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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.

WANDSWORTH LODGE (No. 1044).—The first meeting for this season was held on Wednesday, the 17th inst. The rendezvous was the Lecture Hall, St. John's-hill, New Wandsworth, the brethren having lately had occasion to remove the lodge. The usual formal business having been concluded, the W.M. elect (Bro. A. Newens) was impressively installed by Bro. Past Master E. H. Boddy, to whom a vote of thanks was afterwards passed. Among the brethren present were Bros. H. R. Jones, P.M.; W. A. Morgan, P.M.; J. G. Carter, P.M.; J. E. Frances, P.M.; George Howick, P.M.; R. Walker, H. T. Bell, J. Tucker, W. Marshall, J. Springett, T. Arnison, A. A. Denham (*Mid Surrey Standard*), and others. The following officers were appointed by the W.M.: Bros. J. B. Walker, S.W.; W. J. Huntley, J.W.; J. J. Holland, S.D.; F. W. Wardroper, J.D.; S. C. Landon, I.G.; F. Reed, W.S.; and A. A. Denham, D.C. The Secretary, Bro. John Frost, and Treasurer, Bro. H. Wilson, were reappointed. The banquet was afterwards held at the Railway Hotel, Putney, were a very pleasant evening was spent.

BURDETT-COUTTS LODGE (No. 1278).—The brethren of this lodge assembled in full force on Thursday, the 18th inst., at the Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, and, exercising the usual hospitality, there was as usual a goodly number of visitors. The lodge having been opened in due form by the W.M., Bro. Charles Kerr Crouch, the ordinary business was disposed of, and the W.M. proceeded to raise Bro. J. W. R. Hammond, which he did in a most impressive manner. A notice affixed to the summons urged brethren to be punctual, failing to observe which, Bro. W. J. Bonner, who came late, did not receive the Sublime Degree, to which he would have been entitled. Punctually at five o'clock the W.M. proceeded to instal his successor (Bro. Abraham Lazarus) into the chair of K.S., and his admirable working of the ceremony elicited the warm approbation and encomiums of the brethren and visitors present. Considering that Bro. Crouch had to follow such experienced and able workers as Bros. Terry, C. Musto, and others, it is the more creditable to him that he should have worked the ceremony, not only to the satisfaction of those present, but have received so warm an approval of his exertions. The W.M. invested his officers as follows: Bros. Dr. Defries, S.W.; Sturtevant, J.W.; Prestage, S.D.; A. Jones, J.D.; Chitson, I.G.; and G. W. Verry, P.M., as Honorary Secretary. The Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, where the lodge is held, was never more full than on Thursday, the 18th inst., and Bro. Lloyd, the host, placed an excellent banquet before the brethren, to which they did ample justice. After the labours of the lodge the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and received with enthusiasm, and the brethren separated after a very enjoyable evening having been spent.

WEST SMITHFIELD LODGE (No. 1623).—On Thursday, the 18th inst., at Bro. T. Butt's, New Market Hotel, West Smithfield, the installation meeting was held. Bro. G. S. Elliott, W.M., opened the lodge, supported by his officers. The minutes of the last regular and an emergency meeting were read, unanimously confirmed, and signed by the W.M. The report of the Audit Committee was received, adopted, and entered on the lodge minute book. The W.M. raised Bros. King and Long. Bro. T. W. Adams, I.P.M., presented Bro. Joshua Howes, P.M., S.W., and W.M. elect, for installation, when he was installed. The officers are Bros. W. Pennfather, S.W.; W. Malthouse, J.W.; G. S. Elliott, P.M., Treas.; E. Mallett, P.M., Sec.; H. M. Butt, S.D.; H. J. Lardner, J.D.; G. H. Stephens, I.G.; J. J. Howes, D.C.; W. Snow, W.S.; W. Delafous, C.S.; E. Roberts, Organist; Smyth, Tyler. The work was so well rendered that a vote of thanks was given to the I.P.M., Bro. G. S. Elliott, for doing the installation ceremony so well, and the same ordered to be entered on the lodge minute book. Bro. G. S. Elliott, I.P.M., Treasurer, had the usual ten guinea Past Master's jewel given to him. Although entering on

his third apprenticeship in Masonry, this was the first lodge Bro. G. S. Elliott has passed the chair in. When the lodge was founded, Bro. F. Walters, P.P.G.D. Middx., P.M., selected him for first J.W., and stuck by him until he had completed his year of office. He resigned the Treasurership, and had the happiness of seeing Bro. G. S. Elliott unanimously elected to succeed him. As Bro. G. S. Elliott, P.M., now holds office in other lodges, we hope in time to have to chronicle how well he will do his work in other lodges as he has done here. Bro. J. Howes, P.M. 765, W.M., a well-known worker of the Fifteen Sections, commenced his duties. The ballot proved unanimous in favour of the admission of Mr. Alfred Silcorn, and being present, he was initiated into Freemasonry. The work was well done. Bro. Frederick Walters, P.P.J.D. Middx., P.M., late Treasurer and Secretary, resigned his membership; his health being so bad, and living in Leicestershire, precluded him from coming up to town. His resignation was accepted with regret. Some candidates were proposed for initiation. Business ended, the lodge was closed. There were present also Bros. G. S. Wintle, P.M.; Greenwood, Smith, T. Butt, King, Rose, W. Butt, Cork, and many others. The visitors were Bros. W. A. Barrett, P.P. G. Org. Oxon, P.M. 1706, &c.; Pearson, P.M. 315; Dr. Hunter, P.M. 1677; Sheadd, P.M. 720; Goodde, P.M. 1228; Silvester, W.M. 463; Elliott, 749; Page, 1821; Rumball, 3.W. 141, and others. The usual good banquet and dessert followed, which reflected the greatest credit on Bro. T. Butt and his two sons, all of whom were unremitting in their exertions to make all present happy and comfortable, in which they succeeded. The usual toasts were given and responded to. Songs and recitations brought a happy meeting to a pleasant close.

KENSINGTON LODGE (No. 1767).—On the 20th inst., the first anniversary of this lodge was celebrated at the new rooms, at the King's Arms Hotel, High-street, Kensington, the original intention of meeting at the Courtfield Hotel, Earl's Court Station, having been abandoned. The business of the day consisted in the submission of minutes of last lodge for confirmation, the passing of one brother to the Second Degree, and the installation of a W.M. for the ensuing twelve months. By a unanimous vote, Bro. Charles Edward Williams had been elected to that important position (rendered more so than usual in the case of a young lodge), than whom no more suitable person could have been chosen, uniting, as he does, to a thorough knowledge of his duties, the assiduity of a successful man of business, and the amiability and cordiality of an English gentleman. The preliminary matters having been gone into, the ceremony of installation was performed by the I.P.M., Bro. George Read, in so accurate, distinct, and impressive a manner as to call forth the sincere congratulations of the brethren, accustomed, as they are so fortunate as to be, old auditors of his excellent working. The Rev. Bro. Ambrose W. Hall, P.M., &c., Chaplain to the lodge, assisted with his usual powerful aid in rendering the ceremony one which for excellency may have been equalled, but has, undoubtedly, never been surpassed. Having been duly installed, the W.M. proceeded to invest his officers as follows: Bros. T. Hancock, S.W.; J. Barker, J.W.; Rev. Ambrose William Hall, P.M., P.P.G.C., P.P. S.G.W. Surrey, Chaplain; A. Barfield, P.M., Treas.; C. J. Foakes, P.M., Sec.; J. H. Taylor, S.D.; G. Bidgood, J.D.; E. R. Baugh, D.C.; F. J. Oliver, Org.; J. Swanson, I.G.; Metcalfe and Hayes, Stewards. The Worshipful Master then announced that one of the first, and, certainly, one of the most pleasurable duties he should ever have to perform as Master of the Kensington Lodge, would then be, in the name of the Kensington Lodge, to present to Bro. Read the P.M. jewel, in token of the affectionate regard and high appreciation which he had gained on all sides, both during his tenure of office as well as during the many years of his residence in Kensington. The W.M. then initiated Mr. Joseph King Hurrell into the mysteries of Freemasonry, and, if we may judge by a slight example of good workmanship, the lodge will lose none of its excellence under the administration of Bro. Williams. There was a large attendance of brethren, and the following visitors honoured the lodge with their company:—Bros. W. M. Stiles, W.M. 1732; H. Stiles, J.W. 1732; H. Blunden, J.D. 865; J. Clayton, 1489; Walter Goodall, 142; S. Millas, P.M. 157 and 834; R. J. Gaubert, W.M. 172; M. Cobham, P.M. 141; J. Avery, W.M. 511; T. Broughton, C. G. Gumpel, I.G. 1257; C. Holland, 1681; D. Wetherell, 1681; W. Honeyball, J.D. 1681; and many others. Banquet was served in the new lodge-room by Bro. G. P. Cook, and the menu placed upon the table we venture to believe could not have been improved upon by the most ambitious "Cordon bleu," whilst the dinner on closer acquaintance did not belie that in which the prospect is always good, viz., the prospectus. The banqueting-room had been magnificently decorated, the walls being of a pale blue tint, the mouldings picked out in gold, and the ceilings enriched with Masonic ribands and insignia, the whole affording an effect of lightness and consistency of colour unequalled by that of any salon in the Metropolis. The table was brilliant with flowers, the glitter of many a well-earned jewel lent sparkle to the scene, and the cordiality and friendship of the company lit up the whole circle. After banquet the usual toasts were proposed and received with acclamation, whilst in each successive interval Bro. Oliver, assisted by a number of musical associates, admirably rendered the well known and appropriate national and patriotic songs. In response to the toast of "The W.M.," Bro. Williams said he had exercised much caution in accepting the exalted honour the brethren offered him, firstly, on account of a not unnatural diffidence, and secondly, because, in having to succeed such a perfect example of excellence as the I.P.M. he would be placed at a disadvantage. He hoped, however, by following, as far as in him lay, in the footsteps of his predecessor, he at least might chance to deserve some favour

at the hands of the brethren. He asked that during his year of office Bro. Read would favour him with his advice and assistance, the value of which was so well recognised, not only by himself but by the Kensington Lodge. After the toast of "The Initiate" had been given and responded to in appropriate terms, the W.M. then rose to propose "The Health of the I.P.M.," and said the next toast he had to propose was really the toast of the evening—it was to their "Immediate Past Master." Brethren, Bro. George Read and the Kensington Lodge are so closely allied to our old mother lodge, the Zetland, No. 511, that I feel it quite impossible to speak of one without alluding to the other. The Zetland is in fact the mother of the Kensington, and as one of the founders, and I may say one of the sponsors, of the Kensington Lodge, I trust that the child may be worthy of the parent. There is no question but that the great success which has attended the Zetland for many years has been mainly due to the zeal and consistent exertions of Bro. Read, as P.M. of the Zetland, loyally and faithfully supported by our Treasurer, Bro. Past Master Barfield, also of the Zetland Lodge. And then, as the accomplished Preceptor of our lodge of instruction which is held in this room, Bro. Read will be ever gratefully remembered for the kind, brotherly, and painstaking manner he endeavours to impart to others that knowledge of Freemasonry which he is so eminently qualified to do. As an example of his working I am sure that every brother here must have been struck with the faultless manner the ceremony of installation has been performed by Bro. Read this evening, and socially I will say of Bro. Read that those who know him best, either in or out of Freemasonry, are those who most admire him, for all those great, good, and sterling qualities that make a man what a man ought to be. Brethren, such is the man, such is the Mason, that the founders of this lodge selected and solicited to become their first Master. I feel quite unable to express in fitting terms how much we owe Bro. Read for the distinguished and finished manner he has organised the working, presided at our meetings, and governed the lodge during his year of office, but of all this I need not say one word—you, brethren, have anticipated me; you have in the most graceful and spontaneous manner already marked your appreciation of those well directed labours, and your esteem for him individually and Masonically, by unanimously voting him the highest honour it is in your power to award, the P.M.'s jewel of the lodge. Bro. Read, may you live many years to assist the lodge with your valuable counsel and advice, and to wear that jewel you have so honourably earned. The I.P.M., on rising to respond, was enthusiastically welcomed. He said he had never known a greater satisfaction than that which he experienced in successfully, as he hoped and believed, ending his year as W.M. He had, at all events, satisfied the brethren that he had done his best, for the beautiful jewel he had received was a warrant of their favour. He was very grateful for the mark of esteem, and said the jewel would rank in his mind no less high than that jewel he had earned in the mother lodge, Zetland, 511. He was glad to find so earnest a man in the chair he had vacated, and he would be proud if any advice or assistance of his should be accepted by the W.M. The position of the Kensington Lodge was now assured, and he thanked all those who had helped in perfecting its establishment. All the toasts having been passed, the evening was brought to a close with harmony and good fellowship. We add our cordial good wishes for this lodge that in years to come it may lose none of its pristine lustre: that it will rival the fame and hospitality of many larger and older lodges in London is the sincere hope of all who attended the first anniversary of the Kensington Lodge, 1767.

GATESHEAD-ON-TYNE.—Lodge of Industry (No. 48).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, the 22nd inst., at No. 34, Denmark-street, Gateshead. The lodge was opened in due form shortly after seven o'clock p.m., by the W.M., Bro. Robert Whitfield, assisted by the officers as follows: Bros. M. Corbitt, I.P.M.; D. Sinclair, P.M.; John Wood, S.W.; J. G. Smith, J.W.; W. Brewis Elsdon, Treasurer (also as J.D.); E. Liddell, Sec.; E. W. Middlemast, S.D.; Jas. Boyatt, I.G.; Robert Ferry, Org.; J. C. S. Liddell, S.S.; J. W. A. Boyatt, A.S.; and Joshua Carry, Tyler. The following members were also present: Bros. J. E. Robson, P.M.; B. P. Ord, P.M.; H. N. Ground, Jacob Matthews, Matthew Swinburne, Thomas Swan, Wm. Richardson, W. B. Bolland, and others. Amongst the visiting brethren were Bros. John Page, W.M. 406; Wm. Healey, 405; W. H. Dunn, 1676; U. Mein, P.M. 541; J. R. S. Baker, 541; M. H. Dodds, J.W. 1119; R. Smailes, P.M. 541; Jos. Cook, P.M. 481, P.P.G.S.W. Northumberland; Wm. Cooper, W.M. 1342; James Cooper, 1342; G. S. Sims, 1342; T. S. Miller, 424; and Thos. Foster, 406. After the minutes were confirmed the ballot was taken respectively for Mr. Wm. Mark Pybus, Mr. Henry Bewsher Slee, and Mr. Edwd. Shewbrooks, who were duly elected. Mr. H. B. Slee being in attendance, and properly prepared, was then initiated into the mysteries of ancient Freemasonry by the W.M.; the S.W. explained the working tools, and the J.W. gave the charge. The lodge was afterwards opened in the Second Degree, when Bro. M. Swinburne received the test of merit and retired. The lodge was then raised to the Third Degree, when Bro. Swinburne was raised to the Sublime Degree of a M.M. by the W.M., who also explained the tracing board. The working tools were given by the S.W. The lodge was then closed down to the First Degree, when the W.M. received the "Hearty good wishes" of the visitors. During the evening the W.M. announced that the next Provincial Grand Lodge of Durham would be held at Gateshead on the 21st October, under the joint banners of Lodges 48 and 424, and requested the attendance of all M.M.'s who could make it convenient to attend. The lodge was closed at 9.30 p.m., when the brethren retired to the refreshment-room, where

they were entertained with a musical melange, consisting of glees, &c., ably rendered by Bros. Richardson, Ferry, Ord, and Sinclair. The usual list of loyal and Masonic toasts was included in the programme.

MANCHESTER.—Virtue Lodge (No. 152).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, on Friday, the 19th inst. There were present Bros. Wm. Hollins, W.M.; Wm. Jaffray, S.W.; G. C. Williams, J.W.; C. Harrop, Treas.; Bonchill, D.C.; R. F. Brewer, Sec.; E. A. Priest, Org.; J. Nicholson, I.G.; G. V. Blaikie, J.D.; James Wright, Steward; T. R. Stephens, W. R. Williams, Charles Kay, and B. Nitscke. Visitors: Bros. E. Cummins, S.W. 1459; Murray Thomson, 163; Wm. Bidgood, 261; D. A. Murray, 204; and R. R. Lisenden, 317 (*Freemason*). As will be seen the attendance of members was not very great, most of them being enjoying the salubrious air of Blackpool, where a grand fête was being held. The lodge was opened at 6.45, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. There being no work the lodge was raised to the Second and Third Degrees, and afterwards lowered to the First. Following the announcement made on the circulars, the bye-laws were read by the Secretary (in the absence of the Chaplain), with a view to alteration, if necessary. A portion of the provincial bye-laws was next read, bearing upon the intimation made by the R.W.P.G.M. with respect to joining members throughout the province, the particulars of which are by this time doubtless well known by the brethren in East Lancashire. This last matter terminating the business, and "Hearty good wishes" having been expressed by the visiting brethren, the lodge was closed in peace and harmony soon after 8 o'clock. The brethren afterwards assembled at the social board and spent a couple of hours together, separating at 10 o'clock.

Royal Arch.

KENNINGTON CHAPTER (No. 1381).—A meeting of this recently-constituted chapter was held at the Surrey Club House, Kennington Oval, on the 13th inst. There were present among others Comps. George Everett, M.E.Z.; W. Mann, P.Z., J., and acting H. in the unavoidable absence of Comp. E. Page; T. C. Walls, P.G.D.C. Middlesex, S.N., acting J. (*Freemason*); Henry Higgins, S.E.; Binjemann, P.S.; Speedy, 1st Assistant; Webb, 2nd Assistant. The minutes of the previous convocation having been read and confirmed, the M.E.Z. reported that the bye-laws of the chapter had been duly approved by the Grand Chapter. He then directed the S.E. to furnish each member present with a copy of them, which was accordingly done. There were two brethren down on the agenda of business for exaltation, but through unavoidable circumstances they were prevented from attending. There being no other matter before the convocation, it was duly closed, and the companions adjourned to a collation. There were no toasts, and the companions separated at an early hour.

METROPOLITAN CHAPTER (No. 1507).—An emergency meeting of this chapter was held at Metropolitan Club, King's Cross, on Thursday, the 18th inst. There were present Comps. Willing, M.E.Z.; T. Adams, P.Z., as H.; Ferguson, J.; W. M. Stiles, Scribe F.; Edmonds, as H.; H. Stiles, as P.S.; Side, 1st P.S.; Barnes, J.; Deller, Sillis, Clemow, Holt, Humphreys, and others. Letters of apology were received from Comps. Stacey, H.; Douglass, P.S.; Hudson, S.N.; and others. A ballot having been taken for Bro. A. N. Clemow, which proved unanimous, he was regularly introduced and impressively exalted into Royal Arch Freemasonry. The M.E.Z. then proposed that, in view of the lease of the present premises being disposed of, the chapter be removed. This was carried unanimously, and the committee appointed to make arrangements. The companions immediately on closing the chapter separated.

SUNDERLAND.—St. John's Chapter (No. 80).—The regular convocation of the above chapter was held in the Masonic Hall, Toward-road, on Tuesday, the 16th inst. Present: Ex. Comps. H. Maddison, Z.; M. Douglass, H.; H. P. Turnbull, J. The chapter was opened by the Three Principals. The minutes of last convocation were read and confirmed. The circular was read convening the meeting. Present on the dais Ex Comps. Crookes, P.Z.; Hudson, P.Z.; Comp. Lova, P.Z.; Ex. Comps. Clay, Z. of Chapter de Lambton; Frampton, J.; Henderson, P.Z. The ballot was then taken for Bro. T. W. Barnlett, a candidate for exaltation, and Comp. Munroe, of Chapter 487, who were duly elected. The election of officers for the ensuing year then took place, when the following were elected: Ex. Comps. Maddison, re-elected, Z.; Turnbull, H.; Comps. Lowes, J.; Nicholson, E.; Beattie, N.; Kinmona, P.S.; Craven, T.; Thompson, J. Auditors elected, Comps. Godfonsdon and Nicholson. All business being done the chapter was closed in due and solemn form.

EAST HARTLEPOOL.—St. Helen's Chapter (No. 531).—The regular convocation of this chapter was held in the Masonic Hall, Regent-square, on Friday, the 12th inst., at 6 p.m. There were present Ex. Comps. R. Hudson, Z.; M. Douglass, H.; and G. Moore, J. The chapter was opened by the Three Principals, and the minutes of last convocation were read and confirmed. The circular was read convening the chapter. There being no exaltations, Ex. Comp. Hudson, Z., proposed to give the Symbolic Lecture, which was done in a most impressive manner, giving great satisfaction to the companions.

Comp. Spofforth proposed Bro. R. H. Lynn, of St. Helen's Lodge, for exaltation, seconded by Comp. Hunter. "Hearty good wishes" were given by Ex. Comp. Maddison, Z. of St. John's Chapter, No. 80, and Ex. Comp. Lova, Chapter of Strict Benevolence, No. 97. All business being done, the chapter was closed in due and solemn form.

Ancient and Accepted Rite.

MALTA.—Rose of Sharon Rose Croix Chapter (No. 33).—A regular meeting of this chapter was held at the Masonic Hall, Valetta. There were present Comps. A. M. Broadley, M.W.S.; Capt. Blake, R.A., as Prelate; C. Riechelman, 1st General; Surg.-Maj. Mackinnon, as 2nd General; Lieut. Coffey, R.A., Raphael; Maj. Ewing, Organist; W. J. Jones, Captain of Guard and acting Recorder; together with a large attendance of members of the chapter. A ballot was taken for the following candidates:—Capt. A. Finch Noyes, A.P.D.; Capt. Hodgson, 10th Regt.; Lieut. McLaughlin, R.A.; and Surgeon Walker, A.M.D. These brethren being present, were duly perfected by the M.W.S., as S.P.R.C. of H. It was decided to change the election meeting from January to March. The labours of the evening being ended, the princes adjourned to a banquet.

Masonic Notes and Queries.

HUGHAN'S "OLD CHARGES OF BRITISH FREEMASONS," &c.

Bro. Gould having so kindly alluded to one of my pets ("Old Charges of British Freemasons") I write at once to pledge myself to a reprint of the work as soon as circumstances permit. The fact is, I cannot afford to undertake more than one work at a time, and having a portion of my last, "The Numerical and Medallie Register of Lodges," still on hand, it depends mainly on the brethren how soon the reprint is made. Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford and I have agreed to bring out another edition of the "Old Charges," and that brother has already done a good part towards it in publishing in the "Masonic Magazine" an annotated transcript of the "Halliwell MS.," which will be available for the promised reprint. Of Bro. "Cooke's MS." I believe Bro. Walter Spencer has still a number on sale. Though out of print, I am often able—by watching sales and catalogues—to meet with copies of the "Old Charges of British Freemasons," and have two by me now. Bro. Gould's reference to the "Holy Martyrs Four," of the seventh century, is a most important one, and I should like much to know in what MS. they occur. As to Charles Martel's name being in either Halliwell or Cooke's MSS., it will require more than the authority of Bro. Fort to authenticate it, for, as a matter of fact, the name does not occur. Bro. Fort, unfortunately, has not well studied our old MSS. W. J. HUGHAN.

MELROSE LODGE.

In regard to Bro. W. J. Hughan's announcement in the *Freemason* of the 13th inst., that I have unearthed an old MS. charge at Melrose, I am happy to say that I have transcribed the whole of it from a copy in the possession of the old lodge at Melrose, which has evidently been made about the beginning of last century from the old one I first discovered. It is a very imperfect copy, some words having been altogether mistaken by the transcriber, and some left out altogether where he could not decipher them. The name "Euclde" proved a sore stumbling block, so he copied it exactly as it is written, so that it looks like some mysterious hieroglyphic, and no doubt it was so considered by the scribe. Having got this document copied into my note book, on my next visit to Melrose I will compare it very carefully with the original so as to get a *verbatim* copy, which I will forward to Bro. Hughan as soon as complete.

In reply to Bro. Woodford's query anent the minutes of this old lodge, I beg to say that as soon as I have leisure and opportunity I will take them up and make extracts of any that may prove of interest to the Craft. From a cursory inspection of one of the books I noted that the first minute bore the date 1678. A faithful transcription of the ancient charges, however, will be my first care; after I have obtained that, I will trace out the history of this ancient lodge as far as it is preserved in these old records.

It is well known that Melrose has never acknowledged the authority of Grand Lodge of Scotland, consequently we are not permitted to receive Melrose Masons in our lodges, or indeed, to recognise them as brethren. This is to be regretted, as it places the members of this ancient lodge in a false position with other brethren. I trust it is not too late for this old lodge to own allegiance to the governing body in Scotland—such a procedure would be honourable to the lodge, and at the same time it would be an honour to Grand Lodge to enrol in its ranks this most ancient lodge. The Lodge of Kilwinning in Ayr, called in Scotland "Mother Kilwinning," held aloof until the year 1807, when Grand Lodge conceded it the privilege demanded, that of being registered as the oldest lodge in Scotland, and No. 1 being already allocated to the Lodge of Edinburgh, Marv's Chapel, Kilwinning, was made No. 2. As Melrose claims a history as old as either of these lodges, and claims its establishment from "time immemorial," would it not be possible in justice to its claim, which I think may be fairly established, to give it a position as honourable as the others, and number it 1a or even a1? This arrangement would not affect the numbers of the other lodges as they stand on the roll of Grand Lodge of Scotland.

W. FRED. VERNON.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF CHESHIRE.

In obedience to the command of Bro. the Right Hon. Lord de Tabley, R.W.P.G.M., an immense gathering of the brethren from every section of the Province of Cheshire assembled at the Mechanics' Institution, Stockport, on Wednesday, the 17th inst., to assist in the transaction of the annual business of the Provincial Grand Lodge. The large and influential gathering clearly indicated two facts—the continued popularity of Bro. Lord de Tabley, and the unabated vitality of the Order in this Masonic division of the kingdom—and the meeting was generally voted the most successful which has been held since his lordship was appointed to his high and important office in 1865 by the late Earl of Zetland. The last meeting of Prov. Grand Lodge in Stockport was in 1866, but so long ago as 1853 the town was honoured by a visit, when the late Bro. Lord Combermere held the reins of Masonic government.

There are altogether five Masonic lodges in Stockport, but one of these—the Egerton Lodge, held at the George Hotel—belongs to the West Lancashire Province. The four Stockport lodges in the Province of Cheshire are, St. John, No. 104, held at Ashton House, Greek-street; Unanimity, No. 287, Dog and Partridge, Churchgate; Lodge of Peace, No. 322, Warren Bulkeley Arms Hotel, Warren-street; and Concord, No. 323, Florist Hotel, Shaw Heath. There are thirty-six lodges in the province, with a total membership of upwards of 1700.

Bro. the Right Hon. Lord de Tabley, P.G.M., was received in due form by the assembled brethren, amongst the P.G. Lodge Officers present being Bros. G. W. Latham, Past G.W. of England, acting as D.P.G.M.; R. Beales, P.P.G.J.W.; A. E. Cockayne, P.G.S.B.; Llewellyn Makin, P.G.J.D.; J. Tomlinson, P.P.G.S.B.; Rev. R. Hodgson, P.G.C.; W. Nicholls, P.G.P.; J. Cavanagh, P.G. A.D.C.; Rev. Augustus A. Bagshaw, M.A., P.G.C., and P.P.G.S.W. Derbyshire; G. A. Fernley, P.P.G.J.W.; J. Hibbert, P.P.G.J.D.; J. P. Platt, P.P.G.J.W.; Captain J. W. Arrowsmith, P.P.G.S.B.; R. C. Mellor, P.P.G.J.D. North Wales and Salop; Rev. C. W. Spencer Stanhope, G. Chap.; H. C. Lisle, P.P. G.S.D.; W. Matthews, P.P.G.A.D.C.; J. Samuel, P.G.P.; T. Smith, P.P.G.J.D.; J. Salmon, P.P.G.S.D.; J. Wood, P.P.G.R.; T. Marwood, P.P.G.J.W.; J. H. Sillitoe, P.P. G.D. of C. E. Lancashire; F. Smith, P.P.G.S. of W.; T. H. Kirk, P.P.G.O.; G. P. Brockbank, P.P. G.S.D. E. Lancashire; J. Beresford, P.P.G.D.C.; J. W. P. Salmon, P.P.G.D.C. E. Lancashire; J. Beech, P.P.G.P.; S. Wilkinson, P.P.G.S.D.; J. Twiss, P.P.G.O.; B. Taylor, P.P.G.D.C. E. Lancashire; T. Chesworth, P.G.D.C.; T. M. Lockwood, P.P.G.S. of W.; W. Greatrix, P.P.G.P.; J. C. Chettham, P.P.G.S.B.; P. Wadsworth, P.P. G.A.D.C.; J. E. Anderton, P.G.R. E. Lancashire; J. Howard, P.P.G.J.W.; E. H. Griffiths, P.G. Sec.; F. Jackson, P.G. Treas.; J. Chadwick, P.G.S. E. Lancashire; E. Hardon, P.P.G.S.D.; C. Dutton, P.P.G.S.W.; H. Bulley, P.G.S.B. of England; Rev. J. W. Newell Tanner, P.P.G.C.; and others.

Letters of apology for non-attendance were acknowledged by the P.G. Secretary (Bro. E. H. Griffiths) from Bro. the Hon. W. Egerton, D.P.G.M. (who has gone to Italy); Bro. Horatio Lloyd, P.P.G.S.W.; Bro. Le Gendre Starkie, P.G.M. of East Lancashire; and a number of other Provincial Grand Lodge Officers. The roll of lodges was then called over, and it was found that all were represented, the total attendance being about 450. The minutes of the previous annual meeting, held at Nantwich, were read and unanimously confirmed.

Bro. the Right Hon. Lord de Tabley, P.G.M., who was received with loud cheers, said that he had again to thank the G.A.O.T.U. for being once more permitted to preside over the P.G. Lodge of Cheshire. He did so with very sincere gratitude, and especially when he again found himself, after a lapse of thirteen years, in the good old town of Stockport, where he had always met with a cordial and hearty reception. (Applause.) The Masonic gathering which he had now the honour to address in no way lost its previous reputation, or fell short of what he had reason to expect. He thought that no P.G. Master ever addressed so large and influential a meeting as that which was there assembled. (Cheers.) Every lodge had answered to its name, and several of them were most largely represented. What was still more satisfactory to his feelings, and must be to every Mason, was the fact that during the year every lodge had nobly done its duty in promoting the noble and sacred cause of charity. (Hear, hear.) It would perhaps be invidious for him to particularise any individual lodge, but he felt that he must mention the Lodge of St. John, No. 104, Stockport, as being prominent in its support of the Girls' School in London during the last year. Other lodges, however, had nobly done their duty, and the result was that during the year their success had been unprecedented. They carried their three candidates for the Girls' School and the Royal Benevolent Institution on the first application. Besides this, £10 had been voted by the Fund of Benevolence to a distressed brother at Hyde, and £10 which had been voted to another distressed brother had been increased to £40 through the efforts of one of their brethren. (Hear, hear.) His lordship then referred to a case in which the daughter of a deceased brother was a candidate for the Girls' School on the representation that her father belonged to the Province of Cheshire, but he desired to state that this was not the fact, because, although her father had been initiated in Cheshire, he actually had been a subscribing brother in Wiltshire. He would, therefore, ask the brethren to reserve their votes till the next spring election, when they would have three bona-fide Cheshire candidates for the Charities, whose election he trusted they would secure through the same excellent arrangements which

had distinguished them in times past. (Hear, hear.) He was happy to say that during the past year the peace of the province had been undisturbed; no dispute of any sort had been brought under his notice, and he was glad to know that the vitality of the province was shown by the fact that there was now a total membership of 1731 in connection with the lodges. No doubt it was very satisfactory to find that Masonry had so greatly increased in that portion of the kingdom, but there was one circumstance upon which he wished to make a few remarks. From the returns of the various lodges he found that out of the 1731 members there were no fewer than 114 defaulters in the way of subscription. That was a very serious matter, and he accordingly wished to call the attention of the brethren, especially the W.M.'s of the various lodges, to the fact. Those brethren who were behind in their subscriptions ought to be struck off the roll of the lodge—(hear, hear)—as each lodge had to pay a certain amount to the Grand Lodge in fees, even for those who did not meet their subscriptions. This was a very serious matter, and he (Lord de Tabley) was sure he had only to mention it to secure immediate attention and a speedy remedy. The Cheshire Educational Institution, under the chairmanship of Bro. J. P. Platt, had also flourished greatly during the year, and there was now a very considerable number of children supported through its instrumentality. The mention of this Charity vividly called to his memory the loss which their Order had sustained by the death of Bro. Thomas Platt during the year, whose exertions and energy were so conspicuous in the cause of Masonry and the Educational Institution of Cheshire—an example which they might all very worthily follow. He (the P.G.M.) had only to express, in conclusion, his deep responsibility of the position which he held as the head of that province, and he could assure the brethren that his great anxiety was to do the duty which the Grand Master had placed upon him fairly and impartially. (Hear, hear.) He had hitherto great reason to thank the brethren for their cordial support, and he could only hope that he would continue to merit that in the future. (Loud cheers.)

Bro. F. Jackson, Prov. Grand Treasurer, then submitted his annual financial statement, from which it appeared that there was a balance to the credit of the Prov. Grand Lodge amounting to £537 15s. 7d., and to the Fund of Benevolence of £713 17s. 4d. The Prov. Grand Treasurer congratulated the brethren upon the fact that the province was now out of debt, and he trusted that they would be able next year to vote a sum of money in charity.

Lord de Tabley said it was most satisfactory to find this state of things, especially after the munificent subscription of 1000 guineas which had been voted a few years ago to secure a perpetual presentation to the Boys' School.

The financial statement was passed; and on the motion of the P.G.M., seconded by Bro. Latham, acting D.P.G.M., Bro. F. Jackson was re-elected Prov. G. Treasurer.

His lordship then appointed the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year:—

Bro. the Hon. Wilbraham Egerton,	M.P. ...	Prov. G.D.M.
„ John Wood ...	„ „ „	Prov. G.S.W.
„ Francis Arthur Dickson ...	„ „ „	Prov. G.J.W.
„ the Rev. R. Hodgson, M.A.,	(re-appointed) ...	Prov. G. Chap.
„ the Rev. George Frederick Dean ...	„ „ „	Prov. G.A.C.
„ F. Jackson (re-elected) ...	„ „ „	Prov. G. Treas.
„ John Hibbert ...	„ „ „	Prov. G. Reg.
„ E. H. Griffiths (re-appointed) ...	„ „ „	Prov. G. Sec.
„ W. Harrison ...	„ „ „	Prov. G.S.D.
„ W. Hickton ...	„ „ „	Prov. G.J.D.
„ Stanhope Bull ...	„ „ „	Prov. G.S. of W.
„ Herbert Finch ...	„ „ „	Prov. G.D.C.
„ T. Brooke ...	„ „ „	Prov. G.A.D.C.
„ G. H. Holden ...	„ „ „	Prov. G.S.B.
„ Edward Cuzner (re-appointed) ...	„ „ „	Prov. G. Org.
„ W. Nicholls ...	„ „ „	Prov. G.P.
„ W. Booth, J. K. Green, J. Leigh, E. Stevens, Josiah Hill, and W. H. Brown)	„ „ „	Prov. G. Stewards.
„ J. H. Holtaway ...	„ „ „	Prov. G. Tyler.

The P.G.M. re-appointed Bro. J. P. Platt as the Chairman of the Fund of Benevolence, and invested him with a clasp in recognition of services again given as Steward to the Girls' School.

The P.G.M. also presented and invested the following brethren with charity jewels, to which they had entitled themselves by twice serving the office of Steward to the London Charities:—Bros. Simcock, 1357; J. J. Cunnah, 721; Harrison, W.M. 104; Kirk, I.P.M. 104; T. Burrows, J.W. 104; H. Finch, P.M. 104; and J. Stafford, 104.

The P.G.M. announced that he would hold the next meeting of the Prov. Grand Lodge at Runcorn; and a vote of thanks having been given to the Rev. Matthew Pugh, M.A., rector of St. Thomas's Church, for the use of that building for Divine service, the Prov. G. Lodge was closed in solemn form.

The brethren subsequently formed in procession and proceeded to St. Thomas's Church, where a special service was held. The musical portion was under the direction of Bro. E. Cuzner, P.G.O., assisted by Master W. E. Cuzner, Misses Florence, Alice, and Essie Cuzner, Bros. Edmondson, Humphries, and T. Knowles, and Mr. R. H. Williams. The anthem was Sterndale Bennett's "God is a Spirit," which was sung with true devotional spirit. The sermon was preached by the Rev. R. Hodgson, M.A., P.G. Chaplain, from the words of St. Peter, "Honour all men; love the brethren." A collection was made on behalf of the Provincial Fund of Benevolence and the Stockport Infirmary, which realised a substantial sum.

The brethren subsequently banqueted at the Armoury specially decorated for the occasion), under the presidency

of Bro. the Right Hon. Lord de Tabley. During the dinner the band of the 4th C.R.V. played a choice selection of music, conducted by Mr. T. M'Ardle.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed by Bro. Lord de Tabley, "The Health of the Grand Officers" being acknowledged by Bro. H. Bulley.

Bro. G. W. Latham, acting D.P.G.M., gave the toast of "Lord de Tabley," and in doing so referred to the great progress which Masonry had made in that province during his lordship's fourteen years' Mastership. The P.G.M., in response, spoke with the highest satisfaction of the thorough harmony which prevailed in every lodge in the province. All his hopes and expectations had been realised, and he trusted that so long as his heart continued to beat he would be able to show the same interest as he had done in their noble Order.

An excellent musical programme was given by the "voices" which gave the choral portion of the church service.

Bro. Herbert Finch, the newly-appointed P.G.D.C., fulfilled his duties in a manner which excited the admiration of all who were present at business and banquet.

THE CONSTITUTIONS OF THE FREEMASONS.

SECOND ARTICLE.

BRO. WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN.

From the *Voie of Masonry*.

Brethren should always be most careful to distinguish between the Constitutions printed and published by Roberts, in 1722, and the volume issued by the Grand Lodge of England, in 1723, as the first mentioned is simply an exact reproduction of an Operative Manuscript, of which there are many versions extant from the 14th century. It was claimed that the 1722 work contained an account of the "Hautes Grades," and the report was accepted by many until Bro. Richard Spencer, the noted Masonic Bibliographer, allowed me to peruse the only copy known, which was in his collection, and was subsequently purchased for Bro. Robert Farmer Bower's grand Masonic Library. Roberts' manuscript makes no mention of any Masonic degrees whatever, and is in no sense of any value as a Book of Constitutions, though as the unique copy of the first printed transcript of the Operative "Old Charges," the value of the pamphlet cannot be over-estimated. Bro. Spencer has had it carefully printed, and it forms one of the four Constitutions issued by him in one handsome volume.

The rights and privileges of the "Four Old Lodges," which formed the Grand Lodge in 1717, have been most ably considered, of late, by Bro. Robert Freke Gould, who in a large volume, with that title for his work, has done ample justice to the subject, as well as accumulated a vast amount of most interesting and curious information, both historical and statistical, on the subject, the like of which has never been attempted before, and is not likely ever to be again, now that Bro. Gould has so ably presented the subject.

The Constitutions of 1723 were the foundation of all others of the kind, such as those issued in Ireland, A.D. 1730, and elsewhere. The subsequent alterations, however, of the Regulations made it indispensable for a new edition to be issued, and so, in 1738, was published "The new Book of Constitutions of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, containing their History, Charges, Regulations, etc." The volume was dedicated by Dr. Anderson to H.R.H. Frederick, Prince of Wales, who was the first of the "Royal Blood," in England, to join the Grand Lodge. Since then fourteen members of the "Royal Family" have been initiated, the 23rd Prince of Wales, H.R.H. Albert Edward, being the present Grand Master of the English branch of the widespread Fraternity. As Bro. Carson observed, it is scarcer than the first edition, and the same work, only with another title-page introduced (the first being removed), is rarer still. It would appear that several remained unsold, or a number of copies came into the hands of a printer, for in 1746 we find that they were issued with a different title-page, and bearing that year instead of 1738, added to which another printer's name appears. The 1738 edition was printed and sold by "Brother Caesar Ward and Richard Chandler, Booksellers, at the Ship without Temple Bar, etc.," but the new title-page has the name of J. Robinson, who, though he declared himself the printer of the book, simply printed the following:

The History and Constitutions of the Most Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons; containing an account of Masonry. 1. From the Creation, throughout the known earth, till true architecture was demolished by the Goths, and at last revived in Italy. 2. From Julius Caesar to the first arrival of the Saxons in Britain. 3. From the union of the crowns of England and Scotland, in the person of King James the First to the present time.

To which are added:

1. A list of the Grand Masters or Patrons of the Freemasons in England, from the coming in of the Anglo-Saxons to these times, who are mentioned in this work. 2. The old Charges of the Masons, collected from their earliest records, at the command of his Grace the Duke of Montague.

3. The manner of constituting a lodge.

4. The general regulations of the Free and Accepted Masons, both ancient and modern, in distinct columns.

5. The constitution of the Committee of their Charity.

6. A list of lodges in and about London and Westminster; with the deputations of several Grand Masters for the forming of lodges in Wales, the remote parts of England, and in foreign realms.

7. The songs sung at the lodges.

8. A defence of Masonry, occasioned by a pamphlet called *Masonry Dissected*; with Bro. Euclid's letter to the author against unjust cavils.

By James Anderson, D.D., London, printed and sold by J. Robinson, at the Golden Lion, in Ludgate-street. In the vulgar year of Masonry, 5746.

The frontispiece in the editions of 1723 and 1738 is about the only bond of agreement, for there is a vast difference in the two works. The compiler styles the latter "about twice as large as the former, having many proper additions, especially the principal transactions of the Grand Lodge ever since." The account of the Grand Lodge thus mentioned from 1717 is indeed a specially attractive feature of the 1738 edition, as also the continuations in subsequent issues down to 1784. The "History of Masonry" is divided into three parts: 1. The Creation to the Revival of Masonry in Italy. 2. Julius Caesar to Queen Elizabeth, A.D. 1603. 3. From A.D. 1603 to the Marquis of Carnarvon, A.D. 1738. The third part, it will be seen, is the one of value, the others possessing little to entitle them to the consideration of the Craft. The second edition was ordered under the Grand Mastership of the Earl of Darley, January 25th, 1737-8, and sanctioned as published by the Marquis of Carnarvon, Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, Grand Wardens, &c. The brethren were cautioned against using any other book, in any lodge, as a lodge book, as they shall be answerable to the Grand Lodge, doubtless owing to the circulation of "Pocket Companions," which contained the laws of the fraternity of 1723, &c. Prefacing the front page of the history is the plate of arms, &c., of the Grand Master, as in Pine's engraved lists of lodges of the period, and evidently printed from the same plate as the latter, being of the narrow and long form peculiar to such lists, commenced to be published in 1723.

A list of the Grand Masters or Patrons of the Freemasons in England is furnished, commencing with the first Archbishop of Canterbury, and ending with the Grand Master of 1738, the majority of the names before the last century being mainly an imaginary arrangement by the author. The "Old Charges of the Freemasons" are given as in 1723, save the first, which is altered but not improved. In it, for the first time, mention is made of a Mason as a "true Noachida," and also of the "Three great articles of Noah," &c. These were never again printed, and so much the better. Bro. Leon Hyneman is the only Freemason that I know of who has published another edition of this 1738 Constitutions, which he did in Vol II. of his "Masonic Library." In a notice of his reprint Bro. Hyneman states, "There is a mystery involved in the charges of a Freemason, which differ from the 1723 edition." The mystery to me is how such an able brother as the Rev. James Anderson, D.D., could sanction such a change! He evidently for a time forgot the last sentence in his address to the reader, November 4th, 1738, "It is good to know what not to say!" page x., Constitutions, 1738.

The history of the Grand Lodge from 1717, which adorns the work, is a most useful compilation and must always tend to make such works of special value to the Craft. Each successive edition to 1784 contained the history to period of publication, after which date the information has been omitted from the Books of Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of England.

The general regulations of 1723 and 1738 are given side by side, and the dates of the changes from the old to the new laws. At this period white leather aprons alone were worn by the Craft, save the present and past Grand Officers, who were allowed the addition of blue silk. Masters and Wardens were only allowed white ribbons from which to suspend the lodge jewels. Evidently simplicity was then the order of the day. In 1729 two guineas was the charge for a warrant, now it is fifteen in London and ten in the country. Originally a brother could not be a member of more than one lodge, but that has long been otherwise in England. A year's ceasing to meet as a lodge obtained erasure de facto. This, however, did not refer to the lodges constituted abroad. All the degrees were allowed generally to be given in lodges according to the laws after 1725. The Grand Secretary was always appointed by the Grand Master after the Grand Lodge made choice of the first in 1723. Grand Stewards were first allowed red ribbons for the jewels, 1731, and aprons lined with red silk. In 1735, they were formed into a lodge, and have since so continued, only without any authority to do Masonic work. The Tylers at the Grand Lodge were appointed by the Grand Stewards. These changes are sufficient to indicate the fact that the members of the Grand Lodge did not accept the regulations of 1723 as final, added to which, June 24th, 1723, it was agreed that "It is not in the power of any man, or body of men, to make any alteration or innovation in the body of Masonry, without the consent first obtained of the Grand Lodge." The laws of the Committee of Charity, first proposed in 1724, with subsequent alterations, are presented in full. Then follows a list of the lodges in and about London and Westminster, and for the country and abroad, to which Bro. Gould does ample justice in his "Four Old Lodges." A variety of songs and a remarkable "Defence of Masonry," published A.D. 1730, occasioned by a pamphlet, by Samuel Pritchard, called *Masonry Dissected* (supposed to be by Dr. Anderson), as also a letter to the author of the able defence by "Euclid," &c., concludes the volume of 231 pages.

An intimation has been received by Mr. Mark Firth that Court arrangements prevent Prince Leopold from visiting Sheffield to open Firth College on the date fixed. His Royal Highness's visit has been postponed until Saturday, October 18th, and he will be the guest of Mr. Firth until the 24th.

TO OUR READERS.

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

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

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

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

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.

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

TO ADVERTISERS.

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

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

Answers to Correspondents.

1879.—The work is announced to appear early in November.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

"Coleman's Masonic Calendar," "Alliance News," "Broad Arrow," "Royal Cornwall Gazette," "Die Bauhütte," "Die New Yorker Bundes Presse," "Hull Packet," "Citizen," "Cheshire County News," "Chaine d'Union," "Masonic Newspaper," "Hebrew Leader," "Keystone."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

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

BIRTHS.

EAST.—On the 17th inst., at Woodcote-grove, Epsom, Surrey, the wife of Bro. W. Q. East, of a daughter.
ROSEBURY.—On the 18th inst., at 107, Piccadilly, Lady Rosebery, of a daughter.
THACKWELL.—On the 18th inst., at Eastbourne, the wife of Bro. Lieut. E. L. R. Thackwell, prematurely, of a daughter (stillborn).

MARRIAGE.

LUCKING—COLE.—On the 22nd inst., at Holy Trinity Church, Islington, Edward, youngest son of Bro. C. Lucking, Southend, Essex, to Eliza Ann, eldest daughter of R. Cole, of London.

DEATHS.

CHAPMAN.—On the 13th inst., at 38, Park-villas, Park-holme-road, Dalston, Lily Clayton Chapman, aged 13 years.
DURKIN.—On the 15th inst., at St. Mary's-road, Peckham, Bro. Thomas Durkin, P.M. 72.
LARKIN.—On the 15th inst., at 30, Athelston-road, Margate, Georgina, second daughter of Bro. John and Georgina Larkin, of 24, Charterhouse-square, London, aged 18.
LAWSON.—On the 20th inst., at his residence, 2, Brook-street, Hanover-square, after a few hours' illness, Lionel Lawson, aged 56 years.

THE FREEMASON.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1879.

FREEMASONRY IN THE EAST.

Such is the heading of a communication in the *Times* last week, which suggests many curious memories and many important considerations to the Masonic student. We do not refer to the subject matter of the communication we print elsewhere, for that only refers, in our opinion, to a somewhat commonplace present, if even it seems to have a bearing on things as they really are in that far and still mysterious clime. But we prefer, as if on a magic and Masonic carpet, to travel far away to that land of startling reminiscences and moving tales, to the past centuries through which Tennyson's poetic "Argosies" have floated on, laden with the spoils of the old world and the industry of the new, surrounded for the most part with that mist of ignorance and prejudice which has blinded men's eyes to the historic truth, and landed them in a picturesque but deceptive realm of shadows, legends, and myths. Freemasonry, as we believe, hails from the East, but what have been its conditions of vitality and reality since Christianity sprung marvellously to the fore? Has it survived troubled and stormy ages amid the conflicting claims of Christians and Mohammedans, the Crusader and the "Seldan," both the "encroaching hand of time" and the inevitable human process of decay, dissolution, and oblivion? Was Freemasonry still lingering in the East in mystic and secret sadalities when stately knights did battle for the Cross and their Redeemer, and sought to rescue the dear and Holy City from Paynim and Iconoclast? Does Freemasonry still survive, if in an altered form, amid the Dervishes of Turkey, the Santons of Africa, the Dhijals of the Druses, the secret confraternities of Soght colleges? One High Grade tradition declares that the Crusaders brought back from the East certain quasi-Masonic organizations, and some of the proceedings of the Templars are only explainable on the ground of some common ground of intercommunion with their Mohammedan foes? Many of the peculiar ceremonies attributed to the Templars in their "secreta receptio" seem to have come from the East, and to have been Oriental both in idea and end. Can we hope to obtain a satisfactory answer to such questions? A lucid explanation of such suggestions? We fear not. No, for us the great and wondrous East, the storehouse of all worldly lore and learning, the quondam source of all the wisdom and mysteries, the Hermetic secrets and the inductive science of to-day, must still we fear repose for us in its imperishable dimness and stillness, and will still refuse to unravel the arcana of the past, or give us the golden key to unlock the sealed book of ages. Sufficient for us as Freemasons that with the East are bound up our most ancient associations and our most cherished traditions, and that under its bright shadow we are still willing also to confront, whether the destructive theories of the present, or to look on in hope and trust to the gradual unveiling of a brighter, because less dubious future.

MASONIC HOLIDAYS.

"All work and no play," says the old saw, "makes Jack a dull boy," and though, like a good many aged and affecting "saws" we wot of, it has its "outcome" of fallacy, yet there is a "substratum" of truth in it, clearly and convincingly. To many workers in this world's great beehive, (not "drones," observe, kind readers), a holiday is often needed, not only for rest and refreshment of mind and body, but actually for very health's sake. The effort of continuous overpowering work, especially brain work, is to produce not only lassitude of mind and body, but to expedite the inevitable symptoms of weakness and decay. Indeed, it is sometimes surprising to think how many of us

all stand, day by day, and hour by hour, the wear and tear on our faculties, on our corporeal strength. With few can such a pressure go on safely for long without indubitable signs of overwork, of breaking down. And holidays are good for us all, be we who we may. The clergyman labouring in his parish, the lawyer toiling in his chambers, the physician intent on his benevolent mission of help and healing, the actor triumphing over the sympathies and minds of his auditory, the man of business in his counting house, all have claims for, nay more, have need of, "holidays" from time to time, lest the turmoil and weight of worldly pressure should erase their finer sensibilities, or overpower their truer emotions. And not only this, but as we have before observed, sanitary considerations demand a cessation from time to time of mental and bodily labour for us all alike. The *Freemason* from the first has rejoiced in the Bank Holidays, for example, as tending greatly to the eventful elevation, (let us trust), of vast masses of our labouring and laborious countrymen in social virtues and æsthetic culture, in their improvement and benefit in many ways. And feeling all this strongly, we also approve greatly of Masonic holidays, when for a time our busy lodge life ceases and our good brethren, scattered in every direction, in health resorts by the sea side, on mountain and on moor, revive their strength, recruit their energies, and prepare valourously for the serious emergencies of another (not Cabul, but Masonic) campaign. We think that a short visit to one of the sequestered and beautiful spots in our own country will do us all good in most respects. It is impossible, we believe, when surrounded by the associations of the country, in all its grace and sweetness, to be altogether wrapped up in self, or to be insensible to the claims and duties of life. The everlasting hills, the placid lake, the goodly trees, the green meadows, the elements in wrath or in repose, all alike affect our minds with bettering associations, and serve to stir up in us all a sense of the truly beautiful and the divine, in the wondrous handiwork of the Most High, and soothe our jaded spirits, or soften our bitter reflections, or lighten up our dim aspirations, or renew our decaying inner life with those perceptions and memories which the Great Creator seems to have identified in His mercy with all nature's sternest and gentlest scenes for the happiness and improvement of man. These words may recall to some of our readers many a pleasant outing, many a happy walk—the old country side hostelry, (now rare), the mountain stream, the winding path, the chat with an old mate, and all the humble but honest emotions of youth, not too grand to be pleased, or of manhood not too lordly to be satisfied with meagre fare and the traveller's life. Pleasant recollections are those which recall the needful holidays of life, before we were too great, capricious, or prosperous to find happiness in little things, or the quiet companionship of an ancient friend, in that real holiday of the heart and soul, which brings us face to face and mind to mind with congenial spirits and kindly souls.

CABUL.

This land of ill-omened memory to English minds of olden time, lately associated with a most triumphant expedition, is now once again before us in all the lurid light of treachery and cruelty. The *Freemason* does not profess or affect in any manner to touch upon political problems or deal with "matters of state," directly or indirectly, but it can, and does, sympathize deeply with those gallant brethren of ours who are to be found in that noble service, ever ready at the call of its Sovereign and its country to "go anywhere and do anything." And, hence, to-day it is glad in its humble columns, which are read by hill fires and in distant cantonments, to express its warm and anxious interest in those who "have gone to the front," and who it trusts ere long, in the capital of a treacherous foe, may inflict a punishment which may serve as an example to all open or secret enemies, to those who declare themselves our antagonists, to those who surreptitiously egg on others to savage warfare, of the might and retribution of England. We say once more to-day, that we have every confi-

deance in that gallant commander and picked force of English and native soldiers who are moving on to avenge the death of Sir Louis Cavagnari, and to teach to all in Hindostan that the English flag is alike unconquered and unconquerable.

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.]

FREEMASONRY IN ROUMANIA.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

The following notes, compiled from an article in the *Deutsches Montags Blatt*, of Berlin, respecting the position of certain members of the Masonic body in Roumania may prove of interest to your readers. I may add that the original article is written by a Mason.

"Before Roumania became independent of Turkey the numerous lodges in the country were affiliated to and under the jurisdiction of the Grand Orients of France, Italy, or Germany, and there was in them, as in all other Masonic lodges, perfect social, religious equality. Directly Roumania obtained her independence, the Masonic lodges met and formed a Grand Orient of their own, which has hitherto remained unrecognized by the Grand Orients or Grand Lodges of other countries. The principle upon which this new Grand Orient and its affiliated lodges are working is entirely opposed to the fundamental laws of Freemasonry. Their organ in the press entirely repudiates the idea that Masonry is a Cosmopolitan Brotherhood, and claims for Roumanian lodges that they shall admit no foreigners, either as guests or as members. Further than this, it is laid down that no German, and no person professing the Jewish faith, shall, at this or any other future time, even if he be a Roumanian by naturalisation or birth, be allowed to participate in the privileges of Roumanian Freemasonry."

I hardly think that these facts require much comment on my part, but I would humbly suggest that Grand Lodge take cognisance of the matter. When the Grand Orient of France repudiated the first principle of Masonry all lodges under its jurisdiction were debarred from joining in the working of English lodges; surely in this, a very similar case, the Grand Lodge of England might with good effect administer a severe rebuke to the presumptuous and narrow-minded lodges of Roumania.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

S. H. D'AVIGDOR,
J.W. of Kaiser-i-Hind, 1724; Sec. of
Bayard, 1615.

Reviews.

BRITISH BARROWS. By WILLIAM GREENWELL, M.A., F.S.A., Oxford. Clarendon Press: Andrews, Durham.

This very elaborate work, most interesting and lucid in itself, deserves a larger space than can unfortunately be afforded to its undeniable merits in the limited space of the *Freemason*. But as the able writer of it, so well known to many, is an old and very genial member of our Order, it seemed to us when preparing this humble notice of a really great work, that for once we may outstep the somewhat curt and unsatisfactory limits to which reviews are condemned in our hebdomadal issue. Canon Greenwell's work may fairly be divided into three divisions, which for the convenience of our readers we shall treat seriatim, as otherwise the facts are so many that they will crowd on us in their wonderful fulness, rendering our canvas blurred and indistinct, and taking away from our review of so much recondite information any merit of clearness, and every claim for method and order. We will, therefore, confine ourselves to-day to the general question of Barrows, reminding our readers that no more important topic connected with the early development of our individual life, or the progress of the civilization of our race, can be touched upon or treated, even by the skillful hand of the great "Opener of Barrows," and that to all who wish to study the conditions of this human existence of ours, in various epochs, whether as pre-historic or historic ages, must on this wide subject of "mortal burial" go to our Bro. Canon Greenwell's book for enlightenment and information, for all that can positively be known on customs and the life of our common humanity, shrouded in the dimness of past time, and buried, so to say, in the dark recesses of the earth. We call attention, therefore, to the fact at the outset, as not only one great modern source of information on a matter of which we have all heard a good deal no doubt in our various localities, but as an exhaustive treatment of incontestable data and startling facts, acquired by much personal labours, and through a long series of valuable and skillful explorations. The writer of the work on British Barrows points out to us in words which are most true, that there has been from the earliest times an universal custom among men of raising a mound, the so-called Barrow, over the buried dead to mark their earthly resting places. Barrows are, let us remember, mounds of earth, cairns, mounds of stone. These "Barrows," under divers names, are found, as we may many of us have seen, by Mediterranean shore and Northern steppes; are to be seen on the continent of Hindostan; are to be found in the Pyramids of Egypt, though the Pyramids were not, in our opinion, solely places of burial; amid the errant Red Indians of the North American forests, as well as amid the ruined cities of Central

America. They abound in England, Scotland, and Ireland, and are to be found in Brittany and numerous other portions of the earth's surface. Indeed, it is hard to say where they are not. Curiously enough they vary in size, from a few feet diameter, to Silbury Hill, Wiltshire, which covers five acres of ground, and measures 130 feet in perpendicular height. As a rule they are circular, though sometimes they approach an oval form, but a long shaped mound, common in some parts of England, has been "regarded," Canon Greenwell says, with "much probability" as the earliest form of Barrow, and belonging to a period before the introduction of the use of metal into the country. They differ considerably, we are told, in outline, and even in shape. Those which remain have no doubt suffered greatly from either the "encroaching hand of time," or the inroads of the plough, and the farmer regardless of antiquities, but judging from some which seem to be still preserved intact in their original shape, Canon Greenwell thinks they may be fairly described as "being bowl shaped and conical, those of the former shape being, perhaps, the most numerous." In Wiltshire the writer alludes to the "Bell Barrows," as they are called, and which some of us may have seen, and to what Sir Richard Colt Hoare terms "Druid Barrows," whether "two barrows," or more than two small ones surrounded by a ditch, and which, as a foot note points out, seem to take us back to the "Sema" of Homeric burials. On the "wolds of York-shire," where many barrows exist, many of them had probably an "encircling mound or ditch, or both, at the back," though in some cases, as we before remarked, the levelling plough has swept their last trace away. The Wold Barrows are of various sizes, and may be said to range from twenty feet to 150 in diameter, and from one to twenty-four feet in height. These barrows have been made, as Canon Greenwell reminds us, of the materials which "came the nearest to hand," more of earth than of chalk, but it is seldom we find any barrows without some admixture of chalk or flint, the chalk having been frequently obtained from the grave. And then having realized the barrows, whether as great "landmarks of time" or quiet witnesses of a buried past, standing in their solitary grandeur on exposed hills and lonely moorlands, telling us of dead men and vanished ages, the next question that necessarily occurs is, what is their age? Canon Greenwell thinks they can fairly and safely be attributed to a period which centres, more or less, in B.C. 500. That they belonged to a time before the Roman occupation seems also absolutely certain, and Canon Greenwell does not doubt that they were erected by a people who erected those burial mounds antecedently both to the Christian Era and the Roman occupation of Britain. And here to-day we pause, as regards the main question, hoping at a very early period indeed to point out to our readers what the Barrows were used for, why they were built with such care and skill, as the age permitted, and what was placed within them. But before we close this first portion of our review of a most important and enduring work, we think it right to remind our readers, as some of them, like ourselves, may have been fascinated by the same study in other years, though cares and trials, many and great, may have made us forget that old earth lore we had once essayed to master, that other writers have treated upon the same subject, though none, in our opinion, so clearly, satisfactorily, and fully as Canon Greenwell. Some of us may have pored over in other days some of the glorious volumes of Sir Richard Colt Hoare and revelled in his striking description of Wiltshire antiquities. Some of us may have seen Mr. Borlase's most interesting work, "Nenia Cornubiae," and Mr. Warne's "Celtic Tumuli of Dorset," some of us may have looked into Douglas's "Nenia Britannica," some of us may have admired Bryan Faussett's "Inventorium Sepulchrale." But still, despite many lucubrations of the past, as regards funeral rites and modes of interment, some interesting French cursory notes, we have seen some general works on interments or local essays on the remains, for instance, of Brittany, we certainly are indebted to the writer of "British Barrows" for a work which constitutes a complete collection of facts on a subject about which much has been written, but until his happy and ingenious explanation, great doubts and obscurity prevailed.

FREEMASONRY IN THE EAST.

We have, says the *Times*, been favoured with the following extract from a letter written by an Englishman of high position in Egypt:—

"Cairo, Sept. 8.

"You will remember, of course, the name of Sheikh Jamāl ed Din, whose violent articles against England were translated by Dr. Badger. This man has been lately delivering most revolutionary lectures, and has gotten together a number of disciples, in whom he has instilled principles of atheism and communism. About a fortnight ago the Sheikh was arrested and sent off to Suez, where he was placed on board a steamer bound for Jeddah. All his papers were seized by the police, and a day or two afterwards a paragraph, communicated by the Prefecture of Police, was published in the native journals. This paragraph alluded to the exile of the Sheikh, to the revolutionary principles he had taught, and to the secret society he had founded, and warned the Egyptians of the peril incurred by following such a leader, &c. Jamāl ed Din had been W.M. of our lodge, and, in consequence of his unMasonic conduct, we had applied to Grand Lodge for his expulsion. But the native Masons were filled with fear and trembling on reading the 'communiqué,' and applied to me to make matters smooth for them. Nobody would take any step. They were all afraid of coming forward and desirous that their connection with Masonry should be ignored and even denied. I did not know the

exact light in which the new Khedive would regard Masonry among the natives, but hoping to be able to convince his Highness, and relying on his own good sense, I entered the arena as the champion of Oriental Masonry.

"I obtained a private audience with the Khedive, congratulating him upon the wise step he had taken in expelling Jamāl ed Din, but hoped he would not attribute to Masonry the principles held by one member of the fraternity. He replied, 'No, on the contrary, mon Bey, I know all about it. Masonry is a society for doing good and does not enter into religion or politics; and as Jamāl ed Din would lecture on these forbidden topics you expelled him from the lodge, and for the same reason I have expelled him from Egypt. He was only here on sufferance, having been already sentenced in Constantinople to expulsion from the Ottoman dominions. You need not fear that I shall confound his principles with those of Freemasonry.'

"I thanked his Highness, but added that, although we European Masons knew that we could always justify our meetings, the natives had not the same means of making their feelings known, and it was on their behalf that I came to speak to him. His Highness replied that I might assure them of his protection so long as they acted as Masons; but that any Egyptian, whether Mason or not, who sought to cause intrigues and conspiracies would be punished. I then asked his Highness for the papers belonging to the lodge, which he promised should be restored to me.

"I subsequently drove to the lodge and found the 'Concordia' holding a meeting, in which a painful discussion was going on with regard to this business. But when I was announced I was admitted as a visitor with immense honours, and, communicating to them the substance of my conversation with the Khedive, I received the hearty thanks and applause of the meeting. And I have since received all the papers belonging to the lodge. I had only attended one meeting at which the Sheikh presided, after which there was a banquet, at which the health of the Prince of Wales was proposed. But the W.M. (Sheikh Jamāl) refused to drink it, saying that all Princes, Kings, and Khedives were tyrants. Whereupon I rose from the table, quitted the room, and wrote to the lodge, and afterwards to the Grand Lodge, for his expulsion."

"I have succeeded him by unanimous acclamation."

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The General Committee of this Institution assembled on Thursday afternoon at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. H. A. Dubois presided. There were also present Bros. James F. Corben, Col. James E. Peters, F. R. W. Hedges, Secretary, and H. Massey (*Freemason*).

After the reading and confirmation of the minutes, the recommendations of the House Committee were adopted, and notices of motion were received for the October Quarterly Court.

A letter purporting to come from Bro. Dick Radcliffe for approval of his scheme for the "Masonic Scholars' Assistance Fund" was read, but as the letter enclosing the circular was not signed, it was ordered to lie on the table.

On the motion of Col. Peters, seconded by Bro. Corben, a vote of thanks was unanimously passed to Bro. Joshua Nunn and his nephew, Mr. A. Rowland, for entertaining the children of the Institution with a vocal and instrumental concert, which several of the House Committee attended, on Monday last.

The Committee then adjourned.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. FOUNTAINE, LODGE 948.

On Wednesday, the 17th inst., the brethren of the above lodge performed the very pleasant duty of presenting Bro. Bernard Thomas Fountaine, Esq., of Stoke House, a Past Master of the lodge, with a very handsome portrait of himself. The object of the present was twofold. It was intended as a testimonial to Bro. Fountaine for the very efficient services he had rendered this his mother lodge, in acting for a long series of years as Treasurer of its funds, and in filling all the offices—even the highest—with so much distinction to himself and benefit to the lodge; and also to be a wedding present to his eldest daughter, Mrs. Fountaine, of Paris. The portrait is three-quarters in length, and most life-like, the countenance having a warm and benevolent expression. The clothing (purple and gold) is that of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Berks and Bucks, of which lodge Bro. Fountaine is a Past Grand Treasurer. The jewels depicted on his breast are indicative of the honour with which he has passed through the various degrees of Masonry. The portrait was painted by Myall, of Regent-street, and is mounted in a handsome gilt frame, with glass, surrounded by a margin of velvet. It is quite a work of art, and does much credit to the firm from which it emanates. The presentation was made at Stoke House by the Testimonial Committee, Bros. McCubbin, Poynter, King and Morgan. Bro. Fountaine, who was accompanied by Mrs. Fountaine and family, together with a few select Masonic and other friends, received the present at the hands of the Committee, and in a neat and appropriate speech expressed his pleasure and thanks on behalf of his daughter and himself. By the kindness of the host and hostess the brethren and friends dined together, and in the post-prandial speeches great desire was expressed that 'I.G.A.O.T.U.' would grant long life, happiness, and prosperity to Bro. Fountaine, and his family, as well as to the newly-wedded pair in Paris.

Bro. W. H. Saunders, of 27, Walbrook, London, will be happy to receive votes on behalf of Percy Herbert Stone, candidate for the Boys' S...

DISTRICT GRAND LODGE OF MALTA.

The half-yearly meeting was held on the 16th inst., at the Masonic Hall, La Valetta. There were present the W. Bro. A. M. Broadley, D.D.G.M., on the throne, also W. Bros. Thomas Fellowes Reade, P.D.D.G.M. for Egypt, H.B.M. Agent and Consul General for the Regency of Tunis; Rotherham, D.G.S.W.; Coffey, D.G.J.W.; Riechelmann, P.D.G.J.W.; Bro. Walker, D.G. Chaplain (acting); W. Bros. Dahu, D.G. Registrar; Read; Bros. Starkey, D.G. Sec.; Jones, D.G.S.D.; Crabtree, D.G.J.D.; Ewing, D.G. Organist (acting); Blake, D.G. Supt. of W.; Mortimer, D.G. Sword Bearer; King, Stanley, Cummings, and Miller, D.G. Stewards; several other D.G.L. Officers, and numerous brethren from the lodges in the island, as well as many from lodges working under the Irish and Scottish Constitutions, rendering this one of the most numerous attended meetings of District Grand Lodge that has hitherto been held in this island.

District Grand Lodge having been opened in due form, the Dir. of Cer. called upon all present to salute with the grand honours the D.D.G.M., Bro. Broadley, and, in obedience to the call of the same officer, all the brethren present saluted in like manner their illustrious visitor, W. Bro. T. F. Reade, P.D.D.G.M. for Egypt, &c.

The D.D.G.M. then called upon the D.G. Secretary to read the minutes of the last meeting of District Grand Lodge, held 10th April last, as well as the minutes of the Board of General Purposes, held 15th inst., both of which were confirmed in the usual manner.

The D.D.G.M. then referred in congratulatory terms to the presence in District Grand Lodge of an illustrious visitor, W. Bro. T. F. Reade, P.D.D.G.M. for Egypt, on his way from Smyrna to take up the appointment of H.B.M. Agent and Consul General for the Regency of Tunis, dwelling upon the important service he had rendered in years past to Freemasonry as W.M. of the Bulwer Lodge, No. 1068, at Cairo, and under Halim Pasha, uncle of the ex-Khedive of Egypt, as D.D.G.M. for that country. The D.D.G.M. had much pleasure in announcing that an address to W. Bro. Reade had been prepared and signed by the principal officers of District Grand Lodge, which he called upon the D.G. Secretary to read.

This having been done, the address was presented by the Dir. of Cer. to W. Bro. Reade, who expressed his deep appreciation of the kind reception he had met with, and the pleasure he felt on being present on this occasion, his gratitude for the cordial address just presented to him, and assured all present that he would spare no efforts in co-operating with the D.D.G.M., W. Bro. Broadley, to promote the welfare of the Craft in this district, and of the lodges at Tunis and the Goletta in particular.

The D.D.G.M. then addressed the meeting, regretting his inability to discharge as he would wish the duties that devolved upon him in the absence of the D.G.M., R.W. Bro. Kingston, now in England, and to whom he had caused a telegram to be sent containing the fraternal greetings of all present assembled in D.G.L. on this occasion. He referred to the general prosperity of the Craft in this district, to each of the new lodges recently formed at Tunis, and to the illustrious visitor, W. Bro. Reade. Referring to a circular issued by him in June last, he warned all the brethren in most emphatic terms to exercise the greatest care when any foreign brother presented himself for admission to their lodges, and to co-operate with their ruler, the R.W. D.G.M., Bro. Kingston, and himself to maintain and uphold the great reputation this island has attained to as a stronghold of Freemasonry. Referring to the Ancient Carthage and William Kingston Lodges at Tunis, he called upon the D.G. Secretary to read the telegrams received from them that evening containing the fraternal greetings of all present. Letters of apology for being unable to attend this meeting from W. Bro. Chev. E. Rosenbusch, P.D.D.G.M., and Bro. F. O. Rowlinson, were also read.

The acting Chaplain having offered up prayer, the D.D.G.M. closed D.G.L., and all present adjourned to the refreshment-room, where a sumptuous banquet awaited them, in the course of which, after the usual loyal and Masonic toasts had been given and duly honoured, that of "The Visitors," coupled with the name of W. Bro. T. F. Reade, P.D.D.G.M. for Egypt, &c., &c., as well as the visiting Irish and Scotch brethren, was proposed by the D.D.G.M., and received with enthusiasm.

W. Bro. Reade, in reply, confirmed, with many kindly expressions of regard and appreciation of the hearty welcome he had met with that evening, his earnest wish to promote the good of Freemasonry in the Regency of Tunis, to which he would shortly proceed.

Various other toasts followed, and the brethren separated after passing a very pleasant evening.

Royal Ark Mariners.

MALTA.—Saint Elmo Lodge.—A lodge of Royal Ark Mariners, bearing the above name, has been founded at Malta, under the auspices of the Broadley Mark Lodge. The first meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, Valetta, on the 9th inst., when the W.M.M. of the Broadley Lodge, Bro. Lieut. Charles Edward Coffey, R.A., was installed as W.C.N. of the new lodge of Royal Ark Mariners, by Bro. Chev. Edward Rosenbusch, and Bro. Captain Charles John Blake, R.A. Seventeen Mark Masters were afterwards advanced to the Degree of Royal Ark Mariners, from among whom the W.B.N. named the officers of the lodge for the ensuing year. Lodge was then closed in due and ancient form.

Wordsworth's "COCA PILLS" the successful remedy for sleeplessness, neuralgia, and Hay fever, 2s. per box. Homoeopathic Chemist, 6, Sloane-street, London.

Royal and Select Masters.

GRAND MASTERS' COUNCIL.—A meeting of this flourishing Degree was convened at the Masonic Rooms, 2, Red Lion-square, Holborn, on the 10th instant, when there were present among others Bros. T. C. Walls, R.I.D.M.; Davison, Grand Treas.; D. M. Dewar, Asst. Grand Recorder; H. C. Levander, G.L.; T. Poore, acting P.C.W.; Dr. Pearce, G. Lambert, F. Rosenthal. The minutes of the previous council having been read and confirmed, Bro. the Honourable W. T. Orde-Powlett, York Mark Lodge, &c., was duly received and admitted to the Degrees of M.E.M., R.M., S.M., and S.E.M., the four ceremonies being performed by the R.I.D.M., ably assisted by Bros. Levander, Poore, and Dewar. Some minor business having been transacted, the council was duly and formally closed, and the brethren adjourned.

Obituary.

BRO. THOMAS DURKIN.

We record with deep regret the sudden death of our Bro. Thomas Durkin, of Saint Mary's-road, Peckham, an old member and a Past Master of the Royal Jubilee Lodge, No. 72. He retired to rest, apparently in his usual good health, on the evening of Sunday, the 14th inst., and early on Monday morning he was found dead in his bed. On the previous Thursday he had presided at the meeting of the Royal Jubilee Chapter, of which he was First Principal, and the report of that meeting, held at the Horns, Kennington, appeared in our columns last week. We need hardly say that our brother's sudden death has thrown a deep gloom over the lodge and chapter, with both of which he was so intimately connected, and wherein he was most sincerely respected and beloved by his brethren and companions. Nor is it in Masonry alone that our brother's death will be lamented, but very widely indeed among a large circle of friends. He had for many years occupied the highly responsible position of Superintendent of the Bow-street division of police, and in the faithful and efficient discharge of his important duties he had found time to cultivate many warm and enduring friendships. He was widely known in his service, from which he had only recently retired, and his memory will be long preserved and cherished among those whose friend and brother he had been. His body was interred in Brompton Cemetery on Thursday, the 18th inst., and, notwithstanding the necessarily short notice, a large number of his brother Masons and others attended there to testify their respect and affection for their departed friend.

Masonic and General Tidings.

The consecration of the Shepherd's Bush Lodge (No. 1828) took place on Monday last, at the Richmond Hotel, Shepherd's Bush.

The newly-erected Masonic Hall was on Thursday week inaugurated at Portmadoc by a meeting of the Grand Provincial Lodge of North Wales and Shropshire, a large number of the Craft taking part in the proceedings.

A meeting of the Holy Palestine Preceptory of the United Religious and Military Orders of the Temple will be held on Wednesday next, the 1st prox., at the Masonic Hall, 33, Golden-square, London, W., at 6.30 p.m. punctually.

The consecration of the Brixton Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners will take place this day, at 6.30 p.m., at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell. Bro. D. M. Dewar, Asst.G. Secretary, will be the Consecrating Officer. Brethren are invited to attend.

The ceremonies of consecration and installation will be rehearsed at the Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, No. 1507, on Tuesday, 7th October, at six o'clock, by Bro. J. Terry, P.P.G.J.W. Herts, and Sec. R.M.B.L., at the Moorgate Station Restaurant, Moorgate-street. The Craft cordially invited. A cold collation will follow; tickets to be obtained from the Hon. Sec., Bro. W. M. Stiles.

The Duke of Abercorn arrived in town at the end of the past week from Homburg, accompanied by Lady Georgianna Hamilton. Lord and Lady Claud J. Hamilton have also returned from Homburg.

The question of reducing the rate of commission on foreign and colonial money orders is now under the consideration of the Postmaster-General.

It is interesting to note that in February next there will be five Sundays. This fact occurs but three times in a century. Thus, after 1880, we will have to wait until 1920 before the shortest month in the year can again boast of five Sundays.

Bro. George F. Fort, the highly esteemed author of the "Early History and Antiquities of Freemasonry," has just returned from Old England, after having successfully accomplished his literary purposes, and delighted with his reception by various eminent English brethren, including especially Bros. Woodford and Mackenzie. We never saw Bro. Fort look better than he did a day or two ago, when he honoured our sanctum with a visit.—*The Keystone* (Philadelphia).

Constitutions of the Ancient Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, containing the Charges, Regulations E.A. Song, &c. A copy should be in the possession of every brother. It may be obtained for 2s. at the office of the *Freemason*, or will be sent post free to any part of the United Kingdom on receipt of twenty-five penny stamps. Address, Publisher, 198, Fleet-street, London.—[ADVT.]

WENTWORTH LITTLE MEMORIAL.—The subscription list stands over until next week.

The Lodge of Prudent Brethren, No. 145, met at Freemasons' Hall, on Thursday, the 25th inst. The agenda contained a considerable amount of business including the election of W.M., Treasurer, &c., for the ensuing year. A banquet followed. The report will appear in our next.

WEST LANCASHIRE MASONIC EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION.—The annual Court of this Institution will be held at Morecambe on Wednesday next, the 1st October, for the purpose of receiving and determining the recommendations of the General Committee on behalf of ten boys and girls for education and two for advancement. This admirable Institution is doing good work in West Lancashire, and we congratulate the brethren of that province on its prosperous condition.

Lord and Lady de Tabley have left town for Tabley House, Cheshire, for the autumn.

The Queen has sent to Madame Cavagnari an expression of deep sympathy with her on the death of her gallant son, Sir Louis Cavagnari.

Sadler's Wells Theatre will be opened under the management of Mrs. Bateman on Thursday, October 9th, when will be produced the successful Scotch drama, "Rob Roy."

The Queen has been pleased to confer on Bro. [the Earl of Donoughmore, P.G.W., the honour of Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George.

St. George's Chapel, Windsor, was re-opened on Sunday last for divine service, after being closed for two months for renovation and cleansing, under the supervision of Bro. Sir Albert Woods, Garter King of Arms.

The garden laid out by the Corporation of London in the churchyard of St. Paul's Cathedral, was formally opened on Monday by the Lord Mayor, the Dean and Chapter being represented by the Rev. Dr. Stubbs, canon in residence.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Lionel Lawson, one of the principal proprietors of *The Daily Telegraph*, which sad event occurred on Saturday morning last, at his residence in Brook-street, W. The deceased gentleman was 56 years of age.

DISCOVERY OF A NEW PLANET.—The Astronomer Royal announces the discovery by Professor Peters, of Clinton, New York, of a minor planet of the eleventh magnitude, in the R. A. 23 hours 44 minutes; dec. 10 degrees 5 minutes south, with a daily motion of seven minutes south.

The Sunday Times states that the tomb of his late Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, which was erected in Kensal Green Cemetery by the Masonic brotherhood, owing to the very wet weather, is now in a most dilapidated condition, and likely to fall in, the ornamental iron work having given way. Her Royal Highness Princess Sophia's tomb opposite is in the same condition.

Tewkesbury Abbey Church was opened on Tuesday last, after extensive alterations according to the plans of the late Sir Gilbert Scott. There was a procession, in which the Mayor and Corporation, the Bishops of Gloucester and Hereford, and the Archdeacons of Gloucester and Hereford took part. The sermon was preached by the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol. The festival of rededication will be continued for eight days.

On Sunday last Baron F. de Rothschild had a severe fall from his horse while riding with some friends in Cheddington fields. He was conveyed to Leyton Buzzard in the carriage of Mr. Leopold de Rothschild, suffering great pain, and placed under the care of Dr. Lawford. It was discovered that the Baron's left arm was dislocated, and that he was otherwise severely shaken. The dislocation was at once reduced, and the Baron, who passed a comfortable night, is going on well, and was sufficiently recovered to be able to remove to his London house yesterday.

At a meeting of the Court of Aldermen on Tuesday the following resolution was proposed by Mr. Alderman Finnis, seconded by Alderman Sir B. Phillips, and carried unanimously:—"That this Court desires to express its deep regret that their much esteemed and respected colleague, Sir Francis W. Truscott, should have been placed in the painful position of meeting an unfounded charge of libel at the Central Criminal Court, originally preferred against him in his absence, and without his knowledge, and congratulates him on the termination of the proceedings, and this Court further expresses its regret that the present state of the law permits any man to be placed in such peril."

CONCERT AT THE GIRL'S SCHOOL.

On Monday evening last a charming concert was given at the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, at the instance of Bro. Joshua Nunn, by his nephew, W. A. Rowland. The brethren who attended were Bros. W. Roebuck, Joshua Nunn, Col. Jas. E. Peters, H. A. Dubois, Thos. Kingston, R. B. Webster, F. R. W. Heiges, Dr. Hope, and H. Massey (*Freemason*), besides whom there were several ladies.

The following is the programme of music performed:—Piano Duett, "Symphony, No. 15," Miss Goodridge and Miss Barron; Song, "Sweethearts," Mr. A. Kenningham; Violin Solo, "Adagio from 9th Concerto" Mr. Ernest Crook; Song, "The Lady of the Lea," Miss Annie Butterworth; Piano Duett, "Dion Giovanni," Lilly Bellamy and Violet Lang; Piano Solo, "Rondo in E. Flat," Ethel Hinson; Song, "Come into the garden, Maud," Mr. Alfred

Kenningham; Piano and Violin, "William Tell," Mr. T. Pettit and Mr. E. Crook; Piano Duet, "I Lombardi," Ethel Hinson and Christine Oates; Song, "Parting is sweet sorrow," Miss A. Butterworth; Piano Solo, "Fantasie Impromptu," Miss Goodridge; Violin Solo, "Finale from Concerto," Mr. E. Crook; Song, "My Pretty Jane," Mr. A. Kenningham; Piano Trio, "Airs Suisses," Mary Johnson, Cecily Jardine, and Minnie Morgan.

It will be seen from the above programme that several of the pupils of the school took part in the performance. The evening was a highly successful one, and at the conclusion of the programme the artists entertained the assembly with musical performances additional to those on the card.

Public Amusements.

ALHAMBRA.—Notwithstanding the excellent acting and good vocalisation of the artistes engaged in "The Princess of Trebizonde" at this house it falls exceedingly flat. The reason of this is to be found in the piece itself. That the plot should be wild and improbable in a comic opera is allowable, but when it degenerates into absolute foolishness, out of which not a laugh could by any chance be raised, the *raison d'être* of its existence ceases. Another reason for what we may, without exaggeration, call the complete failure of the revival of "The Princess" is to be found in the fact that it is too noisy, the noise often consisting of most objectionable laughter, and we have noticed that when the actors and actresses in any piece have to laugh much and often, the effect is very depressing on the audience, who like to be made to laugh, and not have to listen to the forced cacklings of the *dramatis personæ*. The sooner we have a change here the better.

COURT THEATRE.—This house has passed into the hands of Mr. Wilson Barrett, and we sincerely hope he will reap a rich harvest out of its management, as did his predecessor, but in order to do this Mr. Barrett must produce good original comedy or comedy-drama, and not such pieces as "Fernande," a play by no less a dramatist than Sardou. In the original, and as produced in Paris, the piece was a success, because it suited the French taste, but the adaptor in making it fit for the English boards has served up his potatoes without any salt at all, and the usual result will follow—no one will partake. Mr. Barrett will do well to make a speedy change. "Fernande" is excellently cast, and while the acting is really good all round, special praise is due to Mr. Coghlan, who as *André* made his return bow after a long sojourn in America.

THE MOHAWK MINSTRELS.—On Wednesday last the annual benefit of Bro. Percy, professionally known as Mr. Edgar Mowbray, one of the proprietors of the Mohawk Minstrels, was held in the large concert room at the Agricultural Hall, Islington. The hall was full to overflowing with a most enthusiastic audience, and everything passed off most enjoyably. The programme comprised a choice selection of nautical songs and ballads, the rendering of which was deservedly applauded. Among the contributions must be mentioned "The Arethusa," effectively sung by Mr. J. Kavanagh; a comic song entitled "Rum" by Mr. Ted Snow; and then in a similar vein "Sammy aint you glad you joined the Navy," composed and sung by Mr. F. Duriah; "Tom Bowling," given with exquisite feeling by Mr. C. Temple, "Good bye, John," rendered in his happiest style of humour by Bro. James Francis; "Black-eyed Susan," by Mr. George Eustace, and "Rocked in the Cradle of the Deep," grandly delivered by Mr. F. Dolby (Bro. Egbert Roberts). Little Frank also sang one of the principal novelties of the evening, a new song, written and composed by Bro. Percy himself, entitled "The Little Sailor Lad," while the latter, whose performance was most admirable, took the leading part in a trombone quintette, the theme being "The Death of Nelson." Afterwards a few words from the hero of the evening in the way of grateful thanks for the kindly sympathy shown him by the audience brought the entertainment to a close.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS

For the Week ending Friday, October 3, 1879.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Encampments, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or day of meeting.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27.

Lodge 1297, West Kent, Forest Hill Hot., Forest Hill.
" 1541, Alexandra Palace, Muswell Hill, N.
" 1679, Henry Muggersidge, Prince George, Park-rd., E.
" 1686, Paxton, Crystal Palace, Sydenham.
Chap. 176, Caveac, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st., E.C.
" 1044, Mid-Surrey, S.M.H. Camberwell.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-sq.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-rd.
Eccleston, King's Head, Ebury Bridge, Pimlico.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29.

Lodge 79, Pythagorean, Ship Hot., Greenwich.
" 1745, Farringdon Without, Viaduct Hot., Holborn.
Chap. 1201, Eclectic, F.M.H.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Wellington, White Swan Hot., High-st., Deptford.
St. John, Gun Hot., Wapping, 8 till 10.
Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Old Rodney's Head, Old-st., E.

Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Camden, 174, High-st., Camden Town, at 8.
Tredegar, Royal Hot., Mile-end-rd.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Upper Norwood, White Hart Hot., Church-rd., at 8.
Marquis of Ripon, Pembury Tav., Amherst-rd., Hackney.
Loughborough, Warrior Hot., Brixton.
West Smithfield, New Market Hot., West Smithfield.
St. George's, Globe Tav., Greenwich.
Doric Chapter, 248, Globe-rd., Mile-end-rd., at 8.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30.

Lodge 141, Faith, Anderton's Hot.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.
Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Prosperity, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Dalhousie, The Sisters' Tav., Pownall-rd., Dalston, E.
Florence Nightingale, F.M.H., William-st., Woolwich.
Constitutional, Bedford Hot., Southampton Bldgs., at 7.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe-rd.
Wandsworth, Spread Eagle Hot., Wandsworth.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-rd., Battersea.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.
St. John of Wapping, Gun Hot., High-st., Wapping.
Islington, Three Bucks, 23, Gresham-st., at 7 p.m.
Leopold, Gregorian Arms, Jamaica-rd., Bermondsey.
Mount Edgecumbe, 19, Jermyn-st., St. James's.
Sir Hugh Myddelton, 162, St. John's-st.-rd.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1.

Lodge 1687, Rothsay, Inn's of Court Hot.
" 1766, St. Leonard, Town Hall, Shoreditch.
Encamp. 129, Holy Palestine, M.H., 68, Regent-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Confidence, Railway Tavern, Fenchurch-st., at 7 till 9.
Urban, 23, Gresham-street, City, E.C., at 6.30.
New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-rd., N.
Mt. Lebanon, Horse Shoe Tav., Stones-End, E.
Pythagorean, Portland Hot., London-st., Greenwich.
La Tolerance, 2, Maddox-st., W., at 7.45.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-rd., Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Earl Russell, Isledon-rd., Holloway, at 8.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Sutherland Chapel, Walworth Road.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Albion-rd., N.
United Strength, Hope and Anchor, Crowndale-rd., N.W.
Whittington, Red Lion, Poppin's-court, Fleet-st., at 8.
Royal Jubilee, 81, Long Acre.
Langthorne, Swan Hot., Stratford.
Temperance in the East, George the 4th, Ida-st., Poplar, 7.30.
Thistle, M.M.M., The Harp Tav., at 8.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2.

Lodge 27, Egyptian, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 45, Strong Man, Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue.
" 192, Lion and Lamb, Cannon-st. Hot.
" 227, Ionic, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 538, La Tolerance, F.M.H.
" 554, Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
" 742, Crystal Palace, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge.
" 1178, Perfect Ashlar, Bridge House Hot.
" 1351, St. Clements Lane, 265, Strand.
" 1539, Surrey Masonic Hall, S.M.H.
" 1724, Kaiser-i-Hind, 68, Regent-st.
" 1765, Trinity College, Weymouth-st., W.
" 1772, Pimlico, Morpeth Arms Tav., Millbank.
Chap. 174, Sincerity, Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars.
Mark 199, Duke of Connaught, Havelock Hot., Dalston.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Chatham Arms, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-rd.
Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, M.H., Masons' Avenue.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-rd., Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.
Great Northern, Berwick Arms, Berners-st., Oxford-st.
Rose, Walmer Castle Hot., Peckham-rd., at 8.
Covent Garden, Ashley's Hot., Covent Garden, at 8.
Crusaders, St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, at 9.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3.

Lodge 706, Florence Nightingale, M.H., Woolwich.
" 890, Hornsey, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 1627, Royal Kensington, F.M.H.
" 1716, All Saints', Town Hall, Poplar.
Mark 8, Thistle, 2, Westminster Chambers.
" 223, West Smithfield, New Market Hot.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

London Masonic Club, 101, Queen Victoria-st., E.C.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Harp Tav., Jermyn-st., W.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-rd., Deptford.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st., at 7.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Westbourne, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-rd.
St. James's, Gregorian Arms, Jamaica-rd., S.E.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, 79, Whitechapel-rd., at 8.
Burgoyne, The Red Cap, Camden Town, N.W.
St. Luke's, White Hart, King's-rd., Chelsea.
Chigwell, Prince's Hall, Buckhurst-hill.

Royal Standard, The Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's-rd., N.
Ranelagh, Bell and Anchor, Hammersmith-rd.
Finsbury Park, Earl Russell, Isledon-rd., Holloway, at 8.
William Preston, Feathers Tav., Up. George-st., Edgware-rd.
Earl of Carnarvon, Mitre Hot., Goulbourne-rd., Notting-hill.
Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
Pythagorean Chapter, Portland Hot., London-st., Greenwich.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, October 4, 1879.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29.

Lodge 148, Lights, M.H., Warrington.
" 613, Unity, Palatine-bdgs., Southport.
" 703, Clifton, Clifton Arms, Blackpool.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30.

Lodge 897, Loyalty, Fleece Inn, St. Helen's.
" 986, Hesketh, Grapes Inn, Croston.
" 1256, Fidelity, Bull Hot., Poulton-le-Fylde.
Chap. 721, Grosvenor, M.R., Chester.
Merchants L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1.

Prov. Grand Lodge of West Lancashire, Morecambe.
Prov. Grand Chapter of West Lancashire, Morecambe.
Lodge 1013, Victoria, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1061, Triumph, M.H., Lytham.
" 1086, Walton, Skelmersdale H., Liverpool.
" 1335, Lindsay, M.H., Wigan.
" 1354, Marquis of Lorne, M.R., Leigh.
" 1403, W. Lancashire, Commercial Hot., Ormskirk.
" 1620, Marlborough, Derby Hot., Liverpool.
Chap. 477, Fidelity, M.R., Birkenhead.
" 1356, De Grey and Ripon, M.H., Liverpool.
De Grey and Ripon L. of I., 80, N. Hill-st., Liverpool.
Downshire L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2.

Lodge 249, Mariners, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1473, Bootle, A.R., Bootle.
Chap. 758, Bridgewater, M.H., Runcorn.

Alpass Encamp., M.H., Liverpool.
St. John's L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
Duke of Edinburgh L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3.

Lodge 680, Sefton, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.
" 1375, Architect, Didsbury Hot., Didsbury.
Hamer L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EAST LANCASHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, October 4, 1879.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29.

Lodge 467, Tudor, F.H., Union-st., Oldham.
Mark 143, Birchall, Bull Hot., Preston.
" 146, Moore, M.R., Athenæum, Lancaster.

St. James of Jerusalem Preceptory, F.H., Church Institute, Bolton.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30.

Lodge 126, Silent Temple, Cross Keys, Burnley.
" 1774, Mellor, Railway Hot., Guide Bridge.
Plains of Tabor Preceptory, Swan Hot., Colne.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1.

Lodge 128, Prince Edwin, Bridge Inn, Bury.
" 210, Duke of Athol, Bowling Green Hot., Denton.
" 274, Tranquillity, Boar's Head, Newchurch.
" 298, Harmony, M.R., Ann-st., Rochdale.
" 363, Keystone, New Inn, Whitworth.
" 645, Humphrey Chetham, F.M.H., Manchester.
" 678, Earl Ellesmere, Church Hot., Kersley, Farmworth, Bolton.

" 992, St. Thomas, Griffin Hot., Lower Broughton.
Chap. 300, Perseverance, Pitt & Nelson Hot., Ashton-under-Lyne.

Mark 36, Furness, Hartington Hot., Barrow-in-Furness.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2.

Lodge 215, Commerce, Commercial Hot., Haslingden.
" 266, Naphtali, M.H., Market-place, Heywood.
" 269, Fidelity, White Bull Hot., Blackburn.
" 300, Minerva, Pitt & Nelson Hot., Ashton-under-Lyne.
" 317, Affability, F.M.H., Manchester.
" 346, United Brethren, Windmill Inn, Samlesbury.
" 350, Charity, Grapes Inn, Stoneclough.
" 369, Limestone Rock, M.H., Church-st., Clitheroe.
" 462, Bank Terrace, Hargreaves Arms, Accrington.
" 1012, Prince of Wales, Derby Hot., Bury.
" 1504, Red Rose of Lancaster, Starkies Arms Hot., Padiham, Burnley.

Chap. 116, Cana, Swan Hot., Colne.

" 581, Rectitude, Corporation Inn, Ardwick.

Mark 158, Rose and Thistle, Masonic Rooms, Wigan.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3.

Lodge 44, Friendship, F.M.H., Manchester.

" 219, Prudence, M.H., Todmorden.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4.

Lodge 1458, Truth, Conservative Club, Newton Heath.

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(LETTER FROM THE PREMIER TO "PUNCH.")

Oh, my dear Mr. Punch, what a fuss, what a clatter,
People talk of naught else but the Practical Hatter;
If you're speaking of Gladstone, the Budget, the Queen,
This Practical Hatter is brought on the scene,
And the "Telegraph," "Echo," the "Standard" & "Times,"
All have leaders on Thomas's Hats and his Rhymes,
Whilst the Editors swear "when in Thomas's Castor
Their ravings flow brighter, and lighter, and faster;"
And I hear Tupper, Tennyson, Ruskin, Carlyle,
Have offered him odes and critiques by the mile;
With no other return for their essays and lays

Than his finding them Hats for the rest of their days.
So I felt half inclined, since they've made such a row
'Gainst the "penny gold wreath" to encircle my brow,
The pleasure of wearing at once to forego,
And exchange it away for a Thomas' Chapeau.
For, to tell you the truth, my dear Punch, I've a dread
Of any more weight being placed on my head,
And as Thomas's Hats are so easy and soft,
Whilst the wreath will be hard and not easily doffed,
If Thomas is willing, I'll readily yield
The wreath for a hat. Ever yours—Beaconsfield.

F. THOMAS, PRACTICAL HATTER, 167, FLEET-STREET, LONDON.

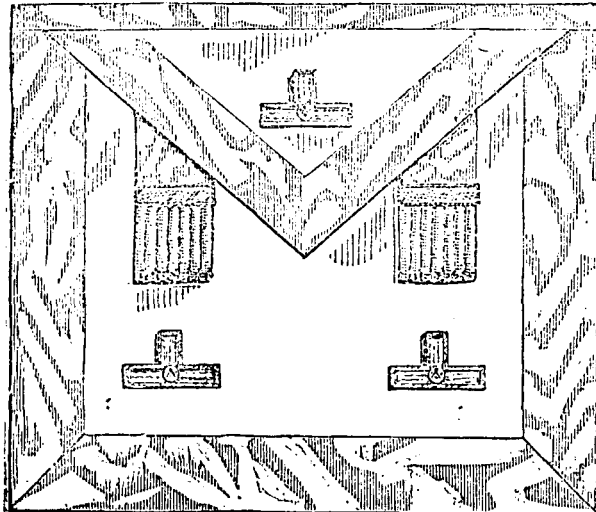
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