secretaries), Hyde Pullen, E. C. Massey, G. Bolton, George Faulkner, C. J. Perceval, J. G. Marsh, J. H. Southwood, Thomas Massa, Charles Lacey, John White, S. Rosenthal, John Newton, Dr. F. W. Ramsay, and H. Massey (*Freemason*), also attended.

The Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, in opening the business of the day, said that at the last meeting it was suggested that the rules of the Association should be considered at the present meeting, and it was also suggested that they should be carefully looked over, in order that, as certain salient points which came out of the discussion were not agreed in by all the brethren, means could be devised to reconcile the views of all. Since that meeting he had seen Bro. Erasmus Wilson, who had taken great pains with the rules, and had suggested certain alterations which seemed admirable. Bro. Letchworth also had suggested one alteration which he (Bro. Woodford) thought all the brethren would agree would simplify the rules, and make clear what the object of the Association was. There was one alteration suggested by Bro. Erasmus Wilson in which all the brethren would agree. Although "What's in a name?" was a very proper question, Bro. Erasmus Wilson thought the name of "Union" had a sound which might grate on the ears of the brethren of the metropolis; and he proposed that instead of the word "Union" being employed in this Society the word "Association" should be used. Bro. Erasmus Wilson thought that some people might imagine it was a Masonic Trades Union, and that some objection would be raised on that ground. He (Bro. Woodford), therefore, would now put it to the brethren that the name of the Association should be "The London Masonic Charity Association."

The proposition was agreed to.

Bro. Woodford then read the rules of the Association.

A discussion then took place on the bye-laws *seriatim*, and which resulted in their being unanimously adopted, with a few alterations.

Bro. Southwood said that before passing from the rules proper he wished to mention one subject. It was in allusion to the obligation of members of the Association pledging themselves to send their voting paper, to the Association. He had talked the matter over with Bro. Woodford, and he quite saw with that brother the difficulty to be encountered—that while they could impose no penalty on a brother or member of the Association who violated his honourable obligation, he thought it would be just as well to affirm in the rules something to the following effect: "That every member of this Association, by virtue of his membership, pledges himself to place at the disposal of the Committee all his votes for the Metropolitan Masonic Charities." It was a rule that every member could either assent to or dissent from before he became a

member; but he saw before anything of the kind was done they would be in this difficulty, that some brethren who felt very weak over a particular case would use their influence with the Association to support the weak case, and so soon as they had got a very strong case, which, by a little more assistance, added to the large accumulated power which some brethren personally possessed, they would work independently of the Association, and the past services of the Association would be lost sight of. He would like to hear from Bro. Lacey, who was one of the oldest of the veterans in connection with Masonic work, what his experience was of such a case. In working out the objects of the Association it was of great importance that the members should have the experience of those brethren, who for many years had done practical work. He was not isolated in his view, for Bros. Rosenthal and Newton had the same idea that he had, that some means should be taken to protect the Association.

Bro. Charles Lacey said he should be very happy to respond to his esteemed brother. He could assure him that from his little experience of Freemasonry, more especially with regard to the Institutions, which he prided himself he had taken some little interest in, he certainly must endorse the opinion of Bro. Southwood with respect to brethren pledging themselves to aid the Association, because he took it that that was the ground which the Association had to work upon. The capital was the number of votes that could be concentrated. Unless they get the brethren to pledge themselves to aid the Association by the strength of the privileges they were entitled to in connection with the three Masonic Institutions he feared that the Association would be working as it were without capital. There was indeed no doubt that if the Association undertook, which we are sure it would earnestly and heartily, to assist those who were seeking admission into the Institutions, it would ask itself the question what capital it had to work with. It had to look to the members of the Association one and all to concentrate their votes in order that it might carry out what it proposed to do. Therefore, he thought that it would only be fair and equitable that those brethren who came to the Association to assist them in their good work should pledge themselves to bring their votes and concentrate them to assist the Association. Therefore he thought it should be one of the rules that any and every brother who volunteered to become a member of the Association should promise that he would also bring the Association what influence he had in voting power for the Institution, because that brother would be misleading the Association and the Association would be misleading the candidates unless they had something in the shape of votes to support them in their assertion that they would carry the candidate forward, and aid in obtaining admission to the Institution. He thought a member should volunteer to hand over his votes to the Association.

Bro. Woodford observed that no doubt it would be very desirable, but how could it be done? Could they or, could any body of men—could Bro. Perceval, or Faulkner, or Southwood, or Rosenthal be forced to hand over his voting papers to the Association? In the provinces they did not attempt that. They passed a general resolution to the effect that all brethren were invited to send in their voting papers to the Charity Committee. If this Association attempted to do anything of the kind suggested they would be told that they were dictating to brethren, and that would prevent brethren joining the Association. By leaving it under a courteous request that "all voting papers placed at the disposal of the Committee shall be left in the hands of the Secretaries, to be registered and disposed of as the Committee shall subsequently decide," the difficulty would be got over. Of course it would be one of the main duties of the Secretaries to endeavour to obtain from the Life Governors of the Institutions their voting papers, but it must be done by a civil request, as a fraternal wish on the part of the Association, and a fraternal act on the part of the brethren asked, and not one which by the rules a brother pledged himself to. He was quite certain, as there was much jealousy in this respect, that a rule pledging a brother would keep out a great number of the very best men. No doubt it would be very desirable to secure the votes by a rule, but as it could not be done in the provinces it could not be done in London.

Bro. Faulkner said that registering the votes would show that they were given to the Association.

Bro. Newton did not see that it was Bro. Lacey's intention that a brother should pledge himself to give his votes to the Association.

The Chairman said he thought it was tantamount to it. He was afraid it would not answer.

Bro. Rosenthal was glad some one adopted his view. Bro. Woodford had mentioned the provinces. He (Bro. Rosenthal) had some experience of Yorkshire and Lancashire brethren as well. Bro. Henry Smith, of West Yorkshire, had told him that that province carried all before them; and did as they liked because they had the votes. If they did not work together they never would carry out their object; but they worked together and got all their children into the Institutions.

The Chairman said no doubt the members of the Association would send their votes; but the Association must not say they must pledge themselves to do so.

Bro. Woodford said if Bro. Lacey would kindly draw up a bye-law that he thought would meet the case it would be considered. It was left out of the rules because they had thought the thing could not be done. If Bro. Lacey drew a bye-law they would see whether it was feasible.

Bro. Lacey said the very fact of a brother volunteering to become a member of the Association he took it for granted would be a guarantee for his throwing in what influence he had.

The Chairman observed that no doubt nineteen out of twenty would, only it must not be made one of the rules of the Association.

Bro. Newton supposed that every member would have an opportunity of inspecting the register.

The Chairman said yes.

Bro. Woodford said that Bye-Law 2 dealt with the subject of giving the votes as delicately as it could. The Association said, "We think you ought to give in your votes, but we cannot force you, we ask you. We invite you by a friendly circular, to place your vote in the hands of a Committee who select two or three of the strongest cases to support."

Col. Creaton was then appointed Chairman of the Association, Bro. Erasmus Wilson and the Rev. Dr. Brettes as Vice-Chairmen, Bro. C. J. Perceval as Treasurer, and the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford and A. Tisley as joint Secretaries. The following brethren were appointed as Committeemen, with power to add to their number:—Bro. Rosenthal, Southwood, Dr. Ramsay, Letchworth, Newton, Lacey, Hyde Pullen, Marsh, Faulkner, Murfis, Baldwin, Massa, J. A. Farnfield, John White, G. Bolton, Dr. Jabez Hogg, Hubbuck, Willing, and Mallett.

Bros. Gladwell and Watts were appointed Auditors.

Bro. Perceval wished to draw attention to one subject. The provinces subscribed £15,232 to the Masonic Institutions, and London £16,400. In exchange for this the provinces got 394 candidates elected, and London 230. London did not get more simply because the London brethren did not combine. He would try to put these facts in a letter, to be published, stating the grievance and the remedy. It was very simple. The brethren had only to see how the provinces worked. There were several minor lodges and one or two Grand Lodges. The minor lodges sent to the centre lodges when they got a candidate to return, and they felt morally certain they would be returned either at first or second election. If not, they sent to a neighbouring province to assist. That was all very well up to a certain point, but it became un-Masonic when the merits of the individual cases were not considered—when the child or widow of a brother Mason, who had borne the burden and heat of the day, was passed over for those of a brother of yesterday. It was the case also sometimes that a brother who had paid for years to his lodge, and had benefitted all the Institutions, was passed over for a brother who thought that when he had paid his fees for entrance he had finished his Masonic duties. These were considerations that required the particular attention of the Association.

Bro. Woodford said that it was proposed at the end of this meeting to have a Committee meeting, for the subject Bro. Perceval was mentioning was more properly a subject for a Committee.

A vote of thanks to Col. Creaton for presiding was then passed, and the brethren resolved themselves into a Committee meeting, which, after transacting some business, adjourned.

A monument in memory of the late Lord Lytton has just been completed, and will shortly be removed from the studio of Bro. J. Forsyth, the sculptor, to its destination in the nave of Worcester Cathedral. Soon after the death of the lamented nobleman a number of his friends and neighbours, headed by the Earl of Dudley, Bro. Sir E. Lechmere, M.P., Lord Hampton, and Canon Melville, formed themselves into a committee for the purpose of raising a suitable memorial, and the present work is the result of the friendly subscriptions thus obtained. The design, by the late Sir G. Scott, is that of an altar tomb, in the manner of early 14th Century Gothic, on which reposes a recumbent statue of the deceased in white marble. The figure, draped in the robes of a peer, is suggestive of perfect repose, and bears on the countenance an artistic, and at the same time truthful resemblance to the lineaments of the departed. The head inclines slightly to the left side; the left arm lies full length by the side; the right hand rests upon the breast, holding a scroll or parchment with seal attached, in token of his office of *custos rotulorum* of Worcestershire. Four kneeling angels ornament the corners of monumental marble. The tomb is executed in alabaster and different coloured marbles, and is enriched with a series of arch-headed panels, supported by Rose-antique marble columns and carved capitals. Shields emblazoned with armorial bearings illustrating the genealogy of the Lytton family, arranged by Mr. Tucker, Rouge Croix, of the Herald's College, occupy the panels. On either side is a crisped panel deeply moulded, filled with bas-reliefs, illustrative of the Entombment and the Resurrection. A Latin inscription, borne on a brass band extending round the tomb, gives the name, titles, and official position of the deceased, with dates of his birth and death. The monument is 9ft. long, 4ft. wide, and 6ft. high. It is intended to harmonise with the beautiful pulpit presented to Worcester Cathedral by the Earl of Dudley, executed by the same sculptor as the present statue, Bro. J. Forsyth, of Baker-street.

The Exhibition of Works entered for the National Art Competition was opened on Tuesday week in the Exhibition Galleries, South Kensington. They number about 1,400, which have been selected from 138,045, sent up from 142 Schools of Art throughout the kingdom. The subjects of the competition are figure drawing and modelling, painting in oil and water colours, and design especially as applied to manufactures. The prizes awarded are gold medals, silver medals, bronze medals, prizes of books, and the Princess of Wales' Scholarships, which are awarded to two female students who take the highest prizes of the year in the national competition.

We are requested to state that by a curious error, the article that appeared in the *Daily Telegraph*, on the installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, is credited to Bro. W. J. Hughan, in the *Masonic Review* for August, published in Cincinnati, Ohio. Bro. Hughan merely forwarded the article to the Editor, Bro. the Rev. Thos. J. Millish, and suggested its being reprinted in the pages of that excellent paper.

Reviews.

SIXTY-EIGHTH REPORT OF THE SWENDENBORG SOCIETY, BRITISH AND FOREIGN. Depository, 36, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

This is the Sixty-eighth Report of a Society, instituted in 1810, for the purposes of disseminating the peculiar doctrines and views of Emanuel Swedenborg. Some of our readers may be aware that there is a so-called Masonic Swendenborgianism, which professes, as we understand, to deal with the mystical reveries of him, whom some one has termed "a dreamer of dreams," and after whom it is named. That Swedenborg was a Freemason is more than doubtful, indeed, it is pretty certain that he was not, but that his aspirations after and panoramic representations of a new Jerusalem—"caelestis Jerusalem,"—found favour with the mystic school of Martinism, in France, in the last century, and was thence introduced into England, as a soi-disant Masonic-Swendenborgian system, is a matter of history. The peculiar views of the Swendenborgians are, of course, "forbidden fruit" for our neutral pages, and in so far as they can be understood by the uninitiated, they represent, under any circumstances, a phase of mental philosophy which it is beyond our power, as Freemasons, to notice or discuss.

Bound up with this Report, we find "A Hindoo Gentleman's Reflections respecting the Works of Swedenborg and the Doctrines of the New Jerusalem Church," which as the work of a cultivated and educated Hindoo, will have a special interest to the members of the Society. We Masonically can only allude to them that they—"are."

We doubt, as we have often said before, the propriety of mixing up Freemasonry, "simple in its simplicity," alike in its teachings and its views, with the abstruse reveries of the mystics, or the fancies and dreams of metaphysical abstractions.

Mysticism has always played a part, alike in the old Hermetic sodalities, and the Theosophic school of Masons of the latter part of the last century—wisely or unwisely, is not the question here. We are only dealing with facts and whether we go back to Swedenborg or St. Martin, to "Boehme" or Meyer, we find undoubtedly a "mysticism" of teaching which has by some been claimed as Masonic, though clearly without warrant or reality.

We are not going further than this, as we by no means ever desiderate what is called "dogmatism," in matters in which freedom of thought and liberty of conscience properly prevail. But let us not forget that subjective theories do not and never can constitute objective truth to men or Masons.

CHAMBER'S INDEX TO NEXT OF KIN. Fourth Edition, Edited by EDWARD PRESTON. Allen, 11, Ave Maria Lane.

This very useful work has come before us, and we think it only our duty to our readers and the public to call attention to its undoubted utility and importance. It contains 50,000 names of persons advertised for, and through some of the advertisements are no doubt "fishing advertisements," as they are termed, and put in for special purposes; many, probably the great majority are "bona fide," and represent a vast mass of money unclaimed, because unknown. Mr. Preston states in his preface one fact which will startle others, as it has startled us, the more so as we have heard of a lower figure, namely, that the unclaimed funds in the Court of Chancery amounted in 1876 to £70,000,000! Is not 70 a misprint for 7? That a large sum of money belongs to families of which they are ignorant is no doubt most true, and therefore we feel bound to praise, as we believe, an honest effort to afford information on topics so personally interesting and materially important to many.

MASONIC MAGAZINE.—Some pleasing poetry and fiction agreeably relieve the Masonic matter which is, doubtless, full of interest to the initiated, and will be found acceptable to the general reader. The tone of the periodical is high, and some of the essays are marked by much thought and acumen.—*Brief.*

FRENCH TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

One of the most interesting and instructive departments of the Exposition is that devoted to the illustration of the working and results of the system of French popular education both in Paris and in the provinces. The foreign visitor who observes with admiration throughout the country the evidences of the general artistic and technical skill of the French workmen of every class will see in this Education Department of the Exposition the key to the secret of that success. And he will also, if wise, read in it a lesson for his own countrymen. The models of the French schools, the tables of their statistics, the plans of their buildings, and especially the abundant technical and artistic products of the pupils' industry, and the numerous series of scholastic apparatus of all kinds—these must strike intelligent foreigners with surprise, if not with humiliation also, at the comparative imperfection of other countries in this important department. One of the United States Commissioners to the Exhibition remarked, last week, that, in common with his countrymen generally, he had previously supposed the United States to be foremost in the world in its system of popular instruction, but that he is now compelled to acknowledge the great superiority of France, even over America, in this direction.

Englishmen will do well to study this portion of the Exposition most carefully. Members of School Boards, heads of colleges and schools, and members of municipal bodies specially interested in the improvement of technical and practical education in their own country, may derive great advantage from the exhibits in this department. When will the corporation of London be able to match the interesting educational results here displayed by the sister municipality of Paris?—*Times.*

NOTES ON ART, &c.

The German Society for Catching, Breeding, and Preserving Fish are preparing an international exhibition at Berlin for 1880.

A correspondent of the *Paris Journal* reports the discovery of treasure in the village of Andria, within the territorial district of Naples. According to the account given, in the village alluded to there exists an ancient ducal palace, which formerly belonged to the noble house of Andria, after which it is called. It is owned at present by the Spagnoletti, and the actual possessor just now happened to procure an old plan of the castle. Looking over it curiously, he noticed a door marked where in reality none existed. Not satisfied to leave this fact uninvestigated, he ordered the wall to be broken through at the place indicated on the plan, and behind the brickwork an iron door was found. This was forced, and access was immediately gained to a small chapel, in which was deposited an old chest containing the treasure, which is estimated to be worth about 1,800,000*l.* (nearly £72,000.) It consists principally of gold coins of the time of Ferdinand IV. and precious stones. The whole is supposed to have been deposited there for safety by the Duke of Andria when he emigrated to Germany at the time of the French invasion of Italy.

ST. ALBAN'S ABBEY.—The Rev. Scott F. Surtees, writing from the Rectory, Sprotbrough, Doncaster, to the *Times*, sends the following extract from Dr. Lubke's "Ecclesiastical Art in Germany," translated from the fifth edition by L. A. Wheatley:—"The system of the vaulted Basilica came into use in Germany, as it appears, for the first time towards the end of the 12th century, and it is in Rhenish buildings that the vaulting of the whole nave is first found. The cathedral at Mentz was apparently vaulted after the burning in the year 1081 A.D. The cathedrals at Spire and Worms followed. About the same time (1093-1156) arose the Abbey Church at Laach. The rest of Germany, for the most part, persisted in the flat roofed Basilica. . . . After these new discoveries had been made in architecture everything was prepared for a new style, and this was the Gothic."

Mr. R. Winslow, of 15, Strand, showed three supers of London honey, from a hive in a room 60ft. from the ground, at the exhibition of the British Bee Keepers' Association held last week at South Kensington. The hive was worked at the address given, and Mr. Winslow terms the produce "chimney-pot honey."—*City Press.*

Sir J. T. Lawrence has given notice in the House of Commons of his intention to move next Session that it is desirable, in the opinion of the House, that the whole or part of Kew Gardens should be opened to the public at 10 a.m. on week-days, and that there is nothing in the work of maintenance or in the special objects of the Gardens to justify the exclusion of the public from them until 1 p.m.

In a narrow street close to Bedford-row many a passer-by who, in his youth, had a "stool" in one of the legal firms in the neighbourhood, has observed an old-fashioned shop with many choice engravings in the window, and has longed for the time—"looming in the future"—when his improved position in the office should enable him to enter the dingy portals—always closed, its owner being absent for the past 12 years—and make himself famous in the eyes of the collectors by becoming the possessor of some of the rare things therein. But the youth has arrived at maturity, has become possessor of the means to purchase, but his efforts to do so have been fruitless. The same choice prints have remained in the window. As an answer was required for repeated inquiries, all were told, "Nothing will be sold until the owner returns." Two collectors of prints, whose homes are on the other side of the Atlantic, finding that there were in this collection prints they coveted, took the long journey across in the hope of acquiring them, but without success. The same answer met their inquiries. A wealthy man in London sent £10,000 for two paintings in the collection. That was refused. Other pictures equally valuable are there—rare works, whose pedigrees are well known, and whose qualities are not questioned. The owner has not come back. He has gone, it is to be hoped, where he will find beauty in perfection, not in the abstract, as in his possessions here. The gems of art that he has so strangely accumulated will be reset. It is believed that, after the labour of cataloguing the property has been accomplished, it will be placed, about January next, before the public in the rooms through which it seems the fate of most works of art to pass at some period or other.—*Builder.*

On Wednesday a trial of self-delivery reapers and self-binders came off at Penrith. Rain having fallen all the previous night and the crop being a heavy piece of oats, the qualities of the machines were put to a severe test. The binders of Mr. McCormick and Mr. Walter A. Wood were tested by the dynamometer, the draught being 3cwt. 3qrs., and 3cwt. 1qr. respectively. The prize was awarded to the machine of the heavier draught, McCormick's. In the class for self-delivery reapers eight machines competed. The "Simplex" of Messrs. Howard, Bedford, took a draught of 1cwt. 3qrs. only, and after a second trial with the well-known American machine of Walter A. Wood, was awarded the first prize in its class, the three next to it in point of draught being W. Anson Wood; Picklesley, Sims, and Co., and W. A. Wood, whose machines all took a draught of 2cwt. 1qr., the heaviest being Messrs. Brigham's "Excelsior," 3cwt.

The Duke and Duchess of Abercorn and Lady Georgiana Hamilton have returned to Hampton House, Green-street, from Eastbourne.

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Answers to Correspondents.

J.W.M.C.—On the whole we think you are right. The Book of Constitutions does not lay down any law as to the reception of honorary members. A ballot is absolutely necessary for subscribing members. Honorary members, in our opinion, may be elected by an open vote.

T. F.'s case being under appeal, it is impossible to notice it at present in our pages.

Bro. Percival's letter in our next. Crowded out. Proof shall be sent.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

"Hornet"; "Die New Yorker Bundespresse"; "Kelct"; "Orient"; "Chambers's Index to Next of Kin" (fourth edition); "Hull Packet"; "Medical Examiner"; "Broad Arrow"; "Scottish Freemason"; "Citizen"; "Risorgimento"; "West London Express"; "Corner Stone"; "Freemasons' Monthly"; "Voice of Masonry"; "Wm Cutbush and Son's Autumn Catalogue of Tulips, &c."; "Masonic Review"; "Hebrew Leader"; "Der Triangel"; "Keystone"; "Der Bund"; "New York News Letter."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

GILBERT.—On the 17th inst., at The Laurels, Gipsy-hill, the wife of Dr. Bennett Gilbert, of a daughter.

TURNER.—On the 18th inst., at 6, Lincoln-terrace, Tufnell-park, N., the wife of Alfred W. Turner, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

GOODE—PERRINS.—On the 13th inst., at St. Nicholas', Chislehurst, by the Rev. E. J. Brewster, vicar of Leyton, Essex, assisted by the Rev. John Hall, vicar of St. Philip's, Battersea, John Goode, barrister-at-law, Lincoln's-inn, and The Grove, Hendon, to Mary, youngest daughter of the late Thomas Perkins, Droitwich, Worcestershire.

REYNOLDS—CAYME.—On the 13th inst., at Brixham, South Devon, William Percy, only son of Thomas Reynolds, of Berkeley Lodge, Norwood-road, S.E., to Melina Glyde, elder daughter of William Glyde Cayme, of Brixham.

DEATH.

HEWLETT.—On the 12th inst., after a short illness, Henry William Hewlett, Esq., of No. 2, Raymond-buildings, Gray's-inn, and Acre-lane, Brixton, aged 82.

THE FREEMASON

SATURDAY, AUGUST 24, 1878.

ENGLISH MASONRY AND ATHEISTS.

It will be seen by a letter from our Editor to Bro. Hubert, which appears in another column, that a statement has apparently been made on this subject, which will be received with astonishment and indignation by all English Masons. It seems, indeed, at the first blush of the thing, almost impossible that any true distinguished French Masons can have made so very silly, and so very untrue, a statement; and out of charity to them, we refrain from publishing their names, as forwarded to us, to-day, hoping that there may be possibly some misunderstanding on the subject. The allegation is—made on the authority of two of the leading French Freemasons, as we read our correspondent's letter—that "Atheists can be admitted Masons in England now, easier than in any other country." Anything more ridiculous in itself, or more untrue as a statement, we have never in our life perused, and if we could believe that the brethren quoted really used such preposterous words, we should deeply grieve, alike for their ignorance of and their injustice to English Masons and English Masonry. We venture to say in the *Freemason*, (as our Editor says for himself elsewhere), that no Atheist can be admitted, as such, in any English lodge, except by mistake or misadventure, and we are quite sure of this, that the fact of a candidate being a known Atheist would render him absolutely certain to be blackballed in any English lodge into which he seeks admission. Nay, we go further. Any W.M. allowing an avowed Atheist to be initiated in English Masonry, if it could be proved he knew the fact to be a fact, when acting as W.M., would, we are certain, be suspended by Grand Lodge. We cannot, therefore, profess to understand, with the known animus and practice of English Masons on this subject, how any French brethren can have formed such an idea of English Masonry, much less put such an idea, (so absurd), into words. It is possible that some candidates who were truly Atheists have been admitted into English lodges, (though we doubt even this), but then it was, if it was so, both by a "suppressio veri" and a "suggestio falsi" on their part. They did not avow their proclivities at the time, rather they sought carefully to conceal, and carefully succeeded in concealing, their real views; but if they were honest men, English Masonry was, and could be, no home for them, inasmuch as it distinctly and openly, and pointedly from first to last, repudiates anything approaching even to Atheism and Atheists, whether stupid or clever, whether secret or open. English Freemasonry, (like English Freemasons), never hesitates to proclaim its unchanged and unfaltering belief in the true and ever living God, Most High. We are, therefore, tempted to imagine and to hope that there is some misinterpretation of hasty words, or, perhaps, that the great heat of Paris just now, and the excitement of the Exhibition, (which we are happy to hear is a success), have caused some of our good French brethren to lose somewhat of their habitual moderation of thought and speech, and their knowledge of men and things. Or, perhaps, after all, the whole affair is only a little joke played off by some facetious French brother on a good colonial John Bull. As we said before, if any French brethren of position, education, and authority, either secretly held or put forward publicly any such opinions of English Masons and Masonry, we shall most deeply deplore the fact, because it suggests to our minds inevitably certain considerations affecting the real state of Masonic affairs in France, which are alike painful to realize, and humiliating to accept.

OUR AMERICAN BROTHERS.

Some of our American brethren are already about to cross the "little mill pond," and we cannot let them depart, even in instalments, without a hearty shake of the hand, and some sincere

expressions of good will and Masonic sympathy. Their visit to England has been as much a pleasure to ourselves as to them, and we beg to assure them, that in the hearty welcome of the "International Gathering," which our publisher so sagaciously planned and so successfully achieved, we as English Masons meant what we said, and we hope they believed us, and believe us still. Though we have bidden farewell to them in person, we linger with them still in kindly companionship, and we trust in the providence of T.G.A.O.T.U. that they may have a safe and prosperous voyage home to their native land. We shall probably not meet again as brother Masons on this "nether scene," in warm-hearted personality, and the sympathy of a loving friendship can only be preserved in the spirit, but cordial regards and pleasant souvenirs will abide with us, as we trust with them, for the rest of our Masonic pilgrimage. Among that pleasant band of friendly visitors to our shores perhaps to particularize names may be both somewhat difficult if not invidious. Yet we feel sure we are echoing the opinion of all our English brethren present at that famous gathering when we say that amid many genial associates, no truer Masons, no more sincere friends, no better men can be anywhere met with than Charles Meyer and Daniel Sutter, whose pleasant presence and kindly words will long be cherished by the English Masons who learned to know them and to like them. And so we bid them heartily and Masonically farewell to-day, in all of genuine regard and true Masonic feeling, trusting that if we are not destined, humanly speaking, to meet any more "in the flesh," ours may be mutual memories and mutual associations of friendship and brotherhood, of liking and goodwill!

THE GRAND LODGE OF SCOTLAND.

A very sensible letter in the *Glasgow Evening Mail*, which appeared in our last impression, so confirms the views we have thought well to express on some recent questions of debate in respect of this distinguished body, that we make no apology to our readers for recurring to the subject to-day. Our words last week were words of peace, as our readers will remember, and such they still most surely are. All we have read and heard since convinces us how prejudicial to Scottish Freemasonry any such continued agitation must be, and how unwise and how un-masonic any suggestions of a second Grand Lodge, if ever made. The questions at issue can surely be settled by the members of the Grand of Scotland, without excitement or wrangling, without acerbity, without personality, and without above all, appealing to the profane world without, or letting it into the secret of divisions and dissensions within. Let our good friends across the border remember Napoleon the First's advice, "to wash their own dirty linen at home, and do not let us hear of any more comment by the non-masonic Scottish press on the personalities and divergencies of Scottish Freemasons in the Scottish Grand Lodge. It is no doubt true that Scottish Freemasonry is just now passing through a crisis in its history, and has the inevitable effect of many years of un-masonic procedure to contend with. It has also weaknesses peculiar to an unsound and vicious system, in our humble opinion, to amend and remove. But all this can be done calmly, peacefully, Masonically; and the authorities deserve all consideration and all support in their arduous and responsible duties. With the administrative ability of our distinguished Bro. D. Murray Lyon, there can be no doubt but that the Grand Lodge of Scotland will speedily emerge from its various complications, and we feel sure that we are expressing the unanimous opinion of English Masons when we avow, as we do openly to-day, for the Grand Lodge of Scotland all Masonic sympathy and all fraternal good will.

THE LONDON MASONIC CHARITY ASSOCIATION.

It will be seen by a statement in our last impression, and by a more detailed report in

this, that a movement has begun in London to organize and develop the "voting power" of the voters for the London district, in a way never before attempted or achieved. This action of the London voters for the Masonic Charities has long been felt by those who interest themselves in such matters, to be a "necessity of the case," and the only wonder is that it has not been done before. The most successful organization of the Provincial Charity Committees renders now the return of London candidates for the various Charities often very problematical and very difficult, and therefore an attempt has been, in our opinion, seasonably and wisely, made to alter the existing state of things in this respect, and some of our London brethren seek, not unnaturally, to take a "leaf" out of the provincial "book," and to form a standing committee for the purpose of receiving and using voting papers voluntarily offered to it by the voters of the various Charities on behalf of the London candidates, on certain distinct principles of action and selection. Too much praise cannot possibly be awarded to those skilfully organized Provincial Charity Committees, which have for some years so successfully managed the cases for the provinces at the elections, but there can be no valid reason why London voters for the Charities should not avail themselves of the same elastic privileges, and the same easy and common-sense organization. We anticipate the greatest good from this movement in every way. A great deal of information will be disseminated about the Charities; more general interest will be excited in them; and that waste of London voting power which now goes on, that frittering away of metropolitan strength which is now prevalent, will be checked and controlled. In the hands of a carefully selected and competent committee, all really deserving cases will be watched over and furthered, and successfully carried; while many a deserving applicant, who, under the present state of affairs can hardly hope to succeed, will run a much fairer chance of getting on the list of the successful ones. Of course there are some difficulties in the way, and some especially affecting the metropolis. One is, what may be termed without offence to any, "individualism." We wish to achieve personally what it is now proposed to do by a Committee. Many will not like to delegate to a Committee, however distinguished, duties which they have discharged so often and so efficiently for London and provincial clients. But such a personal view, however amiable in itself, ought not to weigh against the general good and the actual need of so beneficial a change. Another difficulty is the "claims of competing candidates," which appear paramount to some minds, but have not the same effect on others. It is now proposed to submit at London all cases to a careful and critical Committee in order to select the strongest cases. Thus we are inclined to think, that by a process which has been found to work well in the provinces, absolutely weak and unsuitable cases will also in London be passed over in favour of a "distressing case," which conforms to all our rules, and claims, and rightly claims, our sympathy and our support. But in saying this, we neither wish to interfere with individual liberty of action, or to promote the crotchets of a reforming school amongst us. We have always contended, that by the proper action of a Provincial Charity Committee, just as now by the efforts of the new "London Association," due attention should be given to the cases and claims of provincial as of metropolitan candidates, and that thus we shall seek honestly to support "a distressing case," which has a "fair claim on our charity," alike in conformity with the dictates of true benevolence, and the laws of our useful Institutions. But further than that we have never pretended to go, and we do not go to day. We reject now, as we have always rejected, because logically and practically absurd, "the most distressing case theory," simply because we hold it to be hyper-sentimentalism in the abstract, and an utter impracticability in the concrete. But we rejoice to think and to note, that by a professed voluntary association, and under conditions which, we believe, will command general approval and support, (if not now, eventually), a Committee of London brethren will seek carefully to sift the

London cases, and give organized support to any cases which are now, and must be under present conditions, unsuccessful, but which have, nevertheless, every claim on the warm and generous aid of metropolitan Masons.

A LETTER TO BRO HUBERT, PARIS.

Dear Bro. Hubert,—

A worthy brother from Ontario, Canada, has called at the office of the *Freemason* to inform us that he had recently seen you at Paris, and that you are very anxious to be enlightened on a very important point affecting English Masonry. It is, to use his words in a letter now lying before me, as regards the admission of "Atheists" into English Masonry. I should have thought that "à priori," from your well-known acquaintance with our English habits of thought and practice, and from your residence in England, that you would require no information from me or any one else on any such subject. But still as there are reasons given in Bro. Robertson's letter why you should just now ask for a "disclaimer" from me on the subject alluded to, I take the earliest opportunity afforded me of reassuring you, (if you need reassuring), on the matter before us.

It seems, according to Bro. Robertson, that "two" very distinguished French brethren, high in position, (whose names I for the present keep back), have thought well publicly to state that *Atheists can be admitted Masons in England now easier than in any other country.* It is of this statement that you are stated, dear Bro. Hubert, to wish to have a *denial.* I can therefore only assure you, as an old English Mason, initiated in 1842, (you can count my years of membership), that such an assertion is *absolutely untrue*, and is either a proof of what Monseigneur Dupanloup would call "Invincible ignorance," or, alas, that I should have to say it, "wilful mendacity." Surely a more childish and more unscrupulous assertion never was made by any one, or one which betrays an entire want of acquaintance with English Masonic sentiment and practice on the subject. No French Mason, whatever his rank may be in the Order, can have a right to make such a false charge against English Masons, inasmuch as when he makes it he either does not know of what he is talking, or is governed by an impossibility of recognising the "abstract importance of truth."

I, on the contrary, most unhesitatingly and distinctly declare, and in this statement I shall be supported by countless English and American brethren, that no known Atheist, (except by some mournful carelessness), can be admitted into English and Anglo-Saxon Masonry. And, therefore, in reply to "two" distinguished "French brethren," who are alleged to have made so rash, so foolish, so untrue a statement, (with what motive I do not profess to understand), I can only declare to you, that any such assertion is a most unjust calumny on English Masons and Masonry. I am, indeed, in great hopes that there is some mistake in the matter, and that there or has been an unintentional and misinterpretation of certain remarks, more or less excited, perhaps, in a momentary discussion.

If such, however, be the deliberate opinion of the two distinguished French brethren named, you and I must mutually grieve over their "delusion" on the subject, and we shall both feel that it betrays a state of feeling alike significant and most deplorable.

If then you want a "Denial" from me, I truly offer it to you to-day, as I know you will both receive it, and audit it, as coming from
Yours most fraternally, dear Bro. Hubert,
THE EDITOR OF THE "FREEMASON."
Bro. Kenning, the sole proprietor of the *Freemason*, quite agrees with me in these remarks.

At the regular meeting of the Centenary Lodge of Fortitude No 131 Truro on the 13th inst., the R.W. Bro. J. H. Neilson was formally received and saluted as a Representative of the Grand Orient of Egypt, and Past S. G. W. of that Grand Lodge. Although a member of the lodge, the W.M. and members were determined on this his first visit, to do him all possible honour, and the "Grand Honours" were given most heartily to our distinguished brother.

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.]

ADMISSION OF MEMBERS.

To the Editor of the "*Freemason*."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

A question of considerable interest to the Craft has been raised in one of our most important provinces under circumstances which it is to be hoped are somewhat rare. For some years past it has been the practice of a lodge in a small town within the province of which we write to initiate into Masonry numbers from a town twenty miles distant, which, with its neighbourhood, embraces six lodges for a total population of about 80,000 inhabitants. This course for obvious reasons, for some time formed the subject of complaint, and several years since was noticed at head quarters by the adoption of a series of resolutions, with the object of "enforcing more stringent rules as to the admission of candidates into the Masonic Order." These included the following, which was recommended by P.G. Lodge to all lodges in the province: "That every brother of each lodge be requested not to propose for initiation a candidate residing at a distance from the place in which the lodge is held until the most searching enquiries have been made and satisfactory reasons given why he was not proposed in a lodge in the town in which he resides or one nearer to his place of residence." The practice complained of is not known to have in any degree decreased consequent upon this resolution; and the small lodge has now become so numerous as to be in danger of losing its individuality, not to say that, whilst the imported brethren find it inconvenient to attend lodge, which must, for their convenience, be held in the afternoon, those who form the lodge proper find it equally inconvenient to attend in the afternoon, and equally desire to meet in the evening. In these circumstances the émigrés have applied to the Prov. Grand Master to recommend the grant of a warrant to them to hold a lodge in the town to which they belong. Asking the senior lodge there to support their application, it not only refused to do so, but petitioned the Prov. Grand Master not to grant the request on the following grounds:—"That the six lodges already existing in the town and neighbourhood where the petitioners for the new lodge reside, afford ample opportunities for meeting all the legitimate requirements of Masonry; that so far as the opposing petitioners are aware, and believe, many of the petitioners were received into a lodge which had not conformed to the before-quoted resolution of Prov. Grand Lodge; and that to grant a new warrant under such circumstances, by practically counteracting the power of black-balling, would be to imperil the distinctive character Freemasonry has hitherto held. The signatories to this petition, which was hurriedly got up and dispatched, embraced Past or Present Masters and other officers of each of the six lodges, and—simply in order to indicate their character and social position—it should be added included an ex-mayor and present alderman of the town, its sheriff, town clerk, borough treasurer, and officer of health, several of its leading men (including a Past Master of more than forty years' standing, and some town councillors and others holding official position). The Prov. Grand Master, who, it may be stated, resides between fifty and sixty miles from the locus in quo, it is whispered at first refused to recommend the grant of the warrant, lacking the recommendation of a lodge in the objective town, but this being forthcoming, has intimated that he has recommended the grant of the warrant, the objectionable course of initiating candidates at a distance from their residences without previous enquiry having, "it is understood" (sic) ceased. How far the spirit, as distinguished from the letter, of Prov. Grand Lodge resolution has been observed by the lodge which seeks to extend its borders, is shown by enquiry on the spot, revealing the appointment of a standing committee of its own members resident in the town which protests against the whole proceeding and practice, it being naively added that "it is believed that such an appointment has resulted in the most beneficial effect. What, then, is the conclusion to be drawn from action previous to this appointment? and what need is there of further testimony as to the utter viciousness of the practice of initiating members from a distance from the initiating lodge, without special cause being shown for their not joining lodges in their own locality? All the circumstances considered, it is no matter of surprise to hear that the subject is not to be allowed to rest where it is now. CAUTION.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF HAMPSHIRE AND THE ISLE OF WIGHT.

To the Editor of the "*Freemason*."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

It is a matter of notoriety in this flourishing province that while the rank and file appear in black, with white gloves, and the majority in full dress, out of respect to the Provincial Grand Lodge, the P.G.M. and his principal officers are usually attired in walking costume of various hues.

This may appear a very small matter, but when brethren travel from all parts of the province in hot weather, and in the customary, but ancient suit of black, it is not asking too much, that the principal officers should either appear in the same costume, or else announce that it may be dispensed with, and clothing suitable to the season substituted.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

OBSERVER.

To the Editor of the "*Freemason*."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

At a meeting of the above, held at Basingstoke, the P.G.M. strongly affirmed that he would not appoint

a brother to a Provincial Office unless he attended to be invested.

At the meeting held at Southampton on Tuesday, the 15th inst., he appointed several brethren who were absent from various causes.

Comment is superfluous, especially as there were over 200 brethren in attendance to select from.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, faithfully yours,
CONSISTENCY.

We have been requested to publish the following correspondence:—

GRAND LODGE OF SCOTLAND.
To the Editor of the Scottish Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

My attention has been directed to a letter in the North British Daily Mail, of 12th inst., signed "Faction," which contains statements that may mislead many of the brethren. It is stated—"The contest being not between Edinburgh and Glasgow," &c., "but between Glasgow, on the one hand, and the rest of Scotland," &c. The contest is between a certain party of brethren in Edinburgh, who have had for years the control in the Grand Lodge, with results disastrous to the honour and financial position of Masonry in Scotland, and the provinces, whose money has been so fraudulently dealt with. Glasgow being the province nearest to Edinburgh, and which pays the largest amount of money into the Grand Lodge, naturally comes prominently to the front in the struggle to put the Grand Lodge in a state to support the honour of the Craft, and retain the confidence of the provinces. This, and this alone, is the object aimed at by the brethren of the West, in which they have the support of brethren in all parts of Scotland.

I am, dear Sir and brother, yours fraternally,
W. MONTGOMERIE NEILSON,
Queenshill, Aug. 13th. P.G.M. of Glasgow.

To the Editor of the "Scottish Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I belong to a lodge that sends its own proper representatives to Grand Lodge, consequently, at our last meeting, we were favoured with an account "viva voce" of the recent proceedings of Grand Lodge. Most heartily did we congratulate ourselves on the fact that we are not represented by proxy in that august assembly, else we might have run the risk of being a party to the degrading of the Craft by ignoring, as was done, the rudimental and fundamental principles on which the grand superstructure has been built. He must be a very contemptible individual—in truth, no man and no Mason—who would stoop to be an abettor of the conduct which seems to be characteristic of some of the moving spirits of that grand Edinburgh Masonic forum. It is time that all good and true Masons were bestirring themselves so as really to feel their responsibility individually and collectively. Let the present vital matters be subject of mutual intercourse inside the lodge-room, and of united consideration and action by sister lodges in the provinces. For surely we shall not be so base as to stand idly and silently by, and see the dignity of the Order trailed in the dust, see the result of the labours of disinterested men ignobly scouted at and scorned, and see ourselves, in our representatives, scoffed at and condemned by interested intriguers and ignominious sycophants.—Yours fraternally,

Ayr, 13th August, 1878.

SPE5.

To the Editor of the "Scottish Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

It is believed that a universal feeling of admiration for the personal and Masonic character, and of gratitude for the services of the Grand Master, Sir Michael Robert Shaw Stewart of Ardgowan and Greenock, Baronet, pervades the whole Craft, and a meeting of certain members of the Order has been held, at which it was resolved to give effect to this general opinion, by respectfully requesting the Right Honourable Lady Octavia Shaw Stewart's acceptance of a testimonial, in acknowledgment of the high respect in which her husband, the Grand Master, is held, and of the distinguished services he has rendered to Masonry.

It is proposed that the testimonial should be a bust—executed in duplicate—one to be placed in the Freemasons' Hall to perpetuate Sir Michael's connection with the Craft; and the other to be presented to Lady Octavia Shaw Stewart; or otherwise, that the testimonial should be of such a character as would secure in Freemasons' Hall a lasting memorial of Sir Michael, and at the same time retain a place in his family. The selection of the testimonial to be left to Lady Octavia.

The Committee beg to request a subscription from you towards the testimonial, which may be sent to either of the Treasurers at Edinburgh, or to me, or any of the Local Treasurers of the fund.

Yours fraternally,

WILLIAM OFFICER, S.S.C.,
Past Senior Grand Warden, Hon. Sec.
Edinburgh, 13, Frederick-street, 25th July, 1878.

Ardgowan, Greenock, Aug. 7th, 1878.

To the Editor of the "Scottish Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

It is only within the last few days that I have become fully aware of the proposal to recognise specially my services, such as they have been, to the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

I beg leave very respectfully and gratefully to request that the proposed presentation be not made.

Anything that I may have been able to do for Grand Lodge has been more than sufficiently acknowledged by the personal kindness I have always received from the Craft in general, and by the support and confidence which have

been given me by the members of the Grand Lodge; and it would, under all circumstances, be a matter of regret to me that any other reward or acknowledgment should be made to me or to my family.

If, as I now understand, the Masons of Scotland consider that a bust of their present Grand Master is worthy of a place in Grand Lodge, it would afford me great pleasure to present such a bust to the Scottish Masons.

I am very grateful for the kindness intended to be shown to Lady Octavia and myself, but I request that you will make known my decided wish to the members of the Committee, without delay, and assure them, now that my term of office is drawing to a close, that I shall never forget the fraternal consideration which has been extended to me during my five years' occupancy of the Masonic throne.

I am, dear Sir, yours fraternally,
M. R. SHAW STEWART,
Grand Master.

D. Murray Lyon, Esq., Grand Sec.

A POINT OF PROCEDURE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In the event of any circumstance occurring during the time a lodge is holding its regular meeting which prevents the business which has been placed on the notices issued to the brethren being completed—say, for instance, an initiation—has the W.M. power to "call off" the lodge for so long a period as a week, thereby adjourning the meeting for that time?

Your opinion on the above question will be esteemed a favour.

I enclose my card, and remain, fraternally yours,
A P.M. and HON. SEC.

[Certainly not. The W.M. can only order the S.W. to call the brethren from labour to refreshment for a reasonable time. There is no adjournment in English Masonry.—Ed.]

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF HAMPSHIRE AND THE ISLE OF WIGHT.

The Grand Lodge for this province was held at Southampton on Thursday week. A local committee, consisting of the Prov. Grand Secretary (Br. J. E. Le Feuvre), the Prov. Grand Director of Ceremonies (Bro. Morris Miles, P. M.), and the Worshipful Masters of the four lodges in Southampton, viz., the Royal Gloucester (Bro. C. John Phillips), the Peace and Harmony (Bro. W. H. Martin), the Southampton (Bro. R. J. Walker), and the Twelve Brothers (Bro. R. S. Pearce), had provided the Philharmonic Hall for the reception of Grand Lodge, and appropriately decorated it. Bro. W. Waters, P.M., in this respect rendering valuable service. There was a very full attendance, the whole of the 28 lodges in the province being represented, and the Portsmouth and Southampton brethren appearing in noticeable strength. Some 250 brethren being assembled in the hall, wearing their Masonic clothing and collars and jewels of office, P.G. Organist (Bro. Westley) played a march during the entry of the Prov. Grand Master (Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P.), who was attended by the Deputy Prov. Grand Master (Bro. W. Hickman), and from 40 to 50 Present and Past Prov. Grand Officers, wearing the purple, who formed a double line extending the whole length of the hall.

In the absence of the two Grand Wardens, Bros. H. M. Emanuel and G. Lancaster, both of Portsmouth, occupied their places. Grand Lodge having been duly opened, the usual reports were received and adopted, the Treasurer's account showing a balance in hand of £256 9s. 1d., after payment of £80 in relief 110 guineas to the Boys' School, and 100 to the Indian Famine Fund, and ten guineas each to the Girls' School and the Benevolent Institution. Bro. Mark E. Frost, of Portsmouth, on the proposition of Bro. F. Hare (Southampton Lodge) seconded by Bro. E. Booth (Royal Gloucester), was unanimously re-elected Prov. Grand Treasurer for the year. Among the grants made was one of £50 to the widow of a deceased brother belonging to a Portsmouth lodge, who formerly held high Masonic office in India. In reporting upon the Charities Committee, the P.G.S., to show how successful the plan had proved of the brethren in the province thus concentrating their power, mentioned that in 1872 they succeeded in securing the election on the charities of a boy and a girl; in 1873 of a boy, a girl, and a widow; in 1874 of a boy, a girl, and an aged brother; in 1875 of a boy, a girl, and two aged brethren; in 1876 of a girl, two widows, and an aged brother; in 1877 of two girls, a widow, and an aged brother; and this year of a boy, a girl, and a widow. A proposal by Bro. Main to transfer the moneys and securities of the province to the Capital and Counties Bank in the names of the Provincial Grand Master, Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and the Provincial Grand Treasurer for the time being was lost. Bro. Wyatt, of the Albany Lodge, Newport, gave notice that at the next Provincial Grand Lodge meeting he would move the appointment of a committee for the purpose of revising the bye-laws of the Provincial Grand Lodge. The Prov. Grand Master then appointed his officers for the ensuing year as follows:—

- W. Hickman D. Prov. G.M.
- E. W. Rebbeck Prov. G.S.W.
- Dr. A. Platt Wilks... .. Prov. G.J.W.
- Rev. S. Scott Prov. G. Chaplain.
- C. G. Brown Prov. G. Chaplain.
- G. Dymott Prov. G. Reg.
- Mark E. Frost Prov. G. Treas.
- J. E. Le Feuvre Prov. G. Sec.
- Lear Prov. G.S.D.
- G. F. Lancaster Prov. G.J.D.
- Harrison Prov. G.S. of W.
- John Adams Prov. G.D. of C.

- E. Low Prov. G.A.D. of C.
- G. Bond Prov. G.S. Bearer.
- Benham Prov. G. Purst.
- Batchelor Prov. G. Org.
- Way, Pring, Whale, Tasker, and Pack Prov. G. Stewards.
- Biggs and Exell Prov. G. Tylers.

The G.S.W. not being present to take his collar, the P.G.M. said, though his selection would hold good this time, it must not be taken as a precedent. Bro. J. Legg, W.M. of the United Services Lodge, Portsmouth, was offered one of the Grand Stewardships, but respectfully declined its acceptance. At the close of the investment of officers, the Prov. G. Master, in the name of the brethren, presented to Bro. Mark E. Frost, the P.G. Treasurer, a purse containing 200 sovereigns, together with a silver inkstand and tray, two candlesticks, and a paper knife. He remarked that Bro. Frost had been a Mason twenty-seven years, and during that time he had rendered most valuable assistance to Freemasonry. He had twice held the position of Master of the Portsmouth Lodge, No. 487, and had also twice held the same important position in the United Brothers Lodge, No. 1069, to both of which lodges, and indeed to all the lodges in the neighbourhood, he had rendered services which were invaluable. Although, perhaps, Bro. Frost was known more intimately by the brethren of Portsmouth and the district, he was still known all over the province as a most active Mason, and one who was always ready to do anything in his power to advance the best interests of the Craft. (Hear, hear.) The testimonial of which he would ask Bro. Frost's acceptance was subscribed for in the province, and he (the speaker) was very much gratified at having the opportunity of presenting it at that Grand Lodge meeting. There was always something very pleasant about recognising the merits of an old and tried Mason, inasmuch as old associations and pleasant reminiscences extending over a number of years that had flown by were again presented to the mind. All who knew Bro. Frost were aware how assiduously he had applied himself to the task of carrying out in their integrity all the glorious principles of the Order, and would agree with him that no testimonial it was in their power to present could sufficiently recompense him for the services he had rendered. (Loud applause.) Bro. Frost, in recognising the compliment, said he could not find words to express his gratitude for the kind expressions used towards him, but he assured them he accepted their testimonial in the same kind spirit in which it was given. It was true he had been a Mason for a great number of years, but the handsome present just made him was an ample recompense for all his labours, although the labour of a Freemason was a labour of love, and he assured them that he would hand down that testimonial as a mark of the esteem in which he was held. (Applause.)

This concluding the business, the lodge was closed in due form.

The brethren then adjourned to the Victoria Skating Rink, kindly lent for the occasion by Bro. Jonas Nichols, where Bro. Dartnall, of the High-street, Southampton, had spread an excellent cold collation, which was supplemented by a supply of champagne, placed on the tables by the entertaining lodges in the town. The rink was, as usual, tastefully decorated with flowers and small flags, disposed from brackets around the supporting iron pillars, some large flags, loaned by Bro. J. Blount Thomas, having been arranged behind the cross table at the head by Bro. W. Waters, and the rink band, under Mr. D. Crook, attended and performed a selection of operatic and other music during the dinner and between the subsequent speeches. The Prov. Grand Master occupied the chair, and was supported by the Dep. Prov. G.M. and other Grand Lodge officers, the total number of brethren present being about 120. The repast concluded, the Right Worshipful Chairman gave in order "The Queen and the Craft" and "The M.W. the Grand Master of England, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," remarking upon the recent visit of the Prince to Southampton, and saying he wished it had been possible that the ceremony taken part in by H.R.H. should be conducted with Masonic honours. "The Pro-Grand Master of England, Bro. the Earl of Carnarvon; the Deputy Grand Master, the Earl of Skelmersdale; and the Officers and Past Officers of Grand Lodge" was the next toast, and it having been heartily drunk, the Dep. Prov. Grand Master proposed "The Health of the Right Worshipful the Grand Master of the Province of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight," eulogising Bro. Beach for the manner in which he invariably performed the duties of his high office, and for his readiness at all times to place himself at the disposal of the several lodges in the province. He was always ready and willing to place his time at the disposal of the various lodges, and the manner in which he invariably conducted the ceremonies had won general encomiums from the brethren. His manner was genial and courteous, and he so carried out his duties as to secure the highest respect and affection at the hands of all the brethren with whom he came in contact.

The Provincial Grand Master, in responding, said it always afforded him the greatest possible pleasure to come amongst the brethren whenever it was possible for him to do so, and he could assure them that during the time he had held his present position he had met with nothing but kindness and consideration. He ventured to say that during his tenure of office Freemasonry in the province had been very prosperous, a circumstance which was in no small degree due to the efficiency of Bro. Hickman and the rest of the Provincial Grand Officers, who had all worked with a will and as skilled and excellent Masons in the performance of their various duties. Those duties were not so light as might at first sight appear. Matters came continually before them for decision, for no matter how amicable the brethren might be, there were times when points of difference arose which it was necessary to submit to the Grand Lodge of the Province for settlement.

As far as he was concerned he assured the brethren that he never gave any decision until he had thoroughly gone into the matter under consideration. One matter suggested itself to his mind, on noticing Bro. Binckes, the Secretary of the Boys' School, present, namely, the manner of electing the officers in connection with the Masonic charities. It was only right that all the brethren in the provinces should have an opportunity of voting in the election of the officers, and he hoped that ere long some steps would be taken to introduce a scheme by which the brethren might vote without being put to the expense and inconvenience of going to London. He concluded by proposing "The Health of the W.D.P.G.M. of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, Bro. W. Hickman, P.A.G.D.C. England," saying that in Bro. Hickman he had an efficient and able coadjutor, who was ever ready to render all the assistance he could. Bro. W. Hickman acknowledged the compliment, and, speaking of the chairman, said all cases involving questions of Masonic law and constitution which came before him he had thoroughly investigated before coming to a decision.—The Chairman gave "The Wardens and Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge," coupling with the toast the name of Bro. Frost, who responded.—Bro. J. E. Le Feuvre, Prov. G.S., proposed the next toast, "The Worshipful Masters, Officers, and brethren of the lodges in the province." It was a great gratification to him, as P.G.S., that these lodges were all working to the same end, and trying to carry out the principles they professed—the principles of brotherly love and charity. They were exceedingly fortunate in having to preside over them one so able as their chairman, who gave due consideration to every communication and representation that was made to him. He strongly advised the members of the various lodges to take care only to receive persons into their ranks who would be likely to do honour to the Craft, and not to keep solely in view the object of increasing their numbers, and in conclusion expressed his gratification that the Provincial Grand Lodge had been held this year in the good old town of Southampton. (Applause.) Bros. Faulkner, P.M. of the Cowes Lodge, and C. John Phillips, as W.M. of the senior entertaining lodge (the Royal Gloucester), responded, the latter, alluding to a remark from the P.G.M. as to the difficulty of distributing Grand Lodge honours, suggesting that when the exigencies of the case were such that but two of the Masons in the entertaining lodges, out of six in the town and neighbourhood, received Grand Lodge honours it was but fair to expect that the rule of the lodge should be strictly enforced, that only those in attendance should receive those honours. (Hear, hear.)

"The Masonic Charities" was next given, and acknowledged by Bro. Binckes. Bro. Morris Miles, P.M., as Secretary of the Southampton Masonic Benevolent Institution, also acknowledged the toast, and as Prov. G. Director of the Ceremonies for the day, and one of the Entertaining Committee, cordially thanked Bro. Nichols for the gratuitous use of the rink for that gathering. The meeting then separated.

In connection with the above, the W.M. of one of the entertaining lodges writes us as follows:—P.G. Lodges being moveable bodies, it may be of service to some brethren to give them a hint, by way of warning, based on our experience. To provide the banquet we contracted with one of the best known caterers in Hampshire to supply a cold collation at 7s. 6d. per head, "including a pint of wine." This "pint" some of us afterwards found to be the trade term for half a bottle. Content, the majority seemed to be, to accept that designation, and placing two wine tickets together, to secure a "bottle" of hock, claret, or sherry. Others, however, were somewhat more exacting, and one brother, who appeared profoundly versed in the mystery of how many ounces formed a pint, and how many a "bottle" of wine, on finding that he could not secure his "pound of flesh," roundly accused the entertaining lodges of having obtained money from him under false pretences. I leave your readers to judge alike the justice and the reasonableness of that not very Masonic accusation, by saying that the four entertaining lodges placed on the tables fifty bottles of Moët's and Perrier Jout's champagne, between exactly 120 brethren, to supplement the following bill of fare, with "a pint of wine" to each brother for 7s. 6d.:—Mayonnaise of salmon, lobster salad, dressed crabs, roast lamb, roast chicken, tongue, ham, veal and ham pies, pigeon pies, roast beef, spiced beef, galantine of veal, wine jelly, strawberry cream, French pastry, liqueur jelly, Crystal Palace puddings, fruit tarts, and dessert. The moral of this communication is that you will never satisfy some men, and that inexperienced brethren should not trust to technical trade terms in regard to a wine supply, but place beyond cavil what is the intention of their caterer, even though, as in our case, that would seem obvious enough, remembering that the ordinary hotel price of a bottle of wine is 5s., which would leave 2s. 6d. for the dinner and its provision and serving.

Bro. Thomas Brassey's able lecture on "A Colonial Naval Volunteer Force," delivered before the Royal Colonial Institute on June 7, has been republished in pamphlet form by Messrs. Longmans, Green, and Co.

A sea serpent has been captured at Penguin. It is described as fourteen feet long, and fifteen feet deep inches the widest part of the body. It has a mane twenty in long, and the skin is like "polished silver." The creature is now on view.

Mr. F. Fowler, an American, essayed to walk from Boulogne to Folkestone on Tuesday in a kind of water boots shaped like canoes, and about eleven feet in length. The experimentalist propelled himself by means of a long paddle. He accomplished about eleven miles of his task when, in consequence of the roughness of the sea, he got into the pilot boat and landed at Sandgate.

HEREFORDSHIRE MASONIC CHARITY ASSOCIATION.

Freemasons are in duty bound to do all they can, by precept and example, in order to increase the donations and subscriptions to the several Masonic Charities, and we have much pleasure, therefore, in recording that the Masons of the small province of Herefordshire have just buckled on their armour for this good work. As many provinces are still without a charity scheme for the support of the Masonic Institutions, we think an account of the preliminary proceedings of the Herefordians will be of interest—and we hope suggestive too—in lodges and provinces where hitherto but little has been done by way of obtaining personal votes for our Charities.

The first step was the proposition in the Palladian Lodge (120), Hereford, that a Masonic charity scheme should be established—the general nature and object of the association having been first explained—and the names of assenting brethren were enrolled.

The W.M. (Bro. W. Earle) afterwards called upon other Masons in the city and obtained their concurrence, and having received from the Secretaries of four lodges in the province lists of their members and of non-subscribing Masons in their locality, sent to each brother a copy of the following circular:—

THE ROYAL MASONIC CHARITIES.
Palladian Lodge, No. 120.
Hereford, August 1st, 1878.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

You are aware that the Province of Herefordshire stands far behind other provinces in those charitable exertions necessary for the maintenance of these Charities, so much so, that whenever we have attempted to secure the election of a candidate, we have been dependent mainly on the generous assistance of other provinces, which we have been unable adequately to repay.

We feel it our incumbent duty to endeavour to remedy this state of things, and to give proper expression to the principles we profess. We, therefore, the undersigned members of the Palladian Lodge, have mutually pledged ourselves to each other to become "Life Subscribers" to one or more of the Charities, on the plan set forth in the annexed rules.

This plan has been found very efficient in the adjoining Province of Gloucestershire, and in other provinces, and we believe it will commend itself to your approval, as you will observe that every subscribing member will obtain a life subscribership.

To give our brethren the opportunity of uniting with us in this good work, we have resolved on calling a meeting of the lodges, and we earnestly invite you to favour us with your presence and support at a public meeting to be held in the Palladian Lodge Room, Green Dragon Hotel, Hereford, on Friday, the 9th of August, 1878, at four p.m. precisely, when Bro. Thos. Jowitt, D.P.G.M., will take the chair.

The business before the meeting will be:—

To adopt the rules herein stated, or such other rules as may be then agreed upon.

To elect a President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Committee.

To receive subscriptions from brethren present and absent.

If you should be unable to attend, may we request the kindness of your reply, addressed to Bro. W. Earle, Castle-street, Hereford, and we hope it will contain your consent to become a member.

- | | |
|--|--------------------|
| We are, dear Sir and brother, yours truly and fraternally, | Thomas Birch, P.S. |
| W. Earle, W.M. | Jas. Beavan. |
| Thomas Smith, J.W. | Wm. Barber. |
| T. T. Smith, P.M., Chaplain. | E. J. Baker. |
| H. C. Beddoe, Treasurer. | Jno. Barnes. |
| William Davis, Secretary. | Henry Bond. |
| Elijah Shaw, S.D. | George Cole. |
| John Marchant, J.D. | Edward George. |
| O. Shellard, P.M., D.C. | G. H. Garraway. |
| A. W. Bezant, Organist. | H. S. Marchant. |
| John Davies, I.G. | Thos. Jas. More. |
| Joseph Thomas, } Stewards. | Thos. Maund. |
| William Thorne, } | H. W. Oswin. |
| Grenville Myer, I.P.M. | Jas. Pembridge. |
| Henry Gurney, P.M. | Walter Young. |
| F. R. Dillon, P.M. | |

The rules referred to in the circular are given below.

On the 9th August the meeting was accordingly held in the lodge room of the Green Dragon Hotel, Hereford, under the presidency of Bro. Thos. Jowitt, D.P.G.M. for the province, who was supported by Bros. Orlando Shellard, P.P.G.S.W.; J. E. S. Hewitt, Prov. G.J.W.; J. C. Gregg, P.M.; John Bodenham, P.M.; Henry Gurney, P.M.; W. Earle, W.M.; Grenville Myer, I.P.M.; J. Marchant, J.D.; Joseph Thomas, S., and other Masons.

The President introduced the object of the meeting, and made an urgent appeal to the brethren to support the proposed scheme, and to do all in their power to induce others to join it, and, having mentioned that letters had been received from Bros. the Rev. John Buckle, P.G.S.W.; H. C. Beddoe, Treasurer of the Palladian Lodge; Major Griffiths T. Smith, J.W.; Wm. Thorne, S.; G. St. Garraway, and others, warmly approving the proposed scheme, and regretting their inability to be present at that meeting, he called upon Bro. Wm. Earle, the W.M. of the Palladian Lodge, to propose the first resolution.

On rising to do so, Bro. Wm. Earle said that before making the proposition entrusted to him he should like, for the information of the younger brethren present, to give a short sketch as to the nature, extent, and cost of the great Masonic Charities, three of which they hoped to benefit by the proposed association; and he proceeded to say that, in addition to numerous lodge and provincial charities, the funds of which were raised and dispensed

in their several localities, there were four great Masonic charity organisations, all centred in Freemasons' Hall, London, and ably managed by separate Boards and officers. The first was the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, for the relief, by a single donation, of cases of temporary distress, and which institution extended its aid to all Freemasons, and to their widows and children. The grants so made varied in amount from £3 to £200, and were voted by the Board of the Institution after a thorough local investigation, the facts of each case having to be vouched for by the lodge which endorsed the application of the petitioner. This institution annually dispensed about £6000, and its funds were almost entirely supplied by the yearly contribution from each lodge of 2s. per member. I mention this institution, continued Bro. Earle, that my sketch may be complete, although our proposed scheme does not, and indeed cannot, in any way relate to it; but it is in aid of the three institutions I am now about to refer to that we hope to do more than the very little we have hitherto done. Of these three, the first in importance is the Institution of Aged Freemasons and the Widows of Freemasons, which has an asylum at Croydon for about 30 inmates, and at the present time grants annuities to 145 aged Freemasons, and 146 widows of Freemasons, the males receiving £40 and the females £32 a year. These annuitants are scattered over the whole of England, and in the city of Hereford we have now one recipient from each fund. Next comes the Boys' School, at Wood Green, in the North of London, where 211 sons of Masons are clothed, maintained, and educated; and, thirdly, we have the Girls' School at St. John's Hill, Battersea Rise, which provides in like manner for 200 daughters of Freemasons. To both schools orphans and also the children of distressed Masons are admitted, and the Oxford and Cambridge Local Examinations show that the education received by the pupils equals that of the best private schools, whilst the laws and reports of the establishment prove the excellence of the dietary and general arrangements. On leaving school small grants of money are made to the pupils, and situations are invariably open for them in the places of business and homes of Freemasons; the object being to place each child in as good a position in life as that which the father occupied. Annuitants are elected yearly, and children to the schools twice a year, by the subscribers' votes, the payment of £5 5s. to either institution giving to the donor two votes a year for life. The amount annually required for the support of the three institutions is £30,000, which they expend in nearly equal proportions; and for the large sum of £10,000 each institution is mainly dependent upon the annual contributions of the lodges and brethren. The published reports show that Herefordshire gives but 38 votes to both schools—not half the number it ought to supply. Bro. Earle concluded by saying that he believed the Masonic charitable institutions were good, and that their funds were justly and wisely administered, and that he had, therefore, much pleasure in proposing the following resolution:—

That an Association, to be called "The Herefordshire Masonic Charity Association," be formed, and that its object shall be the increase of the number of Life Subscriberships to the Royal Masonic Charities.

The President then read each of the suggested rules, which were separately discussed, and ultimately the following rules were adopted (we print them in extenso, because they have been settled by an able lawyer, assisted by brethren who have had much experience in the formation and management of similar associations):—

RULES.

1. The Association shall be called "The Herefordshire Masonic Charity Association," and its object shall be the increase of the number of Life Subscriberships to the Royal Masonic Charities.

2. The Association shall consist of Freemasons, subscribing not less than one guinea per annum, and lodges and chapters subscribing not less than £2 2s. per annum.

3. All moneys subscribed shall become the property of the Association.

4. The Association shall be under the management of a committee consisting of a President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, and four other members, to be elected annually, and one member of the Association to be nominated by each lodge in the province. Two Auditors shall be appointed, who shall examine the accounts previous to each general meeting.

5. Each member shall, on admission, pay 2s. 6d. towards a fund for working expenses, and if the sum so contributed in any year be insufficient, the deficiency shall be subscribed by the members for that year, and be paid at the next general meeting.

6. Lewises (being minors) and ladies shall be allowed to become subscribers, but shall not be entitled to any voice in the management.

7. The first general meeting of the members shall be held in November, 1878, at Hereford, and afterwards annually in the month of July, at such place as the committee for the time being shall appoint.

8. At each annual meeting a statement of accounts shall be submitted, and a ballot shall be taken amongst the subscribers for the priority of presentation to as many Life Subscriberships as the amount of the fund then in the hands of the Treasurer will allow, subject to the following regulations:

(a) The Charity shall be selected by the successful member, and the sum paid to it by the Treasurer, either in his name or that of his nominee.

(b) Each member subscribing shall have one chance in the ballot for every annual subscription standing to his credit in the Treasurer's book at the time of the ballot, but shall be entitled only to one nomination in respect of each subscription.

(c) Each successful member shall give a promise, in writing, to continue the payments of his subscriptions, to

the Treasurer, for the time being, until the full amount of the life subscription, together with any proportion of working expenses due from such member, is paid, and shall not be eligible for another nomination on account of such subscription.

(d) Every member whose subscription is not paid up previous to, or at the annual meeting, shall be excluded from the ballot at that meeting, and any member twelve months in arrear shall forfeit all monies paid in, and cease to be a member of the Association.

(e) The general meeting shall have power on the recommendation of the Committee to vote the right of selection to any member without ballot, and any member who has paid the amount of five annual subscriptions and the proportion of working expenses due from him, without drawing successfully, shall be entitled to a nomination in priority as Life Subscriber without ballot.

9. Any question arising upon these rules shall be referred to the Committee, whose decision on the matter submitted to them shall be final.

10. The rules shall be altered only by vote of two-thirds of the members present at a general meeting, and no proposal for alteration shall be entertained, unless twenty-eight days notice thereof be given, in writing, to the Secretary, who shall insert such proposed alteration in the circular calling the meeting.

11. The Chairman shall have a casting vote at every meeting in case there is a necessity to exercise it.

12. A special general meeting may be convened by the Secretary at any time upon a requisition signed by the President, Vice-President, or by five members, specifying the objects thereof, and the subjects to be taken into consideration—fourteen days' notice to each member must be given of such meeting.

13. The Committee shall meet in Hereford not less than fourteen days before each general meeting.

In conformity with the rules, the following Committee was then appointed:—Bros. Thomas Jowitt, President; Rev. John Buckle, Vice-President; H. C. Beddoe, Treas.; Wm. Earle, Sec.; and Orlando Shellard, J. E. S. Hewitt, J. C. Gregg, and H. Gurney, members of Committee.

The Committee will be completed by the appointment of an additional member from each of the four lodges in the province.

It was announced that 40 shares in the Association had already been taken.

A cordial vote of thanks to Bro. Jowitt for his very able presidency brought this successful meeting to a close.

Herefordshire unfortunately has but four lodges, with only 110 subscribing members, and yet with a little exertion and proper organisation an association has been formed with every prospect of contributing at least 50 guineas a year to our charity funds. Surely by the like means much may be done in other Provinces.

Lodges having something like 100 members may well have a charity scheme without the incorporation of other lodges, and in lodges of this size much may be said in favour of its own separate association.

An argument against these associations is the loss which may occur if a brother who has obtained a vote should die after paying a portion only of its cost or if from other causes his subscription should cease; but the three Institutions have suggested and are carrying out a simple plan whereby losses of this description are avoided.

ANNUAL PICNIC OF THE NEPTUNE LODGE, No. 1264.

Of all the pleasant days' runs into the country taken by the brethren of Liverpool lodges (and there is no doubt the majority of these are pleasant, being in the nature of "refreshment" after labour) there are none attended with so much delightful excitement and pleasurable experiences as those which have been annually held in connection with the Neptune Lodge, No. 1264, a lodge which deservedly holds a high and honourable position in the province of West Lancashire. The picnic of 1878, which took place on Thursday, the 15th inst., was no exception to the general rule, and as the weather was charming, and the company numerous and determinedly set on enjoyment, there was nothing to mar the full measure of the amusements.

The scene of the picnic was the Birkdale Hotel, near Southport, pleasantly situated by the sea, and all the arrangements must have thoroughly commended themselves to those who were present, the presiding genius and moving power of the whole picnic machinery being Bro. Joseph Korn, W.M., who was indefatigable in his efforts to promote the happiness of the large company assembled under the banner of the "Old Neptune."

The first section of the ladies and brethren, who numbered about 100, left Tithebarn-street Station shortly after 9 o'clock, arriving at Birkdale about twenty minutes past ten, and the amusement arrangements for the day were commenced without delay. The second contingent started between eleven and twelve o'clock, and reached the scene of festivities in due course.

The call for dinner was duly announced at 12.30, when about 120 sat down to a most sumptuous banquet, provided in a style which reflected great credit upon Mr. Pilson, the manager. The repast was presided over by Bro. Joseph Korn, W.M. (supported by the brethren and ladies), in a manner which did credit to the Neptune Lodge.

After dinner the W.M. gave "The Queen," and the National Anthem was sung by Bro. Walton.

The W.M. next proposed "The Prince and Princess of Wales," and the song "God bless the Prince of Wales" was well sung by Bro. Linaker.

Bro. Burgess, P.M. 1325, in eloquent terms gave "The Health of the W.M.," who responded in a few well-chosen remarks.

Bro. Joseph Wood, Treas. 1094 (*Freemason*), next

gave the toast of "The Ladies," and in doing so said their presence always added lustre and brilliancy to every assembly, and certainly nowhere more than at a picnic.

Bro. Hanmer, W.M., responded in a short speech, as brevity in speaking was the order of the day, all being wishful to allow the ladies to get to their amusements, which they at once proceeded to do on the lawn, when every conceivable game was brought into play both for ladies and brethren during the afternoon, the W.M. exerting himself to the utmost to make every one at home.

At six o'clock tea was laid out in a tent on the lawn. When ample justice was done to this repast the ladies and brethren adjourned to the large room in the Hotel, where the remainder of the toasts and songs was gone through.

The W.M. proposed "The Dep. G.M., the Prov. G. M. and Prov. G. Officers," which was responded to by Bro. J. Wood.

The W.M. proposed "The P.M.'s," which was responded to by Bro. Cotter, W.M.

"The Absent Seafaring Brethren" was responded to by Bro. Captain Campbell in a very humorous speech.

"The Picnic Committee" was next proposed from the chair, for the very able way it had been carried out, and responded to by Bro. Hughes.

The W.M. next proposed "The Neptune Lodge," and enlarged upon the qualities of the good ship.

As the ladies had played such a prominent part in the day's proceedings, their healths were again proposed by Bro. Burgess, W.M., in very flattering terms.

The next toast, in which all agreed cordially, was "The Health of the Management," for the very creditable way in which the day's proceedings had been carried out. Mr. Pilson, being called in, thanked the brethren for this mark of their appreciation and kindness. The day's proceedings were now drawing to the end, and the toast "To all Poor and Distressed" brought it to a close.

The whole party now made for the train, which left at 9.15, and arrived in Liverpool at 10.15, all being fully delighted with the day's outing.

AUTUMN GRIEVANCES.

Autumn is the time for the airing of grievances. People who are not holiday making, and who are, unite in finding fault with something or somebody. Editors are overwhelmed with complaints from all parts of the world. "Paterfamilias" is disgusted with the incivility of the porters on the Northern of France Railway; "Justitia" asks why people are to submit to the imposition of fachini at Naples; "Once bitten, twice afraid," solemnly warns tourists against the hotels in Rome; "Tumbler" demands why the authorities don't put railings along the cliffs from Dover to Folkestone; "Mal-de-Mer" complains of the windy weather in the Channel, and ironically asks when the Straits tunnel will be built; "A Tourist" complains of the prices of the hotel-keepers up the river, and threatens them with bankruptcy, by declaring that he shall cease to patronise them in future; and so on, ad finitum. The ladies not to be outdone in the race, lift up their silvery voices to swell the tumult, and complaints, many and grievous, are daily piled upon our table. From one fair damsel comes a piteous wail, blended with righteous indignation, anent the stupidity of the over-rated French glove-makers. Would you believe it? Her twenty-four button gloves, just sent direct from Paris, are one size from the wrist to the elbow. "Do they suppose," cries she, "that her wrist is as thick as her elbow?" She was compelled to put "gussets" in herself. Another young lady asks, "Where are the dressmakers?" in such a defiant tone that we feel quite frightened, and hasten to reply in diplomatic terms, lest we should incur a personal visitation, that we really are very sorry, we wish we could make dresses, and we would do it for nothing, except the reward of a seraphic smile. "No dressmakers to be had!" cries our correspondent (as if we could help that.) "What is the world coming to?" Another, a housewife, sternly utters a note of warning about the dearth of meat, and sends a grim list of prices, as they are, and prices as they were when she went to house-keeping, which must have been a good many years ago, judging by that list. How we bless the impersonality of the English editor, or we should no more have dared to add that observation than we should venture to tell a lady she was too old to dance, or hint that she was not a Venus de Milo in point of beauty! Then comes a petulant letter about the rude behaviour of young men in places of public resort—Westbourne Grove, and Regent Street, and Piccadilly—which complaint is rather late in the season, as such young men as there are now in these resorts are quite beneath the notice of a young lady who dates her letter from a fashionable West End Square—and how is it that she is still in town, by the way? But what does she say: "The young men walk arm-in-arm, three abreast, and stare at every one." Every lady, we presume, at least every pretty one. Well it is very ill bred to "take the stage" in this fashion; but the modern gilded youth has not the courtly manners of its ancestors; though to be sure my Lord Rochester carried off a young lady in the middle of Whitehall, and that was worse than staring. Our correspondent must console herself. We knew a lady who when people stared said, "I always flatter myself they find something worth staring at."

As to the complaints of servants, we have said nothing, because they rattle down upon us in a breathless shower, as the wooden balls showered on the head of Betsy Prig; and besides they are a constant quantity. All the year round servants are the most wicked, slatternly, unprincipled, ugly, dirty, impudent, unbearable—our pen must stop. We leave the ladies to continue, for if there is one thing of which the British lady wearies not, it is in enlarging on the enormities of Mary Jane.—*West London Express*.

LETTERS FROM OUR OWN IRREPRESSIBLE CORRESPONDENT.

No. 1.—INTRODUCTORY.

To the Editor of the "*Freemason*."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

At this season of the year, when you require (as I know well, for I have been behind the scenes) a considerable amount of "padding," even for the usually well-filled columns of the *Freemason*, I think it not amiss to occupy your space with some of my lucubrations. Large gooseberries and tripartite births will not interest your readers, and, therefore, it has forcibly struck me that I might well seek, with your kind permission, as they used to say of old "liberare animam meam," or as our Scottish friends would put it, to "make a deliverance" on sundry topics of Masonic interest which have for some time served to stir my bile, or rouse my susceptibilities. And accordingly I come forward as a Masonic reformer in "petto," to hold forth "de omnibus rebus et quibusdam aliis," in the cheery pages of the *Freemason*, and if, like all reformers, from Masaniello down to the Iconoclast, mine probably, and properly will be only "monkey's allowance," that is to say, "more kicks than halfpence," be it so. I shall only shrug my shoulders with philosophic indifference. Imitating Martius Curtius, I am quite prepared to engulf myself in so good a cause, and no better arena can I find for my "happy dispatch" than the now popular columns of the *Freemason*.

I propose, then, in subsequent communications, to point out some prevalent weaknesses and shortcomings affecting our English Masonic lodges, and that profession of English Masonry in which we all take such a patriotic and fraternal pride.

If in the remarks I am privileged to make I shall seem to deal too harshly with amiable frailties, and if I appear to others too cynical or too ecstatic, if my pen be held to be dipped in gall rather than honey, let them call to mind that "Diogenes" has his privileges on the "press" now, as in his "tub" of old, and that his "occupation" would indeed be "gone," if he would only say "smooth things," if he only allowed himself to dilate with "bated breath" or "simpering smiles" on "evils many and corruptions great."

But a truce to heroics and "high falutin." I trust that when your readers peruse these letters of mine, in all the irrepressible distinctness of the *Freemason's* type, they will not have much cause of complaint "anent" them. Mine is a fraternal, and I think a well-meant attempt to point out, (I feel sure in no ungentle spirit), some little inconsistencies and anomalies which injure our Masonic profession and practice, which weaken our legitimate influence as a most useful and beneficent Order, and are "spots" in our "fasts of charity."

Such as they are, whether approved of or not, I shall, dear Sir and Brother, seek to elaborate them under your auspices, hoping, nay feeling assured that you will discover in them, one and all, little to criticise and nothing to repudiate.

Believe me, dear Sir and Brother, yours very fraternally,
YOUR OWN IRREPRESSIBLE CORRESPONDENT.

THE PARIS EXHIBITION.

Among the most instructive developments of modern civilisation are the international exhibitions which, commencing in London in 1851, under the inspiration and auspices of the late sagacious and public spirited Prince Albert, have been succeeded by more extended and comprehensive ones, closing with our own glorious Centennial.

The French Exposition of 1878 embraces in its scope the productions and results of every industry, art, and science, as well as their processes and modes of operation. This is done not merely for the purposes of competition and in the distribution of prizes, but also and more especially with the object of passing in review, under the scrutiny of the most accomplished experts and men of science, all of the fruits of the skill, industry, and exact condition and the comparative merits or defects of the industrial development of each nation and of each description of article or process could be set forth. The progress which such examination indicates of the exhibits, and to describe the highest standards of excellence, is my aim while in Paris.

From the commencement of the industrial epoch which dates from the London Exhibition of 1851, the profound significance and value of such exhibitions as this have been realised by the people and governments of civilised nations. Their beneficent influences are many and widespread; they advance human knowledge in all directions. Through the universal language of the products of labour the artisans of all countries hold communication; ancient prejudices are broken down; are fraternised; generous rivalries in the peaceful fields of industry are excited; the tendencies to war are lessened; and a better understanding between labour and capital is fostered. It is gratifying to note that these great exhibitions are planned and executed in the interests of the mass of the people. In the present instant those industries, products, and organisations designed to promote the material and moral well-being of the people are made prominent, and the underlying animating spirit and impulse of the whole plan are for the advancement, prosperity, and happiness of the people of all nations. One of the most salutary results is the promotion of an appreciation of the true dignity of labour, and its paramount claims to consideration as the basis of national wealth and power.

Such exhibitions have become national necessities and duties, and as such it may be expected that they will be repeated again and again hereafter.—*New York Corner Stone*.

Multum in Parvo; or Masonic Notes and Queries.

OLD LONDON LODGES.—No. III.

In 1736 No. 61 was King's Arms, Cateaton-street; No. 62, a lodge at Northampton; No. 63, Bear and Clarion, Butcher Row; No. 64, Ross, without Temple Bar; 65, St. John's Hill, Chichester, (said to be constituted in the reign of Julius Caesar); 66, Red Lion, Canterbury; 67, Castle, St. Giles's; 68, Vine, Long Acre; 69, Boy and Grapes, Bloomsbury Market; 70, a lodge at Lyce Regis; 71, Rose, in Cheapside; 72, a lodge in Bengal; 73, another at Lincoln; 74, University Lodge, Bear and Arrow, Butcher Row; 75, Rainbow Coffee House, York Buildings; 76, Queen's Head, Old Bailey; 77, Black Lion, Jockey Fields, 78, a lodge at Bury St. Edmund's; 79, vacant; 80, a lodge at Macclesfield 81, another at Bury St. Edmund's; 82, Three Tuns, in Newgate-street; 83, Three Tuns, in Smithfield; 84, Freeman's Coffee House, Cheapside; 85, King's Arms, Russell-street, Covent-garden; 86, King's Arms, Southwark; 87, a lodge at Leigh; 88, another at Wolverhampton; 89, Rummer and Horse Shoe, Drury-lane; 90, Au Tours d'Argent, Paris; 91, the Sun, Fleet-street; 92, Antwerp City, Threadneedle-street; 93, Goose and Gridiron, St. Paul's Churchyard; 94, Oxford Arms, Ludgate-street; 95, Horn and Feathers, Wood-street; 96, White Horse, Ipswich; 97, a lodge at Exeter; 98, Duke of Lorraine, Suffolk-street; 99, Leg, Fleet-street; 100, George, in Butcher-row; 101, Crown, in Upper Moorfields; 102, Royal Vineyard, St. James's Park; 103, Ship, without Temple Bar; 104, a lodge at Derby; 105, a lodge at Bolton-le-Moors.

In 1738 the following is the list of the London Lodges: 41, Fountain Tavern, Snow-hill; 42, Bacchus, in Greville-street; 43, Vine Tavern, Long Acre; 44, Bacchus, Bloomsbury Market; 45, Globe Tavern, Old Jewry; 46, Panchoon Coffee House, York-buildings; 47, Queen's Head, Old Bailey; 48, Black Lion, in Jockey Fields; 49, Two Angels and Crown, in Little St. Martin's Lane; 50, Three Tuns, Newgate-street; 51, Three Tuns, in Smithfield; 52, Old Antwerp Tavern, Threadneedle-street; 53, Fountain Tavern, Southwark; 54, King's Arms, Southwark; 55, Horse Shoe and Rummer, Drury-lane; 56, Sun Tavern, Fleet-street; 57, King's Head, Tower-street; 58, King and Queen, in Rosemary-lane; 59, Oxford Arms, Ludgate-street; 60, King's Arms (Tavern, Dorset-street; 61, King's Arms Tavern, Piccadilly; 62, Hoop and Griffin, Leadenhall-street; 63, Crown, Upper Moorfields; 64, Royal Vineyard, St. James's Park; 65, Royal Standard, in Leicester-square.

Thus it will be noted that No. 61 in 1736 has become 42 in 1738, and 63 in 1736 has been changed into 41, though I do not profess to explain the metamorphosis.

No. 64 in 1736 seems to have disappeared in 1738, while 67 in 1736 has become 44 in 1738, and 68 in 1736 43 in 1738. No. 71 in 1736, and 74 in 1736, seem to be "Non Sunt" in 1738—a curious evidence of the shortness of lodge life in those days; 75 and 76 in 1738 are respectively 46 and 47 in 1738. It may be that 45 in 1738, Globe Tavern, is identical with the 71 of 1736, and that there is a mistake in the alleged date of consecration, and I think it is very likely to be the case. No. 77 in 1736 is 48 in 1738, while 49 in 1738 cannot be traced, curiously enough, in 1736. No. 82 in 1736 is the same as 50 in 1738, and 83 in 1736 answers to 51 in 1738. No. 84 in 1736 seems to have been changed into 52 in 1738, and 85 in 1736 to 53 in 1738. No. 86 in 1736 is the same as 54 in 1738, just as 89 in 1736 is identical with 55 in 1738. No. 91 in 1736 is the same as 56 in 1738, while 92 in 1736 is the same as 56 in 1738, and 93 in 1736 is the same as 58 in 1738. No. 94 in 1736 is the 59 in 1738 and the 95 of 1736 has become the 60 of 1738. The 98 of 1736 has become the 61 of 1738. The 99 of 1736 is apparently the 62 of 1738, while 100 to 1736 seems to be wanting in 1738. The 101 of 1736 is the 63 of 1738, and the 102 of 1736 is the 64 of 1738. The 103 of 1736 has become 65 in 1738.

MASONIC STUDENT.

OLD LONDON LODGES

Like the "Masonic Student," I have been a diligent investigator of old Masonic Lodges for many years, and have accumulated a large number of notes, which time alone will enable me to utilize and arrange in order.

The early lists are very confusing indeed, for evidently much latitude was permitted to the engravers from 1723, and it is not until 1770 that order reigns supreme, though even from that period, perfection was but slowly attained.

The changes in the numeration was the chief cause of the confusion as the relative positions of the lodges were frequently considerably altered, and quite a fanciful series of arrangements prevailed from time to time. The periods of change were 1740, 1756, 1770, 1781, and 1792, during the last century under the "Moderns"; those for the "Ancients" being at all times and seasons.

In the list of Cole's of 1763 (Masonic Magazine) No. 239 was held at Exeter, in that of 1774 it is numbered 48; 247, South Carolina, became 101; while 246, London, became 200, and with several other lodges we find the numbers radically altered. There were sometimes reasons for this doubtless, but the difficulties attending the study are none the less real. In the older lodges the differences are occasionally still more strange, and it is only by the discovery of a few of the missing lists that of late years some have been adjusted.

"Masonic Student" alludes to several of the numerical alterations in the first twenty lodges of A.D. 1736 register. With all our care we were once caught "napping" by Bro. R. F. Gould, P.M. 92, as we had failed to notice the fact that the relative numerical positions of 8, 9, and 10 of Constitutions 1738 were reversed a few years later, 8 re-

maining at 8, 9 becoming 7 and 10, being altered to 6. These were respectively the 9, 10 and 11 of the lists of 1730—4 of Pine.

The original number one and number four having remained in 1738, and became in fact one and two. Original number two was the first to succumb, and number three did not wait long in following such a poor example.

Original No. 4 was once struck off, but out of compliment to Bro. Payne, P.G.M. was reinstated, and strange to say, though from 1738 Constitutions it was ranked as second until the "Union of 1813" it afterwards had to assume its original number of four, at which it still remains; No. 1 having to take rank as number two, the present numbers one and three having their position from 1813 because of belonging to the "Athol" Constitution—

I give a few of the changes of the first twenty lodges from an early date, as a matter for curious study.

Table with columns: Pine, Cons., Cole, Cole, Calendars, Cal., Cals. and rows of numbers from 1 to 20.

WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN.

THE CONSTITUTIONS OF 1746.

I am anxious to know if any brother has a copy of this issue, which was printed and sold by J. Robinson, at the Golden Lion, in Ludgate-street, in the vulgar year of Masonry 1746.

It is in fact, as Bro. Hughan has pointed out, a "replica" of the edition of 1738, in another size, being on large paper, with the reproduction of the frontispiece of 1723.

MASONIC STUDENT.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS For the Week ending Friday, August 30, 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, AUGUST 24.

Lodge 1541, Alexandra Palace, A.P., Muswell Hill.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond. Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-sq. Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-rd. Eccleston, St. George's Club, Victoria Station. Percy, 113, Southgate-road, N.

MONDAY, AUGUST 26.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Wellington, White Swan Hot., High-st., Deptford. Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland. Strong Man, Old Rodney's Head, Old-st., E. Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station. Camden, 174, High-st., Camden Town, at 8. 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.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 27.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd. Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney. Domatic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road. Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st. Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood. Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney. Prosperity, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st. Florence Nightingale, F.M.H., William-st., Woolwich. Constitutional, Bedford Hot., Southampton Bds., at 7. Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road. Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea. Beaconree, 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 Edgumbe, 19, Jermyn-st., St. James's. Sir Hugh Myddelton, 162, St. John's-st.-rd.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28.

Lodge 754, High Cross, Seven Sisters' Tav., Tottenham. " 778, Bard of Avon, Greyhound H., Hampton Ct. " 898, Temperance-in-the-East, 6, Newby-pl., Poplar. " 1540, Chaucer, Bridge House Hot., London Bridge

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Mt. Lebanon, Horse Shoe Tav., Stones-End, E. Pythagorean, Portland Hot., London-st., 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, Hope and Anchor, Crowndale-rd, N.W. 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. Temperance in the East, George the 4th, Ida-st., Poplar, 7.30. THURSDAY, AUGUST 29.

Gen. Com. Girls' School, at 4.

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. 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, AUGUST 30.

Chap. 134, Caledonian, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.

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, Gregorian Arms, Jamaica-road, S.E. Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar. Doric, 79, Whitechapel-road, at 8. Burgoyne, The Red Cap, Camden Town, 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., Goulborne-rd., Notting-hill. Pythagorean Chapter, Portland Hot. London-st., Greenwich.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, August 31, 1878.

MONDAY, AUGUST 26.

Lodge 148, Lights, M.R., Warrington. Derby L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 27.

Lodge 1609, Dramatic, M.H., Liverpool. " 1675, Antient Briton, M.H., Liverpool. " 721, Grosvenor, M.R., Chester. Chap. 823, Everton, M.H., Liverpool. Merchants L. of I., M.H. Liverpool. Prince Arthur L. of I., 80, N. Hill-st., Liverpool. WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28.

Lodge 220, Harmony, Wellington Hot., Garston. " 724, Derby, M.H., Liverpool. " 730, Ellesmere, Royal Oak, Chorley.

Chap. 1052, Callender, Public H., Rusholme. Neptune L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 31.

Lodge 1313, Fermor, M.H., Southport. Mariners L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30.

Chap. 178, Harmony, Royal Hot., Wigan.

For Masonic Meetings throughout Scotland see Scott's Freemason, which can be obtained at the Office of paper, 108, Fleet-street, London.

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The Votes of the Governors and Subscribers are earnestly solicited on behalf of
META BELL BRASIER.

The following letter, which appeared in the *Freemason* of the 20th July, will fully explain the merits of the case.

To the Editor of the "*Freemason*."
Dear Sir and Brother,—

I trust that you will give space for the following letter, in aid of a girl named "Meta Bell Brasier," whose case is so unique and exceptional that no words from me would be needed to draw attention to it, as any body thoroughly reading the details cannot fail to understand and appreciate; but as a rule, the circulars are only carelessly glanced at and then thrown into the fire or waste paper basket; I wish to attract the notice of your readers to a case whose claims only require to be known to receive the support of those whose votes are disengaged. Indeed, so great is the claim, that in my opinion, other claims which have one or more chances, might fairly lay in abeyance to secure her election. I know, or rather feel, that as a rule, you might reasonably decline a letter for any particular case, but I do believe that you could afford to insert this on behalf of a candidate whose position stands almost if not quite alone. I beg to state that I was, and am, unacquainted with any of the family, but when the case was pointed out to me by one who had known the father and family well and for many years, I at once saw the great need of every exertion, as there are only three vacancies at the ensuing election, so I temporarily gave up a case which could better afford to wait.

The case is as follows: The girl's father was initiated into Freemasonry in 1853, died in May, 1878, leaving six daughters unprovided for, the youngest of whom is the subject of my letter, and should she not succeed in the ensuing election, her age will preclude her from another attempt; now, the great claim consists in these facts, that our brother was a subscribing member for over twenty-five years, that he was a constant subscriber to, and took an active interest in all the Institutions, and, brethren, this is the only chance we have of showing in a small way our appreciation of one who so ably performed his work and assisted the Craft during his life, let it not be said that the Craft generally failed to render so small a tribute to one so worthy of our remembrance.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,
CHARLES JOHN PERCEVAL,
V.P. of all the Institutions.

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April 18th, 1878. **W. H. BASDEN, Secretary.**

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New Annual Premium Income of..... 13,629
23,448 Policies in force for..... 4,227,997
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