

# THE FREEMASON.

The Organ of the Craft, a Weekly Record of Progress in  
FREEMASONRY, LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

Reports of the Grand Lodges are Published with the Special Sanction of

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, THE M.W. GRAND MASTER OF ENGLAND; HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ABERCORN, M.W. GRAND MASTER OF IRELAND;  
THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF MAR AND KELLIE, M.W. GRAND MASTER OF SCOTLAND; AND THE GRAND MASTERS  
OF MANY FOREIGN GRAND LODGES.

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THE Festival for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for 1884 took place on Tuesday last, under the Chairmanship of the President of the Board of General Purposes, Bro. SIR JOHN B. MONCKTON, owing to the indisposition of our esteemed Grand Treasurer, Bro. J. D. ALLCROFT. There were 299 Stewards, and the returns amounted to £14,343 9s. 6d., made up of £8245 11s. 6d. from 159 London Stewards, and £6097 18s. brought up by 140 Stewards from the Provinces. A few more lists have since come in, adding £24 11s. 6d. to the above amounts, making a grand total up to the time of our going to press of £14,368 1s. We should like to call attention, in our editorial columns, to the returns this week, but owing to pressure on our space must postpone doing so till next week. We rejoice to note that the GRAND TREASURER sent a handsome contribution of 200 guineas.

OWING to the illness of our esteemed Grand Treasurer Bro. J. D. ALLCROFT, as above mentioned, Bro. SIR JOHN MONCKTON, at a moment's notice, undertook to preside, and did so with his customary ability. Our worthy Bro. the GRAND TREASURER had not, however, forgotten the excellent Charity of which he is such a warm friend.

WE congratulate all concerned on the result of our first great Festival for 1884, and think we see at once that, accepting the gathering and returns of last Tuesday as an omen of future success for subsequent festivals, the fire of Masonic charity burns as brightly as ever, despite bad times, the dulness of trade, and many claims of various kinds pressing upon us all just now. Indeed, under the circumstances of the hour, we deem the return a very good one, and a just reward to Bro. TERRY'S untiring efforts for the last twelve months, while it puts the reality of Masonic charity before us all and the world at large in a very striking light.

WE regret to note that our friendly advice to the combatants in *re* the election of Grand Treasurer has not been taken. We were extremely loth to publish one of the letters especially which appeared in our columns last week, and which for violence and personality we have seldom seen equalled, if ever surpassed. The *Freemason* having determined to allow both sides to "speak out," has found it impossible to use the censor's prerogative, or the editor's supervision. The correspondence speaks for itself, and will be judged befittingly by brethren of æquable and educated minds. We only deplore the waste of type and temper on matters which are so trivial, and which certainly might be argued with decency and decorum, with moderation and self restraint.

THE following figures in respect of lodge support of our Charities in 1883 deserve perusal and thought. It will be seen that out of over 2000 lodges normally on our roll, only 504 sent up Stewards in 1883. Of these, 56 lodges sent up Stewards for all the Charities, 84 for two Charities, and 364 for one Festival only. We have to make, of course, allowance for Colonial lodges, and vacancies, and thus the actual number of London Lodges is 329; Provincial 1023; the Colonial lodges being 515; and the vacant numbers 143. But allowing the needful margin, in our humble opinion the balance of "donothingness" is very great indeed, far too great to be pleasant. We said before, 504 lodges actually sent up Stewards, but allowing for Provincial Grand Lodges and other bodies, there seem to have been 717 thus represented by Stewards. Of these, 220 were London, 497 Provincial; the London lodges returning nearly three-fourths of their number, and the Provincial lodges not quite half. Of the 504 lodges actually remitting, 220 were London, 284 Provincial; thus the London again nearly three-fourths, and the Provinces just over a quarter. It is possible that if we take the last six years, say, we shall find a larger number of lodges contributing than at first to seems be the case. But still a great many do nothing at all, and the one fact remains clear and certain, that the same lodges year by year do the greater part of the work. We invite our readers to reflect on the point we have

thus raised, and the statistics laid before them, and we trust that a sensible return for our great improvement will take place in respect of halting efforts and deficient returns in our great metropolitan Charities.

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BRO. WHYTEHEAD'S able address last week in the *Freemason* deserves some little attention. He undoubtedly "strikes oil," and "scores a point." We must not confuse as between the end and aims of the "excellent gift of Charity." Masonic Charity is indeed a great virtue, but it is not the "end-all and be-all" alone of Freemasonry. We are in danger of giving to our excellent fraternity the idea and results of a Benefit Society. So many are the advantages, so abounding the benefits of English Freemasonry just now, that it must be feared many enter our Order on purely selfish grounds for the good they expect, while many are induced to proclaim themselves its neophytes because they can apparently discern some "quid pro quo," some return for money paid. Now all this is most contrary to the true teaching and real design of Freemasonry. Charity is one "mark" of true Freemasonry, a very golden one it is too, very valuable, very admirable, and very commendable, but Freemasonry is not merely Charity, though it includes Charity as one of its most distinguishing characteristics. Freemasonry implies self culture, self elevation, and self restraint, the studies which adorn and improve, the morals which control and distinguish. An idle Mason, a "fainéant" Mason, an ignorant Mason, are like "flies in amber," inconsistencies in our profession, anomalies in our system, blots on our escutcheon, which all earnest Freemasons will wish lessened and removed as soon as possible. Just as we cannot all have the same ideas, so we cannot all have the same tastes. Some of us see through certain coloured spectacles, some through different ones, but allowing for all needful liberty in things non-essential and practically indifferent, we have a right, as Bro. WHYTEHEAD puts it, to urge upon all our readers to uphold the real dignity and advance the true interests of Freemasonry, by seeking to realize aright the solemn precepts it proclaims, the grave message it upholds, the stern and sacred duties it enjoins on all who claim its membership or form its brotherhood.

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WE call attention to a letter elsewhere relating to certain assumptions and assertions by those who favour the movement in favour of the South Australian Grand Lodge. We are aware that such statements are commonly made, and we have invited attention to their unreality before. But being again put forward, we think it right to say, once for all, that all such asseverations are absolutely incorrect and unfounded. That any compulsory support of our great Charities is exacted from our Colonial brethren we may remark is a very bold figure of speech, or that they contribute to our Benevolent Fund (except voluntarily) is equally removed from fact. As regards the movement, Bro. ROBERTS, Secretary and Past Master to Lodge 583, seems, so far, the only brother who has deprecated the severance. At a meeting of the Mount Gambia Lodge, 1207, on December 11th, the W.M., Bro. J. INGLEBY, in his address favouring the movement made the following remarks: "Every Mason under the English Constitution assists *compulsorily* in building and keeping up these stupendous Charities" (our Metropolitan Charities) "with, as I certainly hold, small hope of participating therein." This is not the first time such statements have been made in the colonies, and, once for all, we think it right to say (we might appeal to the Secretaries) that all such asseverations are absolutely untrue. No one is compelled to subscribe to the Charities; but *all* legal members of English lodges, under certain conditions, have a right to ask to share their benefits. There are also very hazy views—we fear designedly so—as regards the Lodge of Benevolence, as the brethren in Adelaide must know they send *nothing* to our Fund of Benevolence, and are exempted by the Book of Constitutions from the need of doing so. We are astonished, therefore, to read the following remarks of Bro. INGLEBY on this head: "But again, say the English Grand Lodge, Australian Masons are often assisted back to Australia; to this I reply, not by denying its truth in rare instances, but by asserting the fact, which we all know to be uncontrovertible, that Australians go to England with their pockets lined with Australian gold, though doubtless in some few instances the reverse is the case, but then it is because they have rich friends at home. This has appeared to many to be unfair and one-sided, and I think so too; I therefore am at one with those who wish for a South Australian Grand Lodge, so that the fund at home may be distributed here." That any compulsory support of our Metropolitan Charities is exacted from our Colonial brethren, we may repeat, is a bold figure of speech, and that they contribute to our Fund of Benevolence (except voluntarily) is equally removed from the fact. The only possible colouring to the assertion arises from the fact that Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter have from time to time made grants to our Masonic Charities. But for all these grants votes have been

given. We apprehend that if the authorities, as in the Canada question of old, gave us figures to show what had been paid to the Fund of Benevolence by English lodges and Colonial lodges the result now as then would be very startling indeed. That relief is constantly given to our brethren returning to Australia, many members who regularly attend the Board of Benevolence can at once certify, and we cannot help thinking that all such remarks deliberately made in lodge are derogatory to the dignity and truth of Freemasonry, and not a little ungrateful to the Grand Lodge of England. If in their present state of agitation and excitement the great bulk of the English lodges resolve to secede from their mother Grand Lodge, be it so. The Grand Lodge of England is never weakened by the loss of dissatisfied or recalcitrant members; it will receive the resolution of its far off members in dignified composure and silence. We can only hope that they will find themselves as well off and well governed as an independent body as they have been under the mild and agreeable and tolerant rule of the Grand Lodge of England.

We notice an attack on the Grand Lodge of England in reference to this very question, from a paper termed the *Masonic Tablet*. Were it not sad and humiliating even to the Masonic mind to peruse such an outburst of Masonic petulance and injustice, we might think it worth while to reply to it. But then we should be giving currency to what is a most unjust and undignified attack on the Grand Lodge of England simply for doing its duty, adhering to ancient landmarks, and upholding the laws, prestige, and interests, as well of its own great body as of cosmopolitan Freemasonry.

The agenda paper of the Quarterly Communication on Wednesday next is now before us. The election of GRAND MASTER will take place, as also will the election of GRAND TREASURER. A grant of £50 each to the bereaved families of the two of crew of the ALBERT EDWARD lifeboat who were recently drowned will be moved. The usual report of the Lodge of Benevolence will be presented. The application of the self-styled Grand Lodge of Victoria for recognition will be dealt with, as also an appeal from the Reunion Lodge, New Zealand. Bro. Lieut.-Col. CREATON, Past Grand Treasurer, will move the grant of a vote of £70 to supply coals to the inmates at Croydon. A large muster of the brethren is expected.

We print elsewhere an account of a Masonic gathering in Belgium. We should have been pleased to dilate upon it were it not for the fact that the Belgian Masons have so weakly and servilely imitated the example of the French Grand Orient, and taken out the belief in God from their Constitutions, just as they have banished the Bible from their lodges. Under those circumstances, as we can say nothing pleasant or complimentary, we think it the truest wisdom to leave the subject without note or comment, simply recording.

We are among those who regret to see the Grand Lodge of Holland following in the wake of the Grand Orients of France and Belgium. Dutch Freemasonry has a history of its own, and as its origin was English, so we had hoped it would keep close to the good old landmarks which the English Grand Lodge so faithfully upholds. For some time it has, unfortunately, been led by the "movement" party.

### UNITED GRAND LODGE.

The following is the Agenda for the business to be transacted at the Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge, to be held on Wednesday next, the 5th inst. :—

- 1.—The Minutes of the Quarterly Communication of the 5th December, 1883, will be read and put for confirmation.
- 2.—Election of a M.W. Grand Master.
- 3.—Election of a Grand Treasurer.
- 4.—The M.W. Grand Master will move: "That the sum of fifty guineas be granted to the family of the late James Cross, and a similar sum of fifty guineas to the family of the late Thomas Cattermole, two of the crew of the Albert Edward lifeboat, at Clacton-on-Sea, which boat was presented to the National Lifeboat Institution by Grand Lodge in the year 1877; these two men, after having assisted, the first in saving 116 and the second 33 lives, having lost their own in the discharge of their duty on the night of the 23rd January last, whilst in their boat, endeavouring to rescue the crew of a vessel in distress, leaving their families, consisting respectively of a widow and six children and a widow and three children, entirely destitute."
- 5.—Report of the Lodge of Benevolence for the last quarter, in which are recommendations for the following grants, viz. :—
 

A Brother of the Enfield Lodge, No. 1237, Enfield ... ..	£50 0 0
A Brother of the Angel Lodge, No. 51, Colchester ... ..	50 0 0
A Brother of the Percy Lodge, No. 198, London ... ..	150 0 0
The Widow of a Brother of the Frederick Lodge of Unity, No. 452, Croydon ... ..	75 0 0
A Brother of the Great City Lodge, No. 1426, London ... ..	50 0 0
The Widow of a Brother of the Lodge of Perseverance, No. 345, Blackburn ... ..	50 0 0

#### 6.—REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

"To the United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England.

"The Board of General Purposes beg to submit a Statement of the Grand Lodge Accounts, at the meeting of the Finance Committee, held on Friday, the 15th day of February instant, shewing a Balance in the Bank of England of £545<sup>s</sup> 13s. 10d., and in the hands of the Grand Secretary for Petty Cash £100, and for Servants' Wages £100, and Balance of Annual Allowance for Library 13s. 8d. (Signed) JOHN B. MONCKTON, President.  
"Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C., 19th February, 1884."

7.—Report of Brother R. P. Harding, Auditor of Grand Lodge Accounts, of Receipts and Disbursements during the year 1883.

8.—Application from a body styling itself "The Grand Lodge of Victoria," Australia, requesting their recognition by the United Grand Lodge of England

as a regular Grand Lodge. (Deferred from last Grand Lodge in consequence of want of time.)

9.—Appeal from the Reunion Lodge, No. 1956, Blenheim, New Zealand, against certain comments made by the Colonial Board when cancelling the exclusion of Brother William Benjamin Earl from that Lodge, relative to the conduct of Bro. Christopher J. W. Griffiths, of the same Lodge, in the matter. (Deferred from last Grand Lodge in consequence of want of time.) N.B.—The papers relating to this appeal will be in the Grand Secretary's office till the meeting of Grand Lodge, and open for the inspection of the Brethren during office hours.

10.—Notice of Motion by V.W. Brother Lieut.-Col. JOHN CREATON, Past Grand Treasurer: "That the sum of £70 be voted from the Fund of General Purposes; and that the same be placed in the hands of the Secretary of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons, to supply the residents of the Institution with coals during the winter season."

### LIST OF LODGES

FOR WHICH WARRANTS HAVE BEEN GRANTED BY THE M.W.G.M. SINCE THE LAST QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION OF GRAND LODGE.

- No. 2023.—The Royal Albert Lodge, Eskbank, Sydney, New South Wales.  
 „ 2024.—The Raymond Thrupp Lodge, Hampton Court, Middlesex.  
 „ 2025.—The Lodge of St. George, Stonehouse, Devon.  
 „ 2026.—The Rylstone Prince of Wales Lodge, Rylstone, New South Wales.  
 „ 2027.—The Orient Lodge, Newtown, Sydney, New South Wales.  
 „ 2028.—The Granite Lodge, Narborough, Leicestershire.  
 „ 2029.—The Lodge of King Solomon, Golden Square.  
 „ 2030.—The Abbey Lodge, Westminster.  
 „ 2031.—The Carnatic Lodge, Madras.  
 „ 2032.—The Richmond Lodge, Richmond, Surrey.  
 „ 2033.—The University of London Lodge, Freemasons' Hall.  
 „ 2034.—The Masefield Lodge, Balsall Heath, Worcestershire.  
 „ 2035.—The Beaumont Lodge, Kirkburton, Yorks.

### ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The annual festival of this Institution was held at Freemasons' Tavern on Tuesday last, when about 350 brethren sat down to table, there being also a large attendance of ladies in the gallery. Sir John B. Monckton, P.G.D. and President of the Board of General Purposes, presided, in the absence of Bro. John Derby Allcroft, Grand Treasurer, who was absent from indisposition. Among those present were the following:

Bros. Sir J. B. Monckton, President Board of General Purposes; T. H. Devonshire, J.G.D.; Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, G. Sec.; Col. Peters, G.S.B.; Edgar Bowyer, G. Std. Br.; H. G. Buss, Asst. G. Sec.; R. C. Else, P.G.D., D.P.G.M. Somerset; Sir Chas. T. Bright, P.D.P.G.M. Middx.; Horace Brooks Marshall, Vice Patron, President Board of Stewards; Lt.-Col. Haldane, P.D.D.G.M. Malta; George Kenning, P.G.D. Middx., Vice Patron; F. Binckes, Sec. R.M.I. Boys; F. R. W. Hedges, Sec. R.M.I. Girls; Bond, P.P.G.W. Somerset; H. R. Cooper Smith, M.A., Vice Patron, P.P.G.S.W. Oxon; R. Percy Middlemist, Hon. Surgeon to Institution; Dr. H. J. Strong; J. Terry, Sec.; E. Letchworth, Rymer, T. P. Shipp, J. R. Boor, Vice Patron; W. Harrop, Vice Patron; Hugh E. Deamond, Vice Patron; R. J. Emmerson, Vice Patron; R. V. Vassar-Smith, The Mayor of Bolton, G. P. Brockbank, C. S. Lane, D. P. Cama, Vice Patron, and Lionel Monckton.

In proposing the first toast, the CHAIRMAN said loyalty and charity were the watchwords of English Freemasons, and they were met that night to give effect to the sentiments that were conveyed by those two simple but eloquent words; he therefore called on them to rise as one man and heartily drink "The Health of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen."

In proposing "The Health of the Grand Master," the CHAIRMAN said he now called on the brethren to give expression to their loyalty to the head—the Royal chief of their Craft—(hear, hear)—one who had done more for English Freemasonry in its truest and best sense than any living man. He proposed to them to drink "The Health of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the Patron of the Institution; Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, and the other Members of the Royal Family."

The CHAIRMAN said in proposing to them that they should drink to "The Health of the M.W. Pro Grand Master, the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon," he could not forget, nor could they fail to remember, the services rendered by that most estimable nobleman. None of them who had had the privilege of sitting in Grand Lodge could fail to bear in mind the manner in which the proceedings of Grand Lodge were conducted by the Pro Grand Master. He therefore asked them to rise and drink the health of the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon.

In proposing the next toast, Sir JOHN MONCKTON said he now proposed to the brethren present "The Health of the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom, the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, and the other Grand Officers, Present and Past." Of those who had been placed over them by the M.W. Grand Master, no one was more esteemed and appreciated than Lord Lathom, the Deputy Grand Master. A more courteous, a more popular, a more true exponent of all belonging to Freemasonry was not to be found in this country. For the other Grand Officers, among whom he (Bro. Monckton) had for many years been enrolled, he must not say much, but he was sure that those present would accord a cordial reception of that toast. He coupled with the toast the name of the present Grand Deacon, Bro. Devonshire.

Bro. DEVONSHIRE, in reply, said he was sorry that on that occasion there was not some senior Grand Officer present who could respond to them for the toast; but it fell to him to do it; he was told that it was his duty to do it, and he begged to add that he had very great pleasure in doing it. He was very sure that all the Grand Officers past as well as present, were delighted to see or hear of such a gathering as this. It was part of the greatness of their Order to see the outcome of the work of others reproduced or produced at such meetings as the present, and it was not only

amongst themselves that these things did good and brought gratification to them; but these institutions and such gatherings as these proved something very important to those who were in the outer world, and not Masons. These were facts which were most desirable to be known to those who were not Masons, that the work of Freemasonry was a good thing. On the part of the present and past Grand Officers he begged leave to thank the company most heartily for the way in which they had received this toast.

THE CHAIRMAN said: Brethren, before I approach that which the toastmaster has told you, and told you very truly, is the toast of the evening, the main object of our coming together, I will disburden my mind of that which has been upon it for the last four and twenty hours. I had hoped, like yourselves, to be present at the chairmanship of one who has looked forward to it with great hopefulness. I do not know any one who would have filled the position with greater geniality. He is now upon a bed, not of sickness I am glad to say, but of physical inability to get out of it. And I may state for him that until the very latest moment came he so hoped and so clung to the possibility of being present, that it was not until within the last four and twenty hours or so that he began to think of a substitute. I, brethren, am that very unworthy—(no, no, no)—substitute, and in his name, as well as in my own I ask you to give a cordial reception to the toast now before you. You see what it is—"Success to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons." Brethren, I don't know that either of the other Institutions can appear more interesting than this—can appeal to our feelings more thoroughly than that which we affectionately call "The Poor Old Folks." It is the youngest of the Institutions, as you know, but it is the one which requires as much loving care as any of them. Bro. Terry has placed in my hands a number of figures and details which I do not propose to read to you in full. It is sufficient to say that for 42 years now the old men's Institution has existed, and some six or eight years later that for the widows of Freemasons, the old ladies, was started to run concurrently with it. I need not say that there are a very large number who cannot possibly reach the benefit of such an Institution as this, but it is a peculiar coincidence—or rather it is a matter of interest—that those who have received the benefit, added to the number to be elected at the next election, will amount to the exact number of one thousand. That is to say those Freemasons who have been unfortunate, and the widows of those who are dead, to that number, have been made happy and easy for the rest of their life from the moment when £40 a year in the one case, and £30 a year in the other, was voted to them. There used to be many, when I was a young Freemason, now thirty years ago, who said what is the use of Freemasonry? I say that the facts and figures that I have just now read supply an answer. If people who have been well-to-do have set in motion for them an institution which keeps these people happy and comfortable for the rest of their lives, that is sufficient justification for Freemasonry if there is nothing else. None of us who to-night are inclined to support the claims of old, ignore in so doing the claims of the young; but with the young everything is elastic and hopeful, while with the old who are unfortunate there is nothing but penury to look forward to unless the benevolent step forward with aid. I hope in a few moments Bro. Terry the indefatigable Secretary, will be able to announce such a list of benefactions as will offer an ample response to this toast. I do not propose to take up your time further here, you will be better and happier elsewhere if you go from this room feeling that you have done your duty here. I ask you to drink to the toast, coupling with it the health of Bro. Terry.

In replying to the toast, Bro. TERRY said: Very Worshipful sir and brethren, I claim your attention, if you please, whilst I give you a few figures showing the results of our Stewards' exertions, in doing which I will endeavour to make every figure distinct, so that all may be done justice to. The Province of Berks and Bucks, seven Stewards, £220 15s.; Bristol, one Steward, £293 11s.; Cheshire, six Stewards (one list to come in), £115 10s.; Cornwall, one Steward, £47 5s.; Devonshire, one Steward, £27 6s.; Dorsetshire, one Steward (list to come in); Durham, two Stewards, £121 16s.; Essex, eight Stewards, £399 7s.; Gloucestershire, four Stewards, £80 7s.; Hants and Isle of Wight, three Stewards, £350 17s.; Herts, eight Stewards, £362 6s. 6d.; Kent, five Stewards, £271 8s.; East Lancashire, 25 Stewards, £640 2s. 10d.; West Lancashire, nine Stewards, £230 10s.; Leicestershire and Rutland, one Steward, £350; Middlesex, seven Stewards, £213 11s.; Nottinghamshire, two Stewards (one list to come in), £142 14s. 6d.; Oxfordshire, five Stewards, £90 2s.; South Wales (the list to come in); Somersetshire, one list by its Dep. G.M., £500; Staffordshire, one Steward alone, £152 5s.; Suffolk, two Stewards (one of whom brings only £10 10s.), £201 15s. 10d.; Surrey, eight Stewards (one list to come in), £244 4s.; Essex, one list, £63; Warwickshire, nine Stewards, £78 9s.; Wiltshire, one Steward, £157 8s.; Worcestershire, five Stewards, £110 5s.; North and East Yorkshire, two Stewards, £49 18s.; West Yorkshire, two Stewards, £352 5s.; Guernsey, two Stewards, £218 8s.; and India, one Steward, £10 10s. That list, brother Chairman comprehends 140 Stewards of the provinces. Our London brethren have responded to the call with equal liberality, and allow me to say that the V.W. Bro. the Grand Treasurer, having no province at his back, and his own lodge having sent up Bro. George Kenning as Steward with £126, has desired me to say that as the amount given by previous chairmen presiding over these festivals has been 100 guineas, he also gives that amount, and he wished me to mention that as he was unable to be here, and as he has not had the gout for four years, he has fined himself another 100 guineas for being absent to-night. The donation of the Chairman to-night is therefore 200 guineas. (Cheers.) The total amount sent up by the provinces, with 140 Stewards, is £6097 18s. (Cheers.) The contributions from London brethren by the hands of 159 Stewards is £8245 11s. 6d.—(cheers)—making a grand total of £14,343 9s. 6d., with 15 lists to come in. (Great applause.) That, brethren, is the highest total I have ever had the honour to announce. (Great applause.)

Col. SHADWELL H. CLERKE: Brethren, it is my privilege to be permitted to propose to you the next toast, one which I think I may say is second only in importance to that which you have just so well received. When I tell you that I am about to propose to you the toast of the Chairman of this meeting I am sure you will most thoroughly and cordially agree with me in what I have said. Brethren, our worthy chairman has just informed you that the gentleman who had been selected to preside over the meeting has been prevented by illness. We sympathise with him. I personally know how thoroughly he has looked forward to presiding here to-night, and I can understand how greatly he must feel his inability to be present on this occasion. But,

in his inevitable absence he has done the very best thing he could possibly do. Yesterday he looked about to see how he could provide for the vacancy, and instantly turned his eyes to our Chairman of to-night. Bro. Monckton at once, at a few hours' notice, undertook to take the chair. See to-night, brethren, how well he has fulfilled that office. Brethren, you have in the chair on this evening an old and highly-distinguished Mason. The name of Sir John Monckton is equally known and honoured in the city of London and in Masonry. He is not only an old Grand Officer of the Craft as Past Grand Deacon, but he has held for some time past the highly responsible office of President of the Board of General Purposes, an office which, I have no doubt you are aware, is engaged in carrying on the business of the Craft, and to which the Craft are under obligations. I cannot but appeal to the many Grand Officers present here to-night whether Sir John Monckton has not performed the duties of the office with energy, ability, and zeal—(hear, hear)—and therefore, brethren, I ask you to join with very great cordiality in thanking Sir John Monckton for coming forward to take the chair at the eleventh hour, and to wish him very many years of prosperity in the future. I give you "The Health of Sir John Monckton, the Chairman of the evening."

Sir JOHN MONCKTON: Col. Clerke and Brethren, I feel at this moment like the worst half of the Siamese Twins. The genuine Chairman of the evening is at home in bed, but to him is due the success of the evening; but it is my privilege to fill the chair, and I shall carry to my dying day the deep impression made by the announcement of the grand result of your exertions. I rejoice from my heart that I have had the great Masonic privilege and pleasure of being in the chair to-night. What you have done is I think enough to make any man, any Mason proud, especially if he has presided over the Festival. Brethren, for myself and for Bro. Allerost in his absence, I thank you very heartily.

Lieut.-Col. HALDANE, P. Dep. District Grand Master, Malta, proposed "Success to the other Masonic Institutions," saying that he thought the Craft at large, and especially the supporters of the Schools, owed a deep debt of gratitude to Bro. Hedges and Bro. Binckes for the manner in which they conducted those Institutions, and he called upon those present to drink to "The Success of the Boys' and Girls' Schools," and to bestow on Bros. Binckes and Hedges their hearty thanks.

Bro. HEDGES, in responding to the last toast, said: V.W. Sir, Col. Haldane, and brethren, with most sincere thanks I rise to acknowledge on behalf of the Boys' and Girls' Schools the very kind and cordial manner in which this toast has been received; and, Sir, in view of the glorious announcement to which we have just listened, I feel I should be missing a great privilege and failing in a great duty if I did not avail myself of this opportunity on behalf of those Institutions to express our most hearty congratulations on the grand success which has this night been achieved—a success on which the Board of Stewards has indeed a just right to be proud, and one at which the Institution and its executive, not forgetting our good friend Bro. Terry, must be deeply gratified. Of the two festivals which have now to follow, as you are aware, that of the Boys' School, which will be held in June, will be presided over by H.R.H. the Duke of Albany, a Prince, Sir, who has so endeared himself to the Craft that little more can be wanting to ensure the success of that festival. But, Sir, before that event the Girls' School hopes to celebrate its ninety-sixth anniversary in the month of May, and when we remember that the year which has just passed did not prove one of financial prosperity to that Institution, and further bearing in mind that at no previous time has the Charity been doing a greater and grander work than at the present time, I venture therefore to hope that the Craft will mark its appreciation of that good work by according to the Girls' School a festival corresponding in its success to that which has this evening been celebrated. I had hoped, Sir, to have been able to announce to you this evening the name of the Chairman who will preside on that occasion; but of this pleasure, however, I regret to say I have been debarred. I will therefore not trespass further upon your time, as I know the brethren are anxious to join the ladies in another room; but will conclude by once more, in the name of the Boys' and Girls' Schools, as well as on my own behalf, tendering you my sincerest thanks.

DR. STRONG said he had the honour to propose the next toast, which was "The Board of Stewards." The number of Stewards, was 299 who by their exertions had produced an amount of donations considerably over £14,000, and they had it on the word of their Secretary that no such amount had ever been reached. It was to the energy of the Stewards that that was owing. It was a peculiarity of the Masonic Charities that the whole of the amounts collected by the Stewards went into the coffers of the Charities. That was a significant fact, because they were aware that in other charities a large sum was deducted in connection with the festivals. That was not so in the Masonic Institutions. They had to thank the Stewards very much for all they had done that night, and he had to associate with that toast the name of Bro. Horace B. Marshall, who he believed was not a very old Mason, but who by the amount of his benefactions had made himself a prince of benefactors.

Bro. HORACE BROOKS MARSHALL in response said: Worshipful Bro. President, permit me to express my deep sense of the generous magnanimity of the Board of Stewards in selecting so humble a Mason as myself to be their representative upon this occasion. It is comparatively easy for some of us, Worshipful Brother, when we have undertaken the duties of the office of Steward, to satisfy our conscience by handing a cheque to the Brother Secretary; but that is not the way the great majority of the Masonic Stewards carry out their obligations, for as soon as they accept the office they interview friends, they solicit the brethren, they visit lodges and frequent chapters, with the one object in view of obtaining funds for the Institution in which they are interested, and if you will analyse the Masonic Stewards' list you will find, apart from the brother's personal contribution, very few sums of 100, 50, or even 25 guineas, the items on the list consisting of 10 guineas, 5 guineas, 3 guineas, 2 guineas, 1 guinea, half-a-guinea, 5 shillings, and the not to be despised half-a-crown; which makes up the satisfactory total as announced by Bro. Secretary this evening. But the duties of a Masonic Steward do not end here. As a manager of some of the metropolitan charities it has been my painful duty again and again to protest against the enormous cost of a charity dinner, bearing in mind that it is the custom outside of Masonry to defray the cost of an entertainment out of the funds which should be applied to the sacred cause of charity. But what a different state of things do we find when we enter the regions of Masonic light. Here is a reversal of things indeed, for the guests have become hosts, and the cost of the magnificent banquet of which we have partaken this evening has been discharged by the Stewards, besides having the privilege of entertaining the ladies in yonder dining hall. The jewel which we so proudly wear, commemorative of our labours of love, is

paid for, as it should always be, by ourselves. And after having discharged all incidental expenses in order that every shilling collected may go intact to the Institution we endeavour to carry out the principle enunciated in the Book of the Law by providing out of the Stewards' subscriptions a feast for some of our aged sisters and brethren residing at our Almshouses at Croydon, whose claims, Worshipful Brother, you have so powerfully advocated to-night. It is not for me, brother President, to extol the merit of my colleagues. My duty is gratefully to acknowledge the courteous and laudatory way in which you have been pleased to associate my name with the Board of Stewards, and on their behalf who have done so much, and on my own behalf who have done so little, I thank you very sincerely for your gracious congratulations on the results of our efforts in aid of the funds of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.



The CHAIRMAN, in proposing "The Health of the Ladies," said that the brethren must be very proud, and justly so, of their own Craft; but there was no craft equal to that of lovely woman. If they would turn their eyes to the gallery they would see it was a mass of emptiness, and that was a sign that lovely woman had gone elsewhere, and therefore he voted that the whole company should rise and drink to the health of the ladies, thanking them for their attendance there that evening.

The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. Edwin M. Lott, assisted by Bros. J. Kift, Arthur Thompson, W. E. Glazier, and Tremere, and the following corps of ladies: Madame Adeline Paget, Miss Kate Fusselle, Madame Grace Godolphin, Madame Raymond, and Miss Pauline Featherby.

Bro. James Haybo was toastmaster. The favour worn by the Stewards contains the arms of the Chairman, Bro. John Derby Allcroft, surmounted by his crest. On the ribbon is the crest of the President of the Board of Stewards, Bro. Horace B. Marshall, and of the Treasurer, Bro. Edgar Bowyer, surmounted by that of the Institution. Bro. George Kenning was the manufacturer.

STEWARDS' LISTS.

Table listing Stewards' Lists for various regions including LONDON, Brixton Lodge of Instruction, Grand Stewards Lodge, and numerous other lodges with names and amounts.

Table listing Stewards' Lists for various regions including BERKS AND BUCKS., BRISTOL., CHESHIRE., CORNWALL., DEVONSHIRE., DURHAM., ESSEX., GLOUCESTERSHIRE., HANTS AND ISLE OF WIGHT., HERTFORDSHIRE., KENT., and EAST LANCASHIRE.

Table listing Stewards' Lists for various regions including WEST LANCASHIRE., LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND., MIDDLESEX., NOTTINGHAMSHIRE., OXFORDSHIRE., SOMERSETSHIRE., SOUTH WALES (EASTERN DIVISION), STAFFORDSHIRE., SUFFOLK., SURREY., SUSSEX., WARWICKSHIRE., WILTSHIRE., WORCESTERSHIRE., NORTH AND EAST YORKSHIRE., WEST YORKSHIRE., and CHANNEL ISLANDS.

INDIA. Bro. Hamilton de Lathom 10 10 0

SUMMARY.			
Berks and Bucks ... ..	222	15	0
Bristol ... ..	293	11	0
Cheshire ... ..	115	10	0
Cornwall ... ..	47	5	0
Devonshire ... ..	27	6	0
Durham ... ..	121	16	0
Essex ... ..	399	7	0
Gloucestershire ... ..	80	17	0
Hants and Isle of Wight ... ..	350	17	0
Herts ... ..	362	6	6
Kent ... ..	271	8	0
Lancashire, E. ... ..	640	2	6
"    W. ... ..	230	10	0
Leicestershire and Rutland ... ..	350	0	0
Middlesex ... ..	213	11	0
LONDON ... ..	...	...	...
THE PROVINCES ... ..	...	...	...
Total ... ..	...	...	...

ANALYSIS OF THE RETURNS.

Having fully described the Festival itself, we naturally direct our attention to the details of the list which it must have afforded our worthy Bro. Terry so much pleasure to announce. His pleasure must have been all the greater because it is only a few weeks since that the promise of even a moderately satisfactory result was very faint, and there appeared to be a feeling abroad that, after so productive a year as 1883, a very considerable falling off in the subscriptions, not to this Institution only, but to all three of them, would be noticeable. This feeling perhaps was stronger in the case of the Benevolent Fund, because a longer time had elapsed than usual in announcing the Chairman of the day; and when at length it became known that Bro. Allcroft, Grand Treasurer, and Treasurer of the Institution, had kindly undertaken to preside, the names of brethren willing as Stewards to support his efforts were received but slowly, so slowly indeed that it seemed quite on the cards that Bro. Terry would hardly realise even the average return. Happily, during the last week or two preceding the eventful day, a strong effort was made by all interested in the Institution, so that a sufficient sum might be raised in order to maintain it in its present state of usefulness, and at the same time enable the executive to somewhat slightly increase the annuities on the Widows' Fund. This was the full extent of the success it was hoped would be realised; but the final efforts turned out to be vastly more fruitful than could have been anticipated, so that Bro. Terry secured not only an average return, but one largely in excess of his previous highest announcement. When Sir H. Edwards, Prov. G.M. of West Yorkshire, occupied the chair at the Festival in 1881, the list announced was in round figures £14,160; but on Tuesday the sum reached £14,343, or more by over £180 than on the occasion referred to; and as there is still a moderate number of lists which have not been handed in, we feel justified in anticipating that over £14,500 will represent the ultimate total when the returns are completed and the Board of Stewards dissolved. However, we may safely leave this much of the case to be dealt with in some future number. We have before us the fact that a total was announced on Tuesday of £14,343 9s. 6d., and the sum of the figures which appear elsewhere is £14,368 1s. 6d., some further returns or additions having been made in the interim. Of this London contributes £8259 13s., and the Provinces £6097 18s., the remaining £10 10s. being the donation of a brother who has figured on more than one similar occasion, and hails from a lodge in one of our Indian presidencies. Thus to all intents and purposes our analysis will concern the home country only.

Before entering on the analysis, it may be as well perhaps if we point out that our recent remarks as to the unequal manner in which the different lodges and districts are represented on these important occasions are amply borne out by the result of Tuesday's celebration. There are many lodges both in London and the country which make a point of sending up Stewards; there are some which confine their annual efforts to the support of one Institution only, giving them each a turn and turn about; there are others which figure in the lists at rare intervals; and lastly, there are not a few which we regret to say are unmindful altogether of the claims of our Charities on their support. It must be remembered that this is a matter of very great importance. It may safely be averred that all our lodges are in a position to contribute something, be it never so small, to our Institutions. It must be manifest, therefore, to all who give heed to this question of finding the requisite ways and means for keeping these Institutions in a state of efficiency, that in proportion as the area over which the support is distributed is enlarged or restricted, so will the pressure on willing lodges and brethren be reduced or increased. Thus if there are (say) 1500 lodges and only 500 of them are willing to contribute, the demands on the resources of the latter must be three times as heavy as if the whole number contributed. Yet it is only necessary for our readers to glance cursorily at half-a-dozen festival lists in order to assure themselves that something of this kind happens at each succeeding anniversary. Thus of the first 100 lodges on the roll of Grand Lodge, some two-fifths sent up Stewards on Tuesday, notwithstanding the fact that these same two-fifths with hardly an exception sent up Stewards to one or more of our Festivals last year, the year before, and in successive years previously. On the other hand, of the lodges out of the same group which were unrepresented in 1883, it is possible to trace only a very limited number which figured in the lists of Tuesday. This one illustration must suffice for our purpose, but were we to carry our inquiries further, and carefully compare the Festival lists and lodge roll together, we should have invariably the same result to chronicle, namely, that certain of our lodges take little or no part in maintaining our Charities. It will, of course, be understood that these remarks are not intended to apply to English lodges in foreign parts. Any subscriptions they may be pleased to remit will always be most welcome, but with them the remittance is an act of grace; with our home lodges it should be an act of duty.

Having thus conscientiously discharged the less agreeable part of our task, let us turn without further delay to the lists of Tuesday, and sift them carefully, as we have done on former occasions. It has been already stated that of the total announced—£14,343 9s. 6d.—increased, as it has been in the interim, by sundry small amounts to £14,368 1s. no less than £8259 13s. was contributed by

LONDON,

which must be congratulated, accordingly, on the success that has attended the efforts of its representatives. This is as nearly as possible £1000 in

excess of the sum raised at the Boys' School Festival last year, when the total was £7257 10s. 6d., and it is quite possible that this good fortune may in part be ascribed to the Chairman having been a London brother. Perhaps a more reasonable explanation of the increase will be found in the fact that Bro. Terry had succeeded in enlisting the services of more Metropolitan Stewards. In June last these numbered 148; on Tuesday there were just 160, of whom some 26 were unattached, while the remaining 134 represented amongst them 128 lodges and chapters. This is considerably above the average, which, as a rule, may be set down as nearly as possible at one-third of the total number of lodges. The heaviest individual list is that of Bro. Thomas Owen, of the Great Northern Lodge, No. 1287, who figures for £202 7s. 6d., Bro. B. Kauffmann, of King's Cross Lodge, No. 1732, taking second honours with a total of £188 15s. A very good third is to be found in the Merchant Navy Lodge, No. 781, which, by the hands of Bro. Thomas B. Daniell, sends up £172 15s. Next in order is the list of Bro. J. W. Walker, Steward for the Perfect Ashlar Lodge, No. 1178, whose contributions make up the very satisfactory total of £160 2s. Then come, and treading closely upon each other, Bro. Terry, unattached, with £145 16s. to the good, Bro. Graveley of Lodge Temperance in the East with £145, and the representative of the Wanderers Lodge, Bro. F. J. Wray, with £141 18s. 6d. Bro. George Kenning, as Steward for the Aldersgate Lodge, No. 1657, is entered for £126; Bro. Chas. Kedgley, on behalf of the Covent Garden Lodge, No. 1614, handing in £120 15s.; and Comp. Blyth, as Steward for the Phoenix Chapter, No. 173, £117 1s. 6d. Bro. H. R. Cooper-Smith, of Lodge No. 1731 (the Cholmeley), figures for £111 6s. Bro. C. W. J. Baker, of the Fitzroy Lodge, has the goodly total of £110, and Bro. Warden, of the Mizpah Lodge, No. 1671, £108 3s., while the other three-figure lists are those of Bro. T. W. C. Bush, W.M. of Templar Bar, No. 1728, with £106 11s. 6d.; Bro. Lardner, acting for the West Smithfield, No. 1623, and the Farringdon, No. 1745, with £106; Bros. Marshall, President of the Board and unattached, and F. Carr, of Loyalty, No. 1607, each with £105; Bro. Linn, of the Corinthian, No. 1382, with £103 3s.; and Bro. F. Hilton, W.M. of Peckham Lodge, No. 1475, with £100. Other lodges are also well represented; but undoubtedly the most conspicuous feature in the London total is the personal donation of £210 by Bro. J. Derby Allcroft, Grand Treasurer, who, as we have already mentioned, very kindly volunteered his services as Chairman when so many others of our leading brethren had found it impossible to accept the position. It is to be regretted that, at the last moment, illness prevented Bro. Allcroft from carrying out his purpose, and doubtless, had he been in the chair, he would have derived considerable satisfaction from the result; but whether he was present or absent, his name will always be associated with the Benevolent Festival of the present year, and to him will always belong a conspicuous share in the triumph then achieved. It may be as well to add that of the lodges we have just enumerated, Mizpah, No. 1671, Fitzroy, No. 569, and the Aldersgate, No. 1657, were among the three-figure contributors at the Boys' School in June last. Nos. 1287 and 1657 were in the same category at the last festival of the Girls' School, and Merchant Navy, No. 781, and the Great Northern, No. 1287, at that of the Benevolent in 1883.

THE PROVINCES,

As we have said, contribute amongst them £6097 18s., or within a fraction of £7000, but whereas only six of them were unrepresented at Bro. Binckes's successful Festival in June last, there were absent on Tuesday just double that number, while two out of the three groups of lodges—Bedfordshire, Channel Islands, and Isle of Man—which are without a provincial organisation, were likewise, as usual, conspicuous by their absence, the Channel Islands, thanks to an opportune visit paid them last year by Bro. Terry, figuring for a very gratifying total. Why the five Bedfordshire lodges, which we believe we are correct in saying have not contributed more than £100, if so much, in the course of the last nine or ten years, should so persistently ignore the existence of our Charitable Institutions is a problem we are incompetent to solve. We feel some difficulty—or rather delicacy—in suggesting that our brethren of the Bedford, Biggleswade, Dunstable, Leighton Buzzard, and Luton Lodges are less firmly persuaded than their brother Craftsmen of the benefits conferred by our Charities, or are less deeply imbued with the kindly spirit of Freemasonry. Their occasional absence from these lists, like the occasional absence of other provinces or districts, would attract but comparatively little notice; but their custom is to be continually, if not continuously, absent, and we do not know or at least we have never heard, that the lodges which belong to this county are less favourably circumstanced than many contributing lodges which meet in other parts of the country. Perhaps they are a little shy of helping, when the work is done so well without them. If this be the explanation, we would suggest that no time should be lost in disabusing them of such an idea. Their assistance will be most welcome, as it certainly is most sorely needed, if only that some of our more active lodges may enjoy a brief respite from their honourable labours. As to the absentee provinces, they are Cambridgeshire, 4 lodges; Cumberland and Westmorland, 20 lodges; Derbyshire, 20 lodges; Herefordshire, 4 lodges; Lincolnshire, 21 lodges; Monmouthshire, 8 lodges; Norfolk, 16 lodges; Norths and Hunts, 10 lodges; Northumberland, 21 lodges; North Wales and Salop, 28 lodges; South Wales (Western Division) 9 lodges; and Jersey, 7 lodges. These with the 5 Bedfordshire and 3 Isle of Man lodges make up a total of 176, which have had no part in the success of Tuesday. However, in the majority of them, we do not need to go very far for an explanation. Both Northumberland and Cumberland and Westmorland contributed largely to the Boys' School in June last, the sum raised by the former being over £1222, and by the latter £1050. Cambridgeshire figured at the last Girls' Festival and Herefordshire was represented at that of the Boys' School. Derbyshire distributed close on £360 among our three Charities in 1883 and over £190 in 1882. Lincolnshire, we regret to say, did nothing last year, so that its presence on Tuesday's list might reasonably have been expected. Monmouthshire acquitted itself well in May last. North Wales and Salop, like Norfolk, appears to have rested somewhat during 1883, and with the exception of certain minor amounts, we must go back to 1882 in order to connect them with totals that are at all worthy of their strength and influence. South Wales (West Division) did well for the Boys' last year and equally well for the Benevolent in 1882, while Jersey, under its respected chief, Col. de Carteret, played a worthy part at the Boys' Festival in June last. Let us hope that the majority, if not all, of these provinces, will be found in the lists announced by Bros. Hodges and Binckes in May and June respectively.

As to the contributing Provinces, there are no such large amounts as were subscribed in June last, when Kent, the Chairman's Province, and East Lancashire, were entered each for upwards of £2000, West Yorkshire for £1500, and Northumberland and Cumberland and Westmorland for, as

already stated, over £1222 and £1050 respectively. But, nevertheless, there is ample matter for congratulation over this portion of the returns. Thus the list is worthily headed by

#### BERKS AND BUCKS,

With a total of £222 15s. The Province can boast of 21 lodges, eleven of them being located in Berkshire, and the remaining ten in the adjoining county. Of these, four Berks lodges (Nos. 209 and 771, of Windsor, 414, of Reading, and 1566, of Maidenhead) and two Bucks (the High Wycombe and Slough Lodges), sent up Stewards, two brethren acting in that capacity for the Maidenhead Lodge. In 1883 it gave £110 to the Benevolent, £183 to the Girls, and £178 to the Boys, or together, some £472, while in 1882 its success was even greater, its contributions to the three Institutions totalling up to close on £620.

#### BRISTOL,

Is a compact Province with eight lodges, whose joint contributions by the hands of Bro. W. Purnell amount to the very handsome sum of £293 11s. Last year Bro. Terry also had the benefit of its support to the extent of £217, three of its lodges being represented by as many Stewards, Bro. Purnell being one of the number.

Of the 39 lodges included in the Province of

#### CHESHIRE,

Four were represented on Tuesday, namely, Nos. 89, 104, and 537, each by two Stewards, and No. 758, the total thus far received, being £115 10s., with one list still unannounced. These same four lodges sent up Stewards last year, namely, No. 89 to the Girls' School, and the remaining three to the Boys, and there were six other lodges represented at one or other of the same anniversaries. The amounts, however, were in no case considerable, nor, indeed, would it be altogether reasonable to expect they should be, seeing that the Province has an Educational Institute of its own, which makes adequate provision for the children of its poorer or deceased members, and contributes towards their advancement on leaving school.

Bro. Controller Bake is evidently a very zealous supporter of all our Institutions, and in his hands it is evident the reputation of

#### CORNWALL,

And its 29 lodges will be worthily upheld. It is not a heavy list which appears against his name—only a modest sum of 45 guineas, but Bro. Bake was Steward at all three Festivals in 1883, while on two of the occasions he was ably seconded by Bro. Captain Colvill, their joint efforts resulting in a total of £243 10s.

The transition from this Province to

#### DEVONSHIRE,

Is easily accomplished, and if, in the opinion of our readers, a small list of £27 6s. handed in by Bro. Pepprell, of the Jordan Lodge, No. 1402, Torquay, is hardly what might have been looked for from a Province with 50 lodges on its roll, we would remind them that Devonshire puts forth its strength on occasions, and with considerable effect, as a total of only a few pounds less than £600 raised in 1883, and some £565 contributed the previous year, testify most clearly and satisfactorily. It must be remembered, too, that it can fortunately point to two indefatigable brethren in the persons of Bros. Curteis and Godtschalk, who, with Bro. Hughan to reinforce them, will, we doubt not, take care that Devonshire's aid shall always be at hand when the occasion is imperative.

#### DORSETSHIRE,

Which has 13 lodges, was not unrepresented on Tuesday, though its Steward's list, that of Bro. Douglas Dugdale, of lodge No. 137, who acted in the same capacity for the Boys' School last year, has not yet come to hand. However, from our past experience of this province and bearing in mind that Bro. Dugdale on the last occasion received close on £60, we have few, if any, misgivings about the return being a satisfactory one. It received £100 for this Institution in 1883, when Bro. Howard was Steward, and it has given most liberally on other occasions.

A West Hartlepool Lodge—the Harbour of Refuge, No. 764—is the only one of the thirty

#### DURHAM,

Lodges which contributed to the success of Tuesday, while Bro. C. S. Lane, who was Steward for the Benevolent and the Boys last year, gave his unattached services in conjunction with Bro. Wilson. Its totals for the last three years were £265 in 1883, £412 in 1882, and £1024 in 1881. The constituency is a strong one and doubtless we shall hear again of its doings before the year 1884 has run its course. At all events, we hope so.

#### ESSEX,

With a new Provincial Grand Master in the person of Lord Brooke, M.P., and an addition of two lodges to its roll, appears determined to put forth its strength. Eight of its 22 lodges are represented by as many Stewards and the aggregate of their lists falls short by a few shillings only of £400; Liberty of Havering Lodge, No. 1437, of Romford, heading the array with £98 16s., while Star in the East, No. 650, Harwich, per Bro. Richard Clowes—who by the way, will be found amongst the representatives of the London lodges—figures for £73 11s., and the Bagshaw Lodge, No. 1457, Buckhurst Hill, for £63. In 1883 Essex raised £490, of which £235 found its way into the treasury of the Benevolent, £158 went to the Boys' School, and the rest to the Girls' School. Its contributions to the three Institutions in 1882 amounted together to £354. There is only one slight drawback from the satisfaction we feel in making this announcement. Seven of the eight lodges which figure in Tuesday's list and six of the eight brethren acting as Stewards took part in one of the Festivals of 1883, while two of the lodges were represented twice. Is it not desirable that some of the other lodges should take their share of the burden?

The next province in alphabetical order, that of

#### GLOUCESTERSHIRE,

Considering it has only 14 lodges on its roll, may be said to have distinguished itself very greatly at the last Festival of the Boys' School. Its Deputy P.G.M., Bro. Brook-Smith, played the part of an unattached Steward. Lodge Royal Union, No. 246, Cheltenham, was represented by five Stewards, who raised amongst them 107 guineas (£112 7s.). Royal Lebanon, No. 493, Gloucester, contributed, per three Stewards, £122. The Cotteswold Lodge, No. 592, Cirencester, per two Stewards, gave £111 6s.; the Royal Gloucestershire, No. 839, Gloucester, per three Stewards, raised £219 9s.; and Tyndall Lodge, No. 1363, of Chipping Sodbury, added a comfortable £21; the total handed in by the fifteen Stewards, amounting to £601 17s. The May previous it enriched the Girls to the extent of

£36 15s., and in February, 1883, the Benevolent benefited largely, its six Stewards, the D.P.G.M. unattached, and five from as many lodges, contributing amongst them £213 3s., making a total for the year of £851 15s. In 1882 it raised £548, and in 1881, £1547, so that in the three years this small province of only 14 lodges all told, returned but little short of £2958. Under these circumstances, it would have been most unreasonable to expect a very large contribution. However, four Stewards, acting for three lodges, raised together £80 17s., so that Gloucestershire, irrespective of its previous performances, has the satisfaction of knowing that at the last ten Masonic Festivals it has been represented by one or more of its lodges or brethren. Again, however, we have to note that the three lodges which appeared on Tuesday figured at one of last year's Festivals, while one of the Stewards, Bro. Vassar-Smith, served in that capacity for all the Institutions in 1883.

#### HANTS AND THE ISLE OF WIGHT

Has recently increased its roll to 40 lodges, and notwithstanding the very laudable efforts it made at last year's Girls' Festival to support its P.G.M., Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., as the Chairman of the day, six of its lodges sent up Stewards on Tuesday, and two other brethren gave their services unattached, one of them being Bro. John Mason, the worthy and energetic collector of the Institution. The sum of their efforts was very satisfactorily represented by £350 17s., Bro. Rastrick, of Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar Lodge, No. 1903, taking the lead with £89 5s., while Bro. Mason followed him very closely with £86 10s. In June, 1883, it raised a somewhat larger amount—£375—for the Boys' School, and in February of the same year it helped Bro. Terry to the extent of some £150. Its principal performance, however, was the raising of about £1300 at the Girls' Festival, when the chair was occupied by its popular and much respected chief. Thus the sum of over £1832 was raised by this province in 1883, and the good work is followed up at the first occasion that presents itself in the current year by donations, &c., amounting to £350.

The province that next claims our attention is that of

#### HERTFORDSHIRE,

with which Bro. Terry's name has been so long and so honourably associated, and such being the case, it is not to be wondered at that, when the Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution comes round, it should put forth its strength, as far as its resources will allow, in order to make his successes as complete as possible. It musters no more than 12 lodges, and it cannot point to any large industrial centre being in its midst, yet its presence in a subscription list is invariably to some very good purpose, and we dare say there are many of the stronger provinces—speaking numerically, of course—which would only be too pleased if they could point to so much good work so admirably carried out. This time seven out of its 12 lodges and one chapter sent up Stewards, the senior lodge—the Hertford, No. 403—very properly taking the lead with a list amounting to £68 2s., while the total for the province figures at £362 6s. 6d. In June last it raised for Bro. Binckes £105, in May for Bro. Hedges, £158 11s. 6d., and this time last year for Bro. Terry over £233. These sums make up together somewhere about £496, and in 1882 it raised nearly 1000 guineas, of which, as a matter of course, the lion's share helped to swell Bro. Terry's total. These seven festivals make up an aggregate of £1900, which, considering, as we have said, there are so few lodges on the roll, will compare favourably with the achievements even of provinces that are nearly twice the strength of Hertfordshire. We should like to see Bro. Halsey, M.P., the Prov. Grand Master, presiding at one of our annual festivals; we feel sure his province would support him loyally and handsomely.

In ordinary cases a total of upwards of £271 must be accounted as a respectable contribution even from a province which is numerically strong; but

#### KENT

can boast of a well-ordered administration. Its lodges are well looked after, and every encouragement is given them to work in such a manner as to deserve well of the Craft generally, and their Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Viscount Holmesdale, in particular. Hence, Kent may be accounted as a certain contributor at all our Festivals, and when there are any special circumstances in which it is interested, as, for instance, last year when Lord Holmesdale presided at the Boys' School Festival, it may be regarded as a matter of almost equal certainty that special efforts worthy of the occasion will be made, and, what is of still greater moment, from our point of view, that these efforts will be crowned with success. Thus, though we could not have foretold the sum that would be raised by this stronghold of Masonry in support of Lord Holmesdale, we experienced no surprise whatever when in June last Bro. Binckes announced that the joint labours of the Kentish Stewards had secured for him considerably over £2000—subsequent additions gave the actual figures as £2316 5s. Other £374 was raised for the support of the Girls' School and the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, so that the total contributed in 1883 was only a little less than £2700. On Tuesday five of its 49 lodges were represented, and the sum of their exertions appeared in the shape of £271 8s., or about one-tenth of what it accomplished last year. But even strong provinces cannot go on raising moneys by the £1000, and Kent—albeit it is entitled to rest for a time on the laurels it earned so well in June last—has set a good example by not adopting on this occasion the principle of total abstinence.

The next stage on our journey carries us to the north-west of England, to a busy and wealthy part of the country, where lodges are both numerous and strong in point of membership, and where we look to see a considerable display of activity whenever one of our three Festivals is on the eve of taking place. Our visit on the present occasion is certainly not disappointing, for though

#### LANCASHIRE—EASTERN DIVISION,

has a roll of 93 lodges, of which 18 belong to Manchester alone, the total of its contribution on Tuesday, £640 2s. 6d. must be described as satisfactory, even though it may not compare relatively with its Masonic strength so well as some of the other Provincial totals. But in the first place there is a flourishing local Masonic Institution which is of material service to our poor East Lancashire brethren, and in the next it raised £2,100 for Bro. Binckes's Festival in June last. Therefore we hold it to be a very creditable performance that 17 of its lodges represented by 25 Stewards should have raised amongst them this sum of £640, the efforts of the lodge 44—Friendship, of Manchester—which per Bro. Woodall as Steward figures for £325 10s., or rather more than one half, being especially worthy of praise. On the other hand, we fail to see why even a young lodge—No. 1993—should venture on making its appearance in such excellent company with so trifling a contribution as 5s. It was hardly worth while for Bro. Edwards to pay a Steward's fee of two guineas in order to remit such an amount. A postal order would have

answered the purpose. No. 1993 is the Wolseley Lodge, and is conducted, we believe, on Temperance principles; perhaps, this will account for the smallness of its donation.

Almost the same remarks—except such as specially concern No. 1993—will apply to

#### LANCASHIRE—WESTERN DIVISION.

with its 81 lodges. It has an efficient charitable organisation of its own, which lessens to a very perceptible degree the pressure on our central Charities. It gives liberally on special occasions, as when its popular chief, the Earl of Lathom, D.G.M. of England, takes the leading part in our celebrations, and it may always be included among the donors at our festivals. On Tuesday, nine brethren as Stewards for seven lodges raised over £230, and last year it distributed £813 among the three Institutions.

The contrast between the two Lancashires and

#### LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND

in point of numerical strength is all the more startling from their juxtaposition in the Festival list, yet Leicestershire and its small neighbour, though mustering between them only ten lodges all told, stands out prominently as the contributor of £350, being an average of £35 per lodge, and this notwithstanding it raised £405 for the Boys' school in June last, to say nothing of its array of contributions at previous festivals. It would spoil the effect of this simple statement if we added to it anything in the way of explanatory comment. Last year

#### MIDDLESEX,

With its 32 lodges, raised about £616 for our Charities, namely, close on £142 for the Boys, about £118 for the Girls, and £358 for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. In 1882, it distributed amongst them, in nearly equal proportions, the far more considerable sum of £1212. It has begun the present year well, the contributions of seven of its lodges making up a total of £213 11s.

Two of the 14 lodges in

#### NOTTINGHAMSHIRE,

Namely, the Annesley, No. 1435, and the De Vere, No. 1794, both of Nottingham, figure in Bro. Terry's list, Bro. Lawson representing the former and Bro. Isaac Davis the latter. But as yet only Bro. Lawson's total has been announced, the figures being £142 14s. 6d. It was among the absentees at the last School Festivals, but in February 1883 it raised £190 for this Institution.

#### OXFORDSHIRE,

Though it has only ten lodges is another of the provinces, whose presence may be looked for almost as a matter of certainty, and on Tuesday five of its lodges sent up sums amounting in the aggregate to £90 2s. Three of them hail from Oxford—Nos. 340, 357, and 478—No. 599 from Banbury, and No. 1895 from Henley. Doubtless its supreme effort for the year will be made in June when H.R.H. the Duke of Albany will take the chair at the Boys' Festival. As regards

#### SOMERSETSHIRE

And its 24 lodges, it is impossible for any province to have had its fortunes entrusted to more capable hands than those of Bro. Else, P.G.D., its respected D.P.G.M., the right hand man of the Earl of Carnarvon, P.G.M., and Pro G.M. of England. To Bro. Else indeed may in great measure be ascribed the high position attained by this province with its admirable total of £505 5s. In June, 1883, it raised over £357 for the Boys', while at previous Festivals its readiness to play its part as a liberal subscriber has been as conspicuous as it has been praiseworthy.

We next come to

#### SOUTH WALES—EASTERN DIVISION.

Of which all we are at present in a position to say is that one of its lodges, the Bute, No. 960, of Cardiff, sent up a Steward in the person of Bro. J. R. Harris, but his return has not yet been made. In 1883 it raised £230 for the Boys' School and £217 for the Girls' School, while the year previous the same Institutions were presented with £573, of which the Girls' received £200 and the Boys' £374. Under these circumstances it is to be hoped that the Benevolent will be favoured at least to an equal extent.

#### STAFFORDSHIRE,

Which has 26 lodges, has followed the plan adopted by Leicestershire and Rutland, Somersetshire, and other Provinces, of having a single Steward to act for the whole Province—Bro. Thomas Taylor—and he succeeded in compiling a list of £152 5s. Last year it raised £790, of which by far the greater portion—£460—was contributed to the Boys' School, while the R.M.B.I. was benefited to the extent of only £57 15s. The same thing happened in 1882, when of £616, the Schools shared between them all but 25 guineas. Thus Bro. Taylor's total on the present occasion is not much less than double what the Province raised for this Institution in the two preceding years taken together.

Lord Waveney's Province of

#### SUFFOLK

Figures for rather more than £201, Bro. J. M. Harvey, as representative of the 21 lodges, giving in a list of £190 11s. 6d., while Bro. E. G. Cobbold, of No. 81—the Doric of Woodbridge—contributes 10 guineas. Last year its contributions amounted to £568, which is certainly a large sum for an agricultural county, and speaks well for the Masonic zeal of this branch of our East Anglian brethren.

Of the 26 lodges comprised in

#### SURREY,

six sent up Stewards, and two chapters were similarly represented. One list is still outstanding, but the remaining seven make up the very respectable total of £244 4s., Bro. H. S. Frances acting for lodge No. 1982, and Bro. Abel Laurence for No. 1638 leading the way with £43 1s., and £42 15s. respectively. Its greatest effort of recent years was made at the Benevolent Festival in 1883, when it supported its Prov. G.M., General Brownrigg, as Chairman of the day with a total of over £905.

#### SUSSEX

under the auspices of Bro. Sir W. W. Burrell, Bart., M.P., P.G.M., has been a hearty supporter of our Institutions, as was evidenced last year when it gave £210 to the Benevolent, £363 to the Girls', and £375 to the Boys'. In 1882 the Girls' obtained £578 out of the £920 which the brethren of the Province raised, while in 1881, Bro. Binckes was fortunate enough to secure the lion's share of South Saxon subscriptions. On Tuesday, Bro. Broadbridge acting on behalf of No. 1636, a Brighton lodge, sent in a list of £63. Three out of the thirty lodges which are included in the Province of

#### WARWICKSHIRE,

figure in Bro. Terry's list, the sum of their contributions being an even 80 guineas, but there is still one left to come, that of lodge No. 938, so that the credit of the £84 must be divided between Nos. 43 and 74, which like No. 938, hail from Birmingham. For a total worthy of its strength, we must turn to the year 1882 when it helped to swell Bro. Hedges's list by £810. Two of the above lodges sent representatives to the Boys' festival in June last.

#### WILTS,

With ten lodges has one Steward only, Bro. E. Fyres, and his list yields the satisfactory sum of £157 8s. This is about £20 more than it raised at the last of the 1883 Festivals, and more by over 100 guineas than Bro. Ringer succeeded in obtaining for the Benevolent in the same year.

#### WORCESTERSHIRE,

Has three of its eleven lodges represented, No. 377, by its two Stewards, contributing £68 5s., No. 280, per Bro. Rowe, ten guineas, and Bro. A. F. Godson, D.P.G.M., acting independently, 30 guineas. The list of Bro. Wilson of No. 1204 has yet to come, so that the present total of £110 5s. may even yet be increased, especially as, when this brother acted for the lodge at the Boys' Festival in 1883, the sum placed to its credit was £26 5s. The total raised by the province last year was £764, the heaviest list being for the Boys, when Bro. Godson appears to have done duty for the bulk of the lodges and was so successful as to obtain over £223.

That the twenty-eight lodges of

#### N. AND E. YORKSHIRE,

Should be content with a modest appearance on this occasion, only two of its lodges contributing between them the sum of £49 18s., will not be matter for surprise if we recall the fact that its total for the Boys' in June 1883 was in round figures £873, of which nearly £542 was due to the admirable efforts of Bro. J. Cumberland. There was a time when it seemed to us that this province was hardly fulfilling its duty in respect of our Charitable Institutions in a manner worthy of its ancient renown. But a marked improvement has been observable in its returns at the Festivals that have been held since the Earl of Zetland so kindly took upon himself the task of acting as Chairman at the Benevolent Festival of 1880, when his brethren so loyally and so generously backed up his presidency. Of its neighbour,

#### WEST YORKSHIRE,

Let it suffice if we point out that the total subscribed on this occasion, £352 5s., is certainly less than the average of recent years, but then the total of its contributions in 1883, made up of £450 to the Benevolent in February, £400 to the Girls' in May, and £1500 to the Boys' in June was considerably above the average. Thus, though for 66 lodges, the present amount is certainly small, the average amount raised at successive Festivals during the last nine years will be effected in a slight degree only, if at all.

We have already mentioned that

#### THE CHANNEL ISLANDS

are among the contributing provinces, Bro. F. Clarke's list for Lodge No. 84 amounting to £113 8s., and Bro. Pengelley's, for No. 168, to £105, or together £218 8s. The satisfaction we derive from this announcement is all the greater that these islands, like the neighbouring Province of Jersey, are hardly to be included among the districts from which regular or considerable donations are expected.

#### CONCLUDING REMARKS.

Having gone through the list so fully, it only remains for us to offer a few words of congratulation to Bro. Terry on the success which has crowned his efforts in respect of this Festival. At Christmas, the outlook before him was the reverse of promising, and, as we stated at the beginning, the chance of his obtaining an average return looked exceedingly doubtful. But the picture brightened as the day appointed came nearer, and Bro. Allerost as Chairman, Bro. Sir J. B. Monckton as his "locum tenens," the Board of Stewards, and Bro. Terry must one and all be gratified that a campaign, which was begun in doubt, has terminated so brilliantly.

### THE ROYAL VISIT TO SEAHAM HARBOUR.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Albany has sent the following reply to the address presented to him by the Freemasons of Seaham Harbour on the occasion of his recent visit to the Marques of Londonderry:

Worshipful Sir and Brethren of the Fawcett Lodge of Freemasons, No. 661,—I have much pleasure in recording my thanks to you for the cordial welcome which you and your fellow-townsmen gave me on the occasion of my recent visit to Seaham Harbour, and in making known to you my satisfaction at finding that the beneficial influences of Freemasonry are recognised and appreciated in your community. I thank you also for your expressions of loyalty to the Queen and of fidelity to our Most Worshipful Grand Master. I beg you will accept the hearty good wishes of the brethren of the province over which I have the honour to preside, and I pray that the Great Architect of the Universe may ever protect and prosper you.

LEOPOLD, Prov. G.M. Oxon, P.G.W.

To Bro. Joseph Scorfield, W.M. Fawcett Lodge, No. 661,  
Feb. 19th, 1884.

EMULATION, LODGE OF.—A short account of the origin of this celebrated lodge may be interesting to our readers. At the union of the lodges in 1813 the working of the ceremonies was found to differ very widely. A resolution was therefore passed at the lodge of reconciliation that the ceremonies of opening and closing, and of the three degrees, should be worked in the same manner in all lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of England. To carry out this resolution the Grand Master requested Bro. Dr. Samuel Hemming to gather together the scattered elements of the work, and to arrange them into a system which might receive the approval of Grand Lodge, and be generally adopted. Bro. Hemming undertook the task, but after a delay of some years, he became imbecile and was unable to complete it. Bro. Wm. Williams was then nominated by the Grand Master to carry out the work which had been entrusted to Dr. Hemming. Bro. Williams undertook the duty on the understanding that he should not be required to complete the labours of Bro. Hemming, but should be permitted to reconstruct the ritual from the original elements. On the completed system of Bro. Wm. Williams, the Emulation Lodge of Improvement was first worked under the Preceptorship of the famous Peter Gilkes, who was a contemporary of Wm. Williams. He was succeeded by his friend and pupil, the late Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson, whose work is rigidly adhered to by the present committee, several of whom had the benefit of his personal instruction. The uncompleted work of Dr. Hemming was followed by Bro. Peter Thomson, and is still taught in several lodges of instruction.—*Kenning's Cyclopaedia.*





## To Correspondents.

A review of our eighth annual report of the East Lancashire Systematic Educational and Benevolent Institution will appear in our next.

A notice of the attack on Freemasonry by the Roman Catholic Bishop of Elphin will appear next week.

The continuation of Bro. Whythead's paper on "Lodge Duties," the first portion of which appeared in our last week's issue, is crowded out by the very full report we give of the Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. It will duly appear next week.

The following communications have been received, but are not inserted in this issue owing to want of space:—

Craft Lodges—Industry, 48; East Sussex, 166; St. John's, 221; Arboretum, 731; Abbey, 1184; Hemming, 1512; Creaton, 1791.

Lodges of Instruction—Star, 1275; Covent Garden, 1614.

Royal Arch Chapters—Prince Edwin, 128; Jerusalem, 185; Essex, 276; Tudor, 277; Windsor Castle, 771.

Correspondence—C. Lacey, P.M. 174.

Death of an Old Freemason.

Masonic Funeral.



SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 1884.

## 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.]

### THE ELECTION OF GRAND TREASURER.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

It appears to me that the excess of zeal of some of your correspondents on this subject has rather damaged than helped the interests of the candidate they advocate. Each one is entitled to have an opinion of his own, as indeed we all are; but when, as has been the case, unseemly epithets and sneering remarks are used to urge argument, and when money contributions to the Charities are invidiously contrasted, then the contest degenerates into an undignified wrangle, disrespectful to both candidates and unbecoming to their champions.

Bro. J. Havers's letter in your last issue puts the question on its right basis, asserted by Bro. Frank Richardson's circular, viz., that an annual canvass on behalf of a new candidate for the high office of Treasurer disturbs the harmony of Grand Lodge, and is otherwise detrimental to the material affairs of Grand Lodge.

It is not consistent with common sense to suppose that the partisans of either candidate could, if they so desired, arrogantly dictate to (meaning coerce) Grand Lodge, because the ultimate selection must rest with the brethren who attend it on the 5th prox., who are free to exercise their franchise as they choose; and no man can question or challenge that freedom—it is one of the prerogatives and landmarks of the Order.

Those who put forward as a candidate Bro. Horace Brooks Marshall (who I believe to be a very worthy and honourable Mason) consist, according to report, of some five or six brethren, as the prime movers on behalf of the Craft in establishing the doctrine of an annual change of the Grand Treasurership. The names of these brethren so far as I know have never been published and I do not know who they are, but I hope I may be permitted without offence to remind them of Mr. Canning's story of the "Three Tailors of Tooley-street," who on presenting a petition to the House of Commons for the redress of some grievance styled themselves "We, the people of England."

On the other hand upwards of 300 brethren fairly representing the metropolis and the provinces have strengthened their advocacy of Bro. J. D. Allcroft by their signatures; it is impossible to fix the choice by a plébiscite of the 25,000 Masons entitled to vote as Masters, Past Masters, or Wardens, scattered over the kingdom, but the signatures appended to Bro. F. Richardson's circular show at any rate the direction of the minds of a numerous body of them. I also concur in it for the reasons stated, and am sorry that until quite recently I did not know that it was in existence.

I hold that the test of the qualification of a brother to be the chief executive officer of the Masonic Body, and the ex officio Trustee of the three Charities, ought rather to be his experience and general fitness for the office than the sum total of his benefactions to these charities during four or five years. Abundant means do not necessarily imply an efficient Treasurer; were it otherwise the office would be purchasable by a sufficient outlay of money, as medical degrees were once to be bought at obscure American Universities, or titles of nobility in Rome.

I will only add that Bro. Allcroft has this recommendation, that he is a Treasurer of Christ's Hospital (the Blue Coat School), the annual expenditure of which charity is above £60,000 a year, and I presume is competent to fill a similar office in the Grand Lodge of England. For myself I have never spoken to him in my life, and have only seen him in Grand Lodge.—Yours fraternally,  
FEBRUARY 25th. BRACKSTONE BAKER.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

A very special engagement will prevent my being present at next Grand Lodge. This will not, however, matter much to anyone, not even to myself, as I should not have voted on the question which will claim special attention on that occasion, namely, the election of Grand Treasurer. But as I took a humble but decided part in that election last year, I desire, with your permission, to say a few words on "the situation" now presented to us in reference to this question. Let me say at the outset that for both Bros. Allcroft and Marshall I have the greatest respect as good Masons and good men, with hearts and purses ever ready to help in time of need; but I cannot shut my eyes to the

fact that there are other brethren who have an equal claim to our regard, and, in my humble opinion, a stronger claim to the appointment of Grand Treasurer of England. A stronger claim than Bro. Allcroft, because he has had his turn and obtained his purple (and most willing he was to have laid down his office at the end of his year); than Bro. Marshall, because many eminent Masons have been not only contributing to the Charities for years (according to their ability), but working hard in Masonry not merely for six, but for 16, 26, or 36 years.

Now the principle that was asserted and acted upon last year of electing a new Grand Treasurer each year is so just, so reasonable, and so fair that nothing can imperil its maintenance, except the abuse of it by blind partiality, violent party spirit, or plutocratic auctioneering. And here let me add that in saying this, I do not for a moment allude to Bro. Marshall, whose noble and munificent gifts to our Masonic Charities were dealt out with the purest motives, and must have been bestowed without the remotest reference to any honour such as the one now in question. For you will remember this appointment was not then within a measurable distance of anyone except the worthy brother who held it, and who would and ought to have held it still if Grand Lodge did not unmistakably adopt the principle of a real—not formal—annual election.

It is one thing to assert a good principle, and another to apply it well. If Grand Lodge has only one opportunity in twelve months of honouring one Mason, and this in such a numerous and rapidly increasing body as our own, it is clear that such a selection should be made as would bear the strictest scrutiny—not only in reference to high character and liberality, but also to Masonic service and length of standing in the Order.

Now, there is no doubt that there are dozens of excellent Masons who could fulfil all these conditions and who would esteem it a high compliment to be thus recognised after a long and honourable Masonic career before they passed away from amongst us. And even if two or more such men were proposed as Grand Treasurer and went on to election surely this generous rivalry would be healthier far than the peaceful but pompous policy which selfishly sanctifies stagnation and raises a single fortunate Mason to a dignity for life, leaving to our children or children's children, about every quarter of a century, the very rare honour of conferring this single reward of merit on some very distinguished and fortunate brother, who is now in petticoats but may be living at that time!

Again, it has been asserted by some opponents of the new principle, that there is in some dark corner a terrible conspiracy to propose and elect some paid officers of the Craft. I know not how it could have entered into the brain of any sane man to conclude that our order would in this way set at nought one of the most obvious canons of every well constituted society under the sun, unless it be on the supposition that when a man is driven to the wall for argument he will knock his head against it, if only for the purpose of shaking out some new idea.

As to the social status of a Grand Treasurer, the less said the better on this delicate subject. But I may say that in our country and times, and in all professions, we see men—and a glorious sight it is—rising from the ranks to eminent positions. In the Army the private and the corporal of a few years since are to be found at the officers' mess, a barber's son sat upon the Woolsack, an Archbishop is the son of a village draper, and a vendor of newspapers has presided over the Navy of England. If this principle of promotion holds good in other societies of men, how much more in Masonry? for Masonry, like the Great Architect, professes to be no "respector of persons"; the only rank it recognises is that represented by its degrees and its officers. It holds with the old poet—

"An honest man's the noblest work of God,"

and that even

"Money 's but the guinea stamp;  
The man's the man for a' that."

There is one other point on which I would say a word; it is this. The Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master at last Grand Lodge ruled that under the new Constitutions (supposed to be confirmed two minutes before), that particular night and that Grand Lodge were the time and place for the nomination of the Grand Treasurer for the ensuing year. This took many of us, even official members of Grand Lodge, by surprise, and prevented other nominations being made, one of which would probably have claimed and received the unanimous suffrages of the brethren, and so avoided this present crisis.

Now, I venture, with all due respect to the Pro Grand Master, on the ground both of equity and law to question the validity of this ruling. 1. Surely it is not equitable to consider the Craft bound by Constitutions which have never yet been printed, published, or promulgated amongst the lodges, much less the Masons of England, and which are only very vaguely known to the few brethren who assembled at the Special Grand Lodges. 2. Had the Constitutions as passed at these Grand Lodges been confirmed "en bloc" at last Grand Lodge they would have become then and there (however unreasonable and unjust on the ground already named) Masonic law; but there were several changes made, and therefore I humbly contend that they are not yet the law of Masonry and will not become so till confirmed, and that without alteration, at next Grand Lodge, for even on that day it is open to any brother to move the non-confirmation of any portion of the Constitutions, and thus still further postpone their completion as a code binding upon the Order.

Before I conclude, permit me as an old Mason to convey a humble warning in regard to future elections to the office we are discussing. Let us not make the possession or even the liberal expenditure of money for Masonic Charity the qualification for the office of Grand Treasurer, even though the title is suggestive of gold. Otherwise we may become more notorious than famous as worshippers of the golden image, as having joined that ancient Craft at Thyatira, where "sellers of purple" plied their trade, or having allied ourselves to the silversmiths of Ephesus, who, finding "the Craft in danger," sought to retain their gains and power by selfish "uproar." Let Masonry in this, as in other respects, be, like Cæsar's wife, "without reproach." We have many opportunities of "uniting in the grand design of being happy and communicating happiness," but in matters of public duty let us not study to please ourselves or gratify our personal feelings, but rather endeavour to promote the welfare and maintain the dignity of our Order.—Believe me, yours fraternally,  
R. J. SIMPSON, P.M.,  
P.G. Chap.

February 26th, 1884.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I think your readers will have had quite enough of a most pitiable correspondence, much more than they will care to read, and all of which they will be glad to forget. I would not, therefore, wittingly prolong a discussion which has led to such a melancholy display of unfraternal bitterness and rowdy vulgarity. The two great offenders in this respect have yet to learn that ignorance is not criticism, nor abuse argument. Before that choice pair again venture to assert to lay down the law or to show what proficients they are in "bad form" and studied impertinence, I recommend them both to "amend" their vocabulary, to master the Queen's English, to realize the first laws of common courtesy, and to learn the fundamental principles of Freemasonry. One insinuates and the other servilely improves on the fact that I do not understand Latin, and make a wrong use of the words "Obsta Principiis," and talk of a "little knowledge," &c. Some people despise Latin and Greek now-a-days. They did not formerly, and some of your readers will recall "Ovid's" old lines,

"Principiis obsta: sero medicina paratur,  
Cum mala per longas convaluerere moras."

How appropriate for our present controversy? My two would-be critics must be absolutely ignorant of both the "old adage" and the use of Latin. A peep into "Facciolati" would have dispelled their silly blunder and improved their most imperfect acquaintance with the classics. Indeed, it is hard to believe after such a blunder that they know anything about what they affect to discuss with so jaunty an air of absolute wisdom. I leave them, therefore, to rejoice in their own absurdity and ignorance. So well known an "adage" hardly required, we should have thought, a defence in the "Freemason."

I am told I am a "pestilent writer," and that "I never was a Mason at heart," &c. I leave out their vulgar epithets and even that awful word "sarcedotalism," whatever it may mean. I have been a Mason longer, I suspect, than either of my assailants, and am happy to think that I have learned, after a long apprenticeship, both a truer lore and a greater consideration for others than they are either apparently likely to possess, however long their membership may last.

But I pass by such a degradation and prostitution of the Masonic Press, to say a few parting words. I am somewhat inclined to think that this extreme virulence and violence betray a very weak cause. I doubt if the candidate whose side they espouse will either be benefited by their championship, or will approve of the "animus" displayed by them. He may well say, "save me, oh save me from those candid friends!" Those who with no question of persons have looked only to principles may appropriately reply, "non tali auxiliis, nec defensoribus istis tempus eget," and will prefer simply to appeal to the wisdom, fairness, and common sense of Grand Lodge. There the battle has to be fought out, and there we shall go in full confidence in the justice of our cause.

The circular, than which no more moderate, no more logical, and no more able document was ever penned or put forth, explains the views of those who signed it better than I can pretend to do. It is alike the defence of our position and the justification of our proceedings. Those whose names are subscribed to it have raised no personal question whatever, have no end to gain, no party to support, no protégé to serve; they are simply acting as "amici curiæ," old, true, faithful members of that great Order to which it is alike their pride and privilege to belong.—Fraternally yours,

OBSTA PRINCIPIS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

As this will be the last opportunity of expressing an opinion before the election of Grand Treasurer, will you allow me to say that the controversy which has been going on in your journal for the last few weeks should not be allowed to mislead the brethren. The question to be decided next Wednesday is, Shall the Craft exercise their right annually by honouring a deserving brother? or shall they not? I think a very good proof of the excellent working of the annual election system is the choice of the present Grand Treasurer. Would our Bro. Allcroft have had the honour otherwise? and are there not many more brethren deserving the purple, who without this disinterested patronage will never reach that honour.

But sir, the matter is entirely in the hands of the Craft, and the next election will prove if the principle so successfully demonstrated 12 months ago is to be continued or not. I am one of many who think the introduction of an independent member annually will be of considerable service to our Order.—Yours fraternally,  
FRANK HEROLD, W.M. 1056.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

How pitiable it is that Bro. Havers, who has always been such a stickler for the Constitutions of our Order, and so much respected and looked up to by the Craft, should descend from his high position and pose, as he did in your last issue, as the vindicator of the now notorious Golden-square circular.

The general opinion is, so far as I can learn, that a more unconstitutional manifesto, or one doing greater violence to good taste, was never issued than that specious document. It incites brethren to combine to prevent Grand Lodge exercising its undoubted right of electing a Treasurer annually, according to the Book of Constitutions.

There is no excuse for such a circular, and Bro. Havers's defence of it is inexplicable. The impression is that had the circular emanated from any less favoured quarter, and under less distinguished auspices, the aid of the Board of General Purposes would have been immediately invoked for its suppression; but,

"That in the Captain's but a choleric word,  
Which in the soldier is flat blasphemy."

Alas! that Bro. Havers should draw the line at dinners. Better counsels would doubtless have prevailed over the walnuts and the wine, had he not been "unkindly left out," and the mischief-making circular would probably have been nipped in the bud.

Unaffected, however, by the exhilarating influences usually accompanying a good dinner, he deliberately takes

"an equal share of the responsibility, such as it is, with others who signed the circular."

Such magnanimous self-sacrifice is marvellous, and is worthy of a nobler cause.

Bro. Havers cannot have estimated, or he is wilfully blind to the nature and extent of the responsibility he so lightly accepts. The heated and protracted controversy he disparages would never have arisen but for the publication of the circular he champions. That, and that alone, is the cause of the strife and bitterness so much to be deplored.

Nothing can justify language like this. Yet Bro. Havers thinks it is "becoming," and he, brother Romans, is an honourable man!

Scheme, indeed! Why, any member of Grand Lodge, whether under the influence of a good dinner or otherwise, can, if he pleases, at the proper time nominate a brother for election to the office of Grand Treasurer. Such is the law.

When therefore it comes to pass that brethren "dressed in a little brief authority" presume to asperse and impute unworthy motives to those who are acting strictly in accordance with the Book of Constitutions, it behoves the "blues" to "assert the dignity and advantage of Grand Lodge." Whether the present Grand Treasurer did, or did not, pledge himself to hold the office for one year only is beside the question. He could not be elected for any longer period. Of this, however, there can be no doubt—he was elected upon the principle of a yearly transference of the office, and upon that principle alone he became the successor of Bro. Col. Creaton. It may be hoped that when Bro. Havers and his coadjutors emerge from the "cloud of wordy dust" they are enveloped in, they will be able clearly to see the principle they so glibly talk about, but have lost sight of.

They may depend upon it that the lay members of Grand Lodge will jealously uphold its laws and safeguard its dignity, and, despite all flouts and gibes, hold fast to the principle of electing whomsoever they please to the Grand Treasurer's collar year after year. Their laudable aspiration is to confer the honor upon worthy "blue" brethren, who have done good suit and service in the Craft, and to say to them, in effect, "Well done! We reward thee with this collar as a mark of our entire approbation. Thus decorated, enter thou into the region of purple." Like Bro. Havers, I too dislike anonymous letters; but unlike him, I am but a humble "blue," and therefore the publication of my name is not likely to add weight to the argument nor to influence votes, and might just as well remain in obscurity. Nevertheless, with bold loyalty to principle, I subscribe myself, yours faithfully and fraternally, N. B. HEADON, P.M. and Treas. 1426, Z. 145.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

There are two matters anent the coming election of Grand Treasurer, in the last number of the Freemason, which cannot be passed over. One is the statement you have put forth in what may be termed "leading articles;" the other the letter of Bro. John Havers. With respect to the first, allow me to congratulate you upon the success with which you, sir, have caught up and imitated "the Obstacle to Principle," alias "Obsta Principii." Probably this is a gentle "sarkasum" of yours, but it is so gently veiled that some, not used to read between the lines, would find it hard to realise the real meaning of your somewhat hidden views. I will humbly endeavour to indicate that, by your imitation of the style of this cumbrous correspondent, even to the touches of Latin where plain English would be so much more to the point; by the reiteration of his words, words, words, sans argument, and assertions without proof, to afford the means of another answer, which, with your declaration of fairness, you cannot but admit.

You repeat the allegation of "Obsta Principii" that a "select circle" has named the Grand Treasurer. To call things by their right names, and to put things plainly, it must be seen that this statement is equal in truth to the wisdom of the course alleged to have been adopted. There never has been any "select circle" for the purpose alleged, and the only "select circle" existing has been that of the circularisers, who have formed themselves into a "Caucus" (your own word, sir, and that of the correspondent whom you imitate!), with the purpose of holding back Grand Lodge from exercising its franchise in a free manner.

The only thing done is, that a few brethren in the full exercise of their constitutional right have met, when provincials met in London, and decided, in the interest of good order, that they will support one as against two. Do not brethren constantly arrange before hand, in the interests of all, that nominations shall take a certain form? For instance, have not the arrangements already been made for the nomination of those who shall move the election of Grand Master? Are not the very speeches prepared in which the respected brethren will move and second an election which wants no moving and seconding? Are those who make these selections of proposers and seconders "Cliques," "Caucuses," "Cabals"? Yet they do all these things, and Grand Lodge knows it, without any of the crowd who form the constituent members of Grand Lodge seeking in the gutter of political controversy, as did the correspondent whom you so successfully imitate, for hard words to throw at lovers of order and followers of principle.

Now a word in answer to Bro. John Havers. What he terms the "Dr. and Cr." account, which I regretted to publish, was only produced on the challenge of the circularisers, and they must bear the responsibility of this. Bro. Havers makes it plain that the only organisation in this matter is the one of which Frank Richardson is the Secretary. This is the only "caucus," for no other body has officer of any sort, and no other body exists. This exists

"To overawe the cause" of Freemen's votes, With a thundering show of P.Ms. names."

(Apologies to Talford.) Bro. Havers deprecates the election annually of Grand Treasurer on the score of the heated controversy which has been going on. The heated controversy has been entirely raised by the circularisers, and has wholly been on the question of principle, until your imitated correspondent imported the italicised untrue assertions, and these statements it was due to the Craft to expose, and the proof of their untruth has been given to the Craft by, at least, "Tenax Propositi." My labour has been but to kill the slain.

Bro. Havers does not tell us what will happen if we do not elect a new Grand Treasurer this year. Who is to settle how long the present one is to reign? Is any one to be allowed to whisper about the question? or is it to wait for any one's initiative, the whole matter being every year left, so that a great many names will be thrown at Grand Lodge hurriedly? Does Bro. Havers go so far as to say that we are to do nothing? that while the Grand Master can nominate nearly a dozen new Grand Officers every year, Grand Lodge, which can be trusted to elect the Grand Master, cannot be trusted to elect to one vacant collar? I am afraid that the keen common sense of Bro. John Havers has become tainted with the dulness which pervades the place he mentions, for, alas! his contribution to you on this question lacks the logic which ever before gave point to his words, and forced respect for his views.

These are the last words on this theme, and now we bare our arms for the fight against the oligarchy who would take from us our votes. They seem to regard us as a mere

"Mass of bone and muscle, frame to till the soil A few brief years, and then rot unnam'd beneath it; Or, deck'd for slaughter, at their master's call, To smite, or to be smitten."

The oligarchists now put to us, the "rulers of the Craft," that we are merely in Grand Lodge as a matter of form, and that the many are to do what the few propose. They have got, it is true, some to sign away their rights; but in history we have their counterparts who were firm believers in the Divine Right of Kings—until they were nipped by their own subservient principles. I faintly hope that the brethren will act on the principles they adopted last year when they voted for Bro. Allcroft, whom they did not know, against Col. Creaton, whom they did. And I hope, moreover, that the provincial brethren will meet and agree upon a provincial brother of high merit for the office in the year after. I am, sir, with all the respect which is your due for your fairness,

JOHN WHILE, P.M., P.Z. 228.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Since your last issue the undermentioned brethren have written to say they support the Circular relative to the re-election of the present Grand Treasurer.—Yours faithfully and fraternally, FRANK RICHARDSON, P.G.D.

- Brackstone Baker, P.G.D.
W. T. Balderson, P.M. 1757, P.P.J.G.D. Herts.
John Messent, P.G.S.B.
E. C. Mather, P.M. 65.
George Young, P.M. 1757 and G.P. Herts.

THE HUGHAN TESTIMONIAL. To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Will you allow me to acknowledge the following subscriptions received since the publication of the last list.—Yours truly, GEORGE KENNING, Treas.

Table with 3 columns: Name, Amount, Total. Lists names like Aldersgate Chapter, John Havers, T. G. Strachan, etc.

PROVINCIAL GRAND SECRETARIES. To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I think it is well worthy of the consideration of the brethren whether the time has not now arrived when some change in the appointment of Provincial Grand Secretaries could, with great advantage to the Craft, be made.

I would suggest that this office cease to be a paid one, and be conferred annually, with reappointment if necessary, but this never to extend beyond five years.

The causes that have led me to this view, which I know is held by a great many brethren, is that no office should be held for life or a long term of years which has a monopoly of patronage, because this patronage, or farming the Provincial Grand honours, runs in a certain groove owing to the prejudices or failings of one single man; also brethren of a very much higher social standard would then fill the office, and at least every five years we should have a change of patronage, and we should not hear then of lodges being without any of their members Provincial Grand Officers, or others getting one in ten years or so, while some have one or two appointments every year.

The clerical work could be done by an accountant in a chief town of the province at a small remuneration, and his office used as a place where information could be got at any time.—Yours fraternally, COMPANION.

CLOTHING AND EMBLEMS. To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I attended the festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution on Tuesday last, and was struck by the great disregard paid to the Constitutions on the part of many brethren, Stewards and visitors, particularly by

Provincial Grand Officers. The Book of Constitutions (1873), p. 118, par. 1, says that no brother shall on any pretence be admitted into the Grand Lodge or any subordinate without his proper clothing; and par. 2 distinctly lays down that no clothing nor emblem shall be worn that does "not appertain to or be consistent with those Degrees which are recognised or acknowledged by and under the control of the Grand Lodge as part of pure and ancient Masonry."

I saw several Prov. Grand Officers with Mark collars under dark blue. There were also many jewels not belonging pure and ancient Masonry, Rose Croix, Mark, and many others. If the Constitutions can be so ignored as this in one way, they certainly can in another, and I think it is a matter that Grand Lodge should take up and settle once for all. If the Constitutions are to be abided by, no one should be admitted with any jewel or clothing that does not conform thereto.—Yours fraternally, M.M.

A TYPE-ICAL TRIAL.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

By the "errata" of your printers I have suffered severely in a recent review of mine. I corrected the name in two instances to "Balsamo," and in one case, where it was originally right in the proof, I kept it, as printed, Balsamo. The type-set, anxious for uniformity, seems to have thought Balsamo right, and to make "right wrong." He may have had "Bassanio" in his head, as given to study Shakespeare, but the blunder is not the less annoying.

THE WRITER OF THE REVIEW.

[It seems that in the proof two marks are over the two first "Balsamos," making them appear "Balsanio." The reader corrected the third instance for uniformity. We are sorry for the little mistake.—Ed. F.M.]

A NEW WORD.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

What is the new word "sacerdotalism" which appears in your last issue, forming part of a most intemperate and extraordinary letter? It seems to be written in great excitement, and it seems to be a most erratic word. But what I want to know is, Whence does it come? and what does it mean? It appears to me at first sight to be a compound word, its two component derivations being "sarce" and "doodle-doo." Am I right? I wait for further light.—Yours fraternally, THE QUEEN'S ENGLISH.

[We have looked into the matter and find that the printer correctly followed "copy." It is probably a lapsus penne, in much misplaced excitement, for "sacerdotalism."—Ed. F.M.]



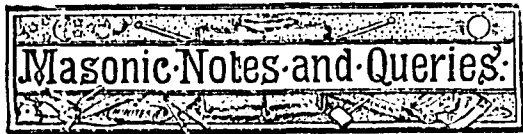
THE REPUBLIC OF CICERO. By G. G. HARDINGHAM, Middle Temple, Bernard Quaritch, 15, Piccadilly.

This is a new paginal translation, from the text of the third edition of Cardinal Mai, Rome, 1846, and comes before us both pleasant to look at and good to read. It is known to scholars and students how the famous Cardinal found in a palimpsest of St. Augustine on the Psalms a portion of the long missing treatise of Cicero, "De Republica." It had long been held that, like a so far lost work of his, the "De Gloria," the "De Republica" was also irretrievably lost. Even now Mr. Hardingham tells us only about one-third of the real work remains, and that patched and put together in fragments from different sources. Mr. Greville is quoted in vol. i., 367, May, 1830, as recording, "amongst the most curious of the literary treasures we saw (at the Vatican Library) was a manuscript of some of St. Augustine's works written upon a palimpsest of Cicero's "De Republica." This treatise was brought to light by Mai; the old Latin was as nearly erased as possible, but by the application of gall it has been brought out faintly, but enough to be made out and completely read." This interesting work of Mai's has been translated into French by Villemain and Gendre de Mancey, into Italian by Marchesi, into English by Featherstonhaugh, Barham, and Yonge, and Latin editions have been issued by Orsannus, Göttingen; Noble, Leipsic; and Orilla and Halm, Zurich. Mr. Hardingham's translation appears to us to be a very good one, and to err neither in too great diffusiveness nor too slavish representation of the original. The name, as the works of Cicero always do, call up pleasurable thoughts to the English classical student. There is something so large and free in his "coup d'œil" of men and things, something so patriotic and English in all his ideas and opinions, that he is ever a "grata persona" to those who in a very ignorant age do not affect to despise the memories of Greece and Rome, or to dive into the recesses of that wondrous store of culture and wisdom, sound learning and true philosophy, which may undoubtedly still be found by earnest and loyal seekers amid "the thoughts which burn," the "words which linger," the "memories which supervene," and the esoteric teaching which still happily survives the fleeting episodes of centuries and the destroying hand of Time. As we pore over Cicero's old world words to-day, the evidence he displays of wide reading, gracious studies, and soundest lore, we feel how much we still have akin with the ancient Roman. We still form part, as we read, of these Latin personalities which crowd the streets of "Roma antiqua, saunter in the Forum, or climb the summit of the Capitoline Hill." His words still can move us as they moved his spellbound listeners of yore; his patriotic emotions still are ours; his recurrent imaginings and then his calm survey of things still harmonize with our sentiments and motives of action; and, above all, the kindly and reasoning nature of the man, his attachment to law, order, and a settled state of things are entirely in accord with the lucubrations of our soundest thoughts as regards social, family, and public life. We owe to Cicero many noble ideas, many happy sentences, much that can move the cold and callous nature of statesmen, theorists, and publicists, as well as can appeal to all that constitute the realization of true progress and civilizing influences. At times, as we surrender ourselves to the charms of his style and eloquence, we almost think that his teaching suits our own "disjointed times," and many are the lessons of warning, truth, or acute experience which the statesmen of to-day

can gain from thoughts laden with wisdom, and words abounding in reality. Mr. Hardingham truly says, "Of all the prose writers of the Roman world Cicero was the most varied in matter and the purest in style. Of transcendent eloquence he excelled as jurist, orator, statesman, and philosopher. He urges youth to duty and devotion to his country, and charms old age with the consolations of philosophy. To the jurist he gave laws based on the indisputable rights of mankind; to the orator, lessons both by precept and example; to the statesman, principles and government applicable to any nation." Middleton says, in his preface to the "Life of Cicero," "How much soever people may differ in their opinion of his conduct, yet all have constantly agreed in their judgment of his works, and there are none now remaining to us from the heathen world that so truthfully display and so forcibly recommend all those generous principles that tend to exalt and perfect human nature, the love of virtue, liberty, our country, and all mankind." We therefore hail Mr. Hardingham's effective translation, and congratulate the publisher on a work so worthy of his well-known name.

**THE ENCYCLOPÆDIC DICTIONARY.** Embracing all the words in the English language, with a full account of their origin, meaning, pronunciation, history, and use. With numerous illustrations. Part I. Cassell and Company, Limited, London, Paris, and New York.

Some slight idea of the stupendous character of this work may be formed from the estimate furnished of the number of words registered in certain well-known dictionaries. Thus, Todd's edition of Johnson's Dictionary is said to contain 58,000 words, and Latham's edition 63,000. The early edition of Webster included 70,000, that recently published 118,000, while the new edition of the Imperial Dictionary is said to contain 130,000. The "Encyclopædic Dictionary" of Messrs. Cassell and Co., however, it is calculated will deal with no less than 150,000 words. But this is not the only feature which claims attention. The new Dictionary will contain not only all that is requisite as to the meaning, origin, and pronunciation of each word, but, wherever necessary, short articles giving a description and history of what the word represents. This will prove especially valuable in the case of words of a scientific and technical character, for the full understanding of which it has hitherto been found necessary to consult special dictionaries or glossaries. Again, the work will include not only all words in use, whether of an ordinary or technical character; but likewise all obsolete words and phrases that are to be met with in the works of English writers from the thirteenth century to the present day. Great stress is laid on the fullness and richness of the quotations by which the history of each word and the development of its several meanings are illustrated, and in carrying out this part of their task the editors have not hesitated to have recourse to words and phrases which are to be found only in the current literature of the day. The utmost care has been taken in the etymological portion of the work, and to this end the investigations and discoveries of all the latest and best authorities on comparative philology have been consulted and utilised, while the utmost care has been taken to ensure accuracy in marking the pronunciation. Lastly, even the illustrations are made to serve a special purpose, as they are intended to serve less as embellishments than as aids to elucidate the meanings. However, of the magnitude of the work the reader will be in a better position to judge when we state that this Part I., though it consists of 64 pages, with three columns to each page, advances us only as far as the beginning of "adh." Thus the work when finished will, there is every reason to believe, be the most complete of its kind ever attempted, while the fact of its being issued in shilling parts will enable people even of very modest means to become possessors of it without feeling any pressure from the cost.



### 303] THE ARMS OF THE MASONS.

Owing to a slight error, my communication in respect of seventeenth century Masonry in the last number of the *Freemason* is not clear as regards the "Arms." The first known is the coat granted by Hawkeslowe, confirmed by Benolt, and entered by St. George, Richmond, as may be seen in the "Masonic Magazine" and "Kenning's Cyclopaedia," and which was used by many Guilds of Masons in the eighteenth century—the Three Castles, &c. The York coat-of-arms, the three Crowns of Edwin, whose exact antiquity we know not, may be placed next in order. Then we have the coat-of-arms said to have been found among the papers of Leon Judah. Fourthly, we have the coat-of-arms with supporters ("beavers") which are said to have belonged to the Stonemasons' Guild both in England and Scotland. And lastly we have the Grand Lodge coat-of-arms as finally settled at the union in 1818. During the last century the Modern Grand Lodge used the old coat-of-arms by Hawkeslowe, just as did the Lodge of Antiquity. At present the Lodge of Antiquity adopts the form said to be from Leon Judah and the three Crowns of Edwin. The panel alluded to contains the Hebraic symbols, and has no reference to the older form of Hawkeslowe. I hope I have now made my words clear, which, through missing a line, do not appear to be so.

THE WRITER OF THE ARTICLE.

### 304] JOSEPH BALSAMO.

I have been looking over the French translation of an Italian memoir of Balsamo, published at Paris in 1791, and it seems as clear as anything can be that he was born at Palermo, June 8th, 1742, and that his father's name was Pietro Balsamo, and his mother's Felicia Braconieri. He seems to have married at Rome a certain Lorenza Feliciani, and likewise subsequently lived a life of vagabondage, charlatanism, and plunder of the public. His various episodes in nearly all the countries of Europe are very peculiar, and he was, as is known, arrested at Rome December 27th, 1789. His famous "Egyptian Rite" was ordered to be burnt by the public executioner; but whether it still remains in the Vatican Library may be a question. He appears to have been called various names, Count A. Cagliostro, Count Pellegrini, Roboretto, &c., and if the recital of his life is correct, he was an arrant knave and cheat and profligate. His portrait is a very bad one as you regard it, and seems to represent a thorough impostor. The only thing that can

be alleged against the work is that it is written by some one who is no friend to Freemasonry, and had access to the papers of the Holy Office. But as the French editor, who in no wise approves of some portions of the work, by no means contests the essential facts of the case, we may accept them as correct. No such title as Count Cagliostro can be traced, and no one of any authority has ever yet, that I am aware of, questioned his assumption of fictitious names.

YOUR REVIEWER.

### 305] HISTORIES OF LODGES.

As I am anxious not to have duplicates, allow me to say that I have received, through the favour of the following: Bro. W. Nott, Prov. G. Sec., "The History of Freemasonry in Wilts," by Bro. Goldney; Bro. W. E. Gompertz, his "History of the Gresham Lodge, No. 869;" Bro. J. H. Thompson, his "History of St. Hilda's Lodge, No. 240;" and I have procured a copy of Bro. Lamony's "Craft Masonry in Cumberland and Westmorland," my old friend, Bro. W. Lake promising me a copy of Bro. A. M. Broadley's excellent "History of Freemasonry in Malta." There are still a few I am short of, including the Histories of Lodges 33 (Bro. Shields), 533 (Bro. Terry), 235 (Bro. Webb), and 84 (late Bro. Kinnersley.) I had these, but foolishly sent them to a friend abroad.

W. J. HUGHAN.

### ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

A meeting of the General Committee was held at Freemasons' Hall yesterday, when there were present Bros. Col. Creaton in the chair, John A. Rucker, Capt. J. Peters, Robt. Grey, Frank Richardson, Arthur E. Gladwell, E. C. Mather, J. T. Caney, Peter de L. Long, and E. C. Massey (*Freemason*.)

The minutes of the previous meeting of 31st January were read and verified; those of the House Committee of the 21st inst. for information, and the chairman was authorised to sign cheques for various amounts verified by the House Committee. There were no petitions. The only other business before the Committee was a letter from the United Telephone Company which was read by the Secretary, and which stated that the Company had received information that an instrument which was an infringement of their patent rights was in use at the Institution, and the Company asked permission for their engineer to be allowed to examine the instrument with a view to ascertain whether the instrument was an infringement or not. The Secretary was instructed to write to the Company granting the permission asked for.

### RECONCILIATION OF THE BELGIAN AND DUTCH MASONS.

#### FESTIVITIES AT BRUSSELS.

The *Times* of Monday last has the following intelligence: "Brussels, February 24th. The great Masonic *fétes* in celebration of the reconciliation of the Belgian and Dutch lodges have passed off successfully. A deputation from the Grand Lodge (Orient) of France attended. The event is one of political importance, as proving that the Belgian and Dutch peoples are resolved to stand together in all circumstances to defend their national independence. The *fétes* commenced with a great reception last night in the newly-built Masonic Lodge, probably the most splendid and comfortable in Europe. The Prince of Orange, Grand Master of Holland, was represented by the Grand Senior Warden of Holland and a deputation of 80 Dutch Masons. The Prince sent a splendid silver cup to the Belgian Grand Lodge, and the latter exhibited a masterpiece of Belgian embroidery, a Grand Master's scarf made for the Prince of Orange. To-day the Grand Lodge met in the afternoon, when about 1500 Masons were present. To-night the great Masonic banquet was given to 600 persons representing the various classes of Belgium and Holland. The Prince of Orange twice sent a telegram expressing his sympathy and apologising for his absence. The Grand Lodge of Italy also sent a friendly message. M. Bergé, the Belgian Grand Master, member of the Chamber and a distinguished professor of chemistry at the University of Brussels, conducted the proceedings throughout with the greatest decorum. The evening ended with a vocal concert, in which the best artists of Brussels took part. During the meeting to-day, Count Goblet, Orator of the Grand Lodge, mentioned the interesting fact that Freemasonry was first introduced into the Netherlands in 1721, under the authority of the Grand Lodge of England, and that the Netherlands Grand Lodge was first constituted in 1770.

#### MASONIC BALLS.

##### MIZPAH LODGE, No. 1671.

The second annual ball of the Mizpah Lodge, and which has now become a recognised institution of the lodge, being deservedly looked upon by the brethren as one of the events of the year, took place at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Friday, the 15th ult., and was in every way a great success, a large company being present. Bros. Morgan, I.P.M., and Moffat ably officiated as M.Cs., and too much credit cannot be given to the Hon. Secretary, Bro. Warden, S.W., for the very efficient manner in which he had made and carried out all the arrangements. The ladies' costumes were of an exceedingly charming character, and met with universal admiration. In the regrettable absence, through serious illness, of the W.M., Bro. Wells, Bro. R. A. Morgan, I.P.M., presided at the supper, and from the general expression of satisfaction it was evident that Bro. Dawkins had given his usual care and attention to this branch of the entertainment. The music was ably rendered by the band of the Coldstream Guards. As the result of the ball, the Committee, we are glad to learn, will be able to hand over a donation to one of the Charities.

##### DERBY LODGE, No. 724, LIVERPOOL.

On Thursday evening, the 21st ult., a most successful concert and ball were given by the Derby Lodge, No. 724, in the Assembly Rooms, Great George-street, Liverpool, the room being tastefully decorated for the occasion. There was a large attendance of members and friends. The programme included selections from Mendelssohn, Pissuti, Vivin, Diehl, Guglielmo, Hutchinson, and Reichardt, which were well received. Dancing commenced at 11.30, and was kept up till a late hour. Bro. Cummings, W.M., presided, and the stewards included Bros. Humphreys, S.W.; G. Becken, P.M.; J. Sharples, P.M.; G. Gordon, P.M.;

### ROSICRUCIAN SOCIETY OF ENGLAND.

#### EXHIBITION AND CONVERSAZIONE AT YORK.

A remarkable gathering of Freemasons took place at York on the evening of the 20th ult. That day had been fixed for the annual obligatory meeting of the York College of Rosicrucians, and some of its guiding spirits had conceived the happy idea of making the day of service not only to the members of the Society, but to Master Masons generally, and especially in the north of England. To this end all kinds of Masonic curiosities had been collected on loan from all parts of England, and had been arranged systematically in glass cases in the Masonic Hall of the York Lodge, No. 236, which had been fraternally lent for the purpose, whilst a large number of cards of invitation had been sent out to Master Masons throughout the country. As we have previously explained this Society is in reality a Masonic Archaeological Union, so that it was quite in accordance with the spirit of its working and the objects of its formation that it should come forward prominently as an apostle of Masonic research. At any rate the intention of its members was honestly carried out, and it must have been exceedingly gratifying to those who successfully organised the gathering to note how thoroughly their efforts were appreciated.

The meeting of the college itself was held in the rooms of the Eboracum Lodge, 1611, at 3 p.m., at the Queen's Hotel, and there was the largest muster that has ever been seen. Those present were Frates T. B. Whytehead, Hon. IX., Chief Adept; J. S. Cumberland, Hon. VIII., Suffragan; T. W. Holmes, VI., Prov. Sec.; C. L. Mason, V., Celebrant; J. L. Atherton, I., as Deputy; T. J. Wilkinson, VI., Secretary; J. Todd, IV., P.A.; J. M. Meek, IV., S.A.; W. Brown, I., as T.A.; T. N. Barron, III., as O.A.; Tudor Trevor, II., C. of N.; S. Middleton, III., T. Bearer; J. J. Wilkes, II., Herald; H. Maddison, II., G.P.; S. Wilsin, II., Med.; Hon. W. T. Orde-Powlett, V.; J. Monckman, C. H. Drury, R. Craig, W. T. Tomlinson, C. Palliser, G. Ayre, C. S. Lane, B. L. Mills, A. H. H. McGachen, F. Waddington, J. Monks, G. Simpson, and W. B. Dyson.

The roll of members, numbering nearly 70, was called and satisfactory apologies were read from the absentees, with very few exceptions. A successful ballot was taken for Bros. Fisher, P.M. 1248 (Scarborough), and Locking, W.M. 910 (Pontefract), and these two brethren, with Bro. W. H. Cowper (Middlesborough), who had been previously balloted for, were admitted to the grade of Zelator. Fra. J. M. Meek (Middlesborough) was elected to the office of Celebrant for the ensuing year, and was inducted into his chair by Fra. C. L. Mason (Leeds), the outgoing Celebrant. Fra. J. S. Cumberland was re-elected Treasurer. The Treasurer's account was audited and showed a most satisfactory balance. The Chief Adept gave his annual address, which, he said, was necessarily very brief, in consequence of the amount of business to be done before the conversazione in the evening. He alluded to the objects of the society, pointed out to the members how these objects might be advanced, congratulated them upon the present position of the college, and said that he had no doubt the proceedings of the evening would prove that their organisation was no mere idle whim, but was the outcome of a real determination to be of practical service to the Craft at large. On the motion of Fra. Cumberland a guinea was voted to the "Hughan Testimonial Fund." It was arranged that the next meeting of the college should take place at Darlington on Wednesday, 21st May. Votes of thanks were then accorded to the W.M. and brethren of the Eboracum Lodge for the use of their rooms and furniture, and to the W.M. and brethren of the York Lodge, 236, for the use of their Masonic Hall, in which the conversazione in the evening was arranged to be held. Votes of thanks were also passed to the exhibitors of curiosities. Bros. V. Fowler, P.M. 643 (Filey), and W. B. Williamson, W.M. 529 (Worcester), were proposed as candidates for the society, and the M.C. was then dissolved.

At five o'clock the fratres dined together at the Queen's Hotel, and at 6.30 they adjourned to the Masonic Hall, Duncombe-street, where the exhibits were arranged. At seven o'clock, the rooms being pretty well filled, Fra. T. B. Whytehead, in the name of the Rosicrucian Province of Yorkshire, welcomed the visitors, and expressed the pleasure it afforded to members of the Order to see so many brethren who took an interest in the past history of Freemasonry. He explained the aims of the society, and then called on Bro. the Dean of York, P.G.C., who was present, to make a few observations. This the Dean did in his invariably happy style. Referring to the beauty and value of the specimens of antiquity that surrounded them he said it must impress their minds in an extraordinary degree with the high antiquity as well as the cosmopolitan nature of the Order. He spoke of the advantages that arose from the association of man with man within the portals of a Masonic lodge, and said that such an exhibition as that which was before them was calculated to do much to advance the intelligent comprehension of the true objects of Freemasonry, and that they all owed much to the brethren whose zeal and assiduity had collected so many objects of value; concluding by speaking of his own real love for Masonry, his belief in its usefulness and in its future, his anxiety for its welfare, and his firm belief that one of the most useful and appropriate places for a minister of religion to be found was the floor of a Freemason's lodge.

The company then spent the rest of the evening in the examination of the exhibits, the great number of which may be judged when we state that their enumeration filled 24 pages of a quarto catalogue, neatly printed. To even mention them would be to occupy far too much of our space, but we may at any rate give the names of the exhibitors and a general description of the collection. Of course the *piece de resistance* was made up of the unique collection of parchment and paper rolls of Constitutions, old minute books, tools, furniture, &c., of the Grand Lodge of All England at York. These were laid out under sheets of glass and occupied a large table at the top of the hall, and were exhibited by the York Lodge, 236, the careful custodian of these priceless relics. The Eboracum Lodge, 1611, which though very young has already accumulated a valuable collection, showed its noble old Dutch Masonic flag, dated 1694, many valuable engravings, and the Bible of the Grand Lodge of All England. The 5th Dragon Guards Lodge furnished its warrant granted to the "Second Regiment of Horse" in 1776, and a splendid set of silver working tools. Ancient Ebor Preceptory displayed its Banner and Sword presented by Mary Com-

mandery in 1878. Bro. W. J. Hughan, P.G.D., the well known Masonic author, had forwarded an interesting series of photographs of old minutes, specimens of engraved plates of lodges and early calendars, with coins and medals. Bro. J. Newton, of Bolton, had a very interesting case of Masonic medals, some very rare, including a curious series of halipenny tokens. Bro. M. C. Peck, Prov. G. Sec. of North and East Yorkshire, had quite a library of Masonic books, embracing some of the rarest known, specimens of certificates and obsolete clothing, and some good Masonic medals. Bro. J. Ramsden Riley, of Bradford, exhibited a series of very valuable warrants and certificates, amongst them a warrant issued by the Prov. Grand Master of Yorkshire in 1778 to form a lodge at Doncaster. Bro. J. H. Neilson, of Dublin, sent a valuable series of Irish certificates and a Knight Templar warrant of 1807. Bro. T. W. Tew, Dep. Prov. G.M. of West Yorkshire, showed a brass seal, supposed to have been that of the preceptory at Temple Hirst. Bro. J. H. Atherton, of Bradford, brought over some beautiful specimens of glass and china, cut and painted with Masonic emblems, as well as curious books. Bro. C. Williams, of Birmingham, had a small but interesting collection of Masonic medals, &c. Bro. J. C. Robinson, of Chester, exhibited the minute book of the Old Royal Lodge at Chester, the warrant of the Star Lodge at Chester, dated 1766, and specimens of antique glasses, &c. The venerable Bro. J. C. Taylor, of Bradford, lent the minute book of the extinct Plains of Mamre Preceptory; Bro. E. C. Patchitt, of Nottingham; Bro. G. C. Caster, of Peterborough; Bro. Marshall, of Malton; Bro. W. F. Smithson, of Leeds; and Bros. G. H. Hackers and R. H. Peacock, of Scarborough, all had contributed articles of value and interest. Bro. Middleton, of Scarborough, had a very ancient oil painting of Godfrey de Bouillon. Bro. E. C. Wragg, of Nottingham, had a beautiful collection of old certificates and an ancient preceptory seal. Bro. J. H. Sillitoe, of Manchester, showed some singular old clothing and valuable MS. rolls, the property of the Colne Lodge and Chapter, 116. The Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, P.G.C., showed a series of valuable Rosicrucian works. The St. Germain's Lodge sent some of the old furniture of the extinct Mariners' Lodge once held at Selby. Bro. M. W. Clarke, of Hull, had a large case full of Masonic jewels. Bro. J. S. Cumberland displayed his large collection of antique Masonic jewels, amongst which there were some rare and very beautiful specimens, the collection numbering over 40 examples. In addition to these he showed a number of Masonic books and engravings. Bro. T. B. Whythead had also sent from his collection a number of rare books, jewels, engravings, and other curiosities. From this brief description it will easily be seen how much of value and interest had been collected. The only regret on the part of the guests seemed to be that the exhibition could not be kept open the next day in order that a more detailed examination might have been made than was possible during the evening. The Rosicrucians had provided light refreshments for their visitors in the shape of tea and coffee, &c., and in order to enliven the evening had arranged for the performance of songs and part music, amongst the vocalists being Bros. Blagbro', (Bradford); J. S. Cumberland, J. Todd, J. E. Wilkinson, J. L. Atherton, J. Wilsin, and others, whilst Bros. C. G. Padel and W. S. Cailld accompanied on the pianoforte.

Amongst the brethren who were fortunate enough to be present were the following: Bros. the Dean of York, Alderman Sir James Meek, P.M. 236; Alderman G. Brown, 236; W. B. Williamson, Mayor of Worcester; J. T. Sells, P.M. 1611; J. Dyson, W.M. 306; W. Draper, 236; W. Lachenby, 1611; J. Marshall, P.M. 660; J. D. Dodsworth, W.M. 660; R. J. Smithson, P.M. 660; J. Hudson, P.M. 660; W. Wilsin, P.M. 660; T. M. Goldie, 660; J. B. Nicholls, 660; H. J. Morton, P.M. 1248; W. E. Brown, 111; E. Harrison, 1379; J. Wetherell, 531; J. Thrippleton, 306; R. Craig, P.M. 304; A. Williamson, W.M. 289; A. R. Watson, W.M. 600; J. Fairburn, P.M. 1337; L. J. Thompson, 1416; J. Church, 317; R. Sootheran, W.M. 1337; H. Rymer, P.M. 1337; C. Pallsier, P.M. 1337; G. Simpson, P.M. 1611; R. Ferry, 97; Capt. Gifford, P.M. 570 (I.C.); G. Davies, 236; Rev. J. E. M. Young, P.M. 236; J. E. Jones, 236; H. C. Wood, 439; C. L. Burdekin, 236; H. Warwick, 304; W. Hodgson, 111; M. C. Peck, Prov. G. Sec.; W. Vesseyman, P.M. 57; A. W. Cheeseman, P.M. 57; T. Barnes, 294; A. T. B. Turner, 1611; W. Stephenson, 1611; R. W. Mott, 250; J. Blenkin, W.M. 1611; A. Haffner, P.M. 566; T. R. Norris, 179; T. Hewson, P.M. 349; C. Anderson, 236; J. Kay, 1611; E. D. Rooke, 1760; Capt. Banks, P.M. 570 (I.C.); G. Kirby, P.M. 236; Capt. Baldrey, 570 (I.C.); H. R. C. Latimer, P.M. 1018; W. Wroe, P.M. 1018; J. Faull, 1018; A. M. White, 1991; B. Polkinghorne, 1991; H. Wilson, W.M. 458; J. P. Priestley, 439; W. Brook, 458; W. Everatt, 453; Alderman T. Valey, 1611; J. K. Wilkes, 111; E. Harding, 1991; J. Bishop, 1991; S. Chadwick, P.M. 1040; R. Ware, 1611; H. E. Cousans, W.M. 297; W. H. Atlay, 312; M. Scott, P.M. 566; H. S. Hopton, 236; in addition to the the whole of the brethren previously named, and others who failed to sign the attendance sheets.

## Obituary.

Bro. James Newton, of Richmond, Yorkshire, the oldest Freemason in England, died very suddenly on the 22nd ult. The deceased was in the 88th year of his age, and he was for 57 years Tyler of the Richmond Lennox Lodge, No. 123, and during the whole of that lengthened period he only once failed to attend the Festival of St. John the Evangelist, being prevented through illness on the last occasion, when the Hon. W. T. Orde-Powlett was elected W.M. Bro. James Newton was chosen Tyler in 1827, when his Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, Grand Master, honoured the members of the Lennox Lodge with a visit. He worked as Tyler with the late and renowned Bro. Matthew Greathhead, who was I.G., and died a few years ago at the advanced age of 101 years, having been a brother of the Lennox Lodge for 74 years. Up to the last Bro. Newton displayed the greatest activity, and went about his duties in a business-like way. Only on the previous evening he attended a lodge meeting. Deceased was held in the highest respect by the Masons, and by the inhabitants at large he was highly esteemed. An inquest was held on the 22nd ult., when evidence was given that deceased had fallen in a fit in his garden at night.—*Yorkshire Gazette*.



## Craft Masonry.

**WESTBOURNE LODGE (No. 733).**—The installation meeting of this lodge was held at Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, on Thursday, the 21st ult. The lodge having been opened the installation took place as soon as the minutes of the previous meeting had been confirmed and some other formal business transacted. The ceremony of installation was performed by Bro. Benjamin Kershaw, the W.M., who did the work with great skill and care. The new Master, Bro. Saml. Richard Walker, was duly proclaimed and saluted in the Three Degrees, and Bro. Kershaw delivered the customary orations to the Master, Wardens, and brethren. Bro. Walker then proceeded to invest his officers for the year as follows: Bros. M. C. Joy, S.W.; C. R. Wickens, J.W.; J. Welford, P.M., Treas.; T. W. Allen, P.M., Sec.; C. Biorn, S.D.; S. J. Humfress, J.D.; J. Sothcott, I.G.; C. A. Cottebrune, P.M., D.C.; Wm. Tucker Allen, A.D.C.; C. Curtis, W.S.; Easton, A.W.S.; E. J. Eaton, Org.; and Thomas, Tyler.

The ballot was then taken for three initiates—Messrs. G. J. Thompson, Wm. Durdle, and Fredk. Wingrove—and the vote being unanimous in favour of their admission, they were prepared and admitted in due form, and were initiated by the W.M., Bro. Walker, into the mysteries of the First Degree. The Auditors then presented their report (which was taken as read, the accounts having been printed), and congratulated Bro. Walker on the prosperous condition of the lodge. The report of the Benevolent Committee was also received, and a grant of £5 made by the Committee to a poor brother was confirmed. Bro. Walker announced that it was his intention to go up as Steward to the festival of the Girls' School, and asked the brethren, as the lodge had a considerable surplus over last year's expenditure, to vote a substantial sum in aid of his list. After some discussion as to the amount to be given, the lodge voted a sum of £20 to be placed on Bro. Walker's list. On the application of Bro. Goodwin, P.M., the lodge votes for the Benevolent Institution were given to Bro. Harrison, P.M., who is a candidate for election.

The Westbourne Lodge is to be congratulated upon having again made an admirable selection in its choice of a W.M. Bro. Walker's work is admirable; notwithstanding that there were matters before the lodge which occupied considerable time, everything was done with the greatest precision, and the lodge in each degree was closed down instead of being resumed in the lower. There was a good attendance of brethren throughout the whole course of the meeting, a very large number being present by the time the initiates were invested.

On the lodge being closed the brethren adjourned to the large new hall attached to the hotel, where a sumptuous banquet was served. At the close of the feast the usual loyal and Masonic toast list was gone through, and duly honoured by the brethren.

In proposing "The Health of the Grand Master, the Prince of Wales," the W.M. said that his Royal Highness within the last few days had taken occasion to visit some of the worst slums in which the poor of London dwelt. The mere mention of the fact was sufficient, without any words from him (Bro. Walker), to show how keen was the interest his Royal Highness took in the welfare of the people, and that there was no class, however poor, in which he did not feel an interest. The toast was drunk with the liveliest enthusiasm.

In proposing "The Health of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," Bro. Walker referred to their esteemed Bro. Cottebrune, who was a Past Grand Officer, always to the fore, always able and willing to render assistance. Bro. Cottebrune was, however, so well known to those present as to render it unnecessary for the proposer of this toast to sing his praises. It had, perhaps unreasonably, somewhat startled him (Bro. Walker) to find Grand Officers so proficient in the work they had to perform; it showed, however, that the love of Freemasonry had spread through all grades of society; and certainly, with the examples set them by the exalted personages who were such excellent working Freemasons, peers and commoners of highest rank could do no less than qualify themselves for the offices allotted to them.

Bro. Cottebrune in reply said that he was afraid that after the very excellent song they had just heard from a very handsome young lady, any remarks of his would fall very flat on the ears of the company. He would not occupy their time, but would thank them for the very kind way in which they had drunk his health. This was the twenty-sixth anniversary of the founding of the Westbourne Lodge. He was now the only remaining founder of the lodge. It was always a source of pleasure to him to observe the increase of the lodge, and the harmony that existed among the brethren, and he felt sure that under the rule of Bro. Walker they would have a very pleasant year.

Bro. Kershaw, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of Bro. Walker, their new W.M." They all knew nearly as much as he did about Bro. Walker, and it was therefore unnecessary for him to occupy their time in a long speech; he would, therefore, limit himself to asking them to rise and drink to the health of their new W.M.

Bro. Walker said he had to thank them very much for the very kind way in which they had received the toast of his health. Bro. Kershaw had said that he (Bro. Walker) was able to take his own part. He had some doubt about it, but placed in that position he should do his best to show that the confidence of the brethren had not been misplaced. Bro. Cottebrune had told them that this was their twenty-sixth anniversary. They had passed their silver wedding, and they were one year on the road to their golden wedding. He hoped the year would be a golden year. If they would give him their support he would do his very utmost for the prosperity of the Westbourne Lodge. Before sitting down he would remind them that the ball in connection with the Westbourne Lodge would take place on the 25th. He hoped that no brother would fail to secure a ticket, because he was sure that this ball would be such a success as they had never before achieved. Bro. Walker said he had now a very important toast to propose, namely, that of "The I.P.M. and Installing Master," and he hoped the brethren would give

it the most cordial reception. He added: Bro. Kershaw, I have now very much pleasure in presenting you with this Past Master's collar, and it affords me very great gratification indeed to pin on this handsome jewel which the lodge voted you at our last meeting for the very efficient manner in which you performed the duties of the chair last year, and I hope that you will be spared many years to wear the jewel in the Westbourne Lodge. I am sure that so long as you are able to come the lodge will be in no want of any assistance you can give.

Bro. Kershaw having returned thanks, the W.M. proposed "The Health of the Initiates," "The Visitors," "The Past Masters," and "The Officers of the Lodge," which were warmly received and duly responded to, and then the Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

During the evening the company were entertained with a selection of songs, among which Miss Cole's rendering of the "Miller and the Maid," and "Pierot," and Dr. Guyarth's singing of the "Midshipmite" were exceptionally good.

Among the Past Masters of the lodge present were Bros. W. Hitchcock, C. A. Cottebrune, E. G. Allen, B. Goodwin, Lewis Ascott, W. Hallett, and J. Welford; and the following were among the visitors: Bros. E. M. Lander, P.M. 1642; J. S. Adkins, P.G.P. 1290; H. W. Davis, J.W. 173; Jas. Blyth, P.M. 177; Wm. Runell, 1791; J. G. Wynn, 281; Henry Davey, 511; Reg. T. Webster, 1608; Alfred Rawlings, S.W. 144; E. R. Allen, 1381; H. B. Fowler, 244; J. L. Apsey, 534; James Flood, 1642; W. Matthews, Org. 1468; Jackson Gawith, 1718; R. N. Field, P.M. 902; H. Taylor, 1642; J. Beagell, 511; T. J. Bird, W.M. 1897, P.P.G.S.B. Middx.; C. Stallbrox, 753; G. W. Tribber, P.M. 1227; J. Ralph, 1421 and 1614; W. F. Thorpe, 1614; H. P. Phillips, P.M. 205; Rev. M. Haines, 205; Joseph Lichtenfeld, 205; Robt. Stachan, 1531; Thomas Lucking, 704; J. H. Scott, 1765; J. J. Thomas, I.G. 753; W. J. Stratton; Thomas Glenister, 1507; and E. C. Massey (*Freemason*).

**BURGOYNE LODGE (No. 902).**—This prosperous lodge met on Monday last at Anderson's Hotel, for the installation of the W.M. for the ensuing year, Bro. W. G. Bundy, when a goodly number of members and visitors were in attendance. The installation ceremony was most ably performed by the Secretary, Bro. H. C. Jefferys, at the request of the W.M., they being life-long friends. The new officers were invested as follows: Bros. W. Batty, S.W.; W. Williams, J.W.; Harvey, P.M., Treas.; Jefferys, P.M., Sec.; Norrington, S.D.; Castell, J.D.; and Lavington, C.C., I.G. The new Master showed in a very short time what may be expected of him during his year of office by initiating a candidate in a way leaving nothing to be desired.

It was not until a late hour that the lodge sat down to an excellent banquet in the Pillar Room. The W.M., without unpleasantly hurrying the brethren, made the best of the time, for he got through his long toast list and a still longer programme of music in time for the brethren to stay to the end. It was particularly noticeable that almost no one left the room until the Tyler's toast, an excellent proof of the esteem the brethren have for Bro. Bundy. On rising after dinner, the Worshipful Master announced that he should not keep the brethren long listening to speeches, for he had provided an excellent quartette party, who would intersperse the proceedings with many beautiful glees, part songs, and solos.

The W.M. rose and gave the health of "The Queen," "The M.W.G.M.," "The Earls of Carnarvon and Lathom" respectively, in well chosen words, brief but effective. The madrigal "The Pleasant Month of May," followed, after which the I.P.M. took the gavel, and observed that he was about to propose a toast which they might call the toast of the evening. They could not give Bro. Bundy too much praise in his display of work that evening. It is not always advisable on nights of installation to take other work, but Bro. Bundy did not fear it, and he gave evidence that he would be a great worker, and if he did not bring work he (Bro. Wilkins) would. The W.M. had gained the esteem of every one since he had been a member of the lodge, and he asked them cordially to drink his health.

After another song the W.M. rose and thanked them for the cordial and hearty manner his health had been proposed and drunk; he thanked the I.P.M. for the promise of work, and assured the lodge he should not shrink from it.

Bro. Schartau sang, "Three hundred Years Ago," and the Master gave "The Initiate's Health," calling upon Bro. Wale, P.M., for the initiate's song.

In submitting "The Health of the Visitors," Bro. Bundy observed it was a toast peculiarly graceful to propose. Amongst the many visitors some were of thirty years' standing friendship.

Bro. Frost first responded, and made some happy allusions to his long intimacy with the W.M. Bros. Page, Glass, and Ford also replied, Bro. Chas. Lee, instead of the usual formal speech, giving a recitation, "Over the hills to the poorhouse," which elicited much applause.

Bro. Wilkins, in responding to the toast of "The I.P.M.," said they often heard that the king is dead, but he could assure them that he is not dead; they had now a king who would do justice to them, and he (Bro. Williams) meant to help him. He had been suffering from a serious physical and painful complaint through the year, but he had tried notwithstanding to keep the lodge in its proper order, a remark the brethren cordially and sympathetically endorsed. He had intended performing the installation; but the W.M. wished his old friend Bro. Jefferys to do this, and he therefore yielded.

The Installing Master in responding said he took this opportunity of acknowledging the kindness of the I.P.M. in allowing him to install his dear old friend Bro. Bundy. It had been the privilege in the Burgoyne Lodge for the outgoing Master to install his successor in the chair of K.S., but out of deference to a friendship of 25 years Bro. Wilkins had given way to him.

Bro. Sidney Tower delighted the company with "Goodbye, Sweetheart," and the W.M. then asked them to be understanding and drink to "The Health of the P.Ms." without whom they could not get on; and Bro. Wale in response remarked that the P.Ms. are only too willing to do all they could for the success of the lodge. They were he thought the best abused of all, but he assured the Craft they had the best interests at heart.

Bro. Harvey, in responding for "The Treasurer and Secretary," said his duties had been very pleasant, for they





Bro. Lord Yarborough has again made a return of 15 per cent. to his tenantry upon the rents paid by them.

Bro. W. H. R. Saunders was installed as W.M. of the Benevolent Lodge, No. 303, Teignmouth, on the 11th ult.

At the installation meeting of the Westbourne Lodge, No. 733, at Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, on the 21st ult., Bro. Samuel R. Walker was installed into the chair of K.S. by Bro. Kershaw, the retiring Master.

A handsome Parian marble bust of the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M. Grand Lodge of England, has been presented to the city lodges of London, Canada, by W. Bro. Brunton. It has been placed in position in the lodge room, and proves very attractive.

The Fifteen Sections will be worked at the Excelsior Lodge of Instruction, No. 1155, on Tuesday evening next, the 4th inst., at seven o'clock p.m., at the Commercial Dock Tavern, Plough-road, Rotherhithe. Bro. Walter Martin, J.W. Southwark Lodge, 879, will preside, and the attendance of brethren will be cordially welcomed.

Bro. Sir Moses Montefiore is about to receive a mark of the esteem in which he is held by his co-religionists of New York, a meeting of deputations from the congregations, with their ministers and presidents of the chief communal institutions of New York, having been held to take steps to becomingly mark the approaching centennial anniversary of Sir Moses's birthday. Opinion seemed to be most weighty in favour of either a Home for Incurables or an Industrial Home for Jewish Children.

A statement of the receipts and disbursements in connection with the late Musical Festival at Leeds has just been issued. The total amount received from the concerts was £9,666 os. 7d., which was increased by the sale of music, programmes, books, donations, and bankers' interest to £10,307 15s. 8d. The surplus amounted to £2,678 7s. 7d., which was disposed of as follows: £1,050 to the Leeds General Infirmary, £525 to the Leeds Public Dispensary, and £375 to the Hospital for women and Children, the £728 7s. 7d. remaining being added to the reserve fund, which now amounts to £1,072 15s. 8d.

The following are the dinners, &c., held at the Freemasons' Tavern during the present week: Monday, Feb. 25th—Westbourne Lodge Ball, Old King's Arms Lodge, Royal Somerset House Lodge installation. Tuesday, 26th—Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution Festival, Tuscan Lodge Ball, Royal York Chapter, St. James's Union Chapter, Industry Lodge, Royal Savoy Lodge. Wednesday, 29th—Dramatic Ball, Lodge of Antiquity, Smeatonian Society, Evening Star Lodge. Thursday, 28th—Linen and Woollen Drapers' Benevolent Institution, Grenadier's Lodge, Mount Moriah Lodge, Girls' School Club. Friday, 29th—Maggie Rowing Club Ball. Saturday, March 1—St. James's Soirée, Phoenix Chapter.

The Royal Navy is about to lose an officer of great practical experience, in the person of Mr. A. Morcom (Bro. A. Morcom), chief engineer at Sheerness Dockyard. This officer, who since his appointment at Sheerness has rendered valuable services to the Admiralty, has accepted an appointment in a private engineering firm. Mr. Morcom will carry with him from the service the well-wishes of his many friends in this locality, where he was well known, having held the post of First Assistant to the Chief Engineer of Portsmouth Dockyard. By this gentleman's resignation the Government has lost a tried and efficient officer, and private enterprise has added to the roll of meritorious officers who have been induced to leave her Majesty's service to better their prospects in life.—*Portsmouth Times*.

Masonic authorities generally condemn the infliction of severe penalties for non-payment of dues. The practice of suspension for that offence is, it seems, a modern regulation growing out of our present system of lodge government, and while our edicts authorise the suspension of those in arrears, and even their expulsion, it should be remembered that the latter is the severest penalty known to our code, and corresponds with capital punishment in our civil government. It should therefore only be resorted to in extreme cases, where the ability to pay is undoubted, and the refusal amounts to absolute contumacy. To suspend, much more to expel, a Mason for non-payment who is too poor to pay his dues is in conflict with the charitable features of our institution, and an outrage upon those principles of humanity on which the Order is founded.—*Texas Freemason*.

Healthy Homes.—Pure Air and Water.—Perfect drainage, ventilation, and temperature are now happily recognised as essentials in every dwelling. Unfortunately busy City men are very ill-informed upon both the theoretical and practical conditions necessary to secure healthy homes, and fortunately this deficiency can be supplied by private enterprise and special knowledge. Bro. Wm. Smeaton has secured the most central position in the City at Leadenhall-buildings, Gracechurch-street, and is there prepared to exhibit and suggest the essentials of a healthy home in its leading requisites of temperature, ventilation, perfect drainage, and purity of water supply. As no reason exists beyond ignorance and cupidity why life should not be robust and abundant, and death a remote or removed possibility, society is deeply indebted to sanitarians like Bro. Smeaton for his enterprise in such a central position. We have his authority for saying that he will gladly advise members of the Craft upon all sanitary matters, and leave the execution of his suggestions to others, if desired, only we cannot too often urge upon our readers the inverted maxim, rendered famous by Lord Beaconsfield, "Sanitas sanitatum omnia sanitas."

"RUPTURES."—WHITE'S MOC-MAIN LEVER TRUSS is the most effective invention for the treatment of Hernia. The use of a steel spring, so hurtful in its effects, is avoided, a soft bandage being worn round the body, while the requisite resisting power is supplied by the Moc-Main Pad and Patent Lever, fitting with so much ease and closeness that it cannot be detected. Send for descriptive circular, with testimonials and prices, to J. White and Co. (Limited) 228, Piccadilly, London. Do not buy of Chemists, who often sell an IMITATION of our Moc-Main. J. White and Co. have not any agents.—[ADVT.]

Bro. J. D. Barford, P.M. 342, was installed W.M. of the Southampton Lodge, No. 394, last week.

We understand that Dr. Laylor, of Kentish Town, the discoverer of phosphodine, will remove in March next to Hampstead, where he is building enlarged premises and extended laboratory.

The Camden Chapter of Instruction, held at the Boston Hotel, Junction-road, on Wednesday, at eight o'clock p.m., of which Comp. Edwards is the Preceptor, will on and after the 4th inst. be held on Tuesdays, instead of Wednesdays, as at present.

The annual supper of the Covent Garden Lodge of Instruction will take place at the Criterion, Piccadilly, on Thursday evening, 13th inst., at 7.30 p.m. Bro. Geo. Coleman, W.M. 1614, in the chair, supported by Bro. W. H. Gulliford, P.M. 1017, 1614, in the vice-chair.

The Prince of Wales, attended by Col. Stanley Clarke, honoured Bro. Lord Carrington and the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen at Arms with his presence at dinner at their mess in St. James's Palace on Friday evening last week.

The third of the series of annual exhibitions of Sporting appliances, commonly known as the Sportsman's Exhibition, will be held in the Agricultural Hall, from Thursday next, the 6th, to Saturday, the 15 inst., under most distinguished patronage. Full particulars will be found in another column.

At the meeting of the Great Northern Lodge, on Thursday, the Wardens and Past Masters present acquiesced in the suggestion of the Worshipful Master that they should attend Grand Lodge in a body, and support the principle of the annual election of Grand Treasurer by voting for Bro. Horace Brooks Marshall.

Bro. W. H. Baker, S.W. designate of the Abbey Lodge, Westminster, was the recipient of a very gratifying testimonial, consisting of a purse of one hundred guineas, on Tuesday evening last, at the Westminster Town Hall, subscribed for by members of vestries and district boards. The Baroness Burdett Coutts and the Right Hon. W. H. Smith, M.P., were present.

The steamship Alert, which was especially constructed to withstand the rigour of an Arctic winter, and our readers will remember, was employed in the last British Arctic expedition under Sir George Nares, has been presented by the Admiralty to the United States Government, who are organising an Arctic expedition in search of some missing ships. She will be handed over completely equipped for sea. The United States Congress have unanimously thanked the English Government for the gift.

An accident, fortunately not of a very serious nature, though a contrary result might have been the case, occurred to Bro. Alderman and Ex-Sheriff de Keyser on Tuesday last, during the progress of a trial at the Central Criminal Court. In the Old Court a large sheathed sword, the "Sword of Justice," is placed in a receptacle prepared for it behind the seat usually occupied by the Lord Mayor. The fastenings of this sword appear to have given way, and the weapon and its sheath fell with some force upon the head of Bro. De Keyser, who was at the moment sitting beneath it. He left the court, but it appeared that, fortunately, the only injury sustained was a slight abrasion of the skin of the forehead, and in the course of a few minutes he again took his seat on the bench.

As we mentioned last week, the R.W. the Prov. Grand Master of Durham, Bro. the Most Hon. the Marquess of Londonderry, K.P., has approved and signed a petition, which has been duly signed and recommended, for the formation of a new lodge to be established on temperance principles, at Sunderland, on similar lines to the Wolseley Lodge at Manchester. The proposed new lodge will, when duly warranted, be named, by the permission of the Prov. Grand Master, "The Londonderry Lodge," and meet at the Lecture Hall of the Young Men's Christian Association in Sunderland. The Prov. G. Secretary, Bro. R. Hudson, is proposed and recommended as the first W.M.; Bro. J. C. Moor, W.M. 97, as the first S.W.; and Bro. J. Deans, J.W. 80, as the first J.W. Bro. Moor is acting as the provisional Secretary until the lodge is formed. His address is Central Hall, John-street, Sunderland.

The annual meeting of shareholders of the Southampton Masonic Hall Company was held on Tuesday evening at the Masonic Hall, Albion-place, when Bro. Weston presided, in the absence of the D.P.G.M., and there was a numerous attendance of directors and brethren. The report showed a balance of £217 5s. 7d., from which the directors recommended a dividend of five per cent. per annum, carrying forward to next year's account £63 3s. 7d. The Chairman congratulated the brethren on the position of the Company, and moved the adoption of the report, which Bro. Thomas seconded, and after a brief discussion the proposition was carried. To fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Bro. Payne from the directorate, there were three nominations, Bros. Cole, W. Berry, and Henry Lashmore, and on a show of hands being taken the last-named was declared elected, and returned thanks for the compliment. The retiring directors, Bros. M. Miles, J. B. Thomas, J. R. Weston, J. Robson, and J. E. Le Feuvre, were moved for re-election by Bros. Cole, Adams, Tilling, Dymott, and Thomas, seconded respectively by Bros. Jellicoe, Robertson, Cross, Dyer, and W. J. Hickman, and all the propositions were agreed to. Bros. Cole and Cross were re-elected auditors, and votes of thanks were accorded them, as well as to the Chairman and Board of Directors; the honorary solicitor, Bro. W. J. Hickman; the honorary treasurer, Bro. Waters; and secretary, Bro. R. Sharpe, and after the discussion of some questions of interest to the lodges, thanks were voted to the Chairman for presiding, and the meeting ended.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Nervous Debility.—No part of the human machine requires more watching than the nervous system; upon it hangs health and life itself. These Pills are the best regulators and strengtheners of the nerves, and the safest general purifiers. Nausea, headache, giddiness, numbness, and mental apathy yield to them. They displace in a summary manner those distressing dyspeptic symptoms, stomachic pains, fullness at the pit of the stomach, abdominal distension, and overcome both capricious appetites and confined bowels—the commonly accompanying signs of defective or deranged nervous power. Holloway's Pills are particularly recommended to persons of studious and sedentary habits, who gradually sink into a nervous and debilitated state unless some such restorative be occasionally taken.—[ADVT.]

Bro. Lord Tollemache has offered his Cheshire tenantry to construct silos on every farm, and to take the financial responsibility.

Bro. J. Aronsberg, J.P., of Manchester, has been furnished by H.R.H. the Grand Duke of Hesse-Darmstadt with a copy of the letters of the late Princess Alice.

The body of Bro. John Brown, 88 years of age, was found in almost a nude state in a yard off Bridge-st., Richmond, Yorkshire, on Friday morning last week, with his clothes lying around him. He was last seen alive on Thursday night, after attending a lodge.

Handel's Italian oratorio, "La Resurrezione," was heard for the first time in England on Tuesday evening last at St. James's Hall, the work being rendered by Past Grand Organist Bro. C. E. Willing's choir, with the original accompaniments in their integrity.

The ceremony of installation of Principals will be rehearsed on Tuesday next, by Comp. Brown, S.E. and Preceptor, at the Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement, Jamaica Coffee House, St. Michael's Alley, Cornhill, at half-past 5 o'clock. The usual exaltation ceremony will be rehearsed at half-past 6 o'clock.

We are now arriving at the most healthful and pleasant season of the year, and to all of our readers who are preparing for the stocking of their gardens we should advise a perusal of the revised edition of "Hoopers' Gardening Guide" (price 2s. 6d., from Hoopers, Covent Garden, W.C.) This work contains over 500 illustrations and about 300 pages of descriptive and instructive matter, and includes particulars of all novelties and introductions in the floral and vegetable world to end of season 1883.

The committee of Ways and Means of the Mary Commandery of Knights Templars, Philadelphia, having in charge the Pilgrimage to Erie in May, 1884, contemplate a trip in connection therewith to Niagara Falls, through the oil regions of Pennsylvania, to Bradford, to the Kinzua Viaduct, the highest railroad bridge in the world, &c. The six knights of Bradford will arrange special trains for visits to the oil wells, for the torpedoing of one or more wells, &c. The oil regions, to many of the six knights, will be a real curiosity. Arrangements will, as usual, be made for ladies to accompany them. It is expected to leave Philadelphia on Monday, May 26th, 1884, reaching Erie on Tuesday, 27th, on which day the parade will take place. Visit Niagara Falls on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday will be spent at Bradford and in the oil regions, reaching Philadelphia on Saturday, May 31st. The total cost of trip, including (sight-seeing at Niagara not included), will be about forty dollars.

The achievement of Freemasonry in inventing an alphabet that is as easy of acquisition by the German as by the Englishman, by the Arab as by the Indian, is one that is worthy of remark. Before the advent of the Craft the dream of a universal language was akin in character and issue to the dream of universal dominion, vainly indulged in by so many warlike potentates. The attempt to frame a tongue that should be acquired by all men was a failure—a Utopian dream. Many have been the enthusiasts who, all through the centuries, have striven to win the honour of inventing the world's language. Dalgarno in his "Ars Signorum," Bishop Wilkins in his "Philosophical Language," and the famous genius, Leibnitz, are among those who aspired thus to master speech. But speech is incapable of such mastery. It would seem that even if all the nations of the earth were combined under one government, the different peoples would each continue to speak their own language. We sometimes flatter ourselves that the English tongue will ultimately be the world's tongue, but this is more than doubtful. It would seem that only Freemasonry can thus make the conquest of the peoples of the world, or rather of those representative men among all peoples who shall be found worthy of initiation in the Craft. This universal language is not a tongue, but a Masonic alphabet, a sign language, exemplifying "a beautiful system of morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols."—*Keystone*.

The business to be transacted at Grand Lodge on Wednesday, March 5th, bids fair in one respect to be of a more exciting character than usual. There are two brethren proposed for the office of Grand Treasurer, viz., Bro. John Derby Allcroft and Bro. Horace Brooks Marshall. The idea of many at the election of Bro. Allcroft in March, 1883, was that at an annual change should be made, and not the same brother be elected from year to year as formerly. On the other hand there are a large number who object to such frequent changes in the personnel of that office. The latter have, with questionable taste, secured a long array of signatures to a resolution pledging such brethren to vote for Bro. Allcroft, and during the last few weeks a number of letters have been appearing in the *Freemason* advocating the claims of the two brethren, so that if those who have to vote are not unbiassed by improper solicitation, they, at all events, are well informed as to the merits of the two candidates, Masonically and generally. Never were there two such brethren proposed before, and never likely to be so again. The attendance of the Craft is expected to be exceptionally large, and "overflow meetings" will have to be arranged for. The M.W. Grand Master the Prince of Wales has given notice of his intention to move that fifty guineas be granted to each of the families of two of the crew of the Masonic "Albert Edward" lifeboat at Clacton-on-Sea, who were drowned on 23rd January while endeavouring to rescue the crew of a vessel in distress. One of the men had assisted in saving 116 lives, and the other 33 lives. Various appeals have to be considered, and the election of the Prince of Wales as Grand Master, it should be mentioned, will commence the proceedings. Since the last Grand Lodge 13 new lodges have been warranted, the last number being 2035, including the Lodge of St. George, No. 2025, Stonehouse, the charter of which has been received by the Secretary, and the brethren are waiting its consecration. The revised Book of Constitutions in the two sizes will be ready for issue early in March.—*Western Morning News*.

UNFAILING REMEDY FOR WINTER COUGHS AND BRONCHITIS.—My elderly customers find no better medicine for their Winter Coughs, and each year I get renewed testimony to the value and good effects that DR. LOCOCK'S PULMONIC WAFERS never fail to produce in the most serious cases, as well as in slight bronchial attacks.—(Signed) W. H. TURNER, M.P.S., Totterdown, Bristol, January 27th, 1882. They instantly relieve, rapidly cure, and taste pleasantly. Sold at 1s. 1d. and 2s. 9d. per box, of all druggists.—[ADVT.]