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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.

DOMATIC LODGE (No. 177).—This lodge, one of the largest, if not the largest, lodge in the Craft, met at Anderson's Hotel, on Friday, the 12th inst. Among those present were Bros. Spink, W.M.; Harris, S.W.; Maclean, J.W.; G. Everett, P.M., Treas.; Morris, Sec.; Jennings, Asst. Sec.; White, I.P.M.; Herbage, S.D.; Keeler, J.D.; Foxcroft, I.G.; Pierpoint, D.C.; Walford, P.M.; Kent, P.M.; Buscall, P.M.; Ferguson, P.M.; F. Smith, P.M.; H. Potter, P.M. Among the visitors were Bros. Walter, P.M. 87; Leah, P.M. 193; Butt, P.M. 700; Phillips, P.M. 975; Draper, P.M. 1305; Fowler, P.M. 1305; Somers, P.M. 1602; Stiles, P.M. 1732; Hudson, 2; Millward, 179; Coleman, 192; Bailey, 201; Wynn, 201; Clancey, 199; Read, 913; Abrahams, 1178; Cleghorn, 1287; Saunders, 1328; Legg, 1348; Mozley, 1426; Taylor, 1441; McPherson, 1772; T. C. Walls, P.M. 1381, P.G. S.B. Middx. (*Freemason*.) The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. Walmesley was raised to the Degree of M.M., and Messrs. J. Cross and J. S. Wood initiated into Craft mysteries, both ceremonies being performed most effectively. The following notice of motion was then introduced by Bro. Kent, P.M.: "That an entertainment be given by this lodge, in one of the summer months, to which ladies may be invited, and that a Committee be appointed to make the necessary arrangements." In proposing this resolution the speaker called the attention of the brethren to the happy results that had attended the last gathering of the lodge at the Star and Garter Hotel, Richmond, in the summer of 1879, and he had every reason to believe that if the proposed "outing" this year were sanctioned by the lodge it would be equally as successful. This motion having been seconded, was carried with only one dissentient. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren, to the number of 100, partook of a banquet in the large hall of the hotel. After "The Queen and Craft," which toast was most loyally honoured, the W.M. proposed in brief but pertinent terms the other customary pledges. In giving "The Health of the W.M.," the I.P.M. said that Bro. Spink was a very efficient occupant of the chair of K.S., and he was pleased that the prognostications indulged in on the night of the Worshipful Master's election as to his "working" capabilities had been amply verified. Whether in the lodge or at the banquet, the W.M. was so thoroughly self-possessed that it was quite a pleasure to listen to him. In concluding his remarks the I.P.M. trusted that the W.M.'s predecessors in office would be equally as efficient as he—the Worshipful Master—undoubtedly was. The Worshipful Master, in reply, expressed his best and heartfelt thanks to the I.P.M. for the very kind way in which he had proposed his health, and to the brethren for the exceedingly enthusiastic manner that they had responded to it. At the termination of his year of office he hoped to be able to hand over the chair to his successor as pure and unsoiled as he had received it from the I.P.M. He then called the attention of the brethren to the fact that he had accepted the office of Steward at the forthcoming festival of the Girls' School, and, notwithstanding the lodge had kindly voted him £25 to head his list, he hoped that the brethren would largely supplement that amount by individual subscriptions. At this juncture the Deacons took round the list, and the W.M. was able to announce upon their return that the total donations upon the list amounted to upwards of £60. "The Health of the Initiates" followed, and this important toast was briefly acknowledged by Bros. Cross and Wood. In giving "The Visitors," the W.M. indulged in some very complimentary remarks, and coupled the toast with the names of Bros. Leah, Stiles, Draper, Saunders, and Walls, who severally responded. The toast of "The Past Masters" came next in order, and was acknowledged at length by Bros. White, Walford, Ferguson, Kent, and Buscall. In proposing

"The Health of the Treasurer and Secretary," the W.M. said that every member of the lodge entertained great respect and admiration for Bro. Everett, who held the dual positions of Past Master and Treasurer. He hoped that their esteemed brother would continue for many years to occupy the post of Treasurer, because he (the W.M.) was convinced that no member of the lodge was better qualified to hold the office. (Hear, hear.) The post of Secretary in so large a lodge as the Domatic was no sinecure, and, notwithstanding the very great amount of labour necessarily entailed upon the holder of it, Bro. Morris had fully answered their expectations. This toast having been received with "fire," Bros. Everett and Morris briefly replied. "The Officers" followed, and this toast was responded to by Bros. Harris, Herbage, and Foxcroft. During the evening the brethren were vocally entertained by Bros. Millward, Stiles, and others. The Tyler having been called upon to discharge his duty, the proceedings terminated.

THE GREAT CITY LODGE (No. 1426).—

The last meeting of the session of the above lodge was held on Saturday, the 13th inst., at the Cannon-street Hotel, and, as usual, was numerously attended. Bros. G. W. Blackie, W.M.; Freeman, P.M., S.W. (pro tem.); Hamer, J.W.; the assistant officers, a great body of members, and the following visitors: Bros. C. W. Percival, W.M. 1607; C. W. Noehmer, P.M. 186; R. A. Wright, P.M. 1504; J. Tickle, P.M. 1196; Francis Guia, 32; W. J. Morris, 72; R. Wellard, 147; Jas. Hadington, J.D. 217; Henry A. Johnson, 869; J. Vincent, 1067; J. Lawrence, 1326; J. Hurdell, 1348; Ion Eastgate, 1563; D. King, J.W. 1672; Fred. Stevens, 1669; Chas. Lawrence, 1804; W. Middleton, 139; Jno. French, 217; and W. B. Bliscoe, 1458. The lodge was opened soon after three o'clock, when Bro. N. B. Headon, P.M. and acting Secretary, read the minutes of the last lodge, which were confirmed. The lodge was then opened in the Second and Third Degrees, and Bro. Murdock, who had undergone a preliminary examination, was impressively raised by the W. Master to the Degree of a M.M. The lodge was then resumed to the Second Degree, and Bro. Jury was passed to the Degree of F.C., the W. Master showing his proficiency in the different ceremonies. The lodge having been resumed to the First Degree, the W.M. called upon the acting Secretary to read the bye-laws as required by the Book of Constitutions. The next business was the election of a W. Master for the ensuing year, and as Bro. Catchpole, the S.W., resigned that appointment at the last lodge on account of business engagements, the next in turn was Bro. Hamer, the J.W., who has passed through all the minor offices of the lodge. A ballot was taken, and, with one vote excepted, was unanimously in favour of the Junior Warden, who thanked the brethren for the favour they had conferred upon him, and expressed his determination to do everything in his power to deserve the confidence they had placed in him. The election of a Treasurer next followed, which proved unanimous in favour of Bro. Headon, and there was a similar result in the case of the Tyler, Bro. Steedman, P.M., being unanimously elected to that office. The Auditors of the accounts of the lodge were then appointed. On the motion of Bro. Greening it was unanimously resolved, "That the usual jewel of the lodge be presented to Bro. Blackie, W.M., on the completion of his year of office." Some other business having been disposed of, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment. At the conclusion of the report the W. Master gave the first toast, "The Queen and the Craft," which was loyally responded to. The W. Master said the next toast he had to propose was one that was always heartily responded to by Freemasons, as it was "The Health of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Most Worshipful Grand Master." There was no doubt whatever as to the great interest he took in Freemasonry, that might be taken for granted, as he has given his permission to be elected as Grand Master to occupy the chair for the ensuing year. During the time he had occupied the chair Freemasonry had flourished, and would continue to flourish as long as he held that position. The toast was cordially responded to. The W.M. next gave "The Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon, the Deputy Grand Master, Lord Skelmersdale, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Past and Present." Bro. Stevens, P.M., in proposing "The Health of the W. Master," alluded to the courteous and exemplary manner in which Bro. Blackie had carried out the duties of the chair as one of the founders of the lodge. That was the last time their W. Master, Bro. Blackie, would preside at the banquet, and he might be permitted to say that as one of the backbones of the lodge no one had excelled him in the pleasant manner in which he had carried out his duties during the past twelve months. The W. Master, in responding, said he had been overpaid for anything he had done in their service, and having elected him to fill a dignified position he had endeavoured to fulfil the duties of the chair to the best of his ability, and he hoped that he had done so to their satisfaction. If they were satisfied he could not be otherwise. In all matters that had come under his notice he had always considered the interests of the lodge, and had done what he believed to be right, without consulting one side or the other. That was the last time he should occupy that position at the banquet table, and he thanked them one and all for the support they had given him, but there was one matter he had yet to do before closing his year of office, and that was to represent the lodge at the next festival for the Girls' School. He had given in his name to serve as Steward on that occasion, and he was happy to say that he had received very liberal subscriptions from the brethren, including the twenty-five guineas voted by the lodge he had a total of seventy-five guineas. In the circular that had been sent out he had invited subscriptions from the general members, but it had not met with

much response, as times were bad, but if they could not qualify themselves as Life Governors or Annual Subscribers, he should be glad to receive such sums as five shillings, which, added together, would give votes to the lodge, and he should have been glad if he could have increased his list to three figures. He concluded by thanking the brethren for the very hearty manner in which the toast had been received. The Worshipful Master said The Great City Lodge was always glad to see a good gathering of visitors, and they gave them a hearty welcome. Many of those present he had had the pleasure of seeing before, and in meeting them again it gave him an assurance that they were satisfied with the reception they had before received. Bro. Kibblé, J.D., favoured the brethren with a choice song, which was highly applauded. Several of the visitors returned thanks. Bro. Headon, P.M., said he had obtained possession of the W. Master's gavel to propose a special toast, and that was "The Health of Bro. Parker," and to wish him "God speed" in parting with him. That brother was about to leave England for a time, and he was going to see whether there was any gold still left in Australia, whether there were any diamonds in New Zealand, or whether there was anything worth taking away from America. Should he find nothing worth while there he was going to call in to see what the Zulus were doing in South Africa. He was going to all those places, and perhaps he might drop in amongst the Affghans; but he believed that when he got amongst the Zulus he would meet Masons who, at any rate, would give him a warm reception, and if he did not get a warm reception it would not be because he did not deserve it. He was not jesting, as it was a serious matter when a man left his native country to see where his fortune was to be made, but he hoped that, like the Germans who went out on a similar errand, he would come back to his native land. He should, therefore, ask the brethren to drink his health, wishing him health, happiness, and prosperity, a happy journey, and a safe return to his native country. (Cheers.) Bro. Parker said he felt very deeply the words that had fallen from their brother Treasurer. It was his purpose to visit as many lodges as he could during his journey, and he hoped he should be able to obtain improved health on his visit to the Antipodes. The W. Master said the next toast he had to propose was "The Past Masters of the Lodge," who had all done good suit and service in their time. He had before him their Immediate Past Master (Bro. Freeman), who was willing to take any subordinate position. They had Bro. Headon, acting Secretary and Treasurer to the lodge; Bro. Seex, who had done good work in his time, and had the welfare of the lodge at heart; then there was Bro. Stanway, whom he was pleased to see amongst them that night, as important business had for some time kept him from them, but although not present with them in person he was in spirit. He also referred to Bro. Stevens, who was their first W.M. As they did not often see Bro. Stanway, he should couple his name with the toast. Song by Bro. Shaw. Bro. Stanway begged to return thanks for the very kind response the brethren had made to the toast of the Past Masters, but he wished it had been placed in the hands of one more able to do justice to it. He was glad to see so many happy faces round their social board, and it was a great pleasure to him to be in the lodge to see the working of their W. Master, and it must have cost him a great amount of study to fulfil the duties, and the ritual received additional grace from the manner it had fallen from his lips. The W. Master said he had great pleasure in proposing the next toast, which was "The Health of the W. Master Elect." In the W.M. elect he believed that they would have a brother who would occupy the chair in a proper and efficient manner. It was a great honour at all times for a brother to be placed in that position, but in this case there was an especial honour, as he would be the first initiate of the lodge who had arrived at the chair. He was sure that he was the sort of man who would feel the responsibility of the situation, and would also feel the necessity of keeping up the good working of the lodge; and, from what he knew of him, he believed he would accomplish the task, and do the work to the satisfaction of every brother. He had no fear that in his hands the prestige of the lodge would lose any of its lustre during his reign. He hoped he would have a successful year, and have the support of all the members as all Masters have had from the first. He was sure he must feel it to be an honour to be elected to that high office, and he wished him health and prosperity, that the officers would give him the same support as he (the W.M.) had received, and any time or services he could offer were at his disposal. Recitation by Bro. Clarke. Bro. Hamer, W.M. elect, said he thanked the W. Master for the very hearty manner in which he had proposed his health, and he thanked the brethren also for having so responded to it. He might truly say that he felt the honour and he felt the responsibility. He confessed that he had an ambition to occupy the chair, and he thought it a laudable ambition for one initiated in the lodge to occupy that position. He would do to the utmost of his ability to carry out the duties, and he trusted that any shortcomings on his part would meet with their indulgence. The W.M. said all the members of The Great City Lodge knew how much they were indebted to Bro. Headon for the present proud position of the lodge, and he continued his services to the present day. He was the first originator of the lodge who first conceived the idea of its existence, and with the assistance of several brethren as founders, it was brought into bearing. From the time he first conceived the idea of founding this lodge he had been a hard worker for its interests. He had occupied the Wardens' and the Master's chairs, and while in that of the Master he did more work than any other Master had done or ever would do again. Since he had been their Treasurer he had taken good care of their funds, and had given great assistance to all Worshipful Masters

who had sat in the chair. As long as he occupied that position their funds would always be in a healthy state, as they ought to be, so that there might be some check upon the Worshipful Master, who, while making good speeches was sometimes inclined to make a plunge into expenses, while there were other things to be considered, and, therefore, all Worshipful Masters should be guided by him, as he had been. In addition to his duties as Treasurer, being left without a Secretary, he (the W.M.) did not know how he should have got on unless Bro. Headon had assisted him, and performed the duties of Secretary. He concluded by proposing "The Health of Bro. Headon, their Treasurer and acting Secretary." Bro. Headon, in replying, said he had again to thank them for the manner in which they had received the toast of the Treasurer, which was in a manner in which they always received it. It was difficult to express himself so frequently, for when once a man had given expression to his feelings he had little to say, unless the circumstances were altered. He, however, thanked them cordially for their kind sentiments, and for the confidence they placed in him by again electing him as their Treasurer. He had taken great interest in the lodge, and if he could do so in the future it would delight him, and any services he could render would be at their command. Their Worshipful Master had been deprived of the services of a very able Secretary, but he had done all he could to assist him in carrying on the work, and he hoped that nothing had been wanting or any shortcomings observed. He again thanked them for the honour of electing him as Treasurer; he would look after the cash, give the best advice he could to the Worshipful Master, and see the interests of the lodge cared for in every way. Some other toasts were given, and a very pleasant evening was passed.

METROPOLITAN LODGE (No. 1507).—The last meeting of this lodge for the session was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Wednesday, the 17th inst. The lodge was opened in due form by the W.M., Bro. C. J. Scales, supported by Bros. W. Side, S.W.; W. M. Stiles, J.W.; J. Douglass, I.P.M.; J. Willing, P.M., Treas.; R. T. Kingham, P.M.; J. J. Michael, Sec.; H. Stiles, J.D.; G. Clark, I.G.; H. Lovegrove, D.C.; G. W. Brummell, W.S.; T. Gilbert, jun., Steward; and J. Daly, Tyler. After the reading and confirmation of the minutes, the lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and Bros. R. W. Fraser and J. Barnard answered the usual questions, and were afterwards raised to the Degree of Master Mason. Bros. Everett, Chant, and Rowley were passed to the Second Degree. The next business was the election of W.M. for the ensuing year, when Bro. Side, who has since the formation of the lodge filled the various subordinate offices, was unanimously elected, and thanked the brethren for their expression of confidence. Bro. J. Willing, jun., was re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. J. Daly Tyler. Bros. Cruikshanks, Edmunds, Beattie, and Runey were elected on the Audit Committee. A Past Master's jewel, of the value of ten guineas, was voted to Bro. Scales, W.M. It was decided to hold the usual summer festival. After the completion of the business, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet. Among the members present we noticed Bros. Runey, Edwards, Bates, Dimsdale, F. Dimsdale, Little, Ormiston, Ford, Fortescue, Jones, Perks, Cruikshanks, Edmunds, Beattie, and many others. Bros. H. Levy, P.M.; W. Stoer, P. Stoer, B. K. Kauffman, L. Jacobs, Silvester, Humphreys, and others were visitors.

TEMPLE BAR LODGE (No. 1728).—The regular meeting of this new and prosperous lodge was held on Thursday, the 18th inst., at Anderton's Hotel. There were present Bros. Chas. Butcher, W.M.; Thos. W. C. Bush, I.P.M.; A. Haley, S.W.; G. Adamson, Treasurer; J. Ryworthy, S.D.; W. Woodward, J.D.; G. S. Recknell, I.G.; R. Kimpton, D.C.; E. Carter, W.S.; Dixon, J. P.M.; G. E. Smith, W. W. Codd, E. Stubbs, C. A. Mackrell, P. Lehany, J. W. Chapman, S. W. Langley, H. Schore, Charles G. Andrew, Blek, Gathercole, and others. Visitors: Bros. J. H. Ross, P.M. Franquillity, 185; George Perry, S.W. Tyrian, 1110. After the confirmation of the minutes of the previous meeting, Bros. Codd and Smith were passed to the Degree of F.C. by the W.M. Mr. Silverthorne was initiated into the mysteries of the Order by Bro. Thomas W. C. Bush, I.P.M., by special desire. At the previous meeting of the lodge a committee was appointed to revise the bye-laws, and having given their report, the alterations suggested were unanimously adopted by the members. The Secretary having resigned, Bro. Thomas W. C. Bush, I.P.M., was invested by the W.M. with the collar of that office, to the great satisfaction of the brethren. The dinner was very satisfactorily served by Bro. Clemow, and the enjoyment of the evening was enhanced by some excellent singing by Bros. Lehany, Recknell, Silverthorne, Ryworthy, and others, Bro. Schore presiding very ably at the piano.

MANCHESTER.—Caledonian Lodge (No. 204).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, on Wednesday the 10th inst. The brethren met at six o'clock and partook of tea, which was served in the good style for which this hall is famous. At 6.45 they assembled in the lodge room, and amongst their number were the following: Bros. G. T. Mullock, W.M.; John Roberts, I.P.M.; Wm. Bagnall, S.W.; Thos. Fairrie, J.W.; R. L. Spencer, Sec.; John L. Hind, Treas.; J. Sutcliffe, S.D.; Ed. Orrell, J.D.; Thos. Sawyer, I.G.; J. Sly, Tyler; R. A. Eldershaw, P.M.; J. Battye, P.M.; B. Taylor, H. Palden, Jno. Cliffe, Chas. Duckworth, Samuel Lawton, W. Aldred, C. Stanley, and Thos. Guest. Visitors: Bros. H. T. Warren, P.M. 44; and R. R. Lisenden, 317 (Freemason). The lodge was opened with prayer, and the minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, a very pleasing duty

then devolved upon the W.M. viz. to present to Bros. R. A. Eldershaw, P.M., and John Roberts, I.P.M., a testimonial on behalf of the lodge for their efficient and valuable services. The testimonial took the form of a handsome marble clock to each. The one presented to Bro. Eldershaw had the accompaniment of a pair of bronze figures, while that given to Bro. Roberts was without the figures, but of a larger kind. In making the presentation to these two highly esteemed brethren. Bro. Mullock dwelt upon the merit and ability of each, and how well and faithfully each had served the lodge. In thanking the brethren for their handsome present, Bro. Eldershaw remarked that he should highly prize it. Whatever he had done for the good of the lodge he could truly say it had always been a pleasure to him, and during the nine years he had been a member he had only been absent from the meetings once. He trusted he might long be spared to be of service to the lodge, and he assured them he should never tire in his energies for its welfare, and should hand down their handsome present as a heirloom to his children. Bro. P.M. Roberts, in thanking the brethren for their gift, said he received it with sincere gratitude, and need scarcely say how highly he should prize it. It had truly been a great delight to him since he was admitted a member of the Caledonian Lodge to render it every service he possibly could. He had certainly been absent from the lodge on more occasions than Bro. Eldershaw, but not more than three altogether, and the cause of his absence on two out of those three occasions was through illness. He had always made it a study how to promote the welfare of his lodge, and nothing ever pained him more than when he was obliged, through illness, to absent himself from his lodge duties. On the last occasion that he was absent they all knew it was a red-letter day with their lodge, namely, the St. John's; he was very ill, and confined to his bed, and had it not been for his doctor's peremptory orders to remain at home he should at all hazards have been amongst them, but his heart was with them the whole time, and he should certainly not have slept so well had not two of his brethren paid him a visit after they left the lodge, and informed him of the day and evening's proceedings. Now that he was their I.P.M., and his labours virtually ended, he felt like a fish out of water, and as anxious to be doing something as he had ever been, and he should be delighted to begin again, and act as Steward if they wished it. In conclusion, Bro. Roberts thanked them once more for their present, and said that whenever he cast his eyes upon it on his mantelpiece it would bring to his mind the many happy hours he had spent with them. Some discussion with regard to the soirée, which was abandoned in favour of a picnic, to take place early in the summer, ensued, after which "Hearty good wishes" were expressed by the visitors, and the lodge was closed in peace and harmony at 8.30.

BOLTON.—St. John's Lodge (No. 221).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 17th inst., at the Commercial Hotel, Town Hall-square, when there were present Bros. Henry Stead, W.M.; J. L. Aldred, S.W.; Jabez Boothroyd, J.W.; G. P. Brockbank, P.M., P.Prov. G.S.D., Treas.; Thos. Mitchell, Prov. G. Tyler, Sec.; Jno. Isherwood, as S.D.; Edwin Melrose, J.D.; Joseph Peel, I.G.; Thos. Higson, Tyler; Whitaker, P.M.; Crompton, Wadeson, Cosgrave, Nicholson, W.M. 1723, and Bradburn. The lodge was opened at half-past six, when the minutes of the preceding meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was then opened in the Second Degree, when Bro. Crompton, having passed his examination, retired. Lodge was then opened in the Third Degree. Bro. Crompton re-admitted and raised to the Degree of M.M., by Bro. Nicholson, W.M. 1723. The lodge was then closed to the First Degree, when a candidate was balloted for and approved, and another candidate proposed for initiation. Bro. Brockbank reported that he and two other Past Masters, Bros. Taylor and Stanley, attended the last meeting of Grand Lodge in London, along with Bros. Mills, 37, and John Morris, 146, so that four lodges in Bolton were then represented. The lodge was closed at eight p.m.

SALISBURY.—Elias de Derham Lodge (No. 586).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 11th inst., at the Masonic Hall, New Canal. The lodge was opened at eight o'clock, when the following members were present: Bros. C. H. Card, W.M., in the chair; A. Tucker, I.P.M.; W. C. Powning, P.M., S.W.; J. Hannan, J.W.; T. S. Fletcher, Treas., as Sec.; T. E. Bartlett, S.D.; G. W. Wiltshire, as J.D.; J. T. Calkin, as I.G.; F. Goodridge, Asst. Tyler; R. Stokes, P.M., P.P.G.J.W. Wilts.; J. Folliott, H. W. Larkam, G. Wilkes, T. Harwood, C. C. Miles. Visitors: Bros. Canham, 491; and Brown, 106. The minutes of the previous lodge having been read and confirmed, the E.A. charge was delivered by Bro. Powning, S.W., to Bro. Miles, after which he was examined as to the progress he had made in Masonry, and it being satisfactory, he was intrusted and dismissed for preparation. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, when Bro. Miles was re-admitted and passed to the Fellow Craft Degree by the W.M., who also gave the charge. The lodge was closed in the Second Degree. "Hearty good wishes" having been expressed by the visiting brethren, the lodge was closed at 9.30 in peace and harmony.

DERBY.—Arboretum Lodge (No. 731).—The anniversary meeting of this lodge and the installation of the Worshipful Master for the ensuing year took place on Wednesday, the 10th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Gower-street. The lodge was opened at six o'clock, and the following members were present:—Bros. W. Cooper, W.M.; J. Brown, P.M., P.P.J.G.D.; H. Burn, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W.; T. R. Gee, P.M., P.P.G.D.C.; G. T. Wright, P.M., P.P.G.J.W.; R. Bennett, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W.; J. C.

Merry, P.M., P.P.G.D.C.; J. Smith, P.M., P.P.G.J.W.; A. Frazer, S.W.; W. Whittaker, J.W.; Burton, Treas.; Cay, Sec.; Bland, S.D.; Day, D.C.; Copestick and Horne, Stewards; Hodgson, Fone, Stevens, Caborn, Ascott, Ball, Tyler; Popplewell, Lewis, Coulthurst, Orme, and Spreckley. The following visitors were also present:—Bros. Ward, I.P.M. 253; Robinson, W.M. 253; Bockey, Sec. 253; Bextall, W.M. 1085; Pipes, P.M. 1085, P.G.D.C.; Ball, J.W. 802; Belfield, Sec. 802; Glover, I.G. 802; Such, 802; Piper, 802; Wallis, J.W. 850; Bailey, W.M. 624; Lennox, P.M. 1405; Stocker, P.M. 493, P.P.G.S.D. Gloucester; Cooper, 697; Wilson, I.G. 1028; Bull, 624; and Whitchurch, 993. After the reading of the minutes of the last meeting, the ceremony of installation of the new Master was proceeded with, Bro. Brown, P.M., being the Installing Master, who, it is needless to say, did the ceremony in a very impressive manner. Bro. Frazer, S.W., was duly presented, and took the usual obligations, when all below the rank of a Master retired. After Bro. Frazer had been duly placed in the chair of King Solomon, the brethren re-entered the lodge, and gave the customary salutes to the new W.M., who appointed as his officers Bros. Cooper, I.P.M.; Whittaker, S.W.; Bland, J.W.; Burton, Treas.; Cay, Sec.; Day, S.D.; Webster, J.D.; Brown, P.M., as D.C.; Copestick, I.G.; Lewis and Tyler, Stewards. The W.M. having received the congratulations of the visitors, and the remainder of the business being concluded, the lodge was closed in the usual manner, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet hall. Bro. Frazer, W.M., took the chair, and was well supported by the P.M.'s and W.M.'s of the Arboretum and other lodges. The usual Masonic toasts of "The Queen;" "The Grand Master;" "The Officers of Grand Lodge;" "The Prov. G.M., the Marquis of Hartington;" "The D. Prov. G.M., Bro. Okeover, P.P.G.W. Eng.;" "The Officers of Prov. Grand Lodge" having been given, "The Health of the W.M." was given by the S.W., who said that he hoped the brethren would rally round the Master during his year and give evidence by their presence of the interest they took in the prosperity of the lodge; he was quite sure that the previous performances of the W.M. were a sufficient guarantee that the work of the lodge would be efficiently done, and the pleasure of doing that work would be very much enhanced if he was supported by the attendance of the members. He wished him a very happy and prosperous year. The toast was very heartily received, and Bro. Frazer, in responding, delivered a very interesting discourse on the advantages that they almost unconsciously received from Freemasonry, giving several illustrations of the many ways in which its grand principles might be realised; how brother might meet brother in lodge a perfect stranger, expecting never to see him more; but there were occasions when that brother's presence and influence might be felt. He had then in his mind an instance of a brother from a far-off land who had visited the Arboretum Lodge, and whom he met casually some time after at a railway-station, and that meeting was of so pleasant a character, and infused such a gleam of sunshine into his heart, as to enable him to dispel the gloom of a very dark winter day. He thanked the brethren for the great honour they had conferred upon him that day, and promised that his best efforts should be used to promote the prosperity of the lodge during the time he occupied the chair. Bro. Frazer, W.M., then proposed "The Health of the I.P.M., Bro. Cooper," and after referring to the kindly way in which he had always acted with the brethren, expressed the satisfaction he had at the end of Bro. Cooper's year of being able to tell him that so well had his work been done, and so highly was he esteemed, that he had the great pleasure of presenting him, in the name of the lodge, with a Past Master's jewel, which he hoped to see on his breast for many years in the Arboretum Lodge. Bro. Cooper, in responding, thanked the brethren for their kindness to him; he could not say that he was always satisfied with his work as Master of the lodge, but they knew that he had reasons for not being able to do so well as he should have liked. He was very proud of the handsome jewel just presented to him, and viewed it as the emblem of very pleasant associations; and now that he had retired from the chair he wished to express his obligations to the Past Masters, officers, and brethren for their hearty support during the past year. "The Health of the Past Masters of the Lodge" was proposed by Bro. Cay, who drew a fancy picture, in which he detailed their several services to the lodge. Bro. Brown, P.M., responded, thanking the brethren for the hearty way in which they had received the toast, and Bro. Wright, P.M., hoped the fancy picture of Bro. Cay would take a practical form, and that they would see the portraits of the Past Masters of the lodge round the room. "The Health of the Visitors," "The Officers of the Lodge," and the Tyler's toast brought to a conclusion one of the most successful meetings of the lodge.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—Holmesdale Lodge (No. 874).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Pump Room, on the 17th inst. The W.M., Bro. A. D. M. Williams, presided, and the other brethren present were Bros. W. H. Hodgkin, S.W. and W.M. elect; J. Burton, J.W.; J. F. Bates, Sec.; J. Dunkley, S.D.; Cheale, I.G.; C. Graham, D.C.; W. C. Cripps, Steward; A. Boorman, Org.; G. Strange, Tyler; W. A. Satchell, W. J. Biggs, R. A. Beeching, Thos. Kilham, D. R. Everest, Thos. Buss, Ben Buss, F. H. Andrews, Philip Jackson, Thos. Elliott, Lord G. Nevill, W. Dickenson, E. Copland, R. Pain, C. W. Holt, H. Willicombe, E. Durrant, E. Westbrook, T. W. Simpson, P.M.'s; W. B. Bacon, B. S. Wilmot, P.G.R. Kent; W. S. Elers, P.P.G.S.W. Kent; W. Delves, Marsack, J. Reed, and W. Roper. The visitors included Bros. W. D. Scott, D.P.G.M. Sussex; A. Spencer, P.G. Sec. Kent; G. W. Brodie, W.M. 1118, P.G.S.W. Surrey; C. D. Duke, P.M. 40, P.P.G.J.D.;

Fred. Spencer, P.P.G.J.D. Kent; W. Stephens, P.M., P.G.J.D. Middx.; C. Burmeister, P.M. 568; A. G. Starkey, P.M.; J. S. Charlton, S.D. 1678; John Court, I.G. 1678; G. D. Warner, 1678; F. H. Plummer, 177; D. W. Davis, 40; E. J. Biggs, 1472; and J. H. Crouch, 851. The formal business of confirming the minutes of the previous meeting having been transacted, the W.M. rose and presented Bro. Elers, Treasurer, and Bro. Bates, Secretary, with the respective jewels that the lodge had voted them, at the same time addressing a few well chosen remarks to each. Bro. Bates having thanked the brethren for the presentation, and assured them of the great interest he took in the welfare of the lodge, P.M. Elers then presented Bro. Hodgkin, the W.M. elect, who was duly entrusted, after which he was presented to a Board of Installed Masters, and himself installed into the chair of K.S. The brethren were then admitted, and after the customary salutes the following appointments were made: Bros. J. Burton, S.W.; Ranking, J.W.; J. Dunkley, S.D.; Cheale, J.D.; W. C. Cupps, I.G.; B. S. Wilmot, D.C.; A. D. Beeching and P.M. Beckley, Stewards; G. Farrer, Sword Bearer; A. Boorman, Org.; and G. Strange, Tyler. Bro. Williams then delivered the charges in a very impressive manner, dwelling with more than usual pathos on the great moral precepts therein contained. At the conclusion of the ceremony the W.M. presented Bro. Williams with a Past Master's jewel, and proposed a cordial vote of thanks to Bro. H. D. M. Williams, I.P.M., for having performed the work in such a satisfactory manner; he had certainly gone through the ceremony to perfection, and it was, therefore, the duty of the lodge to pass their special vote of thanks, and have it recorded on the minutes. The vote was carried unanimously, and Bro. Williams briefly acknowledged the compliment, and thanked the brethren for the gift. The W.M. then presented the lodge, in the name of a lady, with a very handsome book mark, which was received with pleasure, and he was entrusted to convey the thanks of the lodge to the donor. Several names having been given as initiates, the lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to the Royal Kentish Hotel to banquet. The table was laid in a very attractive style, the edibles (which included the delicacies of the season), were of the choicest, and the serving was excellent. On the removal of the cloth, the Chairman gave "The Health of the Queen," "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," "The Earl of Carnarvon, Lord Skelmersdale, and the rest of the Officers of Grand Lodge." "The Health of the R.W.P.G. Master, Lord Holmesdale, and the rest of the Officers of Provincial Grand Lodge," was responded to by Bro. Spencer, P.G. Secretary, who in his remarks congratulated the lodge on its splendid furniture, and the treat Bro. Williams had given them in rendering the ceremony of installation in such a perfect manner. A variety of other toasts and songs were given, the latter being rendered in exquisite style by Bros. Boorman and Everest, and the brethren separated about ten o'clock.

LIVERPOOL.—Walton Lodge (No. 1086).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Skelmersdale Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, on Wednesday, the 17th inst. The lodge was opened at 6.30 p.m. by the W.M., Bro. Isaac Leese, supported by the following officers and brethren: Bros. J. W. Mc Arthur, P.M. (Mayor of Bootle), Treas.; G. E. Hanmer, P.M.; Jos. C. Lunt, P.M.; John J. Savage, S.W.; J. D. Reader, J.W.; R. Becket, Sec.; Dr. Parry, S.D.; W. Wilkinson, J.D.; R. E. Roberts, acting I.G.; W. G. Veale, Org.; S. Williamson, Tyler; J. Mackbeth, M. Pearson, R. Parry, J. E. Beer, J. Sterling, F. Mansby, Jos. Kidd, Wm. Stocker, Thos. Lewis, J. Hughes, Capt. A. Moor, T. Hasham. Visitors: Bros. Croxton, W. Cuthbertson, 1473; T. Watkins, 249; W. Blair, 388 (S.C.); and H. Robinson, P.M. 249. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Pearson being desirous of going forward, after due examination, was found worthy and retired. The lodge was then opened on the square, and the above brother was re-admitted and passed to the Degree of F.C. by the W.M. The symbolism of the working tools was explained by the S.W. Bro. Stooke and Leatherbarrow, having given proof of their proficiency in this Degree, retired. The lodge was then opened up, and upon the re-entrance of the above named brethren they were raised by the W.M. to the Sublime Degree of a M.M. The lodge was then closed down, when the Treasurer brought before the lodge the case of a distressed brother. It was proposed and resolved that the sum of £5 be granted; a further sum of £1 was also granted towards a fund to assist a Scotch brother to emigrate. After four gentlemen had been proposed for initiation, and a brother as a joining member, the lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment. We cannot conclude this report without congratulating the Worshipful Master and officers for their excellent working, this being their second meeting after the installation.

IVYBRIDGE.—Erme Lodge (No. 1091).—The annual and installation meeting of the above lodge took place on Wednesday, the 10th inst., at the Masonic Rooms, for the purpose of installing the W.M. elect, Bro. W. H. Mackay. The meeting was numerously attended both by visiting brethren and brethren of the lodge. Among the visiting brethren were Bros. S. Jew, P.M., P.P.G.T.; J. B. Gover, P.M. 70, P.P.C.A.D.C.; E. Aikin Davies, P.M. 1099, P.P.G.S. Wks.; F. J. Pratt, P.M. 1396, P.P.G.S. Wks.; T. Gidley, P.M. 1205; R. Cawsey, P.M. 230; R. G. Bird, P.M. 1550; W. H. Hunt, S.D. 1205; C. A. Nicholson, S.D. 1847, 159; and John Toms, 230. The minutes of the last regular lodge were read and confirmed. The auditor's report was received and adopted. A ballot was then taken for Mr. John Gent Ford, resident of Ivybridge, which, being unanimous in his favour, he was introduced, and duly initiated into the mysteries of ancient Freemasonry by Bro. P. M. Searle,

the working tools being presented by Bro. Secretary Lavers. The usual formalities having been observed by Bro. Mackay, he was duly installed in a most able manner by Bro. P.M. Searle into the chair of K.S. The W.M. then proceeded to invest his officers as follows:—Bros. J. P. Sawyer, I.P.M.; J. R. G. Ellis, S.W.; R. Lavers, J.W.; H. Cole, Treasurer; G. H. Grills, Secretary; G. Smallridge, Chaplain; R. King, jun., S.D.; J. Cobbedick, J.D.; R. King, sen., I.G.; J. Horton, D.C.; T. Curson, A.D.C.; R. Sander and O. T. Blackmore, Stewards; and T. Ford, Tyler. After the appointment of officers, there being no further business to bring before the lodge, the brethren adjourned to the King's Arms Hotel, where they partook of the viands so bountifully introduced by the worthy and respected host and hostess, Bro. P. M. Toms and his wife, the catering of whom, it may be observed, was much commented on during the evening, and whose healths were drunk with musical honours, and which was duly responded to by Bro. P. M. Toms. After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts had been proposed and duly responded to, the brethren then entered into the spirit of the evening, the conviviality of which can only be appreciated by those so highly favoured as Masons. In fact it may be fairly stated to have been a most eventful and happy meeting.

WEST DERBY.—Pembroke Lodge (No. 1299).—The annual installation meeting of the members of this lodge was held at Rawlinson's Hotel on Thursday, the 18th inst. Bro. F. B. Bramham, W.M., presided at the opening, and amongst those present were Bros. John Capell, P.M.; Wm. Crane, P.M.; W. Vines, P.M., P.P.G.D. of C.; Wm. Jones, P.M., M.C.; W. S. Bennett, S.W.; J. G. Fisher, J.W.; W. Hiles, Sec.; P. Macmaldrow, P.M., P.P.G.S.D., Treas.; Luke Bramwell, S.D.; C. Ainsworth, S.S.; R. W. Taylor, J.S.; and J. Robinson, Tyler. The members were Bros. J. F. Robinson, W. Lome, J. Dutch, W. Eaves, J. A. Frazer, C. F. Barker, G. A. Williamson, J. Jack, W. Barrow, B. J. Swales, W. Kinsey, T. W. Rudd, Jos. Wade, Jos. Bramham, Thos. Deane, and others. The list of visitors included the names of Bros. Thos. Tyrer, P.M. 581; James Batchelder, P.M. 1458; Thos. Sammons, P.M. 1393; J. P. Brvan, 1473; J. Lancaster, 1505; Robt. Brown, 1602; W. Walker, 1086; J. B. Mackenzie, W.M. 1606; J. C. Robinson, P.M. 249; and others. The lodge was opened in due form at two o'clock, and the ballot having proved unanimous in favour of the candidature of Messrs. Haigh and Ramsey, they were initiated by the W.M. Bro. W. S. Bennett, S.W., was then presented for the benefits of installation by Bros. Tyrer, P.M., and Batchelder, P.M., and the ceremony was performed by Bro. Jones, P.M. The following were the officers appointed:—Bros. F. B. Bramham, I.P.M.; T. G. Fisher, S.W.; W. Hiles, J.W.; P. Macmaldrow, P.M., P.P.S.G.D., Treas. (re-elected for the fourth time); W. Jones, P.M., D.C.; L. Bramwell, S.D.; R. W. Taylor, J.D.; Dean, I.G.; B. J. Swales, S.; J. Kinsey, J.S.; J. Dutch, S.; and J. Robinson, Tyler. The brethren subsequently adjourned to banquet, and during the evening a valuable Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. Bramham, I.P.M., as a mark of the esteem in which he was held by the members of the Pembroke Lodge. The various loyal and Masonic toasts were given. In replying to the toast of "Bro. the Right Hon. Fredk. Stanley, R.W. Dep. P.G.M., and the Officers of P.G.L.," Bro. Macmaldrow, P.P.S.G.D., said as a Past Officer of Prov. Grand Lodge he always had much pleasure in responding to this toast, for the officers of the Prov. Grand Lodge of West Lancashire were a most honourable body of men, carefully chosen from amongst gentlemen who had distinguished themselves as Worshipful Masters of private lodges, and who were, therefore, eminently fitted by their Masonic knowledge and experience for becoming rulers in the Craft; and no one was better fitted for the high office of Deputy Prov. Grand Master than the right hon. and gallant colonel, whose name of Stanley had been identified with Lancashire for generations. The toast of "The P.M.'s of Lodge 1299" was coupled with the name of Bro. Macmaldrow, P.P.S.G.D., to whom was presented a handsome silver salver, bearing, together with the following inscription, crest, a lion's head erased and motto, "Omne Secundo," "Presented by Brethren of the Pembroke Lodge, No. 1299, A.F.A.M., to Peter Macmaldrow, Esq., P.M., P.P.S.G.D. of West Lancashire, as a token of esteem, and in recognition of past services as Treasurer. West Derby, March, 1880." Bro. Macmaldrow said he was at a loss to find words to express due acknowledgment of the remarks which had been just made by the W.M. in proposing this toast, and the hearty way in which it had been received by the brethren. He thanked them most sincerely for all their kindnesses to the P.M.'s. He did not agree with those who said that after a Master had passed the chair he was "shelved." Such ought not to be the case, for the P.M.'s should ever be ready and willing to assist the W.M. and his officers in the performance of their several duties. Indeed, he would go further, and say that with the P.M.'s lay the responsibility of seeing that the lodge ceremonies were properly and efficiently conducted. They should correct errors, and endeavour to preserve the integrity of the ancient ritual and landmarks of the Order. As one of the founders of the Pembroke Lodge (ten years ago) he was proud to be able to say that he had attended the meetings of the lodge more regularly than any other brother. He had done during that time what little lay in his power to promote the prosperity of the lodge, and during the past four years he had more particularly taken care of the funds. He was glad that the way in which he had performed those duties had met with the approval of the members. He thanked them for the handsome present which they had that day given him in remembrance of the past, and he also thanked them for the renewed expression of their confidence in re-electing him to the office of Treasurer, and he hoped to be able in the future to continue to per-

form those duties with credit to himself and satisfaction to his brethren. He did not care to see a very large balance in hand. The working expenses of the lodge were heavy, but they had kept out of debt, and, besides, had never said no to a deserving case of charity. He thought he might venture to congratulate the retiring W.M., and also the present W.M., on the state of the funds. The balance-sheet had been forwarded to all the members, and they would see that notwithstanding the bad times they had a slight increase in the amount carried over at the end of the financial year, though they had given more away in charity than during the previous year. He hoped the W.M. would have a pleasant and prosperous year of office, and concluded by reminding the brethren that the subscriptions for the current year were now due, and he would be pleased to supply receipts to all those who desired to part with their money. Several songs were given during the evening by Bros. Hiles, Jones, Robertson, Brown, and Bryan, the accompaniments being played by the last-named and Bro. Batchelder.

VALPARAISO.—Lodge of Harmony (No. 1411).—On Tuesday night, the 13th ult., there was a large assemblage of the Ancient and Honourable Fraternity at the lodge rooms, Calle Tubildad, to witness the august ceremony of the installation of Bro. W. R. Betteley, P.P.G.P., as W.M. of this lodge for the present year. The members of the sister lodges, Bethesda, Aconcagua, Germania, and Lessing, mustered in strong array, and there were also present a few members from the native lodges. The installation ceremony was most ably performed by Bro. F. B. Shanklin, P.M., after which the W.M. appointed and installed as his officers for the current year the following brethren: Bros. A. Kyle, S.W.; S. G. Jenkins, J.W.; E. Cameron, Treas.; W. E. Roberts, Steward; G. R. Geppo, S.D.; J. H. Thompson, J.D.; J. H. Wallace, I.G.; W. Darley, Tyler. At the conclusion of the ceremony the company retired to a modest banquet table, where a few very pleasant hours were spent, and the usual Masonic toasts duly proposed and heartily responded to. This part of the proceedings was considerably enlivened by the beautiful music rung on the bells by Bro. Jenkins and his able pupil, another brother whose name has escaped our memory. We were glad to notice among those present several old members of the Craft who seldom leave now-a-days the comforts of house for the arduous duties of an active member of any lodge, but who put in appearance on Tuesday night not only as a proof of their good wishes for the prosperity of the Lodge of Harmony, but also in order to offer a special welcome to Bro. Betteley, who is justly beloved and looked up to by every member of the fraternity. We feel sure that with Bro. Betteley in the Principal's chair a new era of prosperity must open for the Lodge of Harmony, and we think the proceedings of the evening will tend to cement the building which the Order is so vigorously striving to erect in Chile.

HAMPTON.—Hemming Lodge (No. 1512).—This very prosperous lodge met in good strength at the Lion Hotel, on Thursday, the 18th inst. Among those present were Bros. Jessett, W.M.; T. W. Ockenden, S.W.; T. C. Walls, P.G.S.B. Middlesex, J.W.; E. Hopwood, P.P.G.S.B. Middlesex, Treasurer; W. Hammond, P.P.G.D. Middlesex, Secretary; Fox, I.P.M.; J. Hurst, P.G.A.P. Middlesex, P.M.; J. Hammond, P.G.D. Middlesex, P.M.; Hiscox, J.D.; Moody, I.G.; Tozer, W.S.; Knowles, A.W.S.; Gilbert, G.P.T. Middlesex, Tyler. The visitors were Bros. Wilson, P.M., Unionian; Welsh, No. 3; Emms, 1656. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M. vacated the chair in favour of Bro. W. Hammond, who raised Bro. Emms, that brother having been initiated by Bro. W. Hammond in the Wolsey Lodge, to the Degree of M.M. The W.M. having resumed the chair, the election of W.M., Treasurer, and Tyler for the ensuing year then took place, and resulted unanimously in favour of Bros. T. W. Ockenden, E. Hopwood, and J. Gilbert. The first-named brother having made an eloquent reply in acknowledgment of the high honour accorded to him, the sum of ten guineas was unanimously voted to the Boys' School, to be placed on the list of Bro. Hurst, P.M., who had been appointed Steward to represent the lodge at the ensuing festival of that excellent institution. After a long and protracted discussion, it was agreed that the W.M.'s year of office should be commemorated by the gift to him, in lieu of a jewel, of a Life Governorship of one of the three great Masonic Institutions. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to a collation. In consequence of the lateness of the hour the only toasts proposed were "The Queen and the Craft," "The R.W.G.M.," "The W.M.," and "The Visitors."

WATERFOOT.—Lodge of Hospitality (No. 1607).—The St. John's festival connected with this young and prosperous lodge was held at the Royal Hotel, on Thursday, the 11th inst. It is customary with this lodge to hold their installation meeting in November, and defer the St. John's festival until March. We scarcely know whether to commend this practice, which is not by any means general throughout the province, and, doubtless, the members have good reasons for adopting this course, and as regards the success of the meeting it was beyond dispute. For a country lodge, and situated in a somewhat remote and not very accessible spot from Manchester, there is certainly much to admire, and for our town brethren to take pattern by. The working was unquestionably good, and showed unity in rehearsals on the part of the W.M. and his officers, for all were quick in responding to the various queries, and evinced unmistakably that their heart and soul were in the various tasks allotted them, and to come out of the ordeal "sans peur et sans reproche." The furniture too was admirable, being made massive yet symmetrical, of maple and ebony, and we are of opinion

that the equal of it cannot be seen for miles around. The following brethren were present: Bros. James Howarth, W.M.; Rowland Rawlinson, S.W.; John R. Lord, J.W.; Henry Pickup, S.D.; Ingram Taylor, J.D.; Rawdon Ashworth, P.M.; Treas.; W. H. Baxter, Sec.; F. J. Keve, I.G.; James Rothwell, Tyler; John Thomas Barcroft, P.M.; J. Taylor, jun., P.M.; P. H. Edmondson, P.M.; Thos. Pilling, P.M.; and W. Worswick. Visitors: Bros. Rev. J. B. Phillips, 274. P.P.G. Chan.; Capt. Hargreave, P.P.G. Org. E.L.; John Ramsbottom, 274; J. H. Bury, 1145; Philetas Whittaker, 215; Nat. Dumville, P.M. 142; James E. Wright, W.M. 286; Thos. Camb, S.D. 274; Henry Coupe, W.M. 274; John Hill, W.M. 363; H. Ramsbottom, 286; Wm. Darling, 265; R. J. Butterworth, P.M. 363; Jas. Schofield, P.M. 367; Jas. Dearden, 54; E. Barlow, 215; Samuel Perritt, P.M. 215 and 1634; Hazell Ineson, S.W. 1634; John Holt, W.M. 215; John Barcroft, S.W. 274; John Haigh Sykes, P.M. 286; Jas. Pearson, 283; Jas. Hall, P.M. 283; H. T. Percival, P.M. 274; and R. R. Lisenden, 317 (Freemason). The lodge was opened at four o'clock with prayer, and the minutes of the previous meeting and circular convening this meeting were read and confirmed. The ballot was taken for a candidate for initiation, and was unanimous in his favour. The ceremony of initiation was, however, postponed until next meeting. The W.M. and his officers then worked the Three Sections successively, and the manner in which it was done evoked the warmest commendation from the visitors. We confess to having been somewhat taken aback at seeing this most instructive ceremony performed in so creditable a manner by this young lodge, and it goes to show the unity and concord that must prevail among its members, because without these qualifications it would be next to impossible. Each question was answered without hesitation by the officers in a manner that showed they had the greatest confidence in themselves, and although, perhaps, it would be invidious to single out for special praise any particular one, yet in this case we cannot refrain from mentioning Bro. Ingram Taylor, the J.D., who gave the somewhat lengthy lecture at the conclusion of the First Section. It was charmingly delivered, the pauses being taken at the right time and place, and although it did not seem to us that this worthy brother spoke very loud, his voice could be distinctly heard all over the room. Altogether the working produced a very pleasing impression on the minds of these visitors who were fortunate enough to be present, and will not be readily forgotten by them, and we sincerely wish we could see the example of this lodge followed in the numerous lodges in and around Manchester, as when there happened to be no candidates for initiation, passing, or raising, in lieu of the usual working up and down there would be something done that was instructive to the members and visitors. "Hearty good wishes" were afterwards expressed by the visitors, and the lodge was closed in peace and harmony at 5.30. A banquet was afterwards served in good style, and at its conclusion the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and responded to. "The Health of the W.M." was proposed by Bro. Captain Hargreave in very warm terms, and was duly responded to by that worthy brother. "The Visitors" was proposed by Bro. Rev. J. B. Phillips in felicitous terms, and duly responded to by several of their number. Several other toasts were given and responded to, and a most enjoyable evening was brought to a close at eleven o'clock. The musical brethren who so valuably contributed to the proceedings were Bros. N. Dumville, Lister, Bury, and Ramsbottom. In the lodge room these talented brethren sang the anthems in good style, while at dessert their rendering of several choice pieces gave the greatest satisfaction and pleasure to all. The worthy host, Bro. Worswick, deserves a word of praise for the admirable manner in which the banquet was served, and the excellent fare provided.

TEDDINGTON.—Sir Charles Bright Lodge (No. 1793).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was convened at the Masonic Rooms, on Saturday, the 20th inst. Precisely at half-past six o'clock in the evening the proceedings commenced. There were present Bros. R. Forge, W.M.; T. C. Walls, P.G.S.B. Middlesex, J.W.; J. Hurst, P.G.A.P., Middx.; I.P.M. and Treasurer; Fitt, Secretary; Linton, S.D.; Goodchild, J.D.; Stevens, I.G.; Hickinbotham, Hill, and Lane, acting Tyler. The visitors were Bros. Mellisham, P.P.G.S.B. Middx.; and Cousins, Etonian. There were three candidates for raising and one for initiation upon the agenda of business, but for some unaccountable reason only one of the former was in attendance, namely, Bro. Hickinbotham, who duly received the Degree of M.M. from the hands of the I.P.M. The lodge having been duly closed, a lodge of instruction was opened, under the auspices of the W.M., who most ably presided, and who rehearsed the ceremony of initiation, Bro. Hill acting as the candidate. The brethren shortly afterwards separated.

INSTRUCTION.

LIVERPOOL.—Merchants Lodge (No. 241).—The annual banquet of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 16th inst., at the Masonic Hall, 22, Hope-street. The lodge was opened at 6.30 p.m. by Bro. Thomas Siler, W.M. 241. The following are the names of those present: Bros. James Windsor, P.M., Preceptor; Ralph Robinson, P.M. 241, P.P.G.B.; John Latta, S.W. 241; G. Prett, P.M. 241; Dr. H. I. Pitts; H. B. Brown, Sec.; E. K. Ellison, J. R. Duggan, R. Caruthers, John Brotherton, Treasurer; M. T. Tieskie, S. Jude, Thos. Whitehead, James Pendleton, R. Pruddah, James Procter, E. Catterall, J. F. Alston, and F. W. Barnes. Bros. T. Hatton and J. Robinson, P.M. 249, were visitors. After the minutes had been read the brethren proceeded with the election of officers for the ensuing year, viz., Bros. James Windsor, Preceptor; J. Brotherton, Treasurer; H. B.

Brown, Secretary; and W. H. Ball, Tyler. The brethren were then called off from labour to refreshment. A capital dinner was provided by Bro. Chaplin, House Steward. The cloth having been removed, the usual loyal and patriotic toasts were given. Then followed "Our Masonic Rulers, &c.," and "Our Worthy Preceptor, Bro. J. Windsor," was received with acclamation. Bro. Windsor, in responding, thanked the brethren for the honour they had conferred upon him in re-selecting him the Preceptor of the oldest lodge of instruction in the province, and assured the brethren that he would endeavour to keep the working of the lodge up to the high standard for which it was noted. The Preceptor then proposed "The Health of the W.M. of the Merchants Lodge." Bro. Salter, in a few suitable words, returned thanks. "The Merchants Lodge of Instruction," coupled with the name of Bro. Titherley; "The Officers of the Merchants Lodge of Instruction," coupled with the names of Treasurer and Secretary; "The Visitors," coupled with the name of J. Robinson, were all suitably responded to. The brethren were afterwards called from refreshment to labour, and the lodge was closed. Excellent songs enlivened the evening's proceedings, and Bro. Brotherton gave a recitation in his usual faultless manner.

Royal Arch.

ROBERT BURNS CHAPTER (No. 25).—The installation meeting of this chapter was held at Freemasons' Hall on Monday, 22nd March. There were present Comps. G. E. Sherville, M.E.Z.; Charles Martin, H.; William Land, J.; W. W. Baxter, S.N.; Frederick Hatton, P.S.; T. Elsley, 1st Asst. S.; J. E. Shand, 2nd Asst. S.; H. H. Smith, W.S.; William Kerby, P.Z. (Hermes), and twice Treasurer of No. 25; William Platt, P.Z., Scribe E.; J. Stead, Janitor; John Denton, P.Z.; Peter Thomson, Jos. Taylor, G. Deaton, I. Lindner, and G. Simmonds. Visitor, Comp. R. W. Dunn. The audit report was adopted, and afterwards there was a ballot for the various officers, who were severally installed and invested as follows: Comps. C. Martin, M.E.Z.; Sherville, I.M.E.Z.; W. Land, H.; W. W. Baxter, J.; Kerby, P.Z., Treasurer; F. Hatton, S.N.; T. Elsley, P.S.; Platt, P.Z., Scribe E.; J. E. Shand, 1st A.S.; Jos. Taylor, 2nd A.S.; H. H. Smith, W.S. The M.E.Z. Comp. Martin, in appropriate words, presented a handsome Robert Burns Royal Arch jewel to Comp. Sherville, in recognition and appreciation of his services as M.E.Z. during the past year. The chapter was closed, and the companions, to the number of seventeen, dined, the M.E.Z. giving the usual R.A. toasts in felicitous terms, and with some music and singing of the companions a very enjoyable evening was spent, the companions separating about 11 o'clock.

BATH.—Royal Cumberland Chapter (No. 41).—A regular meeting of this chapter was held at the Masonic Hall on Tuesday, the 16th inst., when the following officers were present:—Ex. Comps. Hearne, Z.; Williamson, H.; Howes, J.; Hill, I.P.Z.; Mountrie, P.Z. and Treas.; Dr. Hopkins, P.Z.; Beckert, as E.; F. Wilkinson, as N.; Mercer, as P. Soj.; and Peach, J. Soj. The Board of Installed Principals having been opened, the companions were admitted, and the chapter was opened. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Many members were prevented from attending by engagements connected with the approaching elections, and letters of apology for the absence of several officers were read. Nevertheless, the duties of the several chairs were unusually well performed; great pains having been lately bestowed on exactitude both in verbiage and manipulation. This was specially the case with the acting P. Soj., who performed the duty for the first time. Bro. Robinson, who had been previously balloted for, was introduced as a M.M. desirous of exaltation, and received the benefits and privileges thereof at the hands of the officers named, the only exception being that Ex. Comp. Dr. Hopkins, P.Z., took up the work of Z. from the O.B., and gave the Mystical Lecture. Bro. C. Wilkinson was proposed as a candidate, and no other business offering, the chapter was closed at 10.15.

Mark Masonry.

BOLTON.—St. John's Lodge (T.I.)—A meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 11th inst., at 24, Chancery-lane. There were present Bros. I. Dovey, W.M.; W. H. Alcock, S.W.; J. Greenhalgh, J.W.; G. P. Brockbank, P.G. Warden, Treas.; T. Morris, P. Prov. S. Bearer, Sec.; C. Corker, M.O.; T. Hyson, Tyler; T. Entwistle, P. Prov. G.M., P.M.; R. Honwood, P. Prov. G.D., P.M.; J. Horrocks, Prov. G.S. Bearer, P.M.; J. Newton, P. Prov. G.I. of Wks.; Bottomley, N. Nicholson, and W. Wadson. The lodge was opened at six o'clock, and the minutes of last meeting were confirmed. Report of Bro. Newton, P. Prov. G.I. of Wks. and auditors proved satisfactory. The ballot was taken for the election of Bros. T. T. Holt, I.P.M.; Priestley, and E. G. Honwood, of St. George's Lodge, 1723, which proved unanimous, and Bro. J. F. Skilton, Antiquity, 146, was advanced to the Honourable Degree of Mark Master by Bro. R. Honwood, P. Prov. G.S.D.; the conductors being Bros. Entwistle, P. Prov. G.M., and Brockbank, Past Grand Warden. The lodge was closed at 7.45, and the brethren adjourned to banquet at the Commercial Hotel.

BRIGHTON.—Royal Sussex Lodge (No. 75).—The annual installation meeting of this lodge was held on the 9th inst., at the Royal Pavillion, when W. Bro. H. W. Charrington, P.M. 114, P.S., was installed W.M. The W.M., Bro. W. Hudson, was unfortunately absent

through illness. A goodly number of brethren were present, amongst them Bros. T. J. Prille, P.M., P.G. Sec. Oxon and Berks; T. W. Adams, P.M. 223; H. J. Martin, P.M. 164; G. R. Locker, P.M.; S. T. Float, P.M.; C. J. Carter, C. Golding, and others. Letters of apology were read from many Grand Officers, and other brethren. The W.M. appointed and invested the following officers: Bros. J. Newman, S.W.; W. T. Clarke, J.W.; T. Cable, M.O.; S. Peters, S.O.; H. Freeman, J.O.; Geo. Rose Johnson, Chap.; Geo. Smith, P.M. Treas.; R. Paige, Sec.; W. G. Bayliss, S.D.; H. E. Cox, J.D.; Capt. T. Knight, R. of M.; H. B. Higham, D. of C.; Geo. Cole, Org.; T. Sianick, and A. Burrows, Swards; T. Hughes and H. H. Hughes, Tylers. After the meeting was closed, the brethren adjourned to a magnificent banquet, catered and supplied by Bro. R. Paige, with his notorious able ability; he also supplied the choicest wines. After the removal of the cloth, the routine toasts were given, commencing with the "Queen and M.M." by the W.M., who spoke fraternally of Her Majesty for encouraging her illustrious sons to become Masons. He then proposed "The Prince of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family," speaking in great praise of H.R.H., also Prince Leopold, who has honoured the Degree by joining. "The Grand Officers, Present and Past," were proposed, and very ably responded to by Bro. Smith, G.A.D. of C.; and Bro. T. J. Pulley, G. Steward. Bro. G. R. Locker, P.M., proposed "Provincial Grand Lodge Officers, Present and Past," responded to very ably by Bro. J. Pearson, P.M., P.G.M. Treasurer, who trusted the brethren would work well together, and so improve the province, that it may greatly flourish. Bro. Geo. Smith, P.M., then proposed "The Health of the W.M.," saying many good men had passed before, and one now entered on his duties with a full knowledge of Mark Masonry, and he hoped he would be blessed with good health to enable him to carry out and complete his year of office in the admirable way which has hitherto characterised him in the adjoining Province of Surrey, of which he is a P.M. In reply, the W.M. said it was a great gratification to him to be placed in such an honourable position by the brethren of the Royal Sussex Lodge, also Bro. Geo. Smith, P.M., for his kind remarks, and promised to do all in his power to sustain Mark Masonry in Sussex, also strive to perform his duties, and trusted at the termination of his year of office he should leave his chair as creditably and honourably as his predecessors had done. Next came "The I.P.M." Bro. G. R. Lockyer, P.M., responded on his behalf, and stated how deeply he regretted (and felt sure all the brethren concurred) the absence of the W.M., Bro. W. Hudson, P.M., &c., trusting he might soon be restored to health and strength, for he was a jolly good fellow, ever ready to do all in his power for Mark Masonry, act conscientiously, and willing to discharge any duty he might be called upon to fulfil. The toast of "The Officers" followed, and was responded to by the S.W., J.W., and Secretary. Next "The Visitors," responded to very ably by Bro. H. G. Martin, P.M. 164, and Bro. T. W. Adams, 223. The Tyler's toast concluded the list, and the brethren retired, after spending a most harmonious and enjoyable evening. Between the toasts good songs, &c., were contributed by Bros. W. G. Bayliss, C. J. Carter, R. Paige, and T. J. Pulley, whose services enlivened one of the most pleasant (though not large) gatherings of the lodge ever held. We should not omit to mention that the menu and toast card was an emblem in colour and design of M.M. and universally admired by the brethren.

IVYBRIDGE.—Hawton Lodge (No. 100).—The annual and installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Rooms on Wednesday, the 10th inst. There were present to open the lodge Bros. P. Searle, W.M.; J. H. Toms, I.P.M. and Treas.; J. P. Sawyer, S.W.; S. Lew, J.W.; W. H. Mackay, Sec.; G. H. Grills, S.O.; R. Lavers, I.O.; J. R. Ellis, I.G.; and visiting brethren Bros. J. Gidley, P.M. and P.G.S.; E. Aitken Davies, P.M. 96 and P.P.S.D.; S. J. W., P.M. and P.P.G.M.O.; I. R. Harris, S.W. 90; R. G. Bird, M.O. 70; and W. Boxall, P.M. and P.P.G.P. The minutes having been duly confirmed, and the report of the Audit Committee (showing a balance in the Treasurer's hands) unanimously adopted, Bro. Sawyer, S.W., the W.M. elect, was then presented by Bro. S. Jew for the honour of installation, which ceremony was carried out in a most able manner by the retiring W.M., Bro. T. Searle. On the re-admission of the brethren, the W.M. was saluted with the usual honours, and the W.M. then proceeded to invest his officers as follows: Bros. T. Searle, I.P.M.; F. Pratt, S.W.; W. H. Mackay, J.W.; J. H. Toms, Treas.; T. Searle, Sec.; R. Lavers, M.O.; G. H. Grills, S.O.; J. R. Ellis, J.O.; W. Boxall, I.G.; and T. Ford, Tyler. The brethren afterwards assembled at Bro. Toms', King's Arms Hotel, and in company with a number of Craft brethren spent a very harmonious evening.

TWICKENHAM.—Francis Burdett Lodge (No. 187).—A very successful gathering in connection with this provincial lodge was held at the Albany Hotel on Wednesday, the 17th inst. Among those in attendance were Bros. W. Taylor, P.P.G.D. Middlesex and Surrey, W.M.; E. Hopwood, S.W.; Saunders, J.W.; W. Hammond, P.G.S., P.M. and Secretary; Richell, Treasurer and S.O.; J. Rogers, R. of M.; and T. C. Walls, M.O. The visitors were Bros. J. Tomlinson, P.G.S., &c. and Framton, 99. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken on behalf of Bros. Piller and Handel, both of No. 1656, and it proving unanimous, those brethren were most ably and effectively advanced to the Honourable Degree of M.M. by the W.M. It being Bro. Taylor's maiden effort, he is to be congratulated upon the unqualified success that attended his "working." The bye-laws having been read and approved nem. con., the W.M. proposed, and the

M.O. seconded, the following resolution, which was carried unanimously, "That in consideration of the great services rendered by Bro. W. Wigginton in the formation of the lodge, and his subsequent labours as W.M., he be elected an honorary member with all the privileges of a fully subscribing one." Bro. Frampton having been proposed as a joining member, and Bros. Pillar and Handel invested as Deacons, the lodge was duly closed, and the brethren partook of a well-served collation. Upon the removal of the cloth the usual routine of toasts were duly proposed and responded to. W. Bros. Tomlinson and Hammond acknowledged the toast of "The Grand Officers," and the former then gave tersely, but to the purpose "The Health of the W.M." Bro. Taylor, having replied, gave, in very complimentary terms, the toast of "The Advancers." Bros. Pillar and Handel acknowledged this toast in somewhat witty terms. "The Visitors" came next in succession, and this pledge was ably responded to by Bro. Frampton. "The Officers" having been proposed, was responded to by Bros. W. Hammond, Hopwood, and Richnell. The Tyler's toast at an early hour concluded the proceedings.

PLUMSTEAD.—Excelsior Lodge (No. 226).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Lord Raglan, Burrage-road, on Tuesday, the 9th inst., Bro. C. Coupland, Worshipful Master, Prov. Grand M.O. Kent, in the chair; Bros. Smyth, S.W.; Weston, J.W.; Pryce, Treas.; Kennedy, Sec.; Sweny, R.M.; Sculley, M.O.; the Rev. C. A. Solbe, B.A., S.O.; H. Shaw, J.O., Deeves, S.D. Brethren present: Bros. Holleyman, Moulds, Anderson, Purnell, Lloyd, Capon, Stevens, Gibson, Watkins, Hesgood, Nicholls, Tucker, and Kirkbride. The minutes of the preceding lodge having been confirmed, the ballot was taken for Bro. John Bilton, of the United Military Lodge, No. 1536, which proved unanimous in his favour, and he being in attendance was duly received, and advanced to the Degree of M.M.M. This being the period for the election of the officers, Bro. Smyth was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year, and Bro. Pryce, the Treasurer. It was proposed by Bro. Kennedy, the Secretary, and unanimously resolved, that the future meetings of this lodge be held on the 3rd Tuesday in the months of March, June, September, and December, instead of the 2nd Tuesday in those months as hitherto. Bro. the Rev. C. A. Solbe, the Chaplain, eulogised in glowing terms the merits of the late Right Worshipful Prov. Grand Master, and moved the following resolution, which was directed to be forwarded to the Provincial Grand Master, and to be recorded on the minutes of proceedings of the lodge: "That the brethren of this lodge desire to express to the V.W. Bro. the Rev. Thos. Robinson, M.A., Prov. Grand M.M.M. Kent, their deep sense of the loss Mark Masonry in this province has sustained by the death of the late Prov. Grand Mark Master of Kent, the Rev. W. G. Sicklemore, M.D., whose amiability and genial kindness, coupled with his truly Masonic qualities, had endeared him to the brethren." The usual Past Master's jewel was unanimously voted to Bro. Coupland, the outgoing W.M., after which the lodge was closed in ample form, and the brethren adjourned for refreshments.

Ancient and Accepted Rite.

BOLTON.—St. Peter's Chapter (No. 31).—A meeting of this chapter was held at Bolton on Saturday, the 20th March, 1880, at 4 o'clock in the afternoon. There were present Bros. Thomas Clark, M.W.S.; Wm. Rome, 1st Gen.; Thomas Morris, P.M.W.S., 2nd Gen.; A. Middleton, Marshal; John Thomson, Raphael; Thos. Entwisle, 30°, Treasurer; G. P. Brockbank, 31°, P.M.W.S., as Recorder; R. Young, P.M.W.S., and many other members of the chapter, also Ill. Bro. C. J. Bannister, 33°, Insp. Gen. Three candidates whose names were announced in the circular were balloted for and elected, and two of them being in attendance, were introduced and perfected as Rose Croix Masons by the M.W.S., assisted by Bro. Banister. Bro. W. Rome, 1st Gen., was elected M.W.S. for the ensuing year, and Bro. T. Entwisle, 30° Treasurer; Bros. Brockbank and Horrocks appointed Auditors of the accounts for the past year. A number of copies of the rules and regulations of the Supreme Council were ordered to be purchased, and one copy given to each member on the chapter. On the motion of Bro. Brockbank, 30°, it was resolved: "That the sum of two guineas be voted to the fund being raised as a testimonial to Ill. Bro. Shadwell Clerke, 33°, now Grand Secretary of England, in recognition of his valuable and unpaid services to the Ancient and Accepted Rite in the capacity of Secretary General to the Supreme Council, 33°, for many years." Chapter closed at 6 p.m., and the brethren adjourned to banquet.

Knights Templar.

PORTSMOUTH.—Royal Naval Preceptory (No. 2).—A meeting of this preceptory took place on Wednesday, the 10th inst., when the E.P., Sir Knight R. Loveland Loveland, installed Comp. Francis Newman, of the East Medina Chapter, and Comp. Joseph Exell as a serving brother. Sir Knight the Rev. J. N. Palmer, Coar de Lion Preceptory, was unanimously elected as a joining member, and was appointed by the E.P. Almoner for the ensuing year. Comp. Count George Des-Geneys, of the Gosport Chapter, No. 993, was also unanimously elected, but, through unavoidable absence, was not then able to be installed. Sir Knight A. P. Wilks was appointed Herald for the ensuing year. On the proposition of the E.P., seconded by Sir Knight Bradley, P.E.P., it was resolved that the present bye-laws be reconstructed in order that they may in future be in strict conformity with the

rules and regulations laid down in the statutes of the Convent General. The preceptory was closed in due form, and the Sir Knights retired. While the priority attached to the preceptory was being opened by Sir Knight Walter Spencer, P.E.P., Sub-Mareschal of England, who had most kindly placed his services at the disposal of the E.P., and came from London expressly to assist the provincial members of the Order, the E.P., Sir Knight R. Loveland Loveland, was questioned by Sir Knight Spencer, took the oath of office, and was duly installed by him into the Prior's chair. The V.E. Sir Knight W. W. Beach, M.P., Provincial Grand Prior, who was to have performed the ceremony, was unable to be present. Sir Knights Osborne, Best, Rev. J. N. Palmer, W. Hickman, and F. H. McCalmont were duly elected joining members, and Sir Knights Rev. F. Thoyts, A. P. Wilks, G. F. Lancaster, J. E. Lefevre, Rev. G. H. De Fraine, H. Reed, H. M. Green, J. Hayman, J. Blount Thomas, Rev. E. B. C. Churchill, C. G. Adames, and E. D. Godwin were unanimously elected; and the following, being present, were received into the Order of Malta by the E.P., Sir Knight R. Loveland Loveland: Sir Knights Wilks, Lancaster, Rev. De Fraine, Reed, Green, and Hayman. The history of the Order having been explained by the E.P., he appointed his officers as follows: Comps. Rev. J. N. Palmer, P.; Rev. De Fraine, C.G.; Lancaster, L.G.; Reed, 1st L.; Green, 2nd L.; Bradley, M.; Osborne, H.; Wilkes, A.; Newman, C.; Reed, C.; and Sir Knight Hayman was elected Treasurer. The priority was closed in due form, and the knights held their banquet at the George Hotel, where a most enjoyable evening was spent.

CHESHIRE EDUCATIONAL MASONIC INSTITUTION.

For about seventeen years this admirably-conducted Institution for the education and advancement in life of the children of distressed and deceased Freemasons has been steadily increasing in usefulness, thanks to the cordial support it has invariably received from the brethren in the Province of Cheshire, over which Bro. the Right Hon. Lord de Tabley, R.W.P.G.M., rules with so much acceptance. The noble Charity enjoys his lordship's presidency, and amongst its most active supporters are those whose names are also illustrious in the annals of Freemasonry. A meeting of the General Committee of the Charity was held at the Masonic Chambers, Birkenhead, on Friday, the 19th inst., when there was a most influential gathering. It should be stated that the rules of the Institution run very much on the lines of those of the West Lancashire Charity, the most admirable provision being that those who have charge of the children are allowed to select any school which meets with approval, and that the educational fees are paid through the Institution without coming to the knowledge of the children themselves or any one connected with the particular school. The chair on this occasion was occupied by Bro. W. A. Clayton, Worshipful Master 537; and amongst those present were Bros. F. K. Stevenson, P.P.G.S.B., Honorary Secretary; J. P. Platt, P.P.G.J.W., Honorary Treasurer; E. H. Griffiths, P.G. Secretary; J. Salmon, P.M. 425 (Sheriff of Chester); W. Gregory, W.M. 605; T. Eyre Mason, P.M. 361; J. Higginbottom, S.W. 361; J. Hamilton, W.M. 1045; J. Phillips, W.M. 1289; J. Hepworth, 1166; T. H. Kirk, P.M. 1045, P.P.G.O.; W. B. Coburn, W.M. 1166; W. Matthews, P.M. 721; F. Thompson, W.M. 477; J. Beech, P.M. 361; H. Jackson, P.M. 336; J. B. Hignett, P.M. 537; J. Coxhill, W.M. 758; J. K. Digges, P.M. 673, 758; P. J. Pearson, 1289; Rev. P. E. Monkhouse, Chaplain 537; Dr. J. Lambert, P.M. 537; Dr. S. Spratley, P.M. 537; and J. E. Stewart, P.M. 336.

The Honorary Treasurer, Bro. Stevenson, read the financial statement, from which it appeared that the income from investments during the year amounted to £151 10s. 7d.; received from lodges, chapters, &c., £204 2s. 6d.; the sum of £21 had been handed over as the result of the recent dramatic performances at the Theatre Royal; and £10 10s. was contributed by the Grand Mark Lodge of Cheshire and North Wales. The sum of £102 10s. 10d. had been spent in education, £17 2s. 8d. in the advancement of children, and £100 had been invested in Dock Bonds. The total investments now amounted to £3730, being an increase of about £240 on the year.

On the motion of Bro. Hignett, seconded by Bro. Salmon, the accounts were unanimously passed.

Bro. Stevenson (Hon. Sec.) then read the following report:—

Education is a subject which more and more engages the attention of every true patriot, and the various modes of administering the government of schools, denominational or board, are exciting the interest of every thinking mind. No doubt, the more highly educated a people becomes the higher its position in the roll of nations; but the means whereby the population is to be educated is a question which has divided many of those most ardently interested in the end. Masons are essentially a community who desire to promote the welfare of their fellows, and they claim to be the van of a mode of education which especially commends itself to English tastes, more particularly in West Lancashire and Cheshire, viz., the selection of schools by the parents and guardians of the children, subject to the approval of the Governors of the Institution. Doubtless, this system has been well understood by the majority of Masons in the province, but, as it is just possible that it may have been overlooked, your Committee think it well to bring it prominently before you on this, the seventeenth anniversary of presenting their report. The principle is that when a candidate is passed as being eligible for the benefits of the Institution, it is left entirely to the parent or guardian, as the case may be, to select the school to which the child shall be sent, and then, when satisfactory proof of due attendance is given, the amount

of the school fees is paid by the Institution. Surely this is a system that commends itself to every Mason's heart, and, through their influence, to every charitably disposed Englishman. During the year seventeen children have been educated, three of whom retire at the end of the financial year, and there are six applications. Three have been advanced, and there are no fresh applications for advancement. Your Committee extremely regret to state that, either through the apathy of Secretaries of lodges, or the want of interest evinced by the Masons of the province, the income of the Society has this year only amounted to £61 4s. 6d., against £244 last year; possibly this amount may be materially altered before this report is in the hands of the brethren, but your Committee can only treat of matters as they stand. Secretaries and Treasurers of lodges know how inconvenient it is for members of lodges to be in arrears with their subscriptions, and they must be sure that a similar feeling actuates the Secretary and Treasurer of this Society. Your Committee fraternally appeal to all interested to obviate this state of things in future. The Mersey Lodge gave a series of dramatic entertainments in the Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, one third of the net proceeds of which was to be devoted to the interests of this Institution, and your Committee understand that the amount will be about £21, for which they are very grateful. The Committee do not wish to detract from the merits of the London Institutions, whose prosperity they sincerely desire and are ever anxious to promote, but they do really think that the Cheshire Educational Masonic Institution has the prior claim, and they call upon Cheshire Masons to support with greater energy than heretofore the very beneficial object the Committee have in view. The attention of the Committee has been drawn to the fact that the lodges in the eastern district have not contributed their fair quota to the expenses of the Institution; possibly this arises from the exceptional depression in the cotton trade, and they trust that future years will obliterate this stigma. Since presenting their last report your Committee have to deplore the death of a very strenuous supporter, and a highly influential Mason, Bro. Richard Cope, P.P.S.G.W. of Cheshire, and for many years the Chairman of the Fund of Benevolence of the province. The way in which he advocated the claims of this Institution will never be eradicated from the memory of your Committee.

The Hon. Sec. explained that since this report had been prepared a large additional sum had been received by the Hon. Treasurer from lodges, chapters, &c.

On the motion of Bro. the Rev. P. E. Monkhouse, seconded by Bro. Coxhill, and supported by the Chairman, the report was adopted nem. con.

The brethren next proceeded to determine the amounts to be recommended to be voted at the next Court of Governors, which will be held at Crewe, on Wednesday, the 31st inst., for the education of the six children for the ensuing year, and for those now on the books of the Institution.

The meeting afterwards closed with a vote of thanks to the Chairman (Bro. Clayton).

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

On Tuesday, the 16th inst., the Royal Poland-street Hand Bell Ringers, under the conductorship of Bro. Duncan S. Miller, most kindly gave a campanological entertainment to the inmates of this Institution. The various selections from a long programme were rendered with masterly skill and ability, and afforded a most enjoyable half-holiday to the girls, by whom the entertainment was highly appreciated.

LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

The monthly meeting of the Lodge of Benevolence was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. James Brett, Junior Vice-President, occupied the President's chair; Bro. Thomas Fenn, Past Grand Deacon, took the chair of Senior Vice-President; and Bro. C. A. Cottebrune, Past Grand Pursuivant, occupied the chair of Junior Vice-President. The lodge first confirmed grants to the amount of £505, recommended at the last meeting. The brethren then proceeded with the new list, on which there were no less than thirty-four applicants. Of this number thirty-one were relieved with a total sum of £1125, which was composed of one grant of £250 (£250), one of £200 (£200), three of £50 each (£150), one of £40 (£40), four of £30 (£120), seven of £25 each (£175), five of £20 each (£100), one of £15 (£15), seven of £10 each (£70), and one of £5 (£5). Three cases were deferred.

We understand that the Lodges Israel and Asaph, with which our late Bro. C. Coote was connected are starting a subscription to erect a monument or other lasting memorial to commemorate his great zeal and ability in Masonry, and his support of the various Charities connected therewith.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS are the medicine most in repute for curing the multifarious maladies which attack humanity, when wet and cold weather gives place to more genial temperatures. In short, these Pills afford relief, if they fail of being an absolute remedy in all the disturbances of circulation, digestion, and nervous energy, which at times oppress a vast portion of the population. Under the wholesome, purifying, and strengthening powers exerted by these excellent Pills, the tongue becomes clean, the appetite improves, digestion is quickened, the assimilation rendered perfect. Holloway's medicine possesses the highly estimable property of cleansing the whole mass of blood, which, in its renovated condition, carries purity, strength, and vigour to every tissue of the body.—[Advrt.]

To Correspondents.

PUPIL.—You will observe that the subject occupied a good portion of our impression this week.

OPENSHAW.—The new and smaller type will enable us to consider your communication after this number.

The following communications and reports stand over:—
Masonic Emblems and Cleopatra's Needle.

Lodge of Industry, No. 48.

Faith Lodge, No. 381.

Era Lodge, No. 1423.

Chapter of Unity, No. 1151.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Bro. John R. Hall's letter.

Bro. Thompson's letter.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

"The Citizen," "Hull Packet," "Broad Arrow," "Le Monde Maconnique," "Rough Ashlar," "The Egyptian Gazette," "The Jewish Chronicle," "Masonic Newspaper," "Royal Cornwall Gazette," "New York Sunday News," "Der Long Islander," "Croydon Guardian."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

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

BIRTHS.

BENSKIN.—On the 17th inst., at the Castle and Falcon Hotel, the wife of Mr. T. Benskin, of a daughter.

CLARKE.—On the 20th inst., at Fishergate Hill, Preston, Lancashire, the wife of Mr. L. H. Clarke, of a daughter.

MILLS.—On the 20th inst., at 17, Shaftesbury-road, Hammersmith, the wife of Mr. William Mills, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

COLBECK—PHILLIPS.—On the 18th inst., at All Saints' Church, Hertford, Charles Colbeck, of Harrow, to Mary, daughter of Mr. George M. Phillips, of Whitwell, Herts, M.R.C.S.

DAVIES—BEALE.—On the 20th inst., at Christ Church, Lancaster-gate, by the Rev. W. H. Ranken, M.A., assisted by the Rev. F. S. May, D.D., William Bell Davies, to Mary Emma, daughter of Mr. William John Beale, of Queensborough-terrace, Bayswater.

DEATHS.

BERNDES.—On the 20th inst., at 395, Strand, Mr. Adolphus Berndes, aged 45.

DRUMMOND.—On the 19th inst., at North-end, Croydon, Mr. John Drummond, age 78.

OAKLEY.—On the 6th inst., Bro. W. Oakley, Governor of H.M. Prison, Taunton, aged 62.

PODMORE.—On the 20th inst., at 52, Palace-road, Norwood, Mr. Henry Podmore, aged 79.

PERMANENT ENLARGEMENT OF THE

"FREEMASON."

Owing to constant pressure on the columns of the *Freemason*, and to the urgent necessity of "supplements," whether of four or even eight pages, the Publisher has determined on and after April 3rd permanently to enlarge it to Twenty Pages, except during the period of the Masonic recess, when Sixteen pages will probably suffice for the current hebdomadal news and reports. In addition to this change, the Publisher intends to print the *Freemason*, on and after April 3rd, with entirely New Type, to use Better Paper, and to give a Coloured Wrapper, like the one recently made use of, which has been much appreciated by his numerous readers.

Under these circumstances, the Publisher has also necessarily determined to increase the price of the *Freemason* to *Threepence*, but to deliver it *post-free* to subscribers, and feels convinced, from the experience of the past and present, that he may rely in the future on the same cheerful patronage and the same unflinching support, which have cheered his earnest efforts to place in the hands and before the minds of his readers a readable, an intelligent, a respectable Masonic paper, a true reflection in its "outcome" of the real principles and right practice of Freemasonry.

All present subscribers will receive to the close of the time of their paid subscription the *Freemason* at the present price.

All subscribers from the 3rd of April can have the *Freemason* posted to them *post-free* at the following rates:—

United Kingdom,	United States, Canada, the Conti- nent, &c.	India, China, Austra- lia, New Zealand, &c.
13s.	15s. 6d.	17s. 6d.

KENNING'S MASONIC CYCLOPÆDIA.

It having been forcibly represented to Bro. George Kenning that the present price of his "Masonic Cyclopædia" has acted as a "deterrent" to many of the Craft, and that a lower amount might induce many brethren to purchase so compendious and complete a work of Masonic reference, he has determined, in order to meet these representations and extend the study of Masonic Literature to make a considerable sacrifice as well as a liberal offer to the Cosmopolitan Craft.

If he can receive the names of 2000 brethren at 5s. 6d. each, he will issue, early in May, the "Masonic Cyclopædia," in a plain cloth binding, and post free to all such subscribers.

The subscription list will remain open until May 1st. As this is a *bonâ fide* offer it will not be repeated, for the advantage to the subscribers is so great as not to require further remarks.

Bro. Kenning has still copies of the 10s. 6d. issue on hand in the original binding. A circular will, in proper course, be sent to all the lodges, and names may be transmitted forthwith to Bro. W. Lake, 198, Fleet-street, London, E.C.

If the applications for the new issue should render it necessary, the book may be delivered even before May.

THE FREEMASON.

SATURDAY, MAR. 27, 1880.

WITH our next issue the *Freemason* will appear in new dress and type, but still the same in its uniform tenour of Masonic discretion and loyalty. We trust that the change will commend itself to many kind friends at home and abroad, in America, and in the Caradas, in India and in the Antipodes, in distant lands, and far off hemispheres, and that in the future, as in the past, our Publisher may receive that sympathetic support which his zealous efforts to keep up a first-class Masonic paper since 1869 seem to merit, we say it impressively, at the hands of a generous Craft and of kindly brethren.

**

It will be seen by our readers that the honour of knighthood was conferred by Her Majesty the Queen on our distinguished brother the President of the Board of General Purposes on Thursday last.

**

LETTERS and communications convince us how wise and seasonable has been our decision as to ritual discussion. Some published statements show into what lamentable hyper-publication we are drifting, ignoring alike the laws of Freemasonry and the dictates even of feelings of propriety.

**

THE archæological notes in the last *Freemason* prove conclusively what a wide field of peaceful discussion and useful research can yet be opened out for Masonic students, and we thank Bro. Gould much for his two most able communications, trusting they may prove the earnest of many more.

**

THE more we think over what we have said as regards "The Pupils' Assistance Fund," and what took place at the meeting, its professed objects, and the feeling of many leading Masons anent it, the more we feel convinced that in its present form it cannot continue, and on the whole it had, we think, as we said before, better be given up.

**

EXHIBITIONS are very good things, and in principle we are favourable to them, and feel the force of Bro. Dr. Morris's words, but why should not that scheme form part of the programme of the Boys' and Girls' Schools themselves in a distinct fund? Why do we want new machinery and other appliances to carry out a mere technical arrangement, a necessary supplement to our well-managed Institutions?

**

WE are happy in stating that up to date Bro. Hedges has received the names of 267 Stewards for the anniversary festival of the Girls' School, and we beg to remind our readers that there is

yet room and opportunity for more. If it be true that "bis dat qui dat cito," how equally true is it that brethren who wish and intend to act as Stewards should not put off the announcement of the fact to the latest possible day,—the trouble thus given to the Secretaries is very great.

**

If all reports be true, if "Dame Rumour" for once may be relied upon, Bro. Hedges will receive at the anniversary festival a very striking proof of the approval felt by the Craft at the careful and admirable manner in which he conducts the business of his office, and his ceaseless attention to all the minutiae of written details or heavy correspondence. In our opinion Bro. Hedges has from the first taken the right, the dignified, course, of allowing that noble Institution, the Girls' School, to commend itself to the sympathetic admiration and warm hearts of the brethren. Appeals for Charity may be overdone.

**

THE position of the Grand Lodge of Quebec has been recently officially set forth in a pamphlet, dated January 31st, 1880. We have received a "Communique" anent it, too long, however, for our columns this week. It will appear in our next.

**

THE annual report of that excellently managed Institution, the Girls' School, in which we may all feel just pride, is now before us, and a very interesting report it is. Scholastically the Institution never was in a better condition, and the "morale" and the "status" of the children are both of the highest character. We note that its income from all sources for 1879 amounted to £13,911, and this was made up of the following items:—London subscriptions: Brethren, £4651 7s. 6d., lodges and chapters, £783 os. 6d., in all £5434 8s.; provincial brethren subscribed £3225 12s., provincial lodges and chapters, £2276 8s., in all £5502; or £68 in excess by the provinces. But if you add £57 17s. sent by the London lodges of instruction, the actual balance in excess sent by the provinces is about £8. Grand Lodge and Chapter gave £160; Scotland and the Colonies £106 19s.; Ancient and Accepted Rite, London and provincial, £63; paid for musical instruction £173; purchased admission, £178 10s.; legacies, £123 9s.; dividends on £60,000, on £20,500 twelve months, and £40,500 for six months, £1207 10s.; old balance, £885; and small sums £5, in all, as we said before, £13,911. There has been, per contra, ordinary expenses, £6855 16s.; repayment of loan, £2000; purchase of stock, £1961 17s. 6d.; new buildings, and laying out of grounds, £522 6d.; pensions, £350; and balance in hand £1568 16 5d.; exclusive of £70 in Secretary and Matron's hands. The other small sums which make up the usual "extra items" yearly are all alike, reasonable and proper, and thus it will be seen that of an income of £13,911, £10,351 have been expended for the needs of the School at the present establishment. But we must look forward, and those who wish to see twenty-five more poor children added to our list, to fill Lyncombe House, will do well to strengthen the hands of the governing body of this first-class School at the next anniversary festival. The next meeting of the Stewards will take place on Friday next, April 2nd, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.30.

**

As it is just possible that it may be sought to re-oper in some form the question of Lyncombe House, though, of course, any such attempt is hopeless, we recommend all the many friends of that needful and salutary purchase to be present on the 10th at twelve o'clock in Freemasons' Tavern, to express their grateful confidence in the reasonable and admirable arrangements of the House Committee for the welfare and development of the Girls' School.

**

WE have been requested to announce, and we do so with pleasure, that Bro. Louis Proal, 33, has been elected [and installed Sovereign Grand

Commander and Grand Master of the French Rite Ecossais, and that Bro. E. Avago continues in the post of Lieut. G. Commander; Bro. Berard is G. Secretary; Bro. Delovgray, G. Treasurer; and Bro. Meige, G. Orator. We shall give in our next the translation of an important circular of the Grand Council.

* *

THE Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race, which was put off on Saturday last, owing to the fog, and greatly to the disappointment of many anglers in light blue and dark blue, came off on Monday last, when the Oxford crew, as was expected, won, after an exciting struggle. But we need not dwell on an event "discounted" already by so many of our readers.

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.]

ROYAL MASONIC PUPILS' ASSISTANCE FUND.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

As I perceive that there are some inaccuracies and misconceptions respecting the above fund, permit me to inform you that it is not by any means intended to abandon this scheme of supplementary benevolence, but it will in no way interfere with the existing Charities, or in the slightest degree destroy the independence and the self-reliance of those who are intended to profit by it.

The fund will, on calmer consideration, I believe, meet with the approval of every one; it will not clash with any existing charity, and it will quietly do a very noble and useful work. It will be the completion of the edifice, —the coping stone of the wall.

Yours fraternally, ROSSLYN, P.G.M.

N.B.—The assistance of Bro. Radclyffe will be cheerfully and gratuitously given, and for the future, as heretofore, his energy and experience will be of inestimable advantage.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Permit me, seriatim, to answer, and, I hope, explain, several misunderstandings in your leaders and correspondence in to-day's issue.

I am at a loss to understand why you should consider "Othello's occupation gone." I fail to see what should lead you to this idea. If I am illustrated as Othello, I think the remarks of our R.W. D.G.M. and Lord Rosslyn, as also the resolutions passed to adjourn the meeting till His Royal Highness Prince Leopold is able to preside, as well as the appointment of Committee, Hon. Treasurer, and Secretary, prove to show I shall have occupation for some time to come, but if I can be instrumental in doing good I shall be pleased. Had your reporter given the report of meeting in extenso, several matters would have been explained.

I beg most emphatically to state I never intended even to hint at the establishment of a fourth Masonic Charity, with paid officials. I think there are plenty of good Masons to be found who would act on Committee and as Treasurer and Secretary without pay.

I am at a loss to understand on what ground you now "withdraw all" you have said in favour of the scheme, or in what way it has outrun its originally modest "dimensions." I have published two circulars with suggestions, and they have never been altered, but the following has been added:

"To render assistance to the unsuccessful candidates for the benefits of existing Masonic Charities, and otherwise co-operate in the dispensing of Masonic Charity."

I may here remind you I have not had your notice of withdrawal, and I hope you will alter your resolution, at least I will endeavour to shake it. You are aware all the circulars have contained are proposals simply, and brethren were invited to co-operate and offer suggestions. Amongst the few criticisms passed I had the following:

1st. "The objects as set forth are a little too pretentious."

To this my reply has invariably been—possibly they are; but they are suggestions, and nothing will be done or decided upon till such time as a Committee is formed, selected at a public meeting, and not even then acted upon till confirmed at another meeting. I was not so arrogant or egotistical as to dictate what should be done. That the suggestions, which, please again note, have never been altered, met favour, is proved by list of supporters, and the very long list of signatures (exhibited at the meeting), including the M.W. Grand Master, Pro and Deputy Grand Masters, as well as their Royal Highnesses Princes Arthur and Leopold, the M.W. Grand Masters of Scotland and Ireland, and many others most high in the Craft, recommending the establishment of a fund; and it has always been my idea that whatever is decided upon it will be after careful deliberation of a Committee sitting for the purpose.

2nd. "If you have funds enough assist the unsuccessful."

Amongst those who suggested this I will mention Sir H. Edwards, Bart., P.G.M. W. Yorks. This I thought a capital suggestion, and it was strengthened by the action taken by Bro. Clabon, when it was shown in Grand Lodge that, no matter how worthy the object, if the laws did not specify it to come within the range of assistance, the Board of

Benevolence must not, no matter how much money they have, depart from the one groove. Again, the unfortunate discontent at the action of another Committee (I do not wish to re-open a case which, I am happy to see, is at rest), as to the powers they possess in disbursing funds, made me feel, whatever the result of the appeal, I will endeavour to recommend, that from the first clear lines shall be laid down, so that in the event of a "surplus" it shall be possible to dispose of it in relieving necessitous cases instead of lavish grants on other applicants. Another reason was that some feared, notably the province of Warwick, that whatever moneys were collected for the Royal Masonic Pupils' Assistance Fund it would be at the expense of the other Institutions. This I deny in toto, and my letter of last week explains my reasons, and as we are taught a "Mason's charity knows no bounds save those of prudence," I cannot but feel, with the statistics I have had, and which prove the average is about 2s. 6d. (a sum rather too much within the bounds of prudence) per annum from every Mason to support the present requirements of the three Institutions, there is plenty of room for an appeal for further aid. Besides, it is well understood Masonry is not a benefit society, consequently, if proper precautions were taken in introducing "worthy" members, —I fear we have many examples of members being admitted for the benefits—we should not have any difficulty in coping with the cases of unforeseen calamity and misfortune.

The other suggestion was, "What qualifications do you propose?" Many (I may mention the suggestion is from more than one P.G.M.) said, "Let me know the qualifications, &c. Now, it is well known how few give without some return, and qualifications can hurt none, but materially add to the chances of obtaining subscriptions; besides, it will be the means of preventing much dissatisfaction. I propose the use of votes will be for the appointment of officers and Committee, and if done by papers, such as the R.H.S. and similar societies adopt, it will enable our country brethren to have a voice in the matter; and as the Committee will, of necessity, be invested with great power, it is imperative all subscribers should have a voice, and, no doubt, it will strengthen the confidence of the Committee. But, let me again add, these are only suggestions, and I must refer you to all my letters and circulars to confirm this, as I would not for a moment like it to be even thought I had a wish to dictate.

You speak of "enlarged basis," and that it is proposed to grant subsidies to all unsuccessful candidates. You surely cannot have forgotten my letter in your last issue. I distinctly point out "deserving;" and, again, is it not a guarantee to all who fear the money will be raised at the expense of the existing Institutions that the fund is purely one of "assistance," and that, rather than hurt the existing Institutions, we help not only the necessitous cases after leaving the Schools, but also the necessitous cases which, for want of friends, cannot be taken into the Schools? and I would remind you of the great work you are advocating, viz., the Charity Association. Do you not here try to bring forward the most deserving and friendless, and to prevent waste of votes, and thereby ensure a greater number of successful? Really, sir, I feel your solicitous appeals in this good cause (L.M.C.A.) should alone enlist your sympathies for the "enlarged basis," which, please again remember, like all other "objects" mentioned in prospectus, is but a suggestion, and would be cut out by the Committee if found unworthy and objectionable. As to the "benefit society" question, you have my views, and I think a little more attention to the charges should be urged upon all W.M.'s and brethren proposing candidates. Our charity should be most complete; better give our children less education than leave them to shift for themselves.

As to the scheme falling through, I am at a loss again to follow your reasoning. By reference to the list of patrons you will see all the M.W. Grand Masters, more than half the Provincial Grand Masters, and their Deputies support it; besides, you have yourself admitted it started under favourable auspices, and gave it your support. Is it, therefore, all at once to collapse because one simple suggestion has been made (I refer to the added clause).

As to your praise, I am not insensible of your kindness, and am glad you give me credit for perseverance; but I must further add, and I am in duty bound to give this assurance to my supporters, that, until I have some much stronger proof of the "verdict" being undeniably against me, I shall consider my humble efforts pledged to carry on the work which they support, and which I consider the list of patrons shows to be undeniably the reverse to adverse. I may here mention I had three withdrawals; two have since not only approved, but consented to act on Committee, one has promised to re-consider, but I have many additions. I really think this amply proves the reverse of your verdict (I have not mentioned you in the withdrawals, as I have not received it). As to your reasons for supporting it, have the objects you thought worthy been withdrawn? Before giving your ultimatum, why not first see what the Committee appointed to consider the scheme will propose?

I cannot quite understand how "P.M." can criticise the list of subscriptions, as you only publish them immediately above his letter, or is it an editorial comment? Still, to satisfy even that section of the public, I may inform "P.M." the R.M.P.A.F. stands pledged to nothing; the money paid in is banked, and the promises entered; hence the difference in totals, and is accounted for; that until I know the exact position the fund is to take I have not urged money being sent. In answer to Bro. While's letter and his report in the Times, as also letter in the Times, which, I presume, is his, as it immediately follows in your paper, and it is not customary for one paper to copy another's letters—I do not find it in the *Freemasons' Chronicle*—I can only say I am sorry he should think fit to

curtail his report; it would have been fairer not to have suppressed any portion. However, no doubt, Bro. While means well, although his expressions are not flattering, and, I think, scarcely in strict accordance with Masonic etiquette. Still I will accept them as meant in no ill spirit, and I hope one day to have the pleasure of a chat. If Bro. While is champion to suppress an evil, I am equally convinced the R.M.P.A.F. will do but good. As to Lord Rosslyn withdrawing, Bro. While was present when not only Lord Rosslyn but Lords Skelmersdale and Brooke personally, and in public, accepted the office of Committeemen, and pledged themselves to work to assist the fund by obtaining subscriptions, &c.—vide your own report of the meeting. As to the organisation being "cut and dried," I think your report even will disprove; and it always will be my aim to discountenance any hole and corner work or "clique." As to the inconsistent remarks about marriage portions, &c., I can only feel Bro. While is attempting a joke at the expense of what I hope will be a useful addition to our Institutions. The "attempt to endow a paid secretariat" and its attending charitable remarks I will answer without intending any annoyance to our worthy brother—viz., there are other attributes besides almsgiving that constitute "charity," and as a P.M. he should teach this. I shall at all times be glad to explain anything respecting this scheme to Bro. While, and think it a pity he did not call upon me before assailing me in public. In reply to "P.M.'s" letter in the Times, I may mention I answered it, but, unfortunately, it and I hear several other letters were left out, showing how dangerous and one-sided criticism and reports in newspapers are.

The substance of my reply was that instead of sapping the self reliant and self dependent spirit of our pupils the R.M.P.A.F. was to aid them. From Bro. While's point of view it appears a boy with father or guardians stands in a bad position, and to a disadvantage. I have always felt sympathy for a fatherless boy or girl, and felt what "weight" they commenced their "race of life" with. My experience has taught me boys and girls leaving school are then at the most critical time of life, and a friend to give advice then is often the finger post to success. The cases the R.M.P.A.F. attempts to assist will be those without means or friends, and, without being "Quixotic," can do much in giving advice, watching progress, keeping register of brethren willing to fill vacancies in their businesses or public offices, assisting the sick, and, without encouraging indolence or sapping self reliance, assist "our" children at a critical time. If Bro. While's assertions are correct then every father stands in his son's way by sapping his self reliance, &c. To conclude, I fear I have taken up too much of your valuable space, still, as the subject is an important one, I hope you will allow me to wind up with one or two remarks which, I think, tend to prove the fund will do good:

1st. Lord Leigh's and others' advocacy as to Scholarships—and in this you concur.

2nd. Bros. Clabon and Hogg's repeated motions in Grand Lodge to obtain part of the Fund of Benevolence, and at the time of the Life Boat grant, as a thanksgiving offering for our M.W.G.M.'s recovery—it was then one of the suggestions to endow a similar fund.

3rd. The efforts of Bro. Jacobs and Staffordshire brethren to perpetuate Lord Shrewsbury's memory by creating an Assistance Fund; and, lastly, the action of the Supreme Council and many individual brethren in supporting separate cases.

I think, dear Sir and Brother, I have a strong case, and beg to assure you that until I can hear better reasons I shall continue to exert the zeal and energy you so kindly notice with redoubled vigour in what I consider a good cause.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

DICK RADCLYFFE.

129, High Holborn,

March 20th.

[We publish this long letter, but now the discussion must close.—ED.]

WAS SWEDENBORG A MASON?

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

With reference to this interesting question, a document may be cited of some considerable authority, which I think ought to convince our good Bro. Woodford upon the point respecting which he evinces such pardonable scepticism. Professor R. F. Tafel went to Sweden in the year 1868 to hunt up such evidence about Swedenborg as could be found, and states that, while in Lund, Bro. L. P. Regnell, Clerk of the County Court, and Master of the Lund Lodge, gave him a document to the following effect. In the archives of the chapter in Christianstad there is an old book of records, containing the minutes of a convention held at Wittshofe, June 5th, 1787, at which King Gustavus III., and his brother, Duke (afterwards King Charles XIII.) of Sodermanland, were present. The latter presided, and the names of many brethren, from South Sweden, Stockholm, Pomerania, Greifswalde, and Stralsund, are also given. In these minutes it is recorded that the First Captain of Lines, Lieut.-Colonel and Knight Baltzar Wedemar, delivered a lecture on Masonry, in which he mentioned the writings of Swedenborg, and spoke of his career as a Mason; that he visited Charles XII. at Altenstedt, in order to promote the further progress of Freemasonry; and this, Bro. Wedemar further stated, that he had visited the lodge in Lunden or Lund, and had seen the signature of Swedenborg (then Swedberg) in the lodge register; and it was likewise stated that the King and Duke both knew that Swedenborg was a Freemason. In the German periodical "Latona" there was an exact account of Swedenborg's reception. It is scarcely to be doubted that this register at Lund still exists, when we consider with what accuracy the Swedish nation have preserved their records. It would also appear that he after-

wards joined a Stockholm chapter, and was a frequent visitor at other lodges and chapters, both in Sweden and other countries. I am at present only concerned to prove the fact of Swedenborg's initiation and subsequent high Masonic position, so will not lengthen this letter, or much might be added on the subject.

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

KENNETH R. H. MACKENZIE,
Supreme Grand Secretary Swedenborgian Rite.
Hounslow, March 8th.

INNOVATIONS IN THE MARK DEGREE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

The letter signed "E. L." in your last impression has been brought under my notice, and as I believe I know more about the installation your correspondent speaks of than he does himself, permit me to say that the so-called innovations have been used by me in the Mark installation ceremony long before any ritual was in existence. The first innovation to which the attention of your readers is called is the "borrowing a portion of the ritual known in Craft Masonry as the installation ceremony."

The head and front of this offending resolves itself into the fact that I addressed the members of the lodge, and informed them "from time immemorial it has been an established custom," &c., thus calling their especial attention to the peculiar business of that meeting. "E. L.'s" next grievance is that I supplemented the usual charge to the brethren "by adding thereto a portion of the charge usually delivered in the chapter of Rose Croix," which he says later was "never intended to be used for any portion of this Degree" (the Mark). Most certainly your correspondent may have heard the words I quoted in a Rose Croix chapter, but they are taken from a much older book than the Rose Croix ritual, and the writer intended them for the guidance and instruction of all men. They are from the first epistle general of St. Peter, 2nd chapter, 15, 16, 17 verses, and are "For so is the will of God, that with well-doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men. As free and not using your liberty for a cloak of maliciousness, but as the servants of God, honour all men, love the brotherhood, fear God, honour the king."

With all due respect to "E. L.," these words are not used by me with the idea of appearing "very grand," or that they sound "imposing," but from the fact of having been so taught when the Mark Degree was the one predominant in my Masonic thoughts, and because I think they are peculiarly appropriate to each and every Degree of a brotherhood whose watchwords are "loyalty and charity." I, for one, do not think it either possible or desirable to have a uniformity of ritual; I am quite content to see a unity of essentials. While I would require absolute conformity to a fixed rule on this point, I would allow a large latitude in mere verbiage. Apologising for intruding on your space,

I am, yours fraternally,

REITAM.

March 15th.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In your last issue a "Young Enquirer" asks about the opening of a new lodge of instruction, and I have much pleasure in informing him that when the Lodge of Instruction known as the Metropolitan, No. 1507, was removed from King's Cross to the Moorgate-street Restaurant, the ceremony of consecration was rehearsed by Bro. Terry, assisted by several distinguished Masons, so that there would be a precedent for opening a new lodge with a similar ceremony.

Yours fraternally,

OBSERVER.

THE ROYAL ARCH DEGREE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I omitted to add to my letter in your last issue a paragraph on the working of Royal Arch Chapters. It is evident to many companions that Principals pass through the three chairs without learning the ritual appertaining to either, the work on each occasion being done by some P.Z. of extra skill or perhaps by a visiting Principal.

This neglect of duty partly arises from the limited number of chapters of instruction. We all know of these excellent ones meeting at the Jamaica Coffee House and Air-street respectively, but in the suburbs there appears to be a great want of some opportunity for instruction and improvement. Take South London, for instance, with its lodges and chapters, but not one chapter of instruction. Could not some of the energetic Masons at the Surrey Masonic Hall start one?—Yours fraternally,

SCRIBE.

BRO. WILSON AND THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I have read "F.R.I.B.A.'s" letter in your paper of to-day's date respecting my account against the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and shall be obliged if you will give me a small corner to reply.

In the first place, he says that the account in question is not a detailed account. Whatever may be his opinion, it differs from that of every professional man to whom I have shown it, and he must recollect that it is now more than six months since I offered to give every explanation which might be necessary through my representative, Mr. Paraire, and that Mr. Stanley, the solicitor to the House Committee, has retained up to the present time from making any appointment with him.

With regard to "F.R.I.B.A.'s" statement that "it is

most certainly unprofessional for an architect to take out the quantities of the work on which he is engaged, and to be paid for the same by the builder who has to work under him unknown to his client," if he had made proper inquiry before making such an unguarded and ungenerous insinuation against me he would have found that I had in no way departed from the general practice, and that the House Committee were perfectly well aware in each case that I had taken out the quantities.

Yours, faithfully and fraternally,

S. B. WILSON.

27, Walbrook, E.C.,
20th March.

MASONIC REGALIA.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I shall feel much obliged if you will correct a misprint which appears in my letter published in your issue of the 20th inst. In the last line of the third paragraph instead of "chased initial emblems" read "chased metal emblems."

Yours fraternally,

P.M. 1768, 421, &c.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Referring to a letter from "P.M. 1768, 421, &c.," in your last issue, quoting from the paragraph on page 125 in our Book of Constitutions, which instructs us that the emblems on the Master's and Past Master's aprons shall be of ribbon, "half-an-inch broad, and of the same colour as the lining and edging of the apron," and complaining of the prevailing disregard of these instructions, as shown at the last Quarterly Communication, where he observed about eighty per cent. of the brethren wearing on their aprons "chased initial emblems," I should like to say a word.

The quotation of our brother is quite correct, but upon referring to the preceding page of the same book will be found (after describing a Master Mason's apron) these words: "No other colour or ornament shall be allowed except to Officers and Past Officers of lodges, who may have the emblems of their offices in silver or white in the centre of the apron."

As a matter of fact (if all aprons are made like mine) the three emblems in blue ribbon are used, and over them the three in silver or white. Thus the instructions quoted by your correspondent are fully carried out, and the emblem in silver or white is quite in accordance with the Book of Constitutions.

Yours fraternally,

JOHN G. HORSEY,
W.M. 1619.

THE APRIL ELECTIONS.

Dear Bro. Kenning,—

I cannot express how much I feel the kindness of many of my brethren in sending their voting papers for the deserving cases of the London Masonic Charity Association. I would only remind some good friends of mine that the sooner they do send what they mean to give us the better for our poor candidates.

Yours fraternally,
25a, Norfolk-crescent,
Hyde Park, W.

A. F. A. WOODFORD.

Reviews.

A CATALOGUE OF BOOKS, ANCIENT AND MODERN, &c. E. W. Stibbs, 32, Museum-street, W.C.

This is a very interesting collection of books, suitable for the general reader, and many of which are deserving of special notice. The Hermetic student may like to hear of Lily's "Christian Astrology," "Mercurius Tresmestegus," or Taylor, the Platonist's, works. The historian will like to dip into numerous English chronicles and foreign "chroniques," some rare and curious; while the classical scholar will survey, not with indifference, the "Auctores Classici," in 136 volumes, "Auctores Classici Latini," in 7 royal 8vo.; a fine copy of Homer, and many other classical works. The lover of the curious will be struck with the works on witchcraft, Palmerin of England, "The Byrth, Liffe, and Actes of King Arthur," and many other rare books. In fine, we recommend our readers to pay Mr. Stibbs a visit and get a copy of his catalogue.

GREENHOUSE FAVOURITES. Groombrinde and Sons, London.

This charming serial has reached its ninth number, and no better praise could be bestowed on it than that it is equal to its predecessors. The subjects for illustration this month are the Cypripedium Veitchianum, and Pleroma Sarmentosa, both superbly drawn and printed. The Primula and Cineraria are the "favourites" treated on in the letter press.

Her Majesty the Queen has honoured Bro. J. A. Elliott, of the Royal Hanover Lodge, No. 1777, by her gracious acceptance of a copy of his pamphlet containing the history of the Civil Service writers. Lord Beaconsfield has also accepted a copy of the same work. We have pleasure in stating that Bro. Elliott has several times received marks of Royal favour both from Her Majesty and H.R.H. the Grand Master, he being an author, poet, and musician, besides being a member of the Civil Service.

WORDSWORTH'S "COCA PILLS," the successful remedy for sleeplessness, neuralgia, and Hay fever. 2s. per box. Homoeopathic Chemist, 6, Sloane-street, London.—[ADVT.]

Masonic Notes and Queries.

STATUTES ANENT MASONS.

I have read Bro. Gould's "note" with much pleasure, as on one or two occasions personally I have touched upon the same subject, though neither so clearly nor fully as he has done "more suo." It is to be observed that in cap. 1, anno 3, Henry VI., 1424, the words actually used are, "Whereas by the yearly congregations and confederacies made by the Masons in their general chapters and assemblies," &c. This is to be noted, because the unknown author of "Multa Paucis," writing in 1763, keeps the name of "assembly" up to his time, in which he is, however, wrong. From 1723 the word "communication" is used in the minutes of Grand Lodge, and Grand Lodge in the common parlance (properly) of historians. My poor old friend, Bro. Shaw, years ago called attention to the act of Henry VII., but it was then at the beginning of our study of Masonic evidences, and he too hastily "took up" with the words "tokens and signs," but which certainly did not convey a Masonic idea. Curiously enough, I cannot find the statute alluded to by Bro. Gould as 11 Henry VII., cap. 3.—"An acte agaynst unlawfull assemblages, &c." The edition I have of the "Statutes at Large" is "Kemble's," 2 vols., folio, 1695. I find a provision against "Riots," cap. 7, 11 Henry VII., but nothing more. The act against "Liveries" is 19 Henry VII., cap. 4., while cap. 15, 19 Henry VII., is also another provision against riots. Liveries are dealt with in 1 Richard II., cap. 7, 1 Henry IV., cap. 7, 11 Henry IV., cap. 21, 8 Edward IV., cap. 11. In 11 Henry IV., cap. 21, the words used are, "Livery or sign of Company." I quite agree with Bro. Gould as to the statute of Edward VI., 2 and 3, cap. 15., as being a restrictive and prohibitory statute as regards Crafts, and note the words, "have sworn mutual oaths," but I cannot agree with him as to the effect of cap. 20, 3 and 4 Edward VI. It only repealed that portion which allowed an artificer to work in a town in which he did not live, or in which he was not "free of the same city, borough, or town," in fact section 4, but it did not touch the main point of the Act 15, 2 and 3, Edward VI., to prevent "Trades Unions" limiting hours and fixing price of labour. Perhaps Bro. Gould only means this, but his words seem to me to bear a wider construction, and so I call his attention to them. I am very glad this intelligent and critical study of our Masonic evidences continues in the *Freemason*, and hope often to welcome and to have the pleasure of perusing Bro. Gould's able "note."

MASONIC STUDENT.

SIR CHRISTOPHER WREN.

The "point" as regards Sir Christopher Wren's connection with Freemasonry is a most important one, and on it as a fact rests a great cloud of doubt and "myth." Thanks to Bro. Gould, we can discuss the matter calmly and fully. As Bro. Gould puts it truly, there is an evidence of 1691, but it is only an "ut dicitur," and we have no Masonic evidence of the fact until 1738. This is greatly amplified by the author of "Multa Paucis" in 1763, and still more so by Preston about ten years later. There is, however, no mention of the fact at all in Wren's "Latin Diary," neither can I find that there is any other direct or indirect evidence of the fact. Like Bro. Gould, as I have said with reference to "Locke," the ignorance of the fact by Anderson in 1723 seems to me to be fatal to the claim. Smith in his "Freemasons' Companion," 1736, though he claims Charles I. and Charles II. as Masons, only mentions Sir Christopher Wren as "that excellent architect," as Bro. Gould fairly states. The theory of Wren's connection with Freemasonry rests on the statement of Aubrey, 1691, Anderson, 1738, and the author of "Multa Paucis," 1763; but we must note a grave contradiction in the evidences. Whereas Aubrey declares, 1691, that on that day Wren was to be "adopted" a Mason, yet "Multa Paucis" makes him Grand Warden in 1661, which is supposed to be about the date of the Harleian, 1942, with the new articles agreed on. In 1666 he writes Sir Christopher Wren was D.G.W., and G.W. 1685. One of the two statements must be incorrect. The evidence of the Lodge of Antiquity so far is this: The candlesticks have always been said to have belonged to the old Lodge of St. Paul's, and given by Sir Christopher Wren. There is a picture of Sir Christopher Wren belonging to the Lodge of Antiquity, though it is now said that it is not Sir Christopher Wren. As regards the mallet, printed and MS. evidence shows that Sir Christopher Wren laid the first stone himself, and not Charles II.; but, as an old master of mine in Masonic studies and researches said, "Do not despise 'tradition';" there is always some truth in the remark. I have often thought that fact may be explained, and that the mallet may have been used by King Charles II. at some other great ceremony in his reign, and thus, as often happens, traditions have got "mixed." I looked up the account of Sir Christopher Wren's funeral years ago, but there was no sign, if I remember rightly, of any "Freemasons" being present.

MASONIC STUDENT.

ELIAS ASHMOLE.

Referring to the notes which have recently appeared in the *Freemason* on the subject of the Ashmolean MSS., I am pleased to be able to say that I have at length met with information which will be of interest to our zealous and indefatigable brother Masonic Student, and which he may possibly be willing to accept as a solution of the question which he propounded for the investigation of your readers. In the 3rd series, Vol. XI., of *Notes and Queries*, March 2nd, 1867, p. 188, amongst the notes on books, &c., I have found the following: "Index to the catalogue of the manuscripts of Elias Ashmole, formerly preserved in the

Ashmolean Museum, and now deposited in the Bodleian Library, Oxford (Clarendon Press). The Ashmolean MSS. were in 1845 catalogued by Mr. Black, who thereby did good service, especially to genealogical and historical inquirers. But the catalogue had no index. The MSS., having been transferred to the Bodleian, the catalogue of them has been made more useful, and the MSS. themselves more available, by an admirable index, containing references to all names of persons, and to every subject noticed in the very minute catalogue which Mr. Black prepared. Great credit is due to the Rev. W. D. Macray for the time, labour, and care he has bestowed on the compilation of this useful volume, and equal credit to the authorities of Oxford for printing it." And in the 5th series, vol. X. of *Notes and Queries*, November 23rd, 1878, p. 401, there appears the following note by the Rev. W. D. Macray, the compiler of the index above noticed: "Ashmolean MS., 1792. In Mr. Black's *Catalogue of the Ashmolean MSS.* (Oxford, 1845), the following is the entry made under this number. The MS. numbered 6538 (i.e. so numbered in the old catalogue of 1697, where it is also marked 50 in sequence to Dugdale's MSS.) cannot now be found. It was in folio, and thus described in 1697." Here follows a description of the missing MS. alluded to, and Mr. Macray then goes on to say "From the time that Mr. Blake thus wrote the volume has, hitherto, remained undiscovered, not having come to light when the Ashmolean MSS. were removed from the Museum to the Bodleian in 1860. Now, however, in the course of arranging and binding various MS. papers of Jo. Aubrey, which formed part of the Museum collection, the missing book has happily been found among these papers, and is at length restored to its place." Mr. Macray then proceeds to describe this once "missing book" of MSS., and concludes with a list of its contents, which he says "will, it is thought, be acceptable to those who may possess Mr. Black's valuable catalogue." These interesting notes appear to furnish the information that the Ashmolean MSS., which had been formerly preserved in the Ashmolean Museum, were catalogued by Mr. Black in 1845, and were removed from the Museum to the Bodleian Library in 1860. The catalogue, as also the index, having been printed by the authorities at Oxford (Clarendon Press), can doubtless be obtained without much difficulty. The information which is furnished in the notes I have quoted, and which is confirmed by the direct authority and testimony of the Rev. W. D. Macray, the compiler of the index to the catalogue of the MSS., appears to be so explicit and categorical that I am disposed to think it may be definitely accepted as conclusive that the Bodleian Library is really the depository of these much valued documents, notwithstanding the statement of our respected brother, Masonic Student (who I think has been misinformed), that "they are not at Oxford."

B. BROUGHTON,

Bradford, 17th March, 1880. Prov. G. J. W. West Yorks.

OLD NAMES OF REGIMENTS.

In answer to an appeal for information on this point by Bro. Gould, in the "Historical Memoirs" of the Duke of Cumberland, published in 1767, in the list of the British regiments at Fontenoy occur the following names and numbers: 1st, St. Clair; 3rd, Howard; 8th, Onslow; 11th, Sowle; 12th, Duroure; 13th, Pultney; 18th, Major General Howard; 20th, Bligh; 21st, Campbell; 23rd, Sturke; 25th, Earl of Rothes; 28th, Bragg's; 31st, Handasyde; 32nd, Skelton; 33rd, Johnson; 34th, Cholmondeley; 43rd, Lord Sempill. An old Army List about the middle of the last century would give the names, though I fancy the names varied from time to time.

MASONIC STUDENT.

SWEDENBORG AND FREEMASONRY.

I quite agree with Bro. Woodford as to the evidence respecting the initiation of Swedenborg being of a most unsatisfactory character. In fact there is really no evidence yet submitted of his having been a Freemason at any time. Certainly the statement of his having been initiated in one of the *Swedish Templar Lodges*, in 1706, is simply absurd, and utterly unworthy of credence. There were no "Templar Lodges" at that period, and as yet there is no evidence of the ordinary Masonic Degrees being worked so early in the last century. Bro. Beswick claims that Swedenborg was made a Mason of the "Scottish Rite" in 1706, receiving the "Chapter Degrees." The *Scottish Rite* was unknown then. To speak plainly, if the statement by Bro. Beswick is all our esteemed Bro. Mackenzie has to offer in confirmation of Swedenborg having been a Freemason, then we may as well think no more about the matter, for the assertion is utterly devoid of evidence. In the *Freemason* for August 26th, 1871, will be found a sketch by me of Bro. Beswick's "Life of Swedenborg, &c." The work is able in many respects, and exceedingly well written, but we all search in vain in its pages for one fact respecting Swedenborg as a Freemason. The whole of the statements in the book as to the Masonic Craft in relation to that great man are purely visionary, and, believing as I do that such is the case, I consider the "Swedenborg Rite" in its historical basis an utter failure, and wholly unworthy of support.

W. J. HUGHAN.

THE CITY MASONIC BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION.

We have been requested to publish the following report: "The Committee in making their final report to the members of the Association have to congratulate them upon its successful termination."

During the four years of the existence of the Association £873 16s. have been received from its members, the whole of which (except £6 15s. which has been returned to the

representative of a deceased member) has been paid into funds of the three Masonic Institutions, enabling the Committee to obtain for the members eighty-one Life Governorships.

Of these Life Governorships, forty were for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, twenty-one for the Royal Masonic Girls' School, and twenty for the Royal Masonic Boys' School.

The working expenses for the whole of the period have been very small, amounting only to £2 5s. for printing, books, postage, and banker's cheque books.

After defraying all expenses there remained a balance of £23 1s., which your Committee unanimously agreed to divide as follows: £15 7s. 4d. to Bro. Newton, the Secretary, and £7 13s. 8d. to Bro. G. Ward Verry, the Treasurer; both amounts to be paid to the Masonic Institutions in the names of those brethren respectively.

During the time of the working of the Association one death occurred; the amount paid in by that member was returned to his children without any deduction whatever.

Your Committee cannot conclude their report without expressing their unqualified thanks to Bro. Newton and Bro. Verry for their untiring energy in bringing the Association to so successful an issue, and your Committee feel sure that every member will join them in wishing those brethren may be long spared to continue their valuable services to the good of our Benevolent Institutions.

(Signed) S. H. RAWLEY.
CHS. LACEY.
J. J. BERRY.
F. BROWN.
A. ELLIS.
J. S. FRASER.
C. H. WEBB.

THE TREASURER IN ACCOUNT WITH THE CITY MASONIC BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION.

Dr.	£	s.	d.
To Subscriptions from Members for 1876	234	7	0
" " " " " " " " " " " "	1877	225	0
" " " " " " " " " " " "	1878	200	19
" " " " " " " " " " " "	1879	213	10
	£873	16	0
Cr.	£	s.	d.
By Life Governorships, 1876	73	0	0
" " " " " " " " " " " "	1877	205	10
" " " " " " " " " " " "	1878	216	5
" " " " " " " " " " " "	1879	347	0
" Repayment to late Bro. Watt's family	6	15	0
" Books, Printing, Postage, Banker's Cheque			
Books for 4 years	64	1	0
Less Books sold	1	16	0
	2	5	0
Balance	23	1	0
	£873	16	0

TRURO CATHEDRAL.

The following correspondence appears in a provincial contemporary:

Sir,—Doubtless Mr. Harry Hems can fully explain his reasons for the statement made by him in his letter, to which Mr. Emra Holmes has taken exception. I write simply to object to Mr. Holmes's extract from Preston's work being given as if it were a matter of fact, whereas it is a tradition only, and, in all probability, one manufactured during the last century. There is no evidence whatever of the foundation stone of St. Paul's Cathedral having been laid by the Freemasons, or of Sir Christopher Wren at that time being a Freemason. The statement, also, that Grand Master Rivers was in attendance on the King on that occasion is also entirely wrong as respects the character in which he attended (even if he were present else, about which I say nothing). There was no Grand Master appointed until the following century, though several writers speak of Grand Masters long before then, including Moses, Joshua, and others. We live now, however, in an age when such absurd statements are duly relegated to the region of fiction. The Masonic title of Grand Master is a modern one, and peculiar to the society of Freemasons after its revival during the second decade of the 18th century. The "mallet" is likely enough the implement used on the occasion referred to, and as now preserved so carefully by the "Lodge of Antiquity;" but this fact being admitted in no way invalidates the statement made by Mr. Hems. There is no record of the foundation stone of any building for ecclesiastical purposes having been laid by the Grand Master (for the time being) of the Freemasons in this country; so that the contemplated ceremony on the 20th May will be unique. Should the Grand Master desire the attendance of the Craft on that occasion—no invitation has yet been announced—doubtless many of the brethren will attend, but simply as Freemasons, however, not as Episcopalians or Nonconformists, or as belonging to any religious sect, for all men are eligible to become candidates for our mysteries irrespective of their creed, clime, or colour.—Yours truly,
W. J. HUGHAN.
Truro, 10th March, 1880.

Sir,—Mr. Hughan writes to your contemporary that Preston's assertion as to St. Paul's was probably manufactured during the last century.

As Masons we all have a great respect for Bro. J. W. Hughan's views on Masonic questions, for without doubt he is one of the most learned Masonic writers of the day. At the same time he is no more infallible in our opinion than the Pope, and until he can prove distinctly that the

foundation stone of St. Paul's was not laid with Masonic honours I am content with the authority I have quoted.

Preston states that King Charles II. laid the stone with Masonic ceremonial as a fact, and not as a tradition, and he was a hundred years nearer the light than we are now. Mr. Hughan knows very well that in the early part of last century many valuable MSS. relating to the Craft were destroyed by over scrupulous Masons for fear of their getting into improper hands, and it may be that a record of the building of St. Paul's was amongst the number. When Preston wrote, Masons would be still living whose fathers or grandfathers probably assisted at the ceremony, and there would be little difficulty in proving or disproving at that time a story which is now too old to gainsay on the mere *ipse dixit* of even a Masonic luminary like my esteemed friend Bro. Hughan. I know it has been the fashion of late years to decry Preston, Hutchinson, and Dr. Oliver, the fathers of our present school of Masonic authors, but time has shown in one or two notable instances that their supposed ignorance was knowledge, that the Masonic data they gave were more reliable than we gave them credit for, and that in some instances the documents whose very existence has been called to question by the critics of the day have within the last few years been brought to light to confound the sceptical Masons who believed only in facts, meaning lodge minutes, and ignored tradition, the oral testimony sometimes more reliable than the written. Preston mentions the Wilson MSS., which, however, has been known only by name until the last few years. These old charges which date from the time of Henry VIII. have within the present decade, I believe, been discovered. I merely mention this instance as showing that Preston, generally, had a foundation for most of his statements, and I make no doubt the Masons did really assist when the first stone of St. Paul's was laid in 1673.

EMRA HOLMES.

Sir,—Perhaps Mr. Hughan will object to the following extract, but I have no doubt it will be interesting to those who have read the correspondence on the above subject that has appeared in your valuable paper. I quote from "Constitutions of the Ancient Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, containing their History, Charges, Regulations, &c., compiled by order of the Grand Lodge from their old Records and Traditions, by James Anderson, D.D., a new edition raised and brought down to the year 1784, under the direction of the Hall Committee, by John Noorthorick, Freemasons' Hall, May 1st, 1784." Page 141—"Charles II. was magnificently restored, &c., May, 1660. In his travels he had been made a Freemason." Page 144—"Under the Royal favour and protection, Henry Jermyn, Earl of St. Alban, was chosen Grand Master of Masons." Page 145—"Mr. Christopher Wren and Mr. John Web were at this period Grand Wardens." Page 146—"Thomas Savage, Earl Rivers, succeeded St. Alban as Grand Master in June, 1666, who appointed Sir Christopher Wren his deputy." Page 159—"The King, with Grand Master Rivers, his architects and craftsmen, nobility and gentry, Lord Mayor and Aldermen, Bishops and clergy, &c., in due form levelled the footstone of the present Cathedral, designed by Deputy Grand Master Wren, in 1673, and was by him conducted as master of the work and surveyor, with his wardens, Mr. Henry Strong and his son." Page 192—"The lodges met, (1685) and elected Sir Christopher Wren Grand Master, who appointed Mr. Gabriel Cibber and Mr. Edward Strong Grand Wardens, and while carrying on St. Paul's he annually met those brethren that could attend him to keep up good old usages." I am afraid it would occupy too much of your valuable space, or I would send you "a chronological table of patrons, Grand Masters, officers, &c., in England from the time of the Anglo-Saxons" down to 1783, from the same work.—Yours truly,
P.M.
March 12th, 1880.

North Africa.

CRYPTIC MASONRY.

The M.P.G.M. has chartered the Ninth Council of Royal and Select Masters on the roll of the Grand Council of England, viz., the "Raymond Portal" Council at Tunis, North Africa. The Council was duly opened on the 8th February, 1880. Comps. A. M. Broadley, P.M., P.Z. 1717, is the first T.I.M.; Dr. Perini, W.M., and H. 1717, the first D.M.; and Captain Robert A. Johnstone, 1717, first P.C. of W. At the first sitting of the Council four candidates were duly greeted as M.E., R., S., and S.E. Masters. Comps. S. Sessing was appointed Recorder, and J. E. L. Barker, W.M. 1835, Conductor of the Council. A letter was read from the Grand Recorder, in which it was announced that the M.P.G.M. had appointed Bro. Broadley P.G.M. of the Cryptic Degrees for Tunis and Malta. It was decided to translate the ritual into French and Italian. As soon as this is done many of the members of the Ancient Carthage Chapter, No. 1717, and the Mark Lodges, Nos. 222 and 254, have signified their desire to obtain the interesting Degrees of Cryptic Masonry.

TUNIS.—Kingston Lodge (No. 222).—A very successful meeting of this Mark Lodge was held on the 13th inst. Present: W. Brock, G. Pentecost, W.M.; A. M. Broadley, P.G.M.; I.P.M.; Dr. Perini, S.W.; Professor Souiller, J.W.; M. de Gallais, M.O.; Professor Clement, S.O.; A. Bokobsa, J.O.; Dr. Pace-Williams, Sec.; J. Barsotti, Treas.; S. Sessing, S.D.; G. B. Cassar, J.D.; C. Foggetta, D. of C.; A. Andry, A.D. of C.; D. Euriquez, R.M.; Commander Bridger, Org.; J. Bocca-a, I.G.; J. Eymon, Tyler; Bros. T. F. Reade, Chevalier Tulin de la Tunisie, General Elias Musali, J. E. Gessel, J. Chaigne; and visitor, Bro. R. Cardona Rotino, 254. The lodge being duly opened, the P.G.M. assumed the gavel, and

advanced to the Honourable Degree of M.M.M. Bros. P. Delsol and C. Carriglio, of Lodge No. 1717. The ceremony being over, the P.G.M. called the attention of the brethren to a very important article in the *Rivista Massonica*, the official journal of Italian Masonry, in which the importance of the Mark Degree was fully recognised. Referring to the prosperity of the Mark Degree in Tunis, he was glad to state that out of ninety active Craft Masons fifty-four were members of the Mark lodges 222 and 254. Bros. T. F. Reade, Tulin de la Tunisie, and General Musati also addressed the brethren as to the necessity of energetic working to support the prestige of English Masonry generally, and the Mark Degree in particular, during the absence of the P.G.M., to whom they one and all desired a prosperous journey and swift return. A proposition for advancement being made, the lodge was closed in ancient form.

Masonic and General Tidings.

Bro. the Rev. S. J. W. Sanders, M.A., W.M. 1764, delivered a lecture on the Poets and Ballad Writers of Northamptonshire before a large audience, at the National School Room, Kettering, on Thursday, the 18th inst.

At the meeting of the St. Dunstan's Lodge, No. 1589, at Anderton's Hotel, on Wednesday evening last, Bro. Alfred Tisley, who had acted as Secretary from the foundation of the lodge in 1875, was presented by the members with a very handsome chronometer and chain of the value of fifty guineas. We hope to give a report of the proceedings in our next.

A social Club, to be called "The Junior Arts," has been formed, and will be started early in April at Lancaster House, the Savoy. The names of the Hon. Committee seem to indicate that the objects of the club will be carried out—namely, the provision of means of intercourse between members of the literary, dramatic, artistic, and musical professions.

The Queen has appointed Captain R. I. Edwards, of the Royal Engineers, Extra Groom in Waiting, to be Groom in Waiting in Ordinary to Her Majesty, in the room of Bro. Lieutenant-Colonel Arthur F. Pickard, C.B., R.A., V.C., deceased.—*Gazette*.

In a letter to the Lord Mayor, acknowledging the receipt of £2000, being the thirteenth remittance of a like amount, the Duchess of Marlborough says there is no fear of famine, but there is still dire destitution in the mountainous parts and on the sea coasts, and, above all things, a great need of clothing and of good seed. The Duchess's fund amounted, on the 15th inst., to £90,525 11s. 3d.

At a meeting of the "Hull Literary Club" on Monday, the 22nd inst., Mr. H. Calvert Appleby read an excellent paper on the "The Folk-Lore of Hull and the East Riding of Yorkshire," written in a flowing style. It was exceedingly well received by the members of the Club. Mr. Appleby's tales combine the romantic with reality in a singularly charming manner, and his graceful pen is capable of lending to dry antiquities all the fascinations of an enticing novel. We always welcome his work.

Bro. R. Biddulph Martin, 63, Lombard-street, is Honorary Treasurer of the fund for a testimonial to Dr. W. Farr, F.R.S.

Her Majesty held a Council at Windsor Castle, on Thursday, the 18th inst., when Bro. J. B. Monckton (Town Clerk), President Board of General Purposes, and W.M. Lodge 1827, and Mr. W. T. Charley (Common Serjeant) received the honour of knighthood at the hands of Her Majesty.

The regular meeting of the Farringdon Without Lodge, No. 1745, will be held on Monday, the 5th of April. The usual day having fallen upon Easter Monday, the W.M. has directed that the meeting be summoned as above for the general convenience of its members.

Bro. L. G. Letard, of the War Office, was installed W.M. of the Hiram Mark Lodge, No. 13, at the Star and Garter, Richmond, on Thursday last.

Bro. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., has appointed Bro. the Marquis of Londonderry Provincial Grand Master of Durham, in place of Bro. John Fawcett, resigned.

The yearly festival of the City of London Truss Society will take place at the Albion on April 27th. The Lord Mayor will preside, and will be supported by Mr. Sheriff Woollaton and Mr. Sheriff Bayley.

The Grocers' Company have voted a donation of £50 to the National Truss Society, 21, King William-street; and a fifth donation of £100 in aid of the Ventnor Consumption Hospital.

COST OF TELEGRAMS.—The Postmaster-General announces that on and after April 1 the rates of charge to the principal countries in Europe will be as follows per word: Austria, 4½d.; Belgium, 2d.; Denmark, 4d.; France, 2½d.; Germany, 4d.; Greece, 7½d.; Holland, 3d.; Hungary, 5d.; Italy, 5d.; Norway, 4d.; Portugal, 6½d.; Russia in Europe, 9d.; Spain, 6d.; Sweden, 5½d.; Switzerland, 4d.; Turkey in Europe, 8d.

Messrs. John Brinsmead and Sons have been awarded the only gold medal given for pianofortes at the Sydney Exhibition.

A meeting of the Clapham Lodge, No. 1818, took place at the Grosvenor Hotel on Monday last, when the W.M. and officers were presented with a handsome Founders' jewel. A report of the proceedings will appear in our next.

ERRATA.—The footnote at page 131 (ante) should read: "The statutes of the realm prior to the accession of Henry the Seventh," &c.

The inauguration of the Kingsland Lodge of Instruction took place at the Canonbury Tavern, Islington, on Monday, March 15th. Bro. J. Terry rehearsed the ceremony of consecration and installation, after which the brethren partook of an excellent supper, provided by the host, Bro. Longhurst. The meetings will take place every Monday at 8.30 p.m.

The installation meeting of the Ivy Lodge, No. 1441, took place at the Surrey Masonic Hall on Tuesday last, when Bro. Wm. Ashwell was duly placed in the chair of King Solomon. We hope to give a report of the proceedings in our next.

In order to give the working classes an opportunity of visiting the exhibition of pictures at Skinners' Hall, the Council of the City of London Society of Artists have resolved to reduce the price of admission on Saturdays to sixpence.

We regret to announce the death on the 6th inst. of Bro. W. Oakley, P.M. 261, P.Z. and P.Prov. G.W. Somerset. Our deceased brother had filled the office of Governor of Her Majesty's Prison at Taunton for nearly thirty years, and was well-known and respected in his province. The funeral took place on the 11th inst., and was largely attended.

HELP FOR THE IRISH.—The *Times* of Feb. 4th states that the sum of £100 has been received from Messrs. Sutton and Sons, the Queen's Seedsmen, Reading, as a donation towards the Duchess of Marlborough's Relief Fund, and we understand that the same firm has just presented 100 bushels of their celebrated disease-resisting potatoes, "Magnum Bonum," to Mr. E. Purdon, of the "Irish Farmer's Gazette" Peasants' Seed and Potato Fund, besides a large quantity of the same variety to the Irish Church Mission at Connemara for distribution among the Protestant and Catholic population who are in such distress in that district.

J. E. SHAND & Co., "Fair Traders," Registered Wine and Spirit Merchants (Experts and Valuers), 2, Albert Mansions, Victoria-street, London, S.W. Price lists on application.—[Adv.]

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS
For the Week ending Friday, April 2, 1880.

SATURDAY, MARCH 27.
Lodge 1297, West Kent, Crystal Palace, Sydenham.
" 1679, Henry Mugeridge, Prince George, Dalston.
" 1686, Paxton, Crystal Palace, Sydenham.
" 1706, Orpheus, F.M.H.
" 1777, Royal Hanover, Albany Hot., Twickenham.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.
Manchester, 17, London-st., Fitzroy-sq., at 8.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-rd., at 7.
Percy, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-rd., N., at 8.
Eccleston, King's Head, Ebury Bridge, Pimlico.
Sphinx, Stirling Castle, Camberwell.

MONDAY, MARCH 29.
Lodge 79, Pythagorean, Ship Hot., Greenwich.
Chap. 188, Joppa, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 1201, Eclectic, F.M.H.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.
Neptune, Warrior Hot., Brixton, at 7.
Lily, Greyhound, Richmond, at 7.
London Masonic Club, 101, Queen Victoria-st., E.C., at 6.
Wellington, White Swan Hot., High-st., Deptford, 8 to 10.
St. John, Gun Hot., Wapping, 8 till 10.
Prince Leopold, Milford Tav., Sandringham-rd., Dalston, 7.30.
Strong Man, Old Rodney's Head, Old-st., E.C.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station, at 7.
Camden, 174, High-st., Camden Town, at 8.
Tredegar, Royal Hot., Mile-end-rd., at 8.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st., at 8.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe, at 8.
Upper Norwood, White Hart Hot., Church-rd., at 8.
Marquis of Ripon, Pembury Tav., Amherst-rd., Hackney, 8.
Loughborough, Cambria Tav., Loughborough Junc., at 7.30.
Hyde Park, The Westbourne, 1, Craven-rd., at 8.
West Smithfield, New Market Hot., West Smithfield.
West Kent, Forest-hill Hot., Forest-hill, at 7.30.
St. George's, Globe Tav., Royal Hill, Greenwich, at 7.
Doric Chapter, 248, Globe-rd., Mile End-rd., at 8.
Royal Commemoration, R. Hot., High-st., Putney, 8 till 10.
British Oak, Bank of Friendship Tav., Mile End.
Eastern Star, Royal Hot., Mile End-rd., 7.30.
High Cross, Coach and Horses, Lower Tottenham, at 8.
St. Mark's, S.M.H., Camberwell New-rd.
John Hervey, Albion Hall, London Wall, at 8.
New Finsbury Park, Pilmossill Arms, St. Thomas-rd., N., at 8.
Kilburn, South Molton Hot., South Molton-st., W., at 7.30.

TUESDAY, MARCH 30.
Lodge 141, Faith, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.
Pilgrim, F.M.H., 1st and last Tues.
Metropolitan, Moorgate-st. Station Restaurant, at 7.30.
Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney, at 7.
Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road, at 7.30.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st., S.W., at 8.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood, at 7.
Prosperity, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st., at 7.30.
Dalhousie, The Sisters' Tav., Pownall-rd., Dalston, E., 7.30.
Florence Nightingale, M.H., William-st., Woolwich, 7.30.
Constitutional, Bedford Hot., Southampton Bds., at 7.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe-road.
Wandsworth, Star and Garter Hot., Wandsworth, at 7.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea, at 8.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe, at 8.
St. John of Wapping, Gun Hot., High-st., Wapping, at 8.
Islington, Moorgate Station Restaurant, at 7.
Leopold, Gregorian Arms, Jamaica-rd., Bermondsey, at 8.
Mount Edgumbe, 19, Jermyn-st., St. James's, at 8.

Duke of Connaught, Palmerston Arms, Grosvenor Park, 8.
Sir Hugh Myddelton, 162, St. John's-st.-rd., at 8.
St. Marylebone, Eyre Arms, Finchley-rd., at 8.
Corinthian, George Hot., Millwall Docks, at 7.
Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich, at 7.30.
Royal Naval College, Greenwich Hospital Schools, at 8.
Eleanor, Angel Hot., Edmonton.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31.
Lodge 898, Temperance-in-the-East, 6, Newby-pl., Poplar.
" 1768, Progress, F.M.H.
Chap. 435, Mount Lebanon, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.
Confidence, Railway Tavern, Fenchurch-st., 7 till 9.
New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-rd., N., at 8.
Mt. Lebanon, Horse Shoe Tav., Newington Causeway, 8.
Pythagorean, Portland Hot., Greenwich, at 8.
Burdett Coutts, Salmon and Ball, Bethnal Green-rd., at 8.30.
La Tolerance, 2, Madlox-st., W., at 7.45.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-rd., Peckham, at 8.
Finsbury Park, Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's-road, N.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park, at 8.
Duke of Connaught, Ryl. Edward Hot., Mare-st., Hackney, 8.
United Strength, Hope & Anchor, Crowndale-rd., N.W., 8.
Whittington, Red Lion, Poppin's-court, Fleet-st., at 8.
Royal Jubilee, 81, Long Acre, at 8.
Langthorne, Swan Hot., Stratford, at 8.
Temperance in the East, George the 4th, Ida-st., Poplar, 7.30.
Thistle, M.M.M., The Harp Tav., at 8.
Eleanor, Trocadero Hot., Liverpool-st., Edmonton.
Zetland, Kings' Arms Hot., High-st., Kensington, at 8.
Merchant Navy, Silver Tav., Burdett-rd., Limehouse, 7.30.

THURSDAY, APRIL 1.
Lodge 10, Westminster and Keystone, F.M.H.
" 27, Egyptian, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 45, Strong Man, M.H., Masons' Avenue.
" 227, Ionic, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 231, St. Andrew's, F.M.H.
" 742, Crystal Palace, Crystal Palace, Sydenham.
" 822, Victoria Rifles, F.M.H.
" 1155, Excelsior, Sydney Arms, Lewisham-rd.
" 1178, Perfect Ashlar, Bridge House Hot.
" 1672, Mornington, King's Head Tav., Fenchurch-st.
" 1772, Pimlico, Morpeth Arms Tav., Milbank.
Chap. 2, St. James's, F.M.H.
" 9, Moriah, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
Mark 197, St. Holme, 33, Golden-sq., W.
" 199, Duke of Connaught, Havelock Hot., Albion-rd.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.
Union Waterloo, Earl of Chatham, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
Kent, Duke of York, Borough-rd., Southwark, 7.30.
Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st., 7.30.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.C., at 8.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-rd.
Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank, at 8.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town, at 8.
The Great City, M.H., Masons' Avenue, 6.30.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-rd., Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st., at 8.
Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd., at 8.
Great Northern, Berwick Arms, Berners-st., Oxford-st.
Rose, Walmer Castle Hot., Peckham-rd., at 8.
Covent Garden, Nag's Head, James-st., W., at 7.45.
Crusaders, St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, at 9.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.
United Mariners, Three Cranes Tav., Mile End-rd., at 8.
Vitruvian, White Hart, Belvedere-rd., Lambeth, at 8.
Panmure, Balham Hot., Balham, 7.30.
Royal Oak, Lecture Hall, High-st., Deptford, at 8.
Capper, Three Crowns, North Woolwich, at 7.
Marquis of Ripon, Pembury Tav., Amhurst-rd., Hackney, 7.30.
Royal Albert, White Hart Hot., Abchurch-lane, at 7.30.
Victoria Park, The Two Brewers, Stratford, at 8.
West Middlesex, Feathers Hot., Ealing, at 7.30.
North London Chap., Jolly Farmers, Southgate-rd., N., at 9.

FRIDAY, APRIL 2.
Stewards R.M.I. Girls, F.M.H., at 4.30.
Lodge 706, Florence Nightingale, M.H., Woolwich.
" 890, Hornsey, F.M.H.
" 1489, Marquis of Ripon, 90, Balls Pond-rd., N.
" 1627, Royal Kensington, F.M.H.
" 1716, All Saints, Town Hall, Poplar.
" 1815, Penge, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Chap. 259, Prince of Wales, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.
Mark 8, Thistle, Freemasons' Tav.
" 223, West Smithfield, New Market Hot., King-st.
K.T. 134, Blondel, Freemasons' Tav.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st., at 8.
Belgrave, Harp Tav., Jermyn-st., W., at 8.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H., at 7.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-rd., Deptford, at 8.
Metropolitan (Victoria), Portugal Hot., Fleet-st., at 7.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Westbourne, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-rd., 7.30.
St. James's, Gregorian Arms, Jamaica-rd., S.E., at 8.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar, at 7.
Doric, 79, Whitechapel-rd., at 8.
Burgoyne, The Red Cap, Camden Town, N.W., at 8.
St. Luke's, White Hart, King's-rd., Chelsea, 7.30.
Chigwell, Prince's Hall, Buckhurst-hill, at 8.
Royal Standard, The Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's-rd., N., at 8.
Ranelagh, Six Bells, Hammersmith-rd., at 8.
Finsbury Park, Earl Russell, Isledon-rd., Holloway, at 8.
William Preston, Feathers Tav., Up. George-st., Edgware-rd.
Earl of Carnarvon, Mitre Hot., Golborne-rd., Notting-Hill.
Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st., at 6.
Pythagorean Chapter, Portland Hot., London-st., Greenwich.
St. George's, Globe Tav., Greenwich, at 8.
Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, at 7.30.
Wandsworth, Star and Garter Hot., Wandsworth, at 7.
Clapton, White Hart Tav., Clapton, at 7.30.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, April 3, 1880.
MONDAY, MARCH 29.
 Lodge 148, Light M.R., Warrington.
TUESDAY, MARCH 30.
 Chap. 721, Grosvenor, M.R., Chester.
 Merchants L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31.
 Lodge 730, Ellesmere, Royal Oak, Chorley.
 " 1061, Triumph, M.H., Lytham.
 " 1403, W. Lancashire, Commercial Hot., Ormskirk.
 Alpass Encamp., M.H., Liverpool.
THURSDAY, APRIL 1.
 Lodge 249, Mariners, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 1473, Bootle, A.R., Bootle.
 Chap. 758, Bridgewater, M.H., Runcorn.
 St. John's L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
 Duke of Edinburgh L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
FRIDAY, APRIL 2.
 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, April 3, 1880.
MONDAY, MARCH 29.
 Lodge 62, Social, Queen's Hot., Manchester.
 Precep., St. James of Jerusalem, F.M.H., Bolton.
TUESDAY, MARCH 30.
 Lodge 1774, Mellor, Railway Hot., Guide Bridge.
 Mark 156, Alfred, Bridge Inn, Bury.
 Precep., Plains of Tabor, Swan Hot., Colne.
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31.
 Lodge 163, Integrity, F.M.H., Manchester.
 " 210, Duke of Athol, Bowling Green Hot., Denton.
 " 274, Tranquillity, Boar's Head, Newchurch.
 " 363, Keystone, New Inn, Whitworth.
 " 1083, Townley Parker, Mosley Hot., Beswick.
 " 1219, Strangeways, Empire Hot., Strangeways.
 " 1775, Leopold, Masonic Rooms, Church.
 Chap. 226, Benevolence, Red Lion Hot., Littleboro'.
 " 274, Fidelity, Boar's Head Inn, Newchurch.
THURSDAY, APRIL 1.
 Lodge 215, Commerce, Commercial Hot., Haslingden.
 " 266, Naphtali, Navigation Inn, Heywood.
 " 269, Fidelity, White Bull Hot., Blackburn.
 " 300, Minerva, Pitt and Nelson, Ashton U. L.
 " 317, Affability, F.M.H., Manchester.
 " 1012, Prince of Wales, Derby Hot., Bury.
 " 1504, Red Rose of Lancaster, Starkie's Arms, Hot., Padham.
 Chap. 581, Rectitude, Corporation Inn, Ardwick.
 Mark 158, Rose and Thistle, 20, King-street, Wigan.
FRIDAY, APRIL 2.
 Lodge 44, Friendship, F.M.H., Manchester.
 " 219, Prudence, M.H., Todmorden.
SATURDAY, APRIL 3.
 Lodge 1458, Truth, Cons. Club, Newton Heath.

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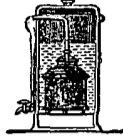
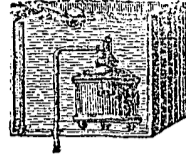
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THOMAS'S HATS.

(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 guld 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.

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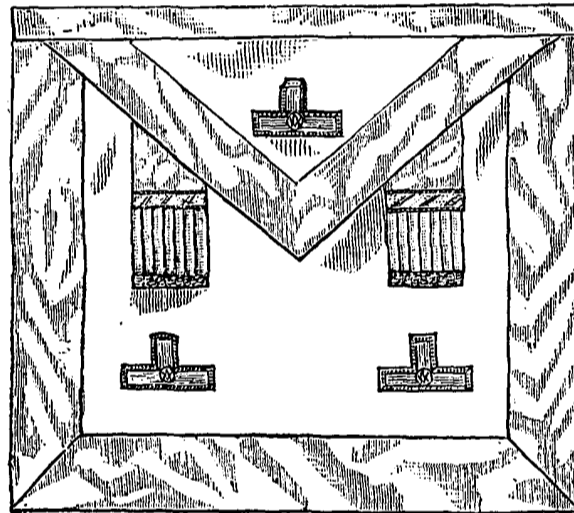
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