

CONTENTS.

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS—
 Craft Masonry 247
 Instruction 249
 Royal Arch 249
 Mark Masonry 249
 Provincial Grand Lodge of Cornwall..... 250
 Devon Masonic Educational Fund..... 251
 Lodge of Benevolence..... 251
 Funeral of Bro. J. Wade Bennett 251
 The Emperor's Golden Wedding..... 252
 Good Works 252
 Personality in Masonic Writing 252
 CORRESPONDENCE:—
 Masonic Grammar 253
 Count Cagliostro and Swedenborgian Masonry 253
 Hospital Libraries..... 253
 Obituary 253
 Royal Masonic Institution for Boys 254
 Charity 254
 Antiquity 255
 Masonic Notes and Queries 255
 Freemasonry in New Zealand 255
 Masonic and General Tidings 255
 Lodge Meetings for Next Week..... 256
 Advertisements..... i, ii, iii, iv, v, vi.

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

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.
 Craft Masonry.

LIVERPOOL.—Mariners Lodge (No. 249).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, on Thursday, the 5th inst., and as the annual election took place on this date there was a large attendance of members. Bro. Frederick Barnett, W.M., opened the lodge about six o'clock, supported by Bros. J. C. Robinson, I.P.M.; J. Hayes, P.M., D.C.; Rev. H. Philip Pinnington, P.M.; W. Corbett, S.W.; Dr. J. Kellett Smith, P.P.G. Reg.; Treas.; J. Whalley, S.D.; H. Wynne Parry, J.D.; Wm. H. Vernon, I.G.; A. B. Ewart, Org.; J. Jenaway, S.; Morris Davies, S.; and Wm. H. Ball, Tyler. The members present were Bros. Peter Ball, J. P. Jones, M. Parker, Wm. Pye, J. Baines, Walter Lothian, T. Evans, H. J. Pye, B. J. Parry, David W. Cangle, R. Thompson, J. Messenger, J. Molloy, J. Sykes, J. Pye, S. Johnson, A. Samuel, H. Hall, T. Joseph, J. Simpson, A. Barnard, T. Haymaus, J. Travis, C. Davis, J. Crebbin, J. Nicholas, J. White, R. G. Bradley, M. Golston, G. C. Beecham, M. Howarth, jun., T. Poyser, J. H. Walker, W. Mooney, F. Cooper, Wm. Gamble, R. Thomas, D. Oilplant, F. J. Porter, J. N. Pendleton, and J. Wood (*Freemason*). Amongst the visitors to the lodge were Bros. D. Hughes, 241; Alexander Allan, 1609; T. Malcolm, 594; J. W. King, 823; R. B. Burgess, Sec. 1325; W. N. Grundy, 1325; J. Jacobs, 724 and 1576; A. Hayes, 1250; Hugh Williams, P.G. St.; J. P. Bryan, 1035, 203, &c.; Wm. Leatham, 594; T. Gray, 1325; and S. Prince, 594. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for Messrs. Isaac Wilson and Thomas Grindall, who, being duly elected and in attendance, were subsequently admitted and initiated into the mysteries of ancient Freemasonry, according to ancient custom, by the W.M. The E.A.'s having retired, the lodge was then opened in Fellow Craft Degree, when two brethren were duly passed. After the lodge had been again closed to the First Degree, and Bro. W. Corbett, the S.W., was elected W.M. by acclamation and all but unanimously, Bro. Corbett thanked the W.M., Past Masters, officers, and brethren for having elected him to the proud position of the chair of such an old, honourable, and numerous a lodge as that of the Mariners, and he assured them he would do his best, relying on the support of his brethren, to make his year of office a success. Bro. Dr. J. Kellett Smith, P.M., P.P.G. Reg., was unanimously re-elected Treasurer in continuation of a succession of several years' office. Bros. J. Hayes, the Rev. P. Pennington, and Dr. Smith, P.M.'s, were elected trustees for the lodge, and the auditors were afterwards appointed. On the motion of Bro. Dr. Smith, it was resolved, nem. con., that a letter of condolence should be written, in name of the lodge, to the widow of the late Bro. Edwin Hughes, P.M. Several communications having been read by the Secretary, one or two cases of distress relieved, and one proposition made for initiation, the lodge was closed in ample form. The brethren then sat down to an excellent supper, provided by Bro. Chaplin, House Steward, and during the evening the usual patriotic and Masonic toasts were given and heartily responded to. Songs and recitations also made the pleasant evening "as merry as a marriage bell."

LANCASTER.—Lodge of Fortitude (No. 281).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Rooms, Athenaeum, St. Leonardgate, on the 11th inst., the chair of K.S. being occupied by Bro. Edward Cardwell, the W.M., who was supported by his respective officers; a numerous body of the members and visiting brethren being also present. The lodge was opened in the First Degree with solemn prayer, and the minutes of the previous meeting afterwards read and confirmed. The ballot was then taken for Mr. Arthur Heath Sykes, and

proving unanimous, he was duly initiated in the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry by Bro. Jowitt, I.P.M., acting as W.M., the working being gone through in a very impressive manner; the working tools being given by Bro. Croskell, the J.W. On the motion of Bro. James Hatch, P.M., seconded by Bro. George Kelland, P.M., a vote of condolence was moved to the family of the late Bro. Wm. Storey, P.M., expressing the regret of the brethren, and sympathising with them in the loss they had sustained by the removal by death from amongst them of one who was a good husband and parent, a kind and generous employer, and a good and worthy member of the Craft. It was resolved that the anniversary of St. John the Baptist should be held at the house of Bro. Wm. Longmire (W.M. 1561), Morecambe, on the 25th inst. The usual proclamations were then made, which elicited "Hearty good wishes" from the visiting brethren, and the lodge was closed in peace, love, and harmony, and with solemn prayer.

MALTA.—Lodge of St. John and St. Paul (No. 349, E.C.)—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held on the 2nd inst., at the Masonic Hall, Valletta. There were present the W.M., Bro. Coffey, several Past Masters, and a large number of brethren. The lodge having been opened in the First Degree, Bros. Noyes, Chapman, and Freeman were called up to the East, and having been examined, retired to prepare for the Second Degree. Mr. Thomas Steele being in attendance, and duly prepared, was then initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry. Bro. Steele having retired, the lodge was opened as a Fellow Craft lodge. Bros. Noyes, Chapman, and Freeman having been re-admitted, were passed to the noble degree of Fellow Craft. The lodge was closed in this degree and opened in the First Degree. The newly-initiated brother then re-entered. Two brethren having been proposed as joining members and some routine business transacted, the lodge was closed in ancient form, and the brethren adjourned to the refreshment room, where the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and duly honoured.

CHESHUNT.—Gresham Lodge (No. 869).—The installation meeting of the above lodge took place on Saturday, the 14th inst., at Cheshunt Great House, Cheshunt Park, and truly may we say that never was this beautiful ceremony performed with greater effect than on the occasion referred to. The place, which had been alike the palace of a king, the abode of a cardinal (Wolsey, whose portrait still adorns the wall), and in still more ancient times devoted to the austere life of the recluse, gave a charm to that beautiful part of our ritual so ably rendered by the Installing Master, Bro. Gompertz, assisted by the Treasurer of the lodge, Bro. F. D. Rees Copestick, P.M., acting as Director of Ceremonies. The above mentioned lodge has been extremely fortunate in securing this fine old baronial hall for its reunions (kindly placed at their disposal by their much respected Chaplain, the Rev. Chas. Erskine Mayo, M.A., P.P.G. Chap. Herts), and not only in their place of meeting—for the whole building is equally at their disposal—they are thus enabled to provide for their creature comforts in a manner that would do credit to many a first-class country hotel; thus freed from tavern influence, having their own cuisine and cellar, they are enabled to offer to their visiting brethren a hearty and generous welcome. The present Master, Bro. T. C. Chapman, P.M. of the Connaught Lodge, and M.E.Z. of the Lion and Lamb Chapter, was initiated in the Gresham Lodge in 1871, since which time he has filled in succession nearly every office in his mother lodge, culminating in the proud position of W.M. The officers appointed were Bros. T. Perry, S.W.; C. B. Cheese, J.W.; F. D. Rees Copestick, P.M., Treasurer; W. E. Gompertz, P.M., Sec.; C. E. Mayo, Chap.; Gompertz, jun., S.D.; W. R. Dixon, J.D.; Eugene Benard, I.G.; J. R. Dickie, Organist; J. T. Mabey and A. A. Johnson, Stewards. In presenting the Immediate P.M., Bro. Doctor Pottle, with a P.M.'s jewel, the W.M. expressed the earnest hope that he might live long to enjoy the esteem and affection of the brethren, the jewel which he now placed on his breast being but a slight mark of the esteem in which he was held by the brethren. Several toasts having been proposed, and duly responded to, the W.M. called upon the Prov. G. Sec.; Bro. Dr. Iles, to make a few remarks upon the movement now before the public for the restoration of St. Alban's Abbey. In doing so Bro. Iles expressed the hope that the brethren would disabuse their minds of the impression that this was a sectarian movement. He denied that it was anything of the kind. It was purely an endeavour to restore one of our most ancient and grand historical monuments, associated nearly and dearly with the cherished principles of Freemasonry, of which St. Alban was the founder and first exponent in England. Our space will not admit of a further report of the numerous speeches which occupied the remainder of the evening; suffice it to say that the brethren spent a most enjoyable evening. Amongst the brethren present were Bros. T. C. Chapman, W. F. Gompertz, P.P.G.P. Herts; J. Copestick, P.P.G.J.W.; R. Bruce, P.P.G.D.; J. Forsyth, P.P.G.S. of Wks.; A. C. Wylie, P.P.G.S.B.; F. D. Rees Copestick, P.P.G.S.B.; G. E. Pottle, P.P.G.S.B.; Thos. Perry, C. B. Cheese, W. R. Dixon, J. R. Dickie, Gompertz, jun., J. Rignal, E. Benard, T. S. Holland, J. T. Mabey, H. A. Johnson, Arthur Clegg, Allan Brown, Humphreys, and George. Among the visitors were Bros. Wilson Iles, Prov. Grand Sec. Herts, P.M. 404; Thomas Stephens, I.P.M. 1475; Henry Vickery, W.M. 1475; Thomas Jackson, S.D. 1475; Henry M. Walker, 1475; Henry W. Gompertz, W.M. 1364; Alfred Dotteridge, P.M. 172; C. W. Kent, P.M. 879; George Collier, 1237; E. Tholander, 8, Gothenberg, Sweden; F. Purvis, 1327; W. Bradstock, 1327; A. Andrews, 1604; C. Powr, J.D. 1558.

BATTLE.—Abbey Lodge (No. 1184).—Sir Walter W. Burrell, Bart., M.P., paid an official visit to this lodge on Thursday, the 12th inst. He was attended by his Provincial Grand Officers, who arrived shortly before two o'clock. The occasion was the annual installation, Bro. Lambourn, a Past Master of the lodge, being again elevated to that position. The usual banquet took place at the George Hotel. A warrant has been granted for a new lodge of Freemasons at Shoreham, to be named the Burrell Lodge, No. 1829. The first officers will be Bro. Lord A. W. Hill, P.G.M. Co. Down, W.M.; Bro. Capt. C. Raymond Burrell, P.M., S.W.; Bro. W. Tunstall Clarke, J.W. The R.W. Prov. Grand Master has fixed Thursday, July 17th, for the consecration of the Atlingworth Lodge, No. 1821. The ceremony will take place at the Royal Pavilion, Brighton, and be performed by the Deputy Prov. Grand Master (Bro. John Henderson Scott). Bro. T. J. Sabine is to be the first W.M.

WARRINGTON.—The Gilbert Greenall Lodge (No. 1250).—On Tuesday last the annual meeting of this flourishing and popular lodge was held at the Masonic Rooms, Sankey-street, and there was a goodly attendance of brethren present to celebrate the advent of Bro. T. H. Sutton, J.W. and W.M. elect, to the chair. Bro. D. W. Finney, P.M., Prov. G. Steward, W.M., took the chair shortly after three o'clock, and was supported by the following brethren: Bros. T. H. Sutton, J.W., W.M. elect; J. Knight, J. H. Galloway, Spencer Wallhead, H. Houlst, T. Domville, W. Woods, P.M.; W. Taylor, J. S. Green, P. J. Edleston, P.M.; W. Pellitt, P.M.; W. H. Jenkins, T. O. Speakman, H. Hind, J. Farrington, J. Baird, J. H. Potter, R. Brierley, P.M.; J. Hannah, J. R. Jones, J. Smethurst, G. Cropper, Geo. Fairhurst, J. O'Brien, John Jones, W. Richardson, P.M.; H. Houghton, G. Mackey, W. S. Hawkins, P.M.; A. W. Brundrith, W. Bolton, A. G. Webster, J. W. Tonque, A. Potter, jun., D. Hooley, R. Heaton, E. Auckland, J. Currey, W. Reid, and J. Barlow. Visitors: H. S. Alpass, Prov. G. Sec.; John Bowes, P.M., P.P.G.J.W. Cumberland and Westmorland; J. Pichall, P.M. 148; A. Crawford, 148; A. E. Ogden, W.M. 680; J. Rymer Young, W.M. 148; J. R. Tomlinson, P.M. 368; E. C. Cooper, P.M. 484, Prov. G.S.B.; T. Jones, 241; W. Bradford, 965; W. Leigh, W.M. 941; and C. E. Hindley, S.W. 148. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the installation of Bro. Sutton was at once proceeded with. At the I.M.'s request, Bros. P.M.'s Brierley, Richardson, and Edleston took the positions of S.W., J.W., and I.G. respectively, and Bro. Sutton was duly presented. Afterwards a Board of I.M.'s was in proper and due course opened, the W.M. elect introduced thereto, and placed in the chair of K.S. according to ancient custom, saluted, and greeted. This part of the ceremony being completed, the Board of I.M.'s was closed, and the rest of the brethren admitted by seniority, and saluted the new W.M. in Masonic form. Bro. Sutton then appointed and invested the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year: viz., Bros. J. H. Galloway, S.W.; S. Wallhead, J.W.; W. Richardson, P.M., Treasurer; D. W. Finney, P.M., Sec.; T. Hutchinson, S.D.; G. Cropper, J.D.; W. Taylor, I.G.; J. Jones and J. Farrington, Stewards; T. Domville, Tyler. These officers were introduced to their respective positions by the I.M., and suitable advice and admonition delivered to each, after which the annual addresses were delivered to the W.M., Wardens, and brethren. At the close of the ceremony Bro. P.M. Richardson rose to propose that the best thanks be given to Bro. Finney for the able and efficient manner in which he had conducted the installation. The W.M. seconded, and the resolution was carried with acclamation, and ordered to be entered upon the minutes. Bro. Finney made a suitable reply. We should not omit to say also that before the brethren separated a very handsome and chaste P.M.'s jewel was presented to the retiring W.M. for his services and conduct in the chair during the past twelve months. After some further routine business the lodge was duly and solemnly closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet at the Lion Hotel. Here Bro. Sutton was supported in the chair by most of the brethren above named. Many good things were provided by the purveyors of the "Lion" for "hungry souls," to which good things we need hardly say ample justice was done. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to with fervour and eloquence. In proposing "The Health of Bro. Sutton," the Prov. G. Sec., with unusual warmth, enforced the duty of Masonic charity along with other practical and useful advice, and we trust, and indeed we feel that it will be so, that the good seed thus sown will take root downward and bear fruit upward. After a most successful and happy gathering the Tyler's toast brought the proceedings to a close about ten o'clock, and the brethren separated in perfect harmony.

PLYMOUTH.—Dundas Lodge (No. 1255).—The annual meeting of this lodge was held on Monday last, at the Huyshe Masonic Temple, Princess-place. W. Bro. James Hellyer Dawe, the W.M. elect, was installed by W. Bro. Samuel H. Hearle, P.M. 1255, supported by the following Board of I.M.'s:—W. Bro. C. Godtschalk, P.P.G.D.; T. J. Smith, William Bell, Samuel B. Harvey, W. H. Triplett, W. G. Ball, P.M.'s 1255; L. D. Westcott, P.P.G.S. Wks.; E. Aitken Davies, P.P.G.S. Wks.; J. B. Gover, P.P.G.A.D.C.; H. F. Hearle, P.P.G.A.D.C.; J. T. Browning, W.M. 105; and J. G. Kevern, W.M. 1550. At the close of the installation the following brethren were invested the officers for the ensuing year:—W. Bro. T. J. Smith, I.P.M.; Bros. G. R. Barrett, S.W., and Admiral F. H. H. Glasse, C.B., J.W.; W. Bros. William Bell, Treas.; and S. B. Harvey, Sec.; Bros. William Cann, S.D.; R. E. Holmes, J.D.; John Hammond, D.C.; H. C. Jago, I.G. W. Bro. S. B. Harvey was elected the representative of the lodge at the Committee of Petitions, and

Bro. G. R. Barrett, the Steward of the lodge, for the Devon Masonic Educational Fund. In the evening the brethren of the lodge and visitors dined together at the Globe Hotel. Among the toasts were "The new P.G.M., R.W. Bro. Lord Ebrington, and might he prove a worthy successor in that office to his grandsire;" "The Past Prov. G.M., R.W. Bro. the Rev. John Huyshe, M.A.;" and "The Past Prov. G. Officers." There were hopes, it is said, of Bro. Huyshe returning to an improved state of health, and the wish was expressed that he might yet be spared for some years to adorn the Order, and by his occasional presence among the brethren revive warm reminiscences of his beneficent rule.

HAMPTON COURT.—Era Lodge (No. 1423).—The regular meeting of this lodge took place at the Island Hotel, on the 14th inst. There were present Bros. E. W. Devereux, W.M.; T. J. Sabine, I.P.M.; J. W. Baldwin, P.M.; W. Hammond, P.M.; A. Loos, S.W.; G. L. Wingate, E. T. Herman, and B. Wright, Sec. The visitors were Bros. W. R. Smith, 1326, and H. Buckley, 1326. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, and the ballot was taken for J. S. Fowler, and was declared to be unanimous in his favour. On the motion of Bro. Baldwin, and seconded by the W.M., it was resolved to request the late Secretary, Bro. Walters, to accept the honorary membership of the lodge, which was unanimously carried. The lodge was then closed.

PLUMSTEAD.—United Military Lodge (No. 1536).—The usual monthly meeting of the above lodge took place on Friday, the 13th inst., at Bro. Garbett's Hall, on Anglesea Hill, and was well attended by both the brethren of the lodge and visitors. Bro. H. G. Picken, W.M., was in the chair, supported by the following Past Masters and officers: Past Masters Bros. W. Weston and A. Penfold, Bros. H. Shaw, S.W.; D. Deeves, J.W.; W. Murphy, Treas.; G. Kennedy, Sec.; W. Welding, S.D.; T. Holleyman, J.D.; and H. Harding, Org. Visitors, Bros. T. D. Hayes, W.M. 913; J. G. Holmes, P.M. 407; P.P.G.S.W. Malta; T. Hutton, W.M. elect 13; J. Warren, S.W. 700; E. Knightly, 473; T. Hassell, 13; W. McCoy, 700; G. F. Fraser, 700; H. Grise, 13; W. Hume, 640 (S.C.); A. Archer, 1089, D.C.; E. Clarke, 184; and C. Jolly (*Freemason*), 913; and others. The lodge having been opened in due form, the Three Degrees were worked by the W.M. in a most reverent and excellent manner. The brethren then proceeded to elect a W.M. for the ensuing year, and Bro. H. Shaw, S.W., was elected unanimously. Bro. Murphy was then re-elected Treasurer, and the Tyler was re-elected to that onerous position. It was then proposed by Bro. Weston, and seconded by Bro. Shaw, that a Past Master's jewel, of the value of ten guineas, should then be presented to Bro. Picken for his services to the lodge during the past year, and it was carried unanimously. Bro. Weston, who is always foremost in the cause of charity, then brought before the lodge the cases of the widows of two brethren who had died abroad, Bros. Cullen and Cook, the latter of whom died at Natal of fever in camp. He said that no doubt one of Bro. Cook's children would be taken up by the province as a candidate for the Masonic Schools, and asked them to unloose their purse strings when the broken column went round. We are pleased to say that Bro. Weston's appeal was effective, for the sum of £2 15s. was at once collected, and placed in the hands of Bro. Watkins for the immediate want of our brothers' widows. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren assembled round the social board, where an hour was spent in Masonic harmony and brotherly love.

STANMORE.—Sub-Urban Lodge (No. 1702).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held yesterday week at the Abercorn Arms. Consecrated on the 19th of October, 1877, this lodge has made excellent progress in Freemasonry, and now holds a very important position among the lodges of the new province of Middlesex. The first Worshipful Master, Bro. Japheth Tickle, has held the office for twenty months, and has conducted the affairs of the lodge with admirable skill. The brethren have passed a most happy time under his rule, and the lodge has fully carried out the intentions of its promoters, that it should be an agreeable summer adjunct of the Urban Lodge, whose members were its founders. The brethren met early in the day, when the lodge was opened, and in the course of the meeting the following brethren were present:—Bros. Japheth Tickle, W.M.; Chas. Hawksley, S.W.; A. F. Roberts, J.W.; Joseph W. S. Wall, Sec.; Wm. Radford, S.D.; J. J. Hepburn, D.C.; W. T. Buck, I.G.; C. Winstanley, Charles Buck, George H. Carter, W. H. Exton, W. R. Shutt, T. Hay Ritchie, C. Veal, P.G.S.D. Middx.; W. C. Maddever, W.M. 804; A. Birch, H. M. Chigwell, Jas. Terry, P.G.J.W. Herts.; J. L. W. Ruff, S.W. 95; H. G. Buss, Asst. G.S.; H. C. Levander, P.G.S. Middx.; T. W. Eckstein, J.W. 1196; Dr. J. E. Carpenter, P.M. 1196; J. Pearson, P.M. 1196; Edwin G. Legge, P.M. 1196; W. F. C. Moutrie, P.M. 11; H. Buck, J.D. 171; T. T. Bell, S.W. 1178; and H. Massey (*Freemason*). After reading of and confirmation of the minutes of last lodge, Mr. Thomas Hay Ritchie and Mr. William Henry Gaskell Exton were initiated in the Order. Bros. Thomas Milbourn, 1196, and Henry Thomas Tiddeman were elected joining members, after which, on the presentation of Bro. James Terry, Bro. A. F. Roberts, W.M. elect, was installed by Bro. Tickle as Master of the lodge, and the following brethren were appointed to office:—Bros. Japheth Tickle, I.P.M.; W. Radford, S.W.; J. Wall, J.W.; Japheth Tickle, Treas.; Charles Hawksley, Sec.; W. Buck, S.D.; J. T. Hepburn, J.D.; Chas. Buck, I.G.; C. Winstanley, D.C.; G. H. Carter, Steward; and J. Middleton, Tyler. Bro. Legge delivered the address to the W.M.; Bro. James Terry the address to the Wardens; and Bro. Tickle the address to the brethren. Lodge was immediately afterwards closed, and the brethren partook of a charming banquet, provided in excellent style by Bro.

Veal. The customary toasts followed. Bro. Buss, Asst. Grand Secretary, responded to the toast of "The Grand Officers." Bro. H. C. Levander, Prov. G.S. for Middlesex, in replying to the toast of "The Provincial G.M., Bro. Col. Burdett, and the rest of the Prov. G. Officers," said that all the Provincial Grand Officers were anxious to do everything in their power for the welfare of the province, and, in so saying, he might, perhaps, be allowed, on behalf of himself, to add that they did everything in their power for the province. The present was his first visit to the Sub-Urban Lodge, or to any lodge at Stanmore, and it had given him so much gratification that he looked with pleasure on the next meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Middlesex, which was to be held at Stanmore on the 28th of this month. He expected a great and successful gathering on that occasion, and although the Prov. G.M. had not been well lately he hoped to see him then presiding. The Prov. G.M. would be much pleased to be supported by all the brethren in the province. He (Bro. Levander) congratulated the W.M. on being installed that day as the successor to such a distinguished Mason as Bro. Tickle in the Mastership of a lodge which he hoped to see one of the best, if not the best, of the lodges of Middlesex. The W.M. here announced that as this was the proper day to elect a Steward for the province he should propose Bro. Tickle, and Bro. Tickle having signified his willingness to accept the office, the motion was seconded by the S.W., and carried. Bro. Tickle said he felt highly complimented by being recommended to the Prov. G.M. for the office of Prov. G. Steward, and he assured the brethren that the Sub-Urban Lodge should not lose anything by the recommendation. The W.M. next proposed "The Health of the Initiates." Bro. Ritchie thanked the brethren for their heartiness in accepting the toast, and hoped to see a great deal more of Freemasonry on future occasions. Bro. Exton in the course of his reply, said, he had long had a desire to be numbered among the members of the Order, and Bro. Buck suggested to him that if he would like to join the Craft he would find the Sub-Urban Lodge a favourable lodge to be initiated in. He had of course heard a great deal outside Freemasonry about it, but he did not believe what he heard or he should not have been present that day. If he was spared he should devote his time, attention, interest, and care to the welfare of this lodge, and to the welfare of the Craft, and he wished the lodge and the Provincial G. Lodge every prosperity, hoping that nothing would happen during the time he belonged to the lodge in any way to interfere with its happiness and prosperity, or the happiness and prosperity of the Craft. His membership of the lodge he hoped would only end with his life. Bro. Tickle, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M." He ventured to think that there never was a Mason who more deserved his health drunk than the present W.M. of the Sub-Urban Lodge, for if ever there was a brother who made strenuous and genuine efforts to reach that chair, and to justify the confidence reposed in him, it was Bro. Roberts. Unfortunately, Bro. Roberts had been an invalid for about the last six months, and it was only at great personal sacrifice that he was now present. He asked the brethren, therefore, now to drink Bro. Roberts's health. He (Bro. Tickle) had known him a long time as a citizen, a man, and a Mason, and in all three characters he had proved himself worthy of the friendship of all who had come in contact with him. He believed in proposing the health of their present W.M., and a long series of years of prosperity to the Sub-Urban Lodge, there was no member of it who had its success and prosperity more at heart than Bro. Roberts, and that there was no member more willing to make sacrifices on its behalf. The W.M., in reply, said it was true he had not been in good health for a long time, but as regarded the sacrifices Bro. Tickle had spoken of he had only done what he should do again. As long as he was able to get up to Stanmore to take the chair he should be there, and be ready to make double or treble the sacrifices he had made. What he hoped to see consummated in the Sub-Urban Lodge was, that it might be a credit to the Craft. As its members increased it might be noticed more than it was now, although he took it as a very great compliment that it had had such great honour conferred on it that evening by having such distinguished brethren present. It was his intention during his year of office, if he was spared, and blessed with health, to do all he could for the prosperity of 1702, and whatever lay in his power the brethren might depend upon it he would do to carry forward the success of the lodge and the Craft to the very utmost. Bro. Dr. Carpenter, P.M. 1196, responded to the toast of "The Visitors." Having buckled fortune on his back, he would endeavour to support it. He felt it a greater honour to be an honorary member of the lodge than he did to be a visitor, and for reasons sufficiently obvious. He was an honorary member under peculiar circumstances. He did not repudiate the title which Bro. Tickle had given him, of being grandfather of the lodge. Being the father of the Urban Lodge, he must be grandfather of the Sub-Urban, which sprang from it. He could only say in this character, "Bless you, my children," and express the great delight he felt at seeing such a lot of his family growing up around him. Travelling out of the record for half a moment, he must be permitted to express the very great satisfaction he felt with the way in which Bro. Tickle performed the elaborate duties of the office of Installing Master. In saying this he was perhaps a little egotistic; but remembering as he did that he (Dr. Carpenter) had the honour and pleasure of installing Bro. Tickle in the chair, when he was made Master of the Urban Lodge, it must be exceedingly gratifying to him to recognise the excellent way in which Bro. Tickle had carried out his duties to the very end. Dr. Carpenter concluded by returning thanks on behalf of himself and all the other visitors. The W.M. proposed "The Health of Bro. Tickle, I.P.M.," of whom he might say, having known him many years most intimately, that if the brethren

were to seek the City round they could not find a brother in whom they could repose more confidence. It was therefore a double pleasure to him to have to propose his health, and at the same time to pin to his breast a handsome Past Master's jewel, voted to him by the brethren as a mark of the estimation in which he was held by them, and to show their admiration of him as Master of the Sub-Urban Lodge. He sincerely hoped they might have Bro. Tickle with them for many years to come, that their friendship might not slacken, but would be cemented still firmer. Bro. Tickle, I.P.M., in acknowledging the toast, said he hardly knew how to find words to respond to the honour conferred on him by presenting him with such a handsome jewel. He well remembered leaving the chair of his mother lodge, and the gratification he felt when the Master of that lodge, his successor in the chair, placed on his breast another handsome jewel he now wore. He did not think at that time he should ever have an additional jewel presented to him, more especially with such high commendations as had been passed on him that evening by the brethren he now saw around him. With regard to the lodge he could assure the brethren it was no easy task to endeavour to establish a new lodge. It was a source of a great deal of anxiety and effort to make the new lodge a success. The Sub-Urban Lodge was now only in its second year. Personal sacrifices had been made in order to insure its success, but he ventured to think that in the second year, on the second installation day, the fact that they had been able to add two initiates was an epoch in the history of the lodge to be remembered, more especially as those initiates were two gentlemen whom they might all be proud of having the pleasure of admitting. It was a great pleasure to the brethren that the lodge was firmly established, and that there were evidences that it would go on and prosper. When the consecration took place he well remembered one of the Consecrating Officers stating, with a very great deal of feeling, that he believed the lodge was composed of men who meant to insure success, and he ventured to think that the forecast by that brother, the Provincial Grand Chaplain, Bro. Holden, was a true utterance. He (Bro. Tickle) believed that that success was now assured, and that Bro. Roberts, whom he had had the honour and pleasure of installing, would have a prosperous and successful year of office. That was the wish of him (Bro. Tickle) and all the other brethren, and also they wished that he might have health and strength to enjoy his honours, and that when he left the chair he might do so with as much pleasureable regret as he (Bro. Tickle) now did. His period of office had been a year and three-quarters of labour, but that had been a labour of love, and when he saw the lodge in the grand success it had achieved that day, he was fully repaid for any trouble he had taken, and any time he had bestowed upon it. He thanked the brethren warmly for the compliment they had paid him, and for the kindness which he had received from all of them, and he trusted that his successor in the chair, Bro. Roberts, who was a worthy brother indeed, would receive from the members of the lodge all the support and kindness which he (Bro. Tickle) had himself received. He hoped they might all have many, many pleasant days and evenings together. Bro. James Terry, in responding to the toast of "The Masonic Charities," proposed by the W.M., said he trusted that as long as Freemasonry lasted this toast would never cease to be given at Masonic banquets. It was a very comprehensive toast, and one which in the fulness of their hearts they had stated they would to the greatest extent support. To those who knew the Charities he need not speak; but from those who did not know them he asked forbearance while he told what they were. Freemasons had three distinguished Institutions, the Girls' School, the Boys' School, and the Old Men and Women's Institution. The Girls' School was the oldest. It had just celebrated its 91st anniversary, and, notwithstanding the depression of trade, the largest amount ever brought in in one year had been brought in for that Institution, £12,100 had been brought in by the individual efforts of the Stewards who served on that occasion. The Boys' School festival would take place on the 25th inst.; that would be its 81st anniversary, and he hoped and trusted that an equal, if not a larger, sum might be then collected on behalf of the 210 boys, boarded, clothed, and educated in that school. When he spoke of the Educational Institutions of Freemasonry he spoke of magnificent Institutions, which could compare most favourably with any other similar Institutions throughout the length and breadth of the land. Take the result of the last Cambridge examinations for the Boys' School. Out of all the boys sent to that examination from all schools in England fifteen first-class prizes were earned, and out of those fifteen, nine were gained by boys from the Masonic Boys' School. Fourteen boys went up from this Institution, and four gained second-class prizes, and one obtained honours. Out of the whole of them only one failed. It was a great thing for Freemasonry. The girls in the Masonic Girls' Schools had been just in the same way successful. Fifteen girls went up for their examination, and eight of them obtained first-class prizes, five took second-class, and one third-class honours. If the brethren considered what this meant, they would see that the system of education pursued in both those Institutions was successful, and it was a proud thing to be able to support such Institutions. For the old people he could not put in any Oxford or Cambridge examinations. He could not put the LL.D. to their names, but he could place before the brethren the honour which they had obtained of a blameless life. He hoped the LL.D. might be added to their names by the brethren endeavouring, as far as they could, to Lengthen Life's Days. He knew that although this lodge was a very young lodge, all the members were interested in the Charities, and that when the lodge came into the possession of funds there were willing hearts and just as willing hands to assist the Institutions as were to be found willing to assist any Institution. The three Masonic Institutions had

over 700 persons dependent upon them between the ages of ninety years and eight years. These were supported without show of ostentation, and in spite of the great depression of trade it had been done without difficulty. Instead of the funds decreasing with the badness of the times, they had increased in a larger proportion than in any corresponding previous three years in the history of the Craft, not only because the Grand Master in his wisdom had granted warrants for new lodges, but he believed because the Craft at large were awakening to their duties and supporting their own Charities, knowing that those Charities could not appeal for support to the outer world. There were over £49,000 raised last year for the three Institutions. But at each election a large number of unsuccessful candidates were left over. If, however, every Mason would subscribe five shillings a year to each Institution, they would be able to meet all claims without any election. It mattered not to him which of the Institutions the brethren should think fit to support, but he would remind them that it was fifty years after Masons established the Girls' Schools, and forty years after they had established the Boys' School, that they thought of themselves, and established the Old Men and Women's Institution. He ventured to think that the claims of this Institution would bear comparison with any other Benevolent Institution, and if there was any brother who wished to become a Steward, he would submit to him the claims of the Benevolent Institution. The other toasts were then given, and the brethren returned to town.

INSTRUCTION.

WELLINGTON LODGE (No. 548).—The Fifteen Sections were worked at a meeting of this lodge of instruction, held at the White Swan Hotel, High-street, Deptford, on Monday last, the 16th inst., when there was a large attendance of brethren, chiefly members of lodges in the vicinity. Bro. J. G. Milbourn, of the Union Waterloo Lodge, No. 13, presided, the other offices being filled by Bro. J. J. Hutchings, J.W. 147, S.D. 1531, as S.W.; S. P. Cattlam, J.W. 548, as J.W.; W. Fieldson, S.D. 548, as S.D.; Martin, 879, as J.D.; and Price, 1255, as I.G. The lodge having been opened, the Sections appertaining to the First Degree were worked as follows:—The First by Bro. Waterman, W.M. 147; the Second by Bro. Gibson, 1531, Hon. Sec. to the lodge of instruction; the Third by the J.W.; the Fourth by the S.W.; the Fifth by the W.M., the questions being put by the S.W.; the Sixth and Seventh by the J.D. After a brief adjournment from labour to refreshment, the lodge was opened in the Second and Third Degrees. Being resumed in the Second Degree, the First Section of the Lecture was worked by Bro. Tuck, 834 and 1531; the Second by the S.W.; the Third by Bro. Waterman; the Fourth by the J.D.; and the Fifth by Bro. Speight, I.P.M., and Sec. 147. On the resumption of the lodge in the Third Degree, the remaining Sections were worked, the First by Bro. Tuck; the Second by Bro. Griffin, P.M. 933, P.Z. 933 and 79, J.W. 1531, the Preceptor and Treasurer of the lodge of instruction. The labours of the evening being thus terminated, the lodge was resumed in the First Degree, and in due time closed after an unanimous vote of thanks had been accorded to Bro. Milbourn for his kindness in undertaking to preside, and as an acknowledgment of the ability displayed by him in fulfilling the duties of the chair.

DUKE OF CONNAUGHT LODGE (No. 1524).—A meeting of the above lodge of instruction was held at the Havelock Tavern, Albion-road, Dalston, on Wednesday, the 18th inst. There were present Bros. A. McMillan, W.M.; J. Lorkin, S.W.; C. Lorkin, J.W.; A. R. Olley, S.D.; C. Olley, I.G.; W. Fieldwick, Preceptor; J. Williams, Sec., and several other brethren. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of raising was rehearsed. Bro. T. Slaiter, candidate, having answered the necessary questions, was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. Bro. T. Slaiter, assisted by the brethren, worked the First and Second Sections of the Lecture. The lodge having been resumed to the degree, Bro. Fieldwick proposed, and Bro. C. Lorkin seconded—"That Bro. J. Lorkin be W.M. for the ensuing week." Carried unanimously. Bro. A. R. Olley proposed, and C. Lorkin seconded—"That Bro. Payne, Duke of Connaught Lodge, 1524, be a member of this lodge of instruction." Carried unanimously. Nothing further offering, the lodge was closed in ancient form.

WALTHAM NEW TOWN.—King Harold Lodge (No. 1327).—The closing meeting of the season of this prosperous lodge of instruction was held at the Britannia Hotel, on Thursday, the 12th inst. The brethren present were Bros. J. Robinson, as W.M.; J. Noyes, S.W.; T. Reilly, P.M., as J.W.; A. Malcolm, W.M. of the mother lodge; J. Tydeman, I.P.M.; J. Gaskell, P.M.; F. Drummond, P.M.; W. Bradstock, Preceptor and Sec.; Brewster, Blackmore, Cox, Eversfield, Fisher, Holdsworth, Imrie, Kent, J. Knight, J.W. mother lodge; Lewis, Newman, Rogers, Richardson, Cooke, Walker, Wheeler, and Woollard. Visitors: Bros. Kent, P.M. and Preceptor 879; Beavis, 879; Martin, 879; Plumridge, 879; Osgathorp, 1437; Shepherd, 122; Young, Seal, Norman, Newall, P.M.; Davis, 13; Howlett, Dunan, P.M. The lodge was opened, and the Sections of the First Lecture very ably worked by the following brethren, Bro. John Robinson, as W.M. and Lecture Master, supported by Bro. P.M. Kent, 879, as Preceptor:—

- 1st Section... Bro. Gaskell, P.M. 1076 and 1327.
- 2nd " " " " Martin, 879.
- 3rd " " " " Reilly, P.M. 1327.
- 4th " " " " Beavis, 879.
- 5th " " " " Shepherd, 122.
- 6th " " " " Lewis, 849 and 1327.
- 7th " " " " Noyes, J.D. 1327.

Experienced brethren among the visitors declared they had seldom seen the Sections worked in better form—very great credit was due to Bro. Robinson, who, although a young Mason, had taken a lively interest in the lodge of instruction, and in acquiring the Masonic ceremonies, his proficiency in the latter being evinced by the able manner in which he worked the Sections on this occasion. Votes of thanks were passed to all who had taken part in the Lecture, and especially to Bros. Kent, Beavis, and Martin, 879, whose valuable assistance had greatly contributed to its success. The business of the meeting being concluded, the brethren retired to a dinner provided by the worthy host, Bro. F. E. Cooke. After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts had been duly honoured, the W.M. said he had a very pleasing duty to perform, which was to present a very handsome gold pen and pencil case, subscribed for by the brethren, to P.M. T. Reilly, who had acted as Secretary and Preceptor for some years in the lodge of instruction, as a token of esteem and respect. Bro. Reilly returned thanks in suitable terms for the kindness he had always received from the brethren, and for this handsome mark of their favour. The Tyler's toast brought the evening to a close, and the brethren separated, very pleased with the proceedings.

Royal Arch.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—Friendship Chapter (No. 100).—The annual convocation of this prosperous chapter was held at the Chapter Rooms, Crown and Anchor Hotel, on Monday, the 9th inst. There were present Comps. E. J. Bonfellow, M.E.Z.; R. Martins, H.; R. W. Hubbard, J.; James Bond, I.P.Z.; John Franklin, P.Z.; A. Hanlon, P.Z.; Major W. Dods, E. P. Youell, G. F. Crane, W. J. B. Johnson, J. Wheridge, J. T. Maybank, E. B. Wright, W. B. Page, J. C. Welham, J. A. Fisk, J. W. Rolfe, O. Moore, C. Fenton, R. Stanier, J. Woolonton, E. Sturge, D. R. Fowler, G. S. Gibbs. The visitors were Comps. James Dunsford, I.P.Z. Perseverance Chapter, 213; Edwin Baldwin, M.E.Z. 213; C. H. Capon, H. 213. After the minutes of the last confirmation had been read and confirmed, the companions retired, and the Principals for the ensuing year were installed in their several chairs—Comp. R. Martins, as M.E.Z., by Comp. Dunsford, P.Z.; Comp. R. W. Hubbard, as H., by Comp. Baldwin, M.E.Z. 213; and Major W. Dods, as J., by Comp. C. H. Capon, H. 213. The companions were then readmitted, and Bro. Alexander Mitchell, M.D., whom the companions had unanimously elected, was exalted to the Sublime Degree of Holy Royal Arch by the newly-installed Principals in a very impressive manner. The M.E.Z. invested his officers with their collar and jewel of office as follows:—Comps. Edmund J. Bonfellow, I.P.Z.; A. Hanlon, P.Z., S.E.; E. P. Youell, P.S.; G. F. Crane and W. B. Johnson, Asst. Sojourners; J. Etheridge, S.N.; F. W. Rolfe, Org.; and J. Holt, Janitor. The business of the evening concluded, the chapter was closed in ancient and solemn form. The companions then adjourned to the banquet room, the tables of which were very artistically decorated by Comp. John Franklin, P.Z. After a capital banquet, served in Comp. Franklin's usual unique style, and which, it is needless to say, gave general satisfaction, the usual loyal and Royal Arch toasts were given. "The Health of the M.E.Z." was given by Comp. E. J. Bonfellow, I.P.Z., and which was received with enthusiastic cheering. The M.E.Z. in thanking the companions for the hearty manner in which they had received the toast, congratulated them on the continued prosperity of the chapter, and assured them that he would do everything in his power to still further promote the interests and prosperity of the chapter; that he considered it a very great honour to preside over so large and flourishing a chapter, and he hoped that when his year of office expired the companions would have no cause to regret the exalted position in which they had that day placed him. "The Healths of Comps. R. W. Hubbard, H., and Major Wm. Dods, J.," were given and received in a very hearty manner, and both those companions replied in very appropriate speeches. The next toast was that of the companions who had visited the chapter that day and kindly undertaken the duties of installing the Principals, Comps. James Dunsford, P.Z. 213; Edwin Baldwin, P.Z. and M.E.Z. 213; C. H. Capon, H. 213. To these companions the M.E.Z. tendered the best thanks of the chapter for their kindness and consideration. Each of the Installing Companions replied, thanking the chapter for the reception given them. "The Health of the I.P.Z." was very heartily received, and responded to in a very earnest speech by Comp. Bonfellow. "The Principal Sojourner's Health" was received with tremendous cheering. The chapter was very fortunate in having a Principal Sojourner so thoroughly efficient as Comp. E. P. Youell; the arduous duties of his office would be discharged in a manner calculated to give the highest satisfaction to the companions of this chapter. Comp. Youell replied, thanking the companions for the very encouraging manner in which his name had been received. He assured the chapter that he would endeavour to the best of his ability to discharge the duties of his office to their entire satisfaction. "The Healths of Comp. Hanlon, P.Z. and S.E., and the rest of the Officers," and "The Newly-Exalted Comp. Alex. Mitchell," were given and responded to. "The Health of Comp. Franklin, P.Z., and Mrs. Franklin, the Host and Hostess," was enthusiastically received, as it well deserved to be, it being a recognised fact throughout the province that the very name of Franklin was a sufficient guarantee that everything would be done, every arrangement made to ensure their comfort and happiness. Comp. Franklin replied, thanking the companions for their expressions of satisfaction.

WIGHTON.—St. John's Chapter (No. 327).—The quarterly convocation of this old chapter was held at

the Lion and Lamb Inn, on Wednesday, the 11th inst. There were present Comps. Jas. Gardiner, M.E.Z.; J. Pearson, H.; W. H. Hoodless, J.; H. Bewes, P.Z., Treas.; J. Lazenby, S.E.; A. Walter, 1st A.S.; J. Harris, 2nd A.S.; T. Richardson, Janitor, and others. The minutes of the previous convocation were read and confirmed. There being no work on the summons, the S.E. read over the bye-laws, when sundry alterations and improvements therein were made, and ordered to be submitted to next convocation for confirmation, prior to final authorisation by Grand Chapter and the Provincial Grand Superintendent. "Hearty good wishes" were tendered from Nicholson Chapter, No. 371, Maryport, and the Principals of St. John's Chapter expressed their willingness to lend a helping hand to their young sister whenever opportunity offered. The chapter was then closed in solemn form.

TYWARDREATH.—Unity Chapter (No. 1151).—The usual quarterly communication of this chapter was held in the Masonic Hall, on Tuesday, the 17th inst. Present: Comps. W. Tonkin, M.E.Z.; the Rev. Dr. Treffry, as H.; J. Polkinghorne, J.; Col. Peard, P.G.H.; Emra Holmes, P.Z., P.G. Std. Bearer; J. C. Stephens, P.Z.; H. De Legh, P.Z.; Col. Bake Rowe, Treas.; and others. The chapter having been opened in ancient form, the minutes of last chapter were read and confirmed. Bros. Dr. Newman and J. T. Baker, of St. Andrew's Lodge, St. Blazey, having been balloted for and accepted, they were duly obligated and exalted to the Degree of Holy Royal Arch, the ceremony being performed by the M.E.Z. with his customary ability. This being the annual meeting for the installation and investiture of officers, Comp. C. Tonkin duly installed the three Principals into their respective chairs in a very impressive manner—Comps. Emra Holmes, as Z.; J. Polkinghorne, as H.; and W. P. Smith, C.E., as J. The newly-installed M.E.Z. then invested his officers—Comps. N. H. Lamb, Scribe N.; Sylvanus Trevail, Treasurer; Wellington, Scribe E.; Walton, Prin. Soj.; Dr. Newman and J. T. Baker, Asst. Sojs.; Elliott, Janitor. The other business having been concluded the chapter was closed, a vote of thanks having been given to the Treasurer for his valuable services during the past year.

Mark Masonry.

PLUMSTEAD.—Excelsior Lodge (No. 226).—The installation meeting of the above influential lodge took place on Tuesday, the 10th inst., at the Masonic Hall attached to the Sir Robert Peel, Bro. Garbett's house, on Anglesea Hill. Upwards of fifty brethren assembled to meet the W.M., Bro. Capt. Ritchie, R.A., one of the Grand Officers of England, G.J.M.W. Kent, P.P.G.M.W. Middx. and Surrey, and W.M. of the "Ulrigue" Lodge in the Craft. Among them were Bros. C. Coupland, S.W. and W.M. elect, G.M.S.O. Kent, P.P.G.J.W. Kent (Craft); J. Smythe, G.M.J.O. Kent; W. Weston, G.M.J.D. Kent; H. Shaw, G.M.D.C. Kent; H. Pryce, G.M.R.M. Kent; G. Kennedy, G.D.M. Sec. Kent; the Rev. C. A. Solbe, G.M. Chaplain Kent; Eugene Sweny; G.D.A.D.C. Kent; W. Holleyman, G.M. Steward; D. C. Capern, G.M. Steward Kent; H. De Grey, W. Watkins, W. Moulds, G. R. Nicholls, Dr. C. W. Moore-Keys, T. Hosgood, J. B. Gibson, T. Ovensden, E. Turner, C. Buckland, T. W. Kirkbride, J. Anderson, T. Stevens, J. Percival, E. Wilson, J. Sculley, J. Donolly, and C. Jolly (*Freemason*). The lodge was opened at about 3 p.m., and after the minutes of the last meeting had been read and passed, the W.M., Bro. Ritchie, in his inimitable and eloquent style, advanced Bro. John Purnell and Bro. Thomas Stevens, of Craft Lodge, No. 1536. He then, with the usual Mark formalities, installed the W.M. elect, Bro. Coupland, into the chair of the lodge, and this most heartfelt and impressive ceremony was splendidly worked by Bro. Ritchie, and created a marked impression upon all present. Bro. Coupland then invested his officers as follow:—Bros. Smythe, S.W.; W. Weston, J.W.; Abel Penfold, M.O.; H. Shaw, S.O.; Rev. C. Solbe, Chaplain and J.O.; E. Palmer, R.M.; D. Deeves, S.D.; Captain Sweny, J.D.; W. Holleyman, I.G.; D. Capon, D.C.; W. Watkins, W.S.; and B. Norman, Tyler. A handsome P.M.M. jewel, of the value of five guineas, was then presented to Bro. Ritchie, as a mark of the esteem and respect in which he is held by the lodge, and as well of the excellent manner in which he had conducted the business of it during the past year. Bro. Ritchie returned thanks in a feeling and suitable speech, and the lodge was then closed in due form. A drive into the country, round Wel-ling, Bexley, and Shooter's Hill, whiled away the time till half-past six, when the brethren sat down to a most enjoyable banquet, prepared by Bro. Garbett. We do not as a rule say much about the Fourth Degree, but, conscientiously, we must give our meed of praise to Bro. Garbett for his perfect service of a most enjoyable repast. The cloth being cleared, the usual loyal and Mark Masonic toasts were proposed by the W.M., and drunk with enthusiasm. That of "Lord Skelmersdale, the G.M.M.," was especially noticeable for its heartiness. In giving the toast of "The R.W. the D.G.M.M., and the rest of Grand Officers, Present and Past," the W.M. drew attention to the honour that had been conferred upon their I.P.M., Bro. Captain Ritchie, who, at the recent Grand Lodge meeting, had received the distinction of being appointed a Grand Officer; he coupled that brother's name with the toast. Bro. Ritchie, who is deservedly popular with the brethren of the Excelsior Lodge, was, on rising to return thanks, met with a round of cheers. He said he thanked them for the cordial manner in which they had received the toast of the R.W.D.G.M.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers. Considering the fact that he had only been invested some three or four days since, he trusted they would excuse him saying too much in response to the toast.

He felt very proud of being a member of Grand Lodge, more especially as Mark Masonry was making rapid strides, and becoming a power in the land. At the Grand Mark Lodge, a little while ago, a motion was introduced for the recognition of what he termed outside degrees, but it was not carried, because it was felt that if they once admitted these degrees, Mark Masonry would become so strong and powerful that it would swamp Craft Masonry. It was so progressing that it would take before long a high position, and certainly only second to Craft Masonry in its power and affluence. Therefore he had great pride in occupying the position of a Grand Officer of the Grand Mark Lodge. He attributed the fact of his occupying that position to the office he held in the Excelsior Lodge, and to the influence that lodge had in the Order, for the Grand Master was so satisfied with it, and its position in the Order, that he said he could not pass by such a lodge in the selection of his officers. The next toast was that of "The P.G.M., the Rev. G. W. Sicklemore, M.A.," and in giving it the W.M. said they had had the Grand Master present that day last year at the consecration of the lodge, and his presence added a lustre to the proceedings that to those who had the honour and the pleasure of being present would not soon be forgotten. Bro. Ritchie, in response to the toast, said that they of the Excelsior Lodge occupied this position, that the Grand Lodge dues paid by the Excelsior Lodge nearly equalled the whole of the dues paid by the rest of the Mark lodges in the district, and it was upon this that they had par excellence a claim upon the province for its Grand Officerships, and he expected to see at the next meeting more of the Excelsior Lodge gain honours at the hands of their esteemed Grand Master, Bro. Sicklemore. He did not believe in expecting nothing. From his knowledge of Bro. Sicklemore he could assure them, that while he desired above all things the success of Mark Masonry in the province of Kent, yet he wished to do and carry out the onerous duties attached to his exalted office to the satisfaction of every one. The W.M. then gave the toast of "The D.P.G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," which was received and responded to with enthusiasm. Bro. Ritchie then rose to propose "The Health of the W.M.," and in so doing, said he must confess that he found himself in the position of I.P.M. with some degree of regret. But since he was in that position he knew of no greater pleasure than could befall him than in proposing "The Health of their Newly-installed W.M." No panegyric that he could pass on him would, he felt sure, be equal to his merits, because the most of those present knew the Masonic career of Bro. Coupland as well as he did. He could only speak of him as his S.W., and during the time that he had the pleasure of his service as his S.W., he had found that his characteristics were of so high an order, that he felt to a certain degree that there was a better officer to follow him in the chair than he had been himself. He could however safely say that in placing the power of the Worshipful Mastership in his hands, he was not only securing the position of the Excelsior, but placing in position one who would be an honour to it, and to Mark Masonry at large. Bro. Coupland, in reply, said, he was fully sensible of the praise bestowed upon him by the W.M. so eloquently, and so generously; but he felt that he had no claim to their praises except by their brotherly suffrages. He was very much obliged to the W.M. for the kind and able manner in which he had spoken of him, but he was more than all obliged to Bro. Weston for his kindness in giving way to him in office at the formation of the lodge, when he might have, and fairly, taken the position he, the W.M., now held. That kindness he now acknowledged with gratitude. He had not only received that kindness from Bro. Weston, but many a one that he could not now especially name. So long as he was W.M. of the lodge, and so long as he was able to work in the cause of Mark Masonry, so long would he do all that laid in his power to prove that the suffrages of the brethren had not been misplaced, in seating him in the proud position he occupied that day. The next toast was that of "The Installing Officer." Bro. Ritchie, in the course of a lengthy, pointed, and eloquent speech, reviewed the course of the lodge during the past twelve months, regretted that his many duties had not allowed of his being with them oftener than he had, and in allusion to the handsome jewel they had that day presented him, declared that he should prize it while he lived, and at his death hand it to his children as an heirloom in the family for ever. The newly-advanced brethren were then toasted and suitably replied. "The Health of Bro. De Gray," as one of the oldest Mark Masons, was coupled with that of "The Visitors," and Bro. De Grey responded, saying, that he and the W.M. and Bro. Smythe, were advanced in the Florence Nightingale Mark Lodge twenty years ago. The lodge was held in Woolwich, but since that time he had not known much about Mark Masonry, but was glad of the opportunity of once more making an acquaintance with it, through the Excelsior Lodge. The toast of "The Officers of the Lodge" was coupled with the name of Bro. Smythe, S.W., who returned thanks in an eloquent and at the same time spirited manner; and then, after a cordial vote of thanks to the *Freemason* for its efforts in the cause of Freemasonry generally, and the assistance it had been to the Excelsior in its reports of their meetings, which reports, the W.M. said, went all over the world, and were read by their military brethren in Afghanistan, at Natal, and in fact wherever the English language was spoken, had been given, and our representative had replied, the Tyler's toast concluded the business and pleasures of the meeting. The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. C. Buckland, who was assisted by Bros. G. Smith and Taylor, and Messrs. Horton and Smith. The party sang a series of glees and part songs excellently, and Mr. Horton's pianoforte recitals were much admired and applauded.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF CORNWALL.

We have received the following additional particulars from an esteemed correspondent:

A small Committee, consisting of the W.M., Bro. Percy Davis, and Bros. F. B. Williams, P.M.; H. W. Durant, I.P.M.; and Emra Holmes, D.C.; undertook the reception of Prov. Grand Lodge, and worked with a will to make it worthy the occasion. In this they were ably seconded by the inhabitants generally, and were greatly indebted to the Divisional Officer of Coastguard, Lieut. Shuckburgh, R.N., for the loan of the whole of the flags in the division; to Miss Cornish, and the young ladies of Osborne Villa School, who prepared the mottoes and devices which decorated the three or four triumphal arches, under which the Masonic procession had to pass in its circuit of the town, and which were very much admired by the brethren and visitors; to the vicar, the Rev. H. M. Purcell, who lent the church for the interesting and most impressive service, and, though not a Mason, kindly co-operated in every way to make the meeting a success; and to the Rev. Dr. Treffry, of Place House. The arrangements generally gave great satisfaction, the reception of Prov. Grand Lodge was considered a very great success, and it would have been very satisfactory to the brethren of Fowey Lodge if the Prov. Grand Master had seen fit to confer office upon the W.M., as we believe is the usual custom in other provinces.

Passing out of the great western door of the church the procession re-formed, and the brethren entering the old doorway into the grounds surrounding Place, a grand battlemented castle of the end of the 14th or 15th centuries, the exterior of which is covered with beautiful carving, armorial bearings, the badge of the King-maker, Warwick, and curious old heads covering the stonework, the towers and turrets, heavy mullioned windows, and other interesting features of this most interesting palace (Place is only another word for palace), and passing slowly through the lovely grounds and castle, which dominates the town, the brethren were afforded an excellent opportunity of admiring the scenery, which is here very pretty, affording many picturesque glimpses of the winding river, the noble harbour, and the quaint little town nestling under the shelter of Place at the foot of the hill. The day being glorious and sunny added much to the picturesqueness of the scene, and the long procession, headed by its two bands, with the banners of the lodges, the pale blue collars and aprons of the Craftsmen, the garter blue and gold of the Provincial Officers, the crimson of the Stewards, looked very well as it wound its way through the green lanes leading from Place grounds and passed under the triumphal arch at the entrance of the town, decorated with greenery in abundance, and having a large panel of scarlet surmounting it with the word welcome in white letters upon it. Another triumphal arch had the Arms of Cornwall and Fowey on white shields on a red ground on one side, and the square and compasses and double triangle on the other in white and red. Another arch had the words "*Audi vidi tacere*," the motto of the Order, in large letters of white on a scarlet ground, which looked very effective half hidden amongst the green boughs and laburnum, which covered the wooden framework of the arch. The streets were decorated profusely with bunting, trees were planted in the streets, which are exceedingly narrow and tortuous, ancient, and somewhat picturesque; and the crowds of people thronging them all day to see the procession testified to the popularity of the meeting, and it must be owned, to the liberality of the Great Western Railway authorities, whose arrangements as to tickets and trains were eminently satisfactory, and might be imitated with advantage on like occasions by other companies which shall be nameless.

Bro. Emra Holmes rose, and said that, pursuant to notice given last year, he proposed—"That in view of the erection of a Cathedral at Truro, for the diocese of Cornwall, a Committee be appointed to solicit subscriptions, and that the province of Devon be invited to assist, so that a lasting memorial of the Freemasons of Devon and Cornwall may be erected in the new edifice." He said that, bearing in mind his lordship's hint as to the amount of business that had to be gone through, he should not trouble the brethren with a long speech on the subject, but he proposed to treat them to a few facts, which would be more to the point. He had been told that, as there were a large number of Dissenters amongst the Cornish Freemasons, his motion would meet with a good deal of opposition, but he failed to see why they should oppose it, since the end and aim of his motion was simply to collect subscriptions from those who were willing to give, so that a memorial of the Freemasons might appear in the new Cathedral. No one need subscribe who did not wish to do so. As to precedents, there were many, of which, no doubt, they were fully aware. The west front of Bath Abbey was restored by the Freemasons at a cost of £3000. They restored the Lady Chapel of St. Mary, Redcliffe Church, Bristol. They put a beautiful window into Worcester Cathedral, and another into Durham Cathedral. At the present moment a movement was on foot to restore the west front of St. Alban's Cathedral by the Freemasons, and the Prince of Wales, Grand Master, Prince Leopold, the Duke of Connaught, Lord Skelmersdale, Deputy Grand Master, and many other leading Freemasons were on the Committee. He (the speaker) thought it would be a noble thing for the Freemasons of Cornwall and Devon to put in, say a magnificent east window, with such a subject as the building of the Temple of King Solomon, or in any other way to identify their Order with the building of the first Cathedral in England since the Reformation.

Bro. Tonkin, P.G. Supt. of Works, warmly seconded the resolution.

Bro. John Thomas, of Redruth, rose to oppose it, speaking, as he said, on behalf of a large number of the brethren, and was proceeding to expound his views when the Prov. Grand Master rose, and said that he had previously talked the matter over with Bro. Holmes, who, at his suggestion, had agreed, if there was any likelihood of a stormy opposition, to withdraw his motion for the present until a more suitable opportunity occurred of bringing it forward. His Lordship said he must observe, however, with reference to Bro. Thomas's remarks, that Bro. Holmes was amply justified in bringing the matter forward, and that he had plenty of precedents for the course he adopted.

Bro. Thomas remarked that, as the Prov. Grand Master had said the motion was to be withdrawn, he was very glad of it, and he had no more to say on the subject.

Bro. Emra Holmes then asked leave to withdraw the motion for a Committee for this meeting, which, on being put to the lodge, was allowed, nem. con., when Bro. Holmes gave notice that he should bring forward the same motion next meeting, and at every future meeting, if necessary, until it was carried. He hoped, for the credit of the Masons of Cornwall, that they would not refuse to assist in so noble an undertaking as the building of the new Cathedral at Truro.

The subject then dropped.

The banquet, which was a cold collation, was excellent, but the paucity of waiters was very much felt, and the dinner was more or less of a scramble, or, as a friend of ours called it, an *amiable pandemonium*.

The Earl of Mount Edgcumbe was supported on his right by Bro. Sir Charles Sawle, Bart., P.P.G.S.W.; Bro. the Rev. Dr. Treffry, P.P.G. Chap.; on his left by Bro. the Hon. and Rev. J. T. Boscawen, P.G. Chap.; Colonel Peard, D.P.G.M.; E. T. Carlyon, P.G. Sec., and others. About 120 brethren sat down, the rest of the large numbers who attended lodge finding accommodation at the various hotels and eating houses in the town.

On the removal of the cloth, the P.G.M. proposed "The Queen and the Craft," which was duly honoured.

In proposing "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Grand Master," the noble Chairman took occasion to dilate upon the genial kindness and urbanity the Prince displayed on every occasion, a charm of manner which not only made him beloved in this country, but which, he felt assured, was not without happy results in our dealings with foreign countries.

Bro. Sir Charles Sawle, in a few well-chosen words, proposed "The Health of their noble Chairman," and the applause was so great and long continued at the mention of the most popular Provincial Grand Master Cornwall (and, probably, any other province in England) ever had, that it was some little time before Lord Mount Edgcumbe could reply.

His Lordship, in the course of his remarks, briefly noticed the fact of his appointment to the office of Lord Chamberlain, to which allusion had been made by Sir Charles, and said that he felt that Her Majesty had done him great honour in appointing him to that office. He had that day made Col. Peard his Deputy Prov. Grand Master, and he hoped the brethren would understand that his own engagements were so many that, although he should always do his utmost to be present when it was absolutely necessary, he hoped they would excuse him sometimes if he instructed his Deputy to represent him, especially when he was so excellent a substitute as Bro. Col. Peard, whose health he would ask them to drink.

The gallant Colonel, who was received with a furor of applause, modestly disclaimed any wish to take his lordship's place.

Bro. Emra Holmes, by desire of the Prov. Grand Master, proposed "The Masonic Charities," and, in doing so, urged the brethren to remember that there was great danger of their forgetting in these days that Masonry was not a benefit society. The Odd Fellows, Druids, Foresters, and other kindred bodies were very excellent institutions in their way, but Masonry was something higher than a benefit club, such as they were, but he was afraid many people joined for what they could get out of it. At the same time, there was no doubt that the Masonic Charities were excellent institutions, and well deserving of their support. He supposed that no other Charities in the world could show such magnificent results as the Masonic Charities. Certainly, at no public dinners in London were such large sums collected, amounting, as they did, to £10,000, £12,000, and even £15,000, as at the Masonic festivals.

Other toasts followed, and the Tyler's toast brought the proceedings to a close.

It has not yet been decided where the next Prov. Grand Lodge will be held, but it is thought Hayle will be selected.

There is a great desire, we believe, on the part of the Looe brethren, to have the Prov. Grand Lodge there, and as they have a beautiful and commodious new Town Hall, in which the lodge might be held, and Looe itself is a lovely place and well worth visiting, no doubt the selection would be very popular.

The building in which the Freemasons of Lostwithiel have located themselves is of some historic interest, and concerning which a member has supplied the following notes:

An interesting set of engravings was published by Samuel and Nathaniel Buck in 1734, of views of Lostwithiel and neighbourhood, and dedicated to the Hon. Richard Edgcumbe. One of the plates shows the Bridge and River Fowey in the foreground, with the Duchy Palace standing in a small park extending from the building to the water's edge; in the back ground stands the grand old Church spire, and Church, and several houses. Messrs. Buck also ingeniously introduced Restormel Castle in the distance. How they could conscientiously bring it in I do not know, but perhaps men had greater powers for looking round

corners in those days than at present. In describing the plate they said, "This was the principal Palace and Exchequer of the Earls and Dukes of Cornwall after removal from Restormel Castle, on ye adjacent hill, were it first from Restormel, markets, fairs, and nominations of burghs. Mayoralty, markets, fairs, and nominations of burghs for ye Parliament, it hath in common with ye most gesses for ye Parlyment, but ye gave fer ye coynage of tin only with three others, but ye gave fer ye whole Stannary and keeping of ye County Courts alone." Another plate of the set showing Restormel Castle, describes it thus, "Lestormel or Restormel, or as others write, Lestmel Castle, was one of ye most ancient and principal seats of ye British Dukes of Cornwall and others, long before ye conquest. The town of Lestwithiel was anciently on this hill till ye people and their Prince, for convenience of ye River Foy, moved lower down. The Dukes had a park here till it was disparted by King Henry VIII." All records of the Duchy Palace appear to have been destroyed in Cromwell's time.

The portion converted into a Masonic Hall appears by the engraving to have been used as the residence of—shall we say the Earls and Dukes? whilst the adjoining building on the south side was the residence of a less fortunate set of mortals, viz., those who had broken the law, and had to pay the penalty; and there is a story told that it was the custom of the prisoners to solicit alms from passers by, which were conveyed to them by a piece of string and a shoe. There are in addition to the above-named, several large blocks of buildings, in one of which was the Stannaries Court Room.

The part we have purchased had been used for many years past as Duchy Offices, and about sixty years ago the greatest alterations were made to the building. I should think they were as follows:—The first and second, or top storey, were thrown into one by removing the upper floor. The dormers which had lighted the upper storey were removed, all the small granite-dressed square windows were blocked up, and two pointed granite-dressed windows pierced in the east wall. The entrances had originally been by a flight of stone steps under a semi-circular archway on the eastern side, and by a pointed doorway of Pentewan stone on the south side, communicating with the prison. The eastern entrance was blocked up, and the steps removed, two flights of stone steps being formed at the south end of the building, the landing being just outside the south door.

A few years ago, the whole block of buildings was sold by the Prince of Wales to Mr. Mark Thomas, and we have purchased our building of him. We found it in a very dilapidated condition, but the walls being so thick and strengthened by buttresses we saw that it would be possible to restore the building at moderate cost. The roof also was really better than it looked, as the principals were of oak, and were sound everywhere, where free from sap. It was a great pity to see such a very interesting old building, which probably was erected in the thirteenth century, falling so rapidly to ruin, and we are very pleased that we have been enabled, whilst securing such a suitable building for Masonic purposes, to rescue it from ruin.

The interior of the walls has been refaced with good stone in blue lias lime. This was necessary on account of their irregularity, and also to prevent damp coming through to spoil the decorations which we hope in time to be rich enough to do. The walls have been replastered, the roof principals have been strengthened by additional principals, and new purlins put in where necessary. Some of the buttresses had been cut back to allow space for a tram-road, which was laid along the east side of the building, quite spoiling the east elevation. We have rebuilt them to original design, and the whole of the exterior has been carefully repaired and pointed in Aberthaw lime. As there was not sufficient light to the lodge, we opened out and enlarged one of the small windows on the east side, and altered the head to match the larger windows. All these windows have been re-glazed with Cathedral tinted glass, and ventilators inserted in them. The Pentewan stone doorway has been removed from the south end, and now forms the entrance to a porch which has been built on the east side. The porch is coped with granite in Masonic design. A staircase has been formed where the old stone steps originally were, leading from the porch to a room adjoining the lodge-room, and now used as a Tyler's room. The immense thickness of the south wall allowed of a lavatory being formed in it, where the south door stood, whilst the reduced width of the present staircase to the old allowed of a candidate's room being formed by the north side of the staircase. A partition has been erected dividing the large Duchy Office into two rooms, one being used as a lodge and the other as a Committee room. The lodge-room is thirty feet by twenty feet by fourteen feet high, the Committee-room twenty by twelve, and fourteen high. The Tyler's room is twelve feet square and fourteen feet high, and the lavatory is conveniently large. The lodge has been handsomely furnished by the gifts of members of the lodge, assisted by their friends.

The building is freehold, the ultimate trust being vested in the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cornwall. The total cost has been between £500 and £600. The architect (Bro. Walter P. Smith, P.M.) found a fine old piece of oak in the west wall, out of which he has made a massive frame for the "warrant," and a frame for an address which was presented by the brethren, together with a handsome set of Provincial Grand clothing and a Past Master's jewel in miniature, to Past Master Jonathan Hugill, the energetic and much respected Secretary of the lodge, on Wednesday, the 4th inst. The necessary funds for purchasing, restoring, and furnishing the building, were obtained as follows:—£300 by the issue of 60 £5 mortgage debentures, bearing 3 per cent. interest per annum, all of which were taken by brethren of the lodge; and the remainder by gifts of money and furniture by the brethren and their friends, amongst whom were the esteemed Prov. Grand Master, the Hon. T. C. Agar-Robartes, and Bro.

Samuel Roach, P.M., of Plymouth. There is a sitting accommodation in the lodge for thirty. The seats are of oak, with spring-cushions and backs, and covered with American leather. The Master's, Wardens', and Deacons' chairs are carved oak, the former being covered with crimson velvet. The windows are curtained with old English tapestry, the floor is covered with a Masonically-lesigned linoleum, and the fire-grate is in character with the building, the hearth being laid in Minton tiles, with a handsome white marble fender. The canopy and Tracing Boards are draped in tapestry to match the windows, and surmounted with cornices in gilt.

The work has been carried out by W. Bro. Smith, P.M., the honorary architect, assisted by the following Committee:—Bros. J. Hugill, P.M.; Henry de Legh, P.M. and Treasurer; Frank Parkyn, P.M.; W. Maclean, and H. M. Kidd, W.M. and Secretary. The lodge was opened in May, 1878, the work having been commenced in the February previous. Bro. Joseph Basset, S.W., was the contractor for the masonry; Bro. John Burt, P.M., for the carpentry; and Bro. Richard Whittle, J.W., for the plastering, &c. The windows were supplied by Mr. John Bartlett. All have carried out their contracts in a very satisfactory manner.

DEVON MASONIC EDUCATIONAL FUND.

A general meeting of the subscribers to this fund was held recently at the Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth, for the purpose of electing four candidates, appointing a patron and patroness, and deciding what proportion of the funds should be invested. The donors and subscribers consist of one vice-patron, six vice-presidents, thirty-three life governors, and 234 subscribers of 5s.—which confers a vote—and upwards. Bro. J. P. Metham, D.P.G.M., was absent owing to severe illness. The meeting was presided over by Bro. R. Loss, 159, one of the vice-presidents, and among those present were Bros. the Hon. Walter Hylton-Jolliffe, 1205 and 349; the Rev. T. W. Lemon, vicar of Buckerell, Honiton, 189; the Rev. Wm. Whittle, 156 and 1550; William Brodie, 1254 and 1753; William Derry, 156; Leonard D. Westcott, 70; S. Jew, 105; J. Treby, 223; Henry Horton, 189; R. E. Holmes, 189; John R. Lord, 1247; Vincent Bud, Hon. Treas.; J. B. Gover, 70, Hon. Sec.; Francis Littleton, 159; J. R. H. Harris, 230; Thomas Perry, 1402 and 328; Charles D. Stentford, 159; R. Smith, 1205; Henry Winsor, 797; Samuel Snel, 1205; P. B. Westlake, 70; W. K. Michell, 156; John Morris, 53; W. Cann, 223; R. C. Uglow, 1247; R. Cawsy, 340; W. J. Stanbury, 1099; Thomas S. May, 1099; W. H. Lister, 1205; and T. E. Peck, 1205.

It was unanimously resolved that, subject to their consent, the Rev. John Huyshe, the late Provincial Grand Master of Devonshire, and Mrs. Huyshe should be the patron and patroness of the fund.

Bro. V. Bird, the Treasurer, reported the receipt of the sum of £339 13s., of which £78 3s. was for annual subscriptions. As the donations amounted to about £250, he moved that that sum should be invested, pointing out that the donors would have the right to vote in respect of their contributions either for life or for twenty years, and suggesting that at the death of a Life Governor the amount of his donation should fall into the general fund.

Bro. Hylton-Jolliffe seconded the motion.

Bro. Jew deprecated the investment of the whole amount of the donations.

Bro. Gover proposed that only 25 per cent. of the donations should be invested. He urged that they ought to have faith in the liberality of the brethren, and said he did not see why they should set aside money for children yet unborn.

Bro. Derry opposed the immediate expenditure of a large amount, and, referring to a remark of the previous speaker, said he considered that they ought to do plenty for posterity. In every other relation of life they thought it well to be prepared for a rainy day, and if this rule were more generally observed there would be less suffering, less sorrow, less anxiety than at present. The permanency of the great charities of England was due to the fact that they had invested large portions of their funds, and he held, with regard to this particular charity, that it would be well, whilst spending on the one hand liberally, that on the other hand they should do so with discretion. Bro. Derry asked what sum it was proposed to give each child, and was told about £15 a year.

The Rev. W. Whittle was in favour of investment. He thought that several of the subscribers were doubtful as to what was to be done, and he did not think that any one of them was quite clear on the point. Instead, therefore, of rushing madly into expenditure, it would be well to remain as they were for six months, until they saw what the education of the children cost, and how the subscriptions and donations came in. They would then be in a better position to judge what proportion of the sum should be invested. He thought they should be very cautious as to the extent to which they let their faith go. He proposed that the subject of the investment of funds should be postponed for six months.

Bro. Gover then withdrew his proposition, and seconded the amendment.

Bro. Bird, in answer to an observation, stated that the money he had received was deposited in the Devon and Cornwall Bank.

Bro. Westlake suggested the basis for an accumulating fund.

Bro. Bird, with the consent of his seconder, withdrew his motion, and the amendment for postponement was carried unanimously.

Bro. Gover proposed that there should be another election of four candidates six months hence.

Bro. Brodie seconded, and undertook, if the proposal were carried, to double the subscription of the two lodges, at Exeter and Okehampton, with which he was connected. Bro. Bird supported the motion, which was carried.

The Rev. W. Whittle, Bro. Treby, and Bro. Derry were appointed Scrutineers of the voting papers, which were examined in another room. At the conclusion they announced that the following had been elected: Herbert Kempe Hambly, aged 12 years, son of the late Bro. J. J. Hambly, of Lodge 70, 121 votes; Minnie Kerswell, 7 years, daughter of the late Bro. Robert Kerswell, Lodge 1247, 94 votes; Ernest Hawke, 9 years, son of the late Bro. E. Hawke, Lodge 159, 59 votes; and Mildred Evens, 9 years, daughter of the late Bro. J. H. Evens, Lodge 189, 58 votes. The unsuccessful candidates were: No. 3 on the voting paper (Foot), 47 votes; No. 4 (Drake), 47; No. 5 (Purse), 23; and No. 8 (Pike), 36. The votes given on behalf of these children will be credited to them at the next election should they be candidates thereat.

LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

The usual monthly meeting of the Lodge of Benevolence was held on Wednesday evening, at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Joshua Nunn, Senior Vice-President; Bro. James Brett, Junior Vice-President; and Bro. J. M. P. Montagu, P.G.D., occupied the chairs of President and Senior and Junior Vice-Presidents.

Among other brethren present were Bros. John Hervey, G.S.; H. G. Buss, Asst. G.S.; S. Rawson, C. A. Cottebrunc, J. M. Case, W. H. Perryman, Charles Atkins, W. T. Christian, C. F. Hogard, Griffiths Smith, Henry Garrod, W. Hammond, Col. H. S. Somerville Burney, G. L. Moore, A. Withers, T. Deane, G. T. Britten, H. C. Burt, W. Hamilton, W. A. Dawson, J. R. Matthews, E. M. Haigh, W. Grant, C. Stahl, J. Tanner, T. Edmonds-ton, J. W. Watts, M. S. Larham, John Holden, H. Potter, J. Freeman, F. W. Koch, W. Hilton, M. W. Hobson, E. Squirrel, R. Harman, C. Dairy, T. F. Smith, F. Walters, S. H. Parkhouse, and C. Fountain.

The brethren first confirmed twelve grants amounting to £280, recommended at last meeting of the lodge. They then considered the new list, which comprised thirty cases. Of these six were deferred. The remainder were relieved as follows:—Two for £100 each (£200); two for £50 each (£100); two for £40 each (£80); one for £25 (£25); four for £20 each (£80); six for £15 each (£90); five for £10 each (£50); and two for £5 each (£10); £635.

The Lodge of Benevolence was then closed till July 23rd.

FUNERAL OF BRO. J. WADE BENNETT.

On Monday, the 16th inst., at mid-day, the remains of Bro. Bennett were placed in their last earthly resting-place, at the Redcar Cemetery, in the same grave where Mrs. Bennett, mother of the deceased, was interred in January last. A goodly number of friends assembled to pay their last tribute of respect to the memory of the departed, including a considerable body of Freemasons, Bro. Bennett being a Past Master of the Order. The mourners were Dr. Bennett, Mr. Percy, and the Misses Bennett, Dr. and Mrs. Bennett (of Dewsbury), and J. E. Wade, Esq. (of Hull). The Rev. William Milburne (vicar), and the Rev. W. Buswell (curate of Redcar, and Chaplain of the Marwood Lodge of Freemasons), both met the procession at the entrance of the Cemetery, the former reading the opening sentences and the service inside the Chapel, and the latter the concluding portion by the grave side. No pall was used, but a profusion of choice flowers adorned the coffin, which was of oak. The scene at the grave side was most impressive, the stillness of the air, the singing of the birds overhead, the flowers, and, above all, the solemn and hope-inspiring words of the service, lifted the thoughts onward to what shall be hereafter "when the dead shall be raised incorruptible and mortality shall be swallowed up of life." The deceased was beloved and esteemed by a large circle of friends, and his amiable and gentle disposition and his truly Christian character will long be a pleasant memory to all who knew him, and though mourning remember that their loss is his gain, who from a life of severe and protracted suffering has been taken to the rest that remaineth to the people of God. Great sympathy is felt for Dr. Bennett and his family. During the last five years he has had three successive bereavements; his second son lost his life on the ice at Hull in 1874, which was the first inroad death made into this hitherto united family; the later bereavements are within memory of all, and we are irresistibly drawn to the words of the poet Longfellow, as expressive of their sorrow:

"He, the young and strong, who cherished
Noble longings for the strife,
By the roadside fell and perished,
Weary with the march of life!
They, the holy ones and weakly,
Who the cross of suffering bore,
Folded their pale hands so meekly,
Spake with us on earth no more!"

—Redcar and Sullburn-by-the-Sea Gazette.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE.

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.

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Further particulars may be obtained of the Publisher, 198, Fleet-street, London.

Answers to Correspondents.

W.M.—Yes.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

"Le Monde Maçonnique," "Der Triangel," "Broad Arrow," "Freemasons' Repository," "Keystone," "Bulletin du Grand Orient de France," "Hebrew Leader," "Die New Yorker Bundes Presse," "Corner Stone," "Die Bauhütte," "The Prize Paper."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d. for announcements not exceeding Four Lines under this heading.]

BIRTHS.

DOUGLAS.—On the 12th inst., at 9, Portland-terrace, South-sea, the wife of Captain Gordon Douglas, R.M.A., of a daughter.

SCHUMACHER.—On the 14th inst., at 55, Porchester-terrace, Hyde-park, the wife of Mr. Erwin Schumacher, of a son.

WIGGETT.—On the 15th inst., at 6, Earl's-court-square, the wife of Mr. W. M. Wiggett, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

PARTRIDGE—FULLER.—On the 18th inst., at St. Mary's Church, Leicester, Samuel Stead Partridge, of Leicester, Solicitor (Prov. G. Sec., P.P.S.G.W. Leicester and Rutland), to Elizabeth, only surviving daughter of the late James Fuller (P.M. 167), of Reading.

WEBB—SMITH.—On the 17th inst., at St. John's Church, Deptford, S.E., by the Rev. Canon Moncy, William Henry, son of Mr. Thomas G. Webb, of Springfield, Byng, New South Wales, to Ellen (Nellie), daughter of Mr. John B. Smith, of Kent Lodge, Lewisham High-road, S.E.

DEATHS.

MCDORMOND.—On the 14th inst., at 2, West-end-terrace, Captain Thomas McDormond, late H.E.I.C.S., formerly of Avranches, Normandy, aged 85.

POOLE.—On the 11th inst., at Stainton-place, Blackheath, Mr. John Poole, in the 54th year of his age.

THE FREEMASON.

SATURDAY, JUNE 21, 1879.

THE EMPEROR'S GOLDEN WEDDING.

A most distinguished brother of our Order, the great Head and Ruler of the Germanic Empire, whose fidelity to Freemasonry many long and eventful years have proved, and whom, therefore, all true Freemasons honour and revere, has lately celebrated his "golden wedding" amid the enthusiastic loyalty of all classes in Berlin, and Prussia, and Germany. It is a very remarkable sight which the columns of our daily papers and the eloquent words of special correspondents have set before the English public a week or so ago. After the lapse of fifty years of married life, a very protracted period, the stately old Kaiser and his amiable Empress come, as it were, again upon the scene, surrounded with all the memories and associations which hallow common life and render the world in which we live a scene of present happiness, an anticipation of future rest for us all, its passing and dying denizens of today. It is indeed a pleasure for us English people to note how that the German Heimath, from which comes our word Home, is as much endeared to the Teutonic as it is to the Anglo-Saxon mind, as much bound up with their personal and domestic happiness, as much identified with all that constitutes the true grace and strength and glory of nations and of men. We shall all rejoice in England to see the august and chivalrous ruler of a great free people, surrounded by the princes of Germany and his family circle, amid rejoicing subjects, and loyal demonstrations of grateful memory and living interest, proclaim as before the world, that in the home life after all, humble and commonplace as it may seem to be, in the discharge of its duties and the unsensational tenour of its quiet and straightforward path, are to be found the truest hope and prospect of happiness for us all here below, be we who we may, rulers or ruled, princes or people. It is a good old-fashioned, wholesome truth for us all well to digest, in these garish, and unsettled, and excitable days, when we are sometimes tempted to overlook or undervalue it. And thus the English mind, simply practical, turns with great pride and approval to that memorable scene which Berlin has lately witnessed, amid such brilliant representations of heartfelt national rejoicing, and contemplates the good old soldier, Mason, Emperor, erect and stately as ever, in a green and serene old age, surrounded by a loving family, greeted by an admiring people—a representation of old-fashioned virtues, which, amid much that is new and pretentious and grotesque in the highest degree—we may all of us do well to remember, to cherish, and to admire.

GOOD WORKS.

The Consecration of the "Sir Thomas White Lodge, No. 182c," on the 6th inst., while it was most striking, and most interesting to Freemasons from various points of view, suggests to us the theme for a few remarks we are wishful to make to our readers. In the first place let us congratulate all concerned in the Consecration of the Sir Thomas White Lodge on the complete and most gratifying success which has so fitly marked the foundation of this young but important lodge. We are glad to learn in the next place that it is a "special lodge," as, though some object to this view of lodge-life, we have long felt that is the only practical answer to a growing evil amongst us, hasty and indiscriminate admission of members. But, in the third place, we are much pleased to note what a valuable commentary the proceedings offer on the invaluable, and we will add unequalled, labours of our esteemed Grand Secretary, Bro. John Hervey. Those of us who remember olden days and other Secretaries, and with all the respect due to good old Bro. White, and Bro. Gray Clarke, will, we think, feel how won-

drous is the change which has "come o'er" the "spirit of our" Masonic "dream," in these last few years especially. Official work of every kind has increased very nearly a hundredfold within the last decade especially, but for a few years the labour of consecrations has become markedly very great, and fallen heavily on our worthy Grand Secretary. No doubt there is a reason for this. In the first place he is personally most valued and liked, and looked up to, and we will add, loved in the Craft. In the next case he is himself a consummate Ritualist, a ready speaker, and a most sound teacher; and his words, replete with common sense and dignity, always convey information and carry weight for all who have the pleasure to hear them. His speeches on the last occasion were full of interest as well as animation, and were marked by his own pleasing characteristics of friendship and fraternal feeling, good sense and wise caution, which, as we have already remarked, may always be traced in his official or general utterances. And we feel strongly that the thanks of our Fraternity are justly due to one who so zealously and satisfactorily discharges his high duties in the "spirit" as in the "letter," whose words may be read by all alike in attention and reverence, with the deepest benefit to themselves, and who lends to his important functions as Consecrating Officer, a perfect knowledge of the Ritual, as well as that great urbanity and tact, and "savoir faire," which are so important in a Grand Secretary. Many of our readers have known Bro. Hervey long and well, and need not be reminded by us, how that the qualities of his "head" are equalled by those of his "heart," and feel for him, as all do feel who are acquainted with him, the warmth of friends, and the sympathy of Masons. It has struck us, on reading over the proceedings of the Consecration of the Sir Thomas White Lodge, that some of us perhaps hardly realize, though we see it clearly before our eyes, all that we owe to the zeal and labours of Bro. Hervey, in the present wonderful advance of Masonry, and we have, therefore, thought it well to record in this humble weekly paper of ours our honest sense of ceaseless "good work" right admirably performed for Masonry and for Masons.

PERSONALITY IN MASONIC WRITING.

It has often occurred to us, and perhaps to many others of our readers, to ask this question, but for which we have as yet obtained no answer, "why is it that when Freemasons get into print they inevitably become bitter and personal, most un-Masonic, and often not a little vulgar?" In the "press," as a general rule, it has been held, that the "moment a man rushes into print he makes an ass of himself," and hardly a day passes over our heads but we see in our numerous un-Masonic journals egregious proofs of the reality and far extending truth of this proposition. Indeed, it is perhaps not too much to say that as a general rule it is safer not to write than to write to the "papers." "Heat" whippers "write," "caution" suggests "think it over coolly for twenty-four hours," and then the benevolent and healing "morrow," benevolent and healing how often to us all, in the petty and greater affairs of life, closes the discussion with, "better not write at all." That "burning," or "clever," or "scathing" letter as the case may be, does not appear, and yet what has the world or society lost? Nothing! Nay, have they not gained rather a great deal? We think, very respectfully, yes! And yet, some good brother may say, "but some controversies are needful, some correspondence is useful, for discussion is beneficial, we have, thank God, in England liberty of 'prophecy,' and liberty of 'conscience,' and why not use it?" Yes, and it is just because we are not insensible to those great and hard-won blessings, because we feel that if we are to have a Masonic paper, there must be full, free, and fair discussion, within, of course, certain limits of safety, and moderation, and loyalty for us all alike, that the *Freemason* has from the first given week by week so much space to "correspondence." Perhaps, as we look back to day, we might think that some letters had better have been omitted, some ought never to have been

written, but then, remembering the infirmity of men and Masons, as we do not profess to be infallible or impeccable, we are glad to note how few have been our "backslidings," we are proud in realizing how much that is valuable and worth reading is preserved for us and our posterity in the frank and free pages of the *Freemason*. Still we cannot be "insensible if we would, and we ought not if we could," to a certain hasty acrimony and petulant personality of tone, which render the weight of Masonic correspondence the most difficult portion of a Masonic Editor's duty to manage and to accomplish. The discussion may be on some trivial subject, a question of ritual, archæology, grammar, in fact anything at all, it matters not, and, certainly, far too often, the unfortunate wight who commences a discussion is at once overwhelmed with an accusation of personal intentions, and personal oburgations, or his intellectual abilities are doubted, even, sometimes, his moral character is hinted at. It is the old bitter style of controversy, though without excuse in a Masonic paper, because the subject is not worth it, and as Freemasons we profess always to be fair, courteous, considerate to each other. We do not say that in all such foolish correspondence and puerile logomachies there are not faults on both sides, because there undoubtedly are, but what can be the Masonic character or sympathies of that brother who, because he disagrees with another brother, straightway connects a literary question with a purely personal contest, or forgets the "Diversions of Purley," and hints that his adversary—is it lucky if he does not say it right out—is an ass. It is somewhat difficult, no doubt, to limit the fair right of repartee and replication, or to declare what is too acrid and what is too scathing in the "retort courteous," "more Masonico" above all, and hence many expressions are to be found in Masonic correspondence which a sterner critic would have perhaps expunged, a more decided "censor" would have obliterated. But let us rejoice to think that we can speak and write in this good old land of ours as we like, within, as we said before, of course, proper limits, and let us console ourselves with this reflection, most suitable to much passing correspondence of the hour, that after all it matters little whether it is read or unread, that it pleases some and does not injure others; above all, that if "fine words butter no parsnips," equally as surely "hard words break no bones."

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.]

MASONIC GRAMMAR.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

It is quite refreshing to have to reciprocate Bro. Kenneth Mackenzie's fraternal tenour and spirit of correspondence, and Bro. Fenn's clear and courteous note, and to turn away from that ineptitude, and I fear I must add vulgar personality, which my humble communication has evoked. I am very sorry now that I wrote at all, in that the "tone and temper" which mark two of the replies to my letter are as bad as bad can be, in my humble opinion, and quite disheartening, alike Masonically and æsthetically. But let these few words suffice on a very disagreeable and unworthy subject: 1. In reply to my Bro. Kenneth Mackenzie, I beg to say that, following his good advice, I have looked into Peter Roget's Thesaurus, &c., 19th edition, and find, as Bro. Mackenzie has stated, that he recognizes "exceptional." I have not, however, been so fortunate as to find the word in the "Diversions of Purley," though my examination has been, necessarily, cursory, and I may have misunderstood the "drift" of Bro. Mackenzie's remark. As Bro. Mackenzie sees, my only object in writing was a wish to uphold the purity of our English language, according to the standard authorities, but I was quite prepared to admit, as I did all through, the use of "exceptional" as a translation of "exceptionnel," if such use could be validated by authority. I was quite aware, as I said at the outset, that it is used—I have, no doubt, often used it myself—in "common conversation and slipshod writing," but I was dealing with an official document, and not the free and easy utterances written as parole of each passing hour. Bro. Dron has all along been, apparently, incapable of realizing what it was I was "driving at," and as I am not compelled to give other people brains, as well as to furnish grammar for them, in the abnormal case evidently of Bro. Dron, I respectfully beg to decline the herculean labour. Perhaps some of my readers may recall Dryden's lines in "Absalom and Achitophel,"

"The midwife laid her hands on his thick skull
With this prophetic blessing, 'be thou dull.'"

2. Bro. Dron quotes the "Imperial Dictionary" as a "standard authority," to which I most respectfully demur, and I fancy all "bibliophiles" and booksellers will concur with me. It is a modern dictionary, "voilà tout," but is not to be compared, I speak to experts, with Todd's edition of Johnson, or even Bailey or Webster, as a correct authority. So far, however, he is compelled to admit he only knows of one authority for his use of the word, though, thanks to Bro. Mackenzie, and now to Bro. Fenn, he can also claim the aid of Roget's Thesaurus, &c., Latham, and Webster of 1859, and probably more authorities may be found.

I may mention that since I last wrote I have looked into the fine dictionary of the "Académie Française," and find "exceptionnel" is, undoubtedly, both in its use and meaning, the origin of our word "exceptional," and as such I quite accept it, as a word imported into our language. Neither do I deny that by force of habit, or use, words once alien become naturalized, so to say.

No one who has studied, who realizes the richness of the English language, can wish to object to any such proposition. And nothing was further from my intention, but then, as I said before, as the old proverb runs, "you can't make a silk purse out of a sow's ear," you cannot induce a person to understand your words or your meaning if he pertinaciously and perversely will not do so. Perhaps the "harlest lines" connected with all humble little controversies, even like this, are to be found in this fact, that some good folks rejoice in such "bad form," or are so "very thick headed," that, as Bertram puts it in *The Antiquary*, "Deuce take the formal old dunderhead, and his more sly associate, who speaks always under his breath; they cannot understand a plain man's story when it is told them."

With regard to "stickler," I have since found the word in "Crabb's Technological Dictionary," 1802, where it bears the meaning as quoted from the Parliamentary Roll of Henry VI., of an "inferior officer who cuts wood in the king's parks at Clarendon." Blackie puts it in the "Priory of Ederose." As to the real meaning of the word, Bro. Dron was distinctly wrong. Mine may be very bad taste, I may be most ignorant, I may be an uneducated "sutor," as Bro. Dron so elegantly and so Masonically puts it, but I prefer Todd's Johnson to all the "Imperial Dictionaries" in the world, and if Bro. Dron will refer to it he will, I think, be greatly improved, and, perhaps, realize that sentence of the old Latin grammar, which I offer him respectfully and fraternally in return for his "elegant extract," "emollit mores, nec sinit esse feros." I see that Skinner in his "Etymologicon Linguae Anglicanae," gives "stickle" and "stick" a common origin in "steck" or "stock." But I may remark that Bro. Dron upsets his own magnificent "dictum" on this subject, in that he utterly ignores the common use of "stickler," which, if his theory be correct, I had also a perfect right to employ.

The only mistake I am conscious of is in saying too dogmatically that Johnson held exceptionable and exceptional to be "synonymous." I, perhaps, said more than I ought to have said, or wished to say, for all that was in my mind was that as Johnson only recognized exceptionable he would hold naturally that any other adjective formed from "exception" must have the same strict meaning.

So "cedit questio," as far as I am concerned, unless indeed, I am induced by the fraternal politeness and polished style of Bro. Dron to continue so useless a discussion.

With regard to W. S. M., I think that his Masonic acumen and charity might have led him to see that the "reader" had made a "hash" of the whole two paragraphs properly. As I penned them and corrected them there was no mistake in grammar and no bad English whatever. If Bro. W. S. M. knows anything about "printing" and "chapels," he must know what vagaries printers will fall into, and in his abundant Masonic charity he might have assumed for the nonce that the writer, who is as educated a man as himself, could not have fallen knowingly into such palpable errors. But, alas, for Masonic charity and still more alas for Masonic courtesy!

I note Bro. Fenn's remarks, and can only say that the edition of Webster I saw had the word not, and Latham I do not possess. I have never denied its use, the only question in my mind was its authority as an English word. Surely that was a very fair question of literary discussion, giving offence to none, and by no means justifying Bro. Dron's violent and un-Masonic reply to my first letter.

But I hope you will be troubled no more by

Yours fraternally,

LINDLEY MURRAY.

COUNT CAGLIOSTRO AND SWEDENBORGIAN MASONRY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

The connection of the unfortunate Count Cagliostro with various forms of Freemasonry has been reported in the most diverse ways, and very rarely with that spirit of charity which is supposed to animate the Fraternity. In the "Royal Masonic Cyclopædia" some years ago *sub voce* Cagliostro I tried to put a new light on that career which terminated in the Castle of St. Angelo at Rome. It is impossible to deny that the pretensions of Calsanio or Cagliostro were extravagant, but they were in no way ill founded. Through a youth of misery and squalor, not without stain, he passed into a better period. Is it likely that the Grand Master of the Knights of Malta and the Cardinal de Rohan could both have been such absolute idiots as not to detect the base metal in his composition?

Even Monsieur de Surville's attendants of the police could not find him guilty of actual complicity in the affair of the diamond necklace. The great accuser of Cagliostro was the Romish Church, supplemented, I grieve to say, by Mr. Thomas Carlyle. The other side has never been entertained by any section of thinkers, and I believe

that there are very few who regard Cagliostro otherwise than as a swindler.

"Those who know" about him, wish his memory done fair justice, and so far as Masonry is concerned that there should be something better than the caricature in which Bro. Mash appears at the Lodge of Antiquity.

The connection of Cagliostro with Swedenborgian Masonry, to which my brother "Masonic Student" refers, was brief, so far as this country was concerned. There suddenly appeared in London a certain Count Grabiancka, or Prince Sutowski. This person attempted to open negotiations with the existing literary society known in 1786 as the Theosophical Society, established by Mr. Hindmarsh in some chambers in the Temple, Fleet-street, and he spent several evenings with them and disappeared. It is by no means certain that this was Cagliostro. It might have been the Abbé Pernetty in disguise, and as Cagliostro was for a short time associated with Pernetty, they may have come to this country together. Whoever Grabiancka was, he did not seek to victimise the members of the Theosophical Society, but only mentioned that he was an associate of a society with head-quarters at Avignon. He returned to that place and wrote a letter of thanks to the London society in acknowledgment of their kindly attentions to him.

Is it likely that Grabiancka, or Sutowski, would at the same time publicly advertise for a meeting at O'Reilly's Tavern, when he would be immediately detected? I presume very few people now living knew which was O'Reilly's Tavern. I can enlighten Masonic antiquaries on the subject, as the place exists, and is a licensed house, right opposite Freemasons' Hall, known as the "Hercules Pillars."

I am aware that Tafel in his most valuable "Documents concerning Swedenborg," takes great pains to disavow the connection of Swedenborg with Freemasonry, and I am also aware that Bro. Samuel Beswick as strenuously affirms it. The truth lies between these extremes. Pernetty, Chastannier, Nordensgold, and others formed a Rite of Freemasonry, based on olden documents, as might be proved, which now exists in England as the Primitive and Original Rite of three Degrees, and no more—offering a truly philosophical explanation of the Accepted English Rite. This is accessible to brethren having received the Degree of Master Mason.

It has nothing in common with illuminism, supports rather than opposes the established creeds of our time, and bears marks of having been known to those "scrupulous brethren" who in 1720 destroyed "valuable manuscripts." True that there are elements introduced of a Swedenborgian kind, but I would recommend brethren to study the works of that great man before they decide upon their opinions regarding him.

In conclusion I refer "Masonic Student" to "Thory's Acta Latomorum" for further particulars about the distinctive characteristics of Egyptian Masonry, of which Cagliostro was the chief advocate.

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

KENNETH R. H. MACKENZIE, IX^o,
Supreme Grand Secretary Swedenborgian Rite.
Hounslow, June 14th, 1879.

HOSPITAL LIBRARIES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Sir,—

I think every one who has ever been in a hospital ward will agree with me that hardly a greater boon could be conferred on the suffering inmates than the establishment of a lending library for their use. The gift of a little book to some suffering one has often induced a look of gratitude that has lived in our memory for days afterwards, and it appears to me that the establishment of a series of permanent libraries in our London hospitals should be an easy and a pleasant duty. I will give, as a first donation, a hundred volumes of my own publications, and I have no doubt the London publishers will respond most liberally from their wealth of literature; but my object in writing is to ask those of your readers who have readable books, for which they have no further use, to send them to me, and so form the nucleus of a system that will, I trust, become prodigious in its proportions. Those who cannot send books will, perhaps, help us in pecuniary donations towards the same object, and I shall be happy to receive and acknowledge all such. I shall be glad if donors will kindly send all parcels to my address, carriage paid, advising me by post-card of their despatch. Cheques and P.O.O. should be crossed London and County Bank.

Your kind insertion of this appeal would be greatly esteemed by

Yours very truly,

F. E. LONGLEY.

39, Warwick-lane, London, E.C.

Obituary.

BRO. PAYNE.

It is with unfeigned regret we have to announce the almost sudden death of a very energetic and zealous Mason, Bro. Payne, J.P.M. Royal Sussex Lodge, 342, and also J. in Royal Arch Chapter, 342, and First Assistant Sojourner in the Provincial Grand Chapter of Hants, and Senior Oversecr Phoenix Mark Lodge, 2, who was only ill three days, and died on Sunday, the 1st inst., and was buried on the 7th inst., deeply regretted by all his brethren. About forty brethren followed his remains to their last resting place, each being supplied with a small white flower, tied to a piece of acacia, which, after the ceremony was finished, they deposited on the coffin. The arrangements were ably carried out by Bro. J. W. Willmott, W.M. Royal Sussex Lodge, 342.

tain becomes as nothing without charity—for "charity (love) envieth not"—"thinketh no evil, but rejoiceth in the truth"—it belongs to Masons, therefore, to so model their own lives by the principles of charity in its entirety, that they may justly be the true exponents of that virtue, for

"The charities that soothe, and heal and bless,
Are scattered at the feet of men like flowers."

ANTIQUITY.

One would think that Masonry, reaching back into the dim past, as it does through its descent from the old guild, might be considered sufficiently venerable without borrowing anything from fancy, but there seems to be an ever freshly-recurring desire to cover its poor old bald pate with antique laurels, and notwithstanding the rude blows which tumbled the venerable and gentle Doctor Oliver off his hobby-horse into the ditch as he came gently ambling over the Lincoln-road, gossiping in his soft-hearted way about the lodge which Adam opened in Eden, and the two Masonic pillars which Grand Master Seth built to preserve its secrets through the flood, we find distinguished Masons indulging in equally preposterous talk at the present day. Think of gravely assuming that our Aborigines are the true descendants of the ten lost tribes, and proving it by showing that they possessed several Masonic secrets especially pertaining to the Scottish Rite.

Charles W. Moore once gravely related a visit which he made to a lodge of Indians in Central America, and declared their Masonry to be identical with ours; and, although we know that every lodge now existing in the world is a lineal descendant from the Grand Lodge of England, we occasionally hear of lodges which are said to have existed from time immemorial in Asia. Then we have Pyramid Masonry, which, rather curiously, instead of being the practical rules which governed the Craftsmen who built the Pyramids, is the traditional history of initiation into the ancient religious mysteries. Even Dr. Mackey gravely argues that the Essenes must have been Freemasons for twelve good and cogent reasons, which he enumerates; and some of our Grand Commanders tell what our ancient brethren, the Templars, did in the middle ages. Are we not in danger of having the world's people speak of us as Charles Dudley Warner does of the camel? "No human royal family dare be uglier than the camel. He is a mass of bones, faded tufts, humps, lumps, and spiny joints and callosities. His tail is a ridiculous wisp, and a failure as an ornament or flybrush. His feet are simply big sponges. For skin covering he has patches of old buffalo robes, faded, and with the hair worn off. His voice is more disagreeable than his appearance. With a reputation for patience, he is snappish and vindictive. His endurance is overrated; that is to say, he dies like a sheep if he is not well fed. His gait racks muscles like the ague.

"And yet this ungainly creature carries his head in the air, and regards the world out of his great brown eyes with disdain. The very poise of his head says, 'I have come out of the dim past; the Deluge did not touch me; I helped Shotoo build the Great Pyramid; I knew Egypt when it hadn't an'fobelisk nor a temple. There are three of us; the date-palm, the Pyramid, and myself. Everything else is modern. Go to! go to!'"—*Taken.*

New Zealand.

NAPIER.—Victoria Lodge (No. 1577).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Munroe-street, Napier, on Tuesday, the 8th April. There were present Bros. De Lisle, W.M., in the chair; Coombs, S.W.; Duglby, J.W.; Platford, Secretary; Raven, Treasurer; Apchurch, S.D.; Bee, J.D.; Duncan, I.G. Bro. Wandram, a P.M. of the S.C., was on the dais, and later in the evening Bro. Baetram, the I.P.M., took his seat to the left of the W.M. About thirty members as well as several visiting brethren were present. The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous regular and two emergency meetings were read and confirmed. The ballot was then taken for Bro. Chas. Evans, of Maldon Lodge, Victoria, 1047, E.C., and Bro. Henry Charles Pirani, of 364, E.C., as joining brethren, and both were declared elected. The ballot was then taken for Mr. Addison Newbold, who, at the previous regular meeting, had been regularly proposed and seconded as a fit and proper person to be made a Mason. Mr. Newbold was declared accepted. Bro. Williams was then examined as to his proficiency, entrusted, and passed out. The lodge was then opened in the Second Degree, and Bro. Hollis was examined, entrusted, and passed. The lodge was then opened in the Third Degree, and Bro. Hollis, who had been regularly prepared, was admitted, and raised to the high and Sublime Degree of a M.M. The lodge was then lowered to the Second Degree, and Bro. Williams admitted, and passed to the Second Degree. The lodge was then lowered to the First Degree, and Mr. Newbold was initiated into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry. The W.M. then informed the brethren that, in accordance with a resolution passed at the last regular meeting, and of which they had been informed by circulars, he would send the benevolent box round in aid of the Kailangata sufferers. Twenty-three pounds was collected from the brethren, and ten guineas was voted from the funds of the lodge in addition. Nothing further offering for the good of Masonry, the lodge was closed in peace, love, and harmony at 11 p.m.

Bro. David James will take the chair at the thirty-fourth annual dinner of the Royal General Theatrical Fund.

Masonic Notes and Queries.

CAGLIOSTRO.

Bro. S. Beswick, in his Swedenborg Rite, and the great Masonic leaders of the eighteenth century (advertised in Bro. Kenning's catalogue), illustrates the connection of Cagliostro with the Masonic "Philaethes" of the continent, and informs us that he received the hospitality of the Swedenborgian Society when in London. Cagliostro was very far from being a perfect man, but he had great capacity, and in some respects he was maligned and much misunderstood. Those who know sufficient to have kept them out of the cul-de-sac of the Materialistic Scientist may peruse the account of him which has been left behind by Prince Talleyrand in his recently published "Memoirs." As "Masonic Student" does not belong to the so-called high-grades, I may say that the cypher which he gives is a variation of that of the Kadosh Degree.

JOHN YARKER.

Jews, Exclusion of.—The exclusion of Jews from Freemasonry has always been, in our opinion, a mistake, a folly, and an injustice. It has happily never existed in England, though in some parts of Germany—owing mainly, we believe, to the high grade teaching, and the theories of a mystical Christian school—that exclusion was maintained in former years, and has not yet altogether ceased. We trust, however, that the true principles of Masonic toleration will yet prevail everywhere, and that this meaningless and unjustifiable exclusion of those who are excellent Masons will soon be a thing of the past. It is impossible, in our opinion, to justify the exclusion of Jews on any ground whatever from Craft Masonry.—*Kenning's Masonic Cyclopaedia.*

FREDERICK II., THE GREAT.—King of Prussia, born in 1712, died in 1786. Was made a Freemason at Brunswick, secretly, at midnight, on the 14th-15th August, 1738, at the Hotel de Korn. There were assembled three well-known brethren from Hamburg, belonging to the lodge called afterwards "Absalom,"—Baron von Oberg, Master of the lodge; Von Bielfeld, the Secretary; Baron von Löwen; and some brethren from Hanover—Graf von Kielmansegge and P. C. Albedyll. Graf Albert Wolfgang von der Lippe Bucksburg,—who, it is said, had been initiated in England, first defended the Order before the King, then Crown Prince, at the Chateau de Loz, in Holland in the presence of the King of Holland,—was also present as well as Graf von Wartersleben, seeking initiation. Bielfeld is quoted by the "Handbuch" as saying amusingly, in one of his published letters: "Nous ne comptons pas de faire encore un long séjour à Brunswick, parce qu'il y a ici une tête couronnée de trop, qui pourroit découvrir que nous avons reçu le Prince son fils dans l'ordre, et manquer dans sa mauvaise humeur de respect aux Très Vénérables."

In consequence of the disapproval of Freemasonry by the Prince's father, King William Frederick I., the reception had to be secret; and Graf von Wartersleben, a Prussian officer and friend of the Crown Prince's, was received into Freemasonry at the same time. Baron von Oberg is said to have been Master, Von Bielfeld Orator, and the Tyler was a servant of Von Oberg, of the name of Rabon. The work ceased at four in the morning of the 15th, the Prince receiving the Three Degrees. Bielfeld also says distinctly, "Enfin nous le regames dans toutes les formes dues et requises." Frederick the Great took Freemasonry openly under his protection the moment he became King, in 1740, and remained its friend until his death. He opened a lodge at Charlottenburg, over which he presided in person, and in which Bielfeld and Jordan were officers, and his two brothers, Prince William and the Margrave Charles, and the Duke Holstein, Von Beck, were members. His Master's hammer still remains in the Grand Lodge of the Drei Weltkugeln, at Berlin. He was also the founder and the Protector of the Prussian Grand Lodge of the Three Globes just mentioned. On more than one occasion he spoke warmly of the Order. In 1774 he said: "Elle se fera toujours un plaisir bien sensible de co-opérer pour la puissante protection au but principal de toute vraie Franc-maçonnerie celle de rendre les hommes plus sociables, plus vertueux, et plus bienfaisants." In 1777 he thus expressed himself in a letter to Delagacière, W.M. of the Lodge De la Royale York de l'Amitié, at Berlin, in reply to a congratulatory letter on his birthday: "Une société qui ne travaille qu'à faire germer et fructifier toutes sortes des vertus dans mes États peut toujours compter sur ma protection." In 1777 he also, when his nephew, Prince Frederick of Brunswick, was elected G.M. of the National Mutter Loge at Berlin, thus addressed the G.M. and members: "Je ne puis qu'applaudir infiniment à l'esprit qui anime tous les membres à former de bons patriotes et de fidèles sujets." And in a Cabinet order of February 7th, 1778, we find these words: "Sa Majesté est bien aise de l'assurer à son tour, qu'elle s'intéressera toujours avec plaisir au bonheur et à la prospérité d'une assemblée qui, comme elle, met sa première gloire dans une propagation infatigable et non interrompue de toutes les vertus de l'honnête homme et du vrai patriote." Of Frederick the Great's friendly feeling and protection towards Freemasonry, which lasted until his death, there can be no possible doubt. But a great and serious question has arisen—Did Frederick the Great also protect and reorganise the A. and A. S. Rite, whether in 1762 or in 1786? We fear that, despite the views and statements of some able brethren, we must come to the critical and historical conclusion that the documents relating to this alleged revision are neither authentic nor genuine. The following opening sentence of May, 1786, always has struck us as, so to say, made up, not natural in itself: "Nos Fredericus, Dei Gratia Rex etc., supremus, magnus Protector, magnus Commendator, magnus Magister universalis et Conservator anti-quissimæ et venerabilis societatis, veterum, liberorum, aggregatorum

Structorum et Latomorum Aggregatorum fecerunt," etc. "Structorum" is, no doubt, a clerical error for "structorum," but "structorum," though of a classic use, is not of mediæval use of Masons. The French reading clearly takes us back to Ramsay's theory of knightly and military Freemasonry. Indeed, we are inclined to think that the document dates from the Council of Paris, 1787, and the French high grades. One question occurs—Who has ever seen the original? So far as we are aware, no contemporary witness of it is known to exist, nor is the original producible. The names of the signatories are absolutely unknown, except Stark and Wöllner, and there is every reason to doubt their signatures. And though, as we have said elsewhere, we do not accept the Charleston arrangement theory, as there is evidence of the Thirty-third Degree at Geneva before that time, we yet feel it to be our duty to say, on calm consideration, and in the interests of Masonic truth, that the document professing to be signed by Frederick the Great cannot be upheld as a real and historical document. The documents are French in origin and in manipulation, in our humble opinion, and though not fully developed in 1762, when Stephen Morin received his patent, were known in Europe before the so-called addition of the eight grades in America. That we hold to be an utterly untenable view, and one entirely contradicted by recent evidence that might be adduced, of the existence of the Thirty-third Grade in the last years of the last century.—*Kenning's Cyclopaedia.*

Masonic and General Tidings.

At the last meeting of the Merchants Lodge, No. 241, at the Masonic Hall, Liverpool, Bro. Thomas Salter, J.W., was elected W.M. for the ensuing year. The installation will take place on Tuesday next, the 24th inst., and the banquet will again be held at Southport in the evening. A report will appear in due course.

The brethren of the De Grey and Ripon Lodge, No. 1356, gathered in strong force on Wednesday, the 11th inst., at their head-quarters, 80, North-hill-street, where the W.M., Bro. James W. Williams, presided. After initiation and passing, the brethren unanimously and with great cordiality elected Bro. Alfred Woolwich, S.W., as the W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. E. Paull was unanimously re-elected Treasurer, and the Auditors and Committee of the Fund of Benevolence were also subsequently appointed.

At a meeting of the Society of Antiquaries of London, held at Burlington House, on Thursday, the 12th inst., Bro. James Lewis Thomas, Past Grand Dir. of Cer., was elected a Fellow.

A bazaar in aid of the new chapel of the Asylum for Fatherless Children was opened on Tuesday, the 17th inst., by Mrs. Brassey, at the Cannon-street Hotel. Mrs. Brassey, who was accompanied by Sir Charles Reed, spoke a few words in support of the institution, after which the bazaar was declared to be opened. The bazaar is held in the large hall of the hotel, the stalls, which are about twelve in number, being ranged along the sides of the room.

The Marquis of Hartington will preside at the nineteenth anniversary dinner of the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution, at Willis's Rooms, on Monday, the 30th inst.

On Saturday last the 14th inst., the remains of our esteemed Bro. A. C. Burrell, P.M. 1446, were interred in Paddington Cemetery, Willesden-lane. Amongst those present we noticed the following brethren, viz.: Bros. B. H. Swallow, P.M. 382, 1563, P.P.G. I. W. Middx.; W. Ough, P.M. 1446, P.G.P.; E. Farwig, W.M. 180; W. Maxsted, 180; A. Souttar; Honeyman, P.M. 1238; T. Puleford, P.M. 1158; C. Rose, 1446; J. Detraz, 145; T. Cull, J.W. 1446; W. T. Morphew, W.M. 1585; T. B. Docker, J.W. 1687; Iriuth, 1507; Mucklow; J. A. Hammond, 1563; H. Stewart, 780; E. J. Scott, P.M. 749; and others.

A new pier has been opened at Wandsworth, at which the river steamboats call at frequent intervals.

The current number of the *Architect* contains an illustration of the new premises of Mr. Brentini, "The Popinjay," 112, Fleet-street, recently completed from the designs of Mr. Samuel Knight, F.R.I.B.A.

Mr. Brewer's carefully selected library has been this week sold by auction by Messrs. Hodgson, of Chancery-lane, and has realised the sum of nearly £1000.

The Earl of Shaftesbury will preside at the first public meeting on behalf of the Tyndale Memorial, which will be held in the Jerusalem Chamber, Westminster, on Wednesday, the 25th inst.

The consecration of the Marquis of Dalhousie Chapter, at 33, Golden-square, took place on Thursday, the 19th inst. A full report will appear in our next.

The ceremony of laying the first stone of the new wing of the Royal Hospital for Incurables at West Hill, Putney-heath, by the Prince of Wales, will take place on the 7th July next.

DR. BARNARDO'S HOME FOR DESTITUTE GIRLS.—Three new cottage homes were on Wednesday last opened, and the foundation stones of two others, in connection with Dr. Barnardo's Village Home for Orphan, Neglected, and Destitute Girls, Barking-road, Ilford, were laid by the Princess Mary; the foundation stone of a third cottage being laid by the Countess of Aberdeen.

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

