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UNITED GRAND LODGE.

The quarterly communication of the Grand Lodge of English Freemasons was held on Wednesday evening, at Freemasons' Hall. General Brownrigg C.B., Provincial Grand Master for Surrey, presided as Grand Master, and was supported by Bro. Richard Giddy, district G.M. for Griqualand, as Dep. G.M.; Capt. Platt, P.G.J.W., as G.S.W.; and Sir Harcourt Johnstone, M.P., G.J.W.; The other Grand and Past Grand officers present were Bro. Col. Shadwell Clerke, S.G.D.; Raphael Costa, J.G.D.; John Havers, P.G.W.; Edward S. Snell P.G.D.; Aeneas J. McIntyre, G.C., G.R.; Thomas Fenn, P.G.D.; Sir Albert Woods (Garter), G.D.C.; James Lewis Thomas, Assist. G.D.C.; John Hervey, G.S.; Henry Browne, P.G.D.; Dr. Jabez Hogg, P.G.D.; Captain N.G. Philips, P.G.D.; Peter de L. Long, P.G.D.; John M. Case, P.G.D.; Joseph C. Parkinson, P.G.D.; John A. Rucker; Raynham W. Stewart, P.G.D.; J. E. Saunders, P.G.D.; Alex. J. D. Piler, P.G.S.B.; W. F. Nettleship, P.G.S.B.; J. Wright, P.G.P.; Brackstone Baker, P.G.D.; Robert Grey, P.G.D.; James Mason, P.G.S.B.; W. Hickman, P.A.G.D.C. Francis Robinson, P.G.A.D.C.; Rev. J. S. Browning, P.G.C.; C. C. Dumas, P.G.A.D.C.; H. G. Buss, Asst. G.S.; S. Rawson P.D.G.M., China; Robert Morris, L.L.D., P.G.M., Kentucky; H. D. Sandeman, P.D.G.M., Bengal; W. H. Lucia, G.S.B.; Rev. H. A. Pickard, G.C.; Rev. W. A. Hill, A.G.C.; Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G.C. Dep. G.M. of Suffolk; Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C.; John Couits, P.G.P.; C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P.; James Brett, P.G.P.; Hyde Pullen, P.G.S.B.; Rev. C. W. Arnold P.G.C.; Joshua Nunn, P.G.S.B.; J. M. Clabon, P.G.D.; W. T. Howe, P.G.P.; J. Boyd, P.G.P.; Col. A. L. Cole, P.G.W.; W. Ough, P.G.P.; Thomas Cubitt, P.G.P.; E. P. Albert, P.G.P.; W. Wilson, A.G.P.; and C. B. Payne, G.T.

Grand Secretary having read minutes of last communication, they were passed and confirmed.

General Brownrigg: Brethren, the first thing we have on our minutes is:—

"The M.W. Grand Master will therefore move—  
 "1st. to repeal Articles 2 and 3, page 35, of the Book of Constitutions.

"2nd. To substitute for them the following, viz.:—  
 "All monies belonging to the Grand Lodge shall be deposited in the Bank of England in the names of the Grand or Pro Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and the Grand Treasurer. The duties of the Grand Treasurer shall be to keep a general supervision of the accounts, to sign cheques, which must be countersigned by the Grand Secretary for all monies duly voted by the Grand Lodge, and generally to assist and advise the Trustees and Executive Officers in the due and faithful administration of the funds of the Fraternity. The accounts shall be annually audited by the professional auditor, to be appointed by the Grand Master pursuant to a resolution passed in Grand Lodge on the 23rd of June, 1859."

I think, brethren, that resolution speaks for itself, and it is therefore unnecessary that we should say anything on it. I therefore move it.

Bro. Richard Giddy. I beg to second the motion.  
 The motion was then formally put and duly carried.  
 General Brownrigg. Brethren, the next matter on the agenda is.

"The M.W. Pro Grand Master will make a communication to Grand Lodge with regard to the scrutiny for the election of members of the Board of General Purposes at the Quarterly Communication on the 5th of June last; and a resolution will be proposed approving the action of the Pro Grand Master in the matter."

I believe our Bro. Grand Secretary will read the report of the Pro Grand Master.

Grand Secretary then read the letter of the Earl of Carnarvon, in which he explained the action he had taken in the matter, and the necessity there was for immediate steps. There was no provision in the Book of Constitutions to meet such a case as had occurred, and, therefore,

he asked for the confirmation by Grand Lodge of what he had done. [The result of this is given in the speech of Bro. Havers below, and the vote read by Grand Secretary in accordance with the wish of Bro. Brackstone Baker.]

Bro. Havers: M.W.G.M., I have been asked to move a resolution arising out of that report, and that resolution, with your permission, I will now read to you.—

"That this Grand Lodge approves of and confirms the proceedings of the Grand Master in ordering a revision of the returns made by the Scrutineers of members returned as elected to serve on the Board of General Purposes in June last, and in acting on such amended returns, thus unseating three brethren who had been declared to have been duly elected and who were not so elected, and restoring to their rightful seats three brethren who had been duly elected and were deprived of their seats by the falsification of returns."

That, M.W.G.M., I have been asked to move. You will permit me for one moment to take a brief retrospect of this very unheard of proceeding. Not within the memory of the oldest man within these walls has any scandal so grave, so outrageous been known of. One would hardly have imagined that that man, held in good repute up to that time, should, after taking a solemn obligation before the Grand Master, and in presence of the assembled brethren, that he would make an honest, true and faithful return, for the purpose, perhaps, of serving a friend, so have falsified the return as to oust three most respectable members of Grand Lodge from their seats, and return others, and so to return them that one who held the lowest number of votes was represented to have the highest. The Grand Master has given us his sentiments on the subject, and I am quite sure that this Grand Lodge will agree that it was the duty of the Grand Master to act for his Grand Lodge in such an emergency, and to save us from the consequences of so grave an error. I may say that I think we might quite reasonably go a step further. The Grand Master heard of this only on the Thursday. The Board of General Purposes met on the following Tuesday. He had that Committee summoned, and it met on Thursday. It went to work at once and made its return without leaving the hall, after determining what the true history of the matter was, so that no delay occurred, and the report was made to the Grand Master by that very post. A reply came making the fresh arrangement, and the regularly elected brethren were properly summoned to meet at the next board. This being so, I think, with your permission, we might even go a step further in this proposed motion, and I would venture, but entirely subject to your approval, to add to the resolution the following words, "That this Grand Lodge expresses its thanks to the Grand Master for his prompt and energetic action, by which speedy justice has been done and a grave scandal corrected." I have taken advantage of my position as an old Grand Officer, having that right to express my opinion, though, perhaps, this is hardly the occasion for me to do so; and I cannot help condoling with Grand Lodge on the very great scandal. I take it to be a public calamity. I regret exceedingly the severe punishment that has fallen upon the man, (no, no), a man who has been held in considerable repute among us for many years, who is an old Grand Officer, and who has been a member of the Board of General Purposes for twenty years. I must tell you that even in a matter like this I think his punishment most severe. (Loud cries of no, no.) But, brethren, still I feel bound to say that I think it most just. (Loud cries of hear, hear.) I am not sure whether any man that could be guilty of such conduct ought to be tolerated longer among us. (Renewed cries of hear, hear.) But I think it well to temper justice with mercy. I pity him; but I am glad of the example that has been made. I must say further, if you will kindly indulge me another moment, that I think the Board of General Purposes deserves credit for the manly and upright manner in which they have performed that which must have been a most painful duty. I am sorry to say that there is reason to fear that this is not the first time the occurrence for which punishment has been awarded has happened. I trust, at any rate, that it is the last time. I trust that such steps will be taken in the future as will not only almost, but certainly guarantee, the truthfulness of the returns, and if a man does as this man has done, he will be at once fixed as the individual who has changed the numbers. With these few words, M.W.G.M., and thanking you, brethren, for the attention you have paid to me, I now beg to move the resolution which I have formally read. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. McIntyre, G.R.—Most Worshipful Grand Master, I rise for the purpose of seconding the resolution which has been placed before you in such clear language by Bro. Havers, and I feel that anything that I could say would not add to the force of the arguments he has put before you, but might, to some extent, detract from the cogency of the reasoning. I most heartily concur myself in the reasoning, and in everything that Bro. Havers has laid before you, and I feel confident that all of you (for all of you know the brother), while you will be extremely sorry that such punishment has fallen upon him, will still feel more sorry that such punishment should have been deserved. (Hear, hear.) I beg to second Bro. Havers' motion.

Bro. Brackstone Baker having asked that the names of the brethren substituted for those who had been wrongly returned might be read,

Grand Secretary read the following:—

NOTE.—Some doubts having arisen, subsequently to the meeting of the Grand Lodge on the 5th of June, respecting the correctness of the report of the Scrutineers, so far as related to the election of the Members of the Board of General Purposes, the M.W. Pro Grand Master appointed a Special Committee to examine the balloting papers and report to his Lordship thereon. The investigation and report of such Special Committee resulted in the displacement of

Bro. Chas. F. Hogard, P.M. 205.  
 „ John G. Stevens, P.M. No. 554.  
 „ Daniel Betts, P.M. 1351.  
 and the substitution of

Bro. Alfred Meadows, M.D., P.M. No. 4.  
 „ Frank Richardson, P.M. 14.  
 „ Robert F. Gould, P.M. 92.

as duly elected Members of the Board.

The following report of the Lodge of Benevolence for the last quarter was read, in which are recommendations for the following grants, viz.:

A brother of the Lodge of Sympathy, 483,	£	s.	d.
Gravesend .....	50	0	0
The widow of a brother of the Hartington Lodge, 1021, Barrow-in-Furness .....	50	0	0
A brother of the Lion Lodge, 312, Whitby .....	50	0	0

The grants were confirmed.  
 The report of the Board of General Purposes, as given in the *Freemason* last week, was adopted, and the motion for altering the subscriptions to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution from guineas to pounds was carried.  
 Grand Lodge was then formally closed.

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

WARRINGTON.—Lodge of Lights, (No. 148).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, Aug. 26th, at the Masonic Rooms, Sankey-street. The W.M. Bro. Pickthall presided, and was assisted by his Wardens and a goodly number of brethren. The lodge having been opened in ancient form the minutes were read. The lodge was raised one degree, when Bro. Dr. A. Mackie and G. F. Curzon claimed preferment, and having proved their claim, were entrusted and retired. The lodge having been opened in the 3rd degree, the W.M. vacated the chair in favour of Bro. John Bowes, P.M., P.P.G.J.W., Cumberland and Westmorland, who separately raised the two brethren before named in ample form. After labour the brethren were invited by the W.M. to supper, and a very enjoyable evening was spent. The usual toasts were duly honoured. The W.M.'s health was drunk with much heartiness, as also was that of the junior members. "The Visitors" one and all complimented Past Master Bowes on the manner in which he had rendered the ceremony of raising. Some excellent songs were sung during the evening, and "The Tyler's Toast" was proposed at half-past ten.

BRIGHTON.—York Lodge, (No. 315).—On Tuesday the meeting of this lodge at the Brighton Pavilion was a special occasion consequent on the official visit of the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master of Sussex (Sir Walter Wyndham Burrell, Bart., M.P.) He was attended by the following officers of Provincial Grand Lodge:—Bro. J. Dixon, Prov. G.S.W.; Bro. C. P. Henty, Prov. G.J.W.; Bro. H. M. Davey, Prov. G. Chaplain; Bro. V. P. Freeman, Prov. G. Secretary; Bro. T. S. Byass, Prov. S.D.; Bro. T. H. Crouch, Prov. G.J.D.; Bro. J.M. Kidd, Prov. G.D.C.; Bro. C. Sandeman, Prov. G.A.D.C.; Bro. A. King, Prov. G. Organist; Bro. W. Read, Prov. G. Pursvt.; Bro. M. G. Sharp, Prov. G.S.; Bro. Jos. Farncombe, Prov. G.S.; and Bro. T. Hughes, Tyler. The past and present officers of the York Lodge present were—Bro. A. J. Hawkes, W.M.; Bro. C. W. Hudson, S.W.; Bro. T. Packham, J.W.; Bro. W. H. Gibson, J.D.; Bro. H. Payne, Steward; Bro. W. J. Smith, I.G.; Bro. J. Stride, P.M.; Bro. J. Eberall, P.M.; Bro. S. T. Foat, P.M.; Bro. W. R. Wood, P.M.; Bro. W. Devlin, P.P.G. Organist; Bro. T. Sinnock, Bro. G. R. Godfree, Bro. E. Hall, Bro. J. Bradford, Bro. C. J. Carter, Bro. R. T. Nye, Bro. G. R. Lockyer, Bro. C. A. McKellow and Bro. S. Ridge. The visiting brethren included the following:—The Mayor of Brighton (Bro. J. J. E. Mayall), Yarborough, 811; Bro. Hallett (P. Prov. G.S.W., Sussex); Bro. T. J. Sabine, P.M. Chaucer, 1540 (P. Prov. G.S.B., Middlesex); H. Davey (W.M. Royal Brunswick, 732); H. S. Gates (St. Cecilia, 1636); G. Cole (Organist St. Cecilia, 1636); D. Legge (Royal Jubilee, 72); G. Reeves Smith (Old Globe, 200). The business of the lodge, which included the ceremony of initiation, being concluded, the brethren adjourned to the Banqueting-room, where an elegant banquet was served by Bros. Sayers and Marks, of the Western-road. The loyal and craft toasts were enthusiastically received. The W.M. in proposing "The Health of the Provincial Grand Master," referred to the honour which had been conferred on him, as no such official visit had been paid to the York Lodge for a period of 25 years. He also spoke of the popularity of Sir Walter as the head of Freemasonry in Sussex, and the rapid strides which it was making in the province.—In responding, the R.W. Prov. Grand Master expressed regret that illness prevented his attendance on the occasion arranged for his visit in March last, and thanked the W.M. and officers of the York Lodge for the special invite which had enabled him to carry out his original intentions. He urged on the brethren the necessity for united action in support of the great Masonic Charities, which were a standing proof that Freemasonry really was what it professed to be. The Mayor of Brighton responded to the toast of "The Visitors," and Bro. Dixon, P.G.S.W., for "The Officers of Prov. Grand Lodge."—Bros. S. T. Foat, W. R. Wood and J. Stride responded for "The Past Masters of the York Lodge." Bros. C. W. Hudson, T. Packham, and W. H. Gibson responded for "The Officers."—The remaining toasts included "The Initiate" (to which Bro. John Saxby responded). The musical arrangements were in the hands of Bro. W. Devlin, and some excellent songs and instrumental elections were given.

**HALLIFORD.**—Acacia Lodge (No. 1309).—The installation meeting of this well established lodge was held at the Ship Hotel, on Tuesday, August 27th. Bro. J. George, W.M., raised Bros. J. Proffitt and F. G. Luke. Bro. C. G. Rushworth, P.G.P. Middlx., P.M., Sec., initiated Mr. J. E. Faith. Bro. F. Walters, P.P.G.D. Middlx., P.M., installed Bro. C. G. Starr, P.M. 871, as W.M. The officers are Bros. R. P. Tebb, S.W.; J. Scott, J.W.; F. Walters, P.P.G.D. Middlx., P.M., Treas., (the father of the lodge and first W.M.); C. G. Rushworth, P.G.R. Middlx., P.M. and Honorary Secretary, he paying up in full all his subscriptions; J. Davis, S.D.; C. C. Smiles, J.D.; J. Sutcliffe, I.G.; W. Y. Leaving, P.M., Tyler. All the ceremonies were admirably rendered. The I.P.M., Bro. J. George, having declined to accept a Past Masters' jewel, the amount voted was spent by him in purchasing a Life Governorship of the Male Annuity Fund, in the name of the Secretary of the lodge for the time being. The Stewards representing this lodge at the forthcoming charity festivals are Bro. Charles Horsley, P.P.G.R. Middlx., P.M., &c., Benevolent; J. Sutcliffe, Girls; and J. Proffitt, Boys. Notice of motion was given by the Treasurer, Bro. F. Walters, P.P.G.D. Middlesex, to vote some surplus funds into the Masonic Charities. He also exerted himself to get the several Stewards for the charities, being well seconded by the estimable Secretary, Bro. C. G. Rushworth, P.G.R. Middlesex. Banquet followed. The visitors were Bros. E. C. Taylor, P.M. 11; R. Jennings, J.W. 907; G. Musgrave, 1507, and others.

**NORTH WOOLWICH.**—Henley Lodge (No. 1472).—The first meeting of the above lodge, after the summer recess, took place on Tuesday, the 3rd inst., at Bro. West's House, the Three Crowns, and although there were not many assembled, yet the event will long be remembered as one of the most solemn and awe inspiring that could possibly occur in the lifetime of any one present, for in the midst of that "refreshment that comes after labour," news was brought of the terrible accident on the river, almost as it were within hearing, and that, at that very moment, some five or six hundred fellow creatures, men, women, and children, were lying in their cold and silent river graves. The lodge was opened by Bro. West, P.M., in the unavoidable absence of Bro. Manning, the W.M., who had received a severe injury while travelling on a railroad in France, and Bros. Dudley, Gowers, and Rudd were, with due formalities, raised to the Sublime Degree. There being no further work, the lodge was closed with solemn prayer, and the brethren sat down to one of Bro. West's elegant little dinners, and "all went merry as a marriage bell." The adjournment was hardly made to the social board, before the news was brought of the terrible catastrophe above mentioned, and Bro. Past Master Ives, who filled the chair, supported by Bros. Past Masters W. Graham and West, gave the first few toasts, which were drunk in solemn silence, and in putting them our worthy brother spoke of the desolation that even now, and would, e'er to-morrow's morn, reign over many a household, and as it was impossible under the circumstances to pass a few social hours in harmony, he asked them to separate and close the proceedings at once. To this the whole of the brethren immediately acquiesced, and departed sad and sorrowful from the lodge. Among the officers and visitors present were Bros. J. Plume, J.W.; D. W. Vance, S.D.; E. J. Lloyd, J.D.; F. Elder, I.G.; P.M., Page, Tyler; W. Brown, 1076; W. E. Hassell, 13; and C. Jolly, 913 (*Freemason*.)

**LIVERPOOL.**—Dramatic Lodge (No. 1609).—The ordinary meeting of the members attached to this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, on the afternoon of Tuesday, the 27th ult. Bro. Walter J. Chapman, W.M., opened the lodge, the other brethren present including Bros. Joseph Bell, I.P.M.; B. B. Marson, P.G.S.B., P.M., D.C.; L. Courtenay, S.W.; J. McKenzie, J.W.; A. Woolrech, Treasurer; John Atkinson, Secretary; F. Wilkinson, J.D.; F. Emery, I.G.; J. Skeaf, P.G.O., and R. Burgess, Organists; J. Pyer, S.S.; W. Savage, jun. J.S.; W. Lowndes; R. Brough; H. Leslie; Avann; Reay; W. Williams, Gough, Duncanson, Penny, Mattison, Ballard, Brown, G. W. Anson, Weston, J. Hill, W. Hildyard, Squire, Cooke, &c. After Bros. W. Cleams and Gough had been passed to the degree of F.C., the brethren proceeded to the election of W.M. for the ensuing year, and Bro. Lindo Courtenay was unanimously chosen to fill that position. Bro. Courtenay acknowledged the honour which had thus been conferred upon him, and assured the brethren that he would spare no efforts to secure the continued prosperity of the Dramatic Lodge. Bro. A. Woolrich was unanimously re-elected Treasurer for the third time, and Bros. J. Ball, Lowndes, Chapman, Reay, Dr. Pitts, and F. Wilkinson, senr., were elected members of the committee of the Fund of Benevolence, which has enjoyed much prosperity since its formation. The sum of three guineas was voted in charity, and twelve guineas for the purchase of a P.M.'s jewel, for the retiring W.M. The brethren afterwards adjourned from labour to refreshment, after which the customary loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and a pleasant evening was greatly enhanced by the vocal efforts of Bros. Hill, Williams, Anson, Brough, Cooke, Weston, Gilfillan, and others.

**RHYL.**—Caradoc Lodge (No. 1674).—On Monday, the 2nd inst., the first installation meeting of this lodge took place in the Town Hall, at 4 p.m., when there were a large number of visitors and brethren present. The ordinary business of the lodge being finished, Bro. J. Salmon, W.M., was, (a second time), duly installed by Bro. W. H. Spaul, P.G. Sec., N. Wales and Shropshire, assisted by Bro. J. P. Platt, P.P.G.W. Cheshire. Afterwards the following officers were invested for the ensuing year: Bros. W. H. Foulkes, S.W.; J. Rhydwyn Jones, J.W.;

Rev. W. Ll. Nicholas, Chaplain; W. T. Girdlestone, Treas.; W. Hackforth, Sec.; K. McEwen, S.D.; T. Coxhead, J.D.; E. W. Keatinge, I.G.; F. Wrigley, Org.; H. A. Steer, S.; J. Baylis, Tyler. At 6 p.m. a banquet took place in the Belvoir Hotel. Besides the officers mentioned, with the members, there were many visitors present; amongst them Bros. J. P. Platt, P.P.J.G.W. Cheshire; W. H. Spaul, P.G. Sec.; H. G. Quilter, W.M., F.P.G.S.B. Warwick, shire; R. C. Edwards, W.M.; H. W. Swindells, S.W. 721; E. Smith, W.M. 1336; J. C. Owens, J.W.; T. Davies, J.W. 755; and others. The lodge was declared to be in a prosperous state. The W.M. made a present of his likeness to the lodge.

#### CLEOPATRA'S NEEDLE.

The stout timber staging erected to aid in the elevation of Cleopatra's Needle is found to answer well. It shows no indications of weakness, and admirably fulfils the function of steadying and guiding the important operations for which it serves as the scaffolding. All progress now made is in the lifting of the monolith, and in the simultaneous building up of the supports on which it is to rest. After every hoist of about 4in., which takes about ten minutes, the hydraulic jacks require starting afresh. Their place, while they are being shifted, is taken by the timber packing inserted for the purpose on the opposite side of the slot in which the girder moves. The space before filled by the hydraulic jack is then deftly packed to secure the progress made. Meanwhile the supports for the obelisk are still rising from the ground. The completion of the socle and lower plinth, and the pedestal proper is now being rapidly built up. To the total height, 8ft. 5in., of the other three supports it will add 10ft. 5in. It is to taper from 10ft. square below to 9ft. 3in. above. The three lowest courses are cased in Cornish granite, the centres being filled up with brickwork and Portland cement; but the two upper courses will be built wholly of granite. The centre is pierced by a tubular cavity—drain pipes in fact—in which will be deposited, among other things, a hollow bronze cast of Mr. Waynman Dixon's model of Cleopatra's Needle, which will contain papers of the ordinary character, and a bronze circular plate about a foot in diameter. In the four quarterings are engraven representations of the obelisk as it lay in the sand at Alexandria, with the standing Needle by its side; the obelisk, encased in its iron cylinder, being rolled down the beach into the sea; the obelisk ship "Cleopatra" under full sail at sea; the process of erection on the Thames Embankment, the obelisk being inclined at an angle of 45 deg. An inscription at the top runs:—"Brought away from Alexandria September 21st, 1877;" another to the left is, "The removal from Egypt planned and carried out by John Dixon, C.E.;" to the right is one, "The cost of removal borne by Erasmus Wilson, F.R.S., F.R.C.S.;" in the centre the legend is:—"Reached the Thames January 20th, 1878;" and below, "Erection finally completed, 1878." The following appears in the *Asiatic Journal* for 1820:—"This celebrated monument of antiquity may be shortly expected to arrive from Alexandria, a present from the Pasha of Egypt to his Majesty George IV. It is, we understand, to be set up in Waterloo-place, opposite to Carlton House, where it will for ages, we hope, serve to keep alive the recollection of the exploits of our naval and military heroes in that country. The weight of the column is about 200 tons; the diameter at the pedestal seven feet. We understand that we are indebted to the influence of Mr. S. Briggs, British Resident at Grand Cairo, with the Pasha of Egypt for this magnificent monument."

#### REMINISCENCE OF A GOOD TIME.

Human life is so short and the bright rays of the sun are so often obscured by the clouds of adversity and trouble, that when we really enjoy a "good time" it casts its radiance over a long period, and thankful we should be that our nature is so constituted as to forget the troubles and tribulations through which we have passed and remember only the bright and pleasant thoughts, the pleasures we have enjoyed.

It is with such gratifying feeling we reflect on the pleasant day enjoyed with Empire Chapter, No. 170, R.A.M., on the occasion of their grand excursion up the Hudson. The day, though somewhat cloudy, was really fine and just suited for a water excursion. A big saloon steamer, the General Sedgwick, made the several landings on the East River, while the different barges were stationed along the North River to receive the multitude of pleasure seekers.

Promptly according to the programme announced in the *Dispatch*, the flotilla fell into line and steamed up the Hudson River. The steam yacht Crawford Maxwell, owned by Empire Chapter, lay at the foot of 152nd street with the Grand L.H.A. of the S.T.M.'s in command, and as honored guest of the chapter. When the party came opposite the yacht the flags were dipped in honour of the L.H.A., and the tiny gun of the yacht fired a salute, while all the excursionists sang "Hail to the Chief," "The March to Victory," &c.

The yacht then took position in the line, and when communication was established between the yacht and the barges, the several aids to the L. H. A. were posted, so as to prevent too great a rush, as everybody was exceedingly anxious to see this celebrated and venerable old functionary (his photograph had not then been published in the *Dispatch*), but owing to the strict orders given and of course obeyed, none but the aids were admitted to the august presence of his Royal Highness. Your reporter, therefore, can only refer your many readers to the striking likeness published in last Sunday's *Dispatch* for a correct idea of how the great unknown L. H. A. looks.

On the grounds everybody sought to press as much fun into as small a space of time as she or he possibly could.

The race between our jovial and honoured D.G.M., General Roome, and M.W. John W. Simons, on a carousel, ended in a complete defeat of Uncle John, the vigorous general beating him by two lengths.

Taking a hint from an article in a recent issue of the *Dispatch*, to the effect that too much attention is usually paid to the dances and not enough to the elders and those who do not dance, the committee had hired a piano and engaged Professor Koch, who presided over it with signal ability. Comp. Brinks, with his quartette, contributed largely to the musical programme, as did also the Manhattan Glee Club, a singing society from the west side of the city, and composed of young gentlemen of leisure. Some very fine singing was also rendered by Captain L. D. Decker, of the General Sedgwick, who, by the way, is not only a fine singer and a good captain, but a born gentleman; everybody spoke very highly of his attention to his duty and his solicitude for the comfort of his charge. His songs, "There are Faces We Never Forget," was received with great applause; "Rocked in the Cradle of the Deep," "Roses Underneath the Snow," by the Quartette and the Manhattan Glee Club, elicited rounds of applause.

A little room was set aside for whist players, where R. W. Greg Satterlee was very conspicuous; others in the room adjoining choose the ancient Greek game of ParLOUR Matches. In fact everybody had but to choose and find something to amuse and please.

The refreshment and lunch counter was presided over by Companion Southern, with a grace and dignity surprising in one so young; the grace no doubt is natural, and the dignity acquired by long practice.

The superb music for the dancers was under the direction of that excellent gentleman and boon companion, Tom Deverell, and it is certain that every one was more than delighted. We think without being certain, that even the venerable Bro. Simons was tempted into the Lancers, or did he trerely lead the band?

When Empire Chapter has another excursion, or any gathering of whatever description, please count us in.—*New York Dispatch*.

**BOW BELLS.**—For some time past this famous peal of bells, one of the finest in the city of London, has been undergoing examination in the public interest, and before long the familiar chimes which captivated or consoled a Whittington, and have since charmed many more from time immemorial, will ring out as before. The Church of St. Mary-le-Bow, which, if not originally a Roman temple, as generally believed, was one of the earliest churches built by our Norman conquerors, has been destroyed more than once by storm and fire. It was at one time garrisoned and besieged, and was afterwards the scene of an assassination. It was first mentioned as a Christian church in the reign of William the Conqueror. Stow says it was the first in the City built on arches of stone, and that it was, therefore, called St. Mary de Arcubus, or the Bow, although he elsewhere says, but with less apparent probability, that it took its name from certain stone arches supporting a lantern on the top of the tower. By the way, the Court of Arches was formerly held in this church, and derived its name from that circumstance. During the reign of William Rufus, the roof of the church was blown off by the wind, and four of the rafters were driven into the ground with such violence that, although they were each 26ft. long, little more than 4ft. of their length was visible, the ground in the neighbourhood being then a mere fen. About 100 years after this event a tumult of a serious nature occurred in the City, which led to the assault upon the church before alluded to. The ringleader was William Fitz Osbert, surnamed Longbeard, who was almost worshipped by the lower orders on account of his exertions as a professed advocate of the poor against the oppressions of the rich. An attempt being made to seize him, he took refuge in Bow steeple, together with various followers, and, being well provided with ammunition and provisions, was able for a long time to defy the authorities. In order to drive him out, the steeple was fired. This had the desired effect; the rioters were made prisoners, and, after a hasty trial, were hanged at the Elms in Smithfield, at that time the usual place of execution. It appeared that Fitz Osbert did not lose his reputation among the people with his life, for it is said that after his death vast numbers of persons resorted to Smithfield, expecting that miracles would be performed, and that they carried away as holy relics pieces of the earth on which his blood had fallen.

A very descriptive account of the terrible disaster on the Thames appears in the *Daily Chronicle* of Thursday, from the pen of Bro. Henry Reed, of 57, Oxford-st., London, who we heartily congratulate on his happy escape from so fearful a death as drowning. Want of space precludes us from reprinting his letter.

One of the new lodges for which a Warrant has been granted is intended to perpetuate the memory of the late King of Hanover. The meetings will be held at the Town Hall, Hounslow, during the summer months. The principal officers designate are Bros. H. A. Dubois, P.P.G.D., P.M., P.Z., W.M.; Henry Lovegrove, S.W.; George Clark, J.W.

Part 9, of "The Rosicrucian and Masonic Record" contains a Portrait and Biographical sketch of the late Sir Fredk. M. Williams, Bart., M.P. Deputy Grand Master of Cornwall.

The Liverpool Autumn Exhibition of Pictures:—The private view of the works of art forming this collection took place on Saturday last, at the Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool, and was attended by about 1600 ladies and gentlemen. The season has opened most auspiciously. Up to Monday, 694 season tickets had been sold, as compared with 469 last year, and 75 pictures, realising £1033 11s. 6d. disposed of, as against 58 last year, which realised £802.

## LONDON MASONIC CHARITY ASSOCIATION.

A further meeting of this Association was held on the 30th ult., in the Drawing Room, Freemasons' Tavern Col. Creaton presided. The other brethren who attended were Bros. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford and A. Tisley (Joint Secretaries); C. J. Perceval (Treasurer); A. E. Gladwell, Dr. Jabez Hogg, S. Rosenthal, E. T. H. Southwood, George Faulkner, E. Malkin, John White, Hyde Pullen, and H. Massey (*Freemason*.)

Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, in submitting to the meeting the circular of the Association, said it was proposed to have it neatly printed, and together with the bye-laws sent round to every subscriber of the Boys' and Girls' Schools. He then read the circular, which, with a very few minute alterations, was adopted by the brethren.

Bros. Woodford, Tisley, Rosenthal, Southwood, and John White were appointed a Sub-committee to attend the election.

Bro. Perceval, who with Bros. Woodford, Gladwell, and Tisley, had been through the list of the candidates for the forthcoming elections, afterwards explained these cases to the brethren, but before doing so read his letter which appeared in the *Freemason* of the 31st August, and said that the sentiments there expressed were the sentiments of the Association. They wanted to act fairly and honestly by all, and to have for London a fair proportion of its candidates returned to the Schools. If after giving votes to London candidates sufficient to secure their election they had some votes to spare, they could then help the provinces in cases which were paramount to others. At present the capital of votes was very small, but if they concentrated their energies on one case they could get it through. There were very few vacancies in the Girl's School for next election, and if the London brethren could get one case in they would consider themselves very fortunate.

The Committee, after due deliberation, decided to support the cases of Ethel Stone and Emma Eliza Williams for the Girls' Election; and those of Green, Balcomb, Watkins, Frost, Nichols, and Giles for the Boys', this being the last chance of the three first boys, and the last chance but one of the other three.

Bro. Charles Atkins, P.M. 27, was elected a member of the Association, and Bros. H. Massey, Tyerman, and Littell members of the Committee.

It was requested that brethren would send in their voting papers (signed) to Bro. Tisley, one of the joint Secretaries. The meeting lasted nearly two hours and a half, and was brought to a close by a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

## CIRCULAR.

The Committee of The London Masonic Charity Association has great pleasure in calling the attention of the Vice Patrons, Vice Presidents, Life Governors, and Subscribers of the London Masonic Charities to the important object which it has been established to further and effect. The necessity of a thorough combination and concentration of "voting power" in order to ensure the success of a candidate, is now an established "factor" in the history of our valuable Masonic Charities. Owing to their rapid increase of late years, applications for their benefits have become more numerous, and success has in consequence become more and more proportionally difficult of attainment. It is no doubt true, that individual effort has done, and may do, a great deal in the laudable endeavour to assist deserving cases, and to place them in a satisfactory position on the poll, but "events" are, as it has been truly said, often "stronger than men," and, at this moment, without the combination and concentration of votes, not only must many deserving cases be disappointed, year by year, until their time of continuance on the list has expired, but it may even be a question whether, owing to the overwhelming effect of the system of combined voting, any but well organised arrangements, much less individual action, can henceforth be successful.

In London, as the voting is now conducted by worthy individual brethren, without any attempt at organisation or combination, a large number of votes is practically wasted at the various elections, inasmuch as more votes are recorded for this or that particular candidate than are absolutely required to render the applicant successful, and much of the London voting power is frittered away, and has too often no perceptible effect at the Masonic elections.

Deserving cases in London come up many times, and often utterly in vain, because the voting power, which if combined and properly utilized would have secured their election, is unskillfully employed, or unwisely polled.

The Provinces, wise in their generation, have already all adopted, or are rapidly adopting, the principle of combination and concentration of votes, with singular and powerful effect, as the lists of our Masonic beneficiaries attest, and your committee makes bold to say, that unless a somewhat similar course be pursued, in all good feeling in London, successful London cases must soon be few and far between, while the best interests of the London candidates will be gravely jeopardised, and the votes of the London subscribers practically nullified. For such is the power of the accumulation of numbers, and the uniform concentration of "voting power," that London candidates will hardly ever be enabled to come to the "fore" at all, unless a like simple and sensible system of combination and concentration of the votes be adopted, and without delay.

Under these circumstances a Committee has been formed, (not a day too soon,) to attend to and aid the London cases, by carefully selecting the most deserving, and by a proper use of voting papers, voluntarily placed at its disposal by the members of the Association and the London brethren in general, to endeavour to make such a voting a success. In this way the Committee hopes to secure all deserving London cases, and to help many candidates who now for want of such support often appeal in vain,

though with strong claims, on the voters in the metropolis. The Committee, however, in saying this, is not to be understood as endorsing any censure on our existing voting system, which, in the opinion of the Committee, acts fairly for all the candidates. It only seeks to call attention to a principle of voting action, perfectly legitimate, over which however no charitable association has or can have any control.

There is nothing, the Committee begs to observe in conclusion, selfish or narrow in its proposals or its organisation. This movement is simply dictated by common sense, and is practically the result of the "necessity of the case." It is not established in hostility to or antagonism with any other body or system, but appears to be a fair and needful use of voting privileges and voting power.

The Committee then confidently appeals to all the subscribers to the Charities voting in the London district to give the Committee their hearty and general support, to join the Association in order to render it thoroughly efficient, and to confide to it their voting papers. These will be thankfully received and faithfully applied to their destined purposes.

The Committee begs to transmit the bye-laws of the Association for the perusal of the Subscribers to the Charities. The Committee would ask the Subscribers to sign the accompanying form, and send it to the Secretaries. The Committee would also ask the Subscribers to sign (but not fill up,) their voting papers for the Boys' and Girls' Schools when they receive them, and forward them at once to the Secretaries. The Committee will duly fill up the voting paper.

The cases supported by the Association at the ensuing October election on behalf of the Committee are the following:—

For the Girls' School:—

1. Ethel Stone, No. 14. 2. Eliza Ann Williams, No. 29.

For the Boys' School:—

1. Charles Wm. Green, No. 5. 2. Arthur C. Balcomb, No. 50. 3. Frederick C. Watkins, No. 18. 4. Christian F. Frost, No. 9. 5. Richard H. Nicholls, No. 21. 6. Frank Arthur Giles, No. 15.

All communications to be addressed to Bro. A. Tisley, St. Dunstan's Vestry, Fleet-street, E.C.

## Review.

## REPORT OF THE LANCASHIRE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION FOR 1877.

This report is now before us, and it is one of increasing prosperity and usefulness of the charity. Eighty-eight children have "enjoyed," the report states, the lasting and valuable benefits of a good education, the sum paid for this purpose being £580 17s. 3d. The Institution has invested capital to the amount of £13,886 12s. 7d. Of the eighty-eight children educated, forty-three are girls and forty-five are boys. The highest amount paid for education is James Mott, £46 18s., the lowest is James McVickers, £1 11s. 6d. The average amount of money thus spent on the education and advancement in life of eighty-eight children appears to be £6 11s. 11½d. We wish that another year the list of girls could be separated from the boys, so that we may ascertain the cost of each sex, and we should like to know a little more specifically what is spent on education, what on advancement in life. To the initiated in Lancashire the margin as between £46 18s. and £1 11s. 6d. is no doubt easily explained and perfectly satisfactory, but to us outsiders it does strike us a little. Perhaps some good Lancashire brother can explain the "modus educandi" and the ratio of payments. We are glad to note that the work of the Institution is now before a sub-committee, and we shall await its report with great interest, as we cannot help thinking more may be done by the provincial Institutions than yet has been accomplished. Still the report is a most interesting one, per se, and too much praise cannot be accorded to our West Lancashire brethren for the zeal which has sustained, and the Masonic sympathy which has furthered so useful, and important, and true a charity.

## Obituary.

## SIR F. MARTIN WILLIAMS, BART. M.P.

It is our painful duty this week to record the sudden death of our esteemed brother Sir Fredk. Martin Williams, Bart., M.P., V.W. Deputy Grand Master of Cornwall, which sad event took place at Heanton Court, Barnstaple, on Tuesday evening last, the 3rd inst. An inquest was held at the Manor-house Heanton Punchardon, on Wednesday, when, from medical evidence, it appeared that the cause of death was the rupture of a blood-vessel on the brain, causing apoplexy. Sir Frederick was the eldest son of the late Sir Williams Williams, the first baronet, of Tregullow, Cornwall, and was born in 1830, and was therefore 48 years of age. He had represented Truro in the Conservative interest since the year 1865. The deceased was a deputy-lieutenant and a magistrate for Cornwall. He was a member of the firm of Tweddy, Williams and Co., bankers, Redruth and Truro, and managing partner of the Trehellan Smelting Works, the Perron, Foundry, and other important companies, and he was engaged in extensive mining and other operations.

The following brief sketch of Sir Frederick's Masonic career, which we cull from the "Rosicrucian and Masonic Record," for January last, will, no doubt, be read with interest:—

"We have now the pleasure of presenting our readers with the portrait of the Second Grand Sovereign of the Red Cross Order in England, since the revival in 1865. This estimable Mason was installed in the Premier Conclave in July, 1866, and became Grand Viceroy to Lord Kenlis shortly afterwards. He retained that position till March, 1874, when, under the new Statutes limiting the

period for holding office as Grand Sovereign to three years, Lord Beclive (Kenlis) retired, and Sir F. M. Williams was unanimously elected to succeed his Lordship as head of the Order. Under Sir Frederick's sovereignty the progress of the "Red Cross" continued unabated, notwithstanding that America, Canada, and Scotland established independent Grand Councils during that period. The K.H.S. and St. John the Evangelist grades were authorized to be attached to every Conclave possessing the requisite number of R.A. Masons amongst its members, and the result has been most satisfactory, about twenty Conclaves, up to the present time, having availed themselves of the privilege. This will be a noteworthy record in the worthy baronet's reign. In March, 1877, he enthroned his successor, Colonel Francis Burdett, as Grand Sovereign; Sir F. M. Williams is also a Vice-President of the Rosicrucian Society. It is almost needless to add that this distinguished Mason has won very high honours in other branches of Freemasonry and its kindred Orders. He is a Past Grand Warden of England, D.G.M. for Cornwall, Prov. Prior Knights Templar, and Prov. Grand Mark Master for the same county. In the A. and A. Rite he is a 32°, and is likewise a member of the Royal Order of Scotland. Although his connection with the Craft dates only from January, 1873, when he was initiated in Lodge 331, Truro, Sir Frederick has taken a deservedly exalted position, and his munificent support of the great Masonic Charities, as well as his liberal contributions to the Cornwall Masonic Annuity Fund, proves that he thoroughly realizes his responsibilities as a Mason, by losing no opportunity of carrying its sublime principles into practice."

## BRO. J. A. GOOCH.

We deeply regret having to record the somewhat sudden death of Bro. Joshua A. Gooch, fringe and lace manufacturer, of Dove-street, Norwich, which event occurred on Tuesday the 27th inst., from congestion of the lungs. Deceased had not been well for some time, which may partially account for the suddenness of the visitation. His age was 39, and he had for some time been a member of the Norwich Board of Guardians. Bro. Gooch also took a leading part among the Norwich Freemasons; he was W.M. of Lodge Perseverance. His funeral took place, with full Craft honours, on Friday week, at the cemetery. Notwithstanding the heavy downpour, there was a large attendance of brethren at the grave of one so loved in life and mourned in death.

## THE NEW SHERIFFS OF LONDON AND MIDDLESEX.

We are indebted to our contemporary the *City Press* for the following account of Bro. George Burt, one of the new Sheriffs of London and Middlesex, who was elected on midsummer day, and will be admitted into office and enter upon his duties on the 28th instant.

Bro. George Burt was born at Swanage, Dorset, on October 2nd, 1816. His father, Mr. Robert Burt, was a stone merchant there, and brought up his son to follow the same trade. At the age of 19, the late Mr. Mowlm (also a native of Swanage, and Bro. George Burt's uncle) brought him to London as an assistant in his business. In 1844, Mr. Mowlm took Bro. Burt and Mr. Freeman (who had previously married Mr. Burt's elder sister) into partnership, the firm from that time being known by its present title of "John Mowlm and Co." The senior partner died in 1868, and the business was carried on by Mr. Freeman and Bro. Burt until 1875, when Mr. John Mowlm Burt, the elder son of the newly-elected sheriff, was taken into partnership, and these three gentlemen now constitute the firm so well known in London as road and general contractors, and in Aberdeen and Guernsey as quarry owners. They were the first to manufacture and lay down the pavement known as "narrow cubes." The first roadway so laid was that of old Blackfriars-bridge, in the year 1840. Bro. Burt's career has been most active, and lately in his well-earned retirement his efforts have been largely devoted in promoting the prosperity of his native place and its neighbourhood, where he is greatly respected. He generally lives at Swanage, where he recently erected a residence. Bro. Burt married Elizabeth, daughter of the late Mr. John Hudson, of Stowbridge, Norfolk, May 19th, 1840. His family consists of two sons and three daughters, the eldest of the latter being married to Captain T. Davies Sewell. Bro. Burt has been an active member of the Metropolitan Asylums Board from its commencement. He also holds many other public appointments, both in London and Swanage. He is a member of the courts of the Glass-sellers', Shipwrights', and Farriers' Companies, having served the office of master three times of the first-named guild. He holds a distinguished position in Freemasonry, being Past Provincial Grand Senior Warden of Dorset, and Past Master of No. 18 Old Dundee Lodge, London, and No. 1,146, De Moulham Lodge, of Swanage.

A fire broke out on Tuesday afternoon in the warehouse of Sir C. Price and Co., oil refiners, Castle Baynard Wharf, Upper Thames-street. With such inflammable material the fire obtained an almost immediate and complete mastery of the premises, and raged until the building and its contents were entirely destroyed. It was with great difficulty that the firemen succeeded in preserving from a similar fate the adjoining premises, to which the fire at one time spread.

We regret to announce that Bros. Chas. Jardine, and F. Boney lost their lives in the dreadful accident on the Thames on Tuesday evening. As a complete list of lost and saved is not yet known, we are unable to give our readers any further names of brethren. We are happy, however, to say that Bro. H. Reed, of 57, Oxford-street, and his wife were among the saved.



## FREEMASONRY IN NEW ZEALAND.

No better evidence of the spread of Freemasonry in Hawke's Bay could possibly be given than that which is furnished by the fact that it has been found necessary, in the best interests of the Craft, to erect another Hall in Napier.

It is now twenty years ago since the first lodge was opened in this town, at which time, and for that purpose, the late Colonel McGregor, Mr. Michael Fitzgerald, Mr. J. A. Smith, and others, obtained a dispensation from the Grand Lodge of Ireland. The first meetings were held in the upper floor of a store at the Spit, and though the most primitive furniture and accessories were well in keeping with the cheerless appearance of the apartment in which the brethren assembled, the warmth of heart and Masonic spirit that were there engendered, gave ample promise of bearing good fruit. The canopy of Heaven being the roof tree of Masonry, it mattered little to the fathers of the Craft in Napier where they practised the rites and ceremonies of the Order, so that they could secure freedom from prying eyes and listening ears. But no great length of time elapsed before better accommodation was obtained, and in due course land was bought, and the first building dedicated to Masonry was erected in this town. By this time Scinde Lodge, 419, I.C., numbered amongst its members nearly all the principal people of the province, and until about two years ago was the only lodge in Hawke's Bay. With the growth of population came brethren of other Constitutions, who naturally and loyally desired to see another lodge established. Some old Masons of the English Constitution thereupon met, and decided to form a lodge which, under the name of "Victoria," has gone on prospering until it became necessary for the convenience and comfort of both lodges that another Hall should be erected. This building is now completed, and was formally consecrated to-day.

Situated on a section at the corner of Munroe and Dickens-streets, the new hall presents a striking appearance, the front being remarkably classic in its design. The facade of the edifice is of the Doric style of architecture, having three windows and four fluted columns, with entablature surmounted by pediment. Admission to the building is obtained by a door, the only one, on the north side, which leads into a vestibule seven feet wide, from whence entrance is gained both into the lodge-room and into the ante-room. This latter apartment is 20 feet long by 18 feet wide, and will be ordinarily used as a refreshment room. The lodge-room is an extremely handsome hall, measuring 40 feet in length, and 20 feet in width, having plastered walls and cove ceiling, finished with heavy cornices. In the east, west, and south walls there are alcoves for the chairs of the three principal officers, whose stations are in those situations, the eastern alcove being surmounted with cornice and crimson canopy. The chairs are placed on dais painted to represent black and white marble. Running round the walls are stuffed spring seats, covered with crimson rep. The Masonic furniture is very handsome and complete, and much of it being the gift or manufacture of the members, no expense has been spared to make the several presentations worthy of the Lodge. The officers' pedestals, and the altar, are beautifully designed, the tops resting on entablatures supported by columns in groups of three, having carved capitals, with moulded bases, and cornices complete; each pedestal represents one of the three orders, Doric, Ionic, and Corinthian. Until gas is laid on, the hall is lighted by a kerosene chandelier, and ventilated by a patent ventilator.

The contractors for the building were Messrs Baillie and Davis, who have performed their work in a manner that has given the greatest satisfaction. Indeed every one connected with the Victoria Hall appears to have vied with each other to make the building at once an ornament to the town, and a credit to the Craft. We should mention that the architect is Mr. W. A. Dugleby, whose knowledge of the requirements of a Masonic Lodge, combined with his professional ability, has left nothing to be desired. To the untiring energy of J. M. Batham, Esq., the present Worshipful Master of the Victoria Lodge, is also greatly due that Masonic spirit and zeal that have animated the brethren, by which, without any assistance, they have quietly and unostentatiously worked together to that result which shows itself in the completion of as handsome a lodge as any in this colony.

The consecration of the new building was fittingly appointed to take place on the Masonic Festival of St. John the Baptist, and the August ceremony was attended by every Mason in Hawke's Bay who could be present. The ordinary monthly meeting of the brethren of the Victoria Lodge was held at 3 p.m., and the lodge having been duly formed in the Third Degree, the Delegates of the Provincial Grand Lodge were admitted at 4 p.m., with the usual honors. The Delegates were Bros. Past Masters Batham and Harwood, Bro. P.M. Batham taking the chair. The brethren then resumed their seats, and the Secretary, having read the delegation, temporary Grand Officers were appointed, P.M.'s Kennedy and Wundrum occupying respectively the Senior and Junior Warden's chairs. The ceremony of dedication then commenced by the Rev. Chaplain reading the first three verses from the 1st chapter of Genesis, which was followed by the beautiful anthem "Father of Light" that was most impressively sung. On the application of Bro. P.M. Dransfield, the lodge was formally examined, and Bro. Architect Dugleby having returned the Working Tools, the D.P.G.M. expressed his approval. Bro. P. M. Price then announced the desire of the brethren that the Hall should be consecrated according to the ancient form and usage, upon which the Rev. Chaplain read the Consecration Prayer. The following programme was then observed:—Procession of officers; March by Organ; at termination of first circuit in the East, the Hall was dedicated to Freemasonry;

corn sprinkled; grand honours; Ode to Masonry; at the termination of second circuit, wine was sprinkled, and the Hall dedicated to Virtue; grand honours; Ode to Virtue; at the end of the third circuit, oil sprinkled, Hall dedicated to Charity; grand honours; Ode to Charity. The Rev. Chaplain then pronounced the Invocation, the choir responding. After the anthem, "To Heavens' High Architect," had been sung, the D.P.G.M. delivered an able address, and this concluding the ceremony, the delegates of the District Grand Lodge retired. The proceedings were most impressively conducted from first to last, and occupied about two hours in their performance. The choral portion of the service was presided over by Bros. Rudman and Aplin.

A banquet in honour of the occasion was afterwards held. The chair was taken, shortly after 8 o'clock, by the W.M., Bro. Batham, supported on his right by P.M.'s Bros. Harwood and Wundrum, and on his left by P.M.'s Bros. Kennedy and Sutton, and the W.M. of the Scinde Lodge, Bro. Dransfield. Bro. Morgon, Senior Warden of the Victoria Lodge, and Bro. de Lisle, Junior Warden, occupied the vice-chairs in their respective positions. There were nearly 100 brethren present.

The first toast was the usual one, "The Queen and the Craft" by the W.M., Bro. Batham, followed by "The Three Grand Masters"—those of England, Ireland, and Scotland, respectively. "The District Grand Masters of New Zealand" was also given by the Worshipful Master.

P.M. Bro. Harwood then proposed "Prosperity to the Victoria Lodge." He said it was now, he believed, two years since the formation of the Victoria Lodge, and from that moment to the present it had advanced steadily, increasing in strength until it had assumed the position it now occupied—a position which it had attained by the united efforts of its members and the untiring exertions of its officers and Master, especially of its present Worshipful Master. The handsome Masonic Hall in which they were now assembled stood as a grand monument of the attachment of its members to the Craft. They must all earnestly hope that the lodge might continue to flourish for many years to come, under its energetic promoters, in unity, strength, peace, and harmony. (Applause.)

The toast was acknowledged by the Worshipful Master, who took occasion to thank Bro. Harwood for his kindness in coming to Napier to assist in the ceremony of that day, a kindness which was all the more felt by him (the Worshipful Master) as Bro. Harwood was the only Past Master in the English Constitution whose services were at all available. The W.M. also thanked the officers of the Scinde Lodge for the efficient assistance they had rendered. He then gave some particulars of the efforts made to get the hall erected, dwelling with warmth of feeling upon the liberal and willing aid that had been accorded by the brethren of the lodge. Over £600 of shares had been taken by the brethren, the shares bearing no interest, and a considerable portion of the furniture and requisites had been presented to the lodge by the brethren. The brethren had worked hard to get the lodge erected, and it rested with them to do credit to it and never disgrace it. (Applause.)

Bro. Morgon, S.W. of the lodge, proposed, "The Lodges of Sister Constitutions," responded to by Bro. Wundrum, P.M.

Bro. Dransfield, W.M. of the Scinde Lodge, proposed in highly eulogistic terms, "The Worshipful Master of the Victoria Lodge," acknowledged by the W.M., Bro. Batham.

Bro. De Lisle, Junior Warden of the Victoria Lodge, proposed "The Past Masters," coupled with the name of Bro. Sutton, P.M., and suitably acknowledged by him.

Bro. Kennedy, P.M., proposed "The Building Committee and the Architect of the Hall" (Bro. Dugleby).

Bro. D'Arcy Irvine, M.A., proposed "Visiting Brethren." Bro. Kinross acknowledged the toast, and congratulated the Victoria Lodge upon the handsome hall they had erected for their meetings, and expressed a hope that it would frequently be graced with the company of ladies at Masonic balls or other occasions when the presence of the fair sex was permissible.

Bro. Combs proposed "The newly-made Masons," responded to by Bro. Lush, of Waipukurau.

The W.M. proposed the health of the caterer, Bro. Johnson, which was suitably acknowledged.

The Worshipful Master informed the brethren that he had received telegrams from the Tauranganui Lodge (Gisborne) and from the Wellington Lodge, conveying expressions of congratulation. He had also received a cordial letter from the District Grand Master of Westland (Bro. Lazar), expressing regret that he was unable to be present. He had besides received telegrams and letters from various brethren regretting their inability to attend. He mentioned these matters as evidence of the kind interest evinced in the prosperity of the lodge. (Applause.)

Bro. Garner proposed "Absent Brethren," which was duly honored.

Bro. Ellis proposed "Old Masons" (of not less than ten years' standing). The toast was acknowledged by Bro. Raven, who then proposed the health of "Our Worthy Chaplain"—acknowledged in feeling terms by Bro. D'Arcy Irvine, Chaplain of the Lodge.

Bro. Combs proposed "Prosperity to the Craft."

Bro. D'Arcy Irvine proposed "The Press," acknowledged by Bro. Pirani.

"The Ladies" was proposed by Bro. Garner, and was responded to by Bro. Begg.

Bro. Blyth proposed "Buried Animosities," which having been honoured, the last toast usual at all Masonic banquets was given by the Tyler, Bro. Motley—"All Poor and Distressed Masons throughout the Universe."

"Auld Lang Syne" then concluded a banquet, which was about the most pleasant and harmonious of any that has been given in Napier, or perhaps in any part of New

Zealand. The evening was enlivened with songs and recitations by the brethren, the accompaniments being played by Bros. Rudman and Aplin, but the hour at which the company broke up—nearly two o'clock in the morning—precludes a fuller notice than we have given. We may, however, mention that Bro. Johnson deserves great credit for the manner in which he discharged his duties as caterer. Everything was served in good style, and the ornamentation of the feast was in excellent taste. Amongst these a large model of the hall in sugar merits notice. It was executed in true artistic style.

## FREEMASONRY IN THE UNITED STATES.

## LA UNIVERSAL.

An association composed exclusively of the members of this lodge gave an excursion *danza* on Sunday to their wives and daughters and a few friends. They had two commodious barges and a steamer chartered, which enabled them to carry the large number they had on board. An excursion started from Fulton Ferry at 10 a.m., and arrived at the Grove (Occident) about 4 p.m. On their passage they landed at the foot of West Tenth street, but owing to the miserable conduct of the police officers upon the wharf they could not get on board more than one-half of the number that had congregated there to go. In justice to the force of this city, we give the number of each officer, to wit: 520, 624 and 1822, who officiated on that pier. The party contained some of the best citizens of our Spanish population, among whom we noticed R.W. Bro. A. Gonzalez, D.D.G.M. for the Spanish, French and Italian lodges; also W. Bros. F. Lozano, G. Dean and Isaac Simonson; Bros. S. W. Jaureque and J. W. S. Gonzalez; Past Masters S. Sanchoz and Y. Hara; F. Garcia, S.D.; L. Caras, J.D., and Bro. Michael Flood, of Brooklyn Lodge. The last named brother acted as floor manager, and filled his position with courtesy and great satisfaction to all. At a late hour the excursionists returned home refreshed and well pleased with the day's recreation, there being not an angry word spoken, indeed, or any utterance on the part of any one that would bring a blush to the cheek of the most fastidious during the entire day. The representative of the *Dispatch* returns thanks to all for the courtesies received at their hands, and may the brethren of La Universal long live to enjoy many more of similar excursions, even though it occurred upon the special day of rest. "Better the day better the deed."

## TABERNACLE LODGE.

The excursion and picnic of Tabernacle Lodge, No. 598, up the Sound and at Hudson Grove, on last Tuesday week, was a very pleasing and enjoyable affair. The day was lovely—"made to order"—the sail exhilarating, and the company joyous and happy, and determined, one and all, to make everybody else so. The committee of arrangements deserve great praise for the manner in which they performed their duties and cared for the comfort of their guests. The games at the Grove were very interesting and well-contested, and added considerable interest to the occasion, as did also the balloon ascension. The only little hitch in the programme regrettable, was the refusal of W. Bros. Wiley and Pascall to run a ten-mile foot race, who declined on account of their great size and the state of the thermometer.

## JACOB SCHMUCK

Uhland Lodge, No. 735, of this city, have sustained a very severe loss in the recent decease of Bro. Jacob Schmuck, their late Treasurer, who died of brain fever (contracted during the late heated term) on the 26th inst. Alas my brother! Thy taking off is deeply regretted by all who knew thee. The fraternity has lost one of its most openhearted, generous and trustworthy members, thy family, a loving husband and father, and thy friends and acquaintances, one whose place cannot be easily filled. His funeral was attended by the members of No. 735 and other lodges, to the number of 130, and by others enough to fill 63 coaches, and other conveyances—and his remains were interred with our beautiful ceremonies, W. Bro. Raushaupt officiating in a very workmanlike and affecting manner.—*New York Dispatch*.

## ST. HELEN'S, BISHOPSGATE.

The following is from the *Times*:

Sir,—Will you allow me to make known through your columns an interesting discovery which has been made at the ancient church of St. Helen's, Bishopsgate, in the city of London? In taking down a portion of the wall at the north-west corner of the church, a ship's anchor has been found imbedded in the Masonry. If any of your readers have studied the archaeology of anchors, they could, perhaps, afford a clue to the date of its probable insertion. It would not have been built in at the original erection of the church, but used at a later period to bind the masonry together when found to be defective, and we should suppose it is not unlikely to have been a contrivance of Sir Christopher Wren, in whose time the church was repaired. We take this opportunity of calling the attention of your readers to the elegant ancient door which has been discovered at the west end of the nun's choir, which will shortly be covered up with brickwork, the churchwardens not having sufficient funds for its restoration. This door and many other interesting features were plastered over by classic innovators, but have been uncovered in the course of the restoration now progressing, and should be seen by all who feel an interest in the antiquities of the city of London.

We are, Sir, your obedient servants.

WADMO'E AND BAKER.

## LETTERS FROM OUR IRREPRESSIBLE CORRESPONDENT.

## No. III.—EXPENSIVE LODGES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I continue my pleasant labour to day, hoping that my words, sincerely meant, may not be without profit and edification to some of our readers. I touch, however, upon a subject more difficult in itself, still more delicate, so to say, in London. As it is well known the provincial system of lodge subscription and the like, is on a much lower scale than in the Metropolis. Very few provincial lodges, have above £2 2s. annual subscription and £5 5s. initiation fee and £7 7s at the outset. Whereas in London £5 may almost be said to be the normal amount of annual subscription, taking the average of the 256 lodges, and the initiation fees range from £10 to £25, some lodges fixing them at £30. As regards joining members it is the same. In the provinces the usual payments being between £2 and £3, in London varying between £5 to £20 and £25. Two other points of difference of procedure, between London and the provinces require more notice. As a rule in the provinces nothing is paid from the lodge fund to the banquets, each brother paying for what he has, or chooses to have. But in London a large portion of the payments annually is allocated to the dinners, and here comes in a very notable difference between the "Town mice" and the "Country mice." There are few if any dinner lodges in the provinces. The brethren attend to business, come to lodge at 7, and have a modest supper at 9, or 9.30, for which the Stewards collect pro rata. Hence we see that in some respects it is unavoidable that London lodges should be more expensive than provincial lodges, inasmuch as the whole system of procedure is so very different. And it may be a question whether the provincial system could be worked in London. Londoners are late diners, and as most of our Order are "bread-winners,"—business men, professional men,—after their day's work is over they come to lodge work, and to a lodge dinner. It is doubtful whether the supper system, which works well in the provinces, would do or would pay in the metropolis. Therefore I think we ought not to run off with "ad captandum" arguments, that because we pay more in London, the London lodges are too expensive. I apprehend in this, as in other matters, we must accept what is the actual system as the one best suited to the necessities of the case, and as both systems can co-exist and can both work together, and both have their merit, both may in degree, at any rate, be equally right for those who use them.

And I am free to confess that the matter is a delicate matter in London, because, in the first place, each lodge has a right to make its own bye-laws, if they do not contravene the Book of Constitutions, and, secondly, because I go a long way, for one, with that movement which seeks to create special lodges, on the well-known adage "similia similibus." As some of our brethren object to Latin, I will translate these words, "like things for like."

None of us can be insensible to the fact that we are far too loose in our realization of the importance of the proposition of members, and that many persons unfitted for Freemasonry in every way thus get in. One of the impediments to the "ugly rush" is said to be high fees. I am not sure that it is so myself, but it has something in its favour, no doubt, and therefore the expenditure of some lodges is pitched at too high a scale altogether, and while I concede to all lodges the right of suiting themselves in this respect, it is a liberty which no one has a right to infringe, I yet wish that with all their glitter there would be a little more reality.

What I mean is this,—They do not do enough for Charity. Our lodge members, from 1700 to 1770 have only, so far, in 1878, apparently in about fifteen of them done anything for our Charities, and the remark applies to the Provinces as well as to Town.

As a general rule, however, I may remark London lodges have done well and do well for the Charities, but with regard to our new lodges I cannot say as much. I would that I could.

Knowing, as I do, how many worthy Masons they contain, and how æsthetic was their consecration, how admirable their banquets, I yet feel, and feel strongly, that he is the best friend who points out to them kindly and fraternally that they ought (and I trust they will do so in 1879), by the support they give our excellent Charities, show to all of them that their profession and practice go hand in hand.

I hope that I have thus handled a confessedly difficult subject discreetly, and am, Dear Sir and Brother,

YOUR OWN IRREPRESSIBLE CORRESPONDENT.

An especially interesting meeting of the Royal York Lodge, No. 315, was held on Tuesday afternoon, in the Masonic Room, at the Royal Pavilion, Brighton, Bro. Sir. W. W. Burrell, Bart., R.W. Grand Master of the Province, being present with the rest of P.G. Officers.

The publisher of the *Freemason* receiving frequent complaints of the difficulty of procuring copies of the *Freemason* regularly and "to time," begs to inform his many subscribers and readers, that if any delay or difficulty occurs, on writing to him, 198, Fleet-street, London, E.C., they can have the *Freemason* regularly posted in a printed wrapper to their address week by week.

On Monday, September 2nd, an elegant breast jewel was presented to Bro. Arthur Stubbs, I.P.M. 850, by Bro. J. W. Lister, P.M. 850. At the back of the jewel (a square with prob) was the following inscription neatly engraved: "Presented to Bro. A. Stubbs, P.M. 850, by the brethren of the St. Oswald Lodge, No. 850, for services rendered to Freemasonry."

## Mulum in Parbo; or Masonic Notes and Queries.

## OLD LONDON LODGES, No. V.

In Coles's List of 1763, with the signs of the houses attached, No. 1, of 1738, is still No. 1 in 1763; No. 2, of 1738, ditto; No. 3, is still No. 3, though in High Holborn, seemingly; No. 4, in 1738, appears to be out in 1763. No. 5, in 1738, has become No. 4 (I think) in 1763; and No. 6, in 1738, is the No. 5, of 1763. No. 7, 1738, is out in 1763, while No. 8, 1738, seems to have migrated from the Barbican to Grosvenor Square (still No. 8) in 1763. No. 9, in 1738, is No. 7, of 1763, while No. 10, 1738, is apparently No. 6, of 1763. No. 11, of 1738, may be the No. 9, of 1763 (8) as the date of consecration is the same, and No. 12, in 1738, is probably the No. 10, of 1763, just as No. 13, of 1738, is probably also the No. 11, of 1763. No. 14, in 1738, seems to be No. 12 in 1763, and No. 15 in 1738, and No. 16 are out in 1763. No. 17 in 1738 is the same as No. 13 in 1763, while No. 18 in 1738 is out in 1763. No. 19 in 1738 is No. 14 in 1763. No. 20 in 1738 is the No. 15 of 1763. Nos. 21, 22, 23 in 1738 becoming respectively Nos. 16, 17, and 18, in 1763. No. 24 in 1738 appears to be the 22 of 1763, Nos. 25 and 26 being out. No. 27 of 1738 being clearly the No. 24 of 1763. No. 28 of 1738 is out in 1763, while No. 29 has become No. 25 in 1763. Nos. 30, 31, 32, and 33 in 1738 all seem to have vanished in 1763, and No. 34 of 1738 is apparently the same as No. 26 in 1763. Nos. 35 and 36 in 1738 seem to have become Nos. 28 and 29 in 1763. Nos. 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, and 43 of 1738 are all apparently out in 1763, though one of them must answer to No. 34, (consecrated March 25, 1730), in 1763. No. 44 in 1738 appears to be the same as No. 36 in 1763; and while No. 45 is out, either No. 46 or 47 answers to 37 in 1763, having the same date of Consecration. Nos. 48, 49, 50, are represented in 1763 by 39, 41, 42, though it is difficult to connect them, while No. 51 in 1738 appears to answer to 44; No. 53 in 1738 is probably represented by 46 in 1763, while 54 in 1738 is the same, clearly as No. 47 in 1763.

Here I stop again for to-day, hoping to finish the comparison of the 106 London Lodges of 1738, with Coles's list of 1763 in the next *Freemason*.

## MASONIC STUDENT.

## LODGE WARRANT.

Can any one assist the undersigned to obtain an old warrant of one of the London Lodges which has been allowed to run out?

NESTOR.

Address, care of Editor of the *Freemason*, 198, Fleet-street.

## OLD MASONIC CALENDARS.

In reply to the query by "Masonic Student"—The Freemasons' Calendar for 1775-76, (published by the Stationer's Company), can be seen in the British Museum Library.

R. F. GOULD.

## STEWARDSHIP OF THE LIVERPOOL MASONIC HALL.

On Thursday evening, the 29th ult., a large and influential meeting of the General Committee of the Masonic Hall, Liverpool, met in that building for the purpose of appointing a House Steward, in room of Bro. Peter Ball, Prov. G. Tyler, who had resigned that position after a long and valuable service. Bro. R. Wylie, P.P.G.S.D., occupied the chair.

The Chairman of the House Committee, Bro. W. Cottrell, P.M., proposed Bro. Angus McDonald, Lodge 477, and this proposition was seconded by Bro. R. Robinson, P.M. 241. The name of Bro. Chaplain, the hall attendant, was submitted by Bro. the Rev. J. R. Jenkins, W.M. 216, seconded by Bro. G. Broadbridge, P.P.G.D.C., and supported by Bro. Major Turner, P.G. Treasurer; the name of Bro. Oglesby, 823, by Bro. John Houlding, P.M. 823, and seconded by Bro. H. Ashmore, W.M. 823; and the name of Bro. W. Vaughan, P.M. 724, was submitted by Bro. Ballard, P.M. 724, seconded by Bro. A. Hart, W.M.

On being put to the meeting, Bro. Chaplain was elected by a large majority.

It was afterwards resolved that it be an instruction to the House Committee to revise the regulations with regard to the House Steward's duties, and to appoint a successor to Bro. Chaplain.

The Academie des Sciences of Paris has elected Mr. Darwin a corresponding member in the Section of Zoology, and professor Asa Grey in the Section of Botany.—*Athenæum*.

A Railway in the Holy Land will soon be an accomplished fact, according to the Constantinople Al-Zawiab, which states that a mixed company has obtained a concession for laying down a railway between Jaffa and Jerusalem.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Rheumatism and Gout.—These purifying and soothing remedies demand the earnest attention of all persons liable to gout, sciatica, or other painful affections of the muscles, nerves, or joints. The Ointment should be applied after the affected parts have been patiently fomented with warm water, when the unguent should be diligently rubbed upon the adjacent skin, unless the friction should cause pain. Holloway's Pills should be simultaneously taken to reduce inflammation and to purify the blood. This treatment abates the violence, and lessens the frequency of gout, rheumatism, and all spasmodic diseases which spring from hereditary predisposition, or from any accidental weakness of constitution. This Ointment checks the local remedy. The Pills restore the vital powers.

## NOTES ON ART, &amp;c.

A curious version of Rip Van Winkle exists in a Japan legend:—"A young man fishing in his boat on the ocean was invited by the goddess of the sea to her home beneath the waves. After three days he desired to see his old father and mother. On parting she gave him a golden casket and a key, but begged him never to open it. At the village where he lived all was changed, and he could get no trace of his parents until an aged woman recollected of hearing their names. He found their graves a hundred years old. Thinking that three days could not have made such a change, and that he was under a spell, he opened the casket. A white vapour rose, and under its influence the young man fell to the ground. His hair turned gray, his form lost its youth, and in a few moments he died of old age.

Mr. Mechi tells the *Agricultural Gazette* that he has chosen words to be inscribed on his tombstone—namely, 2 Chron. xxvi. 10, "He loved husbandry." They were suggested by an anonymous correspondent.

A correspondent of the *Times* states that it has cost him £4 17s. 9d. to send to his son in Texas a suit of Tweed cloth and two pairs of woollen socks, worth £4 1s.

Four Italian climbers—MM. Vaccarone, Costa, Nigra, and Brioschi—have, without guides, ascended Mont Blanc on the Italian and descended by the French side, a feat hitherto vainly attempted.

A shock of earthquake was recently felt at Liège, also at Elberfeld, Cologne, Osnabruck, and Barmen. At Barmen houses were upheaved, roofs displaced, furniture shaken, and goods in the shop windows overturned. The shocks were repeated at Elberfeld, Dusseldorf, Cologne, and Bonn.

"Engagement Bracelets" are amongst the latest fashionable novelties across the Atlantic. They are fitted with combination locks, of which the husband in prospective keeps the key.

Mr. Edward Augustus Bond has been appointed Principal Librarian of the British Museum. Mr. Bond is a meritorious officer of long service. He succeeded the late Sir Frederic Madden, as Keeper of the Manuscripts, in 1866. In accordance with the usual practice in making such appointments, the three Trustees with whom the matter chiefly rests—the Lord Chancellor, the Speaker, and the Archbishop of Canterbury—submitted two names to the Queen, from which she selected the first. We believe that the second was that of Mr. Bullen, Keeper of the Printed Books.—*Academy*.

A case, sadly illustrative of the great danger to which all are exposed who unfortunately come in contact with diseased meat, has recently occurred at North Shields. Peter Young, a cowkeeper, had the carcass of a diseased cow dressed, as if for sale, by a butcher named Walton. It appears that Walton had a slight cut in his hand, and next day felt much pain in his arm, which was considerably swollen. Two medical men were called in, and both pronounced it a hopeless case of blood-poisoning. The man died within a short time in great agony. Young was summoned before the North Shields magistrates on the 14th, and charged by Mr. McQueen, sanitary inspector, with having the carcass of a diseased cow on his premises dressed as if for sale as human food. A penalty of £5 and costs was inflicted, which many may consider hardly commensurate with the enormity of the offence, or the further mischief which might have ensued to the public therefrom.—*Sanitary Record*.

Juggernaut is said to be in a bad way since the imprisonment of the hereditary protector of sacred affairs. The late Car Festival was a complete failure. It is in contemplation to hand over the great god to the tender mercies of a most useful institution—the Court of Wards—though Juggernaut can hardly be said to be still in his minority.—*Calcutta Correspondent of the "Times"*.

Bombay has held a solemnity for the purpose of investing Maharani Surnomoye with the Insignia of the Imperial Order of the Crown of India. This lady has contributed over £20,000 to famine charities enumerated by the Commissioner from 1871 to 1877, and bestowed over £50,000 in works of charity and public utility. During that period she had expended in charity one-sixth of her whole income.

PROPOSED RAILWAY IN ASIA MINOR.—At a meeting of the directors of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, on Wednesday afternoon, a circular letter was read from the Amalgamated Board of the Association for Promoting a Railway from the Persian Gulf to Constantinople, for providing routes to British India, and for developing the resources of Asia Minor. The directors of the Chamber declined, as on previous occasions, to give their support to any private or proprietary enterprise, and passed a resolution to the effect that the merits of the undertaking ought to rest alone on the appreciation of the British public.

An International Art Exhibition will henceforth be held at Munich every four years, beginning with 1879.

Signor Verdi is writing a new Opera, "Montezuma." The work will be in five acts, and will be produced at the Scala, Milan.

The canal from Aarberg to the lake of Bienna, which had been nearly ten years in construction, was officially opened on Saturday. It was actually opened the previous day, when the river, being high, made its way through the temporary barrier. Large tracts of marsh land are thus drained, and the banks of lakes Morat, Neuchâtel, and Bienna secured from inundations.

## TO OUR READERS.

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

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

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

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

## TO ADVERTISERS.

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

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

## REMITTANCES RECEIVED.

	£	s.	d.
Bennett, E., Canada...	0	12	0
Betteley, R. W., Valparaiso...	0	12	0
Comet Lodge, No. 1680, Queensland...	0	12	0
Cummings, G. H., New York...	0	13	0
Drake, F., New York...	0	12	0
C. Forsythe, Lagos...	1	12	4
Francis, Thos., Bombay...	0	17	4
George, B., The Cape...	1	6	0
Hancock, Hon., H. J. B., Antigua...	0	11	10
Hopwood, J. R., Jamaica...	0	13	0
Jackson, H., Paris...	0	12	0
Masfield, R. B., Buenos Ayres...	0	6	8
Newmarch, G. F., New Zealand...	0	12	0
Percival, J., Canada...	1	4	0
Punjab, Grand Lodge of...	4	9	0
Richardson, F., New Zealand...	1	10	0
Walker, G., Bombay...	0	12	0

## Answers to Correspondents.

CORRESPONDENTS are respectfully requested to write their communications on one side of the paper only.

TU QUOQUE.—We think it better not to publish your letter. You will appreciate our motives.

HUGH MCCOMBE.—We do not see what good can arise by publishing your letter, though we note it and will make use of it.

EURRKA.—Thanks.

"Original Research" in our next.

"P.G.L. of Sussex."—Not deemed expedient to publish. BOOKS &c. RECEIVED.

"Poets' Magazine;" "Voice of Masonry;" "East Lancashire Echo;" "Hull Packet;" "Masonic Record of Western India;" "Scottish Freemason;" "Broad Arrow;" "Advocate;" "New York Dispatch;" "Exeter and Plymouth Gazette;" "Liberal Freemason;" "Masonic Ecclectic;" "Corner Stone;" "New Zealand Public Opinion;" "Westminster Papers;" "Freemasons' Repository;" "El Boletín Oficial" (Cuba); "La Voz De Hiram;" "Risorgimento;" "Hatters' Gazette;" "Masonic Herald;" "Australian Freemason;" "Der Triangel;" "Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Indiana;" "Keystone;" "Hebrew Leader."

## Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

## BIRTHS.

SHAW.—On the 1st ult., at No. 7, Marine-parade, Folkestone, Mrs. John Shaw, of a daughter.

## MARRIAGE.

BAKER—SUTTERFIELD.—On the 5th ult., at Anerley Congregational Church, by the Rev. J. Halsey, William Baker, son of G. K. Baker, Esq., of Jasmine Gr ve, Anerley, to Rosina Sutterfield, grand-daughter of J. Stodart, Esq., of Margate.

## DEATHS.

CHIDWICK.—On the 22nd ult., suddenly, of heart disease, Bro Chidwick, of Lodge 972, aged 46.

CONSTABLE.—On the 30th ult., suddenly, of long standing heart disease, B. E. Constable, Esq., of Park-crescent, Brighton, late of New York, aged 72. N.Y. papers will please to copy.

PHILLIPS.—On the 29th ult., at Llanelly House, 17, Ridley-road, Dalston, Ellen, the beloved wife of William Phillips, aged 42 years.

SHARP.—On the 28th ult., at 41, Kensington-park-gardens W., Henry Dockyer Sharp, F.R.C.S., in his 82nd year deeply lamented.

WILLIAMS.—On the 3rd inst., at Heanton Court, Barnstaple, Sir Frederick Martin Williams, Bart., M.P., D.G.M., Cornwall, aged 48.

## THE FREEMASON

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1878.

## THE LAST QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

The report of this meeting will give satisfaction to all the Craft. The dignified proceedings with reference to the wrong doings of the official Scrutineers at the election of the Board of General Purposes, will sincerely gratify all who value the prestige and honour of our Masonic body. It was an unanimous condemnation both of outraged propriety and Masonic justice, which we trust will not be without its effect on all who were present at Grand Lodge, on all who read what took place, and all who peruse our article. No doubt much of personal pity will have been felt for the brother on whom Masonic justice has fallen so heavily, but in this special case the sterner necessity of obvious duty outweighed any personal feelings or individual goodwill. In the *Freemason* it can never be out of order, or wrong to repeat, that safe and abiding axiom of all social and personal safety,—“Fiat justitia, ruat Cælum.” The other matters of business proceeded in due course, and for which we beg to refer our readers to our report. It will be seen Bro. General Brownrigg, P.G.M. for Surrey, presided, in the absence of the higher dignitaries.

## THE GRAND ORIENT OF FRANCE.

Though we have given this short heading to our article, for the convenience of our columns, we wish it to take a far wider range, in that we propose to consider to-day, the present position and future action of the Grand Orient of France. Let us say, in the first instance, that a priori, there is no reason in the world why the Grand Orient of France and the Grand Lodge of England should not be on the very best of terms. National prejudices and bye-gone feuds have long since given way, most happily, to the common interest of both countries, to the sympathy of an “entente cordiale,” and the pleasant “souvenirs” of an alliance honourable and welcome to both countries. There has grown up both in France and England, a mutual regard and goodwill for each other, and long may it so continue, and may the mission of both countries be the same, the peaceful progress, the advancing civilization of mankind. All Freemasons, French and English Masons, have this tie in common, that French Freemasonry is a daughter of England, and that there is, and can be no rivalry between the two governing bodies of both countries, but which can best advance the true interests of Cosmopolitan Freemasonry. We in England have always made great allowances for French Freemasonry. We have not forgotten the mournful scenes of the Commune; we knew the violence of Massol and his party, and we always felt that the moderate party in the French Grand Orient had “very difficult cards to play,” and we, therefore, thought it right to express for them all sympathy, and to regard with the utmost favour in our power, their words and acts, to put a good construction on what was the effect of an overbearing majority, rather than the deliberate view of the Masonic and moderate party in the French governing body. But when in 1877 the French Grand Orient, yielding to an insensate agitation, and dominated by the memories and bitterness of the destructive and pernicious teaching of Massol, completed the work of which he so perversely and vigorously laid the foundation, we, in England, unless recreant to our principles, unless base deserters from our colours, had no alternative but to avow alike our dissent from, our disapproval of, an act which seemed to us to undermine and cast away the very foundation of Universal Masonry. We might be wrong in our view of matters, and the majority of the Grand Orient might be right, but as honest Freemasons we had both the right, and we felt strongly it was our duty to speak out and plainly, in respect of proceedings which we could not but deem utterly subversive of all the principles which, as Freemasons, we had been ever taught to revere.

The English Grand Lodge always prudent, always moderate, and always conciliatory, passed a resolution, under the circumstances, which, while it commended itself to the intelligence and loyalty of all English Masons, was alike most Masonic in substance, and most courteous in form. Practically it declared that it must not take cognizance of so sad a departure from the ceaseless teaching of Cosmopolitan Masonry. Further than this, it decided that while it would receive into the lodges all French Masons whose certificates were anterior to the Couvent of 1877, that is those who were initiated under proper sanctions, it declined to admit those initiated after 1877, whose certificates are posterior to the Couvent, unless they supplemented those certificates with a declaration of acknowledgment in T.G.A.O.T.U. Such, in our opinion, is a most wise, Masonic, and befitting decision. We judge this “inter alia,” both by the attacks such a serious resolution has encountered and by the support it has received. It has been supported by the whole of Anglo-Saxon Masonry, considerably over a million of Masons alone; it has been approved of by the Grand Bodies of Egypt, Peru, Spain, Portugal, Hungary, Italy, and many lodges in Germany, while it has been personally attacked only by those who wish to go further even, and whose idea of Freemasonry seems to be a secret, revolutionary, practically Godless society. Such is the present position of the Grand Orient of France, alike without precedent and dangerous, in our opinion, because isolated from the whole of Anglo-Saxon Masonry, and severed from other bodies. Its special danger consists in this, that it may be a question by International Masonic Law, how far any jurisdiction is warranted in treating France as an unoccupied country, inasmuch as such a departure from universal Masonry seems to many minds to be an act of Masonic outlawry on the part of French Freemasonry, seems to take away all rightful claims to acknowledgment and obedience. Bro. Hubert, for whom we have much regard, and who sees things much as we see them, has expressed a hope that the French Grand Orient, under Bro. St. Jean, will go no further and do no worse. We would fain hope so with him, but our faith is not quite so strong as his. There are symptoms to us still of a deliberate intention to go on further, if slowly, if gradually, if little by little, point by point, yet to go on, and thus to complete, in our humble opinion, Masonic revolution. But where? To the complete goal of a wild destructiveness. How else can any English Masons regard the deliberate intention avowed at the approaching Couvent, to issue warrants in another jurisdiction not in fraternal relations with it? Not that the measure is of much moment in the abstract, or is likely to be of much avail in the concrete. Supposing that the effect in England, for instance, was to give a warrant to “Les Philadelphes,” what harm could accrue to English Masonry? Absolutely none. No English Mason of respectability could associate with such a body, and if he did he would be suspended at once, for taking part in a “clandestine meeting,” just as no law-abiding Englishman could or would take part in an illegal meeting of a secret society. We utterly deny “Les Philadelphes” to be in any sense a “Masonic lodge,” neither, in our opinion, could it ever be made into one. We, therefore, look upon such a proposal as a “brutum fulmen,” at any rate practically, but yet it shews an “animus,” “unmistakeable and irreconcilable,” which we are bound, as honest journalists, to note, as loyal Masons to deplore. As regards any other jurisdiction affected by it, we can only foresee, that if persevered in, it must lead to reprisals, and the utter exclusion of French Freemasons from all Anglo-Saxon lodges, as well as from the lodges of many other jurisdictions. And with this intention, practically attacking all the Anglo-Saxon Grand Lodges, the French Grand Orient invites Anglo-Saxon Freemasons to attend their approaching Couvent and take part in a fraternal gathering. Very fraternal in good truth, and the delicate irony of our witty French brethren in calmly putting forth such an invitation under such circumstances deserves to be recorded and appreciated! What Anglo-Saxon Mason can, under such circumstances, attend such a meeting? We



say at once—those who value either their own Masonic character or the prestige of their Mother Grand Lodge cannot do so. If any do, depend upon it, they are utterly worthless in themselves as representatives of Anglo-Saxon Masonry, and utterly unauthorized and unaccredited representation of the jurisdiction from which they hail. There are always queer folks who will do queer things in the world, and Masons are not exempt from the law of "queerishness," or any other sublunary law. But we shall not believe the fact until it takes place, and never would the old French saying be truer by whomsoever originally put forth "Du sublime au ridicule il y n'a qu'un pas." We have said this with much regret, but honestly and openly we felt bound formerly to express our opinion and we have expressed it again to-day. The French Grand Orient might, we think, however, do much to soothe the troubled waters of Masonry, —if it only retreated gracefully from the unwise position it has taken up; if it openly stated that it gave up this childishness of innovation, that it deliberately rejects all counsels of political propaganda, and that it holds out an olive branch of peace and good will to the Masons of all jurisdictions. For, in our opinion, the real objection to the past proceedings of the French Grand Orient lies in this, that they made no compensation for the verbal changes they introduced, or rather they deliberately shut the door against any acceptance of their proposal—in that they positively and avowedly departed from the teaching of all Cosmopolitan Freemasonry. Had the French Grand Orient thought well to do what we have done, namely, to place the Charges, etc., "separatim," leaving the constitution simply as a code of legislation, we should have had nothing to say, and should have said nothing. But in the face of the world the Grand Orient takes out a profession of belief in God, and substitutes for it a formula which, at any rate, excludes such a belief. The old form was, let us remember?—"Elle a pour principes l'existence de Dieu l'immortalité de l'âme, et la solidarité humaine" (whatever that may really mean). The new formula runs thus:—"Elle a pour principes la liberté absolue de conscience et la solidarité humaine." What then can any honest man understand by such an alteration? Is it not really "nous avons changé tout cela," with a vengeance. There can be no mistake about the act, or the object. It is said to be toleration, but is it not really a pure unbelieving revolution? If, however, the French Grand Orient, ere it is too late, still wants to offer a means of conciliation, let it revise its Constitution, take out all matter therefrom which does not concern legislation, and place under some more appropriate title what its future profession of principles is. We cannot but hope that such a manly realization of the essential difficulty of the present position of the French Grand Orient, of the dangerous tendency of its prospective action might lead to a healthy reaction, and a formula might be devised which would harmonize with the opinions of Cosmopolitan Freemasonry, and pacify the justly agitated sentiments of all loyal Anglo-Saxon Masons. Then the French Grand Orient might truly welcome all Masons at Paris, and it would promote harmony instead of warfare, sympathy instead of disavowal, brotherly love and friendly union instead of growing discontent and hopeless isolation. We trust that our plain-spoken words will be received in the really Masonic spirit in which they are intended, whether welcome or unwelcome to our friends in France.

### INITIATION FEES.

By a slight "lapsus calami," £5 5s. was printed for £3 3s. in our leader last week, on the Grand Lodge of Scotland. Practically the actual payment as a minimum in London is £4 4s.; in the provinces £3 15s. 6d., which includes the Provincial Grand Lodge fee for registration. We quite agree with Bro. Hughan that £5 5s. should be the minimum in England, and we hope that it will speedily be made so, though practically very few lodges in England make it a minimum. If such a change takes place in England the payment will be £6 6s. as a minimum in London, and in the provinces £5 15s. 6d., including the

Prov. Grand Lodge fee. We do not quite agree with Bro. Hughan as to Scotland. £2 2s., would be better, we venture to think, with all deference to him, and 6d. as a capitation payment is quite inadequate to the object in view.

### LONDON MASONIC CHARITY ASSOCIATION.

We call attention to the circular of this new Society elsewhere which it is about to issue to all the Subscribers to the London Charities. We do not think it needful to travel over the ground again which is traversed in that exhaustive appeal, (as well as in a recent letter to the *Freemason*), for the "raison d'être" of the London Masonic Charity Association, but would merely add that we concur alike with its arguments and in its conclusions. We think that our London brethren will do wisely and well if they will at once send up their voting papers, signed, but not filled up, to the Secretaries, whose address will be found at the foot of the circular alluded to. A letter of Bro. Woodford's in the correspondence on the same subject in the *Freemason* to-day, may also be well perused by our many readers.

### PERILS TO EXCURSIONISTS.

We are very sorry at this time of the year, when so many are taking a well-earned holiday, to be startled by the mournful accident on the London, Chatham and Dover Railway on Saturday last close to Sittingbourne Junction, between a cheap fast train and a goods train, which had been improperly shunted and got on to the main line. The carriages, crowded with women and children, ran into the goods train; five or six persons were killed on the spot, thirty or forty maimed and severely injured. We can all enter into the dread reality of the scene, and deeply feel how sad must have been such an ending to a day's lawful pleasure, and how that many of the passengers will carry to their graves a memory of that awful accident. We trust that an immediate inquiry will affix the fault to those who are to blame for such lamentable carelessness or neglect. The *Times* points out that this cheap fast train, running at forty miles an hour, was not provided with continuous breaks. Why not? It will be seen that our esteemed brother, the Grand Registrar, represented the Company at the inquest which has been held, and has brought in a verdict of manslaughter against the two guards, Moden and Clarke. Since we have written, another dreadful accident on the river adds to the melancholy excitement of London. The "Princess Alice," one of the largest of the London Steamboat Company's boats, with about six hundred passengers on board, was run down just below North Woolwich Gardens by the "Bywell Castle," a Tyno steamer, and between 300 and 400 lives are lost. Alas! what a sad ending to a day's innocent pleasure. But still, "even in the midst of life we are in death." 100 are saved.

### 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.]

### REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS IN NON-MASONIC PAPERS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

At an earlier period of my long Masonic career, (thirty-one years), I was an active, perhaps too active, a contributor to our journals. Experience, however, with advancing years, has made me more cautious in this respect. For once, however, I am inclined to trouble you with a few remarks, arising from a recent visit to the Province of Devon. No doubt your next number will contain a detailed account of the provincial meeting held at Okehampton. Allow me first to observe, that in two local newspapers on the 26th ult., have appeared reports of the proceedings, extending over a column and a half. Though by no means one of those who desire our lights to be hidden from the external world, yet the propriety of carrying publicity to so great an extent as has been the case in this instance may be fairly doubted. Masons are human, and matters of controversy must arise, which sometimes infringe upon the fraternal feeling and courtesy which we

profess to inculcate and practise, and which, in the main, we do carry out. Is it prudent to make these known, beyond our own members?

Okehampton, where the meeting was held, is a wild and remote part of the province, till lately difficult of access. Recent railway arrangements, however, have afforded greater facilities, and this fact, together with the interest of one or two questions to be discussed, caused a large attendance. It appeared to me that the time would soon arrive when it would be desirable to divide this large province into two portions, with their respective centres at Exeter and Plymouth, between which there is evidently at present great rivalry. I do not mean to say in an unfriendly spirit, but naturally each is anxious to secure for itself and district as many honours as possible, the distance between them being about fifty-three miles. This course has been adopted with advantage in Lancashire and Yorkshire. Devon has nearly fifty lodges, and others are, I believe, contemplated. It is true that, even after such division, each of the new northern provinces contains more lodges than all Devon, but they are more compact, owing to the large populations of contiguous manufacturing towns, whereas Devon extends over a very wide agricultural area, something like seventy miles each way, and hence it is difficult to manage. The venerable Prov. Grand Master is, perhaps, the oldest officer of that rank in England, and is so beloved and respected that so long as he desires to maintain his position, it would be unwise to disturb it, but it may be well to look forward to the time when, in the ordinary course of events, a change must be made. It is probable that, even now, his advanced age and diminished physical powers would render a decrease of labour and responsibility welcome to him.

Considering that, owing to the great number of lodges, each one cannot expect to furnish a Grand Officer oftener than once in four years, I was rather surprised to find the chairs of the Grand Wardens given to brethren who had previously been invested with the purple. The Prov. G.M. stated that in Devon there are about 400 P.M.'s, many of whom are skilful, zealous, and deserving brethren, who have not had provincial appointments, since there are only about fifteen collars to be disposed of in each year, and the number of such unrewarded Masons must, of course, rapidly increase, whereas, in smaller provinces, such as Hereford (4 lodges), Bedford (5), Oxford (8), Nottingham (9), Cambridge (4), Bristol (8), Jersey (7); many who have not even attained to the first chair of a lodge, have received such distinction. There seems to me a ready way of obviating this anomaly, by giving the purple to the Stewards, or at least allowing them to wear it after their year of office, during which they sport the red, and by apportioning the number of Stewards in each province to the number of lodges it contains, say one to every four lodges. This would increase the number of honours to be disposed of where desirable, and would decrease them where they are already too numerous.

A very important question was discussed at great length and with much warmth, which may have a great effect on the existing large and valuable Institutions near London for the education of Masons' children, and the support of the aged and distressed, of which our body is justly so proud. In Devon, as in other provinces, there is at least one local charitable institution, co-existent with and independent of those already named, which are supported by the whole country. On Monday last it was determined to adopt measures which have a tendency to withdraw all help from the latter, and to limit the funds so appropriated to the formation of local benevolent institutions confined to the relief of distress within the province. This seems a very questionable proposition, and if the example be followed extensively by the larger and more wealthy provinces, it must lead to serious results, and the ultimate abandonment of our great institutions, which can hardly be supported by the smaller provinces. No doubt this step will receive the attention of Masons throughout the country, and especially that of the authorities of the Order, as tending to disruption and the consideration of individual rather than of general interests. In case of the possible separation of North from South Devon, as two provinces, it must also lead to further serious complications there.

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

H. H.

### CAN ATHEISTS BE ADMITTED INTO THE ENGLISH LODGES? IF NOT WHAT JUSTIFIES THE GRAND LODGE?

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Though want of space prevented a verbatim report of Bro. Darley's oration, on the 17th ult., at the Surrey Masonic Hall, we give in particular the following sent by him.

"No irreligious libertine dare tread within the sacred precincts of a Masons' Lodge. At his introduction and admission to the lodge he is given to understand that Freemasonry is based on the purest principles of piety and virtue; he declares openly, in the presence of all, not only his belief in God, but his trust in His divine Providence. The first duty he is called on to perform is to bend before the Great Architect of the Universe in prayer. He is advised to proceed with confidence, for no danger can ensue where God's name is mentioned; the Volume of the Sacred Law is the first object presented to his view as the great light of Masonry, on which he is obligated, and he is advised to make it his guide of faith and practice, teaching his duty to God by never mentioning His name but with due reverence. And every progressive step to the climax of Masonry seems increasingly to magnify God's Holy name and cultivate veneration.

The Atheist, it is possible, may get access by dishonour and falsehood, as a thief or burglar follow out their objects; should he, however, get in he is not happy there.

True, he may be a professed atheist from limited intellect or conception, though idiots are known to have some idea of

and veneration for God, or it may arise from a diabolical abuse of the brightest intellect to gratify a depraved mind and fiendish will.

His aims are to tear asunder the most sacred ties, to break the dearest bonds of brotherly union, and undermine the noblest institutions that tend to make earth heavenly, and in their place raise a pandemonium, reducing civilized, refined and social beings, male and female, to the level of the lower animals, and thus create a hell upon earth.

There is extenuation for a violator of law, who owns that he does wrong, but what reliance can be placed in a "creature" holding himself amenable to no moral or social law, and only governed like a pig by his obstinate will and appetite. He is not of sound judgment nor strict morals, and therefore should not be admitted into a society that prizes honour and virtue above the external advantages of rank and fortune.

The genuine Mason venerates the Sacred Law and its Divine Author, whilst the Atheist puts out wilfully his own eyes and sees God in nothing. The Mason says "Thy law have I hid in my heart,"—and surveying the various objects that decorate and adorn creation, he is led with sacred awe to join the poet in saying:—

"These are Thy glorious works, Parent of Good,  
Thus wondrous these—Thyself how wondrous then,  
That sit'st above these heavens, to us invisible,  
But dimly seen in these Thy lower works,  
Yet these declare Thy goodness beyond thought  
And power Divine."

I am in love with the German practice of sculpturing scripture, as suggested by the late illustrious Prince Consort for the Royal Exchange. "The Earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof," and I know of no better motto to chisel in marble in front of our Masonic buildings—glitter in gems on the Grand Master's breast, emblazon in gold over the grand dais, on the banner of every lodge, and to cherish in the heart of every Mason, than the admirable words, suggested by a deep veneration for God, flashed in the first greeting to America by the honoured father of our Grand Master—

"Glory to God in the highest,  
On earth peace, and goodwill to men."

Our Grand Lodge cannot, will not, must not, turn its back upon God by countenancing Atheism, whilst we honour men of every faith, the thing of no faith cannot expect to share our fraternal sympathies, and we hope our brethren of the Grand Orient of France will rivet themselves to us more closely by a similar policy.

Yours fraternally, W. DARLEY, P.M.

#### SUPPORT OF THE CHARITIES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Having perused the account in your last issue of the proceedings of the Hereford Masonic Charity Association, a short account of the doings of a little country lodge in the same direction may not be uninteresting.

In June last (you see we had the start of our Hereford brethren) it was mooted in a conversation between the W.M. and one or two of his officers that such an association be started, and the idea was acted upon on the next ordinary lodge night (July), when thirteen brethren gave in their names as subscribers, and the S.W. was appointed Hon. Sec. At our last ordinary meeting nine more brethren gave in their names, making a total of twenty-two in a lodge numbering less than forty subscribing members, many of whom were already Life Subscribers to our Life Governors of the Charities.

The subscription is fixed at 2s. 6d. per mensem, and we propose balloting for seniority of presentation as the funds accumulate. Without allowing for additional members, this will bring in £33 per annum to the Charities, and if every lodge in our county (Kent) did the same in proportion to its size, it would give an additional £1500 per annum to the Charities.

In conclusion, let me remark that as all business connected with the association is done in the lodge-room after closing down, there are no working expenses incurred, and that as brethren we think our Masonic word quite as good as written promises.

Trusting to see the movement extend, and our noble Charities the gainers thereby,

I am, yours fraternally, W. TUFF, S.W. 1273.

#### TRURO CATHEDRAL.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

It is now some forty-two years ago that I was told that Freemasonry possessed many great and invaluable privileges, but in order to secure those privileges to worthy men, and we trust to worthy men alone, vows of fidelity were required. Believing this to be so, I have repeated them to several candidates for initiation.

Have I misled them? We Masons have all taken those vows, consequently we are entitled to those privileges, and I contend that all those who have not taken those vows are not entitled to them. We pay our initiation fees and annual subscriptions to form a fund for the relief of each other, our wives and children in time of need. If the uninitiated are allowed to share our monies what is the privilege of being a Mason?

I am one of the many who think that our monies should be applied to Masonic purposes alone; we need some 30 or £40,000 a year to support our three great Masonic Charities, and if we continue to vote away our money to cathedrals and various other purposes, by-and-by we shall want to appeal to the public at large for the support of our charities.

By giving this a place in your paper you will oblige,  
Yours very fraternally, J. P. SHAPLAND,  
P.M., &c.

#### FEE FOR INITIATION IN ENGLAND.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In your article advocating an increase of fees under the Grand Lodge of Scotland, a much needed reform, you several times mention the minimum fee for initiation under the Grand Lodge of England as being five guineas. I wish that such was the case, but as a matter of fact it is not so. The Constitutions declare that "No person shall be made a Mason for less than three guineas, exclusive of the registering fee."

The fee for registration for a Mason made within the London district is one guinea, in a country or military lodge ten shillings and sixpence, and in a colonial or foreign lodge seven shillings and sixpence (including the certificate). It is clear, therefore, that the minimum fees under the Grand Lodge of England are as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Initiation, Colonial or Foreign Lodge ...	3	10	6
" Country or Military " ...	3	13	6
" London District ...	4	4	0

I have long advocated an increase of fees under the Grand Lodge of England, and have already drawn up a memorial exhibiting the desirability of so doing, as practically the minimum fee is still the same as it was fixed at the Union of 1813 (1815), although the value of money is vastly different to what it was then. The minimum fee should be at least five guineas, exclusive of the registration fee, which ought to be a guinea for country and military lodges as for the London district, thereby making the initiation fee really six guineas for country and London lodges, and £5 12s. 6d. for colonial and foreign lodges.

My experience goes to prove that gentlemen do not mind what they have to pay for initiation, though many are most particular afterwards to reduce their payments to as small a sum as possible. Added to which the status of the Craft is raised in many respects by a respectable amount being required for initiation. A large sum on admittance, and a small annual subscription subsequently, is, to my mind, the right method as to fees. With respect to the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and under the peculiar circumstances of the case (so many members being operative Masons, &c.), I shall be glad if the minimum fee for initiation is fixed at two guineas, and an annual subscription of sixpence be payable by every lodge held in Scotland for each brother who has been a member during the whole or part of the year before the return is made.

WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN, P.G.D.

[Bro. Hughan will see that we deal with the little "blot" he has hit elsewhere.—Ed.]

#### MASONIC BANQUETS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I cordially thank "Pythagoras" for his letter in your last issue, condemning extravagance at Masonic banquets, and may say that my sympathy with his views generally on that subject has not been limited to merely verbal approval. I must, however, be permitted to say that the distribution of four dozen of champagne among a hundred and twenty brethren, many of whom had travelled considerable distances on a sultry day, and probably dined a couple of hours later than usual, was not much more than one would expect to offer at one's private table; the bill of fare, which you were good enough to publish, sufficiently refutes any suggestion of "waste;" and if the price of the tickets very much exceeded the amount the brethren of "Pythagoras" would ordinarily pay at a dining room for a dinner, those with whom he associates must be much more modest and abstemious than are the majority of middle-class men in this part of England.

If this matter of eating and drinking has been overdone in the way of extravagance, let us be careful not to attempt too suddenly to rush to the other extreme. No single effort can be made in reason to reduce the cost of our banquets, which I shall not warmly support—as, indeed, I fancy I have proved in more than one instance. I wrote before, as now, entirely on my own responsibility, without asking or consulting the remaining members of the committee of the entertaining lodges; and I can, therefore, the more readily assure all who are concerned that this feeling of strict economy—a word I use in its best sense—animated every one of them. But in thus acting, they (as I think wisely) remembered the scathing condemnation of those who once sought to set aside the law of ordinary hospitality by complaining that "This ointment might have been sold for much, and given to the poor."

Yours fraternally,

W.M.

#### FREEMASONRY AND CATHEDRALS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I have no desire to run counter to my esteemed friend and Bro. Whytehead, or any other of your valued correspondents, but really there is no other course left for me, if the columns of the *Freemason* are to be open for the advocacy of sectarianism. That the "Church of England is the National Church" of this country is nothing to us who do not think there ought to be any, and to use any part of the funds of a province to assist in building or restoring the edifices of any religious sect, is, to my mind, most un-masonic. All the members of a Provincial Grand Lodge have a share virtually in the funds accumulated, and a voice in their disposal, and hence, if a majority decide to devote a portion of such monies to a sectarian purpose, the minority must be mortified that, without their consent, some of their contributions have been given to religious bodies, which, as a matter of conscience, they would not support. It is really a "matter of conscience" with many of us not to support, directly or indirectly, an established church; and if I considered that it was the tendency of Freemasonry

to thus violate any religious scruple, I should retire from it at once and for ever.

W. J. HUGHAN.

[We publish this letter, as we do all from Bro. Hughan, at once, though he, with us, will admit the impropriety and impossibility of having a discussion with respect to the Church of England in the *Freemason*. We do not think that Bro. Holmes, in his well-meaning proposition, intended to raise the "National Church" question, and that has regrettably cropped up in the discussion. All such matters must be decided by the Provincial Grand Lodge without sectarian feeling. If the discussion is to continue in our columns all allusion to the National Church or Non-conformists must cease. We will admit letters on the question of the fitness and expediency of the proposition on Masonic grounds.—Ed.]

#### THE LONDON MASONIC CHARITY ASSOCIATION

Dear Bro. Kenning,—

As it is well known that I took a great interest some time back in West Yorkshire in the noble work of its Charity Committee, of which I was the first Chairman, I think it well, with your permission, to record in your pages, the substance of what I said at the first meeting of the above new Association, a précis of which, (admirably reported), has already appeared in your well-filled columns:—

"The Provincial Charity movement and organisation, which proceeded on the new principle in West Yorkshire, of combination and centralization of the voting power, begun fairly, it may be said, about 1861. Since that time most of the other provinces have followed suit, and the 'Voting Power of the Provinces' has so greatly increased, that many provinces now, without external help, can secure the return of their various candidates, or, at any rate, by a friendly 'concordat' with another province. London, however, with its 256 lodges and an immense list of subscribers to the charities, has no such combination or concentration of voting power, consequently the votes of the London brethren are given, so to say, in 'dribbles,' and have no sensible effect on the elections; hence, too, the large proportion of unsuccessful London candidates. I will now proceed to point out deferentially, what, in my humble opinion, is the only feasible remedy for an admitted weakness in our London voting arrangements. We must have a somewhat similar system in London. We must form in London an association of the subscribers to the charities, which by the action of a committee will attend to the combined polling of voting papers for selected candidates. Of course, there is in this, as in all other things, some difficulties. There is, 1st, 'Individualism,' which prefers, for some reason or other, to act by self, personally, and not through a committee. I think, as true Masons, we shall be ready to sink our 'individualism' for the good of others. But one or two points appear to me to be needful to bear in mind:—First, that as the only object of voting is to secure the election, all that we really need is that our candidate be on the list of successful ones. We should give up any idea of seeking as a point of honour to place our candidate at the head of the poll or high upon the poll. It is an utter waste of voting power. And then, secondly, unless we combine in a fraternal spirit in London, we cannot expect that our London cases will be more successful than they have been. What that success is, it does not need a prophet to tell you. Nay, more than this, unless we adopt the same, or a somewhat similar system, each year must witness more successful provincial candidates, and fewer successful London candidates, because the provinces, (all honour to them), are in right good earnest, and carry out, moreover, a true and proper principal of legitimate and effective voting. I will only add that if such a position is taken up by us in London, it is not one of antagonism or selfishness, or in any other way open to blame, inasmuch as it is one which common sense itself would suggest, and the rightful claims of our London candidates would undoubtedly dictate to us all. I feel sure, that this movement has not been made without good reason, nor is it set on foot a moment too soon, and I trust that, forgetting all personal feeling, and putting on one side individual prepossession, we shall labour in hearty unison and concert to assist the undoubtedly righteous claims of our London candidates on our time, our sympathy, and our combined and concentrated energies."

I do not think it well here to add anything to these few words of mine, honestly spoken and masonically intended, and am,

Dear Bro. Kenning, Yours fraternally,

A. F. A. WOODFORD.

#### INITIATION FEES IN SCOTLAND.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I am sure that every one who desires the prosperity of the Grand Lodge of Scotland will fully appreciate the excellent and well-timed advice contained in your leader on the 24th ult., and that all reasonable and unbiassed brethren will admit the accuracy of your view of recent unpleasant events. Your remarks in the *Freemason* of the 31st, upon Scottish Freemasonry, are to the point. The lowness of the fees with us enables persons to join the Craft who are not in the position (however they may be otherwise qualified) to do credit to a charitable institution, such as Freemasonry is; on the contrary, it is too often the case that they become burdens instead, and carry discredit to our institution wherever they go, supplying, as you truly observe, an unenviable majority of casuals for relief in England, as well as elsewhere. Were our minimum fee raised to five (or even four) guineas, as you suggest, the class of society joining our order would come to consist of persons who could afford to pay a regular and fixed sum towards the maintenance of their own particular



lodges, as well as to uphold the central Benevolent Fund, and thus our charity would not only be more unconstrained in its extent, but would be more fully available for its proper objects, which comprise, not only the poor, but more especially the distressed, the decayed, the widow, and the fatherless. Let us earnestly wish and work for such a result.

I am, yours fraternally,

JOHN MONRO,  
Prov. G.J.W. of Glasgow.

GRAND LODGE OF SCOTLAND.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

The following letter was sent to the *Scottish Freemason* for insertion in last week's issue, but held over for reasons best known to the Editor of that journal till next issue—a fortnight hence. As it bears upon topics under present discussion in the Grand Lodge of Scotland meeting on the 5th ult., will you kindly give it a place in your journal of this week, and oblige the writer and other brethren?

To the Editor of the "Scottish Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I was disappointed in not finding a report of the proceedings of the meeting of Grand Lodge on August 5th in your issue of the 16th inst., and I was pained to notice the reason assigned by you why the meeting was not reprinted in the *Scottish Freemason*. Has the "fine gold" of Freemasonry indeed "become so dim" that an Editor whose position as a journalist ought to be independent of all proceedings, must "refrain from reporting such, even when he thinks these proceedings are of a shameless and un-masonic character?" Methinks, in such a case, the Masonic reporter should have the courage to speak out the more boldly—even though he should sully his dainty fingers by such dirty work—and not refer his readers to garbled misrepresentations in daily papers outside our Order.

In the *North British Daily Mail* of the 6th, we find a long article headed "Threatened Masonic Disruption." The "wish" of the writer in this case would, we think, be "father to the thought," in this article there is much that was not before Grand Lodge at the meeting. In the *Glasgow News* of same date, we do find an epitome of the business, and a fair report so far as it goes. Both papers, however, do notice what, to my mind, was the crowning "shameless un-masonic" act of the day, viz.—the "one hundred" of Glasgow, when they could not carry their points, abruptly leaving the meeting—without obtaining leave from the throne—and rushing in disorder past the guards out of the hall. Where was the voice of the Grand Master that he did not thunder behind them? Where was the Grand Tyler, that he did not bar the way in "front of them?" Where were the Wardens, and brethren "to the right and left of them," that "the one hundred," who so ingloriously forgot their Masonic position—and its corresponding duties—were not prevented from leaving the Grand Lodge till they had asked leave to do so in something like proper form—and with at least a show of honour to themselves, and respect to the Craft, of which they are members.

I humbly venture to affirm, that if the Grand Master had exercised the authority of his high office at this juncture—and in doing so he would have had the support of the meeting) the "scene," which every lover of order must deplore, would not have taken place.

There can be no doubt whatever, that the action of "the one hundred" was that of insubordination, and their subsequent conduct in holding meetings, passing resolutions, issuing circulars, &c., smacks of open rebellion. Surely every right-thinking loyal Mason in our jurisdiction will deprecate such conduct, and consider matters well before lending any countenance to the (I will not use your word "shameless," but will say) "unmasonic" proceedings of our brethren in the west.

I am, yours fraternally,

A READER.

[We are informed that the 100 seceders had permission of the Grand Master to do so.—ED. *Freemason*.]

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I feel quite sure that every English Brother will bear you out in your remarks regarding the needful reforms in Scottish Masonry, and I am just as sure that all the best class of Masons in the Land o' Cakes will do the same. But unfortunately there seems to be a strong body of brethren of a class that should never have been initiated at all, who violently oppose any such ideas as you have enunciated, and who are prepared to bring all their influence of numbers to bear upon the Grand Lodge in order to prevent any reform. It is a very significant fact, as you observe, that the greatest proportion of Masonic vagrants hails from Scotland. Nor can we be surprised at this when we consider that the ease with which a man can be received into the Order north of the Tweed is an actual temptation to a professional mendicant to become a Freemason purely for begging purposes.

Many brethren are of opinion that the minimum initiation fee even in England is too small, and certainly low fees tend greatly to the admission of candidates who are not in what could be fairly called reputable circumstances. My observations lead me to think that many persons mistake the aim and scope of Freemasonry, and enter with the indistinct idea of obtaining some financial support from the general body. In some provincial lodges this notion is to a certain extent encouraged by the practice of including in the O.B. a pledge to prefer a Master Mason in all trade dealings, which, I think, most objectionable and lowering to the high tone of the pure ceremony. I hope I am not wrong in the opinion that no man should be accepted as a candidate for Freemasonry to whom the loss of his situation would mean utter penury, or whose death would throw his family at once upon the charity of the

Craft. Unforeseen circumstances may, of course, bring about such a state of things, but at the actual period of his introduction a candidate should be in reputable circumstances, which I understand to mean, not only a respectable social position, but either means or friends or both to fall back upon.

If, at the time he desires admission, he is not in that happy position he would, I submit, be far better advised, and the interests of the Craft would be far better consulted, if he entered the ranks of a friendly society.

I am, yours fraternally,

T. B. WHYTEHEAD.

Since writing the above I have read the excellent letter of "Spero," in your last issue, in which I perfectly agree, as regards the point on which I have written.

SCHOOLS BASED ON THE PRINCIPLES OF MASONRY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Some few days ago the idea of forming schools based on the principles of Masonry was mooted by one or more of your correspondents. There can be no question as to the great necessity and importance of such institutions. It would be a boon to many a fellow craftsman who is able to commit the training of his children to those who would care for them on the ground of common brotherhood. But such a scheme as that proposed by your correspondents, would involve a great amount of care, thought, and expense, and after all it would be but an experiment. Would it not be better therefore in the meantime to select some already existing school, say such as that advertised in your educational columns viz., Tollington Park College, as the basis of the experiment, and not only so but as forming a very desirable centre for the preliminary operations of a Masonic school. It appears from the deputations of the above College and its principals that it is adapted in every way for the purposes suggested. I should be glad if brethren interested in the education of their offspring in its Masonic aspects would ventilate the subject at greater length. As Masons it is of all things of the greatest importance that our offspring should be taught to revere and embrace the principles so sacred to their parents, amid the uncertain ring in modern educational establishments. I as a parent would hail with pleasure an institution of a Masonic character where my children could be taught not Masonic vices as that poor unfortunate woman, wife of a New York Mason, describes it, but Masonic virtues, which are only real when they show themselves in sobriety, grace and serenity of conduct, and an earnest desire for the higher culture of our children.

Yours very sincerely,

J. H. TOWNEND, M.D.

WENTWORTH LITTLE MEMORIAL.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I was very glad to see the advertisement in your last week's issue asking for donations for the above object, I think the appeal should be most generously and heartily responded to. When we consider the great zeal and talents displayed by our late brother, who devoted so much of his time, not only for the practical benefit of the Order, but in the elucidation of the historical and mystical teachings of our rites and ceremonies, and there were many brethren who were brought under his personal influence, there should not be any fear for the attainment of the objects the Committee have in view, which I perceive are threefold: 1st The Mural Tablet. 2nd The benefit of the widow. 3rd The perpetuation of Bro. Little's name in the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.

I will send my donation to Bro. Buss.

Yours fraternally,

AN ADMIRER OF OUR LATE BROTHER.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF HAMPSHIRE AND THE ISLE OF WIGHT.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother.

In reply to D.P.G.M., I must congratulate him on the very able defence he made of a somewhat bad case; but a reply to one or two of his statements is necessary.

1stly He bases the defence mainly on the fact, that the day of the meeting was altered, and consequently may have interfered with the arrangements of those intending to be present; but he seems to forget that a "second" return was called in consequence of this alteration, and therefore renders this portion of his argument valueless.

2ndly Whether the appointments are intended as compliments to deserving lodges, or in recognition of a brother's high Masonic worth, or in deference to the weight of a brother's social position or money bags; is entirely beside the question raised, viz., the inconsistency of procedure at these P.G.L. meetings.

3rdly As to the inconvenience of altering the officers after they are called out; I contend since the announcement at Basingstoke, it only implies a want of forethought in those who are responsible in arranging the list, in not having some alternative names ready, and thus provide for the absentees. There cannot be any difficulty in this course, as we are duly informed at each meeting how difficult it is to select names from amongst so many deserving brethren for the few collars at the disposal of the P.G.M.

I am, dear Sir and Bro. faithfully and fraternally yours,

CONSISTENCY.

MASONIC ELECTIONS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

It appears from the agenda of Grand Lodge that the Board of General Purposes "have appointed a Committee to enquire and report whether any better mode

can be devised than that specified in the Book of Constitutions, which may ensure greater accuracy in conducting the elections by Grand Lodge of members for the several Boards and Committees."

Colonel Creaton has proposed, for the next Quarterly Committee of the Girls' School, "That a sub-committee of five brethren be appointed to consider and report to the Quarterly Court, in January next, on the advisability of revising the laws of that Institution."

Thus, in two important directions, the necessity for the reform, which was so repeatedly urged in the columns of the *Freemason* during the early part of this year, has been practically admitted.

It now remains for the General Committee of the Boys' School to follow in the same direction, and, if any good is to result, the subscribers would do well, not only to appoint an independent Sub-committee, but also to add to the instructions, that a special report be made on the regulations for the election of Committees, and the alterations that are necessary to prevent irregularities.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

H. T. THOMPSON.

OLD LIST OF LODGES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

One of your correspondents is writing for an old register of lodges. I have in my possession "a List of Regular Lodges, according to their Seniority of Constitution, by order of the Grand Master," printed for and sold by Wm. Cole, engraver and copper-plate printer, opposite Warwick-lane, in Newgate-street; it is printed in copper-plate with emblems. Unfortunately the title page is gone, but I think it was issued about 1770.

Yours fraternally,

SAMUEL JONES.

J.G. Warden of Devonshire.

LEADER ON THE GRAND LODGE OF SCOTLAND.

To the Editor of the *Freemason*.

Dear Sir and Brother,

You say: "In England our G.L. lays down £5 5s. as a minimum of initiation fees." See Book of Constitutions, Ed. 1871, p. 86, art. 9. "No person shall be made a Mason for less than £3 3s., exclusive of the registering fee."

I have not noticed that it was altered in the Quarterly Communications of Grand Lodge since that edition; it may be for all that. If it is a slip its will be pointed out, and we always look up to you as being almost infallible (its not every one that "lays his two pence to see for himself,") although its a great pity.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours faithfully and fraternally,

ROBERT OWEN.

[It is a mistake, see leader.—ED.]

SOCIAL GATHERINGS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Brother "Omicron," whose letter appeared last week, has thrown out an invaluable suggestion, by urging that we have social meetings in which our one-sided selfishness ought to be abandoned, and to which ladies can be introduced with safety, as in other respectable and religious societies.

I am proud to find, for the honour of the Craft, that this is a growing desire for this, and I am in correspondence with lodges now, with the view of holding first-class soirées, followed by suitable Masonic addresses, musical and other amusements, dissolving views, &c. These may be got up at one-eighth the expense to the brethren, keep them from the ruinous society of those who go to extremes, draw others into their habits, and bring Masonry into disrepute.

Another grand object may thus be accomplished, both provident and philanthropic, viz., a valuable aid to the funds of the charities, and the pleasing prospect if generally adopted throughout the various lodges, that the case of every applicant to those institutions may be easily met.

I would say to Bro. "Omicron" and others, I shall be most happy to join them to address meetings got up either in London or the provinces, with that object, and to receive communication from those interested in so desirable a reform, observing that to the honour of the brethren of the Surrey Masonic Club, at Camberwell, they have recently made a start, and are worthy of every support from brethren in the South of London, who wish to do good to Masonry.

I especially and with confidence urge the subject on the brethren of the clergy.

With best wishes,

W. DARLEY, P.M.

P.S.—Ladies will be delighted to aid the movement.

The pulpit in Hereford Cathedral will be occupied every Sunday evening during the present month by Bishops. Bishop MacDougall preached on Sunday night, and the other preachers will be the Bishops of Dunedin, Missouri, Kingston, and Iowa.

An unknown malady has attacked the crawfish in the canal and streams near Luneville. They are found dead in the holes serving as their retreat.

The Consecration of the Eldon Lodge, No. 1755, took place on Tuesday last, in the large room over the Pier Refreshment Hall, Portishead. It was a very full meeting, Bro. R. C. Else, V.W.D.P.G.M., was the Consecrating Officer. A full report will appear in our next.

Bro. Sir F. M. Williams Bart., M.P., died suddenly at Heanton Court, near Barnstaple, on Tuesday evening. An obituary of this popular brother appears in another column.

## Masonic and General Tidings.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cheshire will be held at Nantwich on the 12th inst., under the presidency of Bro. the Right Hon. Lord de Tabley, R.W.P.G.M.

**WEST INDIA ISLANDS.**—Mr. F. A. Ober, who has been engaged for several years in prosecuting investigations into the ethnology and archaeology of the West India Islands, under the direction of the Smithsonian Institution, reached Martinique in the beginning of July, where he purposes to continue his labours. He has already explored the islands of Dominica, St. Vincent, Santa Lucia, Antigua, and Tobago, and has sent home a very good collection of the birds of those islands, including quite a number recently described by George N. Lawrence as new to science. He has also supplied many archaeological objects of considerable interest. A list of the birds of Dominica and St. Vincent, prepared by Mr. Laurence, is published in the "Proceedings" of the National Museum at Washington, and the notices of the remaining islands will soon appear in the same journal. Mr. Ober expects to return to the United States, in September or October next.—*Nature*.

In consequence of continued ill-health Mr. Knox, the senior magistrate at the Marlborough-street police-court, has retired from the bench, to which he was appointed about thirteen years ago. The *Daily Telegraph* mentions, as "worth record, Mr. Knox's acquaintance with the finger language." He also proved himself a good linguist, speaking French, German, and Italian. This is a subject of deep regret to all, as the services of that excellent magistrate have been very great.

Last week Bro. Sir A. Woods, Garter King at Arms, placed the insignia, and banner of King Humbert, of Italy, one of the recently created Knights of the Garter, in the choir of St. George's Chapel, Windsor. The banner, gules, a cross argent, was hung above the stalls on the Princes' side, between the flags of the Shah of Persia and the Duke of Mecklenburg. An ornate plate, bearing the arms of the new knight, was at the same time affixed to the back of the stall, the engraved inscription being as under:—"Du très-haut, très-puissant, et très-excellent Monarque Humbert, Roi d'Italie, Chevalier du très-noble Ordre de la Jarretière. Dispensé des cérémonies d'installation par lettres patentes, datées du XVIème jour de mars, MDCCCXXXVIII." Bro. Sir Albert Wood's and his assistants likewise removed the banner of the late King of Hanover, and re-arranged the flags in the choir.

An appalling accident took place on the Thames on Tuesday evening. The Princess Alice, one of the largest steamers of the London Steam-boat Company, with between six and seven hundred passengers on board, was on her return journey when, nearly opposite Woolwich, she was run into by a large screw steamer. The Princess Alice sank, and five hundred of her passengers reported drowned.

**MAKING A COAT IN A DAY.**—Some years ago a gentleman made a bet of one thousand guineas, that he would have a coat made in the course of a single day, from the first process of shearing the sheep, to its completion by the tailor. The wager was decided at Newbury, on the 25th of June, 1811, by Mr. John Coxeter, of Greenham Mills, near that town. At five o'clock that morning, Sir John Throckmorton, Bart., presented two Southdown wether sheep to Mr. Coxeter. Accordingly the sheep were shorn, the wool spun, the yarn spooled, warped, loomed, and wove; the cloth burbed, milled, rowed, dyed, dried, sheared, and pressed, and put into the hands of the tailors, by four o'clock that afternoon; and at twenty minutes past six, the coat, entirely finished, was presented by Mr. Coxeter to Sir John Throckmorton, who appeared with it before an assemblage of upward of 5000 spectators, who rent the air with their acclamations.—*Keystone*.

The Colony of Victoria at the Paris Exhibition has a special interest in collecting hints and suggestions for its own International Exhibition, which is to be held at Melbourne in 1880. To interest the French as well as the British public in the coming "world's fair," the *Illustrated Australasian News* has brought out an entertaining special number for the Paris Exhibition, containing some excellent views of Melbourne and the other principal towns of the colony, in addition to sketches of various local industries and manufactures. Amongst the engravings a large panoramic view of Melbourne and a reproduction of the successful design for the Exhibition buildings are particularly noteworthy. The accompanying letterpress gives a brief history of the Colony, its climate, institutions, and the advantages offered to colonists, besides describing the illustrations, and is in both French and English, with a few brief notes in German and Italian.

Last week the Somerset Archaeological and Natural History Society concluded its 30th annual meeting, the excursions during the week having been to the principal buildings of archaeological interest in the neighbourhood of Bruton. The society has above 500 members, and the Rev. Canon Meade has succeeded Bishop Clifford in the presidency. Among the places visited has been a small and quaint old building at Witham, near Frome, known as the guest-house. The parish church of Bruton was the subject of a paper by Mr. Carpenter, who said the edifice was one of the finest examples in the district of the style of architecture prevalent at the end of the 15th century, and for which Somerset and Dorset are famous. The works in connexion with the restoration were described and stated to have so far cost £4500. The fine old Abbey ruins, the Abbot's house, and Hugh Secsey's Hospital were visited, and a very ancient and important cartulary of Bruton Abbey was introduced to the society by Mr. John Batten, of Aldon.

We are asked to state that the New Concord Lodge of Instruction has removed to the "Jolly Farmers," Southgate-road, N. The meetings for the season will commence on Wednesday next, the 11th inst., under the Preceptorship of Bro. Cusworth, P.M.

We notice with great regret the sad accident which befel the Princess Alice, involving the loss of some 500 lives, which has cast a gloom over the country, and note that a design was proposed some few years since by Bro. W. Darley, and introduced to Mr. Plimsoll, M.P., and others in the House of Commons, which, if carried out, in the construction of such vessels as river saloon boats, would be the means of saving many lives in case of collision. It is simply this, that the saloon itself be constructed as a vessel, resting on the general hull, but so arranged that should a collision lead to the sinking of the hull, the saloon will remain afloat, and be a means of safety. In Bro. Darley's address at Camberwell, he made reference also to a correspondence with a view of rendering Her Majesty and Royal Family more secure from danger.

The *Folkestone Chronicle* records another instance of the uncertainty of life, and the circumstances are unusually painful. On Thursday evening week, one of the officers of Excise in the Canterbury district, who resided in Wincheap, was dressing in order to attend a meeting of the St. Augustine's Lodge of Freemasons, of which he was a member, when he suddenly expired. The coroner was made acquainted with the case, but as death was certified to have resulted from heart disease, Mr. Delasaux did not consider it necessary to hold an inquest. The remains of the deceased were interred in St. Gregory's churchyard on Sunday afternoon, and a large number of Freemasons attended the mournful ceremony, including Bro. Secra, W.M., and Bro. Cosens, S.W. The officiating minister was the Rev. R. N. Gandy. Mr. Chidwick was a widower, aged forty-six years, and was held in respect and esteem by a numerous circle of friends. He leaves no family, his children having died before him.

## METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS

For the Week ending Friday, September 13, 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, SEPTEMBER 7.

Gen. Com. Boys' School, at 4.

R.A. Chap. 975, Rose of Denmark, Star & Garter, Kew. B.

## 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, SEPTEMBER 9.

Lodge 1366, Highgate, Gatehouse Hot., Highgate.

## 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, SEPTEMBER 10.

Lodge 167, St. John's, Holly Bush Tav., Hampstead.

" 548, Wellington, White Swan Tav., Deptford.

" 1269, Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.

" 1604, Wanderers, F.M.H.

Mark Lodge 22, Southwark, Bdge. House Hot., London B.

## LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.

Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.

Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.

Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.

Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.

Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.

Prosperity, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.

Florence Nightingale, F.M.H., William-st., Woolwich.

Constitutional, Bedford Hot., Southampton Bds., at 7.

Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.

Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.

Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone.

Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.

St. John of Wapping, Gun Hot., High-st., Wapping.

Three Bucks, Islington, 23, Gresham-st., at 7 p.m.

Leopold, Woolpack Tavern, Bermondsey-st.

Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.

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

Sir Hugh Myddelton, 162, St. John's-st.-rd.

## WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11.

Com. R.M.B.I., at 3.

Lodge 87, Vitruvian, White Hart, College-st., Lambeth.

" 1228, Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone.

## LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-rd., N.

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, SEPTEMBER 12.

Lodge 1321, Emblematic, Tulse Hill Hot., Tulse Hill.

" 1471, Islington, Cock Tav., Highbury, N.

" 1558, Duke of Connaught, Surrey M.H.

" 1642, Earl of Carnarvon, La. broke Hall, Notting-hl.

Chap. 72, Royal Jubilee, Horns Tav., Kennington.

" 619, Beadon, Horns Tav., Kennington.

## 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, SEPTEMBER 13.

## 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, Mire Hot., Goulborne-rd., Notting-hill.

Pythagorean Chapter, Portland Hot. London-st., Greenwich.

## MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, September 14, 1878.

## MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9.

Lodge 314, Peace and Unity, Militia Rooms, Preston.

" 613, Unity, Palatine-buildings, Southport.

" 703, Clifton, Clifton Arms, Blackpool.

" 721, Independence, Eastgate-row, Chester.

" 1021, Hartington, Custom House-bdgs., Barrow.

" 1350, Fernor Hesketh, M.H., Liverpool.

" 1398, Baldwin Castle, Dalton-in-Furness.

" 1496, Trafford, Northumberland Hot., Old Trafford.

Chap. 148, Elias Ashmole, M.R., Warrington.

Egerton Mark Lodge 161, Bedford House, Rock Ferry.

Walton Conclave, Skelmersdale Hall, Liverpool.

Derby L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

## TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10.

Lodge 241, Merchants, M.H., Liverpool.

" 897, Loyalty, Fleece Inn, St. Helen's.

" 986, Hesketh, Grapes Inn, Croston.

" 1250, Gilbert Greenall, M.H., Warrington.

" 1256, Fidelity, Bull Hot., Poulton-le-Fylde.

" 1713, Willbraham, Walton Institute, Walton.

Chap. 613, Bridson, M.H., Southport.

Red Cross Conclave, Liverpool M.H., Liverpool.

Stanley L. of I., 214, Gt. Homer-st., Liverpool.

Prince Arthur L. of I., 80, N. Hill-st., Liverpool.

## WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11.

Lodge 86, Loyalty, Crown Hot., Prescot.

" 281, Fortitude, Athenæum, Lancaster.

" 484, Faith, Gerard's Arms, Ashton-in-Makerfield.

" 580, Harmony, Wheat Sheaf, Ormskirk.

" 758, Ellesmere, M.H., Rur.corn.

" 1061, Triumph, M.H., Lytham.

" 1094, Temple, M.H., Liverpool.

" 1356, De Grey and Ripon, M.H., N. Hill-st., L'pool.

" 1387, Chorlton, M.R., Chorlton-cum-Hardy.

" 1403, W. Lancashire, Commercial Hot., Ormskirk.

" 1547, Liverpool, M.H., Liverpool.

Chap. 86, Lebanon, Crown Hot., Prescot.

" 178, Harmony, M.H., Wigan.

" 1345, Victoria, Cross Keys, Eccles.

Neptune L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

## THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12.

Provincial Grand Lodge of Cheshire, Nantwich.

Lodge 216, Harmonic, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.

" 249, Mariners, M.H., Liverpool.

" 333, Royal Preston, Royal Hot., Preston.

" 477, Mersey, M.R., Birkenhead.

" 1035, Prince of Wales, M.H., Kirkdale.

" 1182, Duke of Edinburgh, M.H., Liverpool.

" 1213, Bridgewater, Cross Keys, Eccles.

" 1384, Equity, Alford Chambers, Widnes.

Chap. 220, Harmony, Wellington Hot., Garston.

## FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13.

Lodge 1289, Rock, Bedford House, Rock Ferry.

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