

LONDON, SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 1867.

## FREEMASONRY CONSIDERED.

By ANTHONY ONEAL HAYE.

### I.

Is there anything in Freemasonry? Have you any satisfactory proofs of your antiquity as a secret society? are questions constantly asked of the Craft. The one question is easily and decisively answered, by pointing to the many charities kept up by Masons, and to the many talented men who have graced our society; but the other is not so easily replied to. That the principles of Masonry are as old as the creation of man cannot be denied without denying all received history, sacred and profane, but that a secret society existed at that time is simply absurd, unless Adam had any secrets from Eve, and thereby constituted himself a secret society. But that secret societies for promoting the welfare of the human race, by separating the good from the evil, are of very early origin, is undeniable. Without entering into the vexed and vexing question of the early portion of the Old Testament, we cannot be far wrong in stating that among the Egyptians in the time of Moses there did exist a secret society. This secret society was formed among the priests, and its teachings constituted the esoteric mysteries or worship. Looking abroad, among the various creeds of the present day, each ready to die in defence of a favourite dogma, we cannot be surprised at the priesthood, wise in their generation, keeping back from the people those teachings which would inevitably produce schism and discord. But these greater mysteries, which required on the part of the neophyte both large intelligence and indomitable perseverance, were open to all men who sought them, and thus we find Moses, Pythagoras, and Plato initiates. The priests, as a matter of course, rejected those who did not come up to their standard of excellence, and thus the Egyptian worship was conducted by ripe and learned scholars. There was no battling of creeds at that time, and no such sight as the modern Protestant faith, which, broken up into so many sects, is as the shadow of the shaving of a splinter.

The learned of all countries sought Egypt for more instruction, and by this means the Egyptian lore was carried into Greece and Italy. It is a question whether the East, India, and China, derived their mythology from Egypt, or the Egyptians from them. It is, however, of little

moment to us, Europe deriving its learning from Egypt. Many of the ancient Jewish ceremonies were derived from the Egyptians. We find secret societies among the Jews, the Greeks, the Romans, and the Egyptians, having secret means by which each member knew his brother, and devoted to acts of charity and benevolence, as well as to the pursuit of knowledge. These societies continued down to the Christian era, when they were gradually engulfed in the doctrines of the Cross, or became obnoxious to government from their decline in purity, and consequent immorality. Their doctrines, so much in union with the doctrines of Christianity, caused many of the brotherhood to adopt the latter, but they still continued their former pursuits, and still maintained their former secrecy. As with the ancient, so with these brethren, only men of intelligence were admitted.

There is a long gap in the annals of the secret societies, till the rise of the building fraternities, and to them must be conceded the distinctive rituals of the first and second degrees. And while mentioning rituals it may be as well to state that these do not constitute Freemasonry. They are only the means towards an end, and that end the attaining of light. It might as well be said that the accolade was knighthood, baptism, christianity. The rituals are merely the ceremonials of degrees, and the brother, who, when he can say them off by heart, thinks that he has exhausted Masonry, labours under the most lamentable mistake. He has only crossed the threshold of Masonry. He must study the whole mysteries which lie metaphorically between the extended points of the compass, which, with all his perseverance, after a life-time, he will not completely understand. The benefits to be derived from this study remain to be reaped in an after life.

I have said the principles of Freemasonry have been those of the wise of all ages, and I confess, that save as a ceremonial, and as a means for detecting impostors, I do not give the rituals that high place and profound reverence which many do. Were the rituals given to the world to-morrow, would the genuine secrets of Freemasonry be divulged? I should say not. I do not wish to be misunderstood in this matter. I have a great reverence for the rituals, and no one laments more than I do the slovenly manner in which the degrees are given in many lodges, but what I say is, that you might as well call yourself a Christian because you pay attention to the Church of

England Service without further study, or acting up to the precepts of Christ, as call yourself a Mason because you can repeat the ritual, without studying and applying the principles. I argue, therefore, that the rituals are no argument either of the antiquity or modernness of Masonry. We will not be justified in saying that there was no Christianity in Britain before 1549, when the first Book of Common Prayer was printed. Before that was the Missal; before the Missal other books of prayers. Whether the present rituals are of two hundred or of two thousand years' existence, is of little importance. The great question is, were the doctrines at present inculcated by Freemasonry known to the ancients? and the answer is at once given—they were. As times change, so do customs, and there would be little to cause surprise in the fact that the brethren at a certain period thought fit to alter their ceremonial.

The building fraternities, composed of men of great talent, appear then to have become the depositories of the mysteries, and hence arose the name of "Freemason," as our peculiar title.\* Wandering over the length and breadth of Europe, founding lodges, and building churches, they spread their principles, and drew into the secret society the great and learned. It must be borne in mind that special privileges had been conferred upon them by the Pope, and that they were in a manner a monkish order, each lodge being ruled over by a Master, the brethren living together in one house, and bound by the vows of chastity and obedience. We find them in the Order of Knights Templar forming a portion of the third class of serving brethren, being *frères servons des mestiers*. To their industry we owe the glorious Temple Church, in London, and many noble buildings at home and abroad. The Essenes are said to have watched over the Temple, and the Masons seem to have exercised a similar duty in regard to buildings erected by them, as it would appear that, till the time of the Reformation, lodges were often established in close proximity to the more celebrated ecclesiastical buildings. In proof of this we have the Kilwinning, Melrose, Glasgow, and Aberdeen Lodges. Perhaps at this period, when everything that savoured of Popery was thrown to the winds, might have arisen the present

\* While the ancient Masons were probably members of the secret societies, I am afraid the more intimate relationship did not spring up till the rise of the building fraternities. There can be little doubt that the plans in many cases were drawn, not by the builders, but by the clergy and other learned men.

non-operative character of the lodges, and the general pursuit of Speculative Freemasonry, apart from the society of builders. But we may generally assume that Speculative Freemasonry did not take its present important position previous to the junction of the Scots and English thrones in the person of James I. The great mistake of Masonic historians lies in their claiming, without the slightest grounds of proof, persons and events as belonging to and arising out of the fraternity, and thereby opening a door of attack for traducers. It would be far better at once to admit that beyond our historical documents we cannot prove positively our existence, but that we have sufficient indirect proof of a connection by uninterrupted succession with the ancient secret societies. To dogmatically insist upon the world receiving statements upon our own *ipse dixit*, is absurd.

Masonry has suffered more from the inconsiderate zeal of supporters than from the deliberate antagonism of its deriders. Statements have been made by Masons which cannot be supported by documents, and that sublime chaotic evidence, tradition, has always been fallen back upon as a sure support. Tradition, in certain cases, is good evidence, but it often signally fails when called in to the aid of Masonry. It is not, however, with tradition that we have now to do, but with a document purporting to have been written in the 16th century, communicated to the Edinburgh brethren in 1826 by a M. de Marchot, an advocate of Nivelles, and of which a translation was inserted in the records of Mary's Chapel, under the attestation of a Notary Public.\*

Masonry can boast of three celebrated forged documents: 1. The Questions of Henry VI. 2. The Charter of Transmission of John Mark Larmenius, and 3. The Proclamation of Cologne, now under notice. Burnes says as to the Proclamation, "We have little faith in German documents on Freemasonry, unless supported by other testimony; and as no historian of the Craft makes the slightest allusion to the great convocation of the brethren at Cologne in the 16th century, rather than ask the reader to believe that it ever took place, we shall presume that M. de Marchot may have been deceived."

The document proceeds upon the narrative that the Pope, the Emperor, and all kings were, according to popular report, objects of hatred and

\* See this and copy of proclamation in Burnes' "Sketch of the Knights Templars."

enmity to the Freemasons, who had resolved upon their destruction, in revenge for the ruin and slaughter of the Templars, whose successors they (the Freemasons) were. The proclamation denounces this as false, intimates the peaceful and philosophic character of the Freemasons,\* and repudiates all connection with the Templars. It gives a sketch of the doctrines which ruled the brotherhood, whom, it declares, formed three classes—Disciple, Fellow, and Master, the last admitting of Elect and Superior Elect Masters. The document, furthermore, purports to emanate from “Elect Masters of the Venerable Society sacred to John, or of the Social Order of Freemasons, Rulers of Lodges or Tabernacles, constituted at London, Edinburgh, Vienna, Amsterdam, Paris, Lyons, Frankfort, Hamburg, Antwerp, Rotterdam, Madrid, Venice, Ghent, Regimonte, Brussels, Dantzic, Middleburgh, and in the City of Cologne, in chapter assembled, in the said City of Cologne.” It is signed by seventeen parties, and among the signatures appears that of Melancthon. The following certification is appended:—“Certified in form to the printed exemplar, deposited into the Archives of the Gr. and Sublime Chap. of the Temples Interior, sitting in the East of Namur. The Gr. Chancellor of that Chief Chap. † De Marchot.”

It would occupy too much space to show the absurdity of this proclamation, by quoting and commenting upon its several clauses. It is sufficient for our present purpose to draw attention to the causes which are said to have produced the document, the classes of the brotherhood, and the signatures attached.

1. *The Causes.*—There is not the slightest historical evidence, nor the faintest Masonic tradition, that at this period the Masons were suspected of treasonable practices. It was only in 1738 that the first bull was launched against the Freemasons, who, previous to that, had enjoyed peculiar privileges under bulls of preceding popes. If, therefore, the Masons had been the subjects of suspicion at that time, some evidence must have come down to the present day, whereas there is none.

2. *The Classes.*—It is an admitted fact by Masons who have studied the question, that the Master's degree was an invention of the end of

the eighteenth century. There is not a shadow of evidence to prove the existence of Elect and Superior Elect Masters in the year 1535, or in connection with St. John's Masonry at any time. It must be remembered that a Master in ancient times was not a degree but an office; the brother was simply head, or Master, of the lodge.

3. *The Signatures.*—Harmanius Carlton and Io. Bruce, we presume, are the London and Edinburgh Masters. It is very extraordinary that we never heard of their names before. It is also very extraordinary that, in all accounts of Melancthon, there is no mention of his having been a Mason or Master of a lodge, although, at that time, he was one of the most conspicuous characters of the day, and upon whom the eyes of the world were fixed. From what we know of him, it is quite evident that, had he been present at such a meeting, or put his hand to such a document, he would have made a more public defence of his Order, and not have rested content with a proclamation which, it seems, nobody saw at the time. It would be difficult to tell who were the other subscribers; or bring evidence documentary or otherwise to show that such names belonged to Craftsmen.

There are many other points in the proclamation which support the views presented, but, as we have said, to go into them would occupy too much space.

The copy of the proclamation is printed, and, from the certification attached to it, is in the possession of the “Chap. of the Temples Interior, sitting in the East of Namur.” Is it not possible to have the document examined by an expert, when the paper, type, and ink would verify or falsify beyond cavil (unless it be extremely cleverly forged, which is unlikely to be the case), the document? It is extraordinary that no other copy has been preserved, when the document is of so important a nature. But without troubling an expert, we have to pronounce the document a forgery, and to fix the date of perpetration; for if the document be not a forgery, we will require to put away all our Masonic histories, and write by a new light, adopting the myths of the Rose Croix, and abandoning all our unchallenged historical landmarks.

The proclamation gives us the popular suspicion of the Freemasons, as successors of those who destroyed the Knights. This leads us to the conclusion that the document was forged after

\* The modern Mason will be surprised at the difference between the origin of the Order as received then and related now.

1768, when, in consequence of a disturbance which took place in Paris, an inquiry was set on foot to ascertain if the degree called Kadosh was not the same as the Order of Knights Templars, upon which the Grand Orient of Paris and of Berlin changed the name to that of Knights of the Black and White Eagle, and removed from it all that incited the Knights to take vengeance (*sic!*) on the Knights of Malta, whom, the greater part of Masonic writers falsely believed to have been the depoulers and destroyers of the Templars, instead of having been their friends, whose fate they narrowly escaped sharing.

Documents such as this precious proclamation bring discredit upon Masonry, and at this day Masons should rally round the firm ground of St. John's Masonry, and cease to bolster up unworkable degrees, loud-sounding in name and imposing in bombastic ceremonial, but utterly worthless to advance the true interests of the Craft, and totally at variance with common sense and historical fact. These degrees seem only to benefit the manufacturers of jewels; in many instances the jewel is of more consequence to the recipient than the degree. These degrees at some future time may, like an over-weighted capital, hurl down the shaft and shatter the vase. Still more should Masons reprobate and denounce all forgeries, which, while pretending to give a greater importance to Masonry, only bring down upon the Order the contempt of the scholar and the reproach of the world. Masonry requires no false supports, which are apt to tumble down and crack the character of their suppliers. She has sufficient of herself to sustain her dignity and place, without asking the aid of mendacious, although zealous adherents. In the next chapter will be considered the origin of the so-called Hauts Grades.

#### NOTES BY AN OCCASIONAL SCOTTISH CORRESPONDENT.

##### THE ENGLISH AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS.

E'en in the peaceful rural vale,  
Truth, weeping, tells the mournful tale,  
How pamper'd luxury, flattery by her side,  
The parasite empoisoning her ear,  
With all the servile wretches in the rear,  
Looks o'er proud property extended wide;  
And eyes the simple rustic hind,  
Whose toil upholds the glitt'ring show,  
A creature of another kind,  
Some coarser substance unrefined,  
Placed for her lordly use thus far below!—*BURNS.*

Some little time back there appeared in the

FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE an article dwelling upon the miserable position of agricultural labourers and their families in some parts of England consequent upon the wretched pittance accorded them in the shape of wages.

We have another illustration of the force of the remarks upon this subject in the recent strike of agricultural labourers in Buckinghamshire. These unfortunates, in the course of the statement they have made explaining the reasons which have compelled them to take this step, remark:—"We have worked all the winter at 9s. and 10s. per week. We ask that we may live—not as paupers—but by our own industry." The statement referred to having already appeared in our various newspapers, it would be needless here to reproduce it, all the facts of the case being doubtless well-known to your readers.

It is gratifying to find that some practical philanthropists are taking active steps with a view to obtain elsewhere for the labourers that which they very reasonably desire—a fair days wage for a fair days labour. These philanthropists, admitting the justness of the claims of the labourers, have practised that virtue—charity—which is held so high in the estimation of every true Freemason; and it becomes a source of gratification to find men who have thus shown so thoroughly their appreciation of the force of what our illustrious ploughman Bard says in the lines:—

"Afflictions sons are brothers in distress,  
A brother to relieve, how exquisite the bliss!"

Now, as it is stated in the public journals that it is contemplated to arrange for the emigration of some of the labourers and their families, it may not be out of place here to consider the oft-recurring question as to which is the best field for emigration; and in the present case that adapted more especially for the utilisation of such labour as by the infatuation of English farmers is being driven from our shores.

The following facts, therefore, concerning the Western States of America, by Mr. G. L. Henderson, of 390, Upper Brown-street, Glasgow, a Scotchman, who has been resident in Iowa for 21 years, are worthy of being made known as an useful contribution serving for the guidance of those who are interesting themselves on behalf of the Buckinghamshire farm-labourers, and generally as being worthy of the perusal of the intending emigrant. The value of the statements made by

Mr. Henderson is enhanced from the fact of his honour and probity being vouched for in public journals in Scotland. Mr. Henderson proceeds as follows :—

“ What part of the United States ought farmers, farm labourers, or mechanics to go to? I say, emphatically, that they ought not to stop short of the north-western States, namely, Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, or Nebraska, because in these States all kinds of labour is in demand. New cities are rising up; new railroads are being built. In those seven States one million of farm houses are built annually, and millions of acres of new lands are opened to the plough every year. If a labourer lands on the west bank of the Mississippi river there will be ten men competing with each other to employ him, while in New York or Massachusetts the supply is already greater than the demand, and the continued flow of emigration to New York, Boston, and Montreal of labourers whose means of going further is exhausted, and are compelled to work for nearly one-half of what they could receive in the Western States. Last summer farm labourers in New York got from 15 dollars to 20 dollars, or from £3 to £4 sterling per month, while farmers west of the great lakes were paying from 25 to 35 dollars, or £5 to £7 sterling. In the State of Iowa we were compelled to send an agent east, and employ farm hands and mechanics, pay their transportation westward, in addition to their wages, in order to carry on the operation of our farms, railroads, and building. A house carpenter in the Eastern States could only get one dollar 80 cents. per day, while in the West he could get two dollars 50 cents., or a difference of 7s. and 12s. per day; the only exception to this was in favour of masons and bricklayers, who could get just as much for a days' work in New York as in Iowa city, viz., 3 dollars to 3s. dollars 25 cents. per day. The reason for this is obvious; houses in the Eastern States are built mostly of stone or brick, while in the West they are built mostly of wood. The same is true of bridges and culverts of railroads. As to the Southern States they are not yet in a state to invite emigrants from Europe; too many of the settlers in the south carry the law in their belt, and they have been too long used to regard the 'code of honour' as higher than statute law. General Grant and the 'boys in blue' are the only equals that the Southern is willing to acknowledge. The slave-

holder has been too long accustomed to live by the sweat of other men's brows, and of pocketing the money earned by his slave, to be willing to pay a good price for the labour of white men, who he regards as the 'mudsils of creation.' The Yankees from the North Eastern States are the best men to settle in the South, and not the European emigrant, but the time is not far distant when it will be just as safe to settle in Florida as in Iowa; but that will be when it will be as great a crime to kill a black man as a white one, and when a black man's evidence is admissable in every court, civil or criminal, in every Southern State. In Kansas, Nebraska, Dakota, Minnesota, and Iowa there are millions of acres of land still to be taken up, and more beautiful and fertile than any in Great Britain; and in 20 years from now these lands will be cultivated and inhabited by the white men, covered with neat farm houses and thriving villages, and towns and cities. Orchards and wheatfields will glow where the buffalo now roams. All English travellers who have visited the Missouri River Valley acknowledge that it is indisputably 'the garden of the world,' having a rich alluvial soil from three to five feet deep, without stone or gravel to dull the ploughshare or obstruct the reaping machine; traversed by mighty rivers, beside which the Thames or Clyde sink into insignificance. This vast country is capable of sustaining a population of two hundred and forty millions—an empire itself, and destined ultimately to diffuse its language and its law over the whole globe. These rich and beautiful lands are to be given to actual settlers in lots of 80 acres to single men, and 160 acres to married men, by complying with the conditions of the Homestead Bill passed by Congress in 1861. The conditions of the bill are that the claimant, if a foreigner, shall declare his intentions of becoming a citizen of the United States, and that he shall improve the land and live on the same at least one month of each year for five years, at the end of which he will receive a patent in fee simple, 'without money and without price.' The United States also granted to the several States one million of acres of the public lands to create a permanent educational fund so that all children between five and 21 years of age shall be educated free—the children of the foreigner having the same right to attend school as the children of the citizen, so that the United States is really the land of free schools, free lands, free speech, and free men.

THE NEMESIS: A TALE OF THE DAYS  
OF TRAJAN.

By Bro. A. ONEAL HAYE, K.M., K. Cal., Corresponding Member of the German Society, Leipzig; Knight Templar, Scot.; Author of "The History of the Knights Templars;" "Vava Queen;" "Gatherings in Wanderings;" "Songs and Ballads;" "Poemata;" "Legends of Edinburgh." &c., &c., &c.; Post Laureate of the Canonicate, Kilwinning; P.M. St. Stephens; P.P.Z. of St. Andrews, R.A. Chap.; &c.; &c.

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CHAPTER XXXI.

THE CHRISTIAN PHILOSOPHER.

"The earth is but a poor place, the infant school of another life; so let us use it, that, in another world, our studies may raise us to a high position."

Adrian and Paulus had returned from the house of Lucidora, to Caius' mansion.

"Yes," Adrian said, "it was a glorious sight. The chamber lit by the candles, and the sweet-lisp'd hymns by your choir of voices rang holy on my hear. Not even Rome's proud Capitol, in all the splendour of a triumph's pomp, could have impressed me half so much."

"You saw but the shell; what think you of the spirit?"

"It is the knowledge which I have sought from youth up through the years, till manhood came and proved how false and hollow were our Pagan rites, which chilled my heart when that I thought of death."

"Has then thy dread of death now fled?"

"Far from it; but I have now left me hope. I do not fear to die; but what I fear is, when I die, I shall not live within the glory of God's house."

"Yet Christ has told us, if we have faith in Him, we all shall be with Him in heaven. My days of doubt are over. I meekly await what life may bring. For death it will bring me rest; and as the weary wanderer caught by night, scans the heavens for the pole star, so I, lost in this night of earthly sin, watch for the coming of the Saviour."

"But can his coming cause thee to feel no emotion of fear?"

"Why should I fear if I obey his commands? Like as a master, on the close of day, vieweth the apprentice's work with praise or censure, and setteth him for the morrow a nobler task, or chideth him to complete the wasted one, so will God view our apprentice work on earth, and set us in the after life upon a great, wise plan, or doom us to revise, with bitter agony, our temporal one, left incomplete among the groves of sin, and forsaken for the fleeting joys of luxury. Work

must all men, labour is the lot of all, woe to the idler and the indolent. But what can detain Caius? The sun has long since set."

"I fear the terrible tidings will cause his death."

"Not so," replied Paulus. "It will make him know the dark uncertainty of life and earthly joy. It will show him what the gilded tomb contains, and make him a mete inmate for the unsullied courts of heaven. What do the finest pictures show? Shadows deep, and lights of rarest lustre, so the life that is most earnest will point in death to sorrows wild and to joys ecstatic."

"Still, in this storm of woe, life may be hurled from its throne."

"Believe it not. As pent-up storms have power to clear the air, to bring over earth the deep and tranquil sky, to spring to light the bloom on every flower, to cast a sparkle on the broad and trackless sea, so sorrow lights the caverns of the heart, developing great principles and sleeping powers. Does not our own secret Stoic doctrine, hid by symbols, teach this truth? How has that light of one eternal immutable God come down to us, but by the overwhelming power of sorrow, the death of its noblest votaries, who have died willingly that their example might purify the hearts of men, and reconcile them unto God."

"It is a strange perplexing thought. In every country where I have travelled I have among the learned and the noble found this brotherhood; sad, serious men, honest and upright to all men, and silent on the mysteries of our order."

"The philosophy of the Stoics, when rightly studied, can clip the wings of the wildest gallant, and teach him a nobler pleasure than the chase of woman's smiles, or that of the wine cup."

A pause followed, which Adrian broke by a sigh, and the words "Alas! poor Caius."

"Say not that," answered Paulus. The man whose heart has never known a grief absorb the long slow watches of the night, knows little of life's sternness. He, indeed, is poor, for he has no common lot with humanity. Sorrow belongs to earth. It is our birth-right, and our indisputable legacy. Joy is of heaven, and thus it is at times that the heart swells at some noble saying, some thought planted in it by God. Think you that joy is for man? Not more deadly would be an everlasting sun to the earth, without the coming in of the gentle moon, than joy everlasting in the breast of man. It would be a fire in

his heart that would reduce him soon to ashes. But when the spirit is freed from the dominion of the body, when the soul flies up to God, then will it become a fit receptacle for a joy that only faintly gleams upon us on this earth. Sorrow is the best friend of man. It is the stone whose touch turns brass to gold; it clears the heart, and purifies its dross."

"Yet must he suffer. I fear for him."

"Fear not. Had she been pure, and severed by her friends from him, he might have mourned for her to the last hour. Had death stepped in and taken her from his arms, with her he might have died; but where a blot of loud and damning infamy divides his loathing soul, that will drive her from his heart. We mourn with tears of blood the innocent, but rage and scorn fill the heart at the debased."

While he spoke, Caius, pale, shocked, with the marks of an awful mental blow upon his countenance, entered the apartment. Paulus and Adrian gazed at him in silence. Caius approached the latter and threw himself into his arms.

"Is it over?" asked he.

"Aye."

"How did she receive the tidings?"

"As the noble conscious victim to an ignoble cause. Pale, passionless in seeming, but with an inward grief too great to shed a tear."

Then with a burst of feeling he exclaimed:

"Paulus, she is not wholly false, but some damned fraud has made her what she is. Can God, this new Deity you have revealed to us not save the weak and innocent, and prevent the ruthless feet of crime from trampling them into the mire? Can He, who sacrificed his Son, not stretch forth his strong hand to save the pure from destruction? I dimly understood her wrongs. If God be just, wherefore does He not do her justice?"

"Reville not Him," answered Paulus sternly, "who doth all things so well," and then he added more gently. "Let not thine indignation, nor the woe which grapples with thy heart and better judgment, arraign our God. Earth worms we are, although in his image formed. Our minds are less than the least of those who stand before his face for ever, than those to whom his decrees are given for execution. They hear, they execute, but do not understand. To man, contrary appear the decrees of God. He sees them but in part, but when the whole shall be unfolded to his view, then

shall he find how marvellous his deeds are—in judgment, wise; in mercy, beautiful. And mark my words! He will revenge this wrong in his own time and way. We cannot tell the secrets of life. He can, and He will display them to us in a proper hour. Meanwhile, my son, ponder upon his decree—'Vengeance is mine,' so leave them to their God."

"So be it," replied Caius, turning to his cousin. "Adrian, do you remember last night's banquet?"

"Yes."

"Do you remember the dread that fell upon Balbus at the spilling of the salt?"

"I do."

"The augury in his case has been true."

"What! Is he dead?"

"Aye. Dead as if he had never been. Better for him had he never been born."

"How sudden it is. How know you of it?"

"I saw him die," said Caius gloomily.

"You saw him die, Caius?" cried Adrian warmly. "I did not love the man, but yet I would have tried to save him. I do not recognise Caius Fabius in that act."

"Believe me, my cousin, no power of mine could have saved him. His hour had come."

"But how did he die?"

"By the executioner's hand, lashed first with rods, then beheaded and his body cast into the Tiber."

"He must have been a great criminal," said Adrian, unable to control a shudder of horror.

"Among the greatest," answered Caius, narrating the death of Cenna, and Balbus's connection with Bacchanals. He carefully forebore mentioning Sempronia's name, the Emperor's command sealing his lips. Exclamations of surprise and horror escaped his auditors as they listened, and when the tale was told, they sat in silence for a long space, each wrapped in his own thoughts. At length Paulus arose, and took the hand of Caius.

"Come, my sad Caius," he said. "Come with me to the presence of the God of all good things. Already has Adrian seen our little band arranged in worship at the footstool of the Most High. The hour of evening prayer approaches. Come then, and enter into our fold."

*(To be continued.)*

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## MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

## KABBALISM.

A brother desirous of information upon this subject belongs to a lodge the members of which are many and rich. Doubtlessly, then, the lodge possesses the fifteen volumes of the *Freemasons' Magazine*. My brother has only to turn to vol. vii., pages 23, 45, 67, 83, and 102 of that useful publication. There, under the title "Kabbalism, Secret Societies, and Masonry," he will find as much respecting the science, asserted to be older than the creation, and to have been taught by God himself to the angels, as he will probably ever care to know.—C. P. COOPER.

## THE PHARISEES. THE SADDUCEES.

In answer to the letter of a correspondent, I say that, in the reign of Herod the Great, the two principal Jewish sects were the Pharisees and the Sadducees. The former believed in the soul's immortality, and amongst them Freemasonry was possible. The latter did not believe in the soul's immortality, and amongst them, therefore, Freemasonry was not possible.—C. P. COOPER.

## THE MARONITES.

A correspondent, just returned from a tour in Syria, writes that he found Freemasonry amongst the Maronites, and particularly amongst those dwelling on the western slope of Mount Lebanon. It seems, however, that my correspondent has not the advantage of belonging to our Institution, and he cannot, therefore, know what Freemasonry is. More information is, I think, necessary to warrant the belief that Freemasonry exists in the ancient Christian tribe of the Maronites.—C. P. COOPER.

## THE DRUSES.

Dear Brother —, all the encyclopædias into which I have looked of late years contain accounts of the religion of the Druses. You will, therefore, have little difficulty in speedily satisfying your curiosity. It has been suggested, you say, that the Druses invented Freemasonry. What has given rise to this strange suggestion I cannot conjecture, unless it be that the Druses have their mysteries.—C. P. COOPER.

## EARLIEST EDITION OF OUR "CONSTITUTIONS."

Bro. —, after much research, both in England and on the Continent, no earlier edition of our "Constitutions" has, I believe, been discovered than that of 1723, thus described in Bro. Robert Spenser's "Catalogue of a Valuable Collection of Books on Freemasonry," "Constitutions of the Freemasons, containing the History, Regulations, &c., of that most Ancient Fraternity," by James Anderson, M.D., 4to., very rare, 1723. French Masonic writers mention earlier editions. Boileau, amongst the works published in England before the Chevalier Ramsay's reform, enumerates "The Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masonry, 1689, 1690, 1701, 1723, 1725," &c.—C. P. COOPER.

## EARLY WRITERS ON ROSICRUCIANISM.

There are five early writers on Rosicrucianism only respecting whom, so far as my information on the subject goes, anything is known. 1. Jean Valentine André, born 1606, died 1654. 2. Robert Fludel (in Latin *De Fluctibus*), our countryman, born 1574,

died 1637. Both these are noticed in my communications to the *Freemasons' Magazine*, the former vol. x., page 5, and the errata, page 116, also page 179; the latter, vol. xi., page 521, where the titles of his Rosicrucian tracts are set forth. 3. André Labavius, born —, died 1616. 4. Michel Maier, born 1568, died 1622. 5. Gabriel Nacidé, born 1600, died 1653. A correspondent will find ample accounts of these five writers in the "Biographie Universelle." —C. P. COOPER.

## THE LETTER OF BRO. ANDREW COX.

In answer to "Δ" (April 13th), my friend and brother, Anthony Oneal Haye, has never attempted to decipher Bro. Cox's letter. He would have found it quite easy to do so had he tried, for a simple cypher of that kind, in the hands of so accomplished and learned a Mason, would be read off almost immediately. If "Δ" is really an "ignorant" brother (and I strongly suspect not), I beg to inform him, as also the "P. R. A. E. I. A. N. R. Y. P. K. C. R. I. G." (April 20th), that, although perfectly willing and ready to answer any note and query that may be sent to the *Freemasons' Magazine* according to my ability, I cannot consent to produce my "crucible" or reveal the "right keys," as such information would place too much power in the hands of the "profane," from the fact of these pages being read by others than Masons. However, if "Δ" is anxious to see the "crucible," and can forward to me unequivocal proof of his being a Mason, and entitled to a participation in such mysteries, I shall be both happy and proud to enlighten him.—W. J. HUGHAN.

## BRO. DR. HOPKINS AND THE RIGHTS OF VISITORS.

In common with several members of the Fraternity, I have been waiting to hear a solution to the question proposed by our esteemed Bro. Dr. Hopkins (March 30th, No. 404), but not until April 20th has any answer appeared, when Bro. S. Leigh refers to the subject. I cannot reconcile the latter's statements. In one part he says, "It is admitted that a lodge has a right to request visitors to withdraw," and afterwards that he does not "admit the right of a lodge to exclude visitors on any occasion." Surely, if the lodge has a right to request, the same authority would permit of exclusion. But, according to the context, it appears that in the former the writer is supposing a case, and likely the word "if" has been omitted, so I will take the latter sentence as his real opinion, which is also mine. I know of no sufficient reason to exclude any subscribing member of the Craft from a lodge (and am much surprised at the treatment the learned Dr. Hopkins received at the hands of the Loyalty Lodge, Guernsey), during the reading of the minutes. This question deserves, and will require examination, or else eminent members of the Craft, seeking to obtain information as to the working of lodges, can easily be prevented attending such lodges as No. 243, by being excluded on the plea of private business being transacted. Whatever may be the by-laws of lodges on the subject, surely nothing should interfere with a Freemason's right to visit and attend lodges, provided he is a subscribing member of one himself; and so long as the "Book of Constitutions" confers that privilege, I am of opinion that Bro. Dr. Hopkins would be justified in opposing any such paltry and shabby attempts to exclude him



or any other worthy Mason from a lodge, under the Grand Lodge of England, in the manner referred to by your correspondent for Guernsey. We should like much to be favoured with a copy of the Loyalty Lodge by-laws, and, on procuring a copy, we intend referring to the subject again.—W. J. HUGHAN.

CHARLES PURTON COOPER AND "MUSTARD SEED."

I am not quite sure that history warrants the positive denial of Bro. C. P. Cooper (P. Prov. G.M. for Kent) as to the Order of the Mustard Seed being connected with Masonry. According to Bro. Jeremiah How's "Masonic Manual," Bro. Dr. Mackay's "Lexicon," &c., this Order was also known by the name of "The Fraternity of Moravian Brothers of the Order Religious Freemasons," and was instituted in Germany in 1739, and is said to have been one of the earliest innovations introduced into German Freemasonry. According to some parts of its ceremonial, there is evidently a Masonic character about them, and strongly suggestive of the origin of the Order. Believing in one of its mottos, viz., "No one lives for himself," I have recorded this opinion for the benefit of your numerous readers.—W. J. HUGHAN.

ORIGIN OF THE THIRD DEGREE.

We await with anxiety the production of evidence in favour of a greater antiquity to the Master Mason and Royal Arch degrees than Bro. W. J. Hughan admits in his "History of the Craft in Cornwall," and hope some learned brother will come forward to prove the truth of what we have been dogmatically taught in our lodge and chapter.—ROYAL ARCH.

LORD BROUGHAM.

When practising at the Scotch bar, Lord Brougham joined a vacation yachting party to the Western Isles. Except himself, the party were Masonic. The Masons having been invited by the brethren of the Lodge Fortrose Stornaway to pay them a visit, Brougham was entered, passed, and raised on the occasion. On the party's return to Edinburgh his lordship affiliated into the Lodge Canongate Kilwinning, and was a frequent attender, till he settled in London. He seems then to have given up Masonry, and, doubtless, the part he has played in the historical and political world rendered this necessary. No trace can be found of his holding any office in the Craft, and his Masonic career is unmarked by any event of importance.—A. O. HAYE.

ERO. COX'S LETTER.

My name has been, by some mistake, drawn into this question. I have written nothing relative to the matter, and do not know the cypher.—A. O. HAYE.

LEADEN PIPE AT KILWINNING FOR COLOURING WATER.

In a dean, west of the village of Coldingham, is a spring of water of excellent quality, called St. Andrew's Well, from which the monastery there used to be supplied by leaden conduits, portions of which are occasionally exposed. Are there any other religious buildings known to have possessed lead pipes in connection with a distant well? Two streams run through Coldingham.—A. O. HAYE.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

*The Editor is not responsible for the opinions expressed by Correspondents.*

### THE POLISH IMPOSTOR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In answer to your correspondent "P.M., a Pole," I beg to say that the name given to me by the impostor I wrote to you about has escaped my memory. Could I remember it, I would gladly communicate it to him and you; in fact, I should have mentioned it in my former letter. It is possible that some of my fellow-victims in the neighbourhood of Watford or Berkhamstead might be able to supply the desired information.

Yours fraternally, T. F. HALSEY, W.M. 20.

MASONIC PRESENTATION.—Many of our readers will have noticed in the shop window of Messrs. Flavelle, Brothers, jewellers, of George-street, a massive silver tea and coffee service and salver, together with an address artistically painted on vellum, and framed. This handsome service and address, the intrinsic value of which is something over 120 guineas, was presented on Friday last, at a meeting of the Masonic body in the Masonic Hall, York-street, to the Right Worshipful Bro. John Williams, on his retirement from the office of Provincial Grand Master under the English Constitution—an office which he has held during the last 20 years. The presentation was made by the Very Worshipful Bro. A. T. Holroyd, Master in Equity. The silver service is richly chased and beautifully embossed. On one of the shields of each article are Masonic emblems, and on the other the initials of the recipient. The design of the service is very handsome, and is fitted into a beautiful morocco case. The salver bears the following inscription:—"Presented by the Masonic brethren in New South Wales, under the English Constitution, to Right Worshipful Brother John Williams, Esq., J.P., on his resigning the office of Provincial Grand Master, as a token of their esteem and respect. February, 1867." The following is a copy of the address:—"To the Right Worshipful Brother John Williams, Provincial Grand Master of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, under the English Constitution, in the Province of New South Wales. Right Worshipful Sir and Brother,—Upon receiving the announcement of your resignation of the office of Provincial Grand Master of the province of New South Wales, we, the members of the Provincial Grand Lodge, in P.G.L. assembled, desire to express the regret we feel upon hearing that ill-health is the cause of your retirement from the high position which you have occupied in the Craft for a period of upwards of twenty years. We are aware, right worshipful sir and brother, that your liberal charity and kindness has been most extensive, and we doubt not that in the knowledge you possess of the uprightness of your endeavours to foster and advance the best interests of Freemasonry in this province, you will find the highest and best reward of your labours in feeling that you resign the direction of Freemasonry, after having for so many years, to the utmost of your power and ability, successfully striven to advance the Craft under the English Constitution to the eminent position which it now holds in this colony. Although, right worshipful sir and brother, you have retired from the presidency of the Order, we confidently trust to your assurance that at all times you will give your countenance, support, and advice to serve the interests of Freemasonry in this province. We hope, right worshipful brother, that your retirement from office may re-establish your impaired health, and that you may be spared to enjoy every domestic happiness, and to witness the results of your long, careful, and anxious labours for the welfare of Freemasonry by its permanent and rapid advancement; and, finally, when your earthly course is run, that it may please the Great Architect of the Universe to summon you to the Grand Lodge above. Signed on behalf of the Provincial Grand Lodge, N. S. W., E. C., Richard Colley, D. P. Grand Master; John Matthews, Provincial Grand Secretary." The address is painted on vellum—a material peculiarly suited for such work—has a tessellated border, representing emblems of the Order, and is exceedingly chaste. It will, no doubt, in after years serve to recal to memory many happy reminiscences of the past.—*Sydney Morning Herald.*

## THE MASONIC MIRROR.

\* \* All communications to be addressed to 19, Salisbury-street, Strand, London, W.C.

### MASONIC MEMS.

**THE GIRLS' SCHOOL FESTIVAL.**—The Earl of Limerick has kindly consented to take the chair at the festival of the Freemasons' School for Female Children. He is Provincial Grand Master for Bristol. Lord de Grey and Ripon is unable to take the chair in consequence of a domestic affliction.

**BRO. DR. OLIVER.**—In answer to numerous correspondents respecting the late Bro. Dr. Oliver's new edition of "The Origin, &c., of the Royal Arch Degree," Bro. R. Spencer informs us that he hopes to have it ready at the latter end of May.

### GRAND LODGE.

#### INSTALLATION OF THE GRAND MASTER.

The annual meeting of the Grand Lodge, with the installation of the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland as Grand Master for the twenty-fourth time, took place on Wednesday, the 24th inst., in Freemasons' Hall.

At five o'clock the Most Noble the Grand Master took his seat upon the throne; Bros. G. Greenhall, *M.P.*, S.G.W., and Maxwell Close, J.G.W. Bro. Dobie, Prov. G.M. for Sussex, acted as D.G.M., in the absence of Earl de Grey and Ripon, who has recently sustained a domestic affliction. There were present, amongst many others, Bros. Lord de Tabley, Prov. G.M. for Cheshire; the Earl of Limerick, Prov. G.M. for Bristol; the Rev. J. Huysh, Prov. G.M. for Devonshire; Colonel Bowyer, Prov. G.M. for Oxfordshire; J. Fawcett, Prov. G.M. for Durham; Rev. E. Cox, P.G. Chap.; J. S. Spiers, P.G.S.B.; J. Udall, P.G.D.; Rev. J. W. Hayes, P.G. Chap.; Rev. J. Thomas, G. Chap.; H. Brydges, P.G.D.; F. P. Cockerell, G. Supt. of Works; G. W. K. Potter, P.G.D.; E. W. Patten, P.G.S.B.; J. R. Stebbing, P.G.D.; J. L. Evans, President of the Board of General Purposes; E. Phillips, P.G.D.; F. Roxburgh, P.G. Reg.; W. Young, P.G.S.B.; C. Locoek Webb, P.G.D.; Lord Kenlis, P.G.D.; Victor Williamson, P.G.W.; S. Tomkins, G. Treas.; J. J. Blake, P.G.D.; Æ. M'Intyre, G. Reg.; W. Gray Clarke, G. Sec.; A. W. Woods, G. Dir. of Cers.; J. J. Scott, P.G.D.; J. S. Patten, P.G.S.B.; B. Head, P.G.D.; Farnfield, P.G. Assist. Sec.; G. Cox, P.G.D.; J. Savage, P.G.D.; J. Smith, P.G. Purst.; J. Coward, G. Org.; J. Clabor, P.G.D.; Gumbleton, P.G.D.; Emmens, P.G. Purst.; T. Lewis, G. Purst.; A. Perkins, P.G.W.; Major Creaton, P.G.D., &c.

The Grand Lodge having been opened in due form and with solemn prayer,

The G. SECRETARY then read that portion of the minutes of the last quarterly communication referring to the election of the Grand Master. They were put from the chair, and unanimously confirmed.

The noble lord was proclaimed by Bro. ALBERT WOODS, G. Dir. of Cers. His lordship received the customary salutations on being again installed as the Most Worshipful Grand Master.

The G. MASTER said: Brethren, I beg to tender my grateful thanks for the high honour you have conferred upon me for the twenty-fifth time, in electing me as your Grand Master. I have so often returned thanks on these occasions, that I trust you will not think it necessary for me to say much on this, but I may remark that it was with the greatest regret that I was prevented from attending at the last quarterly communication. I came up from Yorkshire for the purpose of

attending, but I was unable to do so, as I completely lost my voice. I shall perform my duties to the best of my power, and when those duties fail me I shall not hesitate to tender my resignation. I shall now appoint the Grand Officers for the year. I appoint as the Deputy Grand Master the Right Hon. the Earl de Grey and Ripon. You are aware that Lord de Grey and Ripon has lately suffered severe domestic sorrow, and therefore he is unable to attend on this occasion.

The D.G. Master was then saluted in the usual manner.

The G. MASTER then made the following appointments of Grand Officers for the ensuing year:—

Bro. Lord Eliot, <i>M.P.</i> .....	S.G. Warden.
„ Capt. Arch. Spiers, <i>M.P.</i> ..	J.G. Warden.
„ Richard Thomas .....	} G. Chaps.
„ J. Simpson .....	
„ S. Tomkins .....	G. Treas.
„ Æneas M'Intyre .....	G. Reg.
„ W. Gray Clarke .....	G. Sec.
„ R. Brandt .....	G. Sec. for German Correspond.
„ Edward Fraser .....	} S. G. Deacons.
„ George Francis .....	
„ Jabez Hogg.....	} J.G. Deacons.
„ J. Betham .....	
„ F. P. Cockerell.....	G. Supt. of Works.
„ Albert W. Woods .....	G. Dir. of Cers.
„ Thomas Fenn .....	Assist. G. Dir. of Cers.
„ Edward Busher .....	G. Sword Bearer.
„ James Coward.....	G. Organist.
„ Thomas Lewis .....	G. Purst.
„ W. Ough .....	Assist. G. Purst.
„ Charles B. Payne .....	G. Tyler.

The G. MASTER said: In consequence of services performed in Canada, I now confer past rank of a Grand Deacon on Bro. Henry C. Twyman, of Halifax, Nova Scotia. I think it only right, and I believe that the Grand Lodge will sanction what I have done, in conferring past grand rank upon him.

#### THE PAST GRAND PURSUIVANT.

The G. MASTER said: I have given permission to Bro. Emmens, Past Grand Purst., to have the rank of a Past Grand Officer, and to appear in the clothing of a Past Grand Officer.

The Grand Stewards for the ensuing year were then appointed.

This being the whole of the business, the Grand Lodge was closed with solemn prayer.

#### THE BANQUET.

Soon after six o'clock the brethren retired to the new hall, in which the banquet was to take place, and great was their astonishment on viewing the splendid apartment that had been provided for them. A description of this hall has already appeared in the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE. The tables were elegantly set out, and the floral decorations were of a very beautiful description. The gallery was graced by a large body of ladies, but, as this part of the building is at a considerable elevation, they were rather indistinctly seen from the lower part of the hall. There were three longitudinal tables, with a long cross table for the Grand Master and the principal officers and visitors, and the whole were fully occupied. The bill of fare was very ample, and Bro. Charles Gosden, the indefatigable manager of the Tavern, appeared determined that nothing should be wanting on his part to make the inauguration of the new hall a great success, and from what we saw we believe that object was fully accomplished.

On the withdrawal of the cloth, "Deum laudate" was sung by the professional singers.

The G. MASTER: Brethren, the first toast given in every society of Englishmen is the health of Her Majesty the Queen, and in none is it drunk with more cordiality than amongst Freemasons. I give you "The Health of Her Majesty the Queen." Drunk with great enthusiasm, followed by the National Anthem, the solo parts by Bros. Perren and Lawler and Miss Louisa Pyne.

The G. MASTER said: As good citizens and subjects we feel a grateful remembrance of the Royal Family, but we have lately had to take into our consideration the illness of the consort of the heir apparent to the English throne, who by her amiable manners and accomplishments has endeared herself to the whole of the people of this country. I give you "The Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, and the other members of the Royal Family."

Glee—"Blow gentle gales."

Bro. ALEXANDER DOBIE, Prov. G. Master for Surrey, said: I have now to propose the toast of the evening. The Grand Master very properly remarked that the first toast in all assemblies was the Sovereign of the kingdom, and you have paid all the respect that was due to it. I now propose the health of the Sovereign who reigns over Freemasonry. That Sovereign has reigned for twenty-four years, and this day has been placed in the chair for the twenty-fifth time. I wish him health and happiness so long as he discharges his duty in the chair as he has done, and I am sure there is no one more anxious to discharge those duties than the noble earl himself. I could say much more about him, but I have received a hint, and in common parlance have been asked to cut it short. I shall therefore give you "The Health of the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, the Most Worshipful the Grand Master of England." The toast was drunk with three times three, and one cheer more.

The G. MASTER said: Brethren, my worshipful and esteemed friend, the Grand Master for Surrey, has truly told you that there is no Grand Master more anxious to discharge his duties than your humble servant, and I only wish that my powers were equal to your wishes; but with such as they are I have done my utmost to fill the office to which I have been elected twenty-five times. The kindness I have received from the brethren has rendered this task an easy one, and that kindness I have also received from all parts of the kingdom. As Grand Master in the Grand Lodge, there have occurred some differences of opinion as to the course I have thought it right to take, but the brethren have rallied round me, which was most gratifying to myself, as it enabled me to carry out those principles which I believe to be the most conducive to the prosperity and welfare of the Craft, and I have had the gratification of seeing rallied in my support those who were at first opposed to me. I take no credit for this to myself, as I had round me those who were anxious to carry out that only which would be for the benefit of the Craft. I made a mistake when I said in the Grand Lodge that I had then been placed in the chair for the twenty-fifth time. It was in 1843 when his Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex died, and a year before, although a Provincial Grand Master, I had to perform the greater part of the duties; and that led me to make the mistake when I said I had been placed in the chair for the twenty-fifth time, but it is in reality only the twenty-fourth time. For your kindness, and the confidence placed in me, I should indeed be ungrateful to the Craft, so long as they think me able, if I did not do my utmost to perform the duties. At my time of life, whenever the brethren shall think that I am unable to perform the duties—when I am not able

to discharge them to their satisfaction—I shall return with thankfulness and gratitude into your hands the trust you have reposed in me; and, in conclusion, brethren, I drink all your good healths. (The noble lord sat down amidst loud cheering.)

The G. MASTER then gave "The Grand Lodges of Scotland and Ireland," which was drunk with cordiality.

The G. MASTER then gave "The Right Hon. the Earl de Grey and Ripon, the Right Worshipful the Deputy Grand Master of England, the Grand Wardens, and the other Grand Officers of the year."

Bro. Lord ELIOT, S.G.W., said he deeply regretted that Earl de Grey and Ripon was not present to respond to the toast, being prevented from attending by the severest affliction that could occur in a family, but he was sure that he always felt the deepest interest in Freemasonry. On such occasion it was hardly safe for persons to speak of themselves, much less to do so on the part of others; but on the part of the Grand Officers, he thought he might say they would do all in their power to promote the success of the Grand Lodge, for it was to them a great pleasure to serve under their present Grand Master; and he thanked him sincerely for the kind manner in which he had proposed the healths of the Grand Officers.

The G. MASTER said: Brethren, I am happy to say that we are honoured by the presence of a great many Provincial Grand Masters. I rejoice not so much that they attend the Grand Festival, as for the attendance they give at the Grand Lodge, where they have an opportunity of consulting and conversing with the officers of Grand Lodge. Therefore, I say it always rejoices me to see a good attendance of Provincial Grand Masters. I see a good number now present, and I have great pleasure in proposing "The Health of the Provincial Grand Masters of England, and especially those who have done us the honour of attending this Grand Festival," coupling with the toast the name of Bro. Fawcett, Provincial Grand Master for Durham.

The toast was drunk with applause.

Bro. FAWCETT, Prov. G.M. Durham, said: It appears that, as the Senior Prov. G. Master present on this occasion, it devolves upon me to return thanks for this toast. I can assure you, brethren, when I look to the right hand and to the left, and see with whom I am associated in this toast, I can without any feeling of anxiety or apprehension accept the compliment you have been pleased to pay us. I agree with the Grand Master that the Provincial Grand Masters should appear at this festival, as they are bound to pay honour to him from whom we derive our authority. In attending these meetings, we cannot fail to carry back with us those feelings which enable us better to discharge our duties in our respective provinces. It is a great pleasure to us to receive the token of approbation now bestowed upon us, and in the name of the Provincial Grand Masters I sincerely thank you.

The G. MASTER: I have now to propose a toast which must be especially interesting to the Craft in general, as it is on a subject which more than any other they are anxious about—it is "The Masonic Charities." I am happy to say that during the last twenty years the Charities have succeeded in a most wonderful and astonishing manner, and it does the greatest possible honour to the Craft throughout England. I remember when it was thought a great thing at the festival for the Boys' School if the subscription amounted to four figures, that is to say, when we could get a thousand pounds, and we were often below that, but now we get several thousands for each of the Charities, and I am confidently told that at the coming festival for the Girl's School—and I trust that the anticipations may not be disappointed, for, although all our Charities deserve your support, there is none that carries with it more sympathy than

the Girls' School — the subscriptions will amount to upwards of £6,000. I believe that School is conducted in an exemplary and beneficent manner for the benefit of the daughters of our poor brethren. I feel that we ought to be proud of our Charities, and I ask you to drink with me "Success to our Masonic Charities," coupling with the toast the name of Bro. Patten.

Bro. PATTEN said: I beg to return thanks to the brethren for drinking success to the Masonic Charities; and the festival for the Girls' School will take place on the 5th of May next. It was intended on that occasion that the Deputy Grand Master, Earl de Grey and Ripon, should take the chair, but he will be unable to do so on account of a domestic affliction. I had only a few minutes' conversation with a noble lord now sitting at the top table, who at once undertook to take the chair on that occasion. That nobleman is the Earl of Limerick, Provincial Grand Master for Bristol; and I beg to tender my most sincere thanks to him for so readily acceding to my request to take the chair at so short a notice. I trust that it will be a successful festival, as we have 130 Stewards, and before we never had more than 73. I have heard that great exertions are being made in Yorkshire and Lancashire to produce a large subscription — at present it is a neck and neck race, and we cannot tell which will win. I thank you for the way in which you have responded to the toast.

The G. MASTER said: Brethren, it is now my pleasing duty to propose the toast of the Grand Stewards, and I think they deserve our thanks for the manner in which they have provided for our comfort. For myself, I can say that this festival affords a happy augury for the new hall, for they have not only provided for our comfort, but they have kept order in the proceedings of the banquet, and I thank them cordially for the manner in which they have conducted this festival. Brethren, I give you "The Health of the Grand Stewards," coupling with it the name of Bro. Leith, the President of the Board.

Bro. LEITH returned thanks, and said that on small details depended the success of the festival, and, if it had met with the approval of the brethren, that would be their highest reward.

The G. MASTER then gave "The Ladies," which brought the proceedings to a close, having given entire satisfaction.

The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. James Coward, Grand Organist. The vocalists were Miss Louisa Pyne, Miss Julia Elton, Miss Edith Wynne, and Bros. Barnby, George Perren, F. Walker, Lawler, and Coward.

Bro. Spencer was as usual a first-rate toastmaster.

#### ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

A quarterly general court of the governors and subscribers was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on Monday, the 15th inst., Bro. John Symonds, V.P., in the chair.

The attendance was more numerous than at any previous court, there being more than eighty brethren present, amongst whom we noticed — Bros. Algernon Perkins, V.P.; Benjamin Head, V.P.; John Udall, V.P.; J. N. Sheen, V.P.; Henry Brown, V.P.; Empson, R. W. Stewart, George Cox, Brett, C. Robinson, Turner, Pickering, Stillwell, Bardo, Thompson, Gurney, Nelson (West Yorkshire), Stephen Blair, V.P.; Hino and Chadwick (East Lancashire), Finch (Kent), &c.

On the minutes of the last quarterly court being put for confirmation, Bro. Alfred Brett moved the non-confirmation of that portion of the minutes containing the report of the Committee

of Investigation appointed in October last, recommending a grant of £15 to the late head-master (in lieu of £95, as previously carried, but non-confirmed), and entered at length into the merits of the question.

The motion, having been seconded, was put as an amendment on the motion for confirmation of the minutes, and was negatived by a very large majority, five hands only being held up in its support.

The minutes of the last quarterly court were then confirmed.

The minutes of the General Committee of February, March, and April were read for the information of the court.

Bro. Benjamin Bond Cabbell, V.P., Prov. G.M. Norfolk, F.R.S., &c., was unanimously re-elected Treasurer. Twenty brethren, being life or annual subscribers, were elected as members of the General Committee. Bro. Algernon Perkins, P.G.W., was unanimously elected a trustee of the General Fund, in the room of John Henderson, Esq., deceased.

The following motions, notice of which had been given at the meeting of the General Committee, were then submitted:—

By Bro. Jesse Turner: Permitting brethren to attend and vote at courts and committees whose subscriptions should be not exceeding three months in arrear.

Seconded, and negatived by a large majority.

By Bro. Alfred Brett: Providing that no brother should be expelled the Institution without a previous meeting of the General Committee specially convened.

Not seconded, and therefore not put to the court.

Scrutineers having been appointed, the ballot for the election of five boys, from an approved list of thirty-five candidates, then took place, the result of which appeared in our advertising columns last week.

Votes of thanks to the chairman and scrutineers closed the proceedings.

The Secretary, Bro. Frederick Binckes, has sent us the following particulars:—

Votes issued for this election	11,700	
Brought from last election	3,534	
		15,234
Votes polled at this election	10,290	
Brought from last election	3,534	
		13,824

Unpolled ..... 1,410

Total votes carried forward to October election, 7,934.

#### METROPOLITAN.

MOUNT LEBANON LODGE (No. 73).—This old lodge was held on Tuesday, April 16th, at the Green Man Tavern, Tooley-street, Southwark. Punctually at six p.m. the lodge was opened by Bro. G. Morris, W.M. There were present Bros. T. J. Sabine, S.W.; F. H. Ebsworth, J.W.; E. Harris, P.M. and Treasurer; F. Donkin, P.M., Secretary; D. Rose, S.D.; M. A. Loewenstark, J.D.; G. Free, I.G.; G. J. Grace, W.S.; Dr. Dixon, P.M.; F. Walters, P.M.; E. N. Levy, P.M.; H. Moore, P.M.; J. C. Goody, P.M.; T. Knott, R. Williams, Cooper, Bruce, Delany, Stevens, Gale, Halfpenny, Farnes, Saunders, Elliott, Steel, Bottomley, Dudley, Frankenburg, H. Levy, S. Huntley, and many others. The ballot being unanimous in favour of the candidate for initiation, he was admitted and duly initiated into Ancient Freemasonry. Bro. F. Walters, P.M., then took the chair, raised Bro. Dudley to the third degree, and passed Bros. Bottomley, Frankenburg, and Saunders to the second degree. Bro. G. Morris, W.M., resumed the chair. All the work was well and ably done. Business being ended, the lodge was closed. Visitors: Bros. H. Bartlett, 147; J. Green, Sec. 554; J. L. Vallentin, 742, &c.

UNITED PILGRIMS LODGE (No. 507).—The installation festival of this excellent working lodge took place on Wednesday, the

27th ult., at the Horns' Tavern, Kennington. The brethren assembled shortly before four o'clock, Bro. John Thomas, P.M., taking the chair. The usual formula of opening the lodge, reading and confirming minutes, &c., having been gone through, Bro. Thomas addressed the meeting, informing the brethren of the annual custom, from time immemorial, to select a brother from amongst them to govern, as the head of affairs, for twelve months. Bro. E. Worthington, S.W. and Master elect, was then presented, and having acknowledged the laws by which they were governed, was duly installed into the chair of K.S., according to ancient custom, and the brethren saluted him in the usual way among Masons. The new W.M. then appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. S. Haddock, S.W.; H. Grellett, J.W.; A. Perrot, B.A., S.D.; Rev. W. B. Church, M.A., J.D.; G. H. Hill, I.G.; H. C. Levander, M.A., P.M., and Prov. S.G.D. Wilts, Dir. of Cers.; and H. C. Overall, Steward. Bro. C. M. Haddock, P.M., having been re-elected Treasurer at the previous meeting, was invested with the collar and jewels of his office, and Bro. John Thomas, P.M., was re-appointed Secretary. The beautiful addresses in connection with this ceremony were afterwards given by the Installing Master, and never more perfectly than upon this occasion. The elocutionary power and feeling displayed by Bro. Thomas caused a round of applause almost anti-Masonic. This ceremony concluded, a ballot was taken for the admission of a Mr. Adolph Tamson as a candidate for Freemasonry. The result being satisfactory, the gentleman was introduced and initiated into the Order, it being remarked that the newly-installed Master had performed the ceremony as perfectly as the oldest Mason in the Order could have done. This is as it should be, and we must congratulate the lodge upon having such a thoroughly efficient Master. Lodge was then closed, and the brethren were invited to banquet, which comprised every delicacy of the season. The dessert and wines were unexceptionable. The usual toasts followed the dinner, several good speeches being rendered, which we regret our limited space prevents inserting; suffice it to say, the W.M. discharged this portion of his duties equally as efficiently as the previous ones, and a more pleasant evening was never passed in Masonry. The musical arrangements were of a character seldom heard at a Masonic banquet, and when we mention the names of the vocal brethren it must at once be admitted:—Bros. Barnby, of the Chapel Royal; Carter, of Westminster Abbey; Perrot, and T. Distin, under the direction of Bro. J. Read, P.M. 720. The following songs and glees were included in the programme:—"The Village Blacksmith," "Love's Request," "When Twilight Dews," "Strike the Lyre," "Sleep gentle Lady," "By Celia's Arbour," &c. The visitors were—Bros. E. Smith, W.M. 165; Aitchison, 2; Relph, J.W. 188; Stevens, P.M. 25; Sherry, 76; Read, P.M. 879; H. Smith, 902; W. Simmons, 902; Herring, P.M. 382; Anderson, W.M. 857; Cobham, P.M. 382; Brette, D.D., 165; Wright, P.M. 781; Cornish, 165; Taylor, 25; Pound, P.M. 19; Nunn, P.M. 72; Webb, P.M. 72; Harrison, P.M. 157; Crafter, 198, and several others.

## PROVINCIAL.

### ESSEX.

#### COLCHESTER.—United Lodge (No. 697).

The installation of W.M. of this lodge for the ensuing year took place on the 12th inst., at the lodge room, George Hotel. The lodge being formed for the advancement of Freemasonry among the officers and non-commissioned officers of the Colchester garrison, it is gratifying to record that in this instance every office, with the exception of Tyler, was offered to and undertaken by a military brother. The choice of the lodge for the next year's Mastership had fallen upon Bro. Capt. Charles T. Sheringham, 16th Regiment, and the ceremony of installation was very impressively performed by Bro. Peter Matthews, P.M., P. Prov. J.G.W., Prov. G. Dir. of Cers. for Essex.

The following officers of the lodge were invested with their respective badges:—Bros. Captain D'Acosta, for Bro. Bussfeld, S.W.; Newman, J.W.; Carnegie, P.M., Sec. and Treas.; Palmer, S.D.; Martin, J.D.; Calthorpe, I.G.; Witten, Tyler.

#### THE BANQUET.

In the evening about forty brethren sat down to a sumptuous banquet, served in the lodge room by Bro. Guiver, the host of

the George Hotel. The W.M. presided, supported by the I.P.M.; Bro. Carnegie; Bros. John Mann, Prov. G. Sec. for Essex; E. Durling, Prov. G.S. for Suffolk; Peter Matthews, the Installing Master; Captain D'Acosta, Deputy Senior Warden; Palmer, J.W.; Newman, Martin, Calthorpe, McCann, King, Goshawk, Harrison, Eustace, Shaw, Middleton, Rix, and Witten. Visitors: Bros. H. Darken, W.M.; W. Slaney, P.M.; T. Ralling, R. Evans, J. Salmon, J. Simson, W. Bagg, Wheable, Critcher, and G. W. Smith, Angel Lodge (No. 51), Colchester; Davey, W.M.; Barber, and Townsend (No. 225), Ipswich; the W.M. and Bro. King (No. 376), Ipswich; Sutherland, P.M. (No. 251); Francis, Brightlingsea, &c.

The loyal and Masonic toasts having been drunk with due honours,

The W. Master proposed "The Health of the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Bagshaw," expressing regret that he was unable to be present at the festival. The toast was coupled with the health of the Prov. G. Sec., who, in returning thanks, said they all knew the very great interest the Prov. G.M. had always manifested in this lodge, and he was commissioned to assure them that only the very serious illness of Mrs. Bagshaw would have kept him from their gathering.

Bro. Mann next rose to give "The Health of the Worshipful Master of the United Lodge." He had had, he said, the pleasure of that worthy brother's acquaintance for some time, and from the real Masonic feeling he had always shown, and from the very able way in which he had discharged his duties that day, he congratulated the lodge upon the choice they had made, and most sincerely wished them a happy and prosperous year.

The W. Master, in returning thanks for the compliment, said he felt it a great honour to have been elected to the chair of this lodge, and it would be his earnest endeavour to keep the lodge in good working order.

The W. Master next gave "The Health of the Visiting Brethren," coupled with the W.M. of the Angel Lodge.

Bro. Darken, in responding, said he was happy to know that the kindest possible feeling pervaded the two Colchester lodges towards each other; the only rivalry between them was in introducing good men and making them good Masons, so that the principles of the Masonic brotherhood might become more and more widely known and acted upon.

The W. Master said the next toast was one peculiarly dear to his own lodge. Their Immediate Past Master, Bro. Carnegie, had taken a most active part in the working of this lodge, having not only filled the chair in a way which very few could hope to imitate, but discharged also the functions of Secretary and Treasurer. He (the W.M.) felt personally under very great obligations to Bro. Carnegie, and was sure he should receive most valuable aid from him in filling the Mastership of the United Lodge.

Bro. Carnegie, while duly grateful for the high encomium passed upon him by the W.M., could only claim credit for doing his duty in carrying out what was set before him. As a military lodge, they were of course liable to changes—here to-day and gone to-morrow. At the time of the formation of the lodge the camp was very strong, and included many men of note in Masonry. The lodge had been in existence ten years, and of its thirty-one, founders only four were now subscribing members of the lodge, including the Provincial Grand Secretary, whom they had the pleasure to have amongst them that evening. Again in the same period sixty-seven brethren had been initiated, and seventy had been enrolled as joining members. Since August, 1864, when his own connection with it began, he had initiated thirty-one, passed thirty, and raised thirty-seven. But out of 137 names upon their books, they had only left thirty-three subscribing, and three honorary members. It was remarked last year by the Provincial Grand Master that, amidst its many vicissitudes, some brother would always be found to work the United Lodge. He (Bro. Carnegie) entertained the same conviction, for although the W.M. had been kind enough to speak of him as essential to the working of the lodge, he believed that if he were gone some brother, fully qualified, would be raised up to fill his place. The spirit of Masonry was such that the seed sown in any part of the world might bear fruit far away from the clime where the tree was planted. Any brother amongst them might be sent to India, Canada, or some other far distant colony; and he would only say to such a one, wherever his lot might be cast, or whatever duties he might be called upon to undertake—*Nil Desperandum*.

The W. Master proposed "The Health of the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies," thanking him for the able manner in

which he had conducted the installation that day, and for the great interest he had always manifested in the United Lodge.

Bro. Peter Matthews said, having consecrated the United Lodge and installed every Master it had had, he could not but feel a very great interest in its prosperity, and much pleasure in meeting its members at their annual festival. From what he had seen of their new Master, he felt that he could justly congratulate them upon the choice they had made; and it was another illustration of the old saying that there was as good fish in the sea as any that had come out of it. He rejoiced, too, to see them so well supported by the brethren of the Angel Lodge, because Lodge 697 was in fact the child of Lodge 51, and it showed the good feeling and harmony which pervaded the Masonic brotherhood. They were not a sectarian body, and as Masons they knew no difference in creeds, for a Mason was a brother whatever his creed. Neither were they a political body, and if all were Freemasons the nation would not be troubled by the differences between Whigs and Tories. They obeyed all laws, for respect for "the powers that be" was above all a characteristic of Freemasonry. They were a moral body, and a body of order; and in the latter respect not less so than the army, for with Freemasons order was a distinguishing principle. The great motto of Freemasonry was "Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth." It was like the precious metals, the more it was polished the more it glowed; and like the rose, the more it opened from the petal the sweeter the fragrance shed around it.

Bro. Dorling proposed "Success to the Masonic Charities, and particularly the Institution for Aged Freemasons," inviting support for a very deserving applicant from Suffolk for admission to the latter Asylum—Bro. Thomas Rounce, of Southwold.

The W. Master proposed "The Health of the Brethren from the Suffolk Province," coupled with the names of Bros. Dorling and Townsend, the former of whom very ably returned thanks, and, in allusion to the domestic affliction which prevented the Provincial Grand Master from discharging his official functions, remarked that he deemed it important that a Provincial Grand Lodge should be held in every year, and if Bro. Bagshaw should find it necessary to appoint a substitute, he was sure he might promise the services of the Grand Master for Suffolk.

Among the other toasts were "The Officers of the United Lodge," acknowledged by Bro. Capt. D'Acosta; "The Press and Bro. Ralling;" "The Tyler's Toast," &c.

During the evening some excellent songs were sung by Bros. Dorling, Matthews, Smith, &c.

#### SOUTH WALES (EASTERN DIVISION).

##### WELCHPOOL.—Welchpool Lodge (No. 968).

The third anniversary festival of this lodge was held on the 5th inst. The lodge was opened in the first degree, and the minutes having been confirmed, a highly satisfactory report of the Audit Committee was read. The lodge was opened in the second degree, and Bro. Francis Smith, who had been unanimously elected W.M. at the meeting in February, was presented to Bro. Thomas Blakeman Brown by Bro. Goldsboro', P.M., for the benefit of installation. The usual formalities having been observed, the lodge was opened in the third degree. All brethren below the chair then retired, a Board of I.P.M.'s was formed, and Bro. Francis Smith was duly installed into the chair of K.S. in ancient form. The Board of I.P.M.'s having been closed, the brethren were re-admitted, and the usual honours paid to the new Master.

The following brethren were invested as officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. Thomas Blakeman Brown, I.P.M.; Rev. John Meredith Edwards, S.W. and Chap.; David Pryce Owen, J.W.; Thomas Newill, Treas.; John Samuel, Sec.; Edward Pryce, S.D.; E. Elias, J.D.; Thomas Rutter, I.G.; Thomas Magrath, Dir. of Cers.; J. Barnard, Tyler.

After the investment of officers, Bro. Brown, P.M., completed the ceremonial by delivering in a most impressive manner the ancient charges to the W.M., Wardens, and brethren.

Bro. William Brightwell, P.M. of Lodge No. 262, P. Prov. S.G.W., requested the permission of the W.M. to address the lodge, and said he ventured upon this auspicious occasion to request that privilege, to avail himself of the opportunity of paying a well-merited tribute of sincere and Masonic esteem and gratitude to Bro. Thomas Blakeman Brown, I.P.M., and of expressing the high sense entertained by himself personally, and he was sure by the members of the lodge collectively, of the untiring zeal and exertions evinced by their I.P.M. to promote

the welfare, prosperity, and success of the Welchpool Lodge, over which he had so pre-eminently presided with true Masonic sincerity of feeling, and which fully entitled him to the admiration, respect, and esteem of every reflecting brother. Brethren (continued Bro. Brightwell), it has been my pleasing duty on several occasions to officiate as Installing Master in my own lodge, but I am more pleased to bear testimony that your I.P.M., Bro. Brown, has not only undertaken that important duty, but has also discharged it in such a way as to command the approbation and admiration of all who enjoyed the privilege of witnessing the clear, impressive, and solemn manner in which he performed that beautiful ceremony. I cannot permit this opportunity to pass without offering to so distinguished a Mason as Bro. Brown my fraternal congratulations in having so efficiently and impressively performed the ceremony of installation. In conclusion, Bro. Brightwell said he hoped that the example of Bro. Brown's Masonic conduct and intelligence would stimulate every aspiring brother to emulate that brother's career, and that it would not only be imitated by the brethren of the Welchpool Lodge, but by the brethren of the combined provinces of North Wales and Shropshire.

It was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously that a suitable P.M.'s jewel should be presented by the lodge to Bro. Brown, P.M., as a token of esteem, and of the appreciation of his valuable services as W.M. during the past year.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet, at which the newly-installed W.M. presided, supported by Bros. W. Brightwell, P. Prov. S.G.W.; Charles Wigan, Prov. G. Sec.; Goldsboro', Prov. S.G.W.; T. B. Brown, Prov. G.S., I.P.M.; Rev. J. M. Edwards, Chap.; Weldon, of the Bedford Lodge (No. 925), and the officers and brethren of the lodge.

After the cloth was withdrawn, the W. Master proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, which were received with the customary enthusiasm.

In proposing "The Health of the Provincial Grand Master," Bro. Smith said: Sir Watkin Williams Wynn is another example of a great and good man devoting time and attention to the cause of Masonry, and the members of the lodges in this province are equally proud of their Prov. G. Master as the members of the Craft generally are of the Earl of Zetland as Grand Master of England. Sir Watkins William Wynn has been a member of this lodge from the first, and has been here twice in his official capacity as Prov. G. Master. We all feel proud of our Grand Master of this province, and have a great affection for him. I have been a resident in North Wales for a short time, and I am informed that the name of Sir Watkin is not only better known in the province than that of her Majesty, but that he is also known as "The Prince in Wales." I call upon you, brethren, with hearty feeling and with full honours, to drink "The Health of our Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master."

"Prosper the Art."

The W. Master proposed "The Health of Bro. Dymock, the D. Prov. G. Master, and the Provincial Grand Officers Past and Present," and said: We are on this occasion honoured by the presence of Bro. William Brightwell, P.M. of No. 262, and P. Prov. S.G.W.; Bro. Charles Wigan, P.M. of No. 262, and Prov. G. Sec.; and Bro. Goldsboro', Prov. S.G.W., and P.M. of this lodge. With respect to our Bro. the Grand Senior Warden, there are few men in the province or in the Craft who can equal him as a working Mason, and we may view his appointment as a proof of this. We have had the honour of the presence of our Prov. G. Sec. at each installation since the foundation of the lodge, and we hope to have that pleasure for many years to come, as well as that of Bro. Brightwell. Brethren, I give you "The Health of the D. Prov. G. Master, and the Provincial Grand Officers," and with the usual honours.

Song, Bro. Weldon—"The Happy Man."

Bro. Wigan, in replying to the last toast, said: W. Master and Brethren,—I should be wanting in all that becomes a Mason if I lost sight of the last toast given by the W. Master. In acknowledging the toast of the D. Prov. Grand Master, who is positively a member of five lodges in the province, I beg to state that he has never failed in attending the meetings of the Provincial Grand Lodge but on one occasion. This alone at once proves that he has done his duty, and I honestly tell you that your own leading member, as a P.M., is acknowledged as one of the finest members in the Craft, I should be wanting, too, in everything that constitutes a Mason, did I not acknow-

ledge the compliment of being invited here. I beg to assure you that I shall always feel it a marked compliment to be permitted to visit your lodge, and more especially so to see the working of the lodge carried on in the efficient, beautiful, systematic, and cool way in which it was performed this evening. I have attended other lodges, naturally, as Prov. G. Sec., and it is my duty to visit and to report on them. It is a great pleasure to me to be able to return with the conviction that the Welchpool Lodge is beautifully and harmoniously conducted. You have drunk the health of the D.G. Master, than whom a better officer, following out the purest principles of Masonry, never lived. There is not a truer Mason than Bro. Dymock.

Song—"Up with the Lark in the Morning," Bro. Collender.

Bro. Brown, P.M., proposed "The Health of the Worshipful Master," and said: I am quite sure, from the manner in which the W.M. has attended this lodge since he joined it, that the duties will be carried on in the way they ought to be during the next twelve months. If our W.M. would travel some three hundred miles to attend its meetings when not in office, I am satisfied that, now he fills the chair of W.M., nothing will keep him away from his duties; and from what we have seen and know of him, the lodge will not suffer under his command. I propose to you "The Health of our W. Master," with due honours.

"Prosper the Art."

Song—"When we were Boys together," Bro. Weldon.

Bro. Smith, in reply, said: It is with heartfelt gratitude that I return you thanks for the kind way in which you have drunk my health, and to Bro. Brown, P.M., for the kind way in which he proposed it. I feel very highly the honour conferred upon me in being unanimously elected to the chair of this lodge, and in taking such a position, after the very masterly and able manner in which it has been filled by the P.M.'s, is enough to fill a nervous man with apprehension. Gratifying as is the honour, it is not unaccompanied by a certain amount of pain, in not being able to express myself as I wish on this occasion. To look forward to fulfilling the duties of the chair in the way in which it has been done by my predecessors I do not suppose it possible, nor do I think you will find any succeeding Master come up to the qualities of the first Master, and of the Immediate Past Master. I have attended many lodges, and I may say that few like to succeed to such faultless Masters. Had I seen indifferent working in this lodge, it might have given me more confidence, but it is impossible to surpass the working of our P.M.'s. I will, however, do my best. I have certainly travelled several thousand miles, and have only missed attending upon two occasions since the consecration. I have frequently come from the south of Devon to attend this lodge, and have been invested, and filled every office. I can but tender you my heartfelt thanks, and I hope at the end of the twelve months I may merit your approval. I am a member of three lodges, but I must say that the Welchpool Lodge is my pet lodge, and one which, though young, has so far gained the high esteem of the R.W. Prov. G. Master, and of our R.W. Bro. the Prov. G. Sec., as to call forth the expression of their approval, and I trust that it will be second to none in the province.

Bro. Wigan said: It is with every respectful and honourable feeling that I propose the next toast. We are well aware that the very man who was the promoter and main backbone in establishing a lodge in Welchpool is no other than the brother who comes from the West—at least we know that it is from West-square—and I ask your permission to propose his health. Our Prov. G. Master was pleased to notice how well the Welchpool Lodge is going on, and remarked upon the great number of Entered Apprentices who were present on the day of consecration, and the lodge has progressed ever since. I propose "The Health of Bro. Dr. Goldsboro," upon the principle that Masonry ought to be proud to possess men of such high principles, and those who so well carry out every honest intention. The toast was drunk with honours.

Bro. Goldsbro' having replied to the last toast,

The W. Master said: The next toast is that of the evening, and a most interesting one to all Masons. It is "The Health of our Visitors." In addition to those distinguished Provincial Grand Officers who have honoured us with their presence to-day, viz., Bros. Brightwell and Wigan, we have also the pleasure of seeing Bro. Weldon, of the Bedford Lodge, No. 925, Birmingham. I may possibly have visited more lodges than many who are now here, and I can assure you that the reception

accorded to the visiting brethren generally is most gratifying. We are always happy when our festive board is graced by visitors, and I would mention that our worthy Bro. Weldon has been tempted to stop here two days to visit this lodge. It is an honour conferred upon us, and I hope he is pleased and satisfied with us. We shall always be glad to see him at any time when he comes to this town, and on the third Friday in the month at the Jordan Lodge (No. 201), London. I call upon you, brethren, to drink "The Health of our Visitors" with full honours.

Bro. Wigan having replied to the first toast, Bro. Weldon said: Bro. Wigan has so ably returned thanks, and so fully ventilated the question, that I have little to say, more than to reiterate the same sentiments towards you on the behalf of Lodge No. 295. I should think I underwent no hardship, and I would willingly come 150 miles to visit this lodge. I thought ours was a crack lodge as regards the beauty and essence of the work, but our W.M. ought to come down here and see it himself, as it is apparent we can come here and learn. I have found it out, and I shall tell them they must come. On behalf of the Bedford Lodge, allow me to say it meets on the third Monday in every month, in New Hall-street, Birmingham, and I hope you will give us the opportunity of doing as we have been done by.

The W. Master said: I have the honour and the pleasure to propose one of the first toasts ever given in the Welchpool Lodge. It is "The Health of the Past Masters." We now can boast of having two Past Masters, who, I sincerely believe, are not equalled in the province. With respect to our Past Masters and founders of this lodge, it is useless for me to speak to you in their praise, and I had better let it pass over, for you well know the great attention, the interest—the immense interest—they have taken in this lodge. Bro. Goldsboro', travelling, as he has done, thousands of miles, and attending every meeting of the lodge since its consecration more than three years ago; when you take into consideration the fact that every two months he has devoted two or three days for the purpose of superintending this lodge; when we think of the really immense interest he, as Master and Past Master, has taken, and the time, labour, and expense it must have cost him, I can only say it is useless for me to dwell upon them, although I could go on for half an hour. This lodge is immensely indebted to our Past Masters—their names will remain when we are all passed away. I know you will drink their healths in a heartfelt manner. I give you the toast, "Health and Long Life to the Past Masters of the Welchpool Lodge (No. 998), and may they reap the fruits of their labours."

"Prosper the Art."

Bros. Goldsbro' and Brown respectively returned thanks for the last toast.

The next toast was "The Officers of the Lodge."

The W. Master said: On this occasion we may consider ourselves very happy in the appointment of officers. One and all are earnest and zealous Masons, and do their duty to the best of their power. Without the support of the officers the Master is but of little avail. The officers appointed to-day, I am sure, are the right men in the right place, and I call upon you to drink their healths.

Bro. David Pryce Owen, J.W., in reply, said: W. Master and brethren,—I am placed in a difficult position. If I come to work I will do my best, but if to make speeches, I fear I shall do my worst. You, W. Master, spoke of "the right men in the right place." I am certain, from my knowledge of those invested and appointed this evening, all are determined and wishful to do their best. I shall have great pleasure this time twelve-months if we are thought worthy to push on. I will endeavour to do my best for Lodge No. 998, and I hope that, with increasing years and increasing knowledge, I shall leave nothing neglected. I am delighted that I am enabled to go on regularly.

Bro. Rutter, I.G., said: Although at the lowest end of office in the lodge, I am still very proud of my position. In the lodge I think that every brother ought to begin at the bottom, and I will see if I cannot go on to the top in a respectable way. I am sure I am very proud of the very great compliment of the W. Master, asking me to take that position under him. There is no better man or Mason than our W. Master. I know that he is a thorough Mason. He is a man who bestows time and pains, and that shows he is a good Mason. I can, however, scarcely hope to attain the chair. Our Bro. Junior Warden hopes to get through the work, and "to increase in knowledge as he increases in years," but in some others, however, "the older

the more foolish." Still, in the position in which I am placed, I will do my duty as efficiently as I can. I will pay attention, and if I cannot be here myself I will find some one to take my place.

Bro. Edward Pryce, S.D., Prov. G. Sec., said: The other officers of the lodge have so ably represented my feelings, that I have nothing to say beyond thanking you on my own behalf for the kindness and honour done us. I hope I shall not be out of order in proposing a toast. It does not often fall to the lot of corporate bodies to be honoured by having among them such an important member as the chief magistrate, and one who, you will all acknowledge, possesses the distinguishing characteristic of Welshmen—loyalty to the Crown and to the laws of the country. I shall, therefore, call upon you to acknowledge this feeling of loyalty, by drinking the health of the chief magistrate of (with one exception) the largest municipality in the kingdom. It is a very important position in Great Britain, and it is a distinguished honour to find amongst our earliest members the chief magistrate of the loyal borough of Welchpool. As a burgess of this borough (and I certainly feel it an honour to be a burgess of so loyal, ancient, and honourable a borough as Welchpool), I call upon you to drink, with due honour, "The Health of Bro. William Withy, the Mayor of Pool."

Bro. Withy replied: I am sure, brethren, I may thank Bro. Pryce, but he has gone out of his way on this point, as we meet here as Masons, not as mayors; still, I know it is done. I had no idea that this toast would have been proposed to-night. The kindness I have received from every one since I accepted the office of chief magistrate of this borough has been very great. I do not think there is a larger borough in the kingdom, but if it is so, I think the duties required and performed by me are not so very heavy—so very few cases have occurred in it. I have done all I could for this, my adopted town, and anything I can do for its benefit I will do.

Bro. Goldsbro' proposed, "The Health of Bro. Thomas Newill, Treasurer of the Lodge, and that of Bro. Samuel, the Secretary," and expressed his regret, and that of the members of the lodge, that Bro. Newill was unable to be present.

Bro. Samuel returned thanks on behalf of himself and Bro. Newill, and said: There is a matter upon which we may most heartily congratulate ourselves—to find the lodge in so prosperous a state; and I hope that it will continue to prosper as it has done in the last twelve months.

The Tyler's toast brought the proceedings of this exceedingly happy meeting to a close.

## SCOTLAND.

### RENFREWSHIRE (EAST).

**POLLOKSHAW.**—*Royal Arch Lodge (No. 153).*—The officers and members of this lodge, along with deputations, met in the lodge room, Maxwell Arms Inn, on the 18th inst., for the purpose of celebrating their annual election. The W.M., Bro. Provost Mackey, occupied the chair with his usual ability, and was supported by Bro. Cameron, Treasurer, and Bro. Snodgrass, Secretary. The croupier's chair was filled by Bro. Forrest. S.W.; and in the body of the hall we observed Bros. Livingstone, Speirs, M'Lennan, Gillespie, Duncan, Wilson, Stevenson, &c. In all about fifty brethren sat down to an excellent dinner, which reflected credit on mine host of the Maxwell Arms. On the cloth being removed, the R.W.M. gave "The Queen and Craft," which was duly honoured. A few other preliminary toasts were given, after which the W.M. gave "Health and Prosperity to the Prov. G.M., Colonel Campbell, of Blythwood," coupled with the Prov. G. Treas., Bro. Snodgrass. Bro. Snodgrass returned thanks in very appropriate terms, and the evening was afterwards spent in a very happy manner.

### LANARKSHIRE (MIDDLE WARD).

**WISHAW.**—A meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of the Middle Ward of Lanarkshire was held on Tuesday evening, the 9th inst., in the Burgh Court Room. The lodge was presided over by Bro. Major Barbour, D. Prov. G.M. Besides the office-bearers of the Prov. G. Lodge, deputations from nine lodges were present, and gave an account of the proceedings of the several lodges represented, with all of which the Prov. G.M. and his brother officers were highly satisfied. The Major passed a high eulogium on the St. Mary and St. Clair Lodges

or the manner in which they had conducted their business. Upwards of 200 brethren of the "mystic tie" were present and spent an harmonious evening in true Masonic style.

## INDIA.

**LODGE ST. GEORGE (No. 549).**—The regular meeting of the above lodge was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Mazagon, on the 19th February, 1867. There were present:—Bros. G. Taylor, District G.M.; the Hon. J. Gibbs, Deputy District G.M. (W.M. elect); A. C. Gumpert, W.M. of the lodge; Dr. T. Diver, P.M.; J. P. Cornforth, A. King, Manockjee Cursetjee, H. H. Avron, and about sixty brethren, including members and visitors. The immediate business before the lodge being the installation of the W.M. elect, the District G.M. handed the Hiram to the W.M., Bro. A. C. Gumpert, who requested Bro. Diver, P.M., to perform the ceremony of installation. The District G.M. and Bro. Gumpert then presented Bro. Gibbs to the presiding Master, who proceeded with the preliminaries as required by ancient usage. The Secretary then read the customary interrogations, to all which the W.M. elect signified his assent. All the brethren below the rank of P.M. were desired to leave the lodge, when a Board of Installing Masters was formed, and Bro. James Gibbs was regularly and constitutionally installed W.M. of Lodge St. George, No. 549, working under the Grand Lodge of England, for the ensuing year. At the banquet the health of Bro. Manockjee Cursetjee was proposed by the W.M. Bro. Manockjee Cursetjee, in an animated speech, testified to the benefits of Masonry. He acknowledged that all his humble efforts to benefit his fellow-creatures were prompted by the tenets inculcated in the lodge. He believed that a bad man might become a good Mason, but a good Mason could never become a bad man. He knew of several instances where men of indifferent character were admitted into Masonry, but who afterwards proved themselves ornaments both to society and to the Craft. One of the visitors, in returning thanks, very innocently let slip the word "caste" in the course of his speech, when Bro. Manockjee came down upon him with sledge-hammer force, and illustrated to him that Masonry recognised no caste or creed; it was universal, and the word "caste" should not find utterance in a lodge room. There was a time when such prejudices prevailed in Bombay, but he was happy to say that in the present day Masons of all castes and creed were too firmly united, and no such distinction existed.

## ROYAL ARCH.

### METROPOLITAN.

**BRITANNIC CHAPTER (No. 33).**—The regular convocation of this chapter took place on Friday evening, the 12th inst., at the Freemasons' Tavern, and the following companions were present:—Comps. Lewis Crombie, M.E.Z.; Bathye, H.; Glegg, Scribe E.; Woodman, N.; Glaisher, 1st Assist. Scribe; G. England, P.Z.; W. Smith, P.Z.; Prew, Shields, G. Turner, Hodge, Dixon, C. W. Wood, Kisch, Pawley, and the following visitors:—Comps. Dr. Goldsbro', 185; F. Walters, P.Z. and Scribe E. 73, and P.S. 169; and W. Watson, P.Z. 25. The chapter having been opened, and the minutes read, Comp. W. Bathye was elected as Z. for the ensuing year, and this was followed by the election of the other officers of the chapter. None of the candidates for exaltation being in attendance, the chapter was closed, and the companions adjourned to dinner.

**MOUNT LEBANON CHAPTER (No. 73).**—*Installation Meeting.*—The regular meeting of this young prosperous chapter was held on Thursday, 11th ult., at the Green Man Tavern, Tooley-street, Southwark. The chapter was opened by Comps. F. Walters, M.E.Z.; J. W. Halsey as H.; A. Avery, J.; and other Principals who were present. The companions were admitted. The minutes of the previous convocation were read, and unanimously confirmed. Ballots were taken for candidates and joining members, which were declared to be unanimous in favour of all their admissions. Bro. J. Norris being in attendance, was regularly and duly exalted in this supreme degree. A Board of Installed Principals was formed, and Comps. J. C. Gooddy was installed J.; Alfred Avery H.; and E. N. Levy M.E.Z., by the Installing Principal, Companion F. Walters, M.E.Z. The whole of the work was well and ably done.



Companion Dr. Dixon, P.Z., in the name of the chapter, presented Companion F. Walters, P.Z., with a handsome massive gold P.Z.'s jewel, bearing this inscription on its back, viz., "Presented to Companion Frederick Walters, P.Z., by the voluntary subscriptions of the members of the Mount Lebanon Chapter (No. 73), as a mark of their respect and esteem, and in recognition of his valuable services as one of the founders and their second M.E.Z., A.L., 5867, April 11th, 1867." And having a surplus of funds for the P.Z.'s jewel, and knowing that Companion F. Walters, P.Z., would in a few days time be entitled to wear the Charity jewel, and as he had represented this chapter as their Steward for the Boy's School at the last festival in March, he would also add the Charity jewel as a presentation in addition to the P.Z.'s jewel; and, in a flowing speech, enumerated the essential services rendered by Companion F. Walters, P.Z., to Freemasonry in general, and this chapter in particular. Companion F. Walters, P.Z., in a suitable reply, acknowledged these valuable presents. It was unanimously agreed to alter the meeting nights from the second to the fourth Thursday. The following companions were invested with the robes, collars, and jewels of their offices, viz., Comps. F. Walters, P.Z., Scribe E.; A. D. Loewenstark, S.H. and Treasurer (re-instated); A. P. Leonard, P.S. (re-instated); T. J. Sabine, 1st A.S.; G. Morris, 2nd A.S.; J. W. Avery, D.C.; M. A. Loewenstark, W.S.; W. Y. Laing, Janitor. The report of the audit committee was read, which showed a balance in the Treasurer's hands. Two brethren were proposed for exaltation at the next meeting, subject to the usual ballot. The chapter was duly closed. The usual good banquet followed. Visitor: Comp. J. W. Halsey, H. 507.

#### INSTRUCTION.

JOPPA CHAPTER OF INSTRUCTION (No. 188).—This chapter of instruction was opened at Comp. Isaac's, Prospect of Whitby and Liverpool Arms, 57, Wapping Wall, Shadwell, on Wednesday, 17th inst. There were present Comps. Brett, P.Z. as M.E.Z.; W. Turner, H.; Smithers, J.; A. Turner, P.S.; S. Lazarus, as P.Z., N. Amongst other companions we noticed Comps. W. Rumsey, P.Z.; H. F. Isaacs, N. 138; H. Earles, 435; and John Gaywood. The ceremony of installation was rehearsed, and Comp. Brett, assisted by the companions, then gave some of the lectures of the degree. We hope that this chapter will be well attended, it being opened purposely for the convenience of the Royal Arch degree at the east end of London.

METROPOLITAN CHAPTER OF INSTRUCTION.—The weekly meeting of this chapter was held at the George Hotel, Aldermanbury, on Tuesday, the 16th inst., when the following companions were present:—Dr. T. E. Ladd, P.G.D.C., as M.E.Z.; H. C. Levander, M.A., as H.; W. Turner as J.; R. W. Little, S.E.; T. H. Foulger, P.S.; J. R. Foulger, S.N.; J. Brett, President; C. Smithers, A. Turner, T. Cubitt, H. Isaacs, I. Lazarus, and D. Woodman. The ceremony of exaltation was ably rehearsed, after which the explanation of the banners was given by Comp. Brett; then the M.E.Z. illustrated the solids, and was followed by Comp. Brett with the history of the rod of Moses. Comps. Woodman, J. elect of the Britannic Chapter (No. 33), and Isaacs, of the Joppa Chapter (No. 188), were elected joining members.

#### YORKSHIRE (NORTH AND EAST).

SCARBOROUGH.—*Old Globe Chapter* (No. 200).—A convocation of this chapter was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Scarborough, on Wednesday, the 10th instant, at seven p.m., by Comps. James Frederick Spurr, M.E.Z.; J. W. Woodall, H.; W. F. Hooke, J.; H. C. Martin, Scribe E.; Dr. Armitage, Scribe N.; T. W. Farthing, P.S.; Richard H. Peacock and H. W. Garnett, Assist. S.; J. Raper, Janitor; and several other companions. The chapter was opened in due form by the three Principals, after which the companions were admitted into the chapter, and the minutes of the former meeting read and confirmed. Bro. John Inskip, a M.M., having been balloted for, was exalted, and called to the rank held by our great and illustrious ancestors, after which the M.E.Z. gave the mystic, H. the symbolic, and J. the historical explanations in the R.A. degree, after which the chapter was closed in due form at nine o'clock p.m.

HULL.—*Minerva Chapter* (No. 250).—A regular meeting of this chapter was held on Thursday evening, the 18th inst., at which were present:—Comps. B. Jacobs, M.E.Z.; M. C. Peck,

M.E.H.; W. Reynolds, M.E.J.; J. N. Schorling, Scribe E.; H. Haigh, Scribe N.; J. Broolke, Prin. Soj.; G. Hardy, Sword Bearer; W. Johnson and J. Norton, Janitors; C. Pool, F. G. W. Willows, J. Thompson, &c. The chapter having been opened in ancient form by the principals, the companions were admitted, and the minutes of the last chapter were read and confirmed. The ballot-box was then prepared for Bro. A. Rasmussen, Minerva Lodge, Hull, and Bros. Harrison and J. R. Rudgard, Withem Lodge, Lincoln, all of whom were unanimously accepted, and, being in attendance, were admitted and exalted to this supreme degree by the M.E.Z. in his usually impressive manner, the M.E.H. giving the signs and concluding address, and the M.E.J. the explanation of the form and symbols of the chapter. Hearty good wishes having been expressed, the chapter was closed at half-past nine o'clock, and the companions adjourned to the banquet-hall for refreshment.

#### KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

##### NORTHUMBERLAND.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—*Royal Kent Encampment*.—The annual conclave of this encampment was held in the Masonic Hall, Newgate-street, on Good Friday. In the absence of the E.C., it was presided over by P.E.C. H. Hotham. Amongst the Sir Knights who appeared under arms were Sir Knts. William Punshon, D. Prov. G. Commander and G.M. of the Grand Cross; C. J. Banister, P.E.C., 2nd Grand Captain of England; H. G. Ludwig, P.E.C.; F. P. Jonn, P.E.C. Sir Knt. Jens Jensen was installed into the chair by Sir Knt. C. J. Banister, P.E.C., &c. The following officers were appointed and invested, viz.: Sir Knts. E. Shotton, P.E.C.; W. Punshon, Prior; W. Dalziel, Sub-Prior; C. J. Banister, Chancellor; H. Hotham, Treas. and Almoner; R. J. Banning, M.D., 1st Capt.; W. Foulsham, 2nd Capt.; J. H. Thompson, Reg.; W. G. Laws, Expert; A. Clapham, Capt. of Lines; G. Frolick, Standard Bearer; W. Brignall, jun., 1st Herald; J. Straker Wilson, 2nd Herald; J. S. Trotter, Equerry.

##### INDIA.

BOMBAY.—*Ascalon Encampment*.—A meeting of this encampment was held on Monday, the 12th February. Present:—Sir Knts. W. Peters, E.C.; B. Mathews, Prelate; A. Smith, 2nd Capt.; H. C. Walshe, Chamberlain; R. Morgan, Chancellor and Reg.; W. A. M. Barnard, Hospitaller; W. Wellis, Treas.; G. W. Garland, Expert; W. E. Waite, 1st Standard Bearer; E. Schnepel, Captain of Lines; W. T. Cias, Herald; G. W. Garland, Equerry. The encampment was opened in ample form with prayer, and the summons convening the meeting read. The muster-roll was called by the Past E.C., and the minutes of the last convocation read and confirmed. The Past E.C. then stated that as Sir Knt. Peters had been installed at a regular meeting of Mount Zion Encampment, at Bombay, on the 1st February, by a dispensation from the Provincial Grand Commander of Knights Templar for Western India, it was only necessary now for him to be inducted into the chair of the Ascalon Encampment as E.C. for the ensuing year. The Past E.C. then placed Sir Knt. W. Peters in the chair, when all the Sir Knts. present paid due honours to him. The E.C. then installed his office-bearers, viz.:—Sir Knts. Mathew, Prelate; Hobson, 1st Capt.; Smith, 2nd Capt.; Walshe, Chamberlain; Morgan, Chancellor and Reg.; Barnard, Hospitaller; Garland, Expert; Waite, 1st Standard Bearer; Gabler, 2nd Standard Bearer; Schnepel, Capt. of Lines; Burn, 1st Herald; Cias, 2nd Herald; Prescott, Assist. Dir. of Cers.; Fryer, Equerry. Sir Knt. Wellis was unanimously elected Treasurer and Steward. There being no further business before the encampment, it was closed with prayer, and the Sir Knts. retired to the banquet hall, and partook of the bread of plenty and cup of cheerfulness.

#### BOOKS RECEIVED.

*Lowe's Handbook to the Charities of London.* London: Sampson Low, Son, and Marston.  
*Masonic Calendar for the District of Madras for 1867.* Madras: Caleb Foster.

## Poetry.

## FAITH, UNITY, ZEAL.

Look round the breathing world  
With an eye of Faith;  
The banner of Truth shall soon be unfurled,  
Though now as still as death;  
And the radiant host of heaven again  
Shall pour on the earth their songs like rain,  
Scattering the echoes of care and pain.

Ye who form our pilgrim band,  
Bear through the mists of time  
The symbol of peace to every land,  
The Cross of Love sublime.  
Till every nation shall hail afar  
In the cloudless east the Morning Star,  
Beaming where light and glory are.

Linked in mystic unity,  
Heed not storm nor strife,  
For the billows of life's tempestuous sea  
Are ruled by the Lord of life,  
Whose mighty arm is ready to save  
From the rushing wind and the roaring wave,  
From the powers of darkness and the grave.

Zealous in the cause divine,  
Let us seek the goal,  
Though the joys of earth around us shine,  
And tempt the wavering soul;  
For the goal we seek is a home on high,  
The Temple of Truth beyond the sky,  
The rest of the blest in Eternity.—**X** I.H.S.V.

## "TAKE CARE OF NUMBER ONE."

By T. J. SWAIN.

(Suggested to the mind of the writer from perusing an article bearing the above title, in No. 378 of the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE).

"Take care of Number One," we say,  
Prize well the treasure, health,  
Perform each task whilst yet 'tis day,  
Endeavour to gain wealth.

Wise maxim, truly none deny,  
Who for their lov'd ones feel,  
And who against each tender tie  
His heart would wish to steel.

Wise maxim, too, the miser thinks,  
Whilst heaping up his store,  
Regardless of the many links  
That bind us to the poor.

Forgetting, too, the "letter kills,"  
The "spirit makes alive;"  
Our Father knows our froward wills,  
And notes the way we strive.

He says, "Neglect not other's grief,  
Spurn not the mourner's plea,  
Lest in affliction's hour relief  
Should be denied to thee,"

"Take care of Number One" we may,  
And ought, perhaps, on the whole;  
But tread in virtue's steady way,  
Be mindful of the soul.

Remember if the world we gain,  
Our gain avails us naught,  
On that last dreary day of pain,  
When face to death we're brought.

No gold can soothe that awful hour,  
No wealth can give us peace;  
No earthly influence hath pow'r  
To bid our torments cease.

If on the other hand the mind  
Receives our utmost care,  
Sweet solace we ne'er fail to find  
Through ev'ry grief we bear.

And when our end is drawing near,  
Death hath for us no dread;  
Hope whispers "I am with thee here  
To soothe thy dying bed."

Our trusting eyes are raised to God,  
We feel His work is done,  
And that whilst in His path we trod,  
We car'd for Number One.

## MEETINGS OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND LEARNED SOCIETIES FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 4TH, 1867.

Tuesday, April 30th.—INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 8.

Wednesday, May 1st.—SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 8.

## THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—The Queen and Princess Beatrice rode on ponies on the afternoon of the 17th inst. Her Majesty drove out on the morning of the 18th inst. Countess Blücher had the honour of accompanying her Majesty. The Queen took a drive in the afternoon, attended by Lady Churchill. The Queen, accompanied by her Royal Highness Princess Louise, drove out on the morning of the 20th inst. The Queen drove out in the afternoon, attended by Lady Churchill. The Queen, Princess Louise, Prince Arthur, Prince Leopold, Princess Beatrice, and Prince Christian, and the Ladies and Gentlemen in Waiting, attended Divine service in the private chapel. The Queen, Princess Louise, and Prince Arthur walked, and rode on ponies, on the morning of the 22nd inst. Her Majesty the Queen, accompanied by her Royal Highness Princess Louise went to London in the afternoon and visited the Prince and Princess of Wales at Marlborough House. Her Majesty afterwards returned to Windsor Castle. The Queen, accompanied by her Royal Highness Princess Beatrice, drove out in the afternoon of the 23rd inst., attended by the Hon. Flora Macdonald. Her Majesty walked and drove on the morning of the 24th inst., accompanied by Princess Louise and Prince Arthur.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The Registrar-General's report indicates that the health of London was in a better state in the last week than in any week in the present or the preceding year. The deaths were 206 lower than the estimated number. The annual rates of mortality in thirteen of the principal places in the United Kingdom were per 1,000 of the population as follow:—Birmingham, 18; London, 21; Sheffield and Manchester, 22; Bristol and Salford, 24; Dublin, 25; Liverpool and Newcastle-on-Tyne, 27; Hull, 28; Glasgow and Leeds, 29; and Edinburgh, 30.—It is stated that the Treasury has resolved that in future the West India mails shall be landed at Plymouth. They are, however, to be despatched, as heretofore, from Southampton.—The law courts adjourned their sittings for the Easter holidays. To make up for this loss of time four days will be added to the end of term.—The weather was gloriously fine during most part of Good Friday, and London made holiday. Rail, omnibus, steamboat—all were laden with pleasure-seekers. The Crystal Palace had a great gathering

within its vast though lessened limits; and Richmond, Kew, Gravesend, Greenwich, and other places up and down the river were largely visited. On Clapham-common something like a fair was held. All the Episcopal churches, the Roman Catholic chapels, and some of the dissenting places of worship had services during the day, and in most of them there were large congregations.—There was a considerable gathering of working men—chiefly members of the Reform League—in Hyde Park. A meeting was held at which speeches were delivered in support of the right of the people to meet in the park. The Government Reform Bill was also strongly denounced.—If Mr. Gladstone had definitely renounced all leadership of the Liberal party, few people who may read the report of the proceedings at a numerous meeting at Peterborough a few days since would be surprised, for they will there see that Mr. Whalley has lost confidence in Mr. Gladstone. There was on Mr. Whalley's part no mincing of the melancholy declaration. Mr. Gladstone last year only reduced the duty on pepper. Therefore Mr. Whalley has no confidence in him. The meeting, however, does not seem quite to have taken this view. They rated Mr. Whalley for having ratted, and they declared their unabated confidence in Mr. Gladstone. One of Mr. Whalley's friends stated that that gentleman would retrace his steps if he were convinced he was wrong.—A fact was stated by one of the speakers at the Peterborough meeting, which strongly illustrates the worthlessness of the Government Reform Bill as a measure of enfranchisement. At Peterborough, as most of our readers know, there are great engine factories belonging to the Great Northern Railway. To accommodate the many workmen there employed the company has built a fair-sized town, which is called New England. It is within the parliamentary borough of Peterborough, and the men who live in it are almost to a man intelligent artisans. Well, one of the speakers at the meeting mentioned above stated that while a £5 rating franchise would give every one of these men a vote, Mr. Disraeli's scheme would not enfranchise a man of them. The reason, we take it, is, that the company pays the rates.—The volunteer review at Dover on the 22nd inst. was a brilliant affair, unmarred by a single accident. The South Eastern and London, Chatham, and Dover Railway Companies acquitted themselves admirably in the conveyance of troops. They fulfilled the obligations they had undertaken without confusion or delay. All the volunteers arrived at Dover even before the stipulated time. The review there was magnificent. The Duke of Cambridge saw the troops march past, and among the other distinguished persons present were Prince Teck and Earl Granville. The appearance of the volunteers was all that could be desired, and the spectacle of the sham fight was very fine. Several war vessels took part in the mock battle.—Mr. Hastings Russell, M.P., has been called upon for an explanation of his conduct recently in deserting his party at an important crisis. His letter, in reply, is not very definite. However, he trusts he shall not have to leave his party again. Moreover, he adds a very strong

advocacy of the necessity of party organisation.—Mr. Dillwyn and Mr. Hibbert, M.P., have also written letters in explanation of their recent vote. Mr. Dillwyn's explanation explains nothing. Mr. Hibbert's letter, if it meant anything, means distinctly that he is in favour of personal rating, and therefore could not vote for Mr. Gladstone's amendment.—The operative tailors of London held a meeting on the 22nd inst. in the Alhambra Palace, to consider whether they should or should not strike for the adoption of a new time log which has been drawn up. The meeting was almost unanimous in favour of the strike, and resolutions to that effect were adopted. A treaty of alliance with the operative tailors of Paris and Brussels was signed.—Our readers will be glad to learn that a small expedition, the command of which has been entrusted to Mr. E. D. Young, is about to be despatched in search of Dr. Livingstone. Mr. Young will be supplied with a small iron steamboat, with which he will be able to navigate Lake Nyassa to its northern end, where, according to the story of the Johanna men, Dr. Livingstone was murdered. There is now some reason to hope that this story is unfounded, traders having been within ten miles of the alleged massacre two months after its supposed occurrence without having heard anything about it. If the chance of Livingstone's safety was even more slender than it is, the duty of this country to ascertain the fate of the bold explorer would still be paramount, and we congratulate the Royal Geographical Society on the zeal and earnestness with which they are engaging in this good work.—The Chancery suit which threatened to prolong the Edmunds and Brougham scandal disappeared on the 24th inst. The withdrawal of the two parties took place amid mutual courtesies and disclaimers.—The case of the clergyman who was charged with indecently assaulting a young girl in a railway carriage on the South Eastern Railway was again before the magistrate at Southwark Police-court on the 24th inst. The charge was that the defendant had behaved indecently to the complainant as she was getting out of a carriage. On the second hearing of the case witnesses were called to disprove the complainant's statement, and to discredit her. One of these was a man who said he had been discharged with a good character from the Royal Artillery. It now turns out that he was a deserter, and that his story was trumped up. Additional evidence was adduced on behalf of the defendant, and the magistrate dismissed the case.—Richard Martin was again brought up at the Marlborough-street Police-court on the charge of stealing three gold embroidered shawls, value £120, the property of Messrs. Lewis and Allenby, silk mercers, of Regent-street. Some very strange revelations were made respecting the antecedents of the accused. And it was proved pretty clearly in the evidence that he has been for some time past indulging in a wholesale victimising of West-end tradesmen, and that his operations have been characterised by a good deal of originality and cleverness, spiced with a large amount of cool impudence. The magistrate decided upon remanding the prisoner.—At the Marlborough-street Police-court

three tailors were charged with having intimidated a tailoress. Mrs. Ann Newland, the tailoress, was coming out of Mr. Poole's shop in Saville-row, when the defendants, who, it was stated, were acting as "pickets" in connection with the strike, came up to her and insisted on inspecting the contents of a bundle she carried. The woman refused, some sort of an altercation ensued, and Mr. Poole, who witnessed the affair, gave the three tailors into the custody of a policeman. The assault was admitted by the counsel for the accused, and they were ordered to find bail in £5 each to keep the peace for six months. The bail was at once forthcoming.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—The *France* mentions a rumour that the suggestions of England as to Luxemburg have not been favourably received at Berlin. Another journal of a semi-official character—the *Etendard*—says that the most cordial relations exist between France and England, and between France, Russia, and Austria relative to the Luxemburg question. We are, of course, left to infer that all these Powers are averse to Prussia. The authority, however, is not very good. We decline to believe that England is taking any very active part in the business, and assuredly the news to hand lately would tend to show that Russia and Prussia are on the most friendly terms. The report that Count Bismarck had resigned is denied.—A Paris paper says that the Bavarian Minister at Vienna has urged upon Baron von Beust the desirability of an alliance between Austria and Prussia, and that the Baron declined to entertain it. This may be true, but the probability is that the report is set afloat to indicate the course France wishes Austria to adopt. The publication of all these rumours indicates very clearly how dangerous is the situation. The foreign news to hand is not very large in quantity. There is one telegram, however, of some importance. It is from Paris, and gives denial by the *Etendard* of rumours that a French note has been despatched to Prussia, and that the reserves had been called out. No doubt this denial is perfectly true. But the very existence of the rumours to which it refers is sufficient evidence of the opinion of many people in France that the relations of the Imperial Government with Prussia are of a very ticklish character. Moreover, there have been instances when denials have been made in French papers of alleged rumours, with the view rather of eliciting public opinion as to the matters denied than of satisfying the public mind on the subject. Our Berlin correspondent says the feeling there is that war will not take place just yet, not because the matter in dispute is likely to be amicably settled, but because the Emperor can scarcely go into war while the Exhibition is open.—The Luxemburg question does not assume any more pacific aspect. A Vienna paper, while announcing that negotiations are in progress which may result in peace being preserved, warns the public not to be too sanguine on the subject. From Paris comes the statement that no direct communication has been exchanged between France and Prussia on the subject of Luxemburg. The question has been put into the hands of England, Russia, and Austria, who have not yet made known what they have done. Then from Berlin we are assured that all the rumours lately circulated respecting Prussian armaments are pure inventions. "Up to the present time," continues the telegram, "no real warlike preparations have taken place." Telegrams in almost the very words of this one came from Berlin about this time last year, just when Prussia was really arming to the teeth, and the onset with Austria was about to begin. On the

Bourse at Paris the people believe that war is imminent, and certainly the news to hand does not lead us to the conclusion that they are wrong.—The Prussian Chambers are convoked for the 29th inst. The Saxon Diet is to meet for a short session on the same day; the Austrian Reichsrath is to assemble on the 20th of May.—The news in reference to the Luxemburg question is of a very warlike character. Some of the French papers throw off all disguise, and avow that war between France and Prussia is inevitable.—The Pope, on the 22nd inst., gave the usual benediction of the city and of the world from the balcony of the Vatican. His holiness, says the telegram, had an enthusiastic reception.—The Count of Flanders and the Princess Hohenzollern are to be married at Berlin on Thursday next. Great preparations are being made for the event.—The Luxemburg question has not made much progress, but what news is to hand is distinctly of a warlike character. The Paris *Etendard* says that an identical note prepared by England, Russia, and Austria has not been presented as yet at Berlin on account of the absence of Count Bismarck in Pomerania, where he has been taking a few days' holiday. This difficulty is by this time removed, for the Prussian Minister was to return on the 24th inst. to Berlin. A very significant notice appears, however, in the *North German Gazette*. That journal says that the character of the mediatory proposals is not yet known, but it adds:—"So much is certain, that Prussia has given up neither her right of garrisoning the fortress of Luxemburg in favour of Luxemburg's union with Belgium, nor the treaties with Holland which regulate the actual position of that Grand Duchy." This last looks very much like an intimation to the King of Holland to be prepared for strong measures on the part of Prussia if he gives countenance to the pretensions of France. Moreover, as the evacuation of the Luxemburg fortresses is just what France is demanding, it is not easy to see how war is to be avoided.

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

\* \* \* All communications to be addressed to 19, Salisbury-street, Strand, London, W.C.

BRO. SCOTT.—We have received the "Madras Masonic Calendar." W. J. H.—We would once more seriously impress upon our correspondents the propriety of writing their communications, on one side of the paper only, as this neglect causes us great inconvenience.

KADOSH.—If "Kadosh" will send his name and address to Bro. Little, whose private address can be ascertained at the office of the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE, Bro. L. will have great pleasure in answering K.'s queries respecting the Order of the Red Cross.

T. B. HAINES (Hamilton, Canada West).—Your subscription has been received, and the request contained in your letter shall be complied with willingly.

H. M. B. (Warrington).—No. There is not.

M. M.—We agree with our correspondent that on the face of it there does appear to be a great injustice, inasmuch as there are eighteen vacancies to be filled, and there are thirty-five candidates for the Royal Benevolent Institution at the next election. Hitherto, in most benevolent institutions, it has been the practice to give as many votes as there are vacancies, leaving it to the possessor of the proxy to give them to as many candidates, or give them in the aggregate to one only. This was found to be an evil, inasmuch as the number of vacancies are by no means uniform; and although the votes given by unsuccessful candidates at one election go to their credit at the next, if an extra number of vacancies should occur in a later year, a new comer, with fair claim to support, and a moderate number of friends, would be able under the aggregating system to swamp the efforts of those who had been engaged for years before, and whose claims were equally deserving of support. These are reasons that have induced the change, and the Royal Benevolent Institution is the last to take up what has been in operation in the other Masonic Charities for some years past.