

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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WE trust to hear before long better accounts in respect of the numbers of the Stewards for the Girls' School Festival. The value of the Institution to our Order is so great, and the benefits it dispenses are so many, that nothing, we feel sure, but a little want of reflection holds back many who would otherwise send in their names as Stewards to the Secretary for the Festival of 1884. We have heard that one or two little points seem to antagonize the usually ready and forward enthusiasm of English Masons on behalf of these great Charities. It has been very foolishly said and perversely repeated, that the Girls' School has plenty of means. In one sense this allegation is true, in that the liberality of the brethren has thus far been entirely commensurate with all its requirements. But in another sense no greater fallacy was ever propounded. The Girls' School has a fair amount of capital arising from careful management and the absence of any overwhelming expenditure, but the interest of this Fund is but an infinitesimal portion of the annual amount absolutely required to keep the School in full working Order, in thoroughness, efficiency, and vitality. It would be a very sad conclusion to come to, to have to take from the capital any sum to make up the deficiency of the annual receipts for the expenditure. Under these circumstances the governing body wisely maintains a good "reserve," not only to provide for any unforeseen or abnormal expenses, but they have always to keep another matter before them. It is just possible that, owing to the wants and extension of our suburban railway system, it may not be long before the School lands may be greatly wanted. In such a case what are the authorities of the Institution to do? They must be prepared on all hands and sides either to keep their present position, or find another and build elsewhere. Let us hope that that day is far distant, and that our remarkable Institution at Wandsworth Common, which we all alike regard with justifiable pride, may go on in peace, reality, and prosperity. We trust to hear before long that the number of the Stewards is materially augmented, and that the prospects of success for the Festival are happily and markedly increased.

THE important proposals as regards the Preparatory School for Boys will receive, as they deserve, the attention and consideration of the Craft. They come before us opportunely, and are marked, as it seems to us, by commendable moderation of outlay and much common sense. If they somewhat exceed the original estimate, they do so because it is almost always utterly impossible to measure accurately the limits and requirements of building operations until reduced to paper, and we feel sure that as our good Craft is always governed by the principles of fairness and reasonableness, so it will not deny to the House Committee and authorities of the Boys' School that support which they may fairly ask for and that confidence to which they are justly entitled.

A MASONIC contemporary of ours in America, the *Masonic Token* if we remember rightly, announces in a very vehement leader that it withdraws its confidence from the poor *Freemason*, and that we have fallen dreadfully in its estimation. And all for why? It seems our worthy confrère has discovered a great inconsistency in certain opinions of the *Freemason*, and proceeds to denounce it as arbitrary, tyrannical, unjust, un-Masonic, "piling up the agony" with many epithets and vehement asseverations. It seems that once upon a time the *Freemason* stated what the normal law of jurisdictional government and authority was, and because in the abnormal position of the Grand Lodge and the Grand Chapter of Quebec, the *Freemason* has used other arguments and illustrations, the *Freemason* is wanting in "dignity and decorum" is trying to browbeat and tyrannize over our Quebec brethren, has lost the entire confidence of the *Masonic Token*, and by the "same token" is evidently "booked for something uncomfortable." But the *Freemason* has in truth been perfectly consistent from first to last. Normally its theory and views of jurisdictional rights and limits are sound and true, as the *Masonic Token* itself admits; abnormally, as regards its representation of the Quebec question, it is that which is endorsed by the

English Authorities and the English Grand Lodge. Some points "crop up" as regards the Quebec dispute which cannot be ignored, and ought never to be omitted from our purview of things and facts. The Quebec Grand Lodge, which was a "swarm" from the Grand Lodge of Canada, and at first loudly denounced, sought at an early period of its existence to get rid of the effects of the Concordat between the Grand Lodge of Canada and the Grand Lodge of England. By that Concordat, accepted by Lord ZETLAND, and never departed from by the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of England, existing lodges and chapters (included in English Masonry) were recognized as lawful bodies, and guaranteed amicable adhesion if they continued to hold direct from their chartering Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter in England. Grand Master WILSON, of Canada, in published and official documents, not only admitted the reasonableness of the demand and the validity of the agreement, but expressly stated such a position was accorded and approved of by the Grand Lodge of Canada. The Grand Lodge of Canada was duly recognized by the Grand Lodge of England, Lord ZETLAND declaring that henceforth English authority would be exercised as sparingly as possible, and merely to preserve the "status quo ante," &c. So all remained in peace and harmony until the Grand Lodge of Quebec, putting forward the American theory of State Grand Lodges and "universal jurisdiction," claimed to have the right to dispense with the old Concordat, and to demand the submission of the English lodges in Montreal. Those lodges, standing on their old legal warrants and the Concordat, naturally demurred. The English Grand Lodge could not when appealed to, on any principle of Masonic honour, law, and equity, throw over lodges whose only fault was loyalty to itself. The same, differently in its measure, has arisen in the United States, and an American Grand Lodge quite recently took up the exact position of the Grand Lodge of England. Then came the question of the chapters, to which the same remarks apply, and then the further difficulty of the English Mark Grand Lodge. As English Mark Masons prefer the authority of the English Mark Grand Lodge to that of a Grand Chapter, with which, according to them and others, Mark Masonry has nothing to do, it seemed not unreasonable, but almost a case of natural "sequitur," that lawful English Mark lodges should have their own Mark authority over them. It is denied by the English Mark authorities that the "recognition" in any way did away with existing rights of the Grand Lodge over its own chartered bodies; all it did was to recognize the Grand Chapter of Quebec as a co-equal Mark authority over its own members. As the English Mark Grand Lodge forbade its lodges to receive any but English Masons, we could not and we cannot see ourselves where the Mark Grand Lodge was wrong. That is all we said as "amici curiæ." But in the meantime a learned brother in Montreal had raised another and a very serious question, namely, the legality as before the law of the land of the Quebec Grand Lodge, and, of course, the Grand Chapter included. An attempt has been made to appeal to "gush," &c., by the answer that these Quebec statutes are Roman Catholic, &c. But it is not denied that they are, "pro tanto," the "law of the land," and the very fact that the Grand Lodge of Canada required an "enabling act," and, in fact, a legalizing act, and that we are assured the Grand Lodge of Quebec is seeking for one, points out to all juridical and impartial minds where the "shoe pinches." It is a very pretty little "mess" as it is, and has been made worse by the intrusive advice and bitter personalities of irresponsible writers and speakers. Bro. GRAHAM, than whom no more cautious or able ruler exists, is so fully aware of the real and serious difficulties of the case, that he has always, to his honour be it remembered, though a firm advocate for independence, advised measures of peace and prudence. We are pleased to note that our able contemporary the *Voice of Masonry* takes our friendly view of the whole matter, and warns the Quebec brethren both against the false step they have taken and the illomened counsels they are listening to. The *Freemason* has the greatest sympathy for its Canadian brethren, but it is bound, as an honest journal, to advocate, despite passing unpopularity and temporary excitement, the abiding and unfailing dictates of Masonic justice, honour, legality, and right.

OUR contemporary the *Globe* a week or two back alluded to "Dangerous Freemasons," especially in France, and assumes in apparent good faith that those who cry out "Le Franc Maçon c'est l'ennemi" constitute the "right-minded members of the French Press." But our worthy contemporary hardly seems to realize that these attacks mainly proceed from the Ultramontane portion of the Press in France. Now, we do not profess to defend all that the French Freemasons do, neither do we affect to approve of all they say. And without at all denying that the sincere Roman

Catholic may fitly complain at times at many Masonic speeches and the evident outcome of contemporary French Freemasonry, we must yet put in a word of caution, as all the blame is not to be attributed to the French Freemasons. No doubt many unwise declarations are made, many what we should think very preverse speeches are delivered, which seem to affront religious persons, and even to alarm cautious and thinking members of our Order. French Freemasonry has taken a "twist," to use a common English expression, just now, and has altogether departed from ancient precedent and cosmopolitan unity. There seems to be coming over it a tendency both to religious, social, and political discussions, which must eventually not only overthrow its very "raison d'être," but must undermine the basis altogether on which true Freemasonry rests. We read with regret many a syllabus of French lodge lectures and orations, and we only wish that the attention of our brethren in France was directed to subjects worthier of their thoughts, energies, and sympathies. We, however, have clearly shown that we do not approve of their present course, as practically all intercommunication is at an end between our two jurisdictions, a matter, we think, of regret, though a necessary and solemn duty, under the facts of the case. But we must also bear in mind that the Roman Catholic persecution of Freemasonry is as vivid and violent as ever. Since 1738 it has been public and proclaimed, and nothing apparently can check the allocutions of ignorant unfairness or cruel intolerance. The Roman Catholics have only to thank themselves if in Roman Catholic countries Freemasonry sometimes is most unfortunately marked by the ebullitions of a sceptical, destructive, unbelieving spirit. Such is in many cases a reaction against most ridiculous attacks and most libellous asseverations.

HISTORY OF THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

(Continued from page 182.)

Having described the purpose and rules of the foundation, Bro. Cole very considerably places on record the Patrons of the Charity, and the brethren who had subscribed to it, as well as lists of the Boys who up to that time had been received on to the establishment and the Masters to whose care they were severally entrusted. The list of Patrons comprises the following distinguished Atholl brethren, namely: "The Most Noble Prince John, Duke of Atholl, Grand Master; the R.W. Bro. Thomas Harper, Dep. Grand Master; the R.W. Bro. Robert Gill, Senior Grand Warden; the R.W. Bro. W. Burwood, Junior Grand Warden, Institutor and Treasurer to the Charity; the R.W. Bro. R. Leslie, Grand Secretary; the R.W. Bro. Wm. Comerford Clarkson, Grand Treasurer." The same brethren figure in the list of "Subscribers of Five Guineas and upwards," Bros. Gill and Burwood having SS. prefixed to their names as indicating that they had "served the office of Steward," while Bro. Burwood, whose residence is given as "Green Bank, Wapping," is again described as "Institutor and Treasurer." The following are likewise included in this list of principal subscribers, namely: "Mr. John Cole, 18, Fore-street" (the worthy author of the "Illustrations"); "Mr. Robert Green, Aldersgate-street; SS.* F. C. Daniel, Esq., Wapping"—the * shows him to be an annual subscriber of one guinea as well; Captain James Forster, Globe-street, Wapping; SS. Mr. Isaac Jones, Bury-street, St. Mary Axe; SS. James Jones, Esq., Backtriars-road; Philip Astley, Esq., West. Bridge; Mr. Henry Margart, New Gravel-lane; Mr. William Rogerson, Parson's-street, Ratcliff; SS. Mr. John Walton, near Red Lion-street, Wapping; Mr. John Webber, Green Bank, Wapping." The other list of subscribers, among whom are some few who had served as Stewards, and several annual subscribers of a guinea, includes the names of 173 individuals, the most noteworthy being "Mr. Benjamin Aldhouse, Spitalfields, Collector," who was a member of Ancient Lodge, No. 63—present St. Mary's Lodge, No. 63—and is said in Bro. Gould's "Atholl Lodges"—though on what grounds it is, of course, impossible to state—to have "always claimed to have been the founder of the Boys' School"; Mr. Robert Burwood, Mrs. Burwood, Mrs. Daniel, William Henry Forssteen, Esq., a "Modern" Mason, and Grand Steward in 1799; Mrs. Forster, William Hannam, a "Modern," and Grand Steward in 1803; and Mr. J. B. Roach and Mr. Benjamin Plummer, subsequently Grand Wardens of the "Ancients." It should be mentioned further that both Bro. William Burwood and Bro. F. C. Daniel, who is said to have been so intimately associated with him in the good work, joined United Mariners' Lodge, No. 23, in the quarter ending 2nd September, 1789—the latter as stated in the Register, "from No. 3," though we have been unable to trace his name in that lodge—and that both filled the office of Master of the lodge; but, while Bro. Burwood is entered among both the "Patrons" and "Subscribers," and is in both cases described as "Institutor and Treasurer," the latter is undistinguishable from his brother subscribers, except as having served as Steward, and contributing a guinea annually. In further corroboration of our view, we may state that Bro. Burwood's name is entered among the subscribers to Bro. Cole's work—part of the profits, as has been stated, were to go in aid of the funds of the Charity—he having taken no less than 210 copies of it, while Bro. Daniel took only one. It seems therefore to admit of little, if any, doubt that to Bro. Burwood belongs the honour of having originated or instituted the Masonic Charity for Boys. We have also satisfied ourselves that the statement as to the United Mariners' Lodge having led the way in establishing this Institution is well worthy of our acceptance. We have carefully compared the register of Lodge No. 23 with Bro. Cole's list of Subscribers to the Charity, with the result that certainly some 40 members of the former are to be found in the latter, and it is quite possible that in so tedious a process the names of other members may have escaped our notice. It will be conceded that this is a large proportion for a single lodge out of only about 180 subscribers all told.

We have advisedly placed the names of Bros. W. Burwood and F. C. Daniel in juxtaposition one with the other, because if the former is entitled, as we think he is, to the distinction of having been the "Institutor" as well as first Treasurer of the Charity that was ushered into existence in 1798 under the auspices of Atholl Lodge, No. 23, and subsequently received so large a measure of protection and support from the Atholl Grand Lodge, it has been claimed, and rightly claimed, for the latter that he was the "Institutor" as well as the first Treasurer of another similar foundation, in the establishment of which he was most ably and generously supported by his brother

members of the "Modern" Lodge, Royal Naval, No. 57, now No. 59. It has already been stated that in 1817 a union between the two Institutions was effected, and no doubt many will become impressed with the opinion that under the circumstances the honour of having founded the Boys' School must be equally apportioned between these two worthy brethren. We are inclined to question the justice of this view. All honour to Bro. Daniel and his Royal Naval brethren for the good work they accomplished, but we imagine that he and they would have been among the last to suffer even the slightest detraction to be made from the still greater honour that belongs to Bro. Burwood and his United Mariners. Bro. Daniel's scheme of setting up a Boys' School on the "Modern" side was begotten of that which had been successfully tried ten years previously on the "Ancient" side, and indeed he had himself borne a conspicuous part in giving effect to the original movement, but this will not justify our placing him on the same level with Bro. Burwood. However, for the purpose of establishing this view, so far as it can be established, it is necessary we should digress somewhat from the main portion of our story, and, in doing so, it will be as well perhaps if we first of all describe the Institution established in May, 1808, by Bro. Daniel and the Royal Naval Lodge.

The following, which has already been made public by Bro. Binckes in his sketch before referred to, was derived by him from a "Memoir of Sir F. C. Daniel, Knt., M.D., Inventor of the Life Preserver used in case of Shipwreck, Bathing, &c.," "Printed by James Swan, 76, Fleet-street," in 1826, and represents about all we have been able to ascertain of the Boys' Charity established by that brother.

A General Meeting of the Subscribers to the Masonic Charity Instituted by Bro. Daniel, was held at the Royal Naval Lodge, Burr-street, near the Tower, on Friday, 23rd of June, for the purpose of Auditing the Treasurer's Accounts, &c.

Bro. John Laming in the chair, and 34 Governors, when it appeared the Subscriptions received, including the Circus benefit, from its commencement, March 25th, 1808, to June 23rd, 1809 (only 15 months) amounted to ... £345 17 3d
Disbursements for Clothing and Educating the Children, Advertising, Printing, &c., as per receipts 151 1 0

Balance in favour of the Charity £194 16 3d

Resolved unanimously: That Bro. F. C. Daniel, Esq., *Institutor*, be continued Treasurer; that he merits the thanks of the Subscribers for his attachment, zeal, and perseverance.

Resolved unanimously: That a Select Committee, consisting of fifteen (five to form a quorum), do meet on Wednesday next, the 5th of July, to examine the various Candidates, and on other special business relative to the Charity.

Resolved unanimously: That a List of the Governors be printed, one to be sent to each; to all the present and past Grand Officers, Grand Stewards, and also to all regular lodges, requesting their aid in support of this Benevolent Institution.

The Healths of the Earl of Kingston, its noble Patron, the Earl of Moira, and the rest of the Vice-Presidents, were drunk with great applause.

Resolved unanimously: That the above resolutions appear in the morning, evening, and one Sunday papers.

Resolved unanimously: That the thanks of the meeting be given to Bro. Laming, for his conduct as Chairman. S. DUPLESSIS, Sec. and Collector, June, 23rd, 1809. 45, Burr-street.

£100 in the five per Cents., which cost £99 10s. 6d., has been purchased in the names of Chevalier B. Ruspini, F. C. Daniel, J. Haswell, and J. Wormsley, Esqrs., in trust for the Charity.

This, with the addition of a statement in the memoir of Bro. Daniel as to 15 boys having at the very outset been clothed and educated, and what relates to its union with the ancient Institution for Boys in the before mentioned year 1817, is substantially all that we know of the Charity founded by Bro. Daniel with the assistance of the Royal Naval Lodge. Even the terms and conditions on which the said union was effected have not been preserved to us, so that, having regard to the present state of our information, it will be impossible for us to throw additional light on this part of our story. But even if it were possible, we do not think it would seriously affect the proposition we have laid down, namely, that the honour of having instituted our Masonic Institution for Boys belongs to Bro. Burwood. The digression we find it desirable to make will doubtless give greater weight to this view.

It may not be generally known that, in spite of the extreme bitterness of feeling which existed between the rival Grand Lodges of the "Ancient" and "Modern" Masons, very many of the brethren who held a high position in the ranks of the former branch of the Fraternity were likewise members of the latter. Bro. Thomas Harper, who was Deputy Grand Master of the "Ancients" at the time of the Union and for several years previously, joined the Globe Lodge, No. 14, "Moderns," on the 3rd May, 1787, and was presented and approved as Grand Steward in 1796. In November, 1802, on a charge laid against him by Bro. Daniel, Grand Lodge decided that his conduct was "an infraction of the laws of the Society," and on 9th February, 1803, it resolved unanimously "that Mr. Thomas Harper be expelled this Society for countenancing and supporting a set of persons calling themselves Ancient Masons and holding lodges in this Kingdom without authorisation from his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the Grand Master duly elected by the Grand Lodge."—It may be mentioned incidentally that, on 7th February, 1810, when the question of a union between the two Grand Lodges was being considered seriously and with a fair prospect of success, the resolution expelling "Bro. Thomas Harper" was rescinded.—Another conspicuous instance is that of Bro. Robert Leslie, the last "Ancient" Grand Secretary, and Bro. Burwood's successor in the Treasurership of the Boys' Institution. Bro. Leslie appears to have been initiated in the Globe Lodge, "Modern," on the 1st November, 1787, while Bro. W. Comerford Clarkson, the last "Ancient" Grand Treasurer, who was admitted a member of the Tuscan Lodge on the 18th February, 1787, and of the Globe Lodge on the 1st January, 1789, both being "Modern" Lodges, was a Grand Steward in 1791, being Secretary of the Board of Stewards and member of the Grand Stewards' Lodge in 1813. We might go on to enumerate other similar cases of brethren who, though members of both societies, remained firm in their attachment to the Ancients and liberally and continuously supported their Boys' Charity, without, as far as we have been able to learn, giving a thought to the Modern Boys' Charity established by Bro. F. C. Daniel. It is possible that Bro. William Burwood himself, the Institutor and Treasurer of the 1798 Institution, might have been an exception; that is, if the "William Burwood," aged 40 years, and described as a "Coal Merchant, Wapping," who joined the Royal Naval Lodge, No. 57, "Moderns," in September, 1804, is—and it is very far from being unlikely—one and the same individual with the "William Burwood," a Victualler, of Green Bank, Wapping, who joined the United Mariners' Lodge, No. 23, "Ancients," in the quarter ending 2nd September, 1789, and subsequently became Master of the lodge, and successively Junior and Senior Grand Warden of the Atholl Grand Lodge.

(To be continued.)

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The General Committee of this Institution met on Saturday, the 5th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. Raynham Stewart, V.P., in the chair. There were also present Bros. J. W. Ramsey, W. Paas, J. L. Mather, A. F. Godson, H. W. Hunt, Edgar Bowyer, W. Roebuck, R. Berridge, C. F. Hogard, W. Mann, A. Williams, A. E. Gladwell, R. Tyrrell, L. Ruf, W. H. Saunders, R. Morris, Herbert Dicketts, H. Harker, F. Adlard, C. H. Webb, G. P. Gillard, H. Venn, W. Maple, G. Martin, and Charles Belton.

After the reading and confirmation of the minutes, a candidate, No. 35 on the list, was withdrawn. Three candidates were placed on the list for the October election. Applications were received from five ex-pupils for outfits; £5 each were granted to four, and a conditional grant of £20 to the other applicant. The results in what had been done by the House Committee in relation to the proposed establishment of a Junior School were communicated. It was reported that this Committee had received a tender for the erection of suitable buildings for 50 children at a cost of between £9000 and £10,000. The architect and surveyor to whom it was submitted reported that it was impossible to execute the work contemplated in the plans laid before him for less than £13,290 for 50 boys, or £14,820 for 75. An explanation by the contractor of the difference between the two estimates showed an important omission by him, and that his contract would only provide workmanship of the plainest character. The House Committee recommended the Quarterly Court of next Monday week to adopt the plans and suggestions of Bro. Berridge for a school for 50 boys. Recommendations for the purchase of extra property adjoining the site of the new school were also made, the whole cost coming within the amount placed at the disposal of the Committee by the Craft. Two notices of motion for the Quarterly Court were given before the meeting adjourned.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The usual monthly meeting of the Committee of Management was held at Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday, the 9th inst., under the presidency of Bro. J. M. Case. The minutes of the previous Committee having been read and verified, the deaths of four annuitants, two male and two female, were reported, as also the receipt of a legacy of £10—less legacy duty—bequeathed by the late Bro. Duncombe. A letter was read from Bro. Sir J. B. Monckton, expressive of his acknowledgment of the vote of thanks passed by the Committee for his having presided at the recent Festival, and the letter was ordered to be entered on the minutes. The reports of the Warden and Finance Committee were read, adopted, and entered on the minutes, and it was ordered that out of the balance (about £7000) standing to the credit of the Institution, at the London and Westminster Bank, two sums of £1000 each, India 4 per cent. Stock, should be purchased on account of the male and female funds respectively. The Chairman was instructed to sign cheques for sundry payments, the recommendations of the House Committee were adopted, and Bros. Col. Creaton, P.G. Treas., J. A. Farnfield, and Chas. Lacey were appointed a Committee to draw up the annual report. A resolution having been passed to the effect that the Stewards of the last Festival be invited to visit the Institution, a vote of thanks to the Chairman brought the proceedings to a close.

The brethren present included Bros. W. H. Goodall, C. A. Cottebrune, P.G. Purst.; J. J. Berry, C. G. Dilley, H. Moore, James Brett, P.G. Purst.; G. Bolton, Edgar Bowyer, G. Std. Br.; J. A. Farnfield, Thomas White, Raynham W. Stewart, P.G.D.; C. J. Perceval, L. Stean, C. H. Webb, J. Bulmer, Horace B. Marshall, G. Treas. elect; A. H. Tattershall, W. Hilton, C. Hammerton, L. G. Gordon-Robbins, and S. C. H. D. Potter.

THE HON. MRS. ALDORTH, THE ONLY LADY FREEMASON.

Several versions of the circumstances which led to the admission of this lady into our Order are in circulation. We publish the following for the information of a correspondent who has addressed a query to us upon the subject: "The Hon. Elizabeth St. Leger was the youngest daughter of the Right Hon. Arthur St. Leger, third Viscount Doneraile, and Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of John Hayes, Esq., of Winchelsea, born in the year 1695, was married to Richard Aldworth, Esq., of Newmarket, co. Cork, Provost Martial of Munster, and died in the year 1775. This lady rendered herself notorious as being the only one of her sex ever initiated as a Freemason. Lord Doneraile, Mrs. Aldworth's father, who was a very zealous Mason, held a warrant in his own hand, and occasionally opened lodge at Doneraile House, co. Cork. On one occasion previous to the initiation of a gentleman to the first step of Masonry, Mrs. Aldworth, who was then about 19 years of age, happened to be in an apartment adjoining the Lodge room, which was then undergoing some repair, and the partition was considerably reduced in one place. The young lady having distinctly heard the voices determined to gratify her curiosity, and with a pair of scissors removed a portion of a brick from the wall and actually witnessed the awful and mysterious ceremony through two steps. Curiosity satisfied, fear at once took possession of her mind, and she tried to fly, but there was no mode of escaping except through the room where the concluding part of the second step was still being performed, and that being at the far end of a very large room. She again resolved to attempt her escape that way, and with light but trembling steps glided along unobserved by the lodge, laid her hand on the handle, and softly opening the door, before her stood a grim and surly Tyler with his long and rusty sword. Her shrieks alarmed the lodge, who all rushing to the door, and finding she had been in the room during the ceremony, in the paroxysm of rage and alarm resolved on her death; but from the moving and earnest supplication of her brother her life was spared on condition of her going through the two steps she had already seen; this she agreed to, and they conducted the youthful and terrified lady through those trials which are sometimes enough for masculine courage, little thinking they were aking into the bosom of the Craft a member who would

afterwards reflect a lustre on the annals of Masonry. Mrs. Aldworth presided as Master of her own lodge, which she frequently headed in Masonic order of procession."

GOULD'S HISTORY OF FREEMASONRY. VOL. III.

I am glad to see that the Editor of the *Freemason* has given us the first part of his review of vol. iii. of Bro. Gould's History of Freemasonry, because the work deserved most careful and thorough examination, being, as I consider, the most remarkable and valuable contribution to the study of Masonic History that has ever been made from early days to the present time.

Never before has the labour been so thorough, the critical ability so manifest, and the materials so varied and extensive. As you truly say, this volume "will not be found deficient in all that can commend it to the patient study of the expert and student Freemason." The genial acknowledgement and recognition of the meritorious labours of others, is, as you note, one of its most pleasing features, and its fairness generally, its exhaustive details, and its admirable phraseology, render it a work most readable, interesting, and instructive, a boon in fact for the universal Craft, which I trust the brethren will not be slow to appreciate.

Of course, our obligations to Bro. Gould would have been many, had he but rested content with uniting all the especially valuable portions of each historical work on Freemasonry in his six volumes with critical remarks, careful comparisons, and a most rigid scrutiny of all the evidences of the antiquity and career of the Society. The "History of Freemasonry," now represented by three volumes, with as many more to follow (more rapidly than its predecessors—so we are promised), is something vastly more than a résumé and analysis of previous histories, for it aims at being, and is, an independent work, travelling over much new ground, exhibiting many new views of the subject, and presenting to the reader facts hitherto inaccessible of vital importance, as well as treating several questions in a manner entirely different to all previous writers, the novelty after all being the least charm of the many, because nothing has been sacrificed to truth. Findel, Mackay, Fort, and others have had justice done them in vol. iii., now being reviewed by the Editor, and Bros. Woodford, Lyon, Rylapds, and others of this country have not been passed over unacknowledged, but, on the contrary, their labours have been duly utilised and gratefully acknowledged.

I cannot agree with the Editor of the *Freemason* that Bro. Gould has not "adduced any further evidence on the subject of Sir Christopher Wren's connection with Freemasonry, one way or the other," for, to my mind, he has done much (in fact, as much as is possible, and very much more than ever before) to lay before the Craft the whole known evidence obtainable on the subject, so as to enable students to arrive at a final decision on the subject. The extracts from the Oxford copy of Aubrey's "Natural History of Wiltshire" and the original manuscript of the "Parentalia," not to mention the important negative evidence of the records of the Masons' Company, are all absolutely new and simply invaluable. At least, I don't know where else to obtain such information, and therefore desire thus publicly to acknowledge my indebtedness to the gifted author.

I quite agree with the Editor's estimate as to the evidence relating to Elias Ashmole, for it is "admirably brought out." I don't know to what "Rose Croix" the Editor alludes "before 1600," unless it be that of the "Rosicrucians," but it strikes me as not easy work to trace it in the sixteenth century, "not later than 1610" I see is Bro. Gould's opinion. I consider that the theories Masonically of Buhle and De Quincey are entirely disproved by Gould in relation to Rosicrucianism, and other theories are completely shattered in like manner, "on being confronted with the stern logic of facts." On this point a word of warning is necessary to prevent ordinary brethren from confounding Alchemy with Rosicrucianism, for though they have of course many points in common, the latter originated at a much later period and partook in part of a theological character.

It may be as well to note that there has been an immense amount of patience and research on the part of Bro. Gould and his experts, both at home and abroad, which appears but little on the surface. Take, for instance, the files of papers in the British Museum. Who has personally searched these for the purpose of Masonic study but Bro. Gould? To enable him to say that there is no evidence on a certain point, words probably not extending beyond a line has often meant weeks of toil and examination.

I may say that, with a full knowledge of what is involved in making the statement, my sympathies and opinions generally as to Masonic study, and as exemplified in the three volumes before me, are with Bro. Gould, for though I am inclined to ascribe more value to some of the "higher degrees" than he is, as a rule we are in entire agreement, and as respects his treatment of the History of Freemasonry prior to Grand Lodges we are in exact accord almost without a break of any kind whatsoever. His peculiar and in part entirely original examination of the evidence of the "Old Charges" at first rather led me to doubt his system and the premises on which he based his conclusions, but as time rolls on I am inclined more and more, to consider it a wise and judicious analysis of the varied testimony of those documents, and to accept the relative value he places on the old MSS., because then their evidence can be employed systematically in illustrating the character of the Craft in this country during a period when ordinary records are wanting. True, we have to set aside some of our old favourites, and I see Bro. Woodford does not like this any more than I do, but that we must not mind when something more important than mere sentiment is involved. I should like to bespeak another careful examination of the method pursued by Bro. Gould before the Editor rejects it, for I have been enabled myself to look at these ancient rolls in a new light, and I should much like my able co-worker in the "Old Charges of British Freemasons" to be able to accept the contribution to the subject in like manner. I hope soon to say a few words on any part of the "Review."

WM. JAMES HUGHAN.

A limestone cave with beautiful stalactite and stalagmite formations has been recently discovered by chance in the Department of Ain, near the road from Geneva to Lyons. It has been explored for about 300 yards.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF DEVON.

On Thursday afternoon, the 10th inst., the annual meeting of the Mark Masons of this province was held in the Hall of the College at Newton Abbot, under the presidency of R.W. Bro. Lieut.-Col. J. Tanner-Davy, J.P., the Prov. G.M. V.W. Bro. C. Spence-Bate, F.R.S., D.P.G.M., was unable to attend through a death in his family. Among the brethren present were the following: V.W. Bros. W. G. Rogers, 15, P.P.G.S.W., acting D.P.G.M.; Charles G. Vicary, 215, P.P.G.J.W., acting Prov. G.S.W.; Wm. Vicary, 215, P.P.G.T., acting Prov. G.J.W.; Samuel Jones, 15, Past G.S.D. of England, P.P.G.M.O.; W. J. Hagan, 78, Past G.W. of England; Bros. the Rev. G. Townsend Warner, 215, P.P.G. Chap.; E. T. Fulford, 15, Past G.C. of England, P.P.G.M.O.; T. H. Seymour, 15, Prov. G. Treas.; H. C. Beachy, 215, P.P.G.R.; James Jerman, 15, P.P.G.S.O.; Herbert Martin, 215, P.P.G.R.; Wm. Allford, 16, P.P.G.O.; John Stocker, 15, P.P.G.I.; Charles Stevens, 215, P.P.G.J.D.; E. Aitken Davies, 95, P.P.G.J.D.; Lewis E. Bearn, P.G.O.; H. R. Langmead, 16, P.P.G. Purst.; Charles Pope, 215, P.G.S.B.; John Oliver, 215, P.P.G. A.D.C.; John Baxter, 64, P.P.G.S.O.; J. Neno, 70, P.P.G.D.C.; H. Stocker, 15, P.P.G.D.C.; W. H. R. Saunders, W.M. 316, P.G. Stwd.; and a number of W.Ms. and officers of lodges in the province.

The minutes of the Prov. Grand Lodges held at Teignmouth and Torquay since the previous annual meeting were read and confirmed.

The SECRETARY presented his report, which congratulated the lodge and the brethren of the province in general at the success of several of the lodges during the past year, during which time there had been an increase of 51 members in the province, the number being now 436 as against 385 in 1883.

The TREASURER reported that he had received during the year £25 13s. 6d. balance from the previous Treasurer; £23 os. 6d. fees; £26 10s. 9d. dues; total, £65 4s. 9d.; current expenses for the year, £31 18s. 2d.; balance in hand, £33 6s. 7d. The Treasurer also read the report of the Board of General Purposes, which recommended that a grant of 15 guineas should be made by the Prov. Grand Lodge towards the expenses of the reception of the Grand Lodge of England movable meeting, which is expected to be held in the province in the autumn; also that five guineas be given to the Mark Benevolent Fund, the same to appear in the Steward's list of Bro. Maddely. It was announced that the St. George's Lodge, 15, held at Exeter, by whom the invitation of the Grand Lodge to hold its movable meeting in the province had been made, and under whose banner the gathering would take place, had resolved that each of its 48 members would give half a sovereign towards the expenses also, and that there would be no difficulty in raising more money to meet the expenses if required. The visit of the Grand Lodge would, it was hoped, be a perfect success, as many of the brethren as could attend should be present. The Grand Lodge thus visiting the province would bring honour to the Prov. Grand Master and tend to further the prosperity of the Order in the province. The five guineas would give the province a vote to the Benevolent Fund at each election. The reports were unanimously received and adopted.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER called the attention of the province to the sad trial of the Royal Family in the recent unexpected decease of R.W. Bro. Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany. It was unanimously resolved that addresses of condolence and sympathy should be sent from the Prov. Grand Lodge to the Queen and the Duchess of Albany. The Prov. Grand Master and the Prov. Grand Sec. were appointed to undertake the duty. The Prov. Grand Master explained that the absence of the D.P.G.M., V.W. Bro. C. Spence-Bate, had arisen from his recently having lost his wife. A vote of condolence and sympathy was accorded to Bro. Bate, the Prov. Grand Master being asked to present it.

Bro. Dr. Jervis, 215, was unanimously re-elected the Treasurer for the ensuing year, and the following brethren were appointed and those present invested by the Prov. Grand Master as officers for the ensuing year:

Bro. C. Spence Bate, 35	...	Dep. Prov. G.M.
" W. Vicary, 215	...	Prov. G.S.W.
" Alfred Latimer, 35	...	Prov. G.J.W.
" Jno. Lane, 319	...	Prov. G.M.O.
" Geo. N. Burden, 316	...	Prov. G.S.O.
" Capt. W. H. R. Saunders, 316	...	Prov. G.J.O.
" The Rev. Ilbert Cross, 9	...	Prov. G. Chap.
" J. B. Westlake, 50	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" Dr. Jervis, 215	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" G. F. Gratwicke, 15 (re-appointed)	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" W. H. Cause, 16	...	Prov. G.A. Sec.
" J. T. Williams, 23	...	Prov. G.S.D.
" G. C. Searle, 215	...	Prov. G. J. D.
" J. Wills, 15	...	Prov. G.S. of W.
" A. Tout, 76	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" George Huxham, 15	...	Prov. G.A.D.C.
" W. H. Woolcock, 23	...	Prov. G. Swd. Br.
" R. Lavers, 100	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" J. Haywood, 215	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" William Ollis, 35	...	} Prov. G. Stwds.
" J. T. Crossley, 64	...	
" H. Rogers, 96	...	
" James Gidley	...	Prov. G. Tyler.

Thanks were voted to W. Bro. the Rev. G. Townsend Warner, M.A., the Principal of Newton College, for the use of the hall, and W. Bros. Oliver, Pope, and Martin for their valuable assistance in providing for the holding of the present Grand Lodge at Newton.

The next business was to consider the following notice of motion, given by W. Bro. H. STOCKER, P.P.G.D.C., P.M. 15, seconded by V.W. Bro. E. T. FULFORD, P.G.S. Eng., P.P.G.M.O., P.M. 15, "That the R.W. the P.G.M.M. be respectfully requested to invite the Grand Lodge of England to hold its autumn movable meeting in Devonshire, under the banner of St. George's Lodge, No. 15, and that the province pledge itself to use every effort to give the Grand Lodge a worthy welcome." This motion was unanimously adopted.

The lodge was then closed with the usual forms, and the brethren adjourned to the Globe Hotel, where they dined together, the Prov. Grand Master presiding.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

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HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.
GRAND PATRONS:
H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., &c.,
M.W.G.M., *President*.
H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

THE NINETY-SIXTH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL

of this Institution will take place
AT FREEMASONS' TAVERN, GREAT QUEEN-ST.,
LONDON, W.C.,

On *WEDNESDAY, the 21st MAY next,*
under the Presidency of the

Rt. Hon. **THE LORD BROOKE, M.P.,**
R.W. PROV. G.M. ESSEX.

President of Board of Stewards:
W. Bro. F. A. PHILBRICK, Q.C., P.G.D., D.P.G.M. Essex.

Treasurer:
W. Bro. BURDETT-COUTTS, W.M. 2030.

Chairman of Ladies' Stewards:
W. Bro. CHARLES HAMMERTON.

Brethren willing to serve the office of Steward are
very greatly needed, and will much oblige by forwarding
their names as *early as possible* to the Secretary, who will
gladly give any information required.

F. R. W. HEDGES, Sec.
Offices—5, Freemasons' Hall,
Great Queen-street, London, W.C.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS,

ST. JOHN'S HILL, BATTERSEA RISE, S.W.

A QUARTERLY GENERAL COURT

of the Governors and Subscribers of this Institution
will be held in the Hall of the
FREEMASONS' TAVERN, GREAT QUEEN STREET,
LINCOLN'S INN FIELDS, LONDON,

On *SATURDAY, the 19th day of APRIL, 1884,*
At 12 o'clock precisely, on the General Business of the
Institution, to Elect 23 Girls into the School from a List of
35 approved Candidates, and to consider Notice of Motion
as under. The Election will commence at One o'clock (or
after the usual business is over).

NOTICE OF MOTION.

By Bro. ROBERT GREY, P.G.D., Vice-Patron:—
"That in consideration of the valuable services rendered
to the Institution by Bro. Charles Hammerton, Honorary
rank, with the privileges attaching thereto, be conferred
upon Mrs. Hammerton."

F. R. W. HEDGES, Sec.
Offices—5, Freemasons' Hall,
Great Queen-street, W.C.,
April 12th, 1884.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

ELECTION—MAY, 1884.

The Votes and Interest of the Governors and Subscribers are
earnestly requested on behalf of

JOHN L. TOWNING,
P.M., AGED 63½ YEARS.

Bro. Towing was initiated in Lodge Harmony, 372, Budleigh
Salterton, in 1870, held all the offices, was installed W.M. in 1876,
and is still a subscribing member; also a member of the Sun
Chapter, 100, Exmouth. Bro. Towing was a Trinity Pilot at the Port
of Exeter for 39 years. He invested his savings in the shipping trade,
and for many years he paid over £700 per annum for wages, but
owing to the great depression in that trade, the high rate of insurance,
and many sad mishaps, he lost all, and for the last six years has
been much afflicted by an internal complaint, and was obliged to
resign his profession, for which services he receives £14 a year, being
the only income he receives from any source, and is totally incapable
of any kind of labour. He has brought up a family of six children;
his wife is 62 years of age, whose father, grandfather, and brother
were Freemasons, and he is obliged to seek, and trusts he may obtain,
an Annuity from the above Institution.

The case is strongly recommended by

Bro. A. ROBERTS, I.P.M., 372; Bro. W. PALMER, P.M., 372;
" R. F. KINGDOM, P.M. 372; " H. C. ADAMS, P.M., P.P.G.R.
" W. E. EPHINSTONE-SISSL, " G. I. BISHOP, P.M.,
P.P.G.S.W. of Devon, P.P.G.S.B.,
P.M., and P.Z., 106; " E. BISHOP, P.M., S.E., 106;
Bro. THOMAS HISE, 3, Morton Crescent, W.M., 372, Representa-
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his hotel closed, have gone elsewhere.

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country will support him, and the more so as he has been a
tenant of Grand Lodge for half-a-century.

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JAMES EDWARD TAYLOR,

Aged 12 years, who was deprived of his reason from the
effects of Scarlet Fever when four years of age. The
Father (Bro. Jas. Taylor, Lodges No. 730 (I.C.), 1331,
1536, and Chapters, 13, 1331,) is a Sergeant in the Com-
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- RICHARD EVE, Esq., Oxford Villa, Victoria-road,
Aldershot.
- F. C. BLUNT, Deputy Commissary General, Aldershot.
- * H. S. E. REEVES, C.B., Assistant Commissary General,
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- * Rev. R. M. SPOOR, Heatherview, Cambridge-road,
Aldershot.

Proxies will be thankfully received by gentlemen marked
thus *.

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"Braces or no braces has been exercising the
"minds of correspondents of the *Times*. One gentleman
"says he is too fat to do without them; another that he
"can only get on without them by hitching up his trousers
"before ladies, which he terms an objectionable practice.
"A few years ago I was in Paris and, wanting a pair of
"braces, I went to the shop called 'Old England' to buy
"them. I selected a pair which both behind and before
"had spiral steel springs. Any movement extended the
"springs, so that I seemed to have no braces on, and yet I
"was not, like the unfortunate correspondent of the *Times*
"reduced to the necessity of periodically hitching up my
"trousers. The next time I went to Paris I endeavoured
"to buy another pair of these braces, but was told that I
"could not get them, so on my return to England I had
"some made. Why there is no sale for them—as this, I
"presume, is the only reason for their not being offered for
"sale—I do not know, for unquestionably they are the
"most comfortable braces that ever were made."—*Truth*,

October 4th, 1883.

THE LATE DUKE OF ALBANY.

ADDRESSES OF CONDOLENCE

FROM LODGES, &c.,
APPROPRIATELY WRITTEN AND
ENGROSSED,
AT THE
FREEMASON OFFICE, 16 AND 16A, GT. QUEEN-ST.,
LONDON, W.C.

To Correspondents.

We are unable to publish the report of the Alnwick
Lodge, as the so-called Grand Lodge of Victoria is not
recognised by our Grand Lodge. We are somewhat
astonished that an English lodge should apparently
acknowledge the legality of this new body.

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

CRAFT LODGES—Palatine, 97; Confidence, 193; Wake-
field, 495; De Grey and Ripon, 837; Derwent, 884; Priory,
1000; Harrogate and Claro, 1001; Temple, 1094; Alder-
shot Camp, 1331; Stirling, 1989.
MARK LODGE—Fitzwilliam, 277.



SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 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.]

BOYS' SCHOOL QUARTERLY COURT.

To the Editor of the "*Freemason*."

Dear Sir and Brother,
What very important business will be transacted
at the Quarterly Court on Monday next. The action of
the House Committee does not appear very clear. We
know that there was a competition last year which ended,
as most open competitions do, in general dissatisfaction,
and now we hear of a tender being delivered and of the
builder making a mistake in same without any information
being given as to what plans were tendered upon or how
many builders were invited to tender. The first tender
appears to have amounted to £9000 odd, but somebody
having examined the plans reports that the cost of erection
would be £13,290. Then comes the story of the mistake
and a new departure, viz., to adopt plans submitted by
Bro. Berridge at a cost of £6000, or less than half.

Bro. Berridge is a highly esteemed Mason; but as matters
stand it appears that the House Committee, having sucked
the brains of those who competed, are now taking advan-
tage of the competition to give the job to a gentleman who
did not compete. Another resolution refers to a spacious
hall to be erected at a cost of £3300. Allow me to urge
that a building erected for Divine service be really a chapel
capable of seating say 300, and used entirely for that pur-
pose and no other, as nothing tends to foster that spirit of
reverence now so common as the use of a building for
service on Sunday and for lectures and entertainments on
week-days.

Bro. Berridge is an experienced surveyor. Why not
instruct him to draw up conditions and particulars of the
school and spacious hall, and invite plans in competition,
limited to architects who have taken sufficient interest in
the Institution to qualify as, say Life Governor, at least?
Most of the building operations in connection with our
Charities have ended in a muddle and unpleasantness, and
we seem to be drifting in the same again.—Yours, &c.,
FAIRPLAY.

AN INTRODUCTION.

To the Editor of the "*Freemason*."

Dear Sir and Brother,
Permit me though your columns to introduce to
the Craft at home an eminent Melbourne brother, who will
arrive in England the same time as this reaches you,
namely, by the Lusitania, Orient mail boat.

He is Bro. Major S. Trythall, P.M. of Kent Lodge, No.
845, E.C., Melbourne, and also P.M. of Australasia Lodge,
No. 492, S.C., Melbourne. Bro. Trythall is visiting the old
country on a six months' leave of absence, after the long
sojourn of 35 years in Victoria. He is a man of culture,
connected with the educational system of the colony for
over 30 years, and has served 24 years in the defence force,
in which he deservedly holds the rank of field-officer.

As a Craftsman he is one of the ornaments of Victorian
Masonry, energetic, ever ready to assist a Master, and I
can safely assert one of the most telling exponents of our
beautiful ritual in the Australian Colonies.

I am sure, sir and brother, you and prominent metro-
politan and provincial brethren will do your best to show
Bro. Trythall every little courtesy possible, in a Masonic
sense; indeed, I know right well he wishes to make an
intimate acquaintance with the Craft as worked in the old
country. And to that end I trust this communication will be
sufficient of an introduction.—Fraternally yours,
W. F. LAMONBY, P.M., P.Z.

Melbourne, March 7.

THE OLDEST FREEMASON.

To the Editor of the "*Freemason*."

Dear Sir and Brother,
You say, March the 1st, that James Newton, who
died Feb. 22nd, was the oldest Freemason in England—
which is probably true if Sir Moses Montefiore was not
made in 1807, as is thought.

Can you tell me if Bro. Knight, of Dover, made in Jan.,
1811; and Philip Cheetham, of Stockport, 1811; and
Noyes, of Croydon, 1812, are still living—or which of them
are dead?—Yours truly,
STEPHEN BERRY.

"Masonic Token" Office,
37, Plum-street, Portland, Maine, U.S.A.,
March 13th.

THE FEMALE FREEMASON.

To the Editor of the "*Freemason*."

Dear Sir,
Could you inform me through the medium of your
valuable paper if there was ever a female initiated into
Masonry, and if so her name? This question formed the
subject of a discussion here yesterday, and it was decided
to refer the matter to you. Apologising for trespassing
on your valuable time, and thanking you in anticipation,—
I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully,
T. NAYLOR.

109, Mortimer-rd., Kingsland, April 7.
[Our correspondent will find his query answered on another
page.—Ed. F.M.]

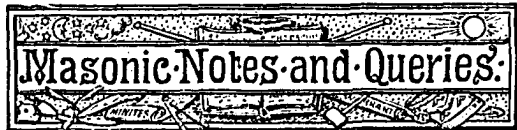
ASYLUM FOR IDIOTS, EARLSWOOD.

To the Editor of the "*Freemason*."

Dear Sir and Brother,
I notice in your last issue a letter signed by our
old and esteemed friend and brother, George Kenning,
appealing for votes on behalf of James Edward Taylor,
son of Bro. James Taylor, "of lodges, 730, 1331, &c."

Permit me to say that I think there must be some mis-
take as regards Bro. Taylor's membership, present or past,
of 730, as he is unknown to any living member of our
lodge, and his name is not to be found in our books, nor
are we aware of any member or "connections" claiming
or receiving the benefits of any of our Masonic Charities.
—Yours faithfully and fraternally,
P.M. 730.

April 15th.
[The lodge 730 above referred to is of the Irish Con-
stitution, as will be seen by a reference to Bro. Taylor's
advertisement in another column.—Ed. F.M.]



SIR CHRISTOPHER WREN.

325] As my remark has been objected to, in private letters
before me, that Bro. Gould does not adduce any fresh
"evidence" as regards "Sir Christopher Wren's Masonic
membership" one way or the other, I feel bound to
say a few words. It seems to me, in all deference,
that my very valued fellow worker has not attended
to the words I used—"fresh evidence." By that I
mean actual facts, one way or the other, unknown
before. It is quite true, as I sought to point out, per-
haps not quite fully enough, that in Bro. Gould's *verifi-
cation* of certain evidences in our possession, "assurance
was made doubly sure." But verification of ancient
evidences is not, strictly speaking, "fresh evidence." For
we had "discounted" (by "we" I mean Masonic students,
if few and far between), Aubrey's "Ut Dicitur," the
evidence of the "newspapers," the official statements of
the Mason's Company, the testimony of the "Parentalia,"
and Ashmole's initiation, &c. In the "*Masonic*
Magazine" had already appeared the results of a search
by a "Bro." expert from 1715 to 1723 in the papers,

and in the *Freemason* was published the answers of the Clerk to the Masons' Company to certain queries propounded through a kindly member of the Company. It has thus been clear for some time that neither Ashmole, Wren, Padgett, nor Bray had been members of the Masons' Company. The correctness of the entry as to the 1682 meeting was also proved. But what we do owe to Bro. Gould, is the search for Aubrey's MS. statement, a study of the documents of the Masons' Company, hitherto inaccessible, the authorship of Wren's "Parentalia," about which there were doubts, and the confirmation, on his own independent testimony, of the theories and conclusions of other students that seventeenth century Freemasonry was something distinct from the Masons' Company, or even the existing guilds, if any, of the seventeenth century. It was the "Society of Freemasons," and was, as Randal Holmes hints, nay demonstrates, a "separate body." When this separation begun is not yet clear, or if ever there was a union is at present very uncertain, but as time goes on we shall no doubt see this and other matters in a clearer light. But I repeat I do not see how the important question of Wren's Masonic membership is any further decided by *evidence*. In using the freedom of honest and prudent criticism. I, for one, have not concealed, and do not conceal, the intense admiration I have for Bro. Gould's work, and the debt of gratitude I think we are under to him for his most able, conscientious, and admirable history of Freemasonry, which henceforth must remain a standard work on the subject. Bro. Gould is the last person in the world to deprecate fair and conscientious and dispassionate weighing of his arguments and conclusions, and no more fatal mistake could be made either in his interest or that of Masonic history and archaeology, than to claim "Infallibility" for him or for any other writer. We are all liable to mistakes, and to ask all of us to surrender our judgments to anyone Masonic writer, will throw Masonic history and criticism back into those regions of uncritical and unhistorical haze from which they have of late years been slowly emerging. Recognizing fully the carefulness, the clearness, the ability, the power which characterize Bro. Gould's work everywhere, I yet claim for myself and others who have gone over the same ground that Masonic liberty which ought never to be denied of free speech and respectful criticism. Just as we deeply admire and are grateful for the labours of Bros. Hughan, D. M. Lyon, Fort, Findel, Rylands, Whythead, C. McCalla, Speth, and others, if Masonic history is ever to be a reality, we must exercise not only the right of "private judgment," but claim both a "liberty of prophesying" and the "privilege of criticism."

MASONIC STUDENT.

326] JAMES WYBARD.

What is known of James Wybard, who wrote "Tactometria seu Tetagmenometria; or, the Geometry of Regulars," printed by R. Leybourn, for Nathaniel Brooks, at the Angel in Cornhill, MDCL. 1650?

MASONIC STUDENT.

China.

HONG KONG, Feb. 19th.

Another red-letter day for the District Grand Lodge of Hong Kong and South China is recorded by the consecration of a new Masonic Hall at Canton, which took place on Thursday, the 14th inst. Canton is one of the oldest of the foreign settlements in China, and some years ago the Royal Sussex Lodge, the oldest lodge in China, met in that city, which was then the principal residence for Europeans; but when Shanghai was opened, and the European residents left, then the lodge closed. For some considerable time past, however, the brethren of Canton have agitated for a new lodge, and after a little both of patience and perseverance it was opened in February of last year under the name of the Star of Southern China Lodge, and numbered 2013 on the roll of the English Grand Lodge, with Bro. Christie, P.M., as first W.M. Under the successful working and management of this brother, assisted by Bro. Bryant, the Secretary, the lodge has proved a financial and numerical success. The lodge at first met in a small room, but now a hall has been raised from the designs and under the superintendence of the W.M., at a cost of 3500 dollars, 3000 of which were raised by debenture bonds.

On Thursday last a large number of visitors went to Canton and were treated with great hospitality. The hall inside and out was most profusely illuminated with lanterns, flowers, and festoons of bunting. Amongst those present were the W. Dep. D.G.M., Bro. Dr. W. S. Adams, M.D., who performed the ceremony in the absence of the R.W. Dist. G.M., Bro. C. P. Chater; Bros. E. C. Ray, D.G.S.W.; L. Mallory, acting D.G.J.W.; C. L. Gorham, D.G. Treas.; C. W. Duggan, acting D.G. Sec.; W. McKinney, acting D.G.S.D.; W. V. Thompson (Sydney, New South Wales), acting D.G.J.D.; R. K. Leigh, D.G. Supt. of Works; E. Georg, D.G.D. of C.; L. Kirchmann, acting D.G.S.B.; J. Orange, D.G. Org.; F. W. Heuermann, D.G. Purst.; G. C. Cox and Paul Jordan, D.G. Stwds.; C. G. Bunker, acting D.G. Tyler; Christie, S. J. Douglas (Yokohama), J. Keating, R. Fraser Smith, T. D. Burrows, L. S. Byworth, G. H. Brunt, N. E. Bryant, C. H. Palmer, D. Reid, J. Strom, R. W. H. Wood, J. P. Hoyland, and others.

At the completion of the ceremony, which had been very impressively rendered, the W.M. appointed and invested his officers for the ensuing year as follows: Bros. R. W. H. Wood, S.W.; C. H. Palmer, J.W.; N. E. Bryant, Treas. and Sec.; T. D. Burrows, S.D.; L. S. Byworth, J.D.; D. Reid, D. of C.; G. H. Brunt, Steward; and J. Strom, I.G.

The W.M. then thanked the District Grand Officers for their attendance and assistance, and Bro. Adams, D.D. G.M., returned thanks and congratulated the brethren of the Southern China Lodge on their successful commencement, and in possessing such a beautiful temple. He wished them every prosperity for the future.

All the visitors present of the rank of Installed Master were elected honorary members of the lodge, and no further business offering, the lodge was closed in due form with solemn prayer and harmony. The brethren then adjourned to the banqueting room to partake of a sumptuous cold collation, after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

Bro. George Lambert, F.S.A., has consented to take the chair on Tuesday, 29th inst., at the festival dinner of the City Waiters' Provident and Pension Society.

THE DEATH OF H.R.H. THE DUKE OF ALBANY, P.G.W., &c.

The following letter has been sent by the Home Secretary, Sir William Harcourt, to the press for publication:—

"Windsor Castle, April 14, 1884.

"I have on several previous occasions given personal expression to my deep sense of the loving sympathy and loyalty of my subjects in all parts of my Empire. I wish therefore, in my present grievous bereavement, to thank them most warmly for the very gratifying manner in which they have shown, not only their sympathy with me and my dear, so deeply-afflicted daughter-in-law and my other children, but also their high appreciation of my beloved son's great qualities of head and heart, and of the loss he is to the country and to me. The affectionate sympathy of my loyal people, which has never failed me in weal or woe, is very soothing to my heart. Though much shaken and sorely afflicted by the many sorrows and trials which have fallen upon me during these past years, I will not lose courage, and with the help of Him who has never forsaken me, will strive to labour on for the sake of my children and for the good of the country I love so well as long as I can.

"My dear daughter-in-law, the Duchess of Albany, who bears her terrible misfortune with the most admirable, touching, and uncomplaining resignation to the will of God, is also deeply gratified by the universal sympathy and kind feeling evinced towards her.

"I would wish, in conclusion, to express my gratitude to all other countries for their sympathy; above all to the neighbouring one, where my beloved son breathed his last, and for the great respect and kindness shown on that mournful occasion.

"VICTORIA R. and I."

SPECIAL PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF DURHAM.

VOTES OF CONDOLENCE TO THE QUEEN AND THE DUCHESS OF ALBANY.

A Special Provincial Grand Lodge of the Province of Durham was, by command of the Most Hon. the Marquess of Londonderry, K.P., Prov. Grand Master, held on Tuesday afternoon, the 8th inst., in the Freemasons' Hall, Durham, for the purpose of deciding upon an address of condolence to her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen and H.R.H. the Duchess of Albany, on the death of H.R.H. the Duke of Albany, Prov. G.M. of Oxfordshire and Past G.W. of England. The principal seats were draped with mourning by Bro. Geo. Greenwell, P.P.G.D. of C., and the brethren present appeared in Masonic mourning. In the absence of the Marquess of Londonderry, Bro. the Rev. Canon Tristram, P.P.G.S.W., acted as Prov. G.M., and Bro. B. Levy, P.P.G.J.W., acted as D.P.G.M. The other Provincial Grand Officers present were Bros. J. Horsley, Prov. G.S.W.; J. Wood, Prov. G.J.W.; B. Boulton, Prov. G. Treas.; R. Hudson, Prov. G. Sec.; T. Bell, P.P.G.S.D.; G. Wilson, Prov. G.J.D.; H. Maddison, Prov. G. Reg.; F. Hudson, Prov. G. Dir. of Cer.; T. Bradley, Prov. G. Asst. Sec.; J. J. Clay, P.P.G.S. of W.; Rev. E. Collier Biggs and the Rev. W. Harris, Prov. G. Chaps.; M. Frampton, Prov. G.S.B.; W. Donkin, Prov. G. Purst.; G. W. Richardson, acting Prov. G. Org.; Steel and Carter, Tylers; the Rev. G. R. Bulman, P.P.G.J.W.; R. Luck, P.P.G.R.; G. Greenwell, P.P.G.D. of C.; W. A. Malcolm, P.P.G.P.; M. Douglass, P.P.G.D.; W. Coxon, P.P.G.S.B.; R. M. Cooke, P.P.G.S. of W. N. and E. Yorks.; A. T. Munro, P.P.G.S.B.; G. Porteous, P.P.G. Org.; W. Liddell, P.P.G.D.; W. Forster, P.P.G.S. of W.; J. Laidler, P.P.G.D.; J. Riseborough, P.P.G.P.; W. M. Bell, P.P.G.A.D. of C. Northumberland; C. R. Fry, P.P.G.W.; J. Hunter, P.P.G.J.W., W.M. 531; J. Trotter, P.P.G.J., 940, and a large number of brethren not holding Prov. Grand Office.

The lodge having been opened in form, the Prov. Grand Secretary, Bro. R. HUDSON, read the circular convening the meeting.

The Acting Prov. Grand Master, Bro. the Rev. Canon TRISTRAM, said they had heard from their Prov. Grand Secretary the purpose for which they were gathered together there in Prov. Grand Lodge. Before he said anything more on that point it was his duty to explain to them why he was in the position he occupied. He read a letter from the Prov. Grand Master, Bro. the Most Hon. the Marquess of Londonderry, K.P., in which he regretted he was unable to undertake the journey to the North in order to preside over the Prov. Grand Lodge, which he had summoned to propose addresses of condolence to her Majesty the Queen and H.R.H. the Duchess of Albany on their sad bereavement. He felt glad when he heard that Bro. Canon Tristram would discharge his duties on the occasion, and felt sure the brethren would cordially unite in expressing their sympathy and condolence to her Majesty the Queen, and to the widow of one who had so recently been present in their midst at the Prov. Grand Lodge, and whose loss they sincerely mourned.

The ACTING PROV. GRAND MASTER then said that, obeying the commands of the Prov. Grand Master, he had no hesitation in placing his services at their disposal. He was sure there was but one sentiment occupying every breast that day. It was a very unusual thing for two Provincial Grand Lodges to be summoned so soon after their annual gathering, and the thought must strike them all—how strangely these two gatherings were combined, and under what unique and unparalleled circumstances they had been held. It was but two months since they in that city saw that grand Masonic pageant, honoured by the son of our Queen, who had honoured them by his presence in that Grand Lodge, a visit of royalty which had not occurred in that province for more than 60 years, when that Royal Duke's great uncle, the Duke of Sussex, visited the province in 1817. Since then the province had been without that rare honour of a Royal Masonic visit; but what added much to the impression of that visit was the thought how little could they have anticipated then that that visit of the Duke of Albany to the province was to be his last public visit, the last official public ceremony in which he took part; and his attendance at that last Masonic Provincial Grand Lodge, the visit to the Cathedral, and the glorious gathering

in that grand old fane, their return to that grand baronial hall in which many a King of England in olden days had been regaled—to think that within two months they were summoned to present an address of condolence to his widow, must bring home to every heart the words of the poet—that death "Aegus pulsat pede pauperum tabernas regumque turres." But they had higher and nobler consolation than a blind submission to fate, which was all that the heathen poet could offer to royalty in its hour of desolation and loneliness. They had been taught first by Masonry and then by revelation better and higher truths than this. They had been taught that their Craft was worth but little if it did not lead them up to something higher and nobler still, and they had the thankfulness and consciousness of feeling that their Royal brother entered into the true spirit of Masonry, and was in every way a nobleman, in every respect a Christian man in his life, a Royal man in his public life. He was indeed a loss to Masonry in general, and not least to themselves, the last Masonic brethren whom he Masonically saluted. He would not detain them further than except to remind them that they were called to express condolence with their Queen and with that widowed Princess. They must remember how very much in its sorrows and its position royalty was isolated and alone; how much royal mourners miss that sympathy which we in our hour of life and sorrow have so freely imparted to us by those whom we mingle with on equal terms. If royalty had its grandeur and splendour it had also its drawbacks, for Royal sorrow must be alone. The formal sympathy of courtiers, the respectful sympathy of attendants could not make up for the intimate sympathy of bosom friends. One could not but help feeling how thoroughly that feeling of private friendship was felt by the mourners for our late Royal brother. They saw his pall bearers were not selected for their rank or position, but because they were the friends of his youth, titled and untitled, side by side. In all the relations of life Masonry must lead them to take a foremost place in sympathy with sorrow. They were therefore called upon that afternoon in that lodge to consider and to sanction the addresses which had been prepared to express their respectful sympathy with their Sovereign in her bereavement, and to express their brotherly sorrow and their brotherly sympathy with the young widowed mother to mourn her Masonic husband.

The Prov. Grand Secretary, Bro. R. HUDSON, then read the following addresses:—

"To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty.

"Most Gracious Sovereign,—We, your Majesty's dutiful and faithful subjects, the Prov. Grand Master, Officers, and brethren of the Province of Durham of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, in Provincial Grand Lodge assembled, with all humility and respect approach your Royal presence and beg leave to offer our unfeigned and sincere condolence with your Majesty on the sad and sudden bereavement with which it has pleased the Most High, in His inscrutable wisdom, to afflict your Majesty by removing from this terrestrial sphere your Royal and beloved son and gifted and high-minded Prince, who, following faithfully in the footsteps of his illustrious father, by his high character and amiable conduct, and the zealous and faithful discharge of the duties of his high and exalted station, gained for himself the love and esteem of your loyal and affectionate subjects of every grade and station, and whose memory will be cherished by a loyal and sympathetic people to the latest posterity. With the recollection of his gracious and honoured visit to this Provincial Grand Lodge still fresh in our hearts, we desire most respectfully to express to your Majesty how deeply we deplore your sad bereavement, and pray the Great Architect of the Universe may vouchsafe to your Majesty and Royal Family peace and consolation under your severe and melancholy trial, and grant your Majesty length of years to reign in health and happiness over your faithful, affectionate, and devoted people.

"Given in Provincial Grand Lodge assembled at Durham this 8th day of April, 1884.

(Signed) "VANE LONDONDERRY, P.G.M.

"ROBERT HUDSON, P.G.S."

"To her Royal Highness the Duchess of Albany.

"Madam,—We, the Prov. Grand Master, Deputy Prov. Grand Master, Officers, and brethren of the Province of Durham of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, in Provincial Grand Lodge assembled, beg leave most respectfully to express our heartfelt and sincere condolence with your Royal Highness on the sad and untimely loss of your beloved and lamented husband, an amiable and illustrious Prince, in every way worthy of the highest associations of his station, and possessed of every capacity and every desire to do good service to his country. The spontaneous feeling of sorrow and grief which pervades the hearts of the people of this realm is the best proof of the esteem in which he was held by men of all shades of opinion. The personal kindness which marked his recent visit to this province has left a pleasing yet melancholy impression on our minds, which we shall ever love to cherish, and which time can never efface. We will not venture to trespass upon your grief and distress further than to assure you of our loyal and heartfelt sympathy, and to pray that the Almighty may grant you peace and consolation under your great trial. We trust that it will afford you some consolation to reflect that your beloved husband has left behind him the enduring monument of a high character, unstained and unblemished by the faintest breath or shadow of reproach, and that the recollection of his exalted virtues will be for ever embalmed in the hearts and affections of a loyal and sympathetic people.

"Given in Provincial Grand Lodge assembled at Durham this eighth day of April, 1884.

(Signed) "VANE LONDONDERRY, P.G.M.

"ROBT. HUDSON, P.G.S."

The ACTING PROV. GRAND MASTER said they had heard the two addresses read and it was now his duty with affectionate loyalty and sympathy to propose those addresses for their acceptance. He did not think they needed any further words of his to commend them. He firmly believed that they expressed the heartfelt sentiments of every brother in that lodge. He would beg leave, therefore, to propose for the acceptance of the lodge the addresses of condolence to her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen and her Royal Highness the Duchess of Albany.

The Acting Deputy Prov. Grand Master, Bro. B. LEVY, said he had the melancholy satisfaction of seconding the proposition so ably put before the Prov. Grand Lodge by the Acting P.G.M.

The motion was then unanimously adopted. After some further observations by the Acting P.G.M., the proceedings ended, and the lodge was closed.

SPECIAL PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF OXFORDSHIRE.

A Special Provincial Grand Lodge, which was very largely attended, was held at Oxford on the 10th inst., when the following addresses were agreed to:

"To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty.
"We, the Freemasons of Oxfordshire, in Provincial Grand Lodge assembled, respectfully approach your Majesty with the expression of our deep grief at the great loss which your Majesty has sustained by the untimely death of our dearly-loved and much-lamented Provincial Grand Master, your Majesty's highly-gifted and illustrious youngest son, H.R.H. Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany, K.G.

"During his residence in this city as a member of the University, we, as Freemasons, enjoyed special opportunities of becoming acquainted with the many graces of his Royal Highness's character from the time when he first condescended to patronise our mysteries and join in our assemblies.

"While continuing to manifest a special interest in this province by his fraternal rule over it, his Royal Highness, by his many acts of brotherly kindness, had endeared himself to Freemasons throughout the length and breadth of the country, when it seemed good to the Great Architect of the Universe to call him from our midst.

"With the example of his illustrious father ever before his eyes, the first aim of his Royal Highness during his brief span of life was to increase the happiness of your Majesty's subjects by encouraging and actively assisting all efforts tending to promote the welfare of his fellow-creatures.

"Himself a sufferer, he sympathised with the sufferings of others, and on all occasions showed that he adopted as his own the maxim that charity is the distinguishing characteristic of a Freemason's heart.

"While thus expressing our condolence, our fervent prayer is that the Great Architect of the Universe may endue your Majesty with fortitude to support the heavy trial which has so suddenly overtaken you, and that He may vouchsafe to you a continuance of that health and strength which are so precious to all your Majesty's faithful subjects."

"To H.R.H. the Duchess of Albany.
"We, the Freemasons of Oxfordshire, in Provincial Grand Lodge assembled, desire to express our deep grief at the irreparable loss which your Royal Highness has sustained by the untimely death of our dearly loved and much-lamented Prov. Grand Master, H.R.H. the Duke of Albany, K.G.

"It was in this ancient city that your beloved husband first formed that connection with Freemasonry which he maintained until the closing hour of his existence—he joined in our meetings—he presided over our deliberations—and by his courteous demeanour and urbanity of manner he attached the hearts of all in this province to himself.

"We welcomed your Royal Highness into this realm as a member of the Royal Family, and we rejoiced still further when you graced our festivities by your presence in this University at the last Commemoration.

"And now in this sad hour of your grief we offer our condolence on the awfully sudden termination of that wedded life which we had trusted it might have pleased the Great Architect of the Universe to prolong for many years to come, and we pray that the Father of the Fatherless and the God of the Widow may sustain and protect your Royal Highness and your infant daughter in this your hour of supreme trial."

"To H.R.H. Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, K.G., M.W. Grand Master of England.

"Most Worshipful Sir,—We, the Freemasons of Oxfordshire, in Provincial Grand Lodge assembled, respectfully approach your Royal Highness with the expression of our deep grief at the great loss which your Royal Highness has sustained by the untimely death of our dearly loved and much-lamented Provincial Grand Master, your highly-gifted and illustrious brother H.R.H. the Duke of Albany, K.G., Past Grand Warden of England.

"From the time when he first saw the light of Masonry in this ancient city, we, as Freemasons, enjoyed special opportunities of observing and appreciating the many excellencies of character displayed by his Royal Highness, and it was thus with special gratification that we hailed the selection made by your Royal Highness when you appointed him to preside over us in this province.

"The duties of this high office he discharged for eight years with such zeal and ability as to win the esteem and affection of every member of the Craft, not only in this province, but throughout the kingdom.

"We feel most keenly the grievous loss which has been sustained by your Royal Highness, by Freemasonry in general, and by this Provincial Grand Lodge in particular; but, while mourning for his departure, we dare not repine at that edict of the Great Architect of the Universe which has summoned him to the Grand Lodge Above, where the blessed ever rest in eternal peace."

FORT WILLIAM LODGE, No. 43 (S.C.)—At an emergency meeting of the above lodge, held on the 3rd inst., it was unanimously resolved to send addresses of condolence to her Majesty the Queen and the Duchess of Albany expressing the deep sorrow and sympathy felt by the brethren at the death of H.R.H. Prince Leopold. At the hour of the funeral the brethren, dressed in black, met at the lodge room, when the Masonic service for the burial of the dead was impressively read by the R.W.M.

SCIENTIFIC LODGE, No. 88.—At the monthly meeting of this lodge last Monday, at Cambridge, the W.M., Bro. Alfred Thompson, P.G. Supt. of Works, proposed a vote of condolence with her Majesty the Queen and the Duchess of Albany upon their great bereavement. The late Duke of Albany, he remarked, was a Mason whom it would be difficult to replace, for he not only evinced at all times the liveliest interest in the welfare of the Craft, but also took a very active part in Masonic work, as evidenced by the fact that he was Past Grand Senior Warden of England. He was likewise a warm supporter of Masonic

Charities, and taken altogether was a brother of whom every Mason might be proud. The motion was seconded by Bro. J. Neal York, I.P.M., the Dep. Prov. G.M., and carried unanimously. The resolution was ordered to be sent to the Queen and the Duchess of Albany, and to be entered on the minutes.

PHILANTHROPIC LODGE, No. 107.—At the meeting on the 7th inst., at King's Lynn, the Worshipful Master, Bro. the Rev. J. B. Slight, proposed that the following address should be presented to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the M.W.G.M., it being needless for us to say that the proposal was unanimously agreed to by the lodge: "To his Royal Highness Albert Edward Prince of Wales, K.G., the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons in England.—May it please your Royal Highness: We, the Worshipful Master, the Wardens, and members of lodge Philanthropic, 107, King's Lynn, desire to be allowed to express to your Highness our hearty sympathies with you in the affliction with which, in His all-wise though inscrutable Providence, the Most High has seen fit to visit her Majesty the Queen and the Royal Family of England in the sudden death of H.R.H. Prince Leopold, K.G., Duke of Albany, and Provincial Grand Master of Oxfordshire. As a Prince of the blood Royal and as a Mason amongst Masons our lamented brother was ever ready to do earnest work for the good of her Majesty's subjects. Although none but the Most High can give real comfort, still we trust that the assurance of our appreciation of his Royal Highness's work, and our sympathy may be a source of some little consolation to her Majesty the Queen, the Duchess of Albany, and every member of the Royal Family in this sad and sudden bereavement. We also venture to ask your Royal Highness graciously to convey to her Majesty the Queen and to her Royal Highness the Duchess of Albany this expression of our sympathy.—Given at our lodge this seventh day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand, eight hundred and eighty-four.—JOHN BULLIVANT SLIGHT, W.M."

WHITTINGTON LODGE, No. 862.—A lodge of emergency was called by the W.M., Bro. Jas. Weaver, P.M. 862 and 1319, for the 9th inst., "to pass a vote of condolence with her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, G.M., and the rest of the Royal Family, upon the death of H.R.H. Prince Leopold, P.G.J.W. and G.M. Oxon."

ASAPH LODGE, No. 1319.—At an emergency meeting of this lodge, called by the W.M. for the purpose, a vote of condolence was passed to the Queen, the Grand Master, and to the bereaved wife of the late Duke.

WALDECK LODGE, No. 1969.—Bro. H. Wolters, W.M., summoned a meeting of emergency on Tuesday, the 8th inst., at which the following resolutions, proposed by the W.M. and seconded by Bro. Julius Quitmann, I.P.M., were unanimously voted:—1. "That a letter of condolence be sent by the members of this lodge to her Royal Highness the Princess Helen of Waldeck-Pyrmont, Duchess of Albany, to express their deepest sympathy with her Royal Highness on the great loss which she has sustained by the sudden lamentable death of his Royal Highness the Duke of Albany, honorary member of this lodge." 2. "That a vote of condolence be passed to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., to express most humbly the deepest sorrow of the members of this lodge at the great loss his Royal Highness has sustained by the lamentable death of his brother, H.R.H. Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany, honorary member of this lodge, and that the same be recorded on the minutes."

TRIBUTE FROM BRO. SIR MOSES MONTEFIORE.—Among the numerous floral mementoes received at Windsor Castle on the occasion of the Duke's funeral, was one of great beauty, with card attached, bearing the following inscription: "An humble but respectful token of heartfelt grief from Sir Moses Montefiore, Bart."

THE LATE DUKE'S EXECUTORS.—Bro. Lord Brooke, M.P., Prov. G.M. Essex, and Bro. R. H. Collins, C.B., were appointed by the late Duke of Albany as executors to his will. Lord Brooke was at Oxford with the Prince, and was one of his most intimate friends, and the Duke acted as best man at Lord Brooke's marriage. His Royal Highness has left his property, amounting to about £20,000, to the Duchess. Arrangements will be made by the Queen for the continued residence of the Duchess at Claremont.

THE ANNUITY TO THE DUCHESS OF ALBANY.—Upon the death of the Duke of Albany, the two annuities of £15,000 and £10,000, respectively authorised to be granted by 37 and 38 Vict., c. 65, and 45 and 46 Vict., c. 5, cease; but under section 3 of the last-mentioned Act her Majesty is empowered by letters patent, under the Great Seal, to grant to the Duchess of Albany, in case of her surviving her husband, an annuity of £6000, to commence from the death of the Duke, and to continue thenceforth during the life of the Duchess.—*Solicitors' Journal.*



Craft Masonry.

RANELAGH LODGE (No. 834).—The installation meeting of the above lodge was held on the 8th inst. at the Criterion, Piccadilly, when there were present Bro. Oliver, W.M.; Morton, S.W.; Purdue, J.W.; Gorringe, S.D.; Dopson, J.D.; Coplestone, I.G.; Butt, Treas.; Tuck, Sec.; P.M.; Watson, P.M.; Fishers, P.M.; A. C. Alais, P.M.; C. Barker, P.M.; Sir Charles Dilke, Bart., and 24 other members of the lodge. The visiting brethren were Bro. Game, W.M. 511; W. Parsons, P.M. 180; Lewis Bryant, P.M. 1828; H. Wallie, P.M. 1158; Kipp, P.M. 1275; S. Foley, P.M. 19; A. Gorner, S.W. 1238; Edmund B. Cox, I.G. 1563; W. S. Eaton, I.G. 733; A. W. Barkley, I.G. 1767; D. R. Wise, 452; S. A. Hunt, 1017.

After the W.M. had passed Bro. Chapman, Williams, and Philips, Bro. A. C. Alais proceeded to install Bro. W.

Purdue as W.M. for the ensuing year, who after being duly installed into the chair of K.S. appointed his officers as follows: Bro. Sims, S.W.; Dopson, J.W.; Butt, Treas.; Tuck, Sec.; Gorringe, S.D.; Blake, J.D.; Doncaster, I.G.; Coplestone, W.S.; and Burton, D.C. The addresses were ably delivered by the Installing Master. The W.M. then initiated Messrs. Williams, Eastgate, Lake, and Cliburn, after which the brethren adjourned to a most sumptuous banquet in the Victoria Chamber.

The usual loyal toasts were duly honoured. Bro. P.M. Oliver proposed "The Health of the W.M.," eulogising the very able manner in which he had carried out his duties. The W.M. assured the brethren it would be his utmost desire to give satisfaction to the lodge with credit to himself during his year of office. He regretted the absence of so many brethren through ill health.

The Worshipful Master next proposed "The Health of their distinguished Bro. Sir Charles Dilke, Bart.," who in reply said he did not know why they should drink his health, he being only a lay member, unless it was because he was one of its laziest. He said he felt ashamed at not being able to attend for so long, but hoped circumstances would enable him to attend oftener, and he wished the lodge every success and that it would go on and prosper.

The Worshipful Master proposed "The Healths of the Visitors," "Past Masters," "Officers," &c., which were ably responded to. The brethren then separated after a very enjoyable evening, rendered doubly so by the harmony of Bro. Foster, Oliver, Chapman, May, Page, and Boys.

ST. MARTINS-LE-GRAND LODGE (No. 1538).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Guildhall Tavern, on Wednesday, the 9th inst., there being a large attendance of the brethren to witness the initiation of Mr. E. J. Harper. The W.M., after the minutes of the last regular lodge and those of the previous emergency meeting had been confirmed, proceeded in the most impressive manner to initiate the candidate into the mysteries and privileges of the Craft, the candidate appearing, by the very earnest manner in which he responded, to feel the importance of the serious obligation he was about to enter into. The ceremony having been completed the usual routine business was dealt with, and the lodge adjourned to a sumptuous banquet, at which a choice selection of music, under the direction of Bro. W. J. Wilcocks, served to enliven a most enjoyable evening.

The W.M. in proposing "The Queen and the Craft" discreetly avoided too pointed a reference to her Most Gracious Majesty, having regard to her recent sad bereavement by the loss of her son, the Duke of Albany. The other customary loyal and Masonic toasts followed, after which in a short but pithy speech the I.P.M. proposed "The Health of the W.M.," who in a clever and crisp reply outlined the principal events identified with his year of office in the lodge.

The Worshipful Master then proposed "The Health of the Initiate, Bro. E. J. Harper," who responded in an exceedingly effective style, taking for his basis in the future the three great elements in Freemasonry. In the course of his remarks he stated that to err was human, but that he had found that the Masonic principle was good in its foundation, for it strove to repair that which in a moment of forgetfulness had been overlooked. He also hoped that those three great principles—liberty, equality, and fraternity—might at all times serve Freemasons: liberty of selection; equality, in that it was above the sordid considerations of wealth or poverty; and fraternity, as being the most glorious of all attributes, as it served to bring all good men to one common level.

The toast of "The Visitors" was eloquently responded to by Bro. F. W. Goddard, P.M., who not only complimented the W.M. in being the Master of so excellent a lodge as that of St. Martin's-le-Grand, but stated that he felt a real pleasure in being present at the initiation of one who with himself thoroughly appreciated those grand principles which should at all times characterize those grand principles, namely brotherly love, relief, and truth.

The other Masonic toasts having been proposed, including "The Treasurer," "Secretary," "Officers," &c., the brethren separated at a reasonable hour, having enjoyed a most delightful evening enhanced by the excellent music and singing.

ALL SAINTS LODGE (No. 1716).—At a meeting of this lodge at the Town Hall, Poplar, on Friday, the 4th inst., Bro. T. L. Kennett, W.M., Masonic mourning was worn in consequence of the death of H.R.H. the Duke of Albany, and it was decided to transact the necessary business and disperse. Immediately on opening the lodge the following resolution, proposed by Bro. Coleman, P.M., seconded by Bro. House, I.P.M., was unanimously carried, and the Secretary, Bro. Harland, was instructed to forward the same to the Grand Secretary for presentation to the Most Worshipful the Grand Master: "That the Worshipful Master, Officers, and brethren of the All Saints Lodge, No. 1716, desire to express their respectful sympathy with the Most Worshipful the Grand Master in the loss that he has sustained by the sudden death of his Royal Highness the Duke of Albany, Prov. Grand Master of Oxfordshire, and to assure him that they all with one accord offer their condolence and will ever feel the warmest interest in his own welfare and whatever concerns his domestic happiness."

On voting the sum of five guineas towards Bro. Rundall's list for presentation to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution it was mentioned by Bro. Potts, P.M., that this lodge since its formation in 1877 had subscribed no less a sum than £671 towards Masonic Charities.

The lodge was then closed and adjourned.

ST. LEONARD LODGE (No. 1766).—The April meeting was held on the 2nd inst., at the Town Hall, Shoreditch. Bro. A. A. Clement, W.M., presided, and was supported by Bro. J. A. Jones, I.P.M.; L. Stean, P.M.; E. Benjamin, P.M.; J. Funston, S.W.; E. Walker, J.W.; Rev. H. G. Henderson, Chaplain; J. Cox, Sec.; F. Matthews, S.D.; R. Drysdale, J.D.; E. T. Clark (acting I.G.); G. C. Young, Org.; T. Douglass, W.S.; and J. Very, Tyler. The following members of the lodge were also present: Bro. R. H. Drysdale, S. Fennell, Dr. W. Holt, R. S. Mendey, G. Colls, J. Austin, E. A. Beckett, H. Waynforth, and J. Tidball. Among the visitors were Bro. Stephen Crane, P.M. 933; J. A. Robson, S.W. 1445; J. Berry, 172; G. Harwood, 813; T. Scoborio, 177; M. Frank, 188; H. Dawson and G. Wade, 1310.

Amongst other business Bro. H. J. Scott was raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M., and Bro. W. Austin passed to the F.C. The ceremonies were admirably worked by the W.M. and his officers. The brethren appeared in mourning for the late Duke of Albany, and on the motion of the W.M. it was resolved to forward a vote of condolence and sympathy to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., and also to the Grand Lodge. The lodge was then closed.

OLD ENGLAND LODGE (No. 1790).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday evening, the 3rd inst., at the Masonic Hall, Crescent-road, New Thornton Heath. Present: Bros. E. Whittaker, W.M.; J. Sergeant, S.W.; H. Baber, J.W.; F. Ridgpath, Sec.; W. Ranson, S.D.; Charles Tarry, J.D.; C. Steng, I.G.; J. Bavin, Tyler; Pascall, I.P.M.; T. Chamberlain, E. Samuel, J. Kilvington, H. M. Hobbs, C. Wadsworth, J. Major, R. Astington, and James Clarke. Visitor: Bro. E. Sawyer, P.M. 1619 and 1892.

By command of the W.M. the brethren appeared in mourning on account of the decease of his late Royal Highness the Duke of Albany. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. It was decided on the motion of Bro. Pascall, I.P.M., that the sum of five guineas be placed upon the list of Bro. Hugh M. Hobbs, who had been elected to represent the lodge at the next Girls' Festival. Bro. Baber, J.W., then moved the following resolution: "That the brethren of the Old England Lodge hereby desire to express the deep regret they feel at the sudden decease of his Royal Highness the Duke of Albany, K.G., &c., and that the condolence of the brethren to her Majesty the Queen, her Royal Highness the Duchess of Albany, his Royal Highness the Grand Master, and the other members of the Royal Family be recorded on the minutes, together with the announcement that by command of the W.M. the brethren appear in mourning." Bro. Ranson, S.D., seconded, and it was carried unanimously. Bro. Baber having obtained the promise of the lodge votes for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution on behalf of Mrs. Emma Bowen, widow of the late Bro. J. T. Bowen, of No. 186, lodge was closed in due form.

CREATON LODGE (No. 1791).—**PRESENTATION TO BRO. J. J. CANTLE, P.M., &c.**—This lodge held its last meeting of the season on the 10th inst.; but being the night before Good Friday, several brethren were absent in consequence of being from town. There were present Bros. W. Williams, W.M.; R. G. Shute, I.P.M.; D. Ferguson, S.W.; R. H. Rogers, J.W.; E. Thurkle, P.M., Treas.; J. J. Cantle, P.M., Sec.; E. Austin, S.D.; J. Kift, Org.; J. Williams, P.M.; W. Carrington, P.M.; B. Brett, G. Whitaker, C. H. Bull, J. R. Long, H. W. Hancock, J. Longden, Gen. W. Anderson, A. Solomons, J. Purnell, F. Toombes, H. Ridgley, F. R. Stock, A. J. Taylor, H. M. Cook, H. D. Benton, T. Biggs, and A. Love. Visitors: Bros. L. Lichtwitz, 1891; J. Sherlock, 1567; R. Glover, 2591; C. Harding, 231; J. Mellier, 173; F. J. Baker, 753; C. Sutton, 1107; W. G. Reynolds, 1441; J. W. Waldron, 1383; J. Whitaker, 1828; R. Elliot, 23; and H. Crow, 1583.

The minutes being confirmed, Bro. F. Toombes was presented, entrusted, and in due time passed to the degree of F.C. The ballot was next taken for Bro. Alfred Love, 1387, as a joining member. Bros. Gen. W. W. Anderson, A. Solomons, and Joseph Purnell were afterwards raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M. by the W.M., Bro. John Williams, P.M., in a most impressive manner giving the traditional history and the explanation of the tracing board. On the W.M. rising for the second time, the Secretary informed him and the brethren that Bro. Cowell-Helden, together with his wife, had met with a very severe accident in the collision on the Southend Railway, and although Bro. Helden himself was better, the case of Mrs. Helden was so very critical that he could not possibly leave her. He sent his best wishes to the lodge, hoping they would have a happy evening, and though absent in body his thoughts would be with them. A letter of sympathy was ordered to be written to Bro. Helden, expressing the hope that he and Mrs. Helden might soon be restored to health.

The lodge being closed, most of the brethren adjourned to a banquet at the Holborn Restaurant, where, by the permission of the Worshipful Master, they were joined by a large number of ladies—the wives and friends of the members, Bro. Col. J. Creaton, P.M., Past G. Treas., &c., taking the chair. After an excellent dinner had been done full justice to, and the toast of "The Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family" having been received, the Chairman, addressing the company as "ladies and brethren," asked to be permitted to call their attention to a toast, the acceptance of which, he was sure, would afford them as much pleasure as it did him in offering it. Composed as that lodge was of some of the best working Masons in the Craft, there was no member more distinguished, or to whom they were more indebted, than the respected brother whose health he had the honour to propose—a brother who had been associated with that lodge from its birth, who had assisted in its formation, and who had held in it a most important office, the duties of which he had discharged with conscientiousness and zeal. The brethren would easily anticipate that those observations could only apply to their excellent and esteemed Bro. Cantle, P.M. and Secretary. In proposing his health he had to thank the brethren for making him the exponent of their approval and admiration of Bro. Cantle's conduct. Addressing that worthy brother, Bro. Creaton said: Bro. Cantle, on behalf of the Creaton Lodge I present you with this silver tea and coffee service—this tribute of our affection, and with it our fervent good wishes that you and Mrs. Cantle may live for many years to come in health and happiness, and as you have been spared for a silver wedding we sincerely hope you may live to arrive at a golden one. Bro. Creaton concluded by giving "The Health of Mr. and Mrs. Cantle."

The inscription on the articles is—"Presented to Bro. J. J. Cantle, P.M., &c., on the happy occasion of his silver wedding, as a token of the great esteem and regard evinced for him by the brethren of the Creaton Lodge, 1791."

Bro. Cantle who on rising was received with hearty applause from all present, addressing the chairman, the ladies, and brethren, said if it was possible to express oneself by one's thoughts alone he was sure at the present time his thoughts would fill a volume, for his heart was so full with thanks to them for their kindness to him upon that and other occasions that he really could not find words to express his feelings. He certainly felt it was his first

duty to thank the G.A.O.T.U. for having spared his dear wife and himself so many years to live together in happiness, and to reach what the brethren had been pleased to make the occasion for presenting that very handsome testimonial and tribute of their regard—their silver wedding. He had next to thank his old and esteemed friend, Col. Creaton, for being present and personally presenting it, for he had attended at great inconvenience to himself, he being very unwell and not leaving his bed until six o'clock that evening. He next thanked their esteemed Bros. W. Williams, W.M.; D. Ferguson, S.W.; and G. Whitaker, as Committee, and Bro. Cowell-Helden for so kindly acting as Secretary and so efficiently carrying out the duties thereof. He next had to thank the brethren for their contributions to their wishes, thus producing that magnificent result. His wife and himself thanked them most heartily, and those tokens would be handed down as heirlooms to their children and their children's children that they might see the esteem that lodge had for their parents. They (Bro. and Mrs. Cantle) thanked the ladies for honouring them with their presence that night. They wished the married ones every happiness, and that the single ones might soon be happily married, and they further joined in Col. Creaton's hope that they might live to see a golden wedding, and that those ladies and brethren might be there with them.

Several toasts were proposed, "The Creaton Lodge," "The Ladies," and "The Officers," all of which were heartily received and most excellently responded to. Some most enjoyable music was rendered by Miss Matilda Roby, Bro. James Kift, J. Ion Cantle, and Albert James, Bro. W. G. Reynolds creating great amusement by his recitals.

COBORN LODGE (No. 1804).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held at the Bow Vestry Hall, on Thursday, the 10th inst. Present: Bros. R. Logan, W.M.; J. T. Robey, S.W.; C. J. R. Tjouw, J.W.; A. Souch, S.D.; E. Johnson, J.D.; Lawrence, D.C.; Wheatley, I.G.; F. J. Hunt, P.M.; and several members of the lodge. The lodge was draped with crape and the brethren appeared in Masonic mourning in consequence of the death of the late Duke of Albany. Mr. Robert Russell Green, jun., was regularly initiated into the mysteries of Ancient Freemasonry. The following resolutions, having been proposed by the W.M. and seconded by the S.W., were carried unanimously: 1. "That the members of the Coborn Lodge, No. 1804, desire to express their sincere sympathy with the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G., in the recent bereavement he and his family have sustained by the death of R.W. H.R.H. the Duke of Albany, K.G., P.G.W., Prov. G.M. Oxon." 2. "That the foregoing resolution be entered on the minutes of the lodge, and a copy thereof forwarded to the Grand Secretary." The bye-laws of the Coborn Lodge of Instruction, which is held at the Eagle Hotel, Snaresbrook, every Monday evening, at eight o'clock, were read and approved. The lodge was then closed with solemn prayer.

DUKE OF CORNWALL LODGE (No. 1839).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday last, at Freemasons' Hall, under the presidency of Bro. Alfred Stokes, W.M. There was a good attendance of members of the lodge, and the visitors were Bros. Martin, W.M. (Blackhead); Bean, W.M. Joppa, 188; Flint, 1287; J.D. 553; Hubbard, S.W. 1107; and Massey, P.M. 619 and 1928.

There were all three Degrees on the agenda paper, but the brother who was a candidate for raising did not attend.

Bro. William Phillips was passed to the Second Degree, and Mr. Francis Henry Stollery was initiated, the W.M. performing all his work admirably, and the other officers being equally efficient in their duties. As this was the day for the election of the new W.M., the brethren proceeded with that business, and Bro. M. Dewsnap, S.W., was declared to be duly elected. Bro. Corpe, P.M., was re-elected Treasurer of the lodge. A valuable Past Master's jewel was voted for presentation to Bro. Stokes at the installation meeting in September. The bye-laws were read and the Audit Committee was nominated, after which the brethren adjourned to a very nice dinner at Freemasons' Hall. The usual toasts followed.

The Worshipful Master in proposing "The Queen and the Craft," and also the toast of "The M.W. the Grand Master," referred in feeling terms to the death of the Duke of Albany. All the toasts were given with great brevity, and the responses were almost as brief.

Bro. Stollery in responding to the toast of "The Initiate," expressed the pleasure it had given him to become a Freemason, and excused himself for saying no more on the subject on the ground that he knew so little about it.

The respondents to the toast of "The Visitors," Bros. Martin and Bean, carefully imitated the good example of the W.M., and replied in few words, but did not forget to notice the excellent working of the lodge and the cordial hospitality shown to the invited.

Bro. Dewsnap responded to the toast of "The W.M. Elect," and hoped he would have a pleasant year of office. The Past Masters replied to the toast proposed in their honour, and Bro. Smith, sen., the Junior Warden, with other officers, replied to the toast of "The Officers." A great treat was provided during the evening by a large number of brethren, who sang some capital songs.

MOZART LODGE (No. 1929).—The regular meeting was held at Harewood House, High-street, Croydon, on the 5th inst. The lodge, which was deeply draped, the brethren being also in mourning, was opened in due form by Bro. T. T. Phillips, W.M., assisted by his Wardens, Bros. Tremere and King, and brethren present. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Three brethren were passed. Mr. C. Tichiaz, who had been previously balloted for, was initiated, the ceremonies being worked beyond criticism by the W.M. and his officers. The I.P.M. delivered the "charge." Successful ballots were then taken for Bros. Roberts and Cross as joining members. The W.M. then rose and observed that Freemasonry had sustained a heavy loss through the sudden death of their esteemed Bro. the Duke of Albany. It became them as Englishmen, but more especially as Freemasons, to offer to her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, the Duchess of Albany, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., and the other members of the Royal Family, their deep felt condolence at the sad bereavement they had sustained. He would, therefore, ask them to pass a vote to this effect, and have it entered on the minutes, and that the Secretary seek the

proper course to bring their loyal and sorrowful feelings to the knowledge of her Most Gracious Majesty and the other members of the Royal Family.

The brethren afterwards partook of an excellent supper. The few toasts that followed were observed by silence, and the brethren retired and returned to town sorrowful from the facts already mentioned.

The following brethren were present in addition to those already mentioned: Bros. E. M. Lott, P.M., Sec.; E. Moss, I.P.M.; Aynsley, S.D.; Thomas, J.D.; Jones, D.C., as I.G.; Holdgate, Steward; Jolly, Dixon, Topham, Cross, Roberts, and Carns. Visitors: Bros. Renant, 1623; Glazier, 704; Biddlecome; and others.

BRIXTON LODGE (No. 1949).—The last meeting of the season was held at the Brixton Hall, Acre-lane, on the 5th inst. The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. W. E. Farrington, who was supported by Bros. H. Baldwin, S.W.; H. B. Marshall, I.P.M., Grand Treas. elect; W. Day, Treas.; H. Lovegrove, P.M., Sec.; R. Poore, J.D.; C. T. Axford, I.G.; E. Newby, D.C.; Albert, W.S.; R. Evens, C.S.; and J. Daly, Tyler; with a number of members and visitors.

Bro. Bowdon was raised to the Third Degree, the complete ceremony being given. Bro. H. Lovegrove proposed a vote of congratulation to Bro. Horace Brooks Marshall, and in suitable terms presented him with the undress clothing and Past Grand Treasurer's jewel, manufactured by Bro. George Kenning.

A banquet followed the business of the lodge, and by the kindness of the W.M. some capital music was given under the direction of Bro. R. Ralli Johnston. The brethren separated at an early hour, after the most successful meeting which this lodge has had.

BOLTON.—Anchor and Hope Lodge (No. 37).—The monthly meeting was held on the 7th inst., at the Masonic Rooms, Swan Hotel. Present: Bros. John Booth, W.M.; F. W. Pacey, S.W.; Poyntz, J.W.; G. P. Brockbank, Sec.; John Hardcastle, S.D.; H. Lomax, J.D.; J. Naylor, I.G.; Roiley and Higson, Tylers; Johnson Mills, P.M.; Robinson, Gillibrand, and Mather. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Mather was raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M. by Bro. G. P. Brockbank, P.M., G.S. Scotland, who also delivered the traditional history and explained the working tools of the Degree. A resolution expressing the deep regret of the brethren at the loss the Craft had sustained by the death of the Duke of Albany, P.G.W., was ordered to be inserted on the minutes of the lodge proceedings.

MANCHESTER.—Lodge of Affability (No. 317).—The regular meeting was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, on Thursday, the 3rd inst., when there were present Bros. James Wilson, I.P.M., acting W.M.; J. W. Edwards, S.W.; R. R. Lisenden, J.W.; J. Garside, Sec.; Wm. Nicholl, P.M., Treas.; J. G. Elderton, S.D.; W. B. Akerman, I.G.; Abraham Wild, S.S.; John Bladon, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., D.C.; James Dawson, P.M., Reg.; Henry Walmsley, P.M.; John Smethurst, P.M.; J. R. Lever, P.M.; Henry Samuels, S. Hamer, Isaac Pearson, E. Wihl, F. Warburton, R. Bradshaw, Charles V. Anger, and James Sly, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. N. J. Briscoe, 221; H. W. Walpole, 1836; W. Campbell, 1357; and Stephen Jupp, I.G. 1140.

The lodge was opened in due form and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. Bro. W. Coombs, J.W. Nyanza Lodge, Ilminster, was balloted for and unanimously elected a member of the lodge, as were two other brethren. After Bro. Charles V. Anger had given proof of his proficiency in the First Degree he was passed to the F.C. degree by the acting W.M., Bro. John Bladon explaining and presenting the working tools, and there being no further business the lodge was closed in peace and harmony.

HUDDERSFIELD.—Lodge of Truth (No. 521).—The regular meeting of this prosperous lodge was held on Friday, the 4th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Fitz William-street. The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. J. B. Matthewman, who was supported by Bros. Allen Jackson, P.M., P.P.G.D.; H. Shaw, P.M.; George Marshall, P.M.; Reuben Williamson, P.M., P.G.S.; W. H. Jessop, I.P.M.; H. W. Wrigley, P.M. 149; Geo. Horsfall, P.M. 1514; and all the officers of the lodge with one exception.

The minutes of the last regular lodge having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for Mr. S. Butterworth, and being favourable, he was impressively initiated into the mysteries by the W.M., Bro. Abraham Armitage, J.W., presenting the working tools, and Bro. Allen Jackson, P.M., delivering the charge. Bro. Tom Greenwood was raised to the Sublime Degree of a M.M. by Bro. A. Jackson, P.M., assisted by Bro. R. Williamson, P.M. Bro. Henry Shaw, P.M., having spoken relative to a notice he had in the summons, and which after some discussion was withdrawn, Bro. R. Williamson, P.M., gave a report of the business transacted at the Provincial Charity meeting recently held at Wakefield. Bro. J. W. Turner feelingly alluded to the death of the Duke of Albany, the sad event being the more markedly brought to the minds of the brethren from the recent visit of H.R.H. to Huddersfield. It was resolved the lodge should go into mourning for three months.

Business being ended the lodge was closed in ancient form, when the brethren sat down to supper, after which the usual Masonic toasts were briefly given and responded to.

WALSALL.—Lodge of St. Matthew (No. 539).—The annual installation meeting of this lodge was held on Friday, the 4th inst. Lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. James Rowley, and among those present were Bros. James Williams, S.W., W.M. elect; E. S. Hildick, J.W.; J. Howes Smith (Mayor of Walsall), Treas.; C. C. Cox, Sec.; G. D. Laing, S.D.; Frank H. Taylor, J.D.; F. E. Bailey, I.G.; Frank James, P.M., P.D.P.G.M.; T. Mount Humphries, P.M., P.P.G.S. of Works, Hon. Sec. Staffordshire Masonic Charitable Association; Joseph Newman, J.P., P.M., P.P.G.J.W.; William Bayliss, J.P., P.M., P.P.G.S.W.; J. H. Rowbotham, I.P.M.; besides many other brethren members of the lodge, together with a large contingent of visitors from Staffordshire and the neighbouring provinces, including Bros. Colonel Gough, D.P.G.M., G. Std. Br. Eng.; H. Woodhouse, J.P., P.M. 726, P.P.G.S.D.; G. Taylor, P.P.G.S.W., Prov. G. Sec. Worcestershire; A. Comber, Prov. G.D.C. Worcestershire; James Senior, P.M. 726, Prov. G.S.D. Stafford-

shire; T. J. Barnett, P.M. 526, P.P.G.S. of Works Staffordshire; John Bodenham, P.M. 726, P.P.G. Treas. Staffordshire; J. Jacobs, P.M. 482, P.P.G. Reg. Staffordshire; F. Derry, P.M. 482, P.P.G. J.W. Staffordshire; J. Beveridge Spence, P.P.G.W. Surrey; James Smart, P.M. 420, P.P.G. Org. N. Wales and Salop; J. F. Pepper, P.M. 482, P.P.G.D.C. Staffordshire; G. M. Waring, P.M. 347, P.P.G.D.C. Staffordshire; J. H. Parkes, P.M. 482, Prov. G. J. W. Staffordshire; Chas. Round, P.M. 347, P.P.G.S. of Works Staffordshire; Mathias Barker, P.M. 1792, P.P. G. J. W. Staffordshire; J. J. Turner, P.M. 473, P.P.G.W. Warwickshire; and many other Masters, Past Masters, Wardens, and brethren of neighbouring lodges.

The minutes of the previous lodge having been read and confirmed, the retiring W.M. vacated the chair, which was taken by W. Bro. Frank James, senior Past Master of the lodge, who conducted the ceremony of installing Bro. Jas. Williams into the chair of the lodge in his usual faultless manner in the presence of a Board of Installed Masters numbering 45. The newly-installed W.M., after having invested his I.P.M., appointed the following brethren to office: Bros. E. S. Hildick, S.W.; C. C. Cox, J.W.; Rev. Jas. Downes, P.M., Chap.; Joseph Howes Smith, P.M., Treas.; John Wood, M.D., Sec.; G. D. Laing, S.D.; Frank H. Taylor, J.D.; T. Mount Humphries, P.M., D.C.; F. E. F. Bailey, I.G.; W. A. Goold, Org.; Sydney B. Wheway and W. Hebblethwaite, Stwds.; Thomas Nickols, Tyler; and William Davis, Asst. Tyler, the ancient Tyler, Bro. Thomas Nickols, now in his eighty sixth year, being invested for the thirty-seventh time with the collar and jewel of his office. The report of the Audit Committee, showing a balance of £78 6s. 7d. in favour of the lodge, with an amount of arrears due from members of £4 4s. only, was unanimously accepted. W. Bro. Frank James referred in a most appropriate and feeling manner to the much lamented death of his Royal Highness the Duke of Albany, K.G., Prov. G. Master of Oxfordshire, and proposed that a vote of condolence and sympathy should be forwarded to the proper quarter, which was supported by W. Bro. Col. Gough, D.P.G.M., and unanimously adopted.

Several apologies for non-attendance and "Hearty good wishes" having been tendered, the lodge was closed in the usual form, and the brethren adjourned to the banqueting room, where, after a most sumptuous repast, the loyal toasts followed from the chair, also the usual toasts incidental to the installation festival, the entire proceedings being most enjoyable, and materially contributed to by Bro. Bickley's delightful glee party.

ELLAND.—Saville Lodge (No. 1231).—This lodge met on the 3rd inst., there being present Bros. L. Saville, W.M.; Farnell, S.W.; Emsley, J.W.; Garsed, S.D.; Dyson, J.D.; and Hoyle, I.G. After the confirmation of the minutes Bros. Rhodes and Buckland were passed to the Degree of Fellow Craft. It was then resolved that a vote of condolence and sympathy be conveyed to her Majesty the Queen, and also to H.R.H. the Duchess of Albany on their sad bereavement in the death of the Duke of Albany. This was placed in the hands of Bro. Whalley, M.D., to forward through the private secretaries to their proper destination, he having to be present at the obsequies of the late Prince at Windsor. The lodge was closed in peace and harmony.

HEXHAM.—Albert Edward Lodge (No. 1557).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on the 3rd inst., when there were present Bros. Thomas Ellis, W.M.; Shield, S.W.; Spence, J.W.; Turner, P.M., Treas.; Robinson, Chap.; Fisher, Sec.; Harrison, S.D.; Dr. Stewart, I.G.; Camidge, Org.; and a large attendance of brethren, when Bro. George B. Fenwick, B.A., was duly initiated into Freemasonry by the W.M. most impressively and ably, the ceremony and lodge being admirably worked by every officer in his order under the W.M. The W.M. moved "That the W.M., officers and brethren desire to offer their heartfelt and sincere condolence to her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen in the loss she has recently sustained in the lamented death of his Royal Highness the Duke of Albany; also to his Royal Highness the Most Worshipful the Grand Master upon his recent bereavement in the death of his youngest brother, R.W. Bro. H.R.H. the Duke of Albany; and this same be recorded in the minutes of the lodge and forwarded to H.R.H. the Most Worshipful the Grand Master." The above was unanimously adopted, when the lodge was closed in love and unity.

LYMM.—Earl of Chester Lodge (No. 1565).—A regular meeting was held in the Masonic Hall, Church-green, on Thursday, the 2nd inst., when there were present Bros. J. Kenworthy, W.M.; J. Lewis, S.W.; W. Bradford, J.W.; W. Hooper, S.D.; G. Fairhurst, J.D.; A. C. Sparkes, as I.G.; J. Sudlow, I.P.M.; G. Richardson, P.M.; S. G. Parker, P.M., Treas.; T. H. Evans, P.M., Sec.; E. Morris, W. Pugh, W. Warburton, and J. Marsh. Visitors: Bros. F. K. Stevenson, P.P.G.S.B., 53, and W. Atkinson, 1030.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last regular lodge read and confirmed. Bro. T. H. Evans, P.M., Sec., addressing the W.M. in an eloquent speech, referred to the death of the Duke of Albany, and moved a resolution embodying votes of condolence to her Majesty the Queen, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, H.R.H. the Duchess of Albany, and the rest of the Royal Family, expressive of sincere sympathy with them in their very painful bereavement, the resolution to be entered on the minutes of the lodge, and copies to be forwarded to the Queen, the Prince of Wales, and the Duchess of Albany. The resolution was very feelingly seconded by the I.P.M., Bro. J. Sudlow, and supported in appropriate terms by the W.M., Bro. J. Kenworthy, and unanimously carried. A successful ballot was taken for Bro. G. Barber, 1558, as a joining member, and two candidates were also proposed for initiation. "Hearty good wishes" having been expressed, the lodge was closed.

INSTRUCTION.

UNITED STRENGTH LODGE (No. 228).—The Fifteen Sections were worked at the Hope Tavern, Stanhope-street, Regent's Park, on the 2nd inst. Bro. Jas. Kew, Preceptor of the lodge, presided, supported by Bro. Koester, P.M., as S.W.; Bro. W. M. Dickson, as J.W.; and a numerous gathering of the brethren. The various Sections were excellently worked by the brethren assisting the W.M. Bro. Weist, P.M., proposed a vote of thanks to

the W.M. for the admirable manner in which the business of the evening had been carried out, which was carried unanimously, and the lodge was closed in due form. The Sections were worked as follows: First Lecture—First Section, Bro. Barling; Second, Kauffman; Third, Dickson, Fourth, Harvey; Fifth, Ellwood; Sixth and Seventh, Koester. Second Lecture—First Section, Bro. Gidding; Second, Koester; Third, Kew; Fourth, Paul; and Fifth, Weist. Third Lecture—First Section, Bro. Gilby; Second, Finch; and Third, Hemming. Brethren in search of Masonic knowledge are invited to attend this lodge of instruction on Wednesday evenings.

BURGOYNE LODGE (No. 902).—This lodge held its usual weekly meeting on Wednesday, 9th inst., at the Victoria Hotel, 25, Charterhouse-street, when there were present Bros. Cross, W.M.; Field, S.W.; Chretien, J.W.; Turner, J.D.; Salter, I.G.; Frost, P.M., Preceptor, I.P.M.; and Batty, Sec. The W.M. rehearsed the ceremony of the First Degree. Bro. Frost worked the First and Second Sections of the First Degree. A vote of thanks to be recorded on the minutes was passed to Bro. Cross for this his first working of the ceremony. Bro. Cross is one of the most earnest and constant attendants of this lodge. Bro. Field, P.M. of the mother lodge, was unanimously elected W.M. for the next meeting.

COVENT GARDEN LODGE (No. 1614).—At the meeting held on Thursday the 3rd inst., there were present Bros. Fowles, W.M.; G. Coleman, S.W.; Delarue, J.W.; Frank Gulliford, S.D.; H. Dickenson, J.D.; J. Figgiss, I.G.; W. H. Richardson, Preceptor; G. Reynolds, Sec.; W. H. Gulliford, I.P.M. 1614; W. Honeyball, W.M. 1631; J. Robinson, R. E. Cursons, G. H. Reynolds, Shannon, Corby, Stroud, J. Napper, W. C. Smith, Lewis, and Snow.

The lodge was opened in due form and with solemn prayer. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and Bro. Fowles worked the Second Section of this lecture. Lodge was opened in the Third Degree and the W.M. rehearsed the Sublime Degree of M.M., Bro. Curson candidate. Lodge was resumed to the Second and then to the First Degree. Bro. W. C. Smith worked the Second Section of this Lecture. Bro. W. Honeyball, W.M. 1631; Snow, 1614; and R. E. Cursons, 1631, were unanimously elected joining members. Bro. G. Coleman, S.W., was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation. Bro. Fowles said that he was sure the brethren who had met that night would not like to separate without recording on the minutes of that lodge of instruction their heartfelt regret for the loss the nation and the Craft had sustained by the unexpected death of H.R.H. the Duke of Albany, a young man of such great promise, and from whom the nation had a right to expect so much. He therefore moved a vote of regret and condolence, to be entered on the minutes. This was seconded by Bro. W. H. Gulliford, I.P.M. 1614, who remarked that it was but a proper token of sorrow for the death of a good man and brother. Lodge was then closed.

EARL OF LATHOM LODGE (No. 1922).—At the meeting held on the 2nd inst., at Bro. Sims's, Station Hotel, Camberwell New-road, there were present Bros. Edgley, W.M.; Johnson, Preceptor; Sims, S.W.; Eidmans, J.W.; Paton, Sec.; Sutton, Rowlands, Baker, Spencer, Hampton, Mackie, Gardner, and Lequire. The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The Preceptor worked the Second Section of the Lecture, assisted by the brethren. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Mackie acting as candidate. The Preceptor worked the Third Section of the Lecture. The questions leading to the Second Degree were put to and answered by Bro. Mackie. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the Preceptor worked the First Section of the Lecture, assisted by the W.M. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. The W.M. rose for the first time. Bro. Rowlands was admitted a joining member. The W.M. rose for the second time. Bro. Sims, S.W., was elected W.M. for the ensuing meeting, and was pleased to appoint his officers in rotation. The W.M. rose for the third time. Cordial votes of thanks, the same to be entered on the minutes, were accorded to the W.M. for the able manner he had discharged the duties of the chair, and to Bro. Paton, Secretary, for his present to the lodge of a handsome velvet cushion. Nothing further offering for the good of Masonry, the lodge was closed in due form according to ancient custom in perfect peace and harmony.

BRIXTON LODGE (No. 1949).—The usual weekly meeting was held on the 1st inst., when the worthy Preceptor, Bro. E. A. Francis, as W.M., was supported by the following: Bros. Thos. Poore, P.M., &c., as I.P.M.; F. Wootton, S.W.; H. Hooper, J.W.; S. Richardson, S.D.; H. Baldwin, J.D.; G. C. Banks, I.G.; C. H. Phillips, Treas.; H. M. Williams, Sec.; G. W. Knight, H. J. Wicks, W. E. Farrington, W.M. 1949; J. M. Buckley, H. Durham, R. Poore, James Warren, and J. H. Hudepohl.

Lodge was opened in due form, and the Secretary read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were unanimously confirmed. Lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and Bro. Knight, as candidate for raising, gave proofs of his proficiency in this degree by answering the usual questions most perfectly. Lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising was most solemnly rendered by the W.M. to the satisfaction and profit of the brethren. Lodge was regularly closed to the First Degree, and Bro. G. C. Banks was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week. Lodge was closed in due form and adjourned.

The brethren afterwards assembled for the monthly meeting of the very successful Benevolent Association in connection with this lodge of instruction. Two ballots of £5 5s. each were taken by Mr. H. C. Archer and Mrs. Hooper, the amounts making a total of £189 forwarded to the three great Masonic Institutions in 12 months.

At the weekly meeting held on the 8th inst., Bro. G. C. Banks, as W.M., was supported by Bros. F. Wootton, S.W.; H. Hooper, J.W.; C. H. Phillips, Treas.; H. Maunders Williams, Sec.; W. T. H. Mayer, S.D.; S. Richardson, J.D.; G. P. Langley, I.G.; G. W. Knight, Joseph Letchford, R. Poore, and G. Monk.

Lodge was opened in due form, and the Secretary read

the minutes of the previous meeting, which were duly confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was ably rehearsed by the W.M., with Bro. Letchford as candidate. Bro. Richardson gave the charge of the degree. Bro. F. Wootton was elected W.M. for the ensuing fortnight, and the lodge adjourned in perfect harmony and brotherly love.

Royal Arch.

LION AND LAMB CHAPTER (No. 192).—The April meeting of the above chapter was held on Wednesday last, at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, when there were present Comps. C. B. Cheese, Z.; T. Cohu, H.; H. Birdseye, P.Z., J.; W. Medwin, S.N.; C. Arkell, P.Z., S.E.; J. Taylor, 1st Asst.; H. Hughes, 2nd Asst.; F. D. R. Copestick, P.Z.; George Keating, P.Z., Treas.; T. S. Holland, Dr. W. A. Dingle, G. S. Bigley, John Kent, J. Archer, and John Gibbs.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Robert Rowell, 198, was balloted for and unanimously elected, and Bro. H. Stevenson was exalted. In consequence of the lamented death of Comp. H.R.H. the Duke of Albany, G.J. of the Order, the companions appeared in Masonic mourning. The companions afterwards dined together, the usual toasts being ably proposed and cordially responded to.

WEST KENT CHAPTER (No. 1297).—A convocation of this chapter was held at the Thicket Hotel, Anerley, on the 5th inst., which date was altered from the 12th on account of Easter Holidays. Present: Comps. R. H. Crowden, Z.; W. Lake, H.; H. Fullwood, J.; J. C. Woodrow, Scribe E.; T. Perrin, Scribe N.; Watson Osman, P.S.; James Crowden, 1st Asst. Soj.; W. Lavington, 2nd Asst. S.; Dr. Barley, Org.; Finch, Harding, Pound, and others.

The minutes of the previous convocation were read and confirmed, and the report of the Audit Committee showing a satisfactory state of the finances was received and adopted. The M.E.Z. in very feeling and appropriate terms alluded to the great loss Masonry had sustained in the death of the Grand J., the Duke of Albany, and concluded by moving that a letter of condolence be sent from the West Kent Chapter to the M.E.G.Z. through the Grand Scribe E., Col. Shadwell H. Clerke. Bro. W. G. Atkins, P.M. 857, was then balloted for and elected. The ceremony of installing the Three Principals, Comps. Lake, Fullwood and Perrin, was then very ably performed by Comp. Crowden.

The M.E.Z., Comp. Lake, then invested the officers as follows: Comps. J. C. Woodrow, Scribe E.; W. Osman, S.N.; James Crowden, Prin. Soj.; W. L. Lavington, 1st Asst. Soj.; Finch, 2nd Asst. S.; J. C. Crowden, P.Z., Treas.; and Church, Janitor. Notice of motion was given to alter the dates of meeting to the second Saturday in the months of May (installation meeting), October, December, and February. The retiring M.E.Z. was then presented with a handsome Past Principal's jewel, and Comp. Lake in making the presentation in the name of the chapter referred to the invaluable services of Comp. Crowden as founder and M.E.Z. for two successive years. The ceremonies had all been performed in a faultless manner, and the chapter owed its success mainly to the painstaking efforts of the first M.E.Z.

Comp. Crowden thanked the companions for their expressions of goodwill and for the handsome jewel that had been presented to him, and trusted still to render all the help in his power to forward the interests of the chapter.

The companions then sat down to a banquet, when the usual loyal and other toasts were proposed, that of "The Queen and Royal Arch Masonry" being drunk in solemn silence, in respect to the memory of the late Grand J., H.R.H. the Duke of Albany.

Mark Masonry.

DRIFFIELD.—Drifted Lodge (No. 291).—The installation of this lodge was held on the 2nd inst., at the Masonic Hall, Bro. Chadwick, the I.P.M. In the absence of Bro. M. M. Reynard, the W.M., took the chair, and opened the lodge in accordance with ancient formalities, after which the chair was assumed by W. Bro. Walter Reynolds, P.M. 12, P.P.G.D.C. of England, the Installing Master, and Bro. John Dunn, who has discharged the duties of the Senior Warden's chair during the past year with exemplary zeal was presented as the W.M. elect and was duly installed, W. Bros. J. R. Ansell, W.M. 182, P.P.G.S.B. Lincolnshire; E. Bryan, W.M. 281, P.G.J.O.; and A. P. Wilson, P.M., P.P.G. Supt. of Wks. N. and E. Yorkshire, assisting. The newly-installed Master having been saluted with honours invested his officers for the ensuing year as follows: Bros. M. M. Reynard, I.P.M.; James Elgey, S.W., Treas.; Jas. Scott Wilson, J.W.; S. Chadwick, Chap.; Henry Holgreaves, M.O.; John T. Kirby, S.O.; Geo. S. Highmoor, J.O. and D.C.; Walter Highmoor, Sec. and Reg. of Mks.; Robinson, S.D.; Hy. Watson, J.D.; T. Bowman, I.G.; and G. H. Poits, Tyler and Stwd. A vote of condolence was passed on the motion of Bro. George S. Highmoor to her Majesty and H.R.H. the Duchess of Albany.

After lodge was closed the customary toasts received full justice, that of "The Newly-Installed Master" being more especially heartily given and responded to. Bros. A. P. Wilson and Bryan acknowledged the toast of "The Prov. Grand Officers." Bro. Reynolds "The Installing Master," Bros. Smith, Hind, and others "The Visitors," and Bro. J. Scott Wilson "The Officers." Bro. Ansell acted throughout as, and proved himself a most excellent D.C. The Tyler's toast brought a very enjoyable meeting to a termination.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Ever useful. The afflicted by illness should look their diseases fully in the face, and at once seek a remedy for them. A short search will convince the most sceptical that these noble medicaments have afforded ease, comfort, and oftentimes complete recovery to the most tortured sufferers. The Ointment will cure all descriptions of sores, wounds, bad legs, sprains, eruptions, erysipelas, rheumatism, gout, and skin affections. The Pills never fail in correcting and strengthening the stomach, and in restoring a deranged liver to a wholesome condition, in rousing torpid kidneys to increase their secretion, and in re-establishing the natural healthy activity of the bowels. Holloway's are the remedies for complaints of all classes of society.—[ADVT.]



The installation meeting of the Selwyn Lodge took place at East Dulwich on Thursday last. We hope to give a report in our next.

A Special Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of the Province of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight was held at Southampton on Wednesday last. A report will appear next week.

Bro. Lord Waveney, chairman of the committees of the National Refuge Harbours Society, will move a resolution in the House of Lords, on the reassembling of their lordships, on the subject of harbours of refuge.

A petition is in course of signature to establish a Rose Croix Chapter, to be called the Norwood Chapter. Communications to be addressed to Bro. W. Milligan, 30°, Oliver-grove, South Norwood.

The installation meeting of the Wanderers Lodge, No. 1604, was held at Freemasons' Hall on Tuesday, the 8th inst., when Bro. W. Brindley was duly installed W.M. We shall give a report in our next.

An emergency meeting of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Leicestershire and Rutland was held at Leicester on Wednesday last for the purpose of adopting addresses of sympathy and condolence with the Queen and Royal Family on the death of H.R.H. the Duke of Albany.

A convocation of the Metropolitan College of the Rosicrucian Society will be held at 8a, Red Lion-square, on Tuesday next to elect and install the Master, Deputy Master, and other officers, and to elect a Treasurer in place of our esteemed Bro. Buss, who we regret to notice is retiring in consequence of ill-health.

The Prosperity Chapter of Instruction, which has hitherto met at the Hercules Tavern, 119, Leadenhall-street, is discontinued, and instead thereof the Eastern Star Chapter of Instruction, No. 95, will meet at the same place on the second and fourth Fridays in every month, at a quarter to seven o'clock p.m.

At the Quarterly Court of the Boys' School on Monday night the business will consist of the election of a Treasurer for the year, and of the General Committee. There are several notices of motion to be considered, after which the election of 23 boys out of a list of 52 candidates for admission to the Institution will be proceeded with.

W. Bro. James Stevens, P.M., P.Z., has accepted the invitation of the Fidelity Lodge of Instruction, No. 3, to deliver his Masonic lecture, "Knobs and Exerescences," explanatory of ritual and ceremony of the First Degree, on the occasion of their meeting on the 30th inst., at the Alfred Tavern, Roman-road, Barnsbury, when a large gathering of North London brethren may be anticipated.

The Old Kent Mark Lodge of Instruction has, we have much pleasure in informing our readers, been resuscitated under most favourable auspices. A room has been engaged at the Champion Hotel, Aldersgate-street (a few doors from the General Post Office), where on Friday evenings, from 7 to 9 o'clock, Mark Master Masons anxious for instruction in this beautiful degree will find a long felt want well met. Bro. Alex. Millar is the Hon. Sec. pro tem.

The following are the dinners, &c., held at the Freemasons' Tavern during the present week: Tuesday, April 15th—Cadogan Lodge, Salisbury Lodge, Leigh Lodge, Wanderers' Chapter. Wednesday, 16th—Buckingham and Chandos Lodge, Grand Stewards' Lodge, Oak Lodge. Thursday, 17th—Civil Service Vocal Union, Linnean Club, Globe Lodge, St. Mary's Lodge, Universal Lodge. Friday, 18th—Jordan Lodge. Saturday, 19th—Primrose League.

An interesting discovery of Roman remains has been made by the excavators engaged on the District Railway Works which pass under the site of the church of St. John the Baptist upon Walbrook, which was destroyed in the great fire of London. A piece of pavement about 5ft. by 3ft. 6in., and 10in. thick, formed of Roman tiles set on edge, was found about 20ft. below the surface. It doubtless was part of the floor of a Roman villa situated on the east bank of the watercourse known as Walbrook, and in a line with another from whence the magnificent specimen of Mosaic work in the Guildhall Museum is now to be seen. Two successive churches, each dedicated to St. John the Baptist, have thus entombed these relics since Norman, and perhaps Saxon times.

The Fifteen Sections will be worked in the Selwyn Lodge of Instruction, No. 1901, at the East Dulwich Hotel, East Dulwich (near Champion-hill Station), on Friday evening next, the 25th inst., commencing at 7 p.m. Bro. Beavis, S.W. 879, W.M.; Bro. Martin, J.W. 879, S.W.; and Bro. Andrews, P.M. 871, J.W. The working is as follows: First Lecture—1st Section, Bro. Wimbler, I.G. 1901; 2nd, Bro. Thomas, 30; 3rd, Bro. Eagle, J.D. 1901; 4th, Bro. Stone, 1641; 5th, Bro. Milburn, J.D. 13; 6th, Bro. Martin, J.W. 879; 7th, Bro. Andrews, P.M. 871. Second Lecture—1st Section, Bro. Rotheroe, 30; 2nd, Bro. Wise, P.M. 1158; 3rd, Bro. Waterman, P.M. 147; 4th, Bro. Beavis, S.W. 879; 5th, Bro. Andrews, P.M. 871. Third Lecture—1st Section, Bro. Powell, S.W. 1185; 2nd, Bro. Bellis, W.M. 1901; 3rd, Bro. Emblin, I.G. 147.

Bro. Marychurch, who has acted for several years as Secretary to the Royal Berkshire Lodge of Hope, No. 574, Newbury, was on Friday evening, the 4th inst., presented with a purse containing 33 sovereigns as a small mark of the appreciation in which he was held by his brother members of the lodge. The presentation was made by the W.M., Bro. Plenty, in graceful and well-expressed terms; and his testimony to the assiduity and great attention to the work of his office as shown by Bro. Marychurch, was further spoken to by Bro. R. Johnstone, Mayor of Newbury. Bro. Marychurch, who had returned from Oxford to receive the handsome present, acknowledged the same in feeling terms, and spoke of the pleasure it had always been to serve the lodge in the way he had done, and made mention of the extreme kindness which had invariably been shown towards him during his residence in Newbury by the whole of the Craft, a circumstance he would remember as one of the happiest incidents of the happy years he had spent in Newbury.

Bro. Alderman Sir John Whitaker Ellis, Bart., will shortly remove his offices to 29, Fleet-street.

We have been asked to intimate to our readers that the Coborn Lodge of Instruction, No. 1804, meets every Monday evening, at eight o'clock, at the Eagle Hotel, Snaresbrook.

The address delivered by Bro. T. W. Tew, J.P., S.G.D. England, D.P.G.M. W. Yorks, at the dedication of the Aire and Calder Lodge, No. 458, Goole, is being issued in pamphlet form.

Bro. Sir William Hart Dyke, M.P., was installed W.M. of the Lullingstone Lodge, No. 1837, at Dartford, on Monday last, the ceremony being ably performed by Bro. the Rev. Hayman Cummings, P.P.G. Chap. Cornwall. We shall report the proceedings in our next.

Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons will hold a Lodge of Emergency on the 25th inst., at the Hall, Red Lion-square, at one in the afternoon, to prepare an address of condolence to her Majesty the Queen and the Duchess of Albany on the death of H.R.H. the Duke of Albany, Past Grand Master.

The Stott gas governor has been awarded the silver medal by the jurors of the Crystal Palace International Electric and Gas Exhibition of 1882-3. The tests were made at the South Metropolitan Gas Works by experts, who went most exhaustively into the matter, and gave the Stott governor the only award.

Bro. the Earl of Carnarvon presided on Wednesday last week at the Town Hall, Newbury, at an influential and largely attended meeting called to promote the erection and endowment of a hospital for the town and neighbourhood. A representative body of gentlemen was nominated as a committee, his lordship accepting the office of president.

In a paragraph in our issue of the 5th inst. in reference to Bro. Chas. Belton's election as W.M. of the Lodge of Honor and Generosity, No. 165, the number of the Royal Alfred Lodge, was erroneously given as 177. It should have been 777. The same error also appeared in another paragraph in the same issue announcing the re-election of Bro. Westall as Treasurer of No. 165. Our esteemed Bro. Geo. Everett is Treasurer and P.M. of No. 177 (the Domestic Lodge).

At the Quarterly Court of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls to-morrow (Saturday) after the election of Treasurer and General Committee for the year, and the transaction of the general business, 23 girls will have to be elected out of an approved list of 35 candidates. There is a motion upon the paper that, in consideration of the valuable services rendered to the Institution by Bro. Chas. Hammerton, honorary rank, with the privileges attaching thereto, be conferred upon Mrs. Hammerton. The festival of the Institution, at which Lord Brooke, M.P., Prov. Grand Master for Essex, will preside, will be held on the 21st of next month.

On Thursday evening week Bro. W. Colbeck Parker, who is about to leave England and take up his abode in Canada, was entertained by the brethren of his lodge, the Trafalgar, No. 971, Batley, previous to his departure. There was a large company present, including Bro. Geo. Truswell, W.M., who in proposing "The Health of the Guest of the evening" spoke in high terms of the interest he had at all times manifested in Freemasonry, and of his services as a working member of the lodge. Bro. Parker acknowledged in suitable terms the kindly sentiments expressed towards him, and the brethren afterwards spent a pleasant social evening.

A magnificent mast from the woods of Cadore has been sent from Verona to the Agricultural Department of the Turin Exhibition. When the lower branches had been cut off, this fine tree-trunk was divided into two pieces, the bottom part measuring more than 120ft., and the top part, still adorned with its green branches, 18ft., its weight after being thus prepared being 41 cwt. It is slender in comparison to its height, being 65 centimeters at the base and 15 at the summit, the stem preserving an equal width up to the height of about 90ft, after which it diminishes rapidly. On examining the base it was found that that part was 205 years old; while the summit was only 63 years old. Including the expenses of transit, a matter of some difficulty, the mast will cost more than fifty pounds sterling.

The economic condition of Canada has been of late the subject of much discussion in the press of the United Kingdom, but it is a relief to be able to fall back upon some authentic source of information which the Parliamentary reports for 1883 of the Dominion House of Commons, in session since January last, afford. To judge from the state of the national finances, Canada appears to be in an enviable position. The revenue for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1883, was 35,794,649 dol., as against 33,383,000 dol. for the previous year, and the expenditure 28,730,157 dol., thus leaving a surplus of 7,064,492 dol. The excess of revenue over expenditure during the tenure of office of the present Government, i.e., since 1879, amounts to no less than 30,000,000 dol. The aggregate trade of the Colony is placed at 230,000,000 dol., an increase of 10,000,000 dol. over that of 1882. The imports were valued at 132,254,022 dol., towards which Great Britain contributed 52,052,465 dol. The exports equalled 98,085,804 dol.

On the 4th of March a complimentary dinner was tendered to Bro. Major S. Tryhall at the New Treasury Hotel, Spring-street, Melbourne, Victoria, on the occasion of his taking a trip to the old country, after a residence of 35 years in the colony. Bro. Dr. J. J. E. Willmott occupied the chair, and there were over 50 gentlemen present. In reply to the toast of the evening, Major Tryhall mentioned some very interesting incidents in connection with his early experiences as a colonist. When he landed in the then township of Melbourne the steamer was made fast to a gum tree, and the future city consisted principally of wooden buildings and wide thoroughfares of sand. Later, as a schoolmaster, he adduced the reminiscence of an official visit from an inspector of schools, who dined with him off "chops and damper" at Kilmore, and that gentleman was no other than the present Chancellor of the Exchequer of England, and in a former Administration First Lord of the Admiralty, viz., the Right Hon. H. C. E. Childers. A number of other complimentary toasts were proposed, amongst them "The Local Forces," by an English volunteer (Bro. W. F. Lamony), and coupled with the names of Col. Templeton, Major Parnell, and others, who returned thanks.

EAST LANCASHIRE SYSTEMATIC EDUCATIONAL MASONIC INSTITUTION.

On Saturday afternoon last a very clever performance was given by a local amateur troupe, calling themselves the Minnehaha Minstrels, in aid of the funds of the above Institution. The idea of benefiting the Institution by such means was, we believe, first conceived by our well-known Prov. Grand Secretary for East Lancashire, Bro. John Chadwick, and a party of prominent brethren in the province, who formed themselves into a committee for the purpose.

It might to many minds appear strange that mirth and glee should be prevailing amongst a number of prominent members of the Craft in this district at a time when one of its brightest stars was being placed in his last mortal resting place; but when it is explained that arrangements for the performance were made long before such a calamitous and unthought of event as the death of our much lamented and highly esteemed brother, H.R.H. the Duke of Albany occurred, it will be easily understood that existing arrangements meant either holding the performance on the day fixed or abandoning it altogether; indeed, we are perfectly sure that strenuous efforts were made by the Committee to postpone it, though unsuccessfully. The use of the theatre was granted free of cost by the popular lessee, Capt. R. B. Bainbridge, and the warmest thanks of the Committee are undoubtedly due to this gentleman (who is not a member of the Craft) for his great kindness, and also to the various gentlemen (members of the troupe) who so generously gave their services on this occasion.

Respecting the performance itself we can only speak in terms of the highest praise, and unhesitatingly state that no existing company of professionals could have entertained an audience better. Where all acquit themselves with such evident ability it is invidious to select any for special mention, but we feel we should not be doing justice did we not make a passing remark as to the pleasure derived from the performances of Master Beardsall, Bro. Martin Thomas, Mr. E. C. Hamson, Mr. J. Allen, and Mr. W. F. Thomas. The choruses were rendered in perfect harmony and with taste and judgment, Bro. Oliver Gags being responsible for the orchestral arrangements of same. Taken throughout the concert was most enjoyable, and although the audience was fairly a good one, the house was by no means full; at the same time we should imagine that a great many brethren and ladies bought tickets who were not present. In a future number we hope to be in a position to state the amount of money resulting from the performance, which will be handed over to the Institution.

Most of the brethren present wore either Craft or Royal Arch insignia, a dispensation to wear the same having been granted by the R.W.P.G.M., Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie. Amongst those present were Bros. Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie, R.W.P.G.M.; George Mellor, V.W. Dep. G.M.; John Chadwick, P.G. Sec.; John Roberts, P.G.D.C.; J. A. Foyster, P.G. Reg.; J. F. Hoffgaard, P.P.G.D.; S. Statham, P.P.G. Treas.; J. H. Sillitoe, P.P.G.D.C.; H. L. Rocca, P.G.D.; John Halliwell, P.P.G. Swd. Br.; James Kershaw, P.G.A.D.C.; Wm. Jaffrey, P.G.D.; J. J. Meakin, P.P.G.D.; Hy. Thomas, P.P.G.D.; Ellis Jones, P.P.G. Treas.; W. H. Hopkins, P.P.G.D.C.; Henry Paulden, S.W. 204; W. Hardcastle, P.M. 1773; Arthur H. Jefferis, S.W. 1161; Thomas Fallows, P.M. 1052; A. Pemberton, W.M. 1030; Jas. Burgess, P.M. 1161; A. D. Calden, P.P.G.S.D. Derbyshire; W. B. Outram, 1161; Chas. Heywood, P.G.S.W.; R. R. Lisenden, J.W. 317 (*Freemason*); and others.

Obituary.

BRO. E. P. ALBERT, P.G. Purst.

We regret to announce the death on Saturday last at his residence, Kilburn, of Bro. E. P. Albert, P.G. Purst. Bro. Albert was an active Freemason, having for the last 30 years being Secretary of the Joppa Lodge, a position which he resigned only on the 7th inst. He was also Secretary of the Montefiore Lodge. At the installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as Grand Master at the Albert Hall in 1875, Bro. Albert was appointed Asst. Grand Purst., and in the following year Grand Purst. As Secretary of the lodge mentioned, and in other Masonic offices, our deceased brother was distinguished for the energy with which he carried out his duties, and he was highly esteemed by a large circle of friends, both in Masonry and the Hebrew body, of which he was a member.

BRO. ARDESIR CURSETJEE RAJCOREWALLAH.

We gather the following particulars of the career of this brother from the *Sind Times* of January 22nd last: "We sincerely regret to announce the death (from brain fever) of Mr. Ardesir Cursetjee Rajcotewallah, a resident of this station for a number of years and a prominent member of the Parsee community, at the comparatively early age of 38, at which age his respected father also died in 1857. The deceased was of a kindly and social nature, and it may be truly said of him that his left hand knew not what his right hand gave away. The indigent and the needy never appealed to him in vain, and he sincerely trust, now that he has gone over to the majority, that the charity for which he was so conspicuous will cover any shortcomings and failings he may have been guilty of in this world. The defunct gentleman was personally known both in Karachi and up-country to a number of the European and native gentry, and his genial character and sprightly conversation threw over not a few a strange spell which could not be denied, and which gathered around him many admirers. As a member of the Masonic Fraternity he gained eminence in the Craft for his devotedness to its interest and welfare, many Masonic institutions in Sind having his name enrolled in their books. The numbers of his own community who followed his remains to the Tower of Silence on Friday morning, the 18th ult., and the many expressions of grief and regret at his untimely death by members of all classes and creeds, testified to the great esteem he was held in by the public of Karachi, and will no doubt be re-echoed by his numerous friends and admirers throughout Sind. The bereaved family of the departed, consisting of a widow, five daughters and one son, have the strongest claims upon the sympathy of the Parsee community in general and his many wealthy relatives in particular; for we hear they have not been well provided for, and who doubtless keenly feel the void made by his loss.