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

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

**YORK.**—York Lodge (No. 236).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, 16th inst. Present Bros. W. Valentine, W.M.; G. C. Basket, S.W.; A. Buckle, J.W.; G. Kirby, Sec.; J. Todd, P.M.; T. Cooper, P.M.; W. Lawton, P.M.; C. Smith, P.M.; T. B. Whytehead, W.M. 1611, &c. After a successful ballot had been taken for a candidate, the W.M. moved that the lodge do express its sympathy with the family of the late Bro. W. Cowling, P.M., whose death was such a loss to the lodge which he had served so faithfully as Treasurer. Bro. Wm. Lawton, P.M., seconded the resolution, which was carried; after which Bro. J. Todd, P.M., moved that the lodge do go into mourning for three months in respect to the memory of their late Treasurer. This was seconded by Bro. T. B. Whytehead, who said that he was glad of the opportunity of acknowledging the many virtues of their late brother, and that, though differences of opinion in matters of detail might have existed, they must all freely admit that Bro. Cowling was indeed a "bright Mason." This motion having been carried, the lodge proceeded to elect a Secretary in place of Bro. Cowling, and Bro. J. Todd, P.M., was unanimously chosen. Bro. Todd having expressed his acknowledgements, the lodge was closed in solemn form. During the course of the proceedings Bro. T. S. Camidge, Organist, presented to the lodge a handsomely-bound "Breeches Bible," on behalf of a York gentleman.

**SITTINGBOURNE.**—St. Michael's Lodge (No. 1273).—The installation meeting of this flourishing lodge was held on Thursday, the 12th inst., in St. Michael's school room. There were about 50 present on the occasion. Among the visitors were several Provincial Officers. The W.M., Bro. F. J. Seale, presided, having Bro. F. F. Girard, P.M. 133, P.P.G.J.D. in the S.W. chair; Bro. H. Penfold, P.M. 1273, P.P.G.O. in the J.W. chair. After the opening of the lodge, the minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M. elect, Bro. H. Tuff, was duly presented, by Bro. B. Taylor, I.P.M., to Bro. F. J. Seale, who formally installed him as Master of the Lodge. The Board of Installing Masters were Bros. F. J. Seale, I.P.M.; H. J. Sutton, S.W.; J. M. Longhurst, J.W.; W. Challenger, S.D.; A. F. Tucker, J.D.; J. Potter, I.G.; H. Black, D.C.; R. Murrell, Tyler. A vote of thanks was then given to the I.P.M., for the able manner in which he had performed the duties of Installing Master. The lodge having been closed in the usual manner, the brethren adjourned to the Bull Hotel, where a sumptuous banquet had been prepared by Bro. J. Owens, P.M., 133, which was very admirably served, about 60 brethren being present. After the cloth was cleared, the usual Masonic and patriotic toasts were given and most cordially received. During the evening the W.M., in the name of the lodge, presented Bro. F. J. Seale, with a very handsome P.M. jewel, as a slight recognition of his services during his year of office. A collection was made for the sufferers of the Princess Alice disaster, amounting to six pounds. The gathering was a most happy and successful one.

INSTRUCTION.

**FINSBURY PARK LODGE** (No. 1288).—The Master Masons of this lodge met at the Finsbury Park Tavern, Holloway, on Friday, the 13th inst. There were present Bros. Bayley, W.M.; Frampton, S.W.; Jeffreys, P.M.; J. W.; L. R. Rogers, P.M.; Preceptor; H. B. D. Dunn, Secretary; Press, S.D.; Walker, P.M., J.D.; Thompson, I.G. The lodge was opened in the First Degree; the minutes were read and confirmed; the ceremonies of the First and Second Degrees were rehearsed. Bro. Frampton was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and the officers appointed in rotation. The lodge was then adjourned until Friday, the 20th inst., at eight o'clock. There were also present Bros. Rogers, P.M.; Walker, Jeffreys, Press, Thompson, Bayley, Dunn, Frampton, Edmonds, and others. The annual supper of this lodge will take place on the 11th of October next.

Royal Arch.

**BEDFORD.**—Stuart Chapter (No. 540).—The companions of this chapter held their September meeting on Tuesday evening, 10th inst. Present Comps. A. Cookson, M.E.Z.; J. M. Cutbert, H.; Col. Stuart, P.Z., acting J.; Stafford, First Ass. Soj.; Capt. Calburne, E.; Carter, Treas.; R. Boughton-Smith, acting N.; J. R. Bull, P.Z.; and Sergeant and Kilpin. Minutes of former chapter read and confirmed. Comps. Fisher, J. being abroad, Tebbs and Billan, P. Soj., away from home, Coomb, Second Asst. Soj., ill, all sent reasons for not being present. The attendance was smaller than usual, many other companions being away from home and unwell. Col. Stuart, in very appropriate terms, referred to the very sudden death of our late Comp. Harris, of Springfield, and proposed a vote of condolence and sympathy to his wife and mother; this was seconded by the M.E.Z., in well-chosen terms. After the transaction of certain routine business the chapter was closed in due form, and the companions adjourned to refreshment, and spent a pleasant evening.

**HAMPTON.**—Era Chapter (No. 1423).—A convocation of this chapter was held at the Island Hotel on Saturday the 14th inst., when there were present, Companions Thiellay, M.E.Z.; F. Walters, P.Z., P.P.G.A.S. Middlesex, H.; W. Hammond, P.Z., P.P.G.A.S. of Middlesex, acting J.; T. C. Walls, P.G.O. of Middlesex, S.N.; Austin, D.C.; Johnson; Tagg; and Harrison, Acting Janitor. Companion Haslett, Prudent Brethren, was a visitor. The minutes of the previous convocation were read and confirmed, and the Auditors' Report received and adopted. Several communications from absent members were read. There were two candidates on the agenda for exaltation, but neither of them attended. Previously to the chapter being closed, a vote of thanks was unanimously passed to Comp. Thiellay, M.E.Z., for the attention and zeal displayed by him in superintending the furnishing of the chapter. There being no other business before the convocation, it was duly closed, and the companions adjourned to a collation. There were no toasts. The next meeting of the chapter will take place on the second Saturday in May next.

Mark Masonry.

**YORK.**—York Lodge (F.I.).—On Tuesday evening last, the W.M., Bro. T. B. Whytehead, presiding, five candidates were advanced to the honourable degree. The S.W. (Bro. the Hon. W. T. Orde-Powlett) was elected W.M. for the ensuing year, and Bro. Thos. Cooper, P.M., was re-elected Treasurer. A meeting of the York Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners was subsequently held (Bros. T. B. Whytehead, N.; G. Simpson, as S.; T. Cooper, J.; J. S. Cumberland, Conductor), when six candidates were regularly elevated.

**LIVERPOOL.**—West Lancashire Mark Lodge (No. 65).—The periodical meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday evening, the 4th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Liverpool. There were present Bros. J. Hayes, W.M.; R. H. Evans, as S.W.; W. P. Jennings, as J.W.; A. C. Wylie, M.O.; R. Reader, S.O.; W. Corbett, as J.O.; W. C. Erwin, I.G.; and Past Masters H. Jackson, T. Clark, J. R. Goepel, Treas., P.G.O.; W. T. May, and H. S. Alpass. After two brethren had been advanced, the election for W.M. took place, when Bro. R. H. Evans, J.W., was duly elected. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren retired for refreshments, which were very comfortably supplied by the new house steward, Bro. Chaplain. The remainder of the evening was most agreeably spent. The installation of W.M. will take place on the first Wednesday in November.

**PLUMSTEAD.**—Excelsior Lodge (No. 226).—The first quarterly meeting of the above lodge since its consecration, in June last, took place on Tuesday, the 10th inst., at Bro. Garbett's house, the Sir Robert Peel, on Anglesca-hill, Bro. Captain Ritchie, R.A., W.M., in the chair, supported by the following officers: Bros. Sculley, S.W. (in the unavoidable absence of Bro. C. Coupland), James Smythe, J.W.; the Rev. C. A. Solbe, Chaplain; W. A. Weston, M.O.; Abel Penfold, S.O.; H. Shaw, J.O.; Henry Pryce, Treasurer; G. Kennedy, Secretary; G. Spinks, S.D.; E. Palmer, J.D.; Daniel Deeves, I.G.; Eugene Sweny, R. of M.; H. Harding, Organist; and J. Lackland, Tyler. The lodge having been opened with solemn prayer, offered by the Chaplain, and the minutes and accounts passed, Bro. J. Wilkins, J.W. 700; Thomas Read, 1536; Dr. Spurrell, P.M. St. John's and St. Paul's, and S.W. of the Sydney Lodge; Isaac Quinsey, S.D. Perfect Ashlar Lodge; and Walter Osborne, 1536, were with due form advanced to the Mark Degree. It was then unanimously resolved that the sum of two guineas, supplemented by the contents of the last and present charity box collection, should be sent to the Lord Mayor's fund, formed for the relief of the sufferers of the late fatal catastrophe on the Thames. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to a plain, but excellent supper, supplied by Bro. Garbett, with his acknowledged taste and skill. After the removal of the cloth, the W. Master gave the usual loyal and Mark Masonic toasts. The W.M. then rose

and said, he wished it to be known to many of the brethren who were not present at the closing of the lodge, what steps had been taken in reference to the accident to the steamer "Princess Alice." It was proposed and unanimously carried that the sum of two guineas, and the contents of the charity box, should be given to the fund for the relief of the sufferers now forming at the Mansion House, and that at the same time a vote of condolence and sympathy with them, should, with the sum gathered, be sent to the Lord Mayor at once. It was impossible for him to attempt to tell them the extent of the catastrophe. Those of the members of the Excelsior Lodge who live in the locality must have seen daily the evidences of its most appalling and distressing nature; for himself his heart had been wrung by reading the piteous accounts that appeared in the journals of the day. (Hear, hear.) He felt sure the feelings of every true Mason had as well been deeply touched, and that they would help the cause to the utmost of their power. The charity box was then passed round the lodge and produced £3, and was again passed round, and the sum raised, with the £2 2s. voted, then amounted to £9 8s. 6d., which has since been remitted to London. As one of the advanced was compelled to retire, the W.M. said he should go somewhat out of the usual course in proposing next the toast of the "Advanced Brethren." He need not say how welcome they were within the landmarks of Mark Masonry, which at present was but in its infancy in Woolwich. Among those advanced were brethren who had made their mark in Craft Masonry, and he held "that every Mark Mason should be a marked man." (Cheers.) Some of them might have had the opportunity of reading lately a book which gave them the histories of the "Men of Mark" of the country, and he trusted that the Mark Masons, every one of them, would endeavour to emulate the virtues and excellences of those "men of mark," and be "marked men" in the society they belonged to. (Applause.) Their lodge was "The Excelsior," higher and yet higher, and while they had such good Masons and good men joining its ranks as they had that night, it would ever be worthy of its name and aspirations. (Loud Cheers.) Bros. Spurrell, Wilkins, and Reed severally responded. Bro. Weston then proposed "The Health of the W.M.," who, he said, from the manner in which he had done his work that night, would, he felt sure, leave his mark in that lodge. They were proud of such a Master. (Cheers.) The W.M. said, if there was one thing more than another that made him value his position, it was the very gratifying reception they at all times gave him, and the indulgence they had shown him in carrying out the duties of the lodge that evening. It is at all times a very difficult matter to fill the chair of a lodge to one's own satisfaction; and in the presence of some of those worthy Masons who had filled, and now do fill, important positions in the province, he felt how unworthy he was to carry out with dignity the exalted position they had placed him in. (No, No.) He felt convinced that in the S.W. (Bro. Coupland) they had a coming Master who would be an honour to them; and for himself, while he held the gavel, he would do his best to make this Mark Lodge worthy of its name. (Applause.) To a warm reception of the toast of "The Officers," Bro. Smythe, in returning thanks said, he did so in the name of his brother officers for the great compliment paid them. If they had done their duty well it was only reciprocating the work done by the Master. (Hear, Hear.) Nothing could make subordinates enter into their duty with zeal and assiduity, so much as the example set by their chief, and in that they considered themselves fortunate, for with the example set them by the chair it was impossible for them to do otherwise than to work well and diligently in the exercise of those duties entrusted to their charge. (Cheers.) Their Master was a man who, while doing the most important duties elsewhere, yet devoted a great portion of that spare time, little as it was at his disposal, to the perfect carrying out of his Masonic duties. In that lodge he held it to be only their duty to follow so noble and worthy an example. As an old Mason, he held that there should be a tone given by language, by presence, by mannerism, so as to elevate the standard of the lodge by its very excellence, and those qualifications they were again very fortunate in having with their W.M. (Applause.) Bro. Smyth, at the conclusion of a very lengthy and brilliant speech, said that as the name of the lodge was Excelsior, so would the officers unite with the Master and the brethren in sustaining its name pure and unsullied among the Mark Masons of not only the Province of Kent, but before the world, and resumed his seat amid prolonged applause. Bro. Smythe then, by the permission of the W.M., proposed a special toast in favour of Bro. Scully, who, at a moment's notice, had taken the chair of S.W., and complimented that brother for the excellent working displayed by him in that position. Bro. Scully briefly returned thanks for the hearty way in which the brethren had received his name, and Bro. C. Jolly, (Freemason), responded for the "Masonic Press." Bro. Weston was worthily honoured for his efforts generally in the welfare of the lodge, and then the Tyler's toast concluded the proceedings, which had throughout been reverently and solemnly conducted, on account of the appalling accident on the Thames, so near them, without songs or music.

**HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.**—Indigestion and Liver Complaints.—The digestion cannot be long or seriously disordered without the derangement being perceptible on the countenance. These Pills prevent both unpleasant consequences; they improve the appetite, and with the increase of desire for food, they augment the powers of digestion and assimilation in the stomach. Holloway's Pills deal most satisfactorily with deranged and diseased conditions of the many organs engaged in extracting nourishment for our bodies from our various diets—as the liver, stomach, and bowels—over all of which they exercise the most salutary control. By resorting at an early stage of this malady to these purifying and laxative Pills, the dyspeptic is speedily restored to health and strength, and his sallowness gradually vanishes.

### PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORLAND.

The annual meeting of the united Province of Cumberland and Westmorland was held at Millom, under the banner of the Whitwell Lodge, No. 1390, on Friday, the 13th inst. This is the first time the Provincial Grand Lodge has been held so far south; in fact, Millom lays almost on the borders of Lancashire, the smoke, furnaces, and tall chimneys of Dalton and Barrow being plainly visible.

Only half-a-dozen years old, Whitwell Lodge, from very humble beginnings, has attained a very important position in Masonic affairs, notwithstanding the near proximity of so many lodges in North-West Lancashire. There is, however, room enough for all, both sides of the border, and the utmost "entente cordiale" exists between these branches of the two provinces. No doubt the extraordinary development of the iron trade furnishes the secret of Masonic prosperity in the comparatively new centres of industry in the south of Cumberland and North of Lancashire, for, in addition to the comparatively recent No. 1390 of the Millom Lodge, we have almost side by side with it the No. 1021 and No. 1225 of Barrow-in-Furness, and the No. 1398 of Dalton-in-Furness. Despite the extreme distance of Millom from the northern part of the province, the county town being fully seventy miles away, whilst Longtown is nine miles east of the border city, the trains from all parts to the scene of the day's proceedings fitted admirably, the only difficulty being the return journey, inasmuch as at least one half of the visitors had to leave shortly after five o'clock, and some at three, the bulk, however, of the north country contingent not requiring to leave till seven o'clock. All the railway companies allowed single fares for the double journey, and, all things considered, the difficulties as to transit were reduced to a minimum. All the deputations from the different lodges had reached Millom by shortly after twelve, at which hour the Charity Committee were summoned to meet. The Public Hall was metamorphosed into an excellent and capacious lodge room, which rendered the crowding and confusion, so annoying at other places, quite impossible, and over two hundred brethren were comfortably seated when the R.W. Provincial Grand Master rose to open the business of the day.

The Earl of Bective, M.P., P.M. 1074, R.W. Provincial Grand Master, took his seat on the throne at one o'clock, and there were present the following members of Provincial Grand Lodge:—Bros. Colonel Whitwell, M.P., P.M. 129, R.W. Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Past Grand Warden of England; Joseph Iredale, P.M. 310, Carlisle, P.P. Deputy Grand Master; W. Kirkbride, P.M. 339, Penrith, P.P.G.S.W.; as P.G.S.W.; H. Cook, P.M. 119, Whitehaven, P.P.G. Reg., as P.G.J.W.; Jos. Nicholson, P.M. and Treas. 371, Maryport, P.P.G.S.W.; G. W. Kenworthy, P.M. 119, P.P.G.J.W.; John Bowes, P.M. 129, Kendal, P.P.G.J.W.; Rev. Horace V. Thompson, 1074, Kirkby Lonsdale, P.G. Chaplain; Rev. W. E. Strickland, W.M. 1267, Egremont, P.G. Assist. Chaplain; W. F. Lamonby, P.M. 1002, Cocker-mouth, P.G. Registrar (*Freemason*); W. B. Gibson, P.M. 119, P.P.G.S.W., P.G. Sec.; W. White, P.M. 119, P.P.G.S.D.; J. L. Burns-Lindow, P.M. 1267, P.P.G.J.D.; J. J. Beattie, P.M. 962, Workington, P.P.G. Supt. of Works; T. Atkinson, P.M. 872, Whitehaven, P.G.D.C.; G. J. McKay, W.M. 129, P.G.A.D.C.; W. Armstrong, P.M. 371, P.P.G.D.C.; E. Fearon, P.M. 119, P.P.G.D.C.; J. Mills, P.M. 1390, Millom, P.P.G. Sd. B.; Dr. Page, P.M. 1074, P.P.G. Sd. B.; A. Walter, P.M. 371, P.P.G. Sd. B.; W. Shilton, P.M. 1002, P.P.G. Sd. B.; W. Court, P.M. 310, P.P.G. Sd. B.; J. W. Young, P.M. and Sec. 1400, Harrington, P.G. Purst.; J. W. Meredith, P.M. 1390, P.P.G. Purst.; T. Dodgson, P.M. 1390, P.P.G. Purst.; J. J. Robinson, P.M. 872, P.G. Tyler; W. Lamonby, W.M. 1073, Keswick, P.P.G. Tyler; E. Clark, P.M. 1267, P.G. Steward; J. M. Salisbury, P.M. 872, P.G. Steward; Rev. W. Barton, P.M. 1390, P.P.G. Chap., West Yorks; Walter Croke, P.M. 1390; Quartermaster Sergt. Noakes, 55th Foot, W.M. 1532, Carlisle; J. Bewes, P.M. and Treas. 327, Wigton; T. Mandle, P.M. 371; J. W. Bell, W.M. 1390; T. Dixon, P.M. 1400; W. Martin, W.M. 1660; J. B. Thwaites, W.M. 339; H. Court, P.M. 310; F. Blackburn, W.M. 412, Longtown; J. C. Hunter, P.M. 962; Rev. E. M. Rice, M.A., P.M. 1002; J. W. Robinson, W.M. 371; Jos. Pearson, P.M. 327; E. Tyson, W.M. 119; W. H. Hoodless, P.M. 327; W. Lawrence, S.W. 1390; F. Hodgson, S.W. 872; W. Mason, S.W. 412; Capt. Sewell, S.W. 1002; T. Bird, J.W. 1002; W. Bradley, J.W. 1390; W. Blaylock, J.W. 412.

The other members of the different lodges in the province, who attended, were as follows:—Lodge 119, Whitehaven: Bros. W. Holloway, E. J. Fletcher, Jos. Fisher, J. J. Atkinson, J. W. Miles, Sec.; G. Sparrow, H. H. Hampton, W. Bewlay, I.G.; and G. Fitzgerald, Tyler. Lodge 129, Kendal: Bro. Jos. Wilkinson, S.D. Lodge 310, Carlisle: Bros. Geo. Murchie, Sec.; G. Hill, W. Blaylock, I.G.; W. Cunningham, Tyler; R. L. Court, S.D.; J. Beaty, J.D. Lodge 339, Penrith: Bro. Wilson Rawes. Lodge 371, Maryport: Bros. J. R. Banks and W. Skelton. Lodge 412, Longtown: Bro. J. M'Vittie, S.D. Lodge 872, Whitehaven: Bros. R. Twentyman, Sec.; G. W. Smith, W. Spowart, John Nixon, A. M. Gill, A. Hardie, I.G.; and W. R. Rogers. Lodge 1002, Cocker-mouth: Bros. H. Peacock, I.G.; J. Hewson, Tyler; J. Bolton, R. Harrison, J. Borrowdale, J. Towers, I. Evening, and J. Pears. Lodge 1073, Keswick: Bros. Thomas Usher and F. Jackson. Lodge 1267, Egremont: Bros. Jos. Goulding, J. J. Wilson, Sec.; S. Braithwaite, Tyler; George Hill, and W. L. Towerson. Lodge 1390, Millom: Bros. W. Atkinson, Sec.; J. E. Madden, T. G. Lewthwaite, Tyler; John Burn, E. E. Atkinson, J. Holloway, Org.; J. Calder, R. A. Mitchell, W. Perkins, S.D.; R. Black, J. Cleator, H. Miller, I.G.; H. Waiting, G. Baines, J. R. Beck, J. Hill, J. Christian, R. E. Johns, T. Carter, and J. Myers Meakin, Lodge 1400, Harrington: Bros. W. Carlyle, W.M. elect., John Back, and Jos. Hodg-

son. Lodge 1660, Frizington: Bro. R. Wilson. Two of the nineteen lodges were wholly unrepresented, viz., No. 812, Appleby, and No. 1220, Silloth.

The visiting brethren from other Provinces were:—Bros. R. W. Worrall, P.M. 425, Chester, P.P.G.S.B. Cheshire; John Walton, P.M. 1398, Dalton-in-Furness; S. J. Wade, P.M. 80, Sunderland, P.P.G.D.C., Durham; R. T. Taylor, P.M. 1021, Barrow-in-Furness; Thos. Trembath, S.D. 1398, Dalton; Solomon Birkett. Lodge 169, Deptford; John Souby Sykes, 18°, Lodge 218, Calcutta; W. Dixon, Lodge 1353, Lancaster; T. Grieve, S.W. 1398, Dalton; and Henry Flask, Lodge Innocent, 224, Cullen, Scotland.

The Provincial Grand Lodge having been opened in due form, the minutes of the half-yearly meeting, held at Penrith, last April, were read and confirmed. The Treasurer's statement of accounts, previously audited by the R.W. Prov. Grand Master, the R.W. Deputy Prov. Grand Master, and Bro. Lamonby, Prov. Grand Registrar, were next presented by Bro. Gibson, P.G. Secretary, in the regrettable absence, through declining health and advancing years, of Bro. John Lemon, P.M. 327, P.G. Treasurer; who has held that office, with honour to himself and great advantage to the Province, for some years past. The principal items of expenditure were one hundred guineas from the general fund to the Boys' School, £20 to the "Indian Famine Relief Fund," and £20 to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. The receipts to the general fund included a large balance from the previous year, as also over £100 for dues.

The balance in hand amounted to £192 14s. 3d. and as the Provincial Benevolent Fund was reduced to a balance of £18 9s. 9d. it was suggested to transfer to it £50 from the general fund. On the motion of the R.W. Deputy Provincial Grand Master, seconded by the Prov. Grand Registrar, the Treasurer's statement of accounts was adopted. The next business was the election of a Provincial Grand Treasurer, and the R.W. Deputy Provincial Grand Master, alluding to the long and valuable services of Bro. John Lemon, and also regretting the circumstances under which the province was forced to lose his assistance, proposed the name of Bro. Geo. Kenworthy, P.P.G.J.W., as one whom he had every confidence would prove a most efficient successor to Bro. Lemon.

Bro. John Bowes, P.P.G.J.W., seconded the motion, which, it is needless to say, was carried with the most cordial unanimity.

Bro. Kenworthy, in acknowledging the compliment conferred upon him, said that although conscious of his inability to fill the office of Provincial Grand Treasurer as worthily as Bro. Lemon, assured the members of the province that his utmost endeavours should be put forward to follow in the footsteps of his predecessor.

The next item on the agenda paper was the election of the Provincial Grand Tyler, and the Provincial Grand Secretary proposed Bro. J. M. Salisbury, one of the oldest Masons in the province, and a P.M. of Lodge 872, to the office.

Bro. T. Atkinson, P.M. 872, P.G.D.C.; seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

The officers for the year were next invested as follows:—  
H. Cook, P.M. 119 ... ... Prov. G.S.W.  
J. R. Bain, P.M. 1400 ... ... Prov. G.J.W.  
Rev. W. E. Strickland, W.M. 1267 ... ... Prov. G. Chaplain.  
Rev. W. Barton, P.M. 1390 ... ... Prov. G. Ass't. Chap.  
G. W. Kenworthy, P.M. 119 ... ... Prov. G. Treasurer.  
J. L. Burns-Lindow, P.M. 1267 ... ... Prov. G. Registrar.  
W. B. Gibson, P.M. 119 ... ... Prov. G. Secretary.  
J. Mills, P.M. 1390 ... ... Prov. G.S.D.  
E. Clark, P.M. 1267 ... ... Prov. G.J.D.  
J. Gardiner, P.M. 371 ... ... Prov. G. Supt. Works.  
G. J. McKay, W.M. 129 ... ... Prov. G.D.C.  
J. M. Sergt. Noakes, 55th Foot, W.M. 1532 ... ... Prov. G.A.D.C.  
H. Bewes, P.M. 327 ... ... Prov. G. Sd. Br.  
J. Holloway, 1390 ... ... Prov. G. Organist.  
E. J. Nelson, P.M. 129 ... ... Prov. G. Purst.  
J. M. Salisbury, P.M. 872 ... ... Prov. G. Tyler.  
G. Potter, P.M. 1532; W. B. Cowman, P.M. 872; G. T. Archibald, P.M. 962; Dr. Horan, P.M. 119; W. H. Hoodless, P.M. 327; T. Mandle, P.M. 371.

The Provincial Grand Secretary brought up the Charity Committee's report, which included a grant of £10 to the widow of a brother of Lodge 371, Maryport, who quite recently was killed on the railway, in the discharge of his daily avocations, leaving four children, the eldest of whom is only four years of age, and the youngest an infant, born after its father's untimely death.

The Charity Committee likewise recommended Lodge 371 to prepare a petition to Grand Lodge Fund of Benevolence, which they would support.

The sum of £5 was also recommended to be given to the aged widow of a Whitehaven brother, and £5 to an aged brother in the same town.

The report, on the motion of the R.W. Deputy Provincial Grand Master, seconded by Bro. G. J. McKay P.G.D.C., was passed nem. dis.

The Provincial Grand Secretary next, referring to the minutes of the previous Provincial Grand Lodge, said that permission had then been granted to Bro. W. F. Lamonby, P.G. Reg., to search the books of the province in the compilation of his intended work on the "History of Craft Masonry in Cumberland and Westmorland." That permission being then granted, on condition that a committee of revision be appointed at the ensuing Provincial Grand Lodge, and the MS. of the work being now ready to hand over, he suggested, with the concurrence of Bro. Lamonby, that the committee consist of the R.W. Deputy Provincial Grand Master, the Provincial Grand Wardens, and the Provincial Grand Secretary.

This was agreed to.

The Provincial Grand Secretary, in accordance with notice of motion, then proposed the addition of the following paragraph to Bye-law XII., of the provincial rules:—"To enable the Provincial Grand Secretary to keep a correct register, it will be necessary for each lodge, immediately after each installation, to furnish him with a copy of return to Grand Lodge, as regards newly-appointed Worshipful Master and Wardens." This addition, he remarked, had more than ever become necessary, from the fact of some lodges in the province having for years neglected to make the necessary returns to Grand Lodge, as provided by the "Book of Constitutions."

Bro. Lamonby, P.P.G. Reg., in seconding the resolution, said he might be allowed to state that it was a modification of a notice of motion sent by him to the Provincial Grand Secretary, and he would explain how it arose. In June last he attended the Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge, and, in looking over the register books of members qualified to sit in Grand Lodge, found that several lodges in this province had neglected to make the required returns, for periods varying from two up to eighteen years. This was a serious matter, and he had considered it his bounden duty to bring the subject before Provincial Grand Lodge. No brother, otherwise qualified, would relish the idea of being excluded or denied admission to Grand Lodge, through neglect on the part of officers in sending in returns, and he hoped that this motion of the Provincial Grand Secretary, modified as it judiciously had been, to serve a double purpose, would be the means of making Worshipful Masters and Secretaries of lodges better acquainted with the provisions of the "Book of Constitutions" than they hitherto appeared to have been.

The motion was carried without any further comment. On the proclamations being put, "Hearty good wishes" were tendered by the visiting brethren from other provinces, and a cordial welcome to Cumberland and Westmorland was given by the R.W. Provincial Grand Master, who thereupon closed the Provincial Grand Lodge in due form.

The brethren were then marshalled in order of procession, and, headed by the Holborn Hill Royal Brass Band, marched to the handsome new church dedicated to Saint George, which is situated on the summit of an eminence, from which an extensive view is obtained of the magnificent range of mountain scenery in South Cumberland and North Lancashire. The sacred edifice was crowded by the general public, in addition to the Masons. The service was full choral, including Whiteley's well-known anthem, "Behold, how good and joyful," beautifully sung by the surpliced choir attached to the church. Prayers were read by the Rev. W. Barton, Incumbent, P.G. Assist. Chaplain; the lesson by the Rev. W. E. Strickland, P.P.G. Chaplain; and the sermon was preached by the Rev. H. V. Thompson, P.P.G. Chaplain, from Psalm cxxxix., v. 23-4:—"Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me, and know my thoughts; and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."

The offertory was divided between the Masonic Charities and the Millom Parish Sunday Schools.

After church service, the procession was reformed to the Public Hall, and at half-past three a large company sat down to an excellently prepared banquet, in the large and new hall, attached to Bro. Waiting's Castle Hotel.

The Earl of Bective, M.P., presided, but, after dessert had been placed upon the tables, was obliged to leave, in order to reach Underley Hall the same evening. His lordship, however, prior to vacating the chair, expressed his warmest thanks, and those of the province generally, for the admirable arrangements made by the brethren of Whitwell Lodge, and he retired from the hall in a "blaze of fire."

Colonel Whitwell thereafter took the chair, and under his genial presidency, a couple of hours were passed in the most harmonious manner, the company, however, having grown wonderfully smaller by degrees and beautifully less, as the hour approached for the departure of the last train. All things considered, the proceedings were highly successful, and, in fact, the W.M. and brethren of Lodge No. 1390 deserve great credit for their systematic efforts and arrangements, on the first occasion of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cumberland and Westmorland going so far south.

### FREEMASONRY IN SCOTLAND.

On Wednesday last a meeting was held in the Trades' Hall, Glassford-street, to take into consideration the proceedings at the last Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. The chair was occupied by Colonel Campbell, of Blythwood, Substitute Grand Master of Scotland, and Prov. G.M. of Renfrewshire East, and there was a large attendance of brethren—from 300 to 400 being present.

Colonel Campbell, on taking the chair, said he felt gratified at the kindness which had been shown him, and said he was perfectly willing to place his services at the disposal of the brethren. (Applause.) Before entering on the business he called upon Bro. Morgan to read some letters of apology for absence.

Bro. Morgan said it would delay the business of the meeting too much to read the letters of apology for absence, but he might say that amongst them they had numerous expressions of cordial sympathy in the movement in which they were engaged. Amongst those who had promised their support were the Earl of Rosslyn, the Earl of Mar and Kellie, Sir James Alexander of Westerton, Bros. Whyte-Melville, Charles Dalrymple, M.P., and a number of others. He had a great pile of letters on the table, many of them with half-a-dozen names attached, expressing their wish to have Sir Michael Shaw-Stewart nominated for re-election.

The Chairman said they were aware that on the 5th August last, at the quarterly communication, there was

a long list of laws which had been recommended for alteration, and when they came up for the convenience of Grand Lodge they were put under certain sections. A large number of the alterations, he thought, were opposed to the rights and privileges of daughter lodges holding of Grand Lodge, and in the interest of Freemasonry in Scotland they should have been fully discussed. There was a proposal that the whole of one of the sections should be passed nem. con., and by a large voting power that had apparently come into Grand Lodge, without knowing that they were about to do, certain members had succeeded in silencing the voices of those who wished to have a discussion of these most important subjects. That was sufficient to show that there ought to be some change in the constitution and working of Grand Lodge, and he regretted that a large number had thought fit to leave the lodge at that time, because if they had held together, though defeated at one time, victory would be sure to crown those who persevered in a good cause. The brethren who retired formed a committee, who had afterwards called that meeting. It had been alleged that this committee of thirty-two was entirely composed of Glasgow brethren, but to show what this was not the case he had to state that there were thirty-two lodges in the Glasgow province, each giving three representatives, but besides, there were fifty who were entitled to vote in right of their proxies. Out of the large number of 146 there were only ten on the committee, which was not an extravagant number. He trusted everything would be done in a constitutional manner, and that it would be shown they had no desire to raise any jealousy between east and west. Their desire was that such scenes as had occurred in Grand Lodge would not occur again, and that their business would be conducted for the benefit of Freemasonry in Scotland, and for the benefit of the Craft they all loved so well. (Applause.)

Captain Harriott moved the first resolution—"That this meeting has learned with regret the means that were taken in many instances to obtain votes at the last Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge on 5th August last, by third parties paying admission fees for members to attend and vote on the occasion; that this is contrary to the spirit of Masonry, and the practice which has hitherto been acted on in conducting the business of Grand Lodge." He said they were not taking up this matter as a party movement, but for the sake of all the lodges throughout Scotland. They wished lodges to come forward, and not send incompetent brethren who would misrepresent them. It was mentioned that third parties were paying admission-fees for members to attend, and this was totally un-masonic. Any one who became a Freemason must pay for himself, otherwise he was not a free agent to vote and think according to his own conscience. (Applause.)

Bro. Robert Wylie, in seconding the motion, said that the fact of so many brethren being drawn together showed there was something rotten in the state of Grand Lodge.

The resolution was put to the meeting, and unanimously adopted.

Bro. Bickerton moved—"That at said Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge brethren voted whose names were not on the qualified voters' roll made up on first Monday of April last, and who were therefore not qualified to vote as provided for by chapter 17, section 15, of Grand Lodge Laws; and this meeting therefore protests that the whole proceedings of Grand Lodge at said Quarterly Communication were null, and are not binding on the brethren." The Grand Lodge Laws, he said, clearly showed that those on the roll at 1st April were alone entitled to vote, except to fill up vacancies as shown in cap 17, sec. 15, Grand Lodge Laws. When the vote was taken on the 5th of August there were those voting that were not on the roll, and on that account he retired, as the proceedings were being conducted in an unconstitutional manner. A few days afterwards he wrote to the Grand Secretary to furnish him with a roll up to date, and he found that since the 1st April 191 names had been placed on the roll, and a large number had voted at that meeting who were not entitled to vote. He, therefore, maintained that the whole business on this account was void. (Applause.)

Bro. Agnew, R.W.M. (No. 126), Kilmarnock, seconded the motion, which was likewise adopted.

Bro. Fisher, R.W.M. (No. 129), Paisley, said that the Grand Committee had ordered a return of the proxy commissions issued since the 24th June, and 120 names were entered on that return who were not entitled to vote.

Bro. R. Nisbet, Prox. Master, (No. 340), moved—"That the present proxy system is unsatisfactory, inasmuch as it fails to secure a due representation of the opinion of lodges in the provinces; and steps ought to be immediately taken by Grand Lodge for improving the same.

Bro. D. M. Neilson, I.P.M., (No. 31), seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Bro. Fisher proposed the next resolution—"That this meeting deprecates, in the strongest possible terms, the proceedings adopted for promoting the candidature of Mr. Henry Inglis as Grand Master, whereby members have been in many instances erroneously led to suppose that the present Grand Master intended to retire from the office." He said that an attempt had been made to shuffle the present Grand Master out of office by giving him a testimonial, and the names of persons were attached to this proposal who knew nothing about it. Direct statements had been made by certain persons in their canvases for Mr. Inglis that Sir Michael intended to retire, and many brethren by this means were induced to sign the requisition to the present Deputy Grand Master, and allowed him to be put in nomination for an office that was not vacant. He thought it would only have been courteous in the first place to ask Sir Michael Shaw-Stewart whether he intended to retire. (Cheers.)

Bro. W. D. Chalmers, R.W.M.; No. 204, A.Yr, seconded the motion, which was put to the meeting, and carried unanimously.

Bro. Barrow moved—"That having regard to the deplorable condition into which the financial affairs of Grand Lodge had fallen, and the energetic measures recently taken to place them in a satisfactory state under the guidance of the present M.W. Grand Master, Sir M. R. Shaw Stewart, Bart., and the fact that for this purpose much still remains to be done, this meeting has learned with satisfaction that he is willing to continue his valuable services for another term; and being satisfied that his reelection to the throne would promote the best interest of Masonry in Scotland, this meeting pledges itself to use every exertion to secure his appointment." The question for them to decide, he said, was whether they would support one who they knew had done right or one who they knew had not acted right. He had been a member of Grand Lodge for four and twenty years, and from the first day he had become aware of the fact that it was a rotten institution, and that it was based on rottenness in consequence of the way in which it was conducted by those in Edinburgh. Investigation after investigation was called for, but they never got any satisfaction. When the new hall was built a great impetus was given to Masonry, and better accounts were afterwards got to account for the income of Grand Lodge, which showed that the Secretary and Treasurer were taking all the income for fees to themselves. When the Secretary died it was found that he was due Grand Lodge a large sum, but most of it went for law expenses. (Laughter.) Earl Dalhousie was afterwards elected Grand Master, but he refused to take office unless a committee was appointed to investigate into Grand Lodge business. That committee came back to Grand Lodge and reported that everything was found in order—everything was complete and perfect. Under the next Grand Secretary, though the income showed a large amount, they were still getting deeper into debt, till Grand Lodge became almost bankrupt. When Sir Michael Shaw-Stewart came to the throne, he was determined to have matters looked into, and took the bull by the horns. The result was that at the end of 1876 the Secretary was dismissed. A cashier and interim-secretary were appointed, and the Finance Committee took every means to carry out the views of the Grand Master. They found, by careful watching and the exertions of the present Grand Secretary, Bro. D. Murray Lyon, means to put the Grand Lodge in a more satisfactory condition. He felt sure that during the last twenty-five years the Grand Lodge must have lost from £50,000 to £70,000. In February, 1877, they had only £20, while they were hundreds in debt; and in 1878 the funds accumulated to nearly £2000, which was a pretty good indication of what proper management could effect. Singular to state, the very persons who were in office during this period of mismanagement some brethren now wished to promote. (Applause.) All they wanted was to get again into power. He did not know whether they were responsible for the "plundering and blundering" in the past, but those who were in office at the time this was going on, were not the people to trust with the management of Grand Lodge. (Applause.) The late Grand Secretary had a salary of £315 a-year, and had stated that he spent £313 out of that amount in carrying on the work, yet he could buy gold medals and silver plate to make presents out of £315, and still manage to live at the rate of £1000 a year. Sir Michael Shaw-Stewart had had great difficulties to contend with in the past, and they might be sure they would not be less in the future if they allowed those who had been in power to get back again. He hoped every brother would lend his aid in every form to return to the chair of Grand Lodge Sir Michael Shaw-Stewart, in order that he might complete those reforms which he had begun, and so leave Grand Lodge in a state worthy of her position. (Applause.)

Bro. John Baird, in seconding the resolution, said that he had heard it stated by the Grand Jeweller that there was a determination that no one outside of Edinburgh should be allowed to sit on the Grand Committee. ("Shame.")

Bro. A. M'Connachie stated that the Earl of Dalhousie left £150, and he wished to know whether this money had ever been handed over to the Grand Lodge. It was meant to form the nucleus for decayed Masons' widows and children, but he had heard that it was handed over to the late Grand Secretary, and spent on a champagne supper. (Laughter.) He asked Bro. Barrow if this was true.

Bro. Barrow said this was not before the meeting, but if the question was put to him in Grand Lodge he would answer it.

The motion was then put to the meeting, and enthusiastically adopted.

Bro. Mackie, R.W.M., (No. 7), Hamilton, proposed the next resolution—"That committees be appointed for Edinburgh, and also for each province, with power to add to their number, for the purpose of promoting the election of Sir M. R. Shaw-Stewart, Bart., and carrying out the foregoing resolutions; and that it be remitted to the present Acting Committee to organise a committee in Edinburgh and in the provinces.

Bro. Moncrieff, Edinburgh, said that they were already taking steps to organise a committee in the city.

Bro. J. A. Ferguson, Prox. S.W., Mother Kilwinning, seconded the motion, which was adopted.

Bro. Macfarlane, Dumbarton, said that capital was being made out of the assertion that this was purely a Glasgow affair, and he hoped that the Central Committee would take care that the committees were organised in such a way as to silence this rumour.

Bro. Barrow said that the object of the meeting was to get Masons from all parts of Scotland to see what was to be done, and where the Central Committee would be a matter for future arrangement.

Bro. Gillespie, R.W.M. (No. 16), Falkirk, seconded by Bro. W. F. Shaw, moved—"That said resolutions be printed, and copies sent to each R.W.M. and Wardens,

with a request that they be submitted for the early consideration of their lodges, and with a hope that they will see fit to give them their support at Grand Lodge meeting to be held on 4th November next, or instruct their proxies to do so."

The resolutions were agreed to, and a vote of thanks having been given to the chairman for presiding, the meeting separated.

## LETTERS FROM OUR IRREPRESSIBLE CORRESPONDENT.

### No. V.—BANQUETS VERSUS CHARITY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I am going to touch upon a very delicate subject to day, and to traverse very dangerous ground, I know, but my hope is that as my intentions are good, my remarks will be received in lenient criticism, and with fraternal consideration. I wish that I could think, that some of our lodges realized the great principle of our Order, Charity. Alas, is it not too patent that in some lodges Charity is a mere word, a profession, a familiar and customary utterance, but without meaning, consistency, or practical results? Am I stating an unpalatable fact, when I declare, that some of our lodges are spending far too much on banquets, and giving far too little to Charity? Nay, shall I be censured by some, complained of by others, if I go further and add, that many lodges are in debt to their Treasurer, because their material expenditure exceeds their income? Once more, shall I be condemned as presumptuous if I further venture to remark that the amount of charity is as compared with all this "quantity of sack," really representing the "unknown quantity?" Let us look at the matter seriously.

A large number of London lodges spend all their incomes on their "social agreeabilities," so that they give, and can give nothing as a lodge, for Masonic charity, or for the Charities of the Order. This is a fact, to my mind, always most humiliating, that seven-tenths of the lodges and chapters of our Order have, as yet, done nothing, (as lodges and chapters), for the Charities of the Order, while the amount given in casual charity is ludicrously insignificant. And it is useless to say, as some do for reply, "Oh! but the brethren give individually." Be it so; but the brethren are not the lodge, and I contend, for one, that until all our lodges and chapters support the Charities ostensibly and efficiently, they are not either recognizing their own mission, or realizing their proper responsibilities in this respect. Now, I am not going to attack our social system. I consider it in due proportion needful and advisable, and good for Masonry. But I, for one, do deprecate the fact sincerely, that the balance sheets of many lodges only proclaim that all has been given up to material gratification, that nothing has been done for benevolence, and that banquets, not charity, are the characteristic "be all" of too many of our lodges and chapters. I trust that 1879 may see an improvement in this state of things. The claims of Masonic charity, the needs of our great institutions, are many and pressing, and instead of spending all our lodge returns to please ourselves, let us seek to help a poor destitute brother, yes, if even we have to dispense with a banquet or two, in order to do honour to the always sacred cause of Charity.

I am, yours fraternally,

YOUR OWN IRREPRESSIBLE CORRESPONDENT.

## LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

The monthly meeting of the Lodge of Benevolence was held on Wednesday, 18th inst., at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. J. M. Clabon, P.G.D., President of the Lodge, presided. Bro. Joshua Nunn, P.G.S.B., Senior Vice President, and Bro. James Brett, P.G.P., Junior Vice President, were in their respective chairs. The other brethren present were John Hervey, G.S.; A. A. Pendlebury, W. Dodd, Col. H. S. Somerville Burney, P.M. 699; Joseph Wright, P.G.P.; H. Bartlett, W. Stephens, P.M. 1365; E. P. Albert, P.G.P.; H. Garrod, J. M. Klencek, W.M. 1686; C. F. Hogard, S. Rawson, P.D.G.M., China; W. Groome, W. Mann, P.M. 186; William Russell, P.M. 1464; Thomas Deane, W.M. 77; G. R. Shervill, W.M. 25; W. Stuart, P.M. 141; G. P. Britten, W.M. 183; W. H. Cohen, W.M. 1288; John White, W.M. 1076; J. Douglass Matthews, W.M. 657; and H. Massey, P.M., 619 (*Freemason*).

Grants to the amount of £160, made at last meeting of the lodge, were first confirmed.

Of new cases there were on the list fourteen, the whole of which were relieved.

The total sum granted was £390, viz.: one £100 (£100), two £50 (£100), one £30 (£30), two £25 (£50), three £20 (£60), one £15 (£15), three £10 (£30), and one £5 (£5).

Bro. Henry Garrod, before the lodge was closed, drew the attention of the President, Vice-Presidents, and brethren, to the loss the lodge had sustained since it last met, by the lamentable death of Bro. C. P. Cobham, one of the elected members, who was drowned with his wife and child in the wreck of the Princess Alice.

We are asked to state that the Urban Lodge of Instruction meets every Wednesday evening at half-past six o'clock at Bro. T. G. Willett's, 23, Gresham-st., City. Bro. J. L. Mather, P.M., is the Preceptor, Bro. J. B. D. Wall, Hon. Sec.

CONSECRATIONS.—The consecrations of the Clarendon Lodge and the St. Thomas's Chapter will take place respectively on Tuesday and Wednesday next. The ceremonies will be performed by Bros. Hervey, Buss, and other eminent brethren.

FRANCE.  
(Communiqué.)

The General Assembly of the "Grand Orient of France" for the session of 1878, began its work on Monday, 9th of September, at half-past nine a.m., at the "Temple Maçonnique," rue Cadet, 16, à Paris.

Provisional President, Bro. De St. Jean, President of the "Conseil de l'Ordre."

This first sitting had, for its object, the organization of the Assembly and the formation of Bureaux.

170 W.M.'s or delegates answered the call of the roll.

The second sitting took place the same day at 2 o'clock. The Assembly was constituted, and the "Bureaux" were formed. President pro tem., Bro. De St. Jean.

The order of the day ran thus:—

Nomination of the President. Proclamation of the members of the "Conseil de l'Ordre," whose mandate had expired and were subject to re-election.

Nomination of commissions to report upon the proposition sent to all subordinate lodges, respecting a modification of the art. 41 of the Constitution.

196 presidents of lodges or delegates were present.

The ballot for President of the Assembly gives as result:—177 voters, out of which

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Bro. De St. Jean received ... ..        | 131 |
| " Le Dié, from Rouen, received ... ..   | 31  |
| " Cousin received ... ..                | 3   |
| " Andrient, from Lyons, received ... .. | 1   |
| " Valentin received ... ..              | 1   |
| " Lecomte " ... ..                      | 1   |
| " Dèau " ... ..                         | 1   |
| " Bella " ... ..                        | 1   |
| Lost Votes... ..                        | 7   |

Bro. De St. Jean is proclaimed President of the Assembly of the Grand Orient of France.

The members of the "Conseil de l'Ordre" to be elected or replaced are:—Bros. Breimond, from Aix; Bruand, from Besançon; Doué, from Banlieue; Du Hamel, Paris; Roehc, (Rochefford-sur-mer); Poulle, from Amiens; André Rousselle, from Paris; Wyruboff, from Paris; Doctor Collineau, from Paris; Andrient, from Lyons; Lagache, from Boulogne-sur-Mer.

The Committee on Finance was conferred on the following: Bros. Grain, Didier, Chevalon, Neumark, Didot, Marichal, Blanpain, David, Lassale, Le Borgne.

The following brothers were elected Committee for the revision of the Art. 41 of the Constitution:—Lauth, W.M. of Alsace-Lorraine; L. Hubert, Editor "Chaîne de Union;" Doctor le Dié (alias Grimaud in the "Monde Maçonnique") from Rouen; Laffon, from Pefquan; Corbieres (Protestant Minister), Agen; Neumark, from Reims; Pirin, from Paris; Gouverriet, from Paris.

The sitting of the 10th of September began at half-past 2 o'clock, p.m., President, Bro. de Saint Jean.

Bro. Neumark, reporter of the Commission for the Revision of Art 41 of the Constitution, presented his report.

The former Art. 41 says, Le Grand Orient ne constitue pas d'Ateliers dans les pays où il existe une Puissance Maçonnique régulière."

The proposition made is to add: "en relations fraternelles avec lui."

Bro. Neumark explains the reasons that have engaged eight members out of nine (one being aforesaid) to propose to the Assembly the adoption of that modification.

If I understood rightly this report, the culminating point of the considerations enforced by Bro. Neumark, ran thus:—

"There is a growing tendency towards a transformation in Masonry.

From being universal, it tends to become more and more national (English, German, etc., etc.).

The modification introduced in the Article 1 of the Constitution, by the Couvent of 1877, has caused several Masonic Powers to break with us. Their lodges have been shut against every French visiting Mason.

The Grand Orient of France has shown during a long time a great spirit of moderation, of conciliation, but without obtaining satisfaction.

It has its dignity to sustain, therefore, be the consequences what they may, it must put itself in a position to fight against those hostile powers.

The Grand Orient of France must have the power and the right to create French Masonic centres wherever the resident French Masons may congregate, in every country where the Masonic temples are shut against them.

They try to checkmate the Grand Orient of France, because it has taken the lead in the way of progress, by proclaiming, in Masonry, the liberty of conscience.

France is accustomed to these fights, to these resistances. The French Mason must not recoil."

Bro. Hubert, *Chaîne d'Union*, spoke on behalf of the minority—This is a brief analysis of his remarks: He said he would be short in his considerations, wishing to avoid any froissement but, at first, he must observe that in presence of the spirit of *apaisement*, that some a few months back seemed to prevail in the foreign Masonic powers towards French Masonry, it would be prudent, it would be wise, it would be necessary to avoid repeating in a new measure anything that other Masonic powers might consider as an act of war, a threat striking directly at such or such Masonic jurisdiction. In the present case, the Grand Lodge of England would feel touched directly and deliberately by said article thus modified.

Consequently, Bro. Hubert and the minority that he represents opposed themselves energetically to the said modifications, and his vote will be against the adoption of the said proposition.

However, he would be ready to rally himself, in a spirit of conciliation, of concord, of "apaisement" to the total suppression of art. 41, considering the state of mind of the present members, that suppression, without striking at any

particular Masonic power, would spare the susceptibilities and respect the rights of every one, since that would be the proclamation of "common right" the primordial right which can not be denied to any.

Bro. Neumark, in the name of the majority, is opposed to this amendment.

Bro. Jouault (from Reims) answered with a great deal of logic against the modification to the art 41, and with considerations powerful alike moral and practical. He gives an explanation of the tendencies and the importance of English and German Masonry, which strength and material power formed the reasons for maintaining the art 41, without addition.

But there is nothing to be done against a "parti près d'avance." There is no use to conceal the fact that the great majority of the Grand Orient de France is drawn irresistibly towards a maelstrom of reform which may transform that association into something entirely different from Masonry.

Thus, after hearing two or three vehement orators, whose speeches we will not relate, not wishing to throw oil upon the fire, the Grand Orient de France, after favourable conclusions from its Orator in office (Bro. Jean from Albi,) adopted, by a large majority, the article 41, modified.

Bros. de Loucelles, Jouault, Roche, Hubert, and a few others, voted against such adoption.

An incident followed the adoption of art. 41, which is a new proof of the resolution already formed by the advanced group of the Grand Orient to run on to the full end of these innovations.

A propos of the few reflections of the *Freemason*, in answer to the Bauhütte, on the conduct of the Bros. De Saint Jean, Marichal, and Hubert, after the revision of Art. 1st of the Constitution, remaining however in the Grand Orient, a brother made in interpellation to the President of the "Conseil de l'Ordre" to know what were the intentions both of the President and of the "Conseil de l'Ordre," about the revision of the rituals, so as to put them in harmony with the new Article first of the Constitution. Our tolerant brethren, great lovers of liberty of conscience for themselves, and nobody else, are tired to see the circulars of the Grand-Orient of France, and the convocation letters of a few lodges, headed by that noxious formula, A. L. G. D. G. A. d'L. U.

This gives sleepless nights to these unfortunate "Free-thinkers."

I will not relate to you, out of respect for your readers, the riotous scenes, the various interpellations, the motions more or less insane, that succeeded the explanations of the Bros. De Saint Jean, and Hubert, explanations that should have reassured all.

But they wanted scandal, and especially they wanted to prove, without any possible denial, that it was the atheistical free-thought which ruled supreme in the Grand Orient of France.

The assembly voted a resolution, enjoining to the President, to the "Conseil de l'Ordre," that they must put before the General Assembly at its first meeting of 1879, the reformed rituals.

Following this vote, passed as we have said by a large majority, Bro. De Saint Jean, deposing on the altar with much calm and dignity his insignia of President du Conseil de l'Ordre, and after taking leave with a grand and noble language, gave in his "demission" of President of the Grand Orient and of member of the "Conseil de l'Ordre," and notwithstanding all entreaty retired.

After the departure of Bro. De Saint Jean, the assembly voted that it did not accept the resignation of Bro. De Saint Jean, and also voted that a committee, formed of all the Officers of the Grand Orient, should go and visit him, in order that he might withdraw his resignation. The "Conseil de l'Ordre" will do the same thing.

We shall see to-morrow what has become of these missions.

But if Bro. De Saint Jean consents to preside again, he will shelter under his name the most intolerant and absolute positivism, the only true ruling power now in the Grand Orient of France.

## SECOND LETTER.

I resume my narrative of the Grand Orient of France's conventual doings.

Sitting of the 11th of September.

What I surmised took place; Bro. de St. Jean, yielding to the entreaties of the committees sent to him by the Assembly and the "Conseil de l'Ordre," has withdrawn his resignation, and remains, (Poor fellow, I am sorry for him), President of the Grand Orient, and member of the "Conseil de l'Ordre."

This is an act of weakness, hard to explain, for facts are to-day exactly what they were yesterday.

And the best proof I can give for this is, that before Bro. de St. Jean was introduced anew, the very same group of Venerables and Delegates who caused the tempest of yesterday have presented a new demand of interpellation to the effect of obtaining both from the General Assembly and the "Conseil de l'Ordre" a declaration that the actual reduction of Article 1st of the Constitution edicts the absolute obligation for the Grand Orient of France and its subordinate lodges to suppress entirely the formula, A.L.G.D.G.A.D.I.U.

A new hurricane was beginning at the hearing of that motion, and Bro. de St. Jean would have been introduced in the midst of this whirlwind, when Bro. Caubert, seeing breakers ahead, and understanding all the dangers and inconveniences of the situation, brought forward all his influence as a brother acting and thinking in perfect harmony with said group, but wishing to make "à coup sûr."

"My brethren, says the editor of the *Monde Maçonnique* you know me; you are well aware that I have been one of those that fought the more pertinaciously to obtain the modification of Act 1st of the Constitution. I will not

disown myself. I must tell you that I am one of the two brothers that have been appointed by the 'Conseil de l'Ordre' to revise the rituals, (pretty work it shall be, to be sure! A. V.), be quiet, you may feel sure that we will amend them so as to render them in perfect conformity with our new constitutional law: then, pray, wait a little!" The majority then consented to desist, though it was done with a visible reluctance. They well understood it was only a question of time. Yes, dear brother editor, nothing will henceforth hinder the Grand Orient of France from surrendering body and soul, (have they got a soul?), to positivism.

They may try some time yet to dissimulate, but it will only be tactics—that's all.

Now, the positivists have stormed the Grand Orient of France, and they rule supreme. They will not recede.

Bro. De St. Jean was then introduced, and re-took the presidential chair.

## A FOREIGN VISITOR.

## CONSECRATION OF THE LEOPOLD LODGE, No. 1760.

On Thursday week there was a goodly muster of the brethren of the mystic tie at Scarbro' on the occasion of the consecration of the Leopold Lodge, No. 1760. The ceremony was announced to take place at noon, and at that hour a large number of Masons were assembled in the rooms of the Old Globe Lodge, 200, where the Leopold Lodge has found a welcome home. A procession of Stewards and Provincial Grand Officers was formed in the ante-room, and entered during the playing of a march by the Organist, and a lodge was opened by V.W. Bro. John Pearson Bell, Deputy Provincial Grand Master, the Wardens' chairs being occupied respectively by Bros. T. Sissons, P.M., P.P.S. Registrar, and George Balmford, P.M., P.P.G.O. The usual preliminaries having been duly observed, the D.P.G.M. proceeded with the ceremony of consecration, which was conducted with full choral accompaniments, Bro. J. Woodall, P.M. 200, P.P. S.G. Warden, acting as Director of Ceremonies.

The W.M. Designate, Bro. G. H. Walshaw, P.M. 200, and P.P.G.D.C., was then placed in the chair, and saluted in ancient form, and he then proceeded to appoint and invest the following officers:—Bros. T. J. Gilbert, S.W.; J. Verity, J.W.; R. H. Peacock, Treasurer; W. Fraser, Secretary; A. S. Kirk, S.D.; J. Knaggs, J.D.; E. H. Hackers, I.G.; G. Dixon, Organist; G. Simpson, Tyler.

The D.P.G.M. then gave a very eloquent address on the aims and objects of Freemasonry, exhorting the brethren to diligence in their duties, and in aiding the charities. He also alluded to the fact that Scarborough was one of the earliest centres of Freemasonry in Yorkshire, the Old Globe Lodge having been constituted in 1771. The W.M. then announced that their Royal Bro. Prince Leopold had accepted honorary membership of the lodge, and the D.P.G.M. (Dr. Bell) and Bro. M. C. Peck, Provincial Grand Secretary, were elected honorary members. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to a banquet at the Royal Hotel, at which Bro. Walshaw presided, supported by the D.P.G.M. and a number of Past Grand Officers and brethren. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and a pleasant evening was passed, many of those present subsequently adjourning to the Grand Hotel, where the annual Masonic ball in aid of the charities was held under very distinguished Masonic patronage. The musical arrangements at the ceremonies were very excellent, the principal instrumentalists being Bros. B. Shaw and C. H. Hunt, and the leading vocalists Bros. G. H. Walshaw and J. E. Wilkinson.

The following is as complete a list as could be procured of the brethren present:—J. P. Bell, D.P.G.M.; Charles E. Camidge, P.G. Chaplain; J. Parkinson, P.P.G. Chaplain; M. C. Peck, P.G. Secretary; T. Sissons, P.M. 157, P.P.G. Regr.; H. Blanc, P.G.D.C.; G. Balmford, P.M. 236, P.P.G.O.; C. H. Hunt, P.G. Organist; A. Fraser, P.M. 1298, P.G.S.B.; A. Fricour, P.M. 1298, P.G.S.D.; N. H. Delamere, P.P.G.S.D.; J. Ward, P.G. Pursuivant; G. H. Walshaw, P.M. 200, P.P.G.S.D.; R. H. Peacock, P.M. 200; W. Garbutt, P.M. 200; H. A. Williamson, P.M. 200; F. Foster, P.M. 1248; W. Roberts, P.M. 298; W. H. Prince, P.M. 298; G. Taylor, P.M. 1248; A. W. Tomlinson, W.M. 200; R. Powley, P.M. 200; T. B. Whythead, W.M. 1611; H. J. Morton, 1248; G. Padley, 1248; R. Boreman, 200; W. G. Smyth, 312; H. Fairfax, 190; J. H. Hackett, 200; J. H. Millstone, 1605; J. W. Harrison, 1021; James Horsfall, 178; G. Chambers, 555; W. B. Richardson, 200; T. Westlake; J. F. Littlewood, 139; J. D. Sissons, 139; W. Fraser, 200; G. Dixon, 1166; J. J. Davidson, 1248; J. Marny, 1248; G. C. Pritchard, 1219; A. S. Kirk, 304; B. Shaw; M. Robinson; J. Knaggs, 200; V. Fowler, 200; W. Meeke; S. Middleton, 200; J. Wanless; J. Webster; E. H. Hackers, 200; A. M. Labarthe, 1298; G. Verity, 200; J. Simpson, 200; E. Walker, 784; W. DeMeilhac, 1248; A. T. B. Turner, 1611; J. E. Wilkinson, 1611; T. P. Currier (Henry Price Lodge, New York); T. Crier, 157, &c.

The weather was unfortunately stormy, which, combined with the fact that Thursday is market day at Scarbro', prevented the attendance of many, and the P. G. Secretary read several letters of apology from brethren who were unable to be present.—*Yorkshire Post*.

The following reports and other communications unavoidably stand over: Prov. Grand Lodge of Cheshire; Prov. G. Lodge of Dorset; Consecration of the Eleanor Cross Lodge, No. 1766; The Platt Memorial; The Madras District; Lodges 726, 1044, 1057, 1273, 1557, 1561, 1642; Chapter, 72; Mark Lodge, 229; letters by Box, D.R. and W.H.; the death of Lady Tatton.

## Sheep.

**SHEEP, THEIR VARIETIES, POINTS, CHARACTERISTICS, ETC.,** by JOSEPH DARBY, Dean and Son, Fleet-street, E.C.

We have in this book a very lucid account of sheep, about which a good deal may be written, and about which much ought to be known by us all, in these well informed days, especially.

It seems that, according to Parkinson, there once were 37 English breeds, of which only 16 are now extant, and that the others are practically extinct. Among non-existing species may be mentioned the Ryeland, the Norfolk Heath, the Wilts and Herts horned, and others. And though it would not profit our readers to go through the whole list of existing sheep, yet some of our predominant favourites may well be mentioned, such as the South Down, the Leicester, the Cotswold, the Lincoln, the Hampshire, the Shropshire, the Oxford, the Romney Marsh or Kentish, the Cheviot, the Exmoor, the Dorset, the Mountain, (Duke of Roxburgh) as well as several smaller mountain breeds.

Neither need we now call attention to the colonial sheep, (principally Merino,) because that would lead us into too long a disquisition. Of the foreign sheep, the most common is also the Merino, originally Spanish, but now greatly prevalent in Germany and Hungary. Mr. Darby states that nine-tenths of the sheep of Germany, Austria, and Hungary are true Merino, and that one-fourth of the French sheep are also either pure Merino or half Merino.

Among foreign sheep may be specified the Negretti, the Rambouillet, the Persian, the Syrian, the Wallachian, the Cyprian. Our readers will perceive what a deal may be written and ought to be known about sheep, which help us so greatly in our necessary clothing and daily food, and like the Frenchmen, they will be ready, we feel sure, to say, "revenons a nos moutons,"

**THE EARLY HISTORY AND ANTIQUITIES OF FREEMASONRY.** Bro. GEORGE F. FORT.

We are glad to note the favour with which this very valuable work is now looked upon everywhere by all Masonic students, and we venture to predict for it still greater popularity, and a wider circulation. The carefulness of compilation, the originality of research, the lucidity of statement, the remarkable correctness of view, which in general distinguish it, deserve to be gratefully appreciated and encouraged by us all.

**PRACTICAL MASONIC LECTURES.** By SAMUEL LAWRENCE, P.G.M. of Georgia, U.S.

We have been much struck by this valuable little compendium of Masonic practicality. It is well written, clearly expressed, the points are delivered with force and yet eloquence, and no one can rise from its perusal without being more convinced than ever of the value and reality of our good old religious teaching Order, and without feeling that despite Mr. Heckethorne "et hoc genus omne" of "scribblers and poetasters," who like to run a muck at Masonry, there is a Masonic literature after all, and one that deserves study, and will pay perusal.

**THE WORLD ON WHEELS.** By EZRA M. STRATTON. New York, Author, 1878.

This is an historical sketch of the coachbuilder's art and its results from the time of Rameses the Great, (circa 1500 B.C.), down to the American Exhibition in 1876. The first picture is the primitive sledge, of no particular date, and the last is a hearse which took a prize at Philadelphia. Between these two extremes come 400 illustrations of carriages of every shape and size, and every period. The chariots of the Assyrian sculptures, of Egypt, Pompeii, Rome, and Greece, with many others, are all figured and described at length, while, in the latter part of the book, full accounts are given of the carriages used in all modern nations. In any future edition, perhaps Mr. Stratton may find some information worth quoting as to the origin of the London Hansom which appeared in 1873, in the March number of the *Journal of the Society of Arts*.

## INAUGURATION OF THE FALKLAND MEMORIAL.

The great *clout* with which the ceremony of unveiling the memorial to Viscount Falkland, on Newbury battlefield passed off, on Monday, was much more due to Freemasonry than was apparent to the outside world. Owing to the high position occupied by the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, as Pro Grand Master of the Craft, the officers and brethren of the local lodge, the Loyal Berkshire Lodge of Hope, No. 574, initiated steps with the object of doing honour to his lordship, and, in accordance with the terms of a resolution unanimously adopted by the brethren, the Provincial Grand Master, (Sir Daniel Gooch, Bart., M.P.), was petitioned, and granted permission to the brethren of the province to take part in the day's ceremonial attired in full Masonic clothing. Invitations were at once issued to the various lodges in this and neighbouring provinces, and every effort was made, (so far as the shortness of the time permitted), to secure a good attendance.

When it became known that the Freemasons intended being present, the Oddfellows, Foresters, and other bodies, followed the example, and the result was, that the demonstration assumed an important character, and Lord Carnarvon received a welcome which must have been highly pleasing to him, given, as it was, in the town near which his lordship resides, and where his high qualities, as a landowner and neighbour, are best known.

Bro. William Biggs, of Reading, Past Provincial Grand Secretary of Berks and Bucks, and P.P.S.G. Warden of

Wilts, kindly undertook the duties of Director of Ceremonies, and discharged them with much efficiency.

Among the brethren who attended and signed the lodge book were the Pro Grand Master of England, Lord Carnarvon; the officers and brethren of the Loyal Berkshire Lodge of Hope, No. 574, namely, Bros. G. M. Knight, W.M.; Barron Fielder, P.M., P.G.S.W.; A. Burns, P.M.; R. Ravenor, P.M.; W. H. Herbert, P.M.; Geo. Boyer, P.M., P.P.G.P.; Jno. Bance, P.P.G.J.D.; S. G. Hunt, S.W.; S. Knight, J.W.; C. Hopson, Sec.; Rev. W. Fraser Campbell, Chaplain; W. Balding, M.C.; W. B. Wilson, J.D.; F. H. Marychurch, W. G. Coldicutt, W. T. Toms, G. J. Cosburn, W. J. Westrope, W. H. Booth, R. Johnston, T. W. Graham, E. Jones, A. Stradling, W. Cordcy, James Tegg, W. Knight, E. P. Plenty, Jas. Biffen, J. G. O'Farrell, (Robert Burns, No. 25), and others.

The visitors included Bros. the Rev. George Portal, P.P. J.W. Oxon, P.M. No 10; C. W. Cox, J.W. 1566; R. Silver, (Mayor of Maidenhead), 1566; J. T. Bersey, 487; A. Welch, W.M. 1101; H. H. Hodges, P.P.G.S.W.; R. Nicholson, 1566; S. Jacob, Fidelity, 445; W. T. Legge, D.C. 1566; R. T. Shrewsbury, 1566; Ephraim Davey, S.D. 1566; T. Pearson, 757; Dick Radclyffe, P.G. Stwd.; T. Newman, D.C. 1101; T. Hawker, 209; Jas. Batting, S.W. 1501 and 1566; H. Ayres, 414; E. Hopwood, P.M. 141, 1412, P.P.G.S.B. Middx.; Rev. C. R. Honey, Prov. Grand Chaplain; H. Balding, 1692; A. W. Cook, 382; E. L. Shepherd, W.M. 945; C. P. Smith, 209; C. Wheeler, 209; J. R. Stillman, H. Creed, 1101; H. J. Thatcher, W.M. 694; J. Gibson, 694; James B. Stone, 195; Hengist, and others.

## Multum in Parvo; or Masonic Notes and Queries.

### THE FOUR ORIGINAL LODGES.

Much has been written about these lodges, but as a certain confusion has come over the accounts, owing to the lapse of time and the carelessness of past days, I think it well to remind the readers of the *Freemason* what is their history briefly recounted.

As mentioned by Anderson, at page 109, "Constitutions," 1738. They are

No. 1. 'The Lodge at the Goose and Gridiron.

" 2. " " " " Crown.

" 3. " " " " " Apple Tree.

" 4. " " " " " Rummer and Grapes.

The No. 1 of the Old Lists continued No. 1 until 1813, when it became No. 2. It is now the Lodge of Antiquity, No. 2, (unchartered). It was at the King's Arms, St. Paul's Churchyard, in 1736, according to Smith, and at the same place according to Anderson in 1738. In 1763, it was said to meet at the Queen's Arms, St. Paul's Churchyard, (probably the same house); and is said to have met at other houses subsequently. Its history has yet to be written. It has met at Freemasons' Hall, I believe continuously, since the end of the last century, probably from a much earlier date. Bro. W. J. Hughan kindly sends me the following, prepared for his forthcoming book: "Register of Lodges at the Union, and List of Centenary Lodges," &c. "No. 1, before the union, and No. 2 since, was named first of all the 'West Indian and American Lodge,' about the middle of the last century. I have it in Lists of 1763, 1765, &c. It is called Antiquity in Cole's List of 1744, and apparently dates from 1770 in that capacity. It has assembled at the King's Arms, and Queen's Arms, St. Paul's Churchyard, Mitre, Fleet-street, &c. In a Grand Lodge Calendar I have of 1784, it is at Freemasons' Hall."

No. 2, though it appears in 1736 at the Bull and Gate, in Smithfield, is out, Bro. Hughan tells me, in Pine's list of 1723, and has since disappeared altogether.

No. 3, in 1736, is No. 2 of 1736; No. 2 of 1738, is No. 2, of 1763; No. 2, of 1811, and is now No. 4. It is also unchartered. It is the fourth in order as Anderson names them, but is at the Horn, Westminster, No. 2, in 1763. This old lodge amalgamated with two lodges, the Somerset House, and the Royal Inverness, and was No. 2 in up to 1813, and is now No. 4. Bro. Hughan informs me that No. 2, before the union, and No. 4 since, was first called the "Old Horn." It is so in lists up to 1768, he adds, in his collection. Also that in 1774 of Cole's List it is changed to "Somerset House," the latter lodge, warranted in 1764, having united with the "Old Horn," and hence its change of name. The Inverness Lodge was the first chartered after the union, and also united with it. Hence its present name.

The No. 3 of 1717, is the No. 11 of 1736, the No. 10 of 1738, the No. 6 of 1763, the No. 6 of 1811. Why it has changed places with No. 4 is only explicable on the ground given in Anderson, that for some reason, quite needlessly, as he avers, it gave up its immemorial usage, and took out a new charter in 1722, so that the No. 4 of 1717 preceded it, and became No. 3. It is now No. 12, Fortitude and Old Cumberland, having also amalgamated with the Old Cumberland Lodge, or taken the name of Fortitude between 1763 and 1781, apparently. Bro. Hughan informs me that it was first called Fortitude about 1774, and that the Lodge of Friendship was so called by resolution of the lodge in 1767. No. 12, Old Cumberland, warranted in 1783, before 1832, and is now, as before, named Fortitude and Old Cumberland. We want a good history of each of these lodges!

MASONIC STUDENT.

By a printer's error, as all who are interested in the matter will see at once, in my last note, 1730 is printed for 1738, and 1738 for 1763.

MASONIC STUDENT.

I will do my best to oblige "Masonic Student," and others by compiling a few particulars as to the early numbers of many of the old lodges which exist to-day, and will send the article in time for the December "Masonic Magazine."

I am at present, however, engaged in preparing my next work for the press (Register of Lodges at the Union, their Numbers before and since Dates of Warrants, Lists of Centenary Warrants, Illustrations of Centenary and Special Jewels, &c., &c.), that I must not stay to say more now, much as the subject interests me.

W. J. HUGHAN.

## NOTES ON ART, &c.

The *Athenæum* says that Mr E. M. Thompson will succeed Mr. Bond as Keeper of the MSS. at the British Museum.

Under the American patents, some 14,000 telephones have, it is stated, during the past year been set up in the United States, and are being rented at an average rental of £10 per annum; and fresh orders are being received at the rate of 1000 sets per month.

Mr. Edison writes to Messrs. Horne and Thornwaite as follows:—"The newspapers have grossly exaggerated matters in regard to the megaphone. It is true I have been experimenting upon an apparatus for the benefit of those partially deaf, and with a fair degree of success, but should my efforts prove successful it will be several months before the instrument will be placed in the market."

Professor Struve, director of the Pulkova Observatory, is leaving Russia for a visit to Western Europe, for the purpose of giving directions for the construction of a new great refractor for the Pulkovo Observatory. The old refractor, which some time ago was one of the best in the world, is now behind those of Washington, Chicago, and Gateshead (Mr. Newall's Observatory), and the Pulkova Observatory, according to the will of its founder, the Emperor Nicholas, should be maintained superior to all other observatories in that direction.—*Nature*.

On Wednesday the vacation Judge, Mr. Justice Field, granted an order, upon an application made on behalf of the Poet Laureate, restraining the *Christian Signal* Publishing Company from publishing in their paper a poem entitled "Confessions of a Sensitive Mind," written by Mr. Tennyson some time ago, but never published, and now advertised for publication without his consent. The *Christian Signal* is a penny weekly newspaper, lately started in London. Since then Mr. Justice Hawkins has made the order perpetual.

Padre Ferrari, the new Director of the Observatory at Rome, announces the discovery of a new comet on August 22. He has registered it as a star of the seventh magnitude, under No. 29,696 in Lalande's catalogue. It was then close to Scorpio, but is rapidly descending, so that on Thursday its declination would have been 20° 22' South. The light is very feeble, but still sufficiently visible. Its apparent diameter is 3'. It is transparent, shows no solid nucleus, and frequently changes colour.

The rage for exhibitions has now spread even to Central Asia. The latest news from Tashkend states that an agricultural and industrial exhibition is about to be held there. Great preparations are being made for it at Samarcand, and the Government has promised gold and silver medals to the exhibitors as well as honorary Kaftans.—*Nature*.

The golden wedding of the Austrian Empress's parents, the Duke and Duchess Max, in Bavaria, was celebrated last week at Tegernsee, in the presence of the Empress, Princess Sophie d'Alençon, and Dukes Louis, Charles Theodore, and Max Emanuel. The Duke declined any public festivities.

Mr. G. W. Callender, F.R.S., of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Mr. Edmund Owen, of St. Mary's, and Surgeons-Major P. Shepherd and F. Falwasser, Army Medical Department, have been elected Honorary Associates of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem in England, in recognition of their zealous and able services in furtherance of the objects of the St. John Ambulance Association, established by the Order for the dissemination of information as to the first treatment of the sick and injured.

The *Academy* notes that a successful experiment has lately been tried in the equatorial provinces of Egypt, which may not improbably ere long revolutionise the mode of transit in Eastern Africa, and solve a problem which has hitherto puzzled travellers. About a year ago, at Colonel Gordon's request, a few trained elephants were sent to Khartum, where they arrived in due course, having marched along the banks of the Nile. A report has been received in Cairo from Colonel Gordon stating that he had despatched them to the military station of Lardo, about 11 deg. south of Khartum, and six miles north of Gondokoro, and that they had accomplished this distance in 84 days. A not unimportant advantage to be derived from the employment of elephants in this manner was demonstrated by the fact that the negroes along the line of march were frightened by them, and made no attempt to attack the party. The elephants have gradually learned to live on leaves and grass, as the wild elephants do, and keep in first-rate condition without the different kinds of food to which they had previously been accustomed. Colonel Gordon consequently advises travellers going into the interior of Africa from Zanzibar to use elephants, and thus to avoid the necessity for a host of porters, who are a never-ending source of delay and annoyance. It may be remembered that the question of employing elephants in African exploration was discussed after the reading of Mr. H. B. Cotterill's paper on the Nyassa, for the Society's African Section on the 28th of May last.

## 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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## IMPORTANT NOTICE.

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

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

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

## Answers to Correspondents.

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

"Original Research," under Consideration.

By an evident misprint in our leader on the Girls' School last week, it was stated that there were 19 vacancies at the next election, which should have been 3, since increased to 4.

Several important letters and reports stand over.

## BOOKS, &amp;c., RECEIVED.

"Medical Examiner;" "Hull Packet;" "West London Express;" "Scottish Freemason;" "Broad Arrow;" "Edinburgh Courant;" "Corner Stone;" "Masonic Advocate;" "Yorkshire Gazette;" "Loomis's Musical and Masonic Journal;" "New York Dispatch;" "Voice of Masonry;" "Hebrew Leader."

## Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

## BIRTHS.

MASON.—On the 13th inst., at Lower Norwood, the wife of James Catley Mason of a son.

NICHOLSON.—On the 15th inst., at Henley-on-Thames, the wife of W. N. Nicholson, Esq., of 43, Phillimore-gardens, W., of a daughter.

## MARRIAGE.

SILLIFANT—PIGOT.—On the 11th inst., in the parish church, Fremington, by the Ven. Archdeacon of Barnstaple, assisted by the Rev. T. Wemyss Pigot, brother of the bride, Harry Belfield Sillifant, of Tuloc's Estate, Cylon, second son of the late John Woolcombe Sillifant, of Coombe, Devon, to Mable Grace Emily, eldest daughter of the Rev. John Taylor Pigot, vicar of Fremington.

## DEATHS.

DAVIES.—On the 12th inst., at Warrimster, Matthew Davies, aged 88 years.

TYERMAN.—On the 13th inst., at Hastings, Walter George, son of George Thomas Tyerman, of No. 121, Maidvale, W., aged two months.

## THE FREEMASON,

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1878.

## THE FRENCH GRAND ORIENT.

The interesting and graphic report of the proceedings of the French Grand Orient, and on the correctness of which our readers may safely rely, will be read by all Anglo-Saxon Masons with the deepest regret. We feel to-day, as we peruse these sad but striking and truthful words, how remarkably all our prognostications have been verified, how too exactly, alas! all our forebodings have been fulfilled. The French Grand Orient has now deliberately entered upon the platform, not of reform, but revolution, and where it is to lead to, or how it is to end, must severely tax the ablest of us all accurately to lay down or distinctly to predict. It has thrown down a gage of anger, warfare, strife, contention, resentment, and indignity to every Masonic jurisdiction in this world. It is a revolution, compounded of angry violence, undignified petulance, irrational destructiveness, and unmasonic animosity. But as realizing the alarming seriousness of the position which the Grand Orient of France, (by a turbulent majority) has created for French and for Cosmopolitan Freemasonry, we shall say no more, as we are not anxious by any words of ours to widen a chasm, wide enough already in all conscience, or to pour oil on a flame which threatens to destroy all within its reach. We but record the facts, for the information of our many readers at home and abroad, though, to say the truth, we cannot profess to be astonished at a result which previous proceedings had rendered only too certain, which forgone conclusion had already discounted. We are, we repeat, most sincerely sorry for the sake of French Freemasonry, and we most deeply grieve for the weakness and vacillation of Bro. St. Jean. As far as we are ourselves concerned, we care little for such foolish threats as the chartering of French Lodges, etc., knowing well that no English Mason, no Anglo-Saxon Mason, will countenance a clandestine meeting, an illegal, political, or atheistical secret society.

## LIST OF CANDIDATES FOR THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

There are sixty-seven names on the list, though No. 3, H. Newbould, is withdrawn, leaving sixty-six, and eleven vacancies to fill up. Of these sixty-six, fourteen are London, one London and Essex, and the remaining fifty-one are provincial and colonial cases. East Lancashire has six; Lincolnshire, four; West Yorkshire, three; Hants, three; Devonshire, three; North Wales and Salop, three; Essex and South Wales, W.D., two; Durham, two; Warwickshire, two; Bristol, two; Suffolk, two; Derbyshire, one; Singapore, one; Dorsetshire, one; Northumberland, one; Nova Scotia, one; Surrey, one; Worcestershire, one; Northamptonshire, one; South Wales, E.D., one; Cheshire, one; Bengal, one; Somersetshire, one; Norfolk, one; West Indies, one; and North and East Yorkshire, one. Of the London cases, six have been taken in hand by the London Masonic Charity Association, namely, Green (5), Balcombe (50), Watkins (18), Frost (9), Nicholls (21), and Giles (15), and therefore we need say nothing of them to-day, as their claims have been carefully sifted and recognized. The six cases selected by the L.M.C.A. deserve the support of all our London brethren, who will do well to bear in mind that unity is strength. Of the remaining nine cases they mostly are the orphans of brethren initiated in or since 1870, and will come up for further consideration. Of the provincial candidates, many of them seem to have strong claims on the subscribers; such as No. 51, Worcestershire, with 25 years' subscription, and whose father was a P.G. Officer; No. 46, W. Yorkshire, with 17 years' subscription, and father in a lunatic asylum; No. 19, Suffolk, 17½ years' subscription; No. 23, Monmouthshire, 16 years; No. 6, W. Yorkshire, 13½ years; and 37, S. Wales, E. Division,

12½ years. Nova Scotia has a case of 13½ years' subscription, but nearly 10 years out of Masonry. Bristol has a case 10½ years, and others have 9½, and 9, all dying in Masonry. Of the remaining cases the years of subscription vary from 8 to 1½ years, and even under, and if the average of the whole subscriptions be taken, it will turn out, we apprehend, to be a little over 6 years each. Twenty-four of the cases are of or since 1870; seven in or since, 1868; 26 in or since 1860; eight in or since 1850; while one goes back to 1844. Two points, further, I think, must strike us—the comparatively early period at which the parents have died in most cases, and the large proportion of these who have died with Masonic "harness on their back." This is as it should be; and though we are struck with East Lancashire having had originally 7 candidates, though now 6, nearly one-twelfth of the metropolitan cases, we yet are inclined to think that this list of the Boys' School proves beyond doubt the fair needs of the Craft, and the great value, and importance, and blessing of the School itself to our Order.

## SCOTTISH MASONIC AFFAIRS.

Our readers will perceive elsewhere a report of some proceedings in Scotland, and will have perused the protest of the St. John's Lodge of Glasgow in our last. We can only repeat a caution and a hope we expressed once before, that nothing will be done for the mere object of agitation, and that all will remember in all they say and do in Scotland, the Masonic graces of Unity, Good Will, and Peace.

## A CAUTION.

We have reason to believe that one or two persons alleged to hail from America, as Masons, are going about to lodges and individuals. We recommend caution both to lodges and individuals, as from specimens of their application for relief we would like to know a little more about them. There are many known impostors in America preying on the Craft, and it is just possible that some, finding the United States too hot for them, may have crossed the "little mill-pond," and are now patronizing us.

## CLEOPATRA'S OBELISK.

We congratulate Bro. Erasmus Wilson on the happy completion of his patriotic sacrifices, just as we felicitate Bro. Dixon on the happy termination of his arduous labours, on the skill which has directed his engineering operations, on the gratifying success which has crowned his protracted undertaking. May Cleopatra's Needle be long destined to grace the Thames Embankment, and may it placidly look down amid revolving years, as it towers in its majestic simplicity and its striking grace over wondering strangers and apathetic Londoners.

## PERSONAL SYMPATHY FOR OTHERS.

One of the charms of our Masonic aggregation is, its personal sympathy for all its members, and through its members, for humanity. In one sense Freemasonry may not be unjustly termed "Good Samaritanism," as it does not waste its time in asking, "Who is my neighbour?" neither does it imitate the supercilious and callous conduct of the "Priest or Levite" in the famous parable, but it at once seeks to take part in an active manner, to relieve calamity, to mitigate suffering. Hence its noble institutions, hence its continual acts of munificent charity. But yet it may be feared whether we all of us, Masons though we be, act up to our duties and responsibilities in this respect. The world is so vast, and our claims so many, that we think we do enough in attending to this or that when, in fact, we are practically achieving but little, inasmuch as we only touch the surface and fringe of things. A great deal of misery goes on in the world, of which we know nothing, just as it is true, a great deal exists of which we think, as we already do enough, we are not bound to relieve or expected to deal with. Our American contemporary, the *Hebrew Leader*, of New York has some very touching and appropriate words

on the subject, which we make no excuse in submitting to our readers. We have often thought, for instance, how little we all know of each other in London, and "Night and Day," Dr. Barnardo's often startling periodical, makes revelations for us, which seem to illustrate with vivid, nay, with lurid light, the words which follow. "It is the misfortune of most large cities that, instead of union and sympathy, they consist of different ranks, so widely separated as, in fact, to form different communities. In most large cities, there may be said to be two nations; understanding as little of one another, and having as little intercourse as if they lived in different lands. In such a city as London, the distance of a few streets only will bring a person from one state of civilization to another, from the excess of refinement to barbarism, from the abodes of cultivated intellect to brutal ignorance, from what is called fashion to the grossest manners, and these distinct communities know comparatively little of each other." We think these words are most true, and fitly precede these which we now transcribe. "There are travellers from Great Britain who come to visit the American Indians, but who leave at home a community as essentially barbarous as that which they seek, who, perhaps, have spent all their lives in the midst of it, without giving it a thought. To these travellers, a hovel in one of the suburbs which they have left, would be as strange a place as the wigwam of our own forests. They know as little what thousands in their own city suffer, to what extremities thousands are reduced, by what arts thousands live, as they know of the modes of life in strange tribes. How much more useful lessons would they learn, and how much holier feelings would be awakened in them, were they to penetrate the dens of want and crime, a few steps from their own door, than they gain from exploring a continent." What is true of London is true of all great cities, New York most especially, but such a fact may, indeed, for us all and to us all, "serve to point the moral, and adorn the tale:—" "Not a few grow up and die without understanding how others live and die around them, without having descended into the damp cellar where children and aged spend day and night, winter and summer, or without scaling the upper room which contains within its narrow and naked walls half a dozen destitute families. They see the poor in the streets, but know nothing of their desolate homes. They travel, in books at least, to distant regions, among different nations, but are strangers to the masses who speak their own tongue, and are joined with them, for weal or woe, in the same social state. This estrangement of men from men, of class from class, is one of the things which shows that the true bond of communities is as yet but imperfectly known." If such words be true, as true they undoubtedly are, they constitute a claim upon us all never to ignore the wants of our suffering humanity, but rather to seek, by all means, as well in Masonry as out, to do all we possibly can to relieve the distress, and succour the needs, of a common suffering humanity. As Freemasons, we may well, nay, should always, seek to cultivate the pleasant and refreshing grace of personal sympathy for others.

### THE GRAND MASTERSHIP OF SCOTLAND.

We are authorized to state that Bro. Inglis, of Torsonce, the Depute Grand Master Mason of Scotland, has declined to comply with the requisition signed by about 500 members of the Masonic Order to allow himself to be nominated Grand Master.

### LONDON MASONIC CHARITY ASSOCIATION.

By an amusing blunder (as if mistakes will never come right) Bro. Chas. Atkinson was printed for Bro. Chas. Atkins, in our last communication respecting this association. By a misprint in the circular, Ethel Stone is said to be No. 14, whereas it is No. 15, and Emma Eliza Williams, No. 29, was described as Eliza Ann Williams.

A Committee meeting was to be held on Friday to elect members and add to the Committee.

The Association is now actively and earnestly engaged in furthering the interests of its selected candidates for the Boys' and Girls' School.

### Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even 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.]

#### LONDON MASONIC CHARITY ASSOCIATION.

"THE PROGNOSTICATIONS OF H. L."

To the Editor of the *Freemason*.

Dear Sir and Brother,

In your issue of the 14th ult., I find a letter from "H.L.," commencing with the above portentous words of augury; I accordingly referred to a few of the later issues of the *Freemason*, and sought for the voice of prophecy by H. L., but found only the envious croaking of the raven, foretelling non success to a scheme evidently beyond his comprehension. I looked for the brotherly suggestion of carefully thought-out and well-considered arguments, but could only read the pointless verbiage of an unintelligible objection. I expected the urbane courtesy of doubt, but met the unwarrantable egotism of self-sufficiency in the manner in which he re-asserts that the association against which he is railing is an offshoot of the Charity Organization Society.

So much for what concerns me, as one of the promoters, and a member of the L.M.C.A. I will now, with your permission, defend myself from the velvet-hidden scratch of the cat's claw. Does H. L. measure my corn by his bushel? When he states that I must either forfeit my written promise of support to the cause I have publicly taken up and worked for, or repudiate the principles of the scheme I have also publicly put my name to, if so, he must only have half informed himself, or must be both short and weak sighted, in which case I will gladly lend him a pair of glasses, whose lens shall be strong enough, I trust, to open the eyes of his mind and others, if any, (?) equally afflicted.

At the time this association was started, many brethren had already promised their support to individual cases, yet although they highly approved of and saw the necessity for united action on the part of the Metropolitan Lodges to secure the commensurate representation of London in the Masonic Charities, and accordingly gave us their influential support to the movement, still there was never a question but that those of its members whose votes were previously engaged were bound in honour, not only as men, but doubly so as Masons, to see their respective cases to a successful issue if possible, nay, more, so completely unfettered are our members, that though expected not to stultify themselves by refusing from mere caprice to uphold the cause they have taken in hand, yet should they elect to support any case not recommended by the committee, they are perfectly free to do so. This was distinctly laid down by Bro. Lieut. Col. Creaton, at the first regular meeting, on the 15th ult.: "No doubt the members of the association would send their votes, but the association must not say they must pledge themselves." By Bro. Lacey, "The very fact of a brother volunteering to become a member would be a guarantee for his throwing in what influence he had." By Bro. Newton, "Did not see that it was Bro. Lacey's intention that a brother should pledge himself to give his votes to the association, and these were answers to a suggestion from Bro. Southwood, "That every member of the association by virtue of his membership pledges himself to place his Metropolitan Masonic Charity's votes at the disposal of the committee" (vide *Freemason*, August 24th).

I trust that Bro. H. L. can now see that, though placed on the horns of his imaginary dilemma, I can, without repudiation of my principles, support the "Meta Bell Brasier" case, which I still consider the most deserving on the list.

If H. L. has any experience in these matters at all, he must know full well that his idea of each London Lodge, working as a province, is, however good in theory, impossible in practice, and I do think that when a few of the working bees of the London hives are willing, and do devote themselves and a considerable portion of their time, bring all their energies and past experience to bear in a matter, the importance of which not one of its opponents can gainsay, and which requires great reform, to render it just; I do think that brethren, unless they can suggest any rational amendment or improvement, should wait for the result of that which they either could not or would not conceive for themselves, and are now incapable of amending, before they venture to prognosticate failure, or do all in their power to prove it an abortion.

Yours fraternally,

CHARLES J. PERCEVAL.

To the Editor of the *Freemason*.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

As you were kind enough to publish a letter of mine on the 10th ult., which has caused a considerable amount of discussion in your columns and elsewhere, perhaps a few words in reply to my various critics will not be out of place. H. L. objects to the Committee of the Association determining the choice of candidates, stating that it is an "election within an election." The case is not so at all. As London subscribes as much as all the provinces, we certainly are entitled to half the vacancies (provided that we have suitable candidates). For instance, at the next election for Girls and Boys, there are three, perhaps four, vacancies for the former, and eleven for the latter, consequently the Committee of the L.M.C.A. determine to run two London Candidates for the Girls' School, and six London Candidates for the Boys' School. Now there are eight London cases for the Girls', and sixteen London cases for the Boys', and the problem is which of the cases we shall support at the next elections. We find that only three of the London cases for the Boys' School are last applications, and their cases on enquiry proving

satisfactory, we put them first on our list. We then take the three last applications but one, and their claims also, in our opinion, being satisfactory, we place them next. As regards the Girls' List, our hands are unfettered by any last applications, and we pick out what we consider the two most pressing cases. Now, the remaining six girls' cases, and ten boys' cases we shall deal with at the next election, in April, and if we do not then clear them all off, we shall continue to support them until elected, for it is very rare that an undesirable case is passed by the Committees of our three Masonic Charities. The great failing in London is, that a large number of votes are frequently polled for a London Candidate more than is necessary, as it does not matter when the child is elected whether it is the top, middle, or bottom of the poll. This will be one of our tasks, to endeavour to equalize the number of votes polled for the London candidates, so that no London votes may be lost, as it is a mere matter of figures to find out the minimum number of votes required by a candidate to be elected. Another, and most serious point, now that the provinces have nearly universally adopted the Charity Committee system, is that where a London brother gives his votes in favour of a very urgent provincial case, perhaps at the very next election, when he asks for a vote for a very urgent London case, he is told that the votes are all sent in blank to the Provincial Charity Committee, who are possibly, nay, probably, supporting a not at all strong case, as shown by the following extract from a letter lately received by me: "Only this week," a P.M. of my lodge writes me that he cannot assist me in the case of a little girl, daughter of a deceased member of our mother lodge—"having two cases in his province"—so you see the claims of his mother lodge fade before the orders of the Provincial Charity Committee. I sincerely hope with A. E. G. "that candidates for admission to our schools," who have perfectly "legitimate claims on our consideration, appearing at four, five, and six consecutive elections, and finally becoming ineligible on the score of age," may cease to exist. It will be the most earnest endeavour of the Committee to attain that end.

From the tenor of H. L.'s second letter of the 31st inst., it is evident that he mistakes the objects of the Association, viz.:

1st. "To further the interests of the candidates in the London District," by accumulating votes so as to get the London cases elected, without the poor widows and orphans denying themselves of the common necessities of life in order to pay for the very heavy expenses of getting their sons, daughters, brothers, and sisters elected under the present system; and, secondly, "the support of the London Masonic Charities," as it is a well-known fact that the establishment of the Provincial Charity Committees has caused a very large amount of money to be subscribed, which otherwise, very probably, would not have been; as when an association of this character is formed they are very jealous of keeping up and extending their voting power, which is only to be obtained by giving more money to the charities. The second part of "H.L.'s" letter proves that he is gradually coming to our way of thinking, for he there points out another grave blot, viz., brethren putting their names on more than one candidate's list; and as for the lodges securing a candidate's election, a perusal of the book of subscribers will easily prove that, with the exception of a score of London lodges, I am sorry to say that the members are too fond of the Fourth Degree to leave much for charity. Now a combination of London lodges might, and probably would, be successful, but would soon be haled before the Board of General Purposes, as I daresay "H.L." very well knows.

Yours truly and fraternally,

A. TISLEY.

To the Editor of the *Freemason*.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

It is very evident that some of your correspondents do not even yet comprehend the objects of this Association, or the means by which these objects are to be obtained.

"D. D." who appears, (in your last number), to be ignorant that the London Masonic Charity Association is already "un fait accompli," gives the Association a very false character, and then heartily condemns it for faults which exist only in his own imagination.

After calling us "unmasonic" and "childish," and drawing for us "a hard and fast line," which we have not drawn for ourselves, he asks "If London is entitled to have 130 or 140 boys at Wood Green, and can only for the present supply 100, are the vacancies to be left rather than fill them up with country candidates?"

To answer this in the affirmative would be very "unmasonic," but what an absurd suggestion!

Does "D. D." not know that the school is under the control of a committee, who periodically count the vacancies, and decide, (quite independently of the London Masonic Charity Association), how many boys shall be admitted, and that if London supplied no candidates, the provinces would, as a matter of course, be at liberty to fill all the vacancies? and, I think, I may say with safety, that neither the London Masonic Charity Association or any one in London would grudge them the privilege.

Were it ever to happen that at an election to either of the Institutions there were no London candidates, it would be manifestly the duty of the Association to lend whatever votes they might have at their disposal, but every individual member would be at liberty to assist which ever provincial candidate he might choose.

Again, "D. D." asks, "are brethren residing in London, who hold provincial rank, to keep a separate account of the proxies they obtain by subscribing to country Steward's lists, so that they may employ them, and them only, in supporting country cases?"

But "D.D." also provides the answer, by saying, "By their subscriptions they have acquired influence, which they are entitled to use as to them may seem best." Exactly so, the votes are bought and paid for, whether through a London or provincial Steward matters not, the owner has a right to use them as he pleases. But when "D.D." suggests, (and with good reason), that a brother in such a position is most likely to assist a case arising in the province, and within his knowledge, than one "unknown to him amidst the great maze of London," I would say, the more need then of such an association as this, which will make it its business occasionally to extricate from the great maze and bring into daylight a deserving case, which might otherwise be too feebly supported.

The expression, "levelling down principle," which "D.D." twice uses in his letter, somewhat perplexes me, as it appears to convey some sort of reproach; but I fail yet to see what there is in our organisation deserving of reproach. "Levelling down" is certainly not a "principle" of the London Masonic Charity Association. It can scarcely be applied to the junior and less influential members.

I observe that among the members of the Association are three brethren who can poll together in the course of a year at least 650 votes. These votes used for the benefit of a single candidate would occasionally be sufficient to ensure success. Brethren having this amount of influence at command may be supposed to have had also a large amount of experience in Masonic business; but if they, and such as they, are pleased to co-operate with others having but little influence for the benefit of candidates, I think it would be very ungracious to accuse them of countenancing a "levelling down principle," or doing that which is likely to prove injurious to the institutions, and cause our Secretaries any anxiety. On the contrary, I apprehend that their example will prove highly beneficial, by instilling a spirit of emulation into the younger members of the Craft, and inducing them to take greater interest in, and give renewed support to, those grand institutions of which we have so much reason to be proud.

Your "Irrepressible Correspondent" asserted recently that "padding" was acceptable at this time of year, so I won't apologise for the length of this letter, but subscribe myself, dear Sir and brother, yours faithfully,

A MEMBER OF THE LONDON MASONIC CHARITY ASSOCIATION.

P.S. I have noticed also "H.L.'s" letter, in which he alludes to Bro. Perceval, but I think "H.L." has only discovered a "mare's nest."

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Since the starting of the London Masonic Charity Association, there has been a feeling of jealousy and suspicion engendered, not only in the provincial bodies with identically the same object in view, and which have been formed for years, and whose example we are following, or endeavouring to follow, after the scores of lessons they have taught us of the necessity for, and the usefulness in combination for, the ends we have in view, not only in the provinces, but also in individual members of the Craft in the province of London, or metropolitan district. I will endeavour to find out the cause of irritation in both cases. First, the provinces have been indebted to their success, in a considerable measure, not only by the combined efforts within themselves, but by the large number of London votes they have been able by individual influence, friendship, or otherwise, to obtain from London members of the Craft, who thoughtlessly or wilfully blind to the exigencies of those immediately around them, fail to see that the legitimate and natural use of the privileges obtained by their munificence is being drawn from them by the provinces, to whom the London cases have, as a rule, not the slightest interest, whose sole thought is for themselves provincially, and who feel jealous, and hurt that we have found out the error of our ways, and are at length endeavouring to profit by the long-taught lesson they have put before us; and so are likely to lessen their continually increasing disproportionate majority. With regard to individual London Masons, two reasons may be ascribed, the first I think too puerile to have found weight with many, viz: That they, as little gods, were not consulted before any of the *oi polloi* dared to move in such a matter, however necessary, without having consulted all and every one of these self-made deities. The other, which I take to be the true place where the shoe pinches, is the fear and extreme probability of their losing their long held influential individualism, as many of our brethren, of the highest integrity, most unimpeachable honour, long tried experience, and undoubted ability, have been entrusted by their own friends and acquaintances, and their friends again, with their several and combined votes, so by that means a very large amount of power is placed in the hands of one individual, the proper use of which rests entirely on his own judgment, which may be rightfully or wrongfully biased by various causes. Very often these votes go entirely away from the province in which they were raised, to which there would be no objection if the other provinces acted on the free trade principle, and not on purely conservative tactics; and if the case was pre-eminently urgent and deserving, but the predicate supposition being in the negative, London, to be true to herself, must adopt the same policy. This weakness is not only characteristic of the English individual, but of the English nation, for how often do we read and hear of thousands of pounds going from England to relieve the distressed foreigner, while there are thousands of starving poor at our very door, and I take it that the old adage, "that true charity begins at home," is pretty near the mark in Masonry, as well as all other cases.

The following statistical table for 1878 will establish the true facts of, and the necessity for, the step that has been taken with regard to the Charities.

| Institutions.                       | SUBSCRIPTIONS. |            |                          | RECIPIENTS.          |             |                         |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|------------|--------------------------|----------------------|-------------|-------------------------|
|                                     | London.        | Provinces. | Amount less than London. | London.              | Provincial. | Majority for Provinces. |
| R.M.B.I. ...                        | £ 6012         | £ 5028     | £ 984                    | 69                   | 169         | 100                     |
| R.M.I. Boys                         | 7487           | 5313       | 2174                     | 49                   | 109         | 60                      |
| R.M.I. Girls                        | 5577           | 4891       | 686                      | 72                   | 116         | 44                      |
| Total                               | 19,076         | 15,232     | 3844                     | 190                  | 394         | 204                     |
| The equitable proportion would be:— |                |            |                          | Majority for London. |             |                         |
| R.M.B.I. ...                        | ...            | ...        | 129                      | 109                  | 20          |                         |
| R.M.I. Boys ...                     | ...            | ...        | 86                       | 72                   | 14          |                         |
| R.M.I. Girls ...                    | ...            | ...        | 102                      | 86                   | 16          |                         |
|                                     |                |            | 317                      | 267                  | 50          |                         |

I should think that these figures must convince the most sceptical of what combination has done for the provinces, and what individualism has failed to do for London.

Yours fraternally,  
A VICE-PRESIDENT OF EACH OF THE INSTITUTIONS.

OUR GRAND LODGE CALENDAR.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

As the time is drawing near for the appearance of our official Calendar, I am anxious to obtain a little information respecting one or two matters which appear to me, in all deference be it said, neither business-like in themselves, nor leading to the advantage of the Fund of Benevolence. It would seem that for the "privilege" of printing the Masonic Calendar and Pocket-book, our worthy Bro. Spencer pays £20 per annum to Grand Lodge. A moiety of that amount, £10, was paid Nov. 7th, 1877, "for 1878," so that I presume the contract is entered into for a term of years. This seems, then, to be the actual sum that the Fund of Benevolence obtains for this great "privilege." It might have been a fair payment years ago, but the increase of the Craft and the claims of trade must require altered arrangements, and should be represented by a far larger amount. One should like to know how this amount £20 is calculated, whether as a lump sum or as a royalty. In either case it is too insignificant to be sufficient, and too insufficient to be accurately calculated.

It is clear to me that a considerably greater benefit would accrue to the fund of Benevolence if tenders were invited for the privilege of printing for the work, &c., say for three years, if the contract was thrown open to the Masonic Book trade. By the present system a monopoly is created which does good to no one, and which practically impedes the sale of the Calendar, while it strikes all business men as both inadequate and peculiar.

I am only speaking now on business principles, and am regarding the matter simply from a business point of view. Neither Freemasonry nor the Grand Lodge is intended in my opinion for individuals, but for the brotherhood, and I write without any personal considerations whatever, but simply as a matter of commercial policy. All our arrangements with respect to Grand Lodge supplies should be conducted in a fair, free, open market, inasmuch as it is greatly to the advantage of the community, (just as it is of individuals for the matter of that), to conduct business arrangements on business principles alone.

If any explanation can be offered, of the "raison d'être" of the existing contract, I shall be happy to consider them, hoping that you will permit me to allude to them again in the *Freemason*.

If my suggestions are read by those in authority, perhaps some good may be done.

I am, yours fraternally.

BUSINESS.

FIDELITY ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER, No 3.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Can you or any of your readers inform me the present place of meeting of the Fidelity Royal Arch Chapter, No. 3. I have looked for it in vain, both in the Grand Lodge, and the Cosmopolitan Masonic Calendar's.

Yours fraternally,

R. F. G.

SCOTLAND.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Referring to the circular letter which you published in your last number, signed by Bro. John Morgan, of Glasgow, and the resolutions thereto subjoined, I have to state that it was from a general understanding induced by statements made by Sir Michael Shaw Stewart himself that the requisition to Bro. Inglis to become his successor was promoted. Sir Michael, in his installation speech in Grand Lodge on St. Andrew's Day last year, expressly stated that it would be the last year he would occupy the throne, and in his speeches since he has made several similar statements. The members of Grand Lodge believed he meant what he said, and hence the requisition to Bro. Inglis who would prove a popular and well qualified successor, and through long and meritorious services is well entitled, to the honour.

The resolutions of Bro. Morgan's party deprecate the proceedings taken for promoting Bro. Inglis' candidature. It is not said what these proceedings were. But they simply

consisted in the issuing of a circular to members of Grand Lodge and the actual Masters and Wardens of lodges, requesting Bro. Inglis to allow himself to be nominated for the chair. I am at a loss to see any wrong in this. In point of fact it is well known that but for certain side issues Sir Michael would not have been asked again to stand, and Bro. Inglis would have been unanimously elected his successor.

The letter and resolutions further set forth that it is necessary that Sir Michael should continue in office for another term, because, it is said, energetic measures were taken under his guidance to place the financial affairs of Grand Lodge in a satisfactory state. I am not aware that Sir Michael has by guidance or otherwise interfered with the financial affairs of Grand Lodge. But certainly if he had done so earlier all the defalcations might have been avoided, for they took place during his first three years of office.

We are also told by Bro. Morgan and his party that many unqualified brethren voted in the divisions which were taken at the last Grand Lodge meeting, and that they were unqualified because their names were not on the roll in April last, when it closed for the year. But it was Bro. Morgan's own party who first tampered with that roll, and removed out from it the names of brethren who voted against his party's wishes, and it added the names of others, ignorant of the points at issue, to vote with it. It was out-generalled in this manoeuvre, and it now loudly disclaims against it. The letter, however, of Bro. Morgan, he thinking it will suit his interests, again advocates an interference with the roll by recommending lodges to supersede their proxies, if they refuse to comply with the instructions given to vote as Bro. Morgan's party requests.

Much fault too has been founded by Bro. Morgan's friends because a certain section of Grand Lodge requested members to vote in support of its views. He is now doing the same thing.

In point of fact, several of the Glasgow members were watched by their Glasgow friends, and found fault with for voting according to their convictions.

Assuming that Bro. Morgan's party is right in its contention that those only on the roll in April last could vote at the meeting of Grand Lodge, it does not follow that the Grand Lodge proceedings are null, for on a scrutiny disallowing these votes a large majority would still remain in support of the resolutions. The fact, therefore, of parties having improperly voted does not invalidate the proceedings, seeing that their votes were not required to carry the resolutions objected to.

Yours fraternally,

MASTER MASON.

CHARITY AND RELIEF.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In looking through the columns of the *Freemason*, of the 14th inst, I was very much amused in reading the report of special meeting of St. John's Lodge, Stow, No 216, to consider a circular, calling a meeting in Glasgow wherein it states that there were thirty-two subscribers to said circular, consisting of twenty-nine brethren of the Glasgow province. I beg to inform Lodge 216 that there were only ten on said Committee of the Glasgow province, and they have committed an error which possibly they were led into by false representations.

Again, look at the concluding sentence: "Resolved, therefore, that this lodge declines to countenance this meeting." What an assumption from such a strong body, scarcely known, and consisting of such a large gathering as to be scarcely able to open the lodge for want of numbers.

If lodge 216 will look over the report of meeting in Glasgow, inserted in *Scottish Freemason* of the 13th inst., they will find said meeting turned out to be one of importance, supported by a large body of representatives from all parts of Scotland.

Fraternally yours,

SCOTIA.

OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE EXAMINATION.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I do not see, in the list published in the *Guardian*, the name of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. Why not? Perhaps Bro. Binckes or Bro. Dr. Morris can explain and oblige. Yours fraternally,

CLERICUS.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF HAMPSHIRE AND THE ISLE OF WIGHT.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

When writing to you to correct what seemed to me omissions in a letter of "Consistency," criticising the recent appointments, I took the opportunity of expressing a feeling which I know to prevail in this town, respecting those appointments, it was furthest from my thoughts to engage in any controversy on the point. "Consistency," however, having apparently to his own satisfaction "settled" the Dep. Prov. Grand Master, in your last Saturday's issue, turns his attention to my observations in a communication so utterly disingenuous that I am constrained to ask you space for a reply. When Mark Twain's friend, the Admiral, was allowed to manufacture history to suit himself, he was a potent opponent, we are told; and once permit "Consistency" to cast loose from facts and read the record after his own fashion, no punishment, it seems, could well be too great for me for having mildly suggested that of the lodges in Southampton receiving Prov. Grand honours at the last meeting, the one omitted was the Royal Gloucester, the senior lodge in the town where Grand Lodge was held, and the third senior in the province.



This hint "Consistency," for a purpose best known to himself, has converted into an "argument that the entertaining lodges at Southampton should have had more honours given them, simply because they made the necessary arrangements," and a dirge on "the loss of the prestige" of the Gloucester. My letter speaks for itself. I neither "argued" the one nor did I "mourn" the other point as thus put. On the contrary, I distinctly alleged that the Gloucester had fully maintained its prestige, in the best and widest sense in which that term can be used. I held, and still insist, that to distribute but two collars between practically six lodges—forming close upon a fourth of the whole lodges in the province—in the town where Grand Lodge being held this year it cannot be expected to visit again for ten years, and especially to exclude from recognition the senior lodge of the number, was not an equitable or wise arrangement. For this I expressly said "I cast blame on no one," and I suppose it was my moderation which excited "Consistency" to make charges that it would scarcely be exaggerating to call odious in their character.

According to him, the Royal Gloucester—on whose behalf there were special reasons, about which something further may yet be heard, for noticing its omission from honours on this occasion—has not only "monopolised the best purple offices during the last decade" of years, but it has likewise had "two of the so-called permanent officials as members, which no doubt ("Consistency" has the temerity to say) materially assisted them in obtaining the superior appointments." I can sympathise with "Consistency" if, being by merit entitled to honour, that "deference to the weight of a brother's social position or money bags," which he affects to abhor, has left him unnoticed, or, it may be, has presumed to offer him a collar unequal to the estimate which he has formed of his own importance. But I venture to say that even if favouritism has been shown in the past, it is scarcely to be atoned for by quietly ignoring the claims of the present, as his letter seems to contend. It would be scarcely "consistent" with the ordinary rules of civilized life to offer to brethren holding high social and public positions in a town like Southampton collars which might, without offence, be preferred to a village cobbler; and it does so happen that during the last quarter of a century or more, the Gloucester Lodge has numbered as its masters and officers brethren who have done something towards "monopolising" municipal no less than Masonic honours, as the lists of Southampton Mayors, Sheriffs, Aldermen, and officials signally testify. These could hardly, I submit, have been asked to become Pursuivants, Sword Bearers, Directors of Ceremonies, and what not, in an assemblage regarded by its chiefs of such social import that it has lately been complained of them they usually attend it "attired in walking costume of various hues!" Not to press unduly a point which "Consistency's" letter would justify my doing, I will test his complaints and insinuations by some considerations bearing upon the Masonic worth and merit of the brethren whose honour he has impeached, premising, as a matter of fact, in reference to the Dep. Prov. G.M., and the Prov. Grand Secretary, that they are not active members of the Gloucester Lodge; and so any insinuation based on the supposition that they fall to the ground.

Taking, then, the "best purple offices," which, by a curious piece of arithmetic, "Consistency" alleges the Gloucester to have monopolised during the last ten years, I find with regard to the two Senior Wardenships, first that the Present Dep. Prov. Grand Master received a collar in 1869, just within the decade, following nine years of service as Prov. Grand Secretary; and I, for one, shall be glad to hear of the favouritism which "Consistency" alleges to have "materially assisted" to such a recognition of past services. The second Senior Grand Warden collar was given to Bro. H. Abraham, (a "Lewis," whose father had been W.M. of the Gloucester,) in 1876—following his holding for twenty or twenty one years a collar for a minor Prov. Grand office—on his retirement, to fill the mayoralty of Southampton, if I recollect aright, from the office of Treasurer to the Gloucester, which he had held for five and twenty years, leaving it in a good financial position, though he found it in debt, and during the time applying the amount presented to him as a testimonial in recognition of his services in the purchase of life governorships of the charities. Will "Consistency" tell me which received the greater honour in the bestowal of this collar, any brethren who might have "materially assisted" in the recognition of such services or the Prov. Grand Master and Prov. Grand Lodge? With respect to the two junior wardenships distributed during the decade, in 1871 a collar was given to Bro. Booth, many years previously made either Prov. G. Pursuivant or Sword-Bearer, than whom I doubt if there is a Mason in the South West of England who has installed a larger number of W.M.'s., or striven more earnestly to maintain and uphold the purity of our ritual and the ancient landmarks of the Order. The same collar the following year, being the centenary of the Gloucester Lodge, was conferred on its W.M., Bro. Pocock, who received from Masons high in authority the warmest possible recognition of the princely manner in which he and the lodge entertained the Marquis of Ripon and the officers of the Grand Lodge of England on that occasion. There were special Masonic circumstances (well known locally), apart from his efforts for the charities, which well entitled Bro. Thomas to the S. G. Deaconship two or three years ago. The Superintendship of Works was conferred in 1868 on a Past Grand Steward of England, an architect whose handiwork has been thought of sufficient importance to engrave in last Saturday's *Builder*, and who holds one of the few of the Earl of Zetland's jewels as an officer on the occasion of the inauguration festival of Freemasons' Hall. Last year's Directorship of the Ceremonies was conferred on the very brother (M. Miles) to whose efforts to secure a valuable Masonic charity, worth more than £1000, for the Southamp-

ton brethren your own columns of Saturday last bore witness. The first Grand Chaplain's collar given to the Gloucester for at least 40 years past was that conferred on a joining brother, the Rev. (now Canon) Wilberforce, following the truly Masonic spirit which he showed towards the whole body of Masons, when the rector of the parish in which the Southampton Masonic hall is situate refusing to loan his church for the celebration of the Gloucester centenary and the reception of Grand Lodge, he threw open his parish church and his own private grounds to them. "Consistency's" reference to the organists and stewardships is beneath the contempt of those who know how little the Gloucester brother to whom he refers depends for his reputation as "organist" upon any "honours" Grand Lodge can confer in that direction, and are acquainted with the estimate placed upon stewardships throughout the province. In view of facts strangely at variance, all the circumstances considered, with the inferences "Consistency" has drawn from his imperfect knowledge, I unhesitatingly challenge him to justify his assertion of favouritism towards the Gloucester Lodge or hereafter to hold his peace. He may not always have to deal with brethren who can so well recognize, and act with becoming dignity, as those whose names he has attempted to drag through the mire, Shakespeare's aphorism "Be thou as chaste as ice, as pure as snow, thou shalt not escape calumny."

As to his complaint, and the ill-concealed suggestion he would have the world draw from the fact, that the Masons of Southampton and Portsmouth do not "agitate to secure retirement (from the principal offices) after a fair tenure of office (say five years)," I have yet to learn that we have any special responsibility in the matter. Why has not this apostle of purity before made himself heard in respect to it, for, of course, he will without delay secure discussion of the subject. Perhaps he is not aware that another of those creatures of fortune and favouritism, a Gloucester brother, the late J. R. Stebbing, Dep. Prov. G. Master, some years ago made a strenuous effort (if I recollect aright in the Grand Lodge of England) to secure some such system of retirement. I can only say that when "Consistency" brings forward a motion on the subject, whether in Grand or Provincial Grand Lodge, he will not find a warmer supporter than myself. I should also like to vote for a consideration of the question whether it is in the best interests of Masonry that some provinces should embrace five or six times the number of lodges, and perhaps even a larger proportion of brethren, than other provinces, thus making P.G. honours ridiculously cheap in some districts and well nigh unattainable in others. But so long as the rule of "so-called permanent officials prevails" generally, I decline to mix up such questions of very high import with what I feel to be an utterly unfounded charge of favouritism, believing as I do in Tillotson's remark that "There is no readier way for a man to bring his own worth into question than by endeavouring to detract from the merits of others."

Fraternally yours,

A SOUTHAMPTON MASON.

STRANGE DECORATIONS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

At a recent Prov. Grand Lodge, which shall be nameless, I saw one queer thing. The Provincial Grand Master wore the Knights Templar star, and I saw it also on the breast of another of the Past Prov. Grand Officers on the dais.

Is this lawful in a Prov. Grand Lodge or in a Craft lodge?

Yours fraternally,

A PAST PROV. G. OFFICER

[Certainly not. It is perfectly illegal and forbidden.—ED.]

LOSS OF THE PRINCESS ALICE

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

It is most gratifying to see the vast sums that are pouring in to relieve the distressed through this dreadful calamity. My object to ask you to let this letter appear in your valuable columns is to ask the brethren if they would assist in getting up a concert at the Surrey Masonic Hall. The Hall could be obtained for a small sum, and I feel sure that we could obtain talent, and I trust hand over a fair amount to the Lord Mayor to swell the sum, already received. Brethren who will kindly assist me in promoting this charitable object will send their names early as possible to W. S. Daniel, 84, Fleet-Street, City, E.C., J.W. Lodge 1541.

Yours fraternally.

W. S. DANIEL.

THE LOSS OF THE "PRINCESS ALICE."

| The Lord Mayor acknowledges the receipt of the following subscriptions, among others: | £   | s. | d. |
|---|-----|----|----|
| The Queen ... ..  | 105 | 0  | 0  |
| H.R.H. the Prince of Wales ... ..   | 50  | 0  | 0  |
| H.R.H. Prince Leopold ... ..  | 25  | 0  | 0  |
| John Derby Allcroft ... ..  | 25  | 0  | 0  |
| Col. Creton ... ..  | 2   | 2  | 0  |
| Lodge Chigwell, No. 453 ... ..  | 5   | 5  | 0  |
| " Gresham, No. 879 ... ..   | 3   | 0  | 0  |
| " Beacontree, No. 1228... ..  | 2   | 0  | 0  |
| " St. Michael, No. 1273 ... ..  | 6   | 0  | 0  |
| Lodge of Instruction Crusaders, No. 1677 ... ..                                       | 2   | 2  | 0  |
| Mark Lodge Excelsior, No. 226 ... ..  | 9   | 8  | 0  |
| Collected at Freemasons' Tavern ... ..  | 6   | 0  | 0  |
| Florence Nightingale Lodge of Instruction... ..                                       | 2   | 2  | 0  |

THE ABERCARNE EXPLOSION.

|  |    |    |   |
|--|----|----|---|
| Grand Lodge of the Province of Warwickshire                  | 21 | 0  | 0 |
| R.A. Masons at Hampton Court, on Saturday, 14th inst. ... .. | 1  | 11 | 6 |

THE QUEBEC QUESTION.

BY BRO. ROBERT RAMSAY.

In a former number of the *Keystone*, (June 8th), we argued at some length upon the unconstitutionality of the recent action of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, in granting warrants to Masons in Montreal, within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, for the purpose of organizing two new lodges in that city, viz., King Solomon and Argyle. The act was so uncalled for, and the outrage so flagrant, that Most Worshipful Bro. M. M. Tait, Grand Master of Quebec, very properly issued his edict, declaring the proceedings of said lodges clandestine and illegal, and ordering that no Masonic intercourse should take place between brethren acknowledging the supremacy of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, and those in obedience to that of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. In this proclamation Grand Master Tait only expressed, what we feel confident is the unanimous opinion of the Masons in the Lower Province, and as far as we have been able to ascertain, his action is supported and upheld by the leading Masonic writers and juriscults on this continent.

Next month the regular annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Quebec will be held, and then the voice of the Craft in that province will be heard, and we are not afraid to say, that the result of their deliberations will be a calm and dignified protest on the one hand against the infringement of her territory, and on the other hand an earnest appeal to her sister Grand Lodges throughout the world to support her in her efforts to maintain the doctrine of exclusive Grand Lodge sovereignty as universally acknowledged on this continent. We don't for a moment believe there will be one dissentient voice on this question. The Grand Lodge of Quebec, from her formation in 1869, has been a staunch adherent to this dogma, having experienced the inconvenience and witnessed the unfortunate results arising from a concurrent jurisdictional power as was, and is still actually the case so far as the Grand Lodge of Canada is concerned, since there is at present one lodge in Ontario, L'Original, working (?) under the authority of the Grand Lodge of Ireland. We repeat, the Quebec Masons, on constitutionally seceding from the Grand Lodge of Canada in October, 1869, had felt the inadvisability of allowing foreign lodges to practice within her jurisdiction, and at almost every Communication of Grand Lodge proclaimed her doctrine of exclusive Grand Lodge sovereignty, proving their determination to uphold the theory by declining to accept the exchange of Grand representatives with the Grand Lodge of Missouri, as that Grand Body, in offering recognition, did so on condition that the Grand Lodge of Quebec should not interfere with the rights and privileges of those lodges still working in her jurisdiction under the authority of the Grand Lodges of England and Scotland. The Grand Lodge of Quebec, under the circumstances, very properly declined to accept the recognition, as she did also that of the Grand Lodge of England, which stipulated that the lodges in Quebec, working under her charters, should not be interfered with by the Grand Lodge of Quebec. These conditional recognitions were, we repeat, respectfully declined. Such being the case then, we feel confident the Grand Lodge of Quebec will heartily and unanimously endorse the action of her able and erudite Grand Master.

The question, however, arises, "Cannot something more than a mere protest be accomplished?" We think so, and our view is this: The present imbroglio between the Grand Lodges of Quebec and Scotland, is not one of a mere local character; it is one that should interest the Masons of Pennsylvania, New York, Ontario, California, and every State, Province and Territory on this continent, as much as the brethren of Quebec. Such being the case, we should advise that the Grand Lodge of Quebec should authorise its Grand Master to invite duly authorised delegates from every Grand Lodge in the United States and the Dominion of Canada to assemble, at an early date, in the city of Montreal, and there, in conference, calmly and deliberately discuss this question of Masonic invasion. The very existence of our cherished doctrine of Grand Lodge sovereignty hangs in the balance, and if once we permit the Grand Lodge of Scotland to plant her banners on the soil over which the Grand Lodge of Quebec has, according to forty-eight Grand Lodges, sole and exclusive sovereign jurisdiction, we tacitly admit the right of that Grand Lodge, or any other foreign Grand Lodge, to invade our Grand Lodge jurisdictions. If Scotland can invade Quebec with impunity, California can issue warrants to Masons in New Brunswick, and Canada can send her dispensations to brethren in Pennsylvania and Ohio, and the very bulwarks of our Grand Lodge system would be pulled down, till they would present one chaotic mass of confusion, turmoil and discord.

We would then respectfully suggest that the Grand Lodge of Quebec, at its annual session next month, take the initiative in this movement. A conference, whose members were amongst the leading minds of the Craft from the Atlantic to the Pacific, would carry great weight and power to the Masonic world, that the Masons of this continent are an unit on this question, and will not permit their rights to be trampled on by any Grand Lodge, however venerable or however influential she may be. Such a conference, too, could not fail to accomplish much good. Brethren would be brought together from all parts of the United States and the Dominion of Canada, and interchange alone of the ordinary Masonic courtesies would do much to draw the bands of American and Canadian Masonry closer, whilst the hospitalities, of which the Montreal brethren are so profuse, would make the visit one of pleasure as well as profit. Of course, some Grand Lodges would not be represented, but we feel confident a large majority would hasten to accept the invitation, or at least some of their Grand Officers would endeavour to be present, to aid by their counsel and advice an object of such importance as the one under discussion.—*Keystone*.

## Masonic and General Tidings.

The Duke of Connaught, the Princess Louise, and the Marquis of Lorne, have added their names to that of Prince Leopold as patrons at the Grand Evening Concert to be held at Exeter Hall on the 28th inst. in aid of the Princess Alice Relief Fund.

A grand vocal and instrumental concert, under the patronage of the Lord Mayor, is to be given at the Masonic Hall, Wood Green, on Wednesday, October 2nd, commencing at 7.45. Several eminent artists have been engaged, and the proceeds will be given to the same Fund.

The installation of His Grace the Duke of St. Albans as Right Worshipful Grand Master of the Province of Nottinghamshire took place at the Castle, Nottingham, on Friday. The ceremony was performed by the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master of England, assisted by the Marquis of Hartington, Right Worshipful Grand Master of Derbyshire. A full report of the proceedings will appear in our next.

A meeting of the Grand Lodge of the Province of West Lancashire will be held under the presidency of the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, Deputy Grand Master of England, R.W.G. Master, on Wednesday the 2nd of October, at 12 o'clock, at the Philharmonic Hall, Liverpool.

The consecration of the Kensington Lodge, No. 1767, took place on Friday. A report will appear in our next.

A Proclamation in Tuesday's *London Gazette* formally prorogues Parliament to Saturday Nov. 30. An Order in Council also prorogues Convocation to Dec. 2.

The Annual Autumn Liverpool Corporation Exhibition of Pictures, in the Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool, is now in the full swing of its prosperity, and both attendances and sales are larger, at this date, than in any previous year. The quality of the pictures generally is above the average, and when time and space permit, we may take a passing glance at one or two of the more conspicuous in the gallery.

"J. A. J." suggests, in the *Echo*, that a box for the reception of donations for the Colliery Disaster Fund be placed outside the Mansion House, by the side of the Princess Alice Fund box, so that contributors may follow their own inclination in the disposal of their benefactions.

The sum of 20 guineas was unanimously voted for the relief of the sufferers by the Abercarne colliery explosion, at the Provincial Grand Lodge of Warwickshire held on Tuesday, at Alcester, on the proposition of the Grand Master, Lord Leigh, seconded by Colonel Maclean, Deputy Grand Master.

Hobart Pasha left London on Tuesday night for Constantinople, to resume his duties as Inspector-General of the Turkish Fleet.

Mrs. Bravo, whose name was prominently before the public in connection with the Balham mystery, died recently at Combe Villa, Lumps, near Portsmouth, after a week's illness.

The Fifteen Sections will be worked at the Israel Lodge of Instruction, held at the Rising Sun Tavern, Globe-road, Mile End-road, on the 22nd September, 1878, at 7 o'clock. Bro. Stephens, 1623, will preside; Bros. Barnes, P.M. 933 and 544, S.W.; Ellis, 933, J.W.; Cundick, P.M. 1421, I.P.M.; W. Musto, P.M. 1349, Hon. Sec.

| FIRST LECTURE.   |                        |
|------------------|------------------------|
| 1st Section, ... | Bro. D. Moss, 1275.    |
| 2nd " ...        | " Musto, P.M. 1349.    |
| 3rd " ...        | " Shepherd, S.W. 1349. |
| 4th " ...        | " Calver, 933.         |
| 5th " ...        | " Taylor, D.C. 554.    |
| 6th " ...        | " Yetton, P.M. 933.    |
| 7th " ...        | " Williams, 933.       |

| SECOND LECTURE.  |                       |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| 1st Section, ... | Bro. Ellis, 933.      |
| 2nd " ...        | " Fieldwick, 1364.    |
| 3rd " ...        | " Burr, 1349.         |
| 4th " ...        | " Webb, S.D. 174.     |
| 5th " ...        | " Andrews, J.D. 1227. |

| THIRD LECTURE.   |                             |
|------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1st Section, ... | Bro. I. P. Cohen, P.M. 205. |
| 2nd " ...        | " Slaiter, 804.             |
| 3rd " ...        | " Job, J.D. 1076.           |

A gentleman of the name of Ackermann, who was collecting minerals on Mount Pilatus, was killed last week, by a fall on the Esel Peak.

The Countess Ariosto, the last descendant of the poet, has just died at Ravenna, aged ninety.

The announcement of the death of the Dowager Countess Cowper, in the *Times*, is without foundation. The Countess is at Wrest Park, Beds., in her usual health.

A meeting of the Grand Lodge of the Province of Dorset was held on Tuesday last, at the Guildhall, Poole, and was presided over by Bro. Montague Guest, R.W.G.M. A full report will appear in our next.

The Fruiterers' Company made their annual presentation of fruit to the Lord Mayor on Tuesday last. An account of the ceremony appeared in the *City Press* of Wednesday.

A good story was told me by a friend from the States the other day. A spiritualistic seance was being held, at which it was announced that the spirit of the "Immortal Williams" would pass through the room. A sceptic took a handful of tin tacks to the meeting place, and quietly sprinkled them over the floor. The solemn moment came; a ghastly form entered and took a noiseless stride forward. There was a slight shiver in the white object, and a muttered noise was heard; a second step followed, not quite so steady, and another muffled ejaculation; but at the third stride Shakespeare's disembodied form sat plump down upon the floor, and swore like a British army in Flanders.—*Hornet*.

## DRAMATIC NOTES.

GLOBE THEATRE.—This theatre opened for a season with a new two act drama, entitled "Mayfair and Ragfair," by J. Mackay, and with "Les Cloches de Corneville," transferred from the boards of the Folly. Of the latter piece, I have already said my say, and I have nothing to add. Of the new drama I cannot say much; there is indication of a good and pretty story, and matter sufficient for a full three act drama, but the author was tied down to two short acts, and not to exceed one hour in acting; the consequence is we get a thin synopsis of a drama, a very skeleton with all the beauty of surface gone and no fat. Mr. Fernandez, especially engaged to play the principal part—that of the Jew "Mopus Mo"—neither does justice to himself as a good actor, which he is, nor to the part, which is a good one. Miss Fanny Enson played the part of "Esther," the Jew's daughter, very creditably, and Mr. Graham made the most of his part—a character that well delineated would have made its mark.

EGYPTIAN HALL.—Mr. Maskelyne's new musical automaton "Labial," is certainly a great improvement on "Fanfare," but neither of these new inventions can vie in cleverness and ingenuity with "Pshyco" and "Zoe." As an inventor and constructor of automatons, Mr. Maskelyne has certainly no rival in Europe, and I, for one, would not undertake to prophecy where his inventive genius will terminate. It would not surprise me to learn that Mr. Maskelyne had an automaton of himself in preparation, who, when complete, would undertake Mr. Maskelyne's own duties, leaving him without care in his own study to invent automatons of Mr. Cooke, Mr. Ring, and other assistants—he need not produce an automaton audience, for the Egyptian Hall will always be full of lively and appreciative ones. The new boxes, those on either side of the hall, are a great improvement, and were certainly needed, for Mr. Maskelyne has more admirers every night than he has accommodation for.

## METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS

For the Week ending Friday, September 27, 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 21.

Lodge 1329, Sphinx, Bridge House Hot., London Bdge.  
" 1597, Musgrave, Angel and Crown Hot., Staines.

## 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 23.

## 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.  
Tredgar, 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 24.

Lodge 141, Faith, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.  
" 186, Industry, 2, Westminster Chbrs., Victoria-st.  
" 1158, Southern Star, Montpelier Tav., Walworth.  
" 1441, Ivy, Surrey M.H.

## LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.  
Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.  
Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.  
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.  
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.  
Dalhousie, King Edward, 'r'iangle, Hackney.  
Prosperity, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.  
Florence Nightingale, F.M.H., William-st., Woolwich.  
Constitutional, Bedford Hot., Southampton Bdgs., 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 Edgecumbe, 19, Jermyn-st., St. James's.  
Sir Hugh Myddelton, 162, St. John's-st.-rd.

## WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25.

Lodge 597, United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell.  
" 753, Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., S. John's Wd.  
" 754, High Cross, Seven Sisters Tav., Tottenham.  
" 898, Temperance-in-the-East, Newby-pl., Poplar.  
" 1056, Victoria, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.  
Chap. 820, Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond.  
" 907, Royal Albert, White Hart, Abchurch-lane.  
R.C.C. 15, St. Andrews, Regent M.H., 68, Regent-st., W.

## LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Urban, 23, Gresham-street, City, E.C., at 6.30.  
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 26.

Gen. Com. Girls' School, at 4.  
Lodge 65, Prosperity, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.  
" 766, Wm. Preston, Cannon-st. Hot.  
" 1421, Langthorne, Swan Hot., Stratford.  
" 1524, Duke of Connaught, Havelock H., Albion-rd.E.  
" 1563, City of Westminster, 68, Regent-st., W.  
" 1658, Skelmersdale, S.M.H.  
R.A.C. 217, Stability, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.  
Mark Lodge 118, Northumberland, M.H., M. Avenue.

## 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-rd., at 8.  
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.  
Crusaders, St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, at 9.

## FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27.

Lodge 780, Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge.  
" 1602, Sir Hugh Middleton, Agricultural Hall, N.  
Chap. 749, Belgrave, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.

## LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

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

## MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, September 28, 1878.

## MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23.

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

## TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24.

Lodge 1609, Dramatic, M.H., Liverpool, (Installation.)  
" 1675, Ancient Briton, M.H., Liverpool.  
Chap. 721, Grosvenor, M.R., Chester.  
" 1094, Temple, M.H., Liverpool.  
Merchants L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.  
Prince Arthur L. of I., 80, N. Hill-st., Liverpool.

## WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25.

Lodge 32, St. George's, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.  
" 220, Harmony, Wellington Hot., Garston.  
" 724, Derby, M.H., Liverpool.  
" 730, Ellesmere, Royal Oak, Chorley.  
Chap. 1052, Callender, Public H., Rusholme.  
Neptune L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

## THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26.

Lodge 594, Downshire, M.H., Liverpool.  
" 1505, Emulation, M.H., Liverpool.  
Chap. 202, Liverpool, M.H., Liverpool.  
Stanley L. of I., 214, Gt. Homer-st., Liverpool.  
Encampment Wm. de la More, Assembly R., Bootle.

## FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27.

Lodge 1393, Hamer, M.H., Liverpool.

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

A Gentleman of mature age, who can be well recommended, desires entire or partial employment as SECRETARY, MANAGER, or FACTOTUM to a Company, Firm, or Institution. Being at present entirely disengaged, he will gladly accept a temporary engagement to fill a vacancy caused by illness or otherwise.—Kindly address Mr. Howard, care of Messrs. Procter and Forth, High-street, Cheltenham.

A GENTLEMAN of excellent business habits and considerable experience, desires to meet with early engagement as Book-keeper, Secretary, or Traveller Address, J. J. H., 146, Kennington Park-road, London, S.E.