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REPORTS, etc., intended for insertion in current number, should reach the Office, (198, Fleet-street), by 12 o'clock noon, on Wednesdays.

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

LEWIS LODGE (No. 1185).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday last, at the King's Arms Hotel, Wood Green, and was numerously attended. Amongst the Visitors present were Bro. Brown, W.M. Prosperity Lodge; Bro. Daniel, I.P.M. Prosperity Lodge; Bro. Bush, S.W. Temple Bar Lodge; and Bro. Corner, P.M. Peckham Lodge. The ceremonies were worked by W.M. Sayer in his usual efficient manner. Bro. Harris was raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason; Bros. Black and Hearson were passed; Bro. Neave elected a joining member; and Mr. Edward Best initiated. A communication was read from Grand Lodge respecting the recent decision of the French Grand Lodge, and after other business had been transacted the lodge was closed with prayer in due form, and adjourned till the third Saturday in June. The brethren afterwards sat down to an excellent banquet. "The Healths of the Visitors" were duly given and responded to, as well as that of the brother initiate.

LOSTWITHIEL.—Lodge St. Matthew (No. 56).—On the invitation of the courteous W.M. of the above lodge, Bro. Walter Smith, C.E., we visited with great pleasure the pleasant little Cornish town of Lostwithiel, and attended the opening of the Lodge St. Matthew on the first occasion after its completion on Wednesday, the 1st inst. The building is very ancient, forming part of the Palace of the Earls and Dukes of Cornwall, and from its quasi-ecclesiastical appearance seems admirably adapted for Masonic purposes. The property purchased is a very interesting one. There were it appears some engravings published by Samuel and Nathaniel Buck, in 1734, and dedicated to the Hon. Richard Edgcombe, Esq., and they there describe the building as follows: "This was the principal Palace and exchequer of the Earls and Dukes of Cornwall after removal from Restormel Castle on ye adjacent Hill, where it first was. Mayoralty Markets, Faires, and nomination of Burgesses for the Parliament it hath in common with the most Coyneage of Tin only with 3 others, but ye gave for ye whole Stannary and keep, ing of ye County Courts itself alone." Describing Restormel Castle, an engraving of which was published at the same time, it is said: "Lestormel or Restormel, or as otherwise Lestmel Castle, was one of ye most ancient and principal seats of ye British Dukes of Cornwall and others long before ye Conquest. The Town of Lestwithiel* was anciently on this Hill till ye people and their Prince for convenience of ye river Foy † moved lower down. The Dukes of Cornwall had a park here till it was disparked by King Henry VIII." Bro. Walter Smith, the W.M., our informant, says he cannot ascertain the date of removal from Restormel Castle to the building now occupied—but he thinks it was probably about the middle of the 13th century. All records, he believes, were destroyed in Cromwell's time. Adjoining the new lodge is the ancient Prison where offenders against the old Stannary laws were confined, and tradition says that the prisoners used to beg from passers by, lowering a piece of string from the windows of their cells, (about 20 ft. above the road,) to which they attached their shoes, and by this means drew up alms from the benevolent. Our genial correspondent adds "I trust that the present occupier of the adjoining palace and their successors will never have occasion to solicit alms from passers by, but, on the contrary, will be always both able and ready to help and assist every needy brother who requires assistance." The building has doubtless undergone many alterations at various periods, the greatest appears to

* Now spelt "Lostwithiel." † Now spelt "Fowey."

have been made early in the present century, when the upper floor was taken away, making the two storeys into one the dormers which lighted the upper rooms were removed, all the small windows which had given light to the lower storey were blocked up and two large Gothic windows substituted. The old entrance which had been on the east side was also built up and a new one formed at the south end by taking out a large window and substituting doors, and building steps on the outside. As the land could not be purchased to improve the entrance, which was decidedly bad, Bro. Smith determined to revert to the original doorway, and finding a fine old pointed arch of Pentuan stone in the south wall, which had originally formed the interior arch of the south window, he had the arch taken out, and carefully rebuilt on the eastern side as an exterior arch to the main entrance. As there was not sufficient light, one of the old windows has been opened out, and a brother has kindly and generously presented the lodge with new lights in cathedral-tinted glass for this and the other windows of the lodge. The lodge room is 30 ft. a d 20 ft. by 14 ft. high, and the modern ceiling has been allowed to remain, which somewhat spoils the effect. It was the intention of Bro. Smith, who has been the honorary and very able architect of the work, had the roof been in good condition, to remove the ceiling and show the open timber roof, but on examination the oak principals were found so decayed that it was necessary to put new principals close to the old ones, and the funds would not allow of a new roof altogether. We hope, however, that with so energetic a Master, and brethren so willing to support him as the W.M. has found, the open timber roof may yet be completed, when St. Matthew's Lodge will be the prettiest and most perfect little Gothic chamber in Cornwall. We should add that there is an ante-room, where banquets may be held, 20 ft. long, 14 ft. wide, and 14 ft. high; a Tyler's room, a candidate's preparation room, lavatory and offices, all completed in very good style. The building was sold by our beloved Grand Master the Prince of Wales, as Duke of Cornwall, to Mr. Mark Thomas two or three years ago, and purchased from him by the Lostwithiel Masons. It is freehold, and the ultimate trust is vested in the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cornwall. Bro. Smith was appointed by the lodge honorary architect to carry out the alterations, and Bros. J. Huggill, P.M. and Sec.; Henry De Legh, P.M. and Treasurer; Frank Parkyn, P.M.; W. Machean and H. H. Kidd, S.W., have formed an excellent Building Committee, and have worked most energetically. Bro. Bassett, J.W., was the contractor for the masonry, and Bro. Burt, P.M., contractor for the carpenters' work. The whole of the new furniture, which is handsome and appropriate, was presented by the brethren of the lodge. We congratulate St. Matthew's Lodge in being possessed of a building which, in its restoration and the manner in which it is fitted up, reflects credit on the brethren, who have generously assisted in making it one of the best and most appropriate edifices for the pursuit of knowledge in our ancient mysteries, and the science of Masonry. Bro. Smith informs us that they purpose decorating the walls before the formal opening and dedication of the lodge by the popular P.G.M., the Earl of Mount Edgcombe, who has been a generous donor towards the expenses, and he gives us the gratifying intelligence that the purchasing of the building has somewhat reduced, instead of as might have been expected increased, the annual expenses at the lodge, which was held by dispensation, pending the consecration. On the 1st inst., there were present Bros. W.P. Smith, W.M.; H. H. Kidd, S.W.; J. Bassett, J.W.; Rev. A. H. Ferris, P.P.G.C., S.D. and Chaplain; Henry De Legh, P.M., Treasurer; J. Huggill, P.M., Sec.; E. Scantlebury P.M., J.W.; J. Burt, I.P.M.; and others. Visiting brethren: H. W. W. Durant, W.M. 977; F. B. Williams, P.M. 977; J. Polkinghorn, P.M. 1151; W. Tonkin, P.M. and Sec. 977; Rev. Dr. Treffry, P.P.G.R.; Emra Holmes, P.P.G.R. and P.P.G.D.C. Suffolk; J. R. Collins, P.P.G.S.B.; Col. Peard, P.P.G.S.W.; J. Sadler, P.P.G.S.B. Devon; Rev. E. K. Kendall, of the Westminster and Keystone Lodge, and others. The lodge having been opened Mr. Wm. Boxhall was initiated into the mysteries of Masonry by the W.M., who afterwards raised Bro. John Brewer to the Third Degree, performing both ceremonies in a very efficient and most impressive manner. At the close of the lodge the hearty good wishes of the visitors were cordially received and reciprocated, and it was proposed to invite the Prov. Grand Master to open the Provincial Grand Lodge here in 1879, when the building would be formally dedicated.

FAVERSHAM.—Lodge of Harmony (No. 133).—The annual installation meeting was held on Monday, 6th inst. when a large number of brethren from the various lodges in the province, including Bros. W. A. Hill, Grand Chaplain, P.G.C.; and Fred Binckes, Grand Steward, P.M., Secretary of the Masonic Boys' School. Brethren from Lodge 1273, Sittingbourne; F. F. Seale, W. M.; H. Tuff, S.W.; H. G. Suther, J.W.; Thos. Newman, Sec.; Geo. Payne, P.M.; B. Taylor, P.M.; H. Black, A. Tucker, P. G. Kennett, Jas. Owens, P.M.; W. Wood, P. M. Brethren from Sheerness lodges, 1089 and 158; E. J. Penny, W.M.; J. Hancock, P.M.; A. Spears, P.M.; James Watts, W.M.; E. Studely, Joseph Harnden, W. M. 184; John R. Hall, P.M. 31; H. J. Naylor, W.M. 1449; Edward Terry, W.M. 1206; H. Miskin, S.D. 1449; G. Broach, 114; E. J. Acworth, 1612; R. B. Newsome, W.M. 1692, P.P.G.S.B. Kent; John Overy Eve, W.M. 1209; Geo. Page, P.P.G.J.D., P.M., 1209; J. Kent, W. M. 116; Alfred Aubrey, 127. The brethren of the entertaining Lodge of Harmony 133, were represented by Bros. J.W. Penton, W.M.; Jas. M. Longhurst, S.W. and W.M. elect; F. A. Whiting, J.W.; W. H. Drake, S.D.; F. Jackson, Sec., P.M.; R. Griggs, P.M.; C. A. Fawn, I. G.; F. F. Giraud, P.M., P.P.G.J.D.; E. K. Nutting, E. Hogben, S. Payne, F. W. Underdown, Geo. French, and

John E. Cook. The retiring W.M. performed the ceremony of installation in a manner which elicited high praise from several old Past Masters. The present W.M., Bro. J. M. Longhurst, of Dodington, near Faversham, was unanimously elected to this chair, and it is anticipated a most successful year of office is in store for him. The way in which he had entered into his Masonic duties, and the energy he at all times displayed, not only reflects credit on himself, but on the lodge, which is now in a most flourishing and prosperous condition. The following are the officers for the present year; Bro. Hill, G.C., P.G.C., Chaplain; F. Whiting, S.W.; W. H. Drake, J.W.; F. W. Underdown, S.D.; S. Payne, J.D.; E. K. Nutting, I. G.; J. G. Corke, Tyler. A banquet was held at the Ship Hotel, after the ceremony, when close upon 50 brethren sat down. The usual toasts were proposed and responded to.

TORQUAY.—St. John's Lodge (No. 328).—A meeting of this ancient and progressive lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, on Monday evening, May 6th, Bro. B. Fullwood, W.M., in the chair, supported by Bros. S. Burton, I.P.M.; J. Piggott, P.M., D.C.; T. Oliver, P.M.; D. Watson, P.M., P.G.J.D., Secretary; J. C. Harland, P.P.G.J.D., Treasurer; Hesketh Lawrence Palk, S.W.; T. S. Bailey, (acting) J.W.; T. Salter, (acting) S.D.; W. Wakeham, J.D.; J. G. Mortimer, I.G.; H. Day, Steward; T. Brookes, Organist; Grant, Eddles, and others. The lodge having been opened in due form with solemn prayer, the Secretary read the minutes of the last meeting, in which were contained the communication from Grand Lodge regarding the Grand Orient of France. These being confirmed, Mr. C. Chambers, was then balloted for, and being accepted unanimously, was duly initiated into the mysteries of the Craft according to the ancient rite, the work being performed by the W.M. with his accustomed ability. The charge was ably rendered by Bro. J. C. Harland, P.M., P.P.G.J.D. Bro. Battinson having proved satisfactory on examination, the lodge was opened in the Second Degree, when the ceremony of passing by the W.M. was equally satisfactory as that of initiation in the First Degree. The new musical ritual, compiled by the combined efforts of the esteemed W.M. and the Organist, and lately introduced into the lodge, has done much to render the ceremonies more effective, combining a religious force which adds greatly to the effect, the lodge being particularly happy in having such a zealous Organist. One very pleasing feature of the evening was the presentation to the lodge, through a handsome donation of Bro. Piggott, P.M., D.C., of a copy of Bro. Harty's "Grand Installation Picture." The receipt of the present being suitably acknowledged by the W.M. and others, the unanimous thanks of the lodge were tendered to the giver. The brethren afterwards sat down to a substantial repast, presided over by the W.M. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and duly acknowledged, being interspersed by songs and glees rendered by the choir of the lodge, Bro. Brooks ably presiding at the piano.

MARYPORT.—Lodge of Perseverance (No. 371).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday evening, the 14th inst., it being election night, there was a large muster of members, amongst whom were Bros. T. Mandle, I.P.M., in the chair, Bro. Carey, W.M., being from home; Jos. Nicholson, P.M., Treasurer; W. Armstrong, P.M.; Jas. Gardiner, P.M.; J. W. Robinson, S.W.; J. Fulton, J.W.; E. G. Mitchell, Secretary; J. Elliot, S.D.; J. Stoddart, J.D.; T. Waite, I.G.; J. Smith, Organist; T. Harris, Tyler; Dr. Crerar, J. R. Banks, J. H. Banks, T. Moore, T. Weatherston, J. H. Raven, P. Wedgwood, J. Fletcher, J. W. Thompson, and others. Visitor: Bro. W. T. Lamonby, P.M. 1002 (Freemason). The lodge having been opened in form, and the minutes read and confirmed, Bro. John Kendal proved his proficiency as a F.C., and subsequently was raised to the Sublime Degree by Bro. Nicholson, P.M., in the old veteran's incomparable style. The lodge was then severally reduced to the First Degree, when the election of W.M. was proceeded with. After a close contest amongst three, Bro. J. W. Robinson, S.W., was elected by a narrow majority over Bro. Dr. Crerar. Bro. Nicholson was next unanimously re-elected Treasurer for the thirty-third time an attempt, by the old man, to propose another candidate having originally failed, and very properly, as everyone present seemed to think. After some other matters had been disposed of, the lodge was closed in form. The festival of St. John will be observed next month.

LIVERPOOL.—Alliance Lodge (No. 677).—Bro. John Ellis, W.M., presided at the last monthly meeting of this lodge, held at the Masonic Hall, Liverpool, and amongst those present were Bros. G. S. Willings, I. P.M.; J. E. Jackson, P.M., P.G.S., West Lancashire; E. Bolton, P.M.; John Devaynes, P.M.; W. C. Bulman, P.M.; H. Firth, S.W.; J. H. Gregory, J.W.; T. Ockleshaw, P.M., Treasurer; T. Peake, Secretary; D. Lloyd, S.D.; A. Bucknall, J.D.; J. Foulds, I.G.; J. Bailey, S.S.; Craghill, J.S.; and Bro. J. Skeaf, P.G.O., who presided at the organ. There was a good attendance of members, and the visitors included Bros. H. Pearson, P.M. 249, P.G.S.; J. S. Dixon, P.M. 1264; T. Clark, P. M. and Treas. 673; J. R. Bottomley, S.W. 1675; J. Thompson, S.W. 1013; J. Jackson, 424; and S. P. Gore, 1356. More than usual interest attached to the meeting from the fact that the sons of two of the most esteemed P.M.'s of the lodge—Bro. J. Jackson and Bro. G. S. Willings—were on the circular for initiation. The lodge was opened in the First Degree by Bro. J. Ellis, W. M., and the minutes were afterwards read and confirmed. The chair was then taken by Bro. John E. Jackson, P. M., P.G.S., who initiated into Freemasonry Mr. Georr e Jackson, Thomas Radley Willings, J. W. Broadbent, and

J. Barker, the two first named being the sons of the worthy P.M.'s referred to. The lodge was then opened in the Second Degree, when Bros Beck and Stewart were passed to the degree of F.C. After some other business the proceedings were brought to a close. It is understood and arranged that Bro. Willings, I.P.M., will raise his son and Bro. Jackson, jun., in due course, to the Sublime Degree of M.M.

WOOLWICH.—Nelson Lodge (No. 700).—The usual monthly meeting of the above lodge took place on Wednesday, the 15th inst., at the M.H., Williamstreet, Bro. S. Waters, W.M., presiding, supported by the following officers: Bros. T. Butt, I.P.M.; Past Masters E. Bowles, G. Crawford, and T. Ward; A. Woodley, S.W.; J. Warren, J.W.; C. Noeman, P.M. and Sec. pro. tem.; C. Cooke, Organist; E. B. Hobson, J.D.; W. McCoy, I.G.; G. Beaver, D.C.; and B. Norman, Tyler. The visitors included Bros. W. B. Lloyd, J.W. 913; W. Rees, 913; J. S. Mutch, J.W. 706; Watkins, 1536; H. J. Ritchings, 1151; and C. Jolly, 913 (*Freemason*). The business before the lodge consisted of the balloting for Mr. Jas. Maling, and the result being unanimous, the W.M. initiated him into Freemasonry in excellent style. Bro. Carty was then raised to the Sublime Degree, and the lodge was closed in due form. At the refreshment table the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured, and then Bro. Butt rose to propose "The Health of the W.M.," and in so doing said when he looked back upon the year they had so nearly passed, during which time their W.M. had sat in the chair, he felt it was only his duty to thank him for his efforts for their happiness and comfort, as well as for the manner in which he had carried out the duties attached to the office. He need not dwell longer upon the many good qualities of their W.M. upon the present occasion, but should perhaps at their next meeting have something to say that would show their W.M. the feeling of the lodge towards him. He asked them to do justice to the toast. Bro. Waters, in reply, said it was with a feeling of great satisfaction that he contemplated the end of his year of office, and of the time so near when he should have to hand it over to his successor. The past year had been one of perfect harmony, and although they had not the satisfaction of seeing so many new faces come among them as had attended the official year of many of his predecessors, yet the old ones still came among them as plentifully as ever. They were a strong and united lodge, and quite numerous enough for all practical purposes; in fact, when he had told some of his friends at London lodges that the Nelson Lodge had 120 good and true members, they said that they were enough for four lodges (hear, hear), but so long as they continued as they were, firm and united, whoever came after him would find it, as he had, a pleasure and an honour to preside over them. "The Visitors" was the next toast, and Bro. Jolly responded, thanking the W.M. and brethren of the lodge for their courteous reception of the visitors, and care for their comfort. Their W.M. had referred to the few candidates for initiation who during his year of office had applied for admission into the Nelson Lodge, but Bro. Jolly had noticed a great falling off in that respect in most of the lodges in the district. For himself he did not regret it, for they were unusually strong there, and number was not the best claim to Masonic success for any lodge. He congratulated the Nelson Lodge upon having soon another addition to its large and honoured array of Past Masters, and felt sure that whoever filled the chair would carry out the splendid traditions of the lodge for good working, courteous hospitality, and last, but not least, perfect charity. The next toast was that of "The Initiate," and in proposing it the W.M. said it would be a source of lasting satisfaction to him to know that he had had the privilege of initiating Bro. Maling into Freemasonry. He and Bro. Maling were old acquaintances, and from what he knew of that brother's character, he felt sure they would never regret his admission among them. Bro. Maling, who occupies some important positions in the local parliaments of the town, and is universally respected for his charity and goodness of heart, suitably replied, and felt sure from what he had seen that night that he should never regret joining their noble Order. The toast of "The Past Masters" was responded to by Bro. Butt, who, trusted the day was far distant when the Nelson Lodge would be without a good array of Past Masters. The toast of "The Officers" followed, and Bro. Woodley responded. "The Masonic Press," coupled with the name of our representative, followed, and was acknowledged, and then the Tyler's toast concluded the labour and pleasures of the evening.

LIVERPOOL.—Everton Lodge (No. 823).—The monthly meeting of this highly prosperous lodge was held on Wednesday, the 15th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, where there was a large attendance of officers, brethren, and visitors. Bro. John Houlding, W.M., was in his place of honour, supported by a full complement of officers and P.M.'s including Bros. W. Wilson, I.P.M.; F. Shaw, P.M.; W. Cottrell, P.M.; J. Holland, P.M.; W. J. Lunt, P.M., Treasurer; H. Ashmore, S.W.; J. S. Cuthbert, J.W., and others. The First and Second Degrees were given by Bro. Houlding, W.M., in a manner which elicited universal commendation from the visitors, and his officers ably seconded him in his masterly efforts. At the repast which followed labour, there was quite an agreeable variety of toasts and songs, "The P.G. M. and his Officers," being responded to by Bro. W. Vines, P.G.D.C., and Bro. H. Jackson, P.G.A.D.C. "The Visitors" was responded to by Bros. R. Bennett, P.M. 1299, T. Sammons, P.M. 1393; Davies (hailing from a Canadian Lodge), and others.

LIVERPOOL.—Neptune Lodge (No. 1264).—The numerous brethren attached to this lodge were summoned to attend their Masonic duties on Monday

evening, the 6th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Hope street, Liverpool. Bro. Joseph Healing, W.M., was in his place in the E., supported by a very full attendance of officers, members, and visitors, and after the lodge had been duly opened, and the minutes of previous meeting read, Mr. Alexander Dismore, who was unanimously elected, was initiated into Freemasonry by the W.M. in his usually effective manner. Bro. Joseph Kern, the S.W., was afterwards cordially elected W.M. for the coming year, and Bro. Peter Berriman Ger, I.P.M., was unanimously re-elected Treasurer. After several notices of motion as to granting various sums of money had been given, and other important business transacted, the lodge was closed in perfect harmony. The brethren subsequently adjourned to banquet, and after spending a very pleasant evening they separated at an early hour.

ECCLES.—Bridgwater Lodge (No. 1213).—The annual meeting of the members of the above lodge was held on Thursday afternoon week, in the lodge rooms, Cross Keys Hotel. There was a good attendance of members and visitors. The ordinary business of the lodge having been got through, the installation ceremony was performed by the retiring W.M. (Bro. E. D. Wills), The W.M. elect invested as his officers, Bros. Jas. Andrew, S.W.; H. E. N. Puenjer, J.W.; Rev. J. Cater, Chaplain; W. Bowden, P.P.S.S.B., P.M., Treasurer; Isaac Sim, Secretary; Thos. Hassall, S.D.; John Willis, J.D.; D. A. Murray, I.G.; Thomas B. Cavanah, P.M., D.C.; R. Winstanley and A. Hassall, Stewards. The banquet, which was of a recherche character, was served in a manner that did credit to Mr. Morton's efforts. The toast of the evening "The Worshipful Master, Brother Harry Lynill," was proposed in eulogistic terms by the I.P.M., Bro. E. D. Wills, and was ably and feelingly responded to by Bro. Lynill, who characterised the event of that day as one of great pride to himself. Although he had some misgivings on account of the feeble state of his health, he had confidence that with the able assistance he was sure to receive from his officers he should be able to sustain the lodge in the good working order it was left by his predecessor. "The Health of the I.P.M., Bro. E. D. Wills," was proposed by P.M. Bro. Williams, who presented Bro. Wills with the P.M.'s jewel. The recipient having suitably replied, the Rev. J. Cater (Chaplain) proposed "The Visiting Brethren," which was responded to by Bro. P. Taylor, P.M. "The Newly-invested Officers" having been duly honoured, Bro. Jas. Andrew S.W., responded. Some other toasts were given, and the business of the evening, which was rendered doubly interesting by the efforts of an efficient glee party, was brought to a close.

MACDONALD LODGE (No. 1216).—The installation meeting of this successful lodge, established in April, 1868, at the Head Quarters of the First Surrey Rifles, in Camberwell, has during the past ten years had a career of almost unexampled prosperity, and has taken high rank in the Craft for its admirable working and for its liberality to the Institutions of the Order. From its formation to the present time its presiding and subordinate officers have all been found equal to their duty, and it would appear to be useless on the part of any member of the lodge to aspire to office unless he gave assurance that in due time he would not only discharge his duties in each respective appointment, but also fit himself for the position of W.M., and leave that dignified situation as Installing Master. This being generally acknowledged in the Masonic world, it was no surprise to us to find a large gathering at the lodge rooms on the 9th inst., to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the lodge and welcome the incoming W.M. Amongst those present were Bros. Henry Hammond, W.M.; T. Woodbridge Carnell, S.W.; Charles Fountain, J.W.; C. C. Domville, Chaplain; Arthur Styan, Treasurer; D. A. Ross, S.D.; T. A. Harper, D.C.; F. J. Cozens, Organist; W. C. Hale, I.G.; E. Eldridge, Steward; and Past Masters A. L. Irvine (Major 1st Surrey Rifles), James Stevens (originator of the lodge), S. H. Wagstaff, George Waterall, G. H. Newington Bridges, W. J. Messenger, Secretary; and Mark S. Larham; also Clay, Rossignol, Captain Wire, Cranch, Bradley, Fitzer, Woodcock, Goggs, Rugg, Turner, Harvey, Hutchins, Price, Goldring, Henry Bridges, Foster, J. J. Curtis (late Secretary), Yonge, Carpenter, Style, Henton, Youngman, Besley, Stacey, Jarman, Mann, Danford, Hildreth, and many others; and visitors, Bros. G. Potter, 177; Brunton, W.M. 1060; Fisher, 1185; Danbar, 1538; Taylor, 586; Strachan, Middlemass, W.M. 1641; Herbert Puckle, 176; Eastwood, P.M. 317; Simons, 1185; Theodore Distin, Cowan, W.M. 1572; Jarvis, 14, and others. The lodge was opened promptly at the hour appointed, and the minutes of the previous meeting having been confirmed, the W.M. passed Bro. Rossignol to the degree of F.C. He then proceeded to the installation of his successor, and in most able manner completed the duties of his year of office by inducting Bro. T. Woodbridge Carnell into the chair of K.S. The first act of the newly-installed W.M. was a graceful acknowledgment of the excellent working of his predecessor in all the ceremonies of the Craft Degrees whilst in office, and this was cordially received by the entire lodge. The officers for the ensuing year were appointed and invested in the following order, viz.: Bros. C. Fountain, S.W.; D. A. Ross, J.W.; the Rev. C. C. Domville, Chaplain; A. Styan, Treasurer; W. J. Messenger, P.M., Secretary; T. A. Harper, S.D.; W. C. Hale, J.D.; E. Eldridge, I.G.; Bradley, Steward; Steed, Tyler. A ballot was taken for Mr. Herbert Cuff as a candidate for initiation, and Bro. Carnell at once gave evidence of his ability by initiating that gentleman into the Order in a most perfect manner. The report of the Audit Committee was received, and told a flattering tale, exhibiting moderate expenditure in house bills, large charitable donations, honourable testimonial gifts, and a balance in hand of above one hundred pounds, with furniture and good sub-

scriptions due to swell the sum total of general prosperity. At the request of the W.M., Bro. Major A. L. Irvine, P.M., then called the late Secretary, Bro. J. J. Curtis, "to the front," and in a most brilliant speech recited the many invaluable services rendered by him to the lodge during ten years' Secretaryship, a post which he had surrendered only to enable him to attend to the numerous duties connected with his late appointment as quartermaster to the corps. Referring incidentally to a former presentation after the first three years of lodge working, Major Irvine now asked the acceptance by Bro. Curtis of a Life Governorship of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and of an illuminated address, setting forth the acknowledgments of the members of the lodge and an expression of their high esteem and great regard for him. The address of Bro. Irvine was listened to with marked attention, and at its conclusion prolonged applause testified the appreciation of the members therewith, and the popularity of the recipient of the address, whose familiar cognomen is a household word, as well in the lodge as in the corps. Bro. Curtis briefly but very effectively acknowledged the honourable testimony of brotherly feeling and regard. Propositions for initiation having been received, and some further detail business disposed of, the brethren adjourned to the spacious mess-room of the corps for banquet. A large number of members and visitors, principally in uniform, and more or less decorated with Masonic orders, graced the elegantly furnished tables, which glittered with massive trophies from Wimbledon and elsewhere won by the "shooting members." Amongst these were conspicuous the "Macdonald Challenge Cup," a handsome shield presented by Major Irvine, lofty candelabra, and numerous smaller but valuable prizes, the whole giving the banquet table a most attractive appearance. On the cloth being cleared grace was sung by Bros. T. W. Simons, F. H. Cozens, H. Taylor, and Theodore Distin, and these brethren, with Bros. Cranch and Hildreth, under the direction of Bro. Cozens, admirably entertained the company throughout the evening. The W.M. gave the loyal toasts in well chosen terms, and these were, as usual in the "Macdonald," honoured with more than customary enthusiasm. The toasts connected with "Grand Lodge" were, of course, as well received. "The Health of the W.M." was cordially drunk, and in response Bro. Carnell expressed the hope that his intentions to equal his predecessors in office might be successful. He had a high standard of work to follow, but having kept well in school as a pupil, he now trusted he would be able to hold his own as a Master. He concluded by proposing "The Health of the Past Masters," extolling their several performances, and decorating the I.P.M., Bro. Hammond, with the handsome P.M.'s jewel of the lodge. Bro. Major Irvine responded on behalf of the numerous P.M.'s, the whole of whom, with but one exception, were present. Bro. Middlemas, W.M. 1641, responded for the visitors in very complimentary terms. The newly-initiated brother was received with "Macdonald fire," and by his response thereto proved that the lodge had enlisted a good recruit. "The Officers of the Lodge" was the penultimate toast, and after much excellent harmony, which included admirable glee and solos by the professional brethren, a most successful and enjoyable evening was brought to a close by the Tyler's toast.

NORTH WOOLWICH.—Henley Lodge (No. 1472).—The usual monthly meeting of the above lodge took place at Bro. West's, the Three Crowns, on Tuesday, the 7th inst., Bro. A. J. Manning in the chair, supported by the following officers: Bros. W. Steele, I.P.M.; Past Masters E. West, J. Ives; W. T. Turner, S.W.; F. Geller, Sec.; Dr. W. Vance, S.D.; E. J. Lloyd, J.D.; J. A. Elder, I.G.; R. Hawkes, D.C.; Page, P.M. 1076, Tyler. Among the visitors were G. Mayes, 51; J. Foster, 51; C. S. Boardman, 299; B. Goodall, 1327; W. Chambers, 700; and C. Jolly, 910 (*Freemason*). The business before the lodge consisted of the approval and initiation of Messrs. J. C. Rudl and J. Gower, which was happily effected. The next was the presentation to Bro. Steele, I.P.M., of a handsomely framed testimonial, for his services during the past year as W.M., and more especially for the splendid manner in which he had installed his successor in the chair. In presenting it the W.M., Bro. Manning, bore testimony to the many services rendered by Bro. Steele to the lodge, and wished him health for many years to enjoy the recognition of his services, so unanimously accorded him by the brethren. Bro. Steele suitably replied. Bro. P. M. Brayshaw was then invested with the collar and jewel of Secretary of the lodge, and returned thanks for the honour. A committee, comprising the W.M., the P. Master; S. and J. Wardens of the lodge, with three of the brethren, was then formed to carry out the summer banquet, and then the lodge was closed in due form. After partaking of an excellent supper, served by the respected Bro. West in excellent style, the brethren reassembled, and drank the usual loyal and Masonic toasts with "éclat." We have not space at our disposal this time to give a full report of the exalted sentiments delivered by the W.M. and the responses to the various toasts, suffice it to say that they were most excellent, and breathed throughout the true spirit of Masonry. Bro. J. Ives, in replying to the toast of the Past Masters, giving an eloquent and fervid expression to his ideas upon the subject. Bros. Jolly, Foster, Mayes, and Goodall responded for the visitors.

BLACKPOOL.—Blackpool Lodge (No. 1476).—The annual festival of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 7th of May, at the Clifton Arms Hotel, when Bro. H. Gardner, S.W., was regularly installed W.M. for the ensuing year. The following members were present; Past Masters Braithwaite, Johns, Ashworth, and Bidder, Bros. E. Gregson, W.M.; H. Gardner, S.W.; Thos. Blanc, Treasurer; Frederick Patison, Secretary;

T. Watson, J.D.; J. Waddington, Organist; E. G. Stead, Steward; W. Lister, I.G.; A. Wade, Tyler; A. B. Hodgson, J. L. Smith, T. Gregory, A. Moore, and A. J. Holloway. The ceremony was worked by Bro. Bidder, in a very able and impressive manner, which gave great pleasure to all present. The lodge was opened in the First Degree, and the minutes of last meeting were read, and being approved confirmed, including a minute to the effect that this lodge approve of the course taken by the Grand Lodge, concerning the Grand Orient of France; the lodge was opened in the Second Degree, when the Installing Master took the chair. Bro. Gardner was duly presented (by Bro. Gregson, retiring W.M.) for installation, and having been obligated the lodge was opened in the Third Degree, when a Board of Installed Masters was formed, and he was placed in the chair of K.S. Having been saluted according to ancient custom in the Three Degrees, he, assisted by Bro. Bidder, invested his officers as follows: E. G. Stead, S.W.; J. Waddington, J.W.; Hy. Johns, P.M., Deputy Treasurer; F. Patison, Secretary; T. Watson, S.D.; W. Lister, J.D.; T. Gregory, Organist; Hy. Johns, P.M., D.C.; J. L. Smith, and A. Moore, Stewards; T. Blane, I.G.; and A. Wade, Tyler. Bro. Bidder, in choice and suitable terms, addressed the officers of the lodge on their respective duties; after which Bro. Johns, P.M., ably and eloquently, separately addressed the W.M. and Wardens on the great responsibility which had that day fallen on them, for the future harmonious working of the lodge, and strictly charging them to adhere to the ancient tenets of Freemasonry. The visitors present were Bros. Capt. A. W. Whitehead, P.M. 113; Jas. Batchelder, P.M. 1458; Wm. Riding, W.M. 1256; T. F. Perkins, S.D. 1061; R. Wright, S.D. 993; and J. Grime. The W.M. closed the lodge in perfect harmony and brotherly love, when an adjournment was made to the banquet room, where a sumptuous repast was prepared by Bro. Holloway, upwards of twenty-five being present. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and received with great enthusiasm, interspersed with vocal and instrumental music. The brethren separated after witnessing a splendid ceremony and enjoying a pleasant evening.

HEBBURN-ON-TYNE — Perseverance Lodge (No. 1643).—A meeting was held on the 8th inst. at the Masonic Hall, Hebburn-on-Tyne. Present: Bros. J. McCulloch, W.M.; Geo. Hardy, S.W.; J. Mitchell, J.W.; A. Campbell, Sec.; P. J. Jackson, Treas., and W.M. 424; W. Eckford, S.D.; A. Brodie, J.D.; J. Marchant, P.M., D.C.; W. Bewick, Steward; J. Stark, I.G.; R. Connell, Tyler; Past Master: Bro. T. S. Wraith, I.P.M.; visitors: Bros. Middlemiss, Bolland, and others. Mr. J. R. Frazer was successfully balloted for and initiated. Bro. J. F. Forster was passed to the degree of a Fellow Craft. After the lodge had been reduced and several motions disposed of, the new clothing, which was much admired, was handed to the officers, thereby making a splendid finish to this new but very beautiful lodge. Business being over, the brethren adjourned to their banqueting hall, and passed a very happy evening.

TUNBRIDGE.—Tunbridge Lodge (No. 1678).—The installation meeting of this young and rapidly rising lodge was held on Tuesday, the 14th inst., at the Public Hall, Bro. G. Langridge, P.P.G.R., W.M., presiding. There was a good attendance both of the brethren and visitors; amongst the latter we noticed Bros. A. Spencer, P.G. Sec.; C. Grillon, P.M. 26, P.P.G. Stwd.; H. H. Riach, P.M. 874, P.P.G. Sec. Oxon.; W. J. Elers, P.P.G. Stwd.; J. Nichols, P.M. 1050, P.P.G.O.; Nettlingham, P.P.G. Stwd.; T. G. Seale, 1273; R. A. Beeching, 874; C. Graham, 1540; and M. Baines, W.M. 1050. The lodge was opened in the First Degree, and the minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the report of Grand Lodge was read and ordered to be recorded on the minutes. The sum of £5 being voted to Bro. Hill's testimonial, the lodge was raised to the Second Degree, and Bro. Hodgkin, S.W., W.M. elect, was presented, and the ceremony of installation was proceeded with, the beautiful ritual being performed by Bro. Langridge. The W.M. invested his officers as follows: Bros. G. Langridge, I.P.M.; S. P. Potter, S.W.; J. J. Pattison, J.W.; G. Monckton, S.D.; C. Peake, J.D.; J. Charlton, I.G.; W. Allison, Tyler; and G. A. Angier, Sec. The brethren of the lodge present were Bros. W. B. Bacon, H. Bishop, J. Abrey, J. Court, F. Spencer, T. Westbrook, Sopwith, and Fitch Kemp. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree, and the Rev. Howard Monypenny was regularly initiated into the mysteries of the Craft, the W.M. doing his work in such an able manner that the brethren are quite sure the right man is in the right place. On the W.M. rising to invest the I.P.M. with a jewel, he said: Bro. Langridge, it gives me much pleasure to place this jewel on your breast, as an expression of the esteem in which you are held by the lodge, and an acknowledgment of the very valuable and eminent services you have rendered as the first Master of this lodge; to which Bro. Langridge returned thanks in a graceful manner. Three candidates for initiation having been proposed, and "Hearty good wishes" having been given by the visiting brethren, the lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to the Angel Hotel to banquet, which was served up by Mrs. Hallet in an admirable manner. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and the brethren then separated.

MASONIC SONGS.—A selection of Masonic Songs set to popular airs, written by Bro. E. P. Philpots, M.D., F.R.G.S., is now ready, forming a handsome volume, bound in cloth, with gilt edges, price 3s. Sent post free from the office of this paper on receipt of stamps or post-office order value 3s. 2d.—ADVT.

Royal Arch.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—Priory Chapter (No. 1000).—The annual festival and installation meeting of this chapter was held at the Middleton Hall, Southend-on-Sea, on Wednesday, the 15th inst. Amongst those present were Comps. A. Lucking, M.E.Z.; J. A. Wardell, H.; J. Willing, jun., J.; S. J. Weston, Treas.; J. C. Johnstone, P.Z. 20 (I.C.); Scribe E.; Rev. H. J. Hatch, Scribe N.; W. Pissey, P. S. J.; E. Judd, 1st Assist. Soj.; E. E. Phillips, P.Z.; H. Briggs, S. W. Fisher, F. Bernard, H. Luker, G. F. Jones, F. G. Jillings. Visitors: Comps. J. Terry, P.Z. 228, P.G.D.C. Herts.; W. Belcham. The chapter having been opened in ancient form and the companions admitted, the minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed. The ballot was then taken for Bros. Rev. H. Hayes, Priory Lodge, 1000, and Rev. — Heaton, Trinity Lodge, 1734, as candidates for exaltation, and Comp. W. Belcham as a joining member, which being unanimous in their favour, and Bro. J. Girling (elected at a previous meeting) and Rev. — Heaton being present, they were duly exalted by the M.E.Z., who also gave the lectures of the First and Second Chairs. A Board of Installed Principals having been formed, E. Comp. J. Terry, in a very able manner, installed Comps. J. A. Wardell, M.E.Z.; J. Willing, jun., H.; Rev. H. J. Hatch, J.; after which Comps. S. J. Weston was re-invested Treas.; J. C. Johnstone, re-invested Scribe E.; W. Pissey, Scribe N.; F. Judd, P. Soj.; J. R. Hemmann, 1st Assist. Soj.; F. G. Jillings, 2nd Assist. Soj.; A. Lucking, P.Z., D.C.; H. Briggs and H. Luker, Stewards. A cordial vote of thanks was accorded to E. Comp. J. Terry for his valuable services in installing the Principals, and he was also made an honorary member of the chapter. After some other routine business the chapter was closed in due form, and the companions adjourned to an excellent banquet. The loyal and Masonic toasts followed in the usual order. A handsome P.Z. jewel was presented to Comp. A. Lucking for his services as M.E.Z. during the past year. The Janitor's toast concluded a most agreeable evening.

HAMPTON.—Era Chapter (No. 1423).—The last meeting of this provincial chapter was held on the 11th instant, at Companion Tagg's picturesque "Island Hotel." There were present amongst others Comps. Sabine, P.P.G.S. of Middlesex, M.E.Z.; Thiellay, P.P.G. D.C. Middlesex; H. Smeed, P.Z. Strawberry Hill, &c., acting J.; Baldwin, P.Z. Mount Lebanon, acting S.E.; Wilkins, P.S.; Walls, P.G.O. of Middlesex, 1st Assistant S. (Freemason); Faulkner, 2nd Assistant S.W.; Hammond, P.Z. Lebanon, P.P.G.A.S. Middlesex, D.C., T. W. Ockenden. Comp. Simmonds of the Star Chapter, was a visitor. The minutes of the previous convocation having been read and confirmed, the bye-laws were read by the acting S.E. The election of officers then took place, and resulted unanimously in favour of Comps. Thiellay, as M.E.Z.; F. Walters, H.; Mason J.; Wilkins, S.E.; Walls, S.N.; Sabine, Treasurer; Faulkner, P.S.; Gilbert, Janitor. There were several candidates down for exaltation, but through unavoidable circumstances they were prevented from attending. Some important matters having been brought forward by the M.E.Z., and satisfactorily disposed of, the chapter was duly closed, and the convocation adjourned until the second Saturday in July next, when Comps. Thiellay, F. Walters, and Mason, will be duly installed as First, Second, and Third Principals for the ensuing year. The companions having partaken of a cold collation, well served by Comp. Tagg, shortly afterwards separated. There were no toasts.

Mark Masonry.

MARYPORT.—Whitwell Lodge (No. 151).—The monthly meeting of this flourishing lodge was held on Thursday evening, the 16th inst., in the Masonic Hall, Maryport, when there were present Bros. T. Mandle, W.M., P.G. Reg. M.; Jos. Nicholson, P.M. and Treasurer, P.P.G.S.W.; Jas. Gardiner, P.M., P.G.M.O.; P. de E. Collin, P.M., P.G. Secretary; J. R. Banks, S.W.; J. H. Banks, J.W., P.G.I.G.; P. Dodgson, M.O., P.G. Steward; E. G. Mitchell, S.D., as S.O.; J. W. Robinson, R.M., as J.O.; J. D. Thompson, J.D.; R. Hetherington, I.G.; J. Smith, Organist, P.P.G. Organist; J. Melmore, J. Stoddart, W. Armstrong, T. Weatherston, T. Moore, T. Carey, J. Fulton, J. Adair, W. H. Lewthwaite, H. Peacock, W. T. Lamonby, P.G.A.D.C. (Freemason). The following visiting brethren were also present: Bros. J. S. Cumberland, S.D. Old Yorkshire Lodge (F.L.), Bradford; Geo. Dalrymple, W.M.; and Jas. Winter, Henry Lodge, 216, Fezington. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, a ballot was taken for Bro. Captain T. R. Sewell, S.W. Skiddaw Lodge, 1002 (Craft), which, proving favourable, Bro. Gardiner, P.M., advanced the said brother to the honourable degree in the most perfect style. The next business was the election of W.M. for the ensuing year, there being three candidates, Bros. J. R. Banks, S.W.; J. H. Banks, and W. T. Lamonby. Bro. J. H. Banks was elected by a large majority. Bro. Jos. Nicholson was re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. Harris, Tyler, after which the proclamations were made, and one of the visiting brethren in conveying "Hearty good wishes," warmly complimented the officers on the excellent working of the degree, which he characterised as equal to any he had ever seen in England. The lodge was formally closed.

The half-yearly communication of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England, Wales and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown, will be held on Tuesday week, June 4th, at Freemasons 'Tavern' Great Queen-street. Grand Lodge will be opened at 5 o'clock p.m.

Knights Templar.

LIVERPOOL.—Alpass Encampment.—The knights of this encampment met on the 2nd inst., at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, for the purpose of assisting in the transaction of the important business on the programme. The encampment was opened at five o'clock by Sir Knight Richard Brown, E.C., and the officers present were Sir Knights H. S. Alpass, P.E.C.; J. E. Jackson, P.E.C.; Thos. Clark, P.E.C.; Thos. Chesworth, Prelate; John Gallagher, Registrar; H. Firth, Treasurer; J. Capell, Expert; H. Burrows, 1st Standard Bearer; and W. Fletcher, Captain of the Lines. The members included Sir Knights Fred Cooper, John Lloyd, Thos. Evans, Samuel Hinks, J. B. Widdows, J. Skeaf, J. W. Bulmer, and A. Bucknall; and the visitors, Sir Knights T. Berry, P.E.C., Past G. Std. B. England; Dr. Spratley, P.E.C. and E.C. Jacques de Molay; and Joseph Wood, Treas. William de la More (Freemason). The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, and two candidates were balloted for. The Sir Knts. then retired, and Eminent Sir Knight Horace Seymour Alpass was (for the second time) installed as E.C. of the encampment which bears his name, the ceremony being most admirably performed by Sir Knt. Richard Brown. Sir Knight Alpass, E.C., then appointed the following as his officers:—Sir Knights Richard Brown, P.E.C., Prelate; J. Gallagher, 1st Capt.; J. Cassell, 2nd Capt.; J. Chesworth, Registrar; Thos. Evans, Expert; S. Hinks, Capt. of the Lines; J. B. Widdows, Almoner; H. Burrows, 1st Stand. Bearer; John Lloyd, 2nd Stand. Bearer; F. Cooper, 1st Herald; Joseph Bell, 2nd Herald; and Joseph Skeaf, Organist. The subject of the purchase of an harmonium for the special use of the encampment having been brought forward by Emt. Sir Knt. Jackson, P.E.P., the Sir Knights at once most liberally responded, and the result was that in a few minutes the necessary funds were forthcoming. Other divers and important business having been transacted, and three gentlemen having been proposed for installation, the Sir Knts. adjourned to the refectory where an elegant repast had been provided by Sir Knt. Vines. Sir Knight Richard Brown, P.E.C., in proposing the toast of "The Health of the newly installed E.C., Sir Knight Horace Seymour Alpass," said I might perhaps do the most fitting justice to this toast, the toast of the evening, if I said nothing whatever about it, beyond placing it before you in its simple integrity, so certain I am that the subject of it has your hearty goodwill and esteem. But the present occasion does seem to me to be one when I may venture a little out of the ordinary course to remind you of one or two facts worthy of consideration. For the second time we have had the pleasure to see Sir Knight Alpass installed in the chair he occupies with so much satisfaction to us, and let us hope with equal pleasure to himself. He will probably tell us that he feels himself honoured that the Sir Knights of this encampment have a second time invited him to take the reins of government in hand, but the fact bears another, and to ourselves a very much to be appreciated aspect. This encampment, which bears the honoured name of our Provincial Grand Secretary, has now been in existence several years; his re-acceptance of the highest position is, to my mind, some proof that he is satisfied with its progress and the conduct of its members during that period, and that his good wishes for its continued success are not diminished, but have rather increased, for we must not forget that the multifarious duties he has to perform, as the guiding spirit of Freemasonry in this province of West Lancashire, render the acceptance of additional responsibilities, matter for his careful consideration. We are proud of our Eminent Commander, we are glad to have him as our ruler in this encampment, a gentleman who, notwithstanding the fact that he has so frequently to perform the seeming miracle of satisfying an expectant multitude with the few loaves and fewer fishes at his command, yet retains the goodwill, the love, and the esteem of every Mason in this province. The toast was received with much enthusiasm, the honours being given in "right Royal style" by P.E.C. Sir Knight Dr. Spratley. Sir Knight Alpass, E.P., responded in very feeling terms, thanking the Sir Knights for the honour conferred upon him for the second time, which he considered a great compliment, and promising to do everything in his power for the advantage of the encampment. He warned the Sir Knights not to introduce any one into the encampment unless they felt confident he would reflect honour upon their choice, and such as they could invite to their own tables. "The Visitors" was responded to by Sir Knight Dr. Spratley, after which love and harmony prevailed, and the Sir Knights separated at an early hour.

Red Cross of Constantine.

COCKERMOUTH.—Dyke's Conclave (No. 26).—The quarterly assembly of this conclave was held on Wednesday afternoon, the 15th inst., in the Masonic rooms, Station-street, Cocker-mouth. The following was the muster roll:—Em. Sir Knights Edward Tyson, M.P.S., on the Throne of C.; Thos. Mandle, V.E.; W. F. Lamonby, P.S. and Prelate (Freemason); W. Shilton, P.S.; Sir Knights R. Bailey, S.G.; T. Bird, J.G.; W. H. Leuthwaite, Treasurer and Organist; J. Gardiner, Pref.; William Lamonby, Std. Br.; H. Moncrieff, Steward; H. Peacock, Jas. Black, and J. R. Banks. The conclave having been opened, the minutes of the assembly, held in January last, at Workington, were read and confirmed, after which Bro. John Melmore, Lodge of Perseverance, 371, Maryport, who had previously been balloted for, was admitted, and regularly installed, proclaimed, and invested a Knight of the Order. The historical oration was also delivered

by the High Prelate. The election of officers for the ensuing year was next in order, when Em. Sir Knight T. Mandie, V.F., was unanimously elected M.P.S., whilst Sir Knight R. Bailey was as unanimously voted to the Viceroy's chair. Sir Knight W. H. Leuthwaite was re-elected Treasurer, and a committee of four Sir Knights from the permanent council having been appointed to audit the accounts, the conclave was closed. The annual assembly for the enthronement of Sovereign and consecration of Viceroy, will be held in July.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF STAFFORDSHIRE.

The annual meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge was held at the Shire Hall, Stafford, on Friday, the 17th inst. The Staffordshire Knot Lodge, 726, was opened in due form by Bro. T. Chalmers, the W.M. The W.D.P.G.M., Bro. F. James, and the other Provincial Grand Officers, Past and Present, were then admitted, and the D.P.G.M. having taken the chair, was fraternally greeted. The following brethren signed the Tyler's book:—G. S. Tudor, P.D.P.G.M.; S. J. Walker, P.G.S.W.; Chas. Hickson, 460, P.G.J.W.; Chas. Lee, 526, P.G. Chaplain; John Steen, 526, P.G. Registrar; J. Bodenham, 726, P.G. Treasurer; T. Cooke, jun., 1060, P.G.S.D.; T. Bedmore, 1039, P.G.O.; T. M. Humphries, 519, P.G. Supt. of Works; Jos. Rowlands, 482, P.G.P.; T. E. Fowke, T. H. Grylls, J. Mottram, S. Scott, and H. B. Livingstone, 726, P. G. Stewards; W. H. Hales, 418, P.P.G.S.W.; A. G. Prince, 546, P.P.G.J.D.; J. Webberley, 546, P.P.G.P.; T. Hall, 253, P.G.J.W. (Derbyshire); G. Spilsbury, 726, P.P.G.S.W.; C. Newham, 419, P.P.S.G.W.; T. Taylor, 418, P.P.S.G.W.; J. Jacobs, 482, P.P.G. Reg.; J. Watkin, 419, P.P.G.D.; W. J. Whittaker, 482, P.P.G.R.; F. Derry, 482, P.P.G.W.; S. T. Tozer, 347, P.P.G.C.; C. Matthews, 526, P.P.G.J.W.; J. Swinford, 503, P.P.G.J.D.; G. Higham, 526, P.P.G. Supt. Works; F. N. Seyde, 419, P.P.G.A.D.C.; J. Rodgers, 418, P.P.G.J.D.; W. Randall, 482, P.P.G.C.; J. Newman, 539, P.P.G.J.W.; W. J. Gothard, 624, P.P.G.S.W.; J. P. Hall, 546, P.P.G.A.D.C.; B. Lowe, 539, P.P.A.D.C.; A. Cardick, 662, P.P.G. Supt. Works; J. L. Gibbons, P.P.G. Supt. Works; and a large number of W.M.'s, P.M.'s, and officers of the lodges in the province.

The Provincial Grand Lodge having been opened shortly before one o'clock, Bro. Cartwright, P.G.S., read the minutes of the last annual meeting held at Stafford in October, 1876, and of the Lodge of Emergency held at Newcastle in January, 1877, which were confirmed.

The W.D.P.G.M. observed that about twelve months ago, as they were aware, a quarterly meeting of the P.G. Lodge was to have been held at Burton-on-Trent, but the unfortunate death of the R.W.P.G.M. a few days before necessitated the abandonment of that meeting, the P.G. Lodge, in point of fact, ceasing to exist when their lamented P.G.M. died. It would be remembered that in the end of the month of May a meeting of the brethren of the province was held at Stafford, and a resolution was passed that a letter should be addressed to the Countess of Shrewsbury expressing their condolence with her ladyship on her sad bereavement. That not having been a meeting as a Provincial Grand Lodge, no entry had been made on the minutes; but he thought some record should be made of their expression of feeling on the subject, and he therefore proposed that the letter forwarded last May to the Countess and the reply thereto be entered on the minutes of the present proceedings. Freemasonry in Staffordshire had before now passed under clouds which had been dissipated, but as time passed on the cloud in this instance seemed to get darker. The memory of their late P.G.M. would for a long time be vividly before them, and they would long feel the severe loss which they had sustained. Bro. Tudor seconded the resolution, which was passed unanimously.

Bro. Bodenham read the Auditor's report and the Treasurer's statement of accounts, showing that at the end of 1877 the available funds amounted to £129 11s. 8d. The subject of the purchase of the right to send a scholar to the Masonic School for Boys was introduced. It was stated that the sum required (£525) had been raised within a few pounds, and the life of the Duke of Connaught had been insured as a means of rendering the right permanent. It was proposed by the W.D.P.G.M. that the Shrewsbury fund should be closed, and the balance (£31 3s. 9d.) handed over to the general fund of the P. G. Lodge, and this was seconded by Bro. Bodenham. Bro. Jacobs suggested that it should be allowed to remain as the nucleus of a fund which would probably be raised for providing some permanent memorial of the 1st Earl of Shrewsbury. After a short conversation, the further consideration of the subject was deferred.

The D.P.G.M. rose and expressed a hope that the motion he was about to make would meet with the unanimous consent of P.G. Lodge, inasmuch as the appointment was one which rested entirely with the brethren. He hoped that not only would it be accepted unanimously, but that it might take the form of a vote of thanks to their esteemed P.G. Treasurer, Bro. Bodenham.

This was seconded by Bro. Tudor, P.P.D.G.M., and carried with applause.

Bro. Bodenham briefly expressed his thanks, after which the P.G. Sec. was called upon to read the warrant from the acting P.G.M., Bro. McIntyre (Grand Registrar of England), appointing W. Bro. G. Singleton Tudor, D.P.G.M. for the province. The seat of the D.P.G.M. was then occupied by Bro. Tudor, who expressed the hope that he might meet with the hearty support accorded to him when he was first appointed ten years ago.

The following appointments were then made:—
C. Graham Prov. S.G.W.
George H. Hawley, 546..... Prov. J.G.W.

Revs. W. Randall and H. Von Strauben-
benzee, 526..... Prov. G. Chaplains
G. S. Guy, 696 Prov. G. Registrar
J. Bodenham, 726..... Prov. G. Treasurer
W. Cartwright, 460 Prov. G. Secretary
T. Standford, 347 Prov. G.S.D.
J. Ingamells, 460 Prov. G.J.D.
W. Needham, 966..... Prov. G. S. of W.
A. Ellis, 451 Prov. G.D.C.
J. Smith..... Prov. G.A.D.C.
W. Vernon, 1587 Prov. G.S.B.
Bedmore, 1039..... Prov. G. Organist
F. Huet, 418 Prov. G.P.
J. L. Gibbons, 1520 Prov. G. Std. B.
Fowke, Wood, Scott, Livingstone,
Mottram, and Grylls, all of 726 ... Prov. G. Stewards

The brethren adjourned from Grand Lodge to attend Divine service at St. Mary's Church, walking in procession and wearing the Craft clothing and the insignia of the respective offices held by the members. The sermon was full choral, the Rector intoning the prayers, and the Rev. C. Lee, P.P.G. Chaplain, the Rev. A. J. V. Straubenzee and the Rev. W. Randall, P.G. Chaplains, taking part. Bro. the Rev. C. Lee, vicar of St. Leonard's, Bilston, preached a most able, learned, and eloquent sermon from Matthew xxiii. 8: "For one is your Master, even Christ, and all ye are brethren." The preacher sketched in a masterly manner the early history of Freemasonry, and showed strong reasons for believing that its principles were derived from Egypt by Pythagoras, and by him introduced into Italy when he retired to Cretona, and thence was conveyed by the Romans to this country. He eloquently recalled its leading principles, and enforced on the brethren the duties which those principles involve, strengthening the appeal by a touching reference to the late Provincial Grand Master the Earl of Shrewsbury, whose devotion to Masonry, and especially to its charitable institutions, he invited all the brethren to emulate. At the close of the sermon £16 2s. 8d. was collected.

When business was resumed in the P.G. Lodge, Bro. James proposed a vote of thanks to the P.G. Chaplain (Bro. Lee) for his eloquent, historical, and Masonic sermon. This was seconded by Bro. Rowlands, who added to the resolution that the sermon be printed; and a suggestion was made by one of the brethren that the sermon should be published by subscription, sold at a reasonable price, and the profits devoted to the funds of one of the Masonic charities. The proposition of Bro. James was carried unanimously; and Bro. Lee, in acknowledging the compliment, intimated that he should be glad to add, in the form of notes, facts which would be instructive and might be interesting to many of the brethren. Of the amount which had been collected at the church, £3 3s. was voted to the rector of St. Mary's towards the funds of his schools, £5 5s. to the Chaplain for his schools at Bilston, and the remainder to the sum required for making up the £525 for the purchase of the right to send a boy to the Masonic School for Boys. The discussion on the subject of the disposal of the balance in hand on account of the Shrewsbury fund was resumed, and eventually it was decided to add it to the Benevolent Fund of the Staffordshire Masonic Charitable Institution. A committee was appointed to consider and report as to the best means of providing a memorial of the late Earl of Shrewsbury.

Lodge having been closed, the brethren adjourned to the Assembly-room, where a sumptuous banquet was provided by the Misses Pontin, of the Vine Hotel. The gallery at either end of the room was occupied by ladies. During and after dinner the band of the 2nd Regiment of Staffordshire Militia played merrily. At the conclusion of the repast the W.D.P.G.M. (Bro. Tudor) gave the toasts of "The Queen," "The M.W., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Grand Master of England," the Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family, and "The M.W. the Pro. Grand Master the Earl of Carnarvon, the V.W., the D.G.M., the Earl of Skelmersdale, and the Officers of Grand Lodge Present and Past."

Bro. Lee, in an eloquent speech, which was heartily applauded, proposed "The Health of the R.W. Bro. Aeneas J. McIntyre, Grand Registrar, P.G.M. Staffordshire, and the W.D.P.G.M., Bro. Tudor." The W.D.P.G.M. in responding, alluded to his long absence from office in the province, the kindness he received from the brethren when he formerly held the position he again occupied, and said now that he had undertaken important duties at the urgent request of many brethren, he should strive to perform those duties without fear or favour, relying upon receiving in the future as he had done in the past the support and assistance of officers of the P.G. Lodge and the brethren generally. (Applause.)

Bro. Randall, P.P.G.C., proposed "The W.D.P.D.G.M. and the Officers of P.G. Lodge, Past and Present." He was especially complimentary to Bro. James, who, he said, was really master of the duties which he discharged as Deputy, and always manifested a kindly feeling and the courtesy of a gentleman.—Bro. James made a long speech in response to the toast. He observed that there was no one present who had occasion to regret the death of their late P. G.M. more than he (Bro. James). He had for years enjoyed the confidence of the late Earl, and he could honestly say that a more honest-minded, generous man never existed in Staffordshire than his lordship. (Applause.) By his death the P.G. Lodge also ceased to exist as a lodge, and it was a long time before the authorities in high places resuscitated it and placed the Grand Registrar in the position of Acting Grand Master of the Province. The reason P.G. Lodge had not been convened earlier was that it was necessary to apply to the Quarter Sessions (which they were unable to do till April) for permission to meet in that hall. He hoped Bro. Tudor would make up for lost time by calling another P.G. Lodge in the autumn of this year. (Hear, hear.) He went on to explain why he had retired from the position of D.P.G.M., and said although he had not

done all that he intended while in that office, he hoped to visit the three lodges in the province which he had not yet attended. Though he was no longer an officer of P.G. Lodge, he should retain a fraternal feeling towards all the brethren, and should continue to render to the Craft such support as he was able to give. (Hear, hear.) Freemasonry was no doubt progressive, and he supposed there never was a period in the history of Freemasonry in this country when it progressed so rapidly as during the last quarter of a century. Though he was not an old man, he was old enough to remember the consecration of more than one-half of the lodges in the province. But it was not only numerically that they were increasing. There was an increasing manifestation of that truly Masonic life and spirit which was abundantly brought to their attention in their Masonic ceremonies. If charity was the landmark of Freemasonry, he would venture to say it had two aspects. It did not consist in almsgiving alone, though if they were as Masons to be judged by that test, they could say that last year Masons contributed £42,000 to support their four great central Charities. (Applause.) In supporting those Charities no one was more hearty than the late P.G.M.; whose loss they all so much lamented. The late Earl of Shrewsbury presided at the anniversary of each of the Masonic Charities in its turn, and on one occasion he presided in the absence of the Prince of Wales. There was then a larger amount of contributions than at any previous festival. (Hear, hear.) But that was not the side of Freemasonry by which they should alone wish to be judged. They would rather be judged by the grand principle which they endeavoured to inculcate in their lodges of doing to others as they would be done by, and which taught them to guide their actions so that when anyone was said to be a Freemason the world might know that he was "one to whom the burthened heart may pour forth its sorrows, to whom the distressed may prefer their suit, whose hand is guided by justice, and whose heart is expanded by benevolence." (Applause.) That was what they taught each other to exhibit to the world, and when that principle was acted on they need not care for the scoffs of those outside their boundaries, and who, if they were upright, free, and true men, they would gladly embrace within their ranks. The longer he lived the more heartily did he approve the principles of Freemasonry, and the more strenuous should be his endeavours to promote the interests of the Craft. (Applause.) He then pointed out the difficulty of selecting the Provincial Grand Officers when there were 21 lodges and only 11 appointments to be made every year, and there were thus so many Past Masters not only qualified but ambitious to take provincial honours. He expressed a hope that the appointments which had been made that day would give satisfaction to the brethren.

Bro. James, after a brief interval, proposed in a neat speech "The W. Masters of the Lodges in the Province;" for whom Bro. Turner, W.M. 460, responded in suitable terms.

Bro. Rodgers, P.P.G.J.D., gave the toast of "The Visitors," on whose behalf Bro. T. Hall, 253, P.G.J.W. (Derbyshire), responded. He observed that Masonry was flourishing in the province to which he belonged, as well as in Staffordshire and other provinces. Though Staffordshire possessed 21 lodges, the population of Staffordshire was much greater than that of Derby, and it would take two Derbyshires to make one Staffordshire. Yet he had the pleasure of taking part a fortnight ago in the consecration of the nineteenth Craft lodge in the province of Derby, and in that province there were nearly 800 members. (Hear, hear.) Masonry was progressing in numbers, wealth, and generosity, and he thought the time appeared to be coming when they should consider the question of decentralizing their charitable institutions; and if they established such institutions in different centres it would create a new interest and a new incentive to the generosity of the Craft. And he asked, why they should not have a Boys' School in Staffordshire and a Girls' School in Derbyshire? If that could be accomplished a great amount of additional zeal and liberality would be evoked. (Applause.)

Bro. Derby, P.P.G.W., proposed the toast of "The Masonic Charities."

Bro. Bodenham, P.G. Treasurer, in responding, expressed his unabated interest in those Charities. He alluded to the fact that they had secured the right to always have one boy in the Masonic School, and he thought that if they could establish such a right to send a scholar to the Girls' School it would be a fitting tribute to the memory of the late Earl of Shrewsbury. He also pointed out that great benefits were conferred upon the children of Masons by the Staffordshire Charitable Masonic Institution.

The remaining toasts were "The Ladies," proposed by Bro. Bodenham, and responded to by Bro. Owens, of Wolverhampton; "The P.G. Stewards," proposed by Bro. Cartwright, and acknowledged by Bro. Fowke, and the Tyler's toast.

The Installation meeting of the Wm. Preston Chapter No. 776, will be held at the Cannon Street Hotel, on Thursday next, at half-past 4, precisely. A report of the proceedings will appear in the *Freemason* of June 8th. The principals elect are Comps. A. Braun, M.E.Z., Dr. W. H. Kempster, H. and J. T. Gibson, as J.

The family of our late Bro. Superintendent Mott will according to the *Whitehall Review*, benefit by the Concert at Albert Hall to the extent of about £550.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Safely and Securely.—When the severities of winter have yielded to the genial spring, invalids should make a determined effort to regain their lost health; when through confinement indoors, want of appetite, and disturbed sleep, the entire system has been weakened and the spirits have been broken down, Holloway's remedies are equal to the occasion. The Ointment rubbed over the regions of the stomach and liver, aided by the internal administration of his Pills, will rectify the digestion, regulate the bile, and purify the blood—three sanatory actions, which will speedily confer renewed vigour, brace up the failing nerves, confirm the flaccid muscles, and restore to the ailing, cheerfulness, that great charm of existence.—[ADVT.]

Reviews.

THE LITERARY WORLD. James Clarke and Co.,
13 and 14, Fleet-street.

A reviewer in the above publication, under the title of the "Romance of Freemasonry," gives a most interesting essay on the History of Freemasonry, while he passes in review two of Bro. Chalmers I. Paton's recent books. We leave out now the line of argument he ably follows in regard to Bro. Paton's books, which, however well written, are only the "deliverances," be it remembered, of our esteemed Bro. Paton himself, and are not the expression of Masonic opinion generally, and we confine ourselves to what he says as regards Freemasonry. The writer very properly inveighs against the recent theory propounded by Roman Catholic writers with such "gusto" and vehemence that Freemasonry is political in any sense, a revolutionary compound of Carbonari, or Illuminati, or Heaven knows what. As he well puts it, "the connection between Masonry and Carbonarism seems to us in this island as absurd as the suspicions harboured against the members of the Pickwick Club, on account of the immortal Mr. P's, mishaps and misunderstandings with the fair sex. We are tempted to consider the whole thing as a joke. But it is not so. Freemasonry is a word of rather elastic meaning, and it may be something or nothing, a mere social and antiquarian club in the Pickwickian sense of the word, or a grand arcanum for silently revolutionising the religious beliefs of mankind. It is thus something or nothing, according as we draw it in this direction or that; and it creates a smile that while Bro. Paton would include among the essentials of Masonry not only a belief in the Architect of the Universe, but also the definitetruths of revealed religion, there are Masons, like the Grand Orient of France, who actually reject the common truths of Deism, which the Illuminati of last century regarded as essential to Masonry."

What the Illuminati really were may be a matter of question, but any theory that Freemasonry properly is a revolutionary body is essentially absurd. If ever it be so it is through the disloyalty and treachery of those who make the peaceful and loyal principles of Freemasonry a cover for nihilistic views and hateful conspiracies.

The reviewer thus sums up his view of the history of Freemasonry:—"A writer in Brockhaus' *Conversations-Lexicon* has given us a sketch of the mythical history of Freemasonry. Passing by the attempt to connect this and the other sacred societies of the age of the Illuminati of 1st century with the Thracian and Orphic mysteries and the symbolism of the Pythagorean philosophy, and other secret and esoteric systems of the pre-Christian age of the world's history, the writer boldly mounts to the fountain head of all history. Some, he tells us, connect Masonry with the Noachidae, or descendants of Noah, though, considering the structure of Noah's Ark, we should have been inclined to see a guild of carpenters and shipwrights, rather than of masons, coming out of the ark, and settling on the highlands of Armenia. Passing on to the building of Solomon's temple, the legendary history of Freemasonry fastens on this incident as the second foundation of the Order. It tells us exactly how many Freemasons were engaged in King Solomon's service. Their number was 113,000, their courses were monthly, and they had captains of thousands and masters of lodges, the details of which are as curious as the parallel legends of the Arabs about the Genii, who were exercised by Solomon to build his temple, and who were kept at their work long after the King's death, until the stuffed figure of Solomon, leaning on his ivory sceptre, rolled away, when the Jins knew that their king was dead, and so surceased to work. We are not told whether the Masons in the same way dissolved as a society on the death of their Grand Master, Solomon. On this subject legend is silent. But the next we hear of the Masons is in Italy, among the Collegia of Rome. Founded by Numa, the mythical author of the laws and religious institutions of Rome, the Masons were assigned free quarters beside the temples in Rome which they were engaged to build and keep in repair. From Rome Masonry moved on to Britain, and we hear of it next among the Culdees, of whose pure and primitive faith they are supposed to be the animating spirit. In fact, this legendary history of Masonry is so ingenious, and betrays such a childish acceptance of any loose scraps of history which it may connect in some way with a secret society, that it would be to break a butterfly on the wheel to expose these idle tales to the tests of modern criticism. Of these legends we must say, as the Swiss do of their Tell legend, that we must approach it with a stock of patriotic presumption in its favour—in fact we must say, like the old dogmatist, *credo ut intelligam*. After these tales of the genii in connection with the building of Solomon's temple, and that of Numa by the Masons, it seems like a descent into plain prose to read of Athelstan, the brother of Alfred the Great, as the second founder in Britain of the Order of Masons. The first lodge was accordingly founded in York, in 926, and the constitution of Masonry was drawn up under sixteen rules, the principal of which may be summed up under the sentiment 'Fear God,' 'Honour the King,' 'Love the Brotherhood.'

We are not much concerned with these remarks, which constitute a sort of critical commentary on the "Legends of the Guilds," but we are with what follows, in which we cannot agree, and which certainly is not an English view of the matter.

"Thus the spirit of Masonry is described, by those who make the common mistake of discovering in antiquity, the spirit of modern times, as anti-hierarchical, and inclining to a pure and simple form of Deism. This is the interpretation of Masonry given in the eighteenth century. We must pass lightly over the intervening centuries, when

the Masons probably were, what their name implies, a guild of craftsmen, who regarded their art as a mystery, to be surrounded with all the pomp of symbolism; and protected from free traders and interlopers by the magic of mystery. As time went on, and the age of guilds and close corporations silently passed away, Masonry underwent a silent change. The name remained, but the thing was altered. From a craft with a utilitarian purpose as the basis of its association, it became a guild for the promotion of enlightenment, and the favouring of an inner religion. Unlike Pietism, which aims at effecting this by using the existing forms of worship, and energising them with its own inner spirit, Freemasonry, in Germany and France especially, became saturated with the spirit of the new Deism."

Now the truth is that, whatever has happened abroad, English Masonry never has been Deistic in any sense. It is Theistic now, (a very great difference), and during the last century was to a great extent Christian in its prayers and symbolism. In France and Germany, the High Grades, which seem at last to have developed into a sort of semi-Jesuitic and Roman Catholic dogmatism, a limited sect led to that other movement, which mistaking the shadow for the substance, has seemed for sometime to favour a sort of intellectual Deism, a tolerant Pantheism. But such is not English teaching, nor is it American, nor does it at all accord with the doctrine and sympathies of Anglo-Saxon Freemasonry. We are what we always have been for good or evil, a loyal, a religious, a beneficent, a fraternal, a God-fearing man-honouring sodality, carefully avoiding sectarian disputes, the "odium theologium," and the logomachies of heated disputants, and intent on proclaiming reverence for God and love to our brethren. Freemasonry may not, indeed, come up to this or that denominational standard. It may not harmonise with this or that individual view of truth or of religion, but it is nevertheless a very useful and friendly fraternity, certainly in Great Britain, the United States, the Canadas, and other parts of the world, doing an immense amount of good in a very quiet and unostentatious way, and calculated to obtain and retain the admiration of the patriot, the sympathy of the loyal, the love of the religious, and the hearty adhesion of the humanitarian. If its origin be lost in the mist of ages, it appeals to our modern application and feelings to-day, on grounds which are certainly commendable and commensurate alike with its own high claims, its lofty principles, and its beneficent mission.

LE MONDE MACONNIQUE.—CAUBET, Paris.

The *Monde Maconnique* for May is full of interesting Masonic matters and papers. We regret, however, to note the animus which prevades it, especially as regards the fresh alteration in the French Constitution, which will give the G. Orient the power of granting a charter to lodges in countries where the Grand Lodge is not in fraternal relations with the Grand Orient of France. We need not point out the extreme revolutionary and injurious tendency of such a new and reckless proposition, or the utter breach of international Masonic law which it constitutes. It is not difficult to see that it must lead to reprisals by chartering lodges in French territory by the English, Scotch, and Irish, as well as American Grand Lodges. If the French position be correct, that they have a right to charter a lodge in the Mauritius, because once upon a time a French charter was granted to a lodge there, and they have the right of prior occupation, we need hardly point out that the English Grand Lodge has the "right of prior occupation," in every country in Europe. It is not likely that English and American Masons will stand the bullying tone and even the threatened bullying acts which characterise the present condition of French Freemasonry and are a disgrace to the Order.

DIE BAUHUTTE.—J. G. FINDEL, Leipsig.

We have often alluded to this ably edited German Masonic paper before in terms of commendation, but we regret to observe a falling off both in the tact and the temper of its editorial words. For some time past Bro. Findel has been advocating an extreme view of Masonry, and now goes the "entire animal," as we say, in support of the Grand Orient of France. We are struck with the tone, which we deem altogether unmasonic, and mistakes, which we consider ludicrous if unintentional, serious if intentional, both in respect of the *Bauhütte* itself and its alma mater, Cosmopolitan Freemasonry.

In his issue of May 11th, Bro. Findel says that Bro. Hubert, on whom the English brethren had placed their reliance, remained in the Grand Orient of France, as well as Bro. Marechal, and to this he adds "Bravo!" Bro. Findel could not have read Bro. Hubert's explanation. He says very properly that he was bound to accept the assurance of Bro. St. Jean and the Conseil de l'Ordre, and that so long as they did not alter the ritual and adhered to their declaration of absolute toleration he should not leave the French Grand Orient, but if things turned out differently from what he hoped, he should then know his duty, just as he believed Bro. St. Jean himself would. This, our readers will see, is an entirely different position of affairs, and statement. He remains conditionally in the Grand Orient (as he is bound to do) for the best, but like us, he cannot shut his eyes to the future. When Bro. Findel writes such a statement as this, he should read first what Bro. Hubert himself says.

In his paper of the 18th inst. he says that in the midst of its "fulminating protest," (fine words, my masters), against perverse France, the English Grand Lodge has suffered a great blow, in that Bro. Tomkins' Bank has failed, and the Grand Lodge will lose nearly £10,000. We hasten to inform him that the Masonic Charitable Institutions will lose nothing, and Grand Lodge and Chapter will lose, we believe, not a penny. The loss is nothing. Never were our funds so prosperous, and

our benevolence will continue as active as ever. Despite Bro. Findel's sneer at our "benevolence," we wish other Masonic bodies would do as much, for no one who studies the question can doubt for a moment that the last movement in France, despite its loud professions, is purely political and communistic; such, at least, is our distinct opinion, and we see no use in concealing it.

We are sorry to see an able brother like Bro. Findel lose himself, as Sterne would put it, in the "sty" of communistic and unbelieving dirt.

NOTES ON ART, &c.

Princess Christian, who is President, attended a meeting of the Managing Committee of the Royal School of Art Needlework last week, and afterwards made a careful inspection of the exhibition of ancient needlework. H.R.H. the President and the Managing Committee of the Royal School of Art Needlework have arranged to hold an Exhibition of Ancient Needlework, at their Show Rooms, in Exhibition-road, South Kensington, from the 8th to the 22d of May inclusive.

M. Gounod's new Opera, "Polyeucte," will be produced at the Paris Opera in July.

Nottingham Castle, whose annals begin with the failure of an attempt of Alfred the Great to wrest it from the Danes in 868, and which has since figured in most of the great crises of our national history; which was dismantled under the Commonwealth; was rebuilt as an Italian palazzo by the first and second Dukes of Newcastle and was burnt in the Reform riots of October, 1831, has, thanks chiefly to the exertions of the Mayor, Mr. W. G. Ward, commenced a new career. It has been leased by the Town Council of the trustees of the Duke of Newcastle, for a term of 500 years, and has been restored as an Art Museum for the Midland Counties. The Prince of Wales, at great personal inconvenience, has promised to attend the opening on the 3rd of July next. His Royal Highness, who will be accompanied by the Princess, will be the guest of the Duke of St. Albans, at Bestwood Hall. The Mayor will entertain a large company.

The ancient Isle of Avalon, in Brittany, famed in the legends of King Arthur, has been discovered by Mr. J. S. Phene in his rambles on the Breton coast, and was described by him in a lecture at the Fine Arts Society on Thursday week. All traces of the Island of Apples seemed to have been lost, as the spot was ignored by all handbooks; but after several years' search Mr. Phene found on the Arthurian coast an island on which stood a curious dolmen surrounded by a court, and an adjoining island was subsequently discovered to be the traditional Avalon. The two islands had formerly been one until separated by the encroachments of the sea, and this dolmen accordingly once stood in Avalon, but neither trees nor apples were visible, although numerous evidences of cider manufacture were unearthed, while a rude old "bénitier" was dug up near the dolmen. Close by, on the mainland, stand a menhir and two large dolmens, and the name of the town of the district, Tregastel—three castles—seems indicative of the monuments.

Mommsen, whose History of Rome is prized by scholarly Italians, and whose recent archaeological tour in Southern and Central Italy was marked by municipal hospitalities similar to those extended by the Dutch burgomasters to Erasmus, has been invested by King Humbert with the Cross of Grand Officer of the Order of Saint Maurice and Lazarus.

The "Frigorifique," the vessel fitted up for the bringing of fresh meat from America, has come up the Seine from Rouen, and will be on view during the Exhibition.

Holland numbers among its numerous charities "A Protestant Old Paper Society." The Roman Catholics of the Netherlands (1,200,000 in number) send annually to the Pope the proceeds of the sale of old magazines, journals, pamphlets, and books. During the past year the society has acknowledged 412,000lbs. of waste paper; this was sold for 10,000 florins, and the amount has been forwarded to Rome.

The Old "Green Dragon Inn" in Bishopsgate-street, one of the historical cluster of ancient hostleries, has been pulled down. The inn had a curious quadrangular yard surrounded by wooden balconies leading to the upper floors, and a quaint dining-room divided into separate boxes by high partitions. It is supposed that Shakespeare's plays were often performed in the yards of the Bishopsgate inns before Queen Elizabeth granted permission for a regular theatre to be built.

DUTCH ARCTIC EXPEDITION.—Commander de Bruine, of the schooner of the Dutch Arctic Expedition, Willem Barents, has telegraphed the safe arrival of the vessel at Bergen (Norway). The little schooner "behaves admirably."

The Paris *Figaro* is to appear in a new form on August 1st. M. de Villemessant intending to model his paper more after the English journals. As readers have long grumbled at two out of the four pages being filled by advertisements, the size of the *Figaro* will be doubled, while the special feature will be the reproduction of the most important articles of the English press and British news in general, so as to make the journal noticeable as an Anglo-French paper, styled by M. de Villemessant the *Figaro-Times*.

The Education Committee have issued some modifications of the regulations respecting the child's school-book, certificates of honour, time-tables, and the conditions under which grants are made to schools. The most important change is that the local authorities are to be content with reasonable evidence of the age of a child, tendered by managers, or to pay the expense of the certificate of birth themselves.

TO OUR READERS.

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

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Twelve Months	10s. 6d.	12s. 6d.	17s. 4d.
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GEORGE KENNING, CHIEF OFFICE, LONDON, the latter crossed London Joint Stock Bank.

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

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

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

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

COLONIAL and FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month.

It is very necessary for our readers to advise us of all money orders they remit, more especially those from the United States of America and India; otherwise we cannot tell where to credit them.

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

NOTICE.

To prevent delay or miscarriage, it is particularly requested that ALL communications for the FREEMASON, may be addressed to the Office, 198, Fleet-street, London.

TO ADVERTISERS.

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

ADVERTISEMENTS to ensure insertion in current week's issue should reach the Office, 198, Fleet-street, by 12 o'clock on Wednesdays.

Answers to Correspondents.

A letter to Bro. Hubert on some further proposed changes in the Constitutions of the French Grand Orient will appear in our next.

By an error, the name of Bro. F. D. R. Copestick was omitted from the list of those present to offer a testimonial to Bro. Muggerridge.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

"Medical Examiner;" "Proceedings at the Quarterly Communication of the District Grand Lodge of British Burmah;" "Hull Packet;" "Broad Arrow;" "Risorgimento;" "Die Bauhütte;" "Brief;" "Young Folks" Monthly Part; "Indent;" "Pantiles Papers;" "Der Bund;" "Advocate;" "Le Monde Maçonique;" "New York Dispatch;" "Report of the Half Yearly Communication of the District Grand Lodge of Bombay;" "Loomis's Musical and Masonic Journal;" "Magazine of Art;" "Masonic Review;" "Mayfair;" "Voice of Masonry."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d. for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTHS.

PENNINGTON.—On the 25th ult., at Tinnevely Madras Presidency, the wife of J. B. Pennington, of a son.

REEVES.—On the 16th inst., at Pix Hall, Hawkhurst, the wife of F. Reeves, Esq., of a son.

WOLTON.—On the 17th inst., at Arundel Villa, Balham, the wife of E. H. Wolton, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

SILLIFANT—HAMLYN.—On the 16th inst., at Bridestow Church, Devon, Francis Synge, son of the late J. Sillifant, Esq., of Combe, Devon, to Fanny Gertrude, daughter of S. C. Hamlyn, Esq.

DEATHS.

BRASIER.—On the 16th inst., at 37, High-street, Margate, after two days' illness, from apoplexy, Bro. W. C. Brasier, P.M. 127, P.P.G.S.B. Kent, and P.Z. 784, aged 59, much respected.

CHURCH.—On the 22nd inst., in the 49th year of his age, the Rev. William Benjamin Church, for many years Vice-Principal of the Clapham Grammar School.

CROSS.—On the 13th inst., at Capri, Italy, aged 27, Maria, wife of the Rev. J. Cross.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, MAY 25, 1878.

THE NEXT QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

We hope that among the other business for Grand Lodge will be a vote of congratulation to our illustrious Brother the Emperor of Germany. Our august Bro. H.I.H. the Crown Prince is now in England, and a vote thus carried in his presence with the enthusiastic loyalty of English Masons, and under the presidency of our Royal Grand Master, would in our opinion be alike impressive and opportune. We feel sure that such an obvious duty in this respect has not been overlooked.

THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

Our brethren will be pleased, one and all, to hear Bro. Terry's lucid and satisfactory account of the flourishing state of this most needed and well managed Institution. There are now 145 men receiving £40 each, amounting to £5800, and 135 widows receiving £32 each, amounting to £4320. There are also eleven widows receiving half their late husbands' annuities, amounting to £220; so that the Institution will after this election stand committed to an annual payment of £10,342 to annuitants. The working expenses will be slightly over £2000. There will therefore have to be raised nearly £12,500 to maintain the Institution in its present state of usefulness. We are happy to note Bro. Terry's assurance that though through the failure of Messrs. Willis, Percival, and Co., the bankers, there has been a loss of £990 19s. 10d., yet there is every reasonable hope that in the end this loss will be made good. As the account of the two funds are kept separate, we will also follow this convenient arrangement. The receipts of the Male Fund are as follows:

Balance 31st March, 1877	...	...	£3521	2	10
Receipts.					
Donation from Grand Lodge	£500	0	0		
" " Chapter	100	0	0		
" Lodges, Chapters, and Individuals	4908	10	11		
Annual Subscriptions	1342	16	6		
Dividends on Stock in the Government Funds	857	13	0		
Rent of Field (5 quarters)	12	10	0		
Interest on Cash at Call	35	16	7		
Cash withdrawn from Call	2000	0	0		
			9757	7	0

£13,278 9 10

The expenditure is as follows:

Annuitants	...	...	£5480	0	0
Deposited at Call	...	...	2000	0	0
Purchase of £2000 3 per cent Consols and Commission	...	...	1920	0	0
Office and Working expenses	...	...	491	13	0
			10891	13	0

Balance on this account £2386 16 10

WIDOW'S FUND.

Receipts.					
Balance 31st March, 1877	...	...	£2574	5	6
Donation from Grand Lodge	300	0	0		
" Grand Chapter	50	0	0		
" Lodges, Chapters, and Individuals	5123	16	7		
Annual Subscriptions	1305	4	6		
Dividends on Stock in the Government Funds	546	11	10		
Rent of Field and Interest	30	8	3		
Cash withdrawn from Call	1000	0	0		
			7352	1	2

£10,930 6 8

EXPENDITURE.

Annuitants	...	...	£4101	0	0
Deposited at Call	...	...	1000	0	0
Purchase of £1125 3 per cent Consols & Commission	...	...	1080	0	0
Office and the Expenses	...	...	1450	1	2
			6631	1	2

Balance on this Account £3299 5 6

Then we see that there is a

Balance on Male account of	...	...	2386	16	10
" Female "	...	...	3299	5	6
" Sustainment "	...	...	45	15	6

Total Balance as per Auditors' Report £5732 17 10

We also note further that the permanent income of the Institution is as follows:—

MALE FUND.					
Annual Grant from G. Lodge	£500	0	0		
" G. Chapter	100	0	0		
Dividends on £30,870 Stock in the Government Funds	...	...	857	13	0
			£1457	13	0
WIDOWS' FUND.					
Annual Grant from G. Lodge	£300	0	0		
" G. Chapter	100	0	0		
Dividends on £19,530 Stock in the Government Funds	...	...	546	11	10
			£946	11	10
SUSTENTATION OF BUILDING.					
Dividends on £1000 Stock in the Government Funds	...	...	£30	0	0
			£2434	4	10

This is a most satisfactory return, reflecting the highest credit on the management and managers of this excellent Institution, and we feel sure, that in answer to Bro. Terry's appeal, the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution will continue to receive the warm support of our generous and philanthropic Craft.

THE CONTEST FOR THE SECRETARYSHIP OF THE GIRLS' SCHOOL.

As it is quite clear from letters which we receive from time to time, that the position of the Freemason is not understood on the present occasion, we wish to repeat that officially it is neutral altogether in the actual contest, and that while it is favourable to all the candidates it specially patronizes none. We publish all statements of facts as to meetings in favour of the candidates, and reasonable suggestions emanating from them, but we do not think it needful to print letters in favour of this or that candidate, carefully remembering always Mrs. Malaprop's favourite dictum, that "comparisons are odorous." We should not even allow laudations of one candidate at the expense of another, though we are willing to advertize as a mere matter of business, all circulars. Our contemporary, the Philadelphia *Keystone*, finds fault with our mode of procedure in the following words, in its impression of May 4. "Candidates are already seeking the Secretaryship of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, London, lately vacated through the death of Bro. Little. One candidate publicly advertises himself as such, and promises to send out a circular, in a few days, soliciting votes in his own behalf! We are probably not any better or wiser than our English brethren, but we do not manage a matter of that kind precisely in that way." Our able and distinguished confrère forgets, that the electors with us are not a committee, but the whole body of Vice-Patrons, Vice-Presidents, and Life Governors, and that candidates have no other possible course open to them. And we are of opinion Masonically, that it is by far the best course in every respect. It is, so we venture to assert, in the interests of Masonic fair play, and above all the humbler candidates, that is those who have no connections among the upper ten thousand of Masonry. We do not believe in select committees, knowing the private and personal influences which are brought to bear upon them. It has been said, indeed, and perhaps truly, that men naturally like a job, and we fear that, owing to an ingrained selfishness jobbery is more or less a normal condition of humanity. The remedy for it is not to be found, in our opinion, in select committees, even of Freemasons, but in public opinion and in enlarged constituencies. In this way the highest and humblest have humanly speaking equal chances.

THE MUGGERIDGE TESTIMONIAL.

Few brethren there are who have not heard of 'Old Mug,' fewer still who will not wish all health and happiness to a good old working Mason—a very skilful Preceptor of our old Masonic lore. In our last impression we gave the faithful report of a very interesting meeting, at which a purse of £300 was presented to our good old friend and brother. No one who reads that account but will join in the fervent wish that Bro.

Muggeridge may have many years of health and happiness before him, while all will agree that no testimonial has been better deserved. We wish him, in his family circle and in his declining years, all the good and all the happiness which, in the kindly Providence of T.G.A.O.T.U., are permitted to gild the evening hours of mortality.

THE CENTENARY OF VOLTAIRE.

We cannot affect to have much sympathy with the centenary of Voltaire, and as Freemasons we utterly object to have his name associated with that of our honoured and honourable, our loyal and religiously-minded Fraternity. It is true that Voltaire, quite in his old age, we believe even the actual year of his decease, was admitted a Mason in "Les Neuf Sœurs," at Paris, and there was a subsequent ceremony, we believe, equally profane and foolish, termed the "Apotheose de Voltaire." And though we do not ourselves hold that Voltaire was inadmissible to Freemasonry, in that he certainly was not an Atheist, yet we are not among those who, admitting his great powers, admire either the principles he avowed, or the teaching he elaborated. Voltaire was in all probability a sentimental Deist, with a touch of the "Morale Independante," but what strikes us most in Voltaire is his hardness, his unsympathetic views,—his contempt of all, which as men we most regard, and his morbid opinions as regards religion in general, and the people in particular. His is a state of mind not uncommon, and which makes many who reject all distinctive views in everything that relates to the authority of Revelation, or the sympathies of human nature, yet profess cold and callous opinions on all that relates to the progress of civilization, and the welfare of the great mass of human kind! No one can peruse his writings without wishing him to possess, despite his high intellectual gifts, more of the "milk of human kindness" and the "flow of natural sympathy." Monsignor Dupanloup, Bishop of Orleans, ever ready to "improve the occasion," (we do not blame him for this), has made the centenary the subject of one of his philippics. The correspondent for the *Times* at Paris gives us a good precis of it, and we think it well to reproduce it for the benefit of our readers. Bishop Dupanloup having objected to the centenary from a purely Roman Catholic point of view, with which we have nothing to do, then goes on to say:—"we are no longer, thank God, in the 18th century, and its deplorable levity is not ours. Whatever the reproaches merited by our time, one justice must be paid it, the moral sense has grown up, the public conscience has manifested itself." He next shows how Voltaire and Rousseau treated each other; but as the latter is, after all, to be excluded from the celebration, these literary amenities may be passed over. Monsignor Dupanloup then cites the criticisms on Voltaire of "unimpeachable judges," beginning with Marat and Mirabeau, including Madame de Staël, Beranger, Renan, Taine, Ste. Beuve, Louis Blanc, and Lamartine, and winding up with Victor Hugo's poem in "Les Rayons et les Ombres." Of this work, of the date of 1840, Monsignor Dupanloup, does not mention which two lines may be quoted as a sample—
"Voltaire alors regnait, ce singe de génie
"Chez l'homme en mission par le diable envoyé."
The pamphlet lastly shows by ample citations that Voltaire was the very opposite of a Democrat; that he toadied nobles, princes, kings, and kings' mistresses; and that he poured unmeasured scorn on the working class, declaring them unworthy of education, but requiring, like cattle, a goad and a yoke. Were a living writer, urges Monsignor Dupanloup, "to express such sentiments, he would be stigmatized as he deserved; and the contemplated festival in honour of this scorners and insulter of the people is an outrageous offence to the people whom the municipality represents." And the correspondent adds, "while the Centenary Committee propose to issue a popular selection from Voltaire's writings, believing that "when there is a 'Voltaire' in every house the churches will be emptied, their opponents have published a collection of passages from his correspondence with Frederick the Great, in which he ridicules and denounces his

fellow-countrymen." As we before observed, we do not profess to take any interest in the Voltaire Centenary, either as Freemasons or citizens of the world, but we think it well to remind our readers here, that Voltaire's views, however objectionable in many respects as they undoubtedly are, (and do not let us be blinded by his intellectual powers to say or think differently), are yet the "outcome" of an intellectual reaction against the dogmata of an infallible Roman Catholic regime. Voltaire and the Encyclopædists, Mirabeau and Robespierre, were Roman Catholics before they were Revolutionists against man, and sceptics against God, and many of them were brought up by the Jesuits. We must therefore be just while we criticize, and truthful while we condemn. The really destructive principles which Ultramontanism avows, proclaims noisily everywhere to-day with unceasing zeal, and unsparing vehemence, are a stumbling-block to many minds, and constitute in our humble opinion the "raison d'être" of much of the rationalism and infidelity of the present hour. We do not affect in any measure to chime in with the morbid and mournful spirit which characterizes Voltaire's writing, we, "au contraire," reject "ex imo cordo" his lachrymose and degraded Deism; but yet, on the other hand, we cannot be insensible to the true explanation, probably, of the matter, for it still is the fact, let them gainsay it who will, that the assumptions and excesses of Ultramontane dogmatism and infallible authority constitute a perpetual antagonism to all intellectual development, to all the efforts of reverent criticism, to the claims of scientific induction and logical consequence, and to the progress of peaceful, tolerant, and reasonable religion among all the nations of the world.

PRESENTATION TO MRS. MONCKTON.

As will be seen elsewhere, a very handsome coloured photograph of Mrs. Monckton, the amiable and talented wife of our esteemed brother the President of the Board of General Purposes, was presented last week, by Bros. Col. Creaton, Head, and P. de L. Long, on behalf of the united Committees of the Boys' and Girls' Schools. Some time back, as will be remembered by our readers, Mrs. Monckton, with a distinguished company of amateurs, gave some very animated and admirable performances, and presented kindly to the Girls and Boys' Schools as the result of such agreeable histrionic efforts, 100 guineas to each of those Institutions. The brethren generally will approve the action of the United Committee, as represented by three such well known and excellent brethren of our Order.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

THE "BAUHUTTE" AND ENGLISH FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

As a reader of the *Bauhutte*, I for one deeply deplore the attitude and animus displayed by Bro. Findel as regards English Masonry. It is clearly, to use a common expression, a "twist," that he has taken, alike perverse and unreasonable, and must render his words henceforth if persevered in, (for which I am very sorry), utterly valueless to Anglo-Saxon Masons. The present "craze" is so unlike my old friend, the *Bauhutte*, that I can only say "Oh what a change is here!"

For some time past it has been clear to me, that Bro. Findel is representing his own idiosyncrasies, rather than the calmer views of German Masons generally.

Yours truly,

ALT-MAURER.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Let me congratulate the governing body and Bro. Hedges, the zealous acting Secretary, on the success of their last Festival. £8500 is a good return, and if, as you say, it will be increased to £9000 before the year is out, Bro. Hedges deserves much credit for his labour and exertions. I hope that the Stewards will be able to hand over a little "douceur" to him for his untiring labours.

Yours fraternally,

AN OLD STEWARD.

PROGRESS OF FREEMASONRY IN THE PROVINCES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I am very glad that my communication has elicited the very able and satisfactory reply from Bro. Henry Smith, the zealous Prov. G.S. of West Yorkshire.

Our difference is a minimum. My estimate of 88 represents the actual increase at the close of 1877 as compared with 1876, while his statistics undoubtedly prove that that estimate is actually correct, though based upon an erroneous appreciation of the figures. The true state of the case then is, that while there has been an increase of 310, there have been 58 deaths and 164 resignations, leaving the net increase on the twelve months of 88, there being on December 31st, 1878, 3153 members of the Yorkshire lodges.

There is one question I would ask the worthy Prov. G. Secretary, are the 310 new members initiates, or all joining members from West Yorkshire or other provinces?

I am, yours fraternally,

STATIST.

THE VACANT SECRETARYSHIP OF THE GIRLS' SCHOOL.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Considerable interest naturally attaches to the approaching election of Secretary for the Girls' School, and several of your readers and friends of the noble Institution in West Lancashire and Cheshire, unlike "Blank," who blundered in the epistle quoted by you last Saturday, are extremely desirous of seeing the best man win. This must be the heartfelt desire of every well-wisher of the Charity, and those of whom I now speak are naturally desirous of knowing the parties who have the power to vote in connection with the appointment. Can you, with your usual courtesy, kindly furnish the information? In common with others, I have read the addresses, appeals, and committees of the different candidates, each of the lists having a peculiarity of its own. One candidate seems to rest his hope of success on the W.M.'s and P.M.'s, another on P.G. Officers, while a third, proudly and justly boasts of a very long list of Life Governors of the Institution.

While replying to the above query, would you also kindly give a number of brethren and myself an idea when the election will take place?

Yours fraternally,

M. B. J.

[All Vice-Patrons, Vice-Presidents, and Life Governors. 2. The time is not yet settled.—Ed.]

PRECEDENCE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Will you kindly in your next number enlighten me on the following points?

1. Is the Treasurer of a lodge who is a P.M. entitled to any particular seat at the banquet, and if so, where?
2. Are the P.M.'s of a lodge who are Present or Past Grand Officers entitled to sit above the other P.M.'s at the banquet.

Yours fraternally,

M. C.

[1. He sits among the P.M.'s. 2. Past Grand Officers take precedence of lodge officers.—Ed.]

AN OLD MASONIC BOOK.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In answer to "I.P.M. (533)," in your issue of 27th April, allow me to state that the J.W. of our lodge has a mutilated copy (as I believe) of the book in question—mutilated, as the title page and first five chapters are missing, the book commencing at chapter six, which has the following heading: "The state of Masonry from Seleucus Nicator to the death of Herod the Great."

As the book concludes with a notice of meeting of Grand Lodge on December 4th, 1755—the date 1763 or 1764, given by "I.P.M.," as the supposed publication is probably correct.

On referring to date given by "I.P.M." I extract the following: "Assembly and Feast at Mercers' Hall, on Saturday, 30th March, 1734, when the D.G.M. proclaimed John Lindsay, Earl of Crauford, G.M. of Masons, who appointed Sir Cecil Wray D.G.M."

"On February 24th, 1735, at a meeting of Grand Lodge the Earl of Crauford proposed as his successor the Lord Viscount Weymouth, who was forthwith saluted as G.M. elect."

"Assembly and Feast at Mercers' Hall, on April 17th 1735: Bro. Crauford proclaimed aloud our noble Bro. Thomas Thynne, Lord Viscount Weymouth, Grand Master of Masons, who appointed John Ward D.G.M."

If this is a copy of the book in question, "I.P.M." must be in error as to the re-election of the Earl of Crauford, who only served one year.

I should have replied earlier, but the *Freemason* of date April 27th has only just fallen into my hands.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

J.D. 168.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I possess an old volume described as Northwick's Freemasonry, but dedicated to the Duke of Cumberland by the Hall Committee in 1784, and contains a History of Freemasonry from the Flood until 1714. From that date it gives a circumstantial account of the proceedings of G.L. until 1783, and a list of G.M.'s. from A.D. 597, adding from 1717 the Grand Officers. It publishes the full Constitutions and General Regulations of the fraternity as authorised by

G.L., the simplicity of which contrasts very forcibly with those of the present time. A description of nearly every City church existing at that period, many of which are now demolished, follows.

I should like to know if this is a well-known work.
Yours faithfully,

A. S.

[Bro. Hughan will probably reply to this.—Ed.]

A CHAPLAIN'S SURPLICE.
To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In answer to G. C., I beg to say that such a use is not customary, though there is nothing positively illegal in it.

Yours fraternally,

A CHAPLAIN.

FREEMASONRY AND CIVILIZATION.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

The information respecting the picture thus named came in the usual course to, and there was no reason for its accuracy being doubted by,

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

THE WRITER OF THE NOTICE IN QUESTION.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir,—

As a former newspaper editor, both here and in America, although no Mason, will you allow me to reply in your columns to a letter from Mr. James Stevens, published by you on May 18th last?

Mr. Stevens has not considered it necessary even to mention my name, although the picture of Masonry and Civilization was painted by me.

In the first place, Mr. Haigh has two separate compositions of mine—one in wash and one in line—of the subject in his hands, founded on letter-press in his possession. Both these sketches were made by me under Mr. Haigh's supervision.

In the second place, Mr. Stevens was only in Mr. Rowe's studio, 157A, Buckingham Palace-road, where the picture was painted, twice during the three months I was engaged upon it, and I may honestly say that to Mr. Hyde Pullen, with the two reverend gentlemen Messrs. Simpson and Tebbs, I feel decidedly more indebted for suggestions than I do to Mr. Stevens.

In the last place I cannot but consider it extremely cool for any one to talk about "elaborating" a picture, in speaking of which he does not even mention the artist's name, who must, it would necessarily be supposed, have allowed him to "elaborate" it.

I can also bring undeniable proof, if required, that in March, 1877 (not September, as Mr. Stevens states), the idea was first suggested, and an artist was engaged to compose the subject, although ill-health prevented his being able to do so.

I have the honour to sign myself, dear Sir, yours very obediently,

CHARLES ROSENBERG.

Mr. Rowe's Studio,

157A, Buckingham Palace-road.

[We publish this letter from a non-Mason with all reserve.—Ed.]

THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir, and Brother,

I quite agree with your correspondent of last week, that the nomination of a whole committee of twelve members by one subscriber is a most irregular proceeding, and ought to meet with a very strong protest from the General Committee on the first of June; but I am not sure that the writer's assumption, that the nomination was approved by the present House Committee, is quite correct, one member of which has positively denied having had any previous knowledge of such a proposition, and it may be inferred that others were equally ignorant of the intended slight to the General Committee.

By all means let the Governors at their next meeting, on the 1st of June, protest against such proceedings, but let them also take care that in doing so they "put the saddle on the right horse."

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours very truly,

FAIR PLAY.

May 21st, 1878.

BROTHER BURGER'S LETTER.

Dear Brother Kenning,—

As it is by my advice that Bro. Burger's letter does not appear in the *Freemason*, I think it right to allude to it to-day. I am very sorry to stop any "Jupiter Tonans" or "Pluvialis" holding forth "ore rotundo," but I could not, for the life of me, see what possible good could accrue to the *Freemason* in particular, or to Masonic manners in general, by the appearance of Bro. Burger's letter, which is written in "hot haste," with much asperity, and is, in my opinion, what the French would term "bete." No one who has read Bro. Burger's lecture, our leader, and my letter, as well as Bro. Burger's, but must be struck with two things; 1st. Bro. Burger's very high opinion of his own theory, by no means novel, and 2nd, his extremely low opinion of every opponent. Indeed, the sublimity of Bro. Burger's style and line of argument is most affecting, not to say "knock-me-down." One is quite affected by the grandeur of the "new philosophy," and of the line of attempted support of it. It puts one in mind of a good story in Walpole's letters to Mason, where, when a lady asked Bishop Dawes had he "seen the eclipse of the moon." That prelate gravely replied, with ineffable dignity, "No, Ma'am. I saw the eclipse of the sun, my Chaplain saw the eclipse of the moon." Had Bro.

Burger not responded, in his haste, his grandeur, and his anger, he would have seen that the remarks in the "leader" (not my letter,) did not and could not apply to him "personally." In that leader, the writer simply laid down a "canon" as regards all "factors," of change in all things human, the Masonic ritual included, and, dividing all such reformers into three classes, placed Bro. Burger in the first, or "honest class." What more could he do? His remarks about "greater rascals" is surely a common-place assertion, that among all reformers such individuals are to be found, such a view giving point to old Johnson's witty apothegm that "patriotism" was the "refuge of a scoundrel." Before then, Bro. Burger writes again, or lectures you or me, or indulges in such excessive eloquence or bathos, as you like to consider it, let him read the context of any leader he criticises, and above all, let him remember that other people besides himself have an opinion on the matter, and that there are two sides to every question.

Yours fraternally,

THE EDITOR.

ROYAL ARCH DEGREE AND TRACING BOARD.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

As a R.A.M. I feel greatly indebted to Bro. K. Mackenzie for his valuable discovery. His graphic and interesting description conveys at once the importance, historically considered, of this ancient document. May I ask him, through the medium of your excellent paper, if he will state the reason which induced him to fix the age at 120 years? I am sure he will be delighted to do so, in order to dispose of any criticism which may be indulged in when this document is quoted as a visible testimony, and as a refutation of the fallacies indulged in by those who assert the very modern origin of this Sublime Degree.

I am, Mr. Editor, faithfully and fraternally yours,
E. S. MAIN, P.Z.

THE GIRLS' SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

The leading article in your last week's number on this subject mentions that only five lodges from 1700 to 1732 were represented, also that lists under £100 seem to require no special note or commendation, although you somewhat qualify this remark.

As the Steward representing No. 1716, and in justice to that lodge, I think it should be known that it was consecrated on the 21st September, 1877, and notwithstanding the heavy expenses attending the formation of a new lodge, we sent a Steward to the Benevolent Festival with nearly £40 on his list, and at the Girls' Anniversary, I am proud to say, I handed in a list of £50 8s., since which I have obtained £10 10s. to add thereto, so you will see from the consecration to the present time nearly £100 has been contributed to the Charities from Lodge 1716. This, to my mind, clearly shows that we have the experts of whom you speak amongst us, and it also forms one of the exceptions deserving remembrance, if not special note or commendation.

Would it not have been well to have published the result of the efforts of the five new lodges, as an incentive to others to "go and do likewise?"

With these remarks I will follow you, and say—Farewell Anniversary 1878.

Yours fraternally,

J. KEMP COLEMAN.

Steward 1716.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In your leader of Saturday last, respecting the Girls' School Anniversary, you speak of my having taken up the second largest amount as Steward of 1628. It should have been 1608 (the Kilburn Lodge). Kindly repair the error in your next issue, and oblige

Yours very fraternally,

GEO. EVERETT, P.M., Treasurer.

GRAND LODGE OF SCOTLAND.

The following circular has been issued, which we publish in the *Freemason* :—

Freemasons' Hall, Edinburgh, May 14, 1878.

R. W. Sir and dear Brother,—

The recommendation of Grand Committee regarding the Grand Orient of France, as shown on page eight of No. 6 of "Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Scotland," already in the hands of lodges, was unanimously adopted at the Grand Quarterly Communication held in Freemasons' Hall on Monday, the 6th May current.

Lodges holding of the Grand Lodge of Scotland are therefore required to exercise the utmost caution in admitting, as visitors or otherwise, brethren hailing from lodges under the French Constitution. The Grand Lodge of Scotland cannot recognise as true and genuine brethren any who have been initiated in lodges which either deny, or ignore a belief in, the existence of T.G.A.O.T.U.

I am, R.W. Sir and dear Brother, yours faithfully and fraternally,

D. MURRAY LYON,
Secretary to the Grand Lodge.

PORTSMOUTH GRAMMAR SCHOOL.—Mr. Sergeant Gasler, who formerly represented Portsmouth, has announced his intention of giving £1000 for the founding of a scholarship in connection with the local Grammar School.

Mr. P. F. Poole, R.A., has been elected a member, and Mr. J. Fulleylove and Mr. Harry Hine have been elected Associates, of the Institute of Painters in Water Colours.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

[The following appeared in our SPECIAL EDITION last week.]

The annual meeting of the Subscribers and Governors of this Institution was held on Friday week at Freemasons' Tavern. Bro. Colonel Creaton, P.G.D., presided, and there were also present, among others, Bros. S. Rawson, Benj. Head, Raynham W. Stewart, Rev. C. J. Martyn, Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, Henry Smith (West Yorkshire), E. Cox, J. L. Hine, John Mason, H. Hacker, Conrad C. Dumas, Peter de Lande Long, Thos. W. White, Thomas Cubitt, G. Finch, Joseph Smith, T. R. Eames, George Kenning, R. B. Webster, A. H. Tattershall, John Bellerby, G. Ward Verry, J. Newton, Charles Lacey, A. Middlemas, J. A. Farnfield, W. H. Farnfield, Capt. J. Wordsworth (Leeds), E. J. Harty, J. G. Stevens, Alfred Best, E. Dawkins, George M. E. Snow, T. J. Sabine, F. Binckes, H. G. Buss, A. A. Pendlebury, W. Dodd, Walter Hopekirk, W. J. Crutch, James Willing, jun., W. J. Murlis, A. D. Loewenstark, L. Stean, James Robins, W. H. Watts, Geo. Bolton, C. J. Percival, H. Potter, W. Hilton, W. H. Masterman, James Terry, Secretary, and H. Massey (*Freemason*).

The minutes of the last annual meeting having been confirmed, the Auditors' report (in a condensed form, but the full details of which are given below) was ordered to be received and entered on the minutes.

Bro. James Terry then read the report of the committee of management as follows :—

"In presenting to the Governors and Subscribers a report of the proceedings, the committee of management desire to express their thanks for the support which has been extended to the Institution during the past year, resulting in the largest sum having been contributed to it since its formation.

The annual festival was held on the 13th February last, under the presidency of His Grace the Duke of Manchester, V.P., R.W. Prov. Grand Master for Norths and Hunts, supported by a board of Stewards, 225 in number. The amount announced was £11,136 13s. 6d., with a few lists to come in, the total sum brought in being £11,333 1s. The Committee earnestly appreciate the kindness of His Grace in presiding, and the services so willingly rendered by the Stewards, and tender them their sincere thanks.

As candidates for election to-day there are 30 men and 41 widows. Two candidates (one male and one female) have died since the voting papers were issued.

The deaths during the past year have been 15 men and 11 widows. The committee considering the large increase made last year in the number placed as annuitants did not feel themselves justified in materially augmenting the number this year, more especially as there was a diminution in the amount announced at the festival. They have, therefore, determined to fill up the vacancies thus created, and make an addition to the number of widows already on the fund by electing five extra. There will then be on the fund 145 men receiving £40 each, amounting to £5800, and 135 widows receiving £32 each, amounting to £4320. There are also 11 widows receiving half their late husbands' annuities, amounting to £220; so that the Institution will after this election stand committed to an annual payment of £10,342 to annuitants. The working expenses will be slightly over £2,000. There will therefore have to be raised nearly £12,500 to maintain the Institution in its present state of usefulness.

The committee are confident that this has but to be made known, and the Craft will in the future, as it has in the past, render to the Institution their kind and generous support.

They regret that during the past year they have to report that through the failure of Messrs. Willis, Percival, and Co., the bankers, there has been incurred a loss of £990 19s. 10d. They entertain, however, the hope that in the end this will be entirely made good.

To the Grand Lodge the committee tender their thanks for the renewed donation of £70, voted to supply the residents of the Institution at Croydon, with coals during the winter months, a gift which is highly appreciated by the recipients.

To the Supreme Grand Chapter they also tender their thanks for the vote of £1,000 stock, viz., £500 to the Male Fund, and £500 to the Female Fund.

The Institution having during the past year been thoroughly repaired, the committee have much pleasure in stating it will require for some time to come very little outlay to maintain it in its present condition.

To Henry J. Strong, Esq., M.D., the Honorary Surgeon, they tender their warmest thanks for his unremitting care and attention to the residents, which he has continued to give for nearly 17 years.

Subjoined is a statement of the receipts and expenditure during the past year, ending the 31st March, 1878, together with the particulars of the permanent income of the Institution.

MALE FUND.	
Balance 31st March, 1877 ...	£3521 2 10
Receipts.	
Donation from Grand Lodge	£500 0 0
" " Chapter	100 0 0
" Lodges, Chapters, and Individuals ...	4908 10 11
Annual Subscriptions ...	1342 16 6
Dividends on Stock in the Government Funds ...	857 13 0
Rent of Field (5 quarters) ...	12 10 0
Interest on Cash at Call ...	35 16 7

Cash Withdrawn from Call £2000 0 0
 £9757 7 0
 £13278 9 10

DISBURSEMENTS.

Annuitants ... £5480 0 0
 Salary of Secretary and Clerk 290 0 0
 Collector's Commission ... 93 17 6
 Messenger ... 5 0 0
 Assistance in Office... 11 8 8
 Secretary, Provincial Expenses 59 16 11
 Medicine for residents at Asylum ... 12 10 0
 Warden, Gatekeeper, and Gardener at Asylum 64 0 0
 Taxes, &c., at Asylum ... 32 7 6
 Repairs and Furniture, &c., at Asylum ... 414 6 11
 Law Charges, &c., at Asylum 6 16 0
 Stationery, Printing, &c. ... 129 4 0
 Advertisements ... 19 18 0
 Postages, &c., including expenses of Election ... 138 2 0
 Petty Expenses ... 10 18 7
 Entertainment of Stewards and Annuitants ... 28 9 2
 Votes of Thanks to Stewards Gardening, &c. at the Asylum 19 10 6
 Powers of Attorney and Commission, on transferring Stock, &c. ... 17 4 9
 Gratuity to Secretary and Collector... 30 0 0
 Pension to late Gardener ... 6 10 0
 Repaid Donation (credited in error) ... 5 5 0
 Secretary for Petty Cash ... 25 0 0
 Rent of Fields (5 quarters) ... 23 8 9
 Rent, &c., of Office... 18 0 0
 Deposited at call ... 2000 0 0
 Purchase of £2000 3 per cent Consols and Commission ... 1920 0 0
 £10891 13 0

Balance on this account ... 2386 16 10

WIDOWS' FUND.
 Receipts.

Balance 31st March, 1877 ... £2574 5 6
 Donation from Grand Lodge £300 0 0
 " Grand Chapter 50 0 0
 " Lodges, Chapters, and Individuals 5123 16 7
 Annual Subscriptions ... 1305 4 6
 Dividend on Stock in the Government Funds ... 546 11 10
 Rent of Field (5 quarters) ... 12 10 0
 Interest on Cash at call ... 17 18 3
 Cash withdrawn from call ... 1000 0 0
 £8356 1 2
 £10930 6 8

Disbursements.

Annuitants ... £4101 0 0
 Salary of Secretary and Clerk ... 290 0 0
 Collector and Commission ... 104 5 9
 Messenger ... 5 0 0
 Assistance in Office ... 11 8 8
 Secretary (Provincial expenses) 59 16 10
 Medicine for Residents at Asylum ... 12 10 0
 Matron at Asylum ... 30 0 0
 Rates, Taxes, &c. ... 32 7 4
 Repairs and Furniture, &c... 414 7 0
 Law Charges ... 6 16 6
 Stationery, Printing, &c. ... 125 7 9
 Advertisements ... 19 18 3
 Postages, &c. (including expenses of Election.) ... 130 9 2
 Petty expenses ... 10 18 8
 Entertainment of Stewards and Annuitants ... 28 9 2
 Votes of Thanks to Stewards Gardening, &c., at Asylum... 19 10 6
 Powers of Attorney and Commission on transferring Stock ... 17 2 3
 Gratuity to Secretary and Collector ... 30 0 0
 Repaid Donation (credited in error.) ... 5 5 0
 Secretary, for petty cash ... 25 0 0
 Rent of Field (5 quarters) ... 23 8 9
 Rent, &c., of Office ... 18 0 0
 Deposited at call ... 1000 0 0
 Purchase of £1125 3 per cent Consols & Commission 1080 0 0
 £7632 1 2

Balance on this Account £3299 5 6

SUSTENTATION OF BUILDING.

Balance 31st March, 1877 ... £27 4 4
 Dividends on Stock in the Government Funds ... 30 0 0
 57 4 4

Repairs ... £10 8 10
 Balance on this account ... £46 15 6

Balance on Male account ... 2386 16 10
 " Female " ... 3299 5 6
 " Sustentation ... 46 15 6

Total Balance as per Auditors' Report £5732 17 10

The permanent income of the Institution is as follows:—

MALE FUND.

Annual Grant from G. Lodge £500 0 0
 " G. Chapter 100 0 0
 Dividends on £30,870 Stock in the Government Funds ... 857 13 0
 £1457 13 0

WIDOWS' FUND.

Annual Grant from G. Lodge £300 0 0
 " G. Chapter 100 0 0
 Dividends on £19,550 Stock in the Government Funds ... 546 11 10
 £946 11 10

SUSTENTATION OF BUILDING.

Dividends on £1000 Stock in the Government Funds ... £30 0 0
 £2434 4 10

(Signed) J. CREATON, P.G.D.,
 Vice-Patron, Chairman.

Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.
 8th May, 1878.

This report was then ordered to be received and entered on the minutes.

Bros. Adlard, Bellerby, and Dilley were elected on the Committee of Management for the ensuing year.

Bros. H. G. Warren, A. H. Tattershall, and R. B. Webster were elected Auditors, the Chairman announcing at the same time that he much regretted that Bro. John Symonds had resigned his position of Auditor on account of ill-health.

The scrutineers of votes were afterwards appointed, and the brethren proceeded to elect nineteen aged brethren and eighteen widows. At the close of the poll the following was found to be the result:—

SUCCESSFUL.

MALES.

Grant, William ... 1669
 Butel, Alexander ... 1420
 Dawson, John ... 1338
 Collins, Edward ... 1325
 Usher, William Charles ... 1073
 Habersfield, John ... 1058
 Williams, David ... 1050
 Marlor, Robert ... 1025
 Gaswell, George Thomas ... 1021
 Oberdoeffler, Adolphe Jean Matthieu 1017
 Shoring, Joseph Richard ... 1015
 Hewson, Thomas ... 929
 Gifford, Walter Edmund ... 914
 Thompson, William Henry ... 913
 Hancock, James ... 889
 Holt, Edmund ... 888
 Mongar, John Thomas ... 796
 Gernet, Peter Christian ... 756
 Wright, Henry ... 727

FEMALES.

Hutchings, Margaret ... 1245
 Gower, Mary ... 1161
 Tibbals, Sarah ... 1123
 Burt, Elizabeth Gundry ... 998
 Tucker, Ann ... 997
 Stansfield, Alice ... 944
 Brinckley, Eliza ... 937
 Purchase, Mary ... 911
 Wood, Betty ... 900
 Tremble, Mary ... 899
 Wilson, Jane ... 880
 Billinge, Elizabeth ... 871
 Sherry, Maria Georgina ... 867
 Perryman, Sarah ... 861
 Hodge, Elizabeth ... 810
 Beale, Sarah ... 809
 Curran, Mary ... 639
 Fletcher, Betty ... 610

UNSUCCESSFUL.

MALES.

Wade, William B. ... 560
 Palmer, William Taverner ... 529
 Cushen, Thomas ... 404
 Wood, William ... 251
 Wardale, Henry ... 163
 Morton, Hiram ... 119
 Holdaway, Henry ... 85
 Walker, Robert Cox ... 39
 Wauldby, James ... 4
 Bennett, Joseph ... 4

FEMALES.

Thompson, Julia ... 601
 Peters, Catherine ... 324
 Percival, Amy ... 316
 West, Mary Ann H. ... 303
 Hodgson, Sarah Ellen ... 252
 Maynard Elizabeth T. ... 227
 Woods, Sarah ... 216
 Elliott, Isabella ... 201
 Child, Elizabeth ... 185
 Shearer, Anne ... 178

Allen, Sarah Ann ... 164
 Lewis, Jane Dodge ... 127
 Gambell, Naomi ... 67
 Eade, Hannah Betsy ... 43
 Francis, Elizabeth ... 33
 Child, Elizabeth Mary Ann ... 33
 Findley, Mary Ann ... 29
 Wakefield, Ann ... 19
 Stafford, Jane ... 9
 Crispin, Martha ... 6
 Milnes, Mary Ann ... 4
 Harfoot, Ann ... 3
 George, Hannah ... 1
 Vincent, Eliza ...

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

FREEMASONRY IN JAMAICA.

We have been requested to publish the following:—
 District Grand Lodge, East Jamaica,
 March 6, 1878.

To the Right Worshipful J. W. Whitbourne, Past Deputy District Grand Master of East Jamaica.

Right Worshipful Sir and Brother,—
 Having heard at the last meeting of the District Grand Lodge of your resignation as Deputy District Grand Master, an office which, for many years, you have so worthily and satisfactorily filled, the District Grand Lodge feels that it would not be performing its duty did it not convey to you its sentiments of regret, more especially when that retirement has been brought about by ill health.

The District Grand Lodge feels that this is the most opportune time for recording its appreciation of your valuable services, extending over a lengthened period, and which were freely rendered while acting during the absence of the Right Worshipful District Grand Master as head of English Masonry in East Jamaica, and it must be a source of much pride to you, as it is of satisfaction to this District Grand Lodge, to be able to refer with pleasurable recollections to the able, courteous, yet dignified manner in which those duties were performed.

We tender for your acceptance the accompanying token in testimony of the high regard and esteem in which, as a Mason, you are so highly held, and we would ask you not to value this tribute for its intrinsic worth, but to receive it as a mark of our brotherly love and respect for you.

We cannot conclude this expression of our sentiments without the prayer that ere long you will be restored to good health, and that T.G.A.O.U. will grant you long life, accompanied with all earthly blessing, as a reward for that unostentatiousness and usefulness which have characterised your past career.

On behalf of the officers and members of the District Grand Lodge of East Jamaica.

ROBERT HAMILTON, D.G. Master.
 G. C. H. Lewis, District Grand Secretary,

March 6, 1878.

To the Right Worshipful Grand Master, Officers, and Members of the District Grand Lodge of East Jamaica.

Right Worshipful Sir and Brethren,—

I crave your acceptance of my sincere thanks for the very kind and fraternal address you have been pleased to present me, expressive of your regret at my resignation of the office of Deputy District Grand Master, an office I have had the honour to hold for many years, and which, during the absence of our highly esteemed and talented Grand Master (who has been doing the Craft and its honour elsewhere) you so kindly say has been satisfactorily filled.

It is indeed a source of pride and gratification to me to learn that, in administering the very onerous duties of my office, I have been so fortunate as to give satisfaction; and, as you further kindly intimate, I have gained the esteem and regard of the members of the District Grand Lodge.

Words can hardly express how consolatory this acknowledgement is to me, for the duties of my office were not at all times of a pleasant nature, nor were my intentions for the good of the Craft always rightly understood, in my desire to uphold one of the grand principles of our brotherhood, without which Masonry would be nothing more than a huge sham and a snare; nay, as bad as a system of Masonry devoid of the grandest of all our grand principles "our belief in and reverence for God." The purity of those intentions, and your approbation, which I truly appreciate, is however, my solace.

But, in all this, I should be selfish and ungrateful if I took all the credit to myself, and failed to recognise how much my success was dependent on your kind co-operation; nor can I refrain from bearing willing testimony to the zeal of our late Dist. Grand Secretary, "the Very Worshipful J. J. G. Lewis," to whom I am grateful for past services; and I have no hesitation in stating that the present satisfactory state of the District Grand Lodge is the result of the members working together in harmony, which I hope will always be characteristic of our Masonic labours.

The testimonial which accompanies the address which you have so generously presented to me I accept with grateful thanks. Permit me to express my gratitude for this token of your brotherly love and esteem, and let me assure you that it will be treasured up in my household as a "souvenir" of your kindness, and keep alive the recollection of the many happy occasions we have met together for Masonic work.

Allow me to thank you sincerely for your prayers and good wishes for the restoration of my health, the imperfect state of which (being the primary cause of my resignation) has often prevented my visits to the lodges on occasions when it was my duty to be in my place. Even in this, your kindness has been evinced, in making allowances for my shortcomings.

I shall ever remember your kindness and sincerely trust, that T.G.A.O.T.U. may have you in His keeping, and that every blessing may attend your families will ever be the earnest prayer of

Yours sincerely and fraternally.

J. W. WHITEBOURNE,
Past Deputy D.G. Master East Jamaica.

DULWICH COLLEGE.

Our readers will have more than once heard of the case of Hume v. Marshall. As is well-known, judgment has been given in Bro. Hume's favour, he has been awarded his costs, and the Charity Commissioners have expressed their full satisfaction with the emphatic vindication of Bro. Hume's character by the special jury. After all this, Mr. Marshall, the defendant, being heavily mulcted in costs, has, in vulgar parlance, "sent round the hat." Bro. Hume's friends, in turn, wished to raise a fund to pay his expenses, which even for the winner are always considerable in a case of such length, but their intended tribute of respect and goodwill was stopped by the following manly, and to those who know Bro. Hume, characteristic letter to a contemporary, which had advocated a testimonial to him:—

"Sir,—I cannot too much thank you for the kind feeling you express concerning a subscription to pay the costs I have incurred in publicly defeating a slander, but I cannot consent to accept any money on that score. I was forced to fight for my character, well knowing that even as a winner it would cost me pounds where I could ill afford shillings. That responsibility I accepted willingly, and I accept it now. My character having been vindicated by a special jury in open court, I am content. Besides, if an adverse verdict is a ground for an appeal to the public pocket, I can plead no such claim. Mr. Marshall seeks an indemnity for having thought it his "clear duty" to collect scandalous gossip about me, and to exaggerate it in the reporting. Neither judge nor jury would give it to him; the Charity Commissioners would not allow it to him, and so he appeals to a confiding and charitable public at large as a martyr.

"I cannot find it in me to figure as a martyr. Before appealing to a jury I knew that law was expensive, and that I had no trustees of a wealthy charity at my back. I knew that after my victory I could not expect anything but vindictiveness from the Governors of Dulwich College, whose schemes of demolition I had helped to upset; but I did know that I could earn my living, and that people would trust their sons with me to educate. They have done so, and I ask no more. So long as I can dig, to beg I am ashamed.

"In conclusion, allow me to add to the long list of those to whom my best and warmest thanks are due for support and sympathy, that small band of Dulwich Governors who have all along made a bold stand on behalf of truth and justice against an autocratic and overbearing majority, whose object has been to crush, not only me, but every one who stands in their way.

"Yours, &c.,

"ANDREW WILLIAM HUME.

"Allison Tower, Dulwich Common, S.E.,

"March 28, 1878."

Those who sympathise with Bro. Hume, among them many Freemasons, will learn with satisfaction that all the success which might have been anticipated from his high character as a gentleman and a scholar has attended his new start in life as a tutor for the army, civil service, and other examinations. Among many others, Bro. Horatio Lloyd, P.P.G.S.W. Cheshire, and Bro. Henry Parsons, P.P.G.S.W. Surrey, have withdrawn their sons from the more pretentious Dulwich College, to place them with Bro. Hume.

Bro. Hume is a P.M. 619, Scribe E. of No. 7 Chapter, S.W. No. 5, Mark Lodge, P.G.S. Middlesex, Mark and Surrey, is a Life Governor and was a Steward for R.M.I.B. last year.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The first meeting of the Stewards for the approaching Festival of this Institution, which will be held on the 8th of July, under the presidency of Bro. H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, P.G.S.W., took place on Thursday evening, at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. S. Rosenthal was called upon to preside.

Among the brethren present were Bros. R. W. Wylie, Geo. Page, W. Yardley, G. Allen, Leopold Ruf, J. G. Vohmann, F. Aclard, R. B. Webster, Charles Cobb, Henry Smith, Geo. Cooper, G. F. Wainwright, Alf. J. Bristow, Frederick Wood, W. G. Dickens, Robert W. Sprague, Thos. Cubitt, C. A. Cottebrune, H. M. Levy, Thomas Cochrane, John Wm. Garrod, James Winter, John A. Scott, E. C. Mather, Joyce Murray, C. Harrison, Edwin Villiers, S. B. Wilson, J. Laul, W. Morris, Don M. Dewar, Phos. Bull, Israel Abrahams, W. S. Whitaker, E. Taylor, and Massey, (*Freemason*).

Lord Suffield, Prov. G.M. for Norfolk, was elected President of the Board.

Bro. Thomas Cubitt, P.G.P., was elected Treasurer of the Board. Bro. Bincks was elected Honorary Secretary. It was arranged that as His Royal Highness had approved of the Alexandra Palace for the banquet and that ladies should sit down with the brethren, the same course should be followed this year.

Bro. Bincks said that anticipating this resolution he had seen Bros. Bertram and Roberts on Tuesday, and they had promised to do everything to make the festival a great success. They would place the large concert hall at the disposal of the Institution for the banquet, the picture gallery, and the conservatory, and Italian garden for coffee-room and concert. The large concert hall was a very

much larger apartment than the hall used for the last three or four years.

It was decided that gentlemen, not Masons, should not be admitted to the banquet.

The Stewards' fee was settled at two guineas. The brethren's tickets to be one guinea; ladies', 15s.

Bros. Raphael Costa, H. M. Levy, Joyce Murray, Rosenthal, R. B. Webster, and Israel Abrahams were appointed the Musical Committee, and other arrangements as to tickets were made in accordance with the usual custom.

Ladies' Stewards were also appointed.

The meeting was then adjourned.

ANCIENT AND MODERN MASONRY. (From the *Daily Telegraph*.)

An eventful period in the nation's history has intervened between the meeting of Masons at the Apple Tree Tavern, Charles-street, Covent-garden, a century and a half since, when one Mr. Anthony Sayer, carpenter, was elected the first Grand Master of Masons in England, and that other meeting held a few days ago, when his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales attended the Grand Lodge in the Freemasons' Hall, introducing as a "visiting brother" the Crown Prince of Denmark, Grand Master of Danish Freemasonry, and taking his seat on the mystic throne, with Peers of the Realm on either hand. It will suffice to give retrospect a thoughtful impulse if, recurring to Masonic annals, we recall the fact that exactly one hundred years ago some Englishmen established in St. Petersburg the first regular lodge opened in Russia, and that many of Czar Peter's nobles joined the brotherhood. The Lodge was named "The Lodge of Perfect Unity." At the recent meeting, his Royal Highness, going out of his way to give the toast, called upon the brethren to drink to the health of lodges abroad. "The toast is not," he said, "one usually given at these annual festivals, but it is one which I feel convinced all of you will receive most heartily. The Foreign Grand Lodges." Thus, while all Europe is anxiously awaiting an issue which may result in war, and a renewal of those terrible scenes of bloodshed and horror which have been witnessed in the East during the past year, there is placidly flowing under the surface of events the old current of goodwill amongst men.

Had the Royal Grand Master taken the opportunity to glance historically at either the remote or the immediate past of English Masonry, he might easily from his own large personal knowledge of Craft-lore and Craft-legend have given us a sketch of the rise of the great Order worthy of the important festival at which he was presiding. The throne he then filled had never before been honoured by Royalty; but now that Princes of the blood have in so many countries undertaken the supreme charge of Masonry it is only fitting that England, claiming to be universally supreme in "the universal Order," should be represented by the highest in the land. In 1737 a special lodge was held in the Palace of Kew for the initiation of Prince Frederick of Wales, and it was hoped that he would in time fill the Grand Master's throne, but his death in 1751—the very year for which he had proposed to take office—balked the Craft of the intended honour. Many very distinguished names, however, appear on the roll of the Kings of the Order, and half the peerage has at one time or another filled the highest office of the English Lodge. The post has always been a coveted one. Thus, in 1772, the Duke of Montague being re-elected Grand Master, the Duke of Wharton, who had aimed at the dignity, gathered his adherents together, and, convoking a meeting of Masons on his own responsibility, caused himself to be proclaimed Grand Master. This preposterous schism, so serious to Masonic interests, so absurd to the uninitiated world, was healed by the Duke of Montague, loyal to the religion of the Craft, resigning his honours in favour of his ambitious and turbulent "brother." But the Duke of Wharton had seized on the crown merely for a whim, and soon after, feeling in ill-health, renounced his religion and Masonry with it, and entering a Spanish monastery, died at the age of thirty-two. His successor, the Duke of Richmond, reigned long and peacefully, and it was under him that the Committee of Charity, so splendid in its modern development and so Christian in its objects, was inaugurated. Another innovation—less useful perhaps, but not less important as a feature of modern Masonry—was introduced under the next dual incumbent. The Duke of Norfolk presented the fraternity with the sword of Gustavus Adolphus and of the brave Duke Bernhard of Weimar, and thus was laid the foundation of what Masons call "the furniture" of their lodge. Since then the pageantry and appointments of Masonry have increased vastly in splendour but in due proportion only as the ancient brotherhood has itself increased. To the present Grand Master, the ritual of the Craft owes much of its stately circumstance, but to him also it owes something of its dignity and material well-being. Just as in 1731 Masonry everywhere received an impetus by the initiation of Francis, Duke of Lorraine, afterwards Emperor of Germany, so in 1875, when it was known that the Prince of Wales had consented to fill the throne, a very beneficial impulse was given to Masonry both at home and abroad. In India, for instance, the fact occasioned much curious interest, and nearly every lodge in the country had to answer the inquiries of our Eastern fellow-subjects as to the nature and object of the hitherto dreaded Order, and their own fitness for initiation. Unfortunately for them, religion bars Masonry against the orthodox Hindu, but from the other creeds of India neophytes are annually enrolled. Nor, though small in its beginning, is this welding influence of Masonry to be despised. It is only twenty years ago that no native of

India would cross the threshold of a lodge—"the witchcraft house," as they call it—and a soldier who, in the Mutiny of 1857, flung his spear through an open window at the portrait of the Master as it hung upon the wall of the Masonic building at Allahabad, is still spoken of by his countrymen as a most daring man. But to-day the natives of India are everywhere seeking admission to the Order, and when, a year or two ago, the Prince of Wales visited the great Oriental dependency, there were native signatures to the Masonic deputation which, in the name of the Craft, welcomed the Grand Master to the East. The movement will undoubtedly become before long a national one, at any rate in Bengal; and of its future utility, both practical and political, in bringing together in social intercourse Europeans and native gentlemen, there can be no doubt. For the Eastern mind the mysticism and symbolism of Masonry has a peculiar and intense fascination, and in the history of most Eastern nations secret associations have been conspicuous. Their influence has seldom operated for good, it is true; but with the present Order evil cannot associate itself, for disloyalty unknits its bonds and irreligion can find no place in it. While, therefore, so harmless, with all its glamour, for the secret-loving Oriental, the main object of Masonry, its catholic charity, especially recommends itself to the most charitable nation in the world; for to this title the people of India have surely a claim. Their religion and society centre in and turn upon the great virtue of charity; and an Anglo-Indian statesman, recently leaving India, left it on record that if the machinery to work a great system of public charity could, without official interference, be organised, the Government of the country would never have cause to vex itself about methods of meeting famine deficits. Perhaps in Masonry the required machinery may before long be found; and, indeed, it requires nothing more than that genial interest taken by the present Grand Master of English Masonry in the Craft abroad to bring about the desired result.

Thus the great stream of Masonic brotherhood continues in its beneficent course. The terrible schism that has so recently rent the great fraternity, and has for its cause of disagreement no less a point than the absolute freedom of the conscience, bids fair, if not to heal, at any rate to contract to far smaller proportions than had at first been feared. The vast majority of lodges have leagued together in defence of the ancient watchwords of their Order, and before long the latest "schism" will have dwindled into the insignificance of those that have preceded it. On this point the history of the Craft affords another coincidence, lending itself opportunely to our purpose by providing a happy parallel. About a hundred years ago, English Masonry was threatened by a serious, perhaps fatal, secession on points of the ancient constitution; but the Grand Master of that time, by his energy and the judicious exercise of his large powers, prevented the disruption from attaining the dimensions originally portended, and the schism of the "ancients" is now hardly known even by name outside the small circle of scholars in Masonic lore. The Grand Master then was Lord Carnarvon. It is the same peerage that now gives English Masonry its practical, working-day chief, for it is Lord Carnarvon who represents the Prince of Wales during his Royal Highness's absence from the lodge. With him, therefore, lies, in a large degree, the responsibility of checking the rupture which is now threatened, and making again universal among the "guild of Masons" that loyalty to their traditions which, no less than charity to others, has distinguished the Craft from all times.

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales has promised to preside at the anniversary festival of the Infant Orphan Asylum, to be held at the Asylum, Wanstead, on June 28th. H.R.H. the Princess of Wales has graciously consented to distribute the prizes to the children.

The quarterly meeting of the Chapter of Harmony took place at Farnham on Thursday week. A report is in type and will appear in our next.

Bro. Alfred Durrant, P.M. 1185, and M. E. Z. elect, 1185, is gazetted Captain in the Honourable Artillery Company of London.

The Malay Peninsula, from Wellesley Province by Singapore, contains, according to a Straits paper, millions of acres of low, undulating, thickly-wooded hills, which are well suited for the growth of tea, as the soil of which they are composed is similar to the best soils of India. The variety to be planted must, however, it would seem, be that indigenous in Assam. The land referred to is, indeed, only suited to the cultivation of tea or coffee, and with cheap land, plentiful labour, regular seasons, and easy transport, the Malay Peninsula would certainly appear to possess unequalled advantages for the production of tea. The soil of Singapore has been, until recently, much underrated, but it has been shown conclusively that pepper, tapioca, and sugar can be successfully grown upon it, and it is probable that the tea-shrub, which is a hardy plant, can be grown on the island as on the peninsula.—*Nature*.

The tax imposed upon the managers of the Paris opera-houses and theatres, by which they are compelled to pay 10 per cent. of their gross receipts for the benefit of the poor, has always been a grievance with managers, for it has frequently happened that the poor-tax has to be paid although the house had been kept open at a loss. It is now, however, proposed to tax the net instead of the gross receipts. The plan to be adopted is a simple one. The places of amusement are divided into five classes, and from £20 to £100 per night, according to the class of the house, is allowed for expenses. This sum will be deducted from the gross receipts, and on the balance 12 per cent. is to be paid. The proposal has, however, not been received with unmixed satisfaction by the Paris managers, who declare that the sum to be allowed for expenses is insufficient.—*Theatre*.

LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

The monthly meeting of the Lodge of Benevolence was held on Wednesday evening, at Freemasons' Hall. The three chairs were occupied by Bros. J. M. Clabon, President; Joshua Nunn, Senior Vice-President; and James Brett, Junior Vice-President. The other brethren present were Bros. Lord Henniker, S.G.W.; John Hervey, G. Secretary; H. G. Buss, Assistant Grand Secretary; A. A. Pendlebury, S. Rawson, P. District G.M. China; James Glaisher, P.G.D.; Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, G.D.; J. M. Case, P.G.D.; Capt. N. G. Phillips, P.G.D.; James Lewis Thomas, Assistant G.D.C.; C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P.; J. A. Rucker, P.G.D.; Rev. Wm. Alfred Hill, G.C.; W. T. Howe, G.P.; A. L. Cole, G.S.W.; Joseph Smith, P.G.P.; H. Bartlett, C. F. Hogard, Henry Smith, C. P. Cobham, Griffiths Smith, P.G.S.; Charles Godschalk, P.M. 1205; T. J. Mairwell, G. Mallett, Rev. Dr. Brette, Christ's Hospital; E. C. Massey, W.M. 1207; W. Stephens; W. Bulkeley Hughes; E. J. Godby; Edward Cox; H. P. Bennett, W.M. 4; A. M. Cohen, W.M. 205; E. H. Hewett; James Mason, P.G.S.B.; W. H. Perryman; Charles Atkins, P.M. 27; G. W. Hollington; A. Middlemas, W.M. 1641; G. Fisher; H. Garrod, P.M. 749; Hugh Cotter; W. Mann, P.M. 186; J. Nicholson, E. H. Thicllay, Alf. Isaac Bristow; J. W. Collier, Col. H. S. Somerville Burney, Ralph Gooding, Edward Terry, W.M. 1319; John Walmisley, G. P. Britten, Alfd. Brookson, Geo. Sparks, W. Beattie, Thos. Cochrane, E. Kidman, H. Martyn, James Cox, John White, R. D. Still, L. Cornelissen, H. Payne, Jas. Kew, and C. B. Payne, G.T.; and Massey, (*Freemason*).

The Board of Masters was first held, and the agenda paper of next Quarterly Communication settled.

After the Lodge of Benevolence had been opened, grants to the amount of £240, recommended at last lodge, were confirmed. The new list comprised twenty-four cases. Five of these were deferred. The remaining nineteen were relieved with £440, which sum was made up of one £75 (£75), four £40 (£160), one £30 (£30), one £25 (£25), three £20 (£60), one £15 (£15), and seven £10 (£70), and one £5 (£5).

FREEMASONRY IN NORTH AFRICA.

A meeting of the Ancient Carthage Lodge (No. 1717), Tunis (under warrant from the Grand Lodge of England), was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Strada Si-Aly-Azuz, in Tunis, North Africa, on the evening of the 21st of April, 1878, under the presidency of its zealous and learned founder, and first Worshipful Master, Bro. A. M. Broadley, barrister-at-law, who was ably supported by his S.W., Bro. the Rev. E. B. Frankel, D.G. Chaplain of District Grand Lodge, Malta, and Chaplain to H. B. M.'s Consulate General, Regency of Tunis. The Junior Warden's chair was filled by Bro. A. Perrini, M.D., whilst the duties of Secretary were very ably performed by Bro. J. H. Stevens, H.M.'s Vice-Consul to the Regency of Tunis. Bro. George Pentecost occupied the J.D.'s chair, and Bro. Henry Haylock (the W.M.'s zealous and worthy Outer Guard and Steward) catered for the brethren after they were called off from labour to refreshment. Amongst the other active members Ancient Carthage Lodge may be mentioned Bros. Tulin de la Tunisie, Consul General of the German Empire, Eugene Casses, Vice-Consul of France; Gardner, Resident Agent of the Tunis Railway Company; Angelo Blanch; N. Lenghi, LL.D.; J. E. L. Barker, Engineer in Chief to the Arsenal of his Highness Mubammad Es-Sadik Pascia-Bey, the reigning Sovereign of Tunis; Legali, the worthy station master at Tunis, and others. The Ancient Carthage Lodge was dedicated on October 3, A.L. 5877, on the petition of nine worthy resident brethren, hailing from English Grand Lodge. Although so very recently inscribed upon our muster roll, her Worshipful Master, Bro. Broadley, has already initiated, passed, and raised no less than twenty-eight candidates, and at the present moment (including joining brethren) the lodge musters more than fifty strong. Amongst her members are representatives of divers nationalities and almost every creed. English and French, Spanish and German, Greek, Italian, Maltese, and Arab, muster on the square, in brotherly unity; whilst Hebrew and Mussulman, Roman Catholic, Protestant, and Greek, united by the mystic tie, meet in the name of the Great Architect of the Universe, under the all-embracing banner of brotherly love, relief, and truth. May the Lodge of Ancient Carthage prosper! may her brethren unite heart and hand to lighten Tunisian society with the beneficent attributes of Freemasonry! If true to the great principles of our Order their influence must be great, and must tend to bring together under her banner the more thoughtful members of the native community. Let our brethren by precept and example show the outward world around them that with our Order "evil cannot associate itself—for disloyalty unknits its bonds, and irreligion can find no place in it." Although the religion of the Prophet, alike with the craftier creed of Rome, has been long supposed to be absolutely inimical to Freemasonry, there are signs that this blind antipathy to our Order is fast passing away. The religion of Mahomet centres in charity, and thus English Freemasonry (at all events) has a special claim to the respect and goodwill of Mahomedan gentlemen. The time is not far distant when even the most credulous Mussulman, or Romanist, will cease to believe that the whole rite of Masonry is simply witchcraft in its most unmitigated form, and that the brethren when once within the portals of a Masonic lodge cease to be human and "fly about" enveloped in sulphurous fumes!

The Masonic Hall at Tunis, situated in the Sidi-Aly-Azuz (the street of the Son of God), is commodious, and nicely furnished: the funds of the Ancient Carthage Lodge are entirely devoted to charity. The fees for initiation, passing, and raising are £5 5s. The annual dues from each resident member are equal to 15s. per annum, and

from each non-resident brother 5s. per annum. Brethren visiting Tunis may become honorary members, by ballot, for a period not exceeding three months, at the usual rate of subscription, but without the right of voting, but at the expiration of three months, if they wish to continue their membership, they will have to pay the usual entrance fee of 12s. 6d.

The ceremonies are worked by the learned W.M., Bro. Broadley, either in Italian, French, Arabic, or English, according to the nationality of the candidate; as a rule the opening and closing ceremonies are gone through in English.

On the evening of April 21 a Maltese gentleman was initiated, and a candidate for the First Degree was duly balloted for and accepted. After the labours of the evening had been brought to a close, the brethren adjourned to the supper-room, where refreshment is provided on the occasion of each regular meeting. The usual Masonic toasts were given and heartily received, including that to "The Visiting Brethren," which was responded to by Bro. Ecroyd, P.M., who wished the Lodge of Ancient Carthage every success, and complimented the Worshipful Master, Bro. Broadley, upon the efficiency of his officers, and on the admirable way in which the First Degree was given in French. During supper it was incidentally mentioned that several of the brethren (who are Royal Arch Masons, and Mark Master Masons, respectively) have petitioned the Grand Royal Arch Chapter, and the Grand Mark Masters' Lodge in London, for permission to form a Royal Arch Chapter, and a Mark Masons' Lodge, in Tunis. It is to be hoped that both these petitions will be favourably received, and in due time granted, for the admirable working order into which the W.M. of the Craft Lodge has already got his brethren augurs well for the future efficient working of Royal Arch and other Masonic degrees amongst the brethren resident within the Regency of Tunis.

MEETINGS OF LEARNED AND OTHER SOCIETIES

At the monthly general meeting of the Zoological Society, held last week at the Society's house in Hanover-square, Professor Newton, F.R.S., V.P., in the chair, Prince Ibrahim Hilmy, Lord Claud Hamilton, Colonel J. T. Norgate, Major W. Hanmer, Mrs. Pollock, and Messrs. A. Bündenbänder, F. Bennoch, C. B. Barber, G. Bach, G. Chater, jun., G. A. Columbia, H. Doetsch, F. H. Craze, C. Forbes, H. Gwinner, M. J. Joyce, T. L. M. Lewellyn, J. M'Connell, A. D. C. Nicholls, G. C. Raphael, C. Robertson, R. H. Tidswell, and W. Thompson were elected fellows, and Dr. Franz Steindachner a foreign member of the society. Amongst the additions to the society's menagerie during the month of April were especially noticed a squirrel from Equador (*Sciurus stramineus*), of a species new to the society's collection, and a male Beisa antelope (*Oryx beisa*) presented by the Sultan of Zanzibar, and kindly brought home for the society by Captain Pasley, of Her Majesty's ship Simoom.

A meeting was held last week, under the presidency of the Duke of Westminster, at Grosvenor House, for the purpose of presenting a testimonial to Sir Henry Cole, K.C.B., in recognition of his eminent public services in connection with the establishment and successful organisation of the South Kensington Museum. The testimonial took the form of a tablet bearing a mosaic portrait in Della Robbia ware, designed and executed under the direction of Mr. Moody, and a marble bust by Mr. Boehm, in addition to a sum of money. The honorary secretary to the Committee of the Testimonial Fund, Mr. J. G. Craze, stated that £2924 had been subscribed; of this £323 had been expended on the tablet, £160 on the bust, and about £213 in advertising and other incidental expenses. This left a sum over of £2200 at the disposition of Sir Henry Cole. The Duke of Westminster, in formally presenting the testimonial, referred to the important educational results which had been achieved by Sir Henry Cole's exertions to improve and promote the study of science and art in this country. Sir Henry Cole, after briefly recounting the history of the origin and growth of the Museum at South Kensington, said, with much emotion, that after 50 years of public life, with his health declining from the constant strain of official work, he had felt it right to resign his duties. He was not idle in his leisure; his health had improved, and he hoped still to do some useful public work on his own responsibility. He was trying to obtain a national recognition for music, the first and most popular of all fine arts, to make elementary education the work of the people rather than of the State, and to promote means for improving the health of the people throughout the country. Resolutions were passed with a view to carrying out the wishes of Sir Henry Cole in regard to the disposition of the portrait-tablet and the bust, to the effect that the former be offered to the South Kensington Museum, and the latter, together with a bust of General Grey, copied by permission of the Queen, to the Prince of Wales, as president of Royal Albert Hall, to be suitably placed in that institution. Amongst those who addressed the meeting, and who all bore testimony to the energy Sir Henry Cole had displayed in promoting the study of science and art, were Lord Elcho, Lord Clarence Paget, Mr. C. Minton Campbell, Mr. George Godwin, F.R.S., Sir Morton Peto, Mr. Warren de La Rue, and Mr. N. MacLeod.

We learn from the Wednesday edition of the *City Press* that the recent success of Bro. J. D. Allcroft, the Conservative member for Worcester, has led to arrangements for forming a City Conservative Association. Bro. Allcroft attended the preliminary meeting.

"The Primitive Illuminati," By Bro. S.P.; unavoidably stands over till next week.

Reports of the following also stand over:—Lodges, 962, 977, 1073, 1326, 1503; Chapter 720; Kemys Tynte Encampment.

Mulum in Parbo; or Masonic Notes and Queries.

ROYAL ARCH MASONRY.

I have been much interested in reading the oration by E. Comp. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, M.A., P.G.C., delivered at the consecration of the Eclectic Chapter, No. 1201, at which E. Comp. Thomas Fenn, P.G.S.B., so ably presided.

1. The oration is much more worthy of the name than those generally delivered on such occasions, as few orators appear to consider the history of Royal Arch Masonry worthy of notice, and fewer still know much with respect to its eventful past, 1740-1813. I do not think myself it had any existence as a separate degree before (say) 1735-8. However, time will not permit me to dwell on this point, but whenever pressing business duties and better health enable me to devote more time to subjects additional to and yet illustrative of the Three Degrees, I shall gladly publish many important facts collected during several years of Masonic studies, for the information especially of my English companions.

2. That the possession of the Arch Degree by the "Ancients" (or "Athol Masons") from the constitution of their Grand Lodge 1750-3 gave them a great advantage over the regular Grand Lodge (or "Moderns," so called) there cannot be a doubt, and that their success induced the members of the "Modern" Grand Lodge to have a Royal Arch of their own is equally clear. True, as late even as 1792, the Grand Lodge officially refused to countenance the "Modern" Royal Arch Grand Chapter, but it was but a nominal objection to the degree, as the Grand Master of the one body was generally the Grand Patron or chief of the other. As early as 1769, Lord Blaney's name (Grand Master 1764-6) occurs on a "modern" Grand Chapter warrant (No. 2), and their first printed regulations of 1778 ("A.L. 1782") contain the name of H.R.H. the Duke of Cumberland, as Patron, and many well-known members of the Grand Lodge as officers, including Dunckerley, Smith, Hestline, Allen, and Ruspini. The "Union" of the two Grand Lodges in 1813, and of the Grand Chapters in 1817, healed the split, and since then, thanks be, we have proved that "union is strength" in Masonry, as in all else.

3. The curious document mentioned by our learned Bro. K. H. Mackenzie agrees in the main with a banner which is preserved at Canterbury, and once belonged to an old chapter, numbered 21. The "Modern" Grand Chapter numbered its chapters consecutively from one, but since the "Union" each chapter assumed the number of the lodge under whose wing it worked, so it is not easy to trace old chapters now, especially also as we fancy the old warrants were exchanged in many cases for new ones. The banner is doubtless of the latter part of the last century, and apparently is quite the same in character as the document in question, minus the triangle. Even that may be on the banner, but the photograph of it procured by my erudite friend and Bro. the Rev. Thomas Robinson, M.A. (P. Prov. G.H. Jamaica, Prov. G.J. Kent, &c.), is not very distinct, above the "All-Seeing Eye."

WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN.

COLE'S LIST FROM 1770.

In looking over Cole's List I note that its last number is "406, Hare and Hounds, Barnard Castle, Durham." I see that in 1770 Cole makes Henry Price Prov. G.M. of North America, he being of Boston. The earliest American lodge is "54, Royal Exchange, Boston, in New England," the next is "62, Solomon's Lodge, Charles Town, South Carolina." Perhaps, Bro. Hughan, who knows all our Masonic histories, can tell us what became of Royal Exchange, 54, and Solomon's Lodge, 62.

The *Monde Macconique* has put forward lately some wonderful arguments about the right of granting warrants on the ground of original or earlier location of lodges. What will it say to the fact that the English Grand Lodge warranted the earliest lodge in France and the Netherlands? *Inter alia*, we note in 1770, No. 55 at Valenciennes in French Flanders in 1773; 123 at Chardenagore; 298 English lodge at Bordeaux in 1732; La Loge de Sagesse at Havre, 1760; Grenoble, 1767; 394, Perfect Harmony, Mons?

Indeed, it is difficult to see where the argument in favour of the English Grand Lodge granting warrants as regards France and Belgium can fall short if the French Grand Orient is justified on any grounds in granting a warrant for the Mauritius.

I am only now writing on archaeological and historical grounds.

MASONIC STUDENT.

We congratulate Bro. George Burt on his nomination by the Lord Mayor as a candidate for the Shrievalty of London and Middlesex. We are informed that Bro. Burt is a livery man of 32 years standing besides being a member of the Shipwrights and Glass-sellers Companies.

The Earl of Carnarvon presided on Wednesday at the presentation of the prizes to the successful students in the medical department of King's College, and delivered an interesting speech, in which he enlarged upon the growing importance of the medical profession, and the many more opportunities for usefulness which modern legislation is opening to it.

The Prince of Wales having intimated his willingness to accept the presidency of the Royal Agricultural Society, his Royal Highness on Wednesday, at the annual meeting of the society, invited to undertake the office. It was stated that the agricultural exhibition, to be held in London next year, is intended to go far beyond anything which has preceded it.

Masonic and General Tidings.

H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, Past Grand Senior Warden, has graciously consented to preside at the 80th Anniversary Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and has appointed Monday, the 8th of July, as the date of celebration.

The Lord Mayor has received the following telegram in reply to one sent by his lordship congratulating the Emperor of Germany upon his recent escape: "Accept, Sir, for yourself and the Corporation of the City of London, the expression of my most sincere thanks for your kind and friendly congratulations on my escape, with the assurance of my unchangeable good wishes for the increasing prosperity of your great and mighty Corporation.—William, Emperor-King."

A statement of the accounts of the Mansion House Indian Famine Fund has been issued, and shows that a total of £515,200 had been received, of which £506,063 had been remitted to the Madras Executive Relief Committee, the expenses amounting to £914, or about 1/3 per cent. A vote of thanks to the late Lord Mayor for having initiated the fund was unanimously accorded.

The Prince of Wales will hold a levee at St. James's Palace on behalf of Her Majesty on Monday, the 3rd of June.

The Queen, accompanied by Princess Beatrice and Princesses Victoria and Maud of Wales, left Windsor Castle shortly before eight on Monday evening for Balmoral, where Her Majesty arrived at 2.15 on Tuesday afternoon.

The ship which carries the Cleopatra Needle, and which for some weeks has been lying off the Houses of Parliament, has been dismantled, and towed to the Adelphi Stairs, where a site has been prepared for the obelisk. It is expected that about seven or eight weeks will elapse before the Needle will be fixed in its resting place.

It is announced that Mrs. George Cruikshank is to enjoy a continuation of her late husband's pension of £95 a year, the Earl of Beaconsfield having notified her to that effect on Saturday last.

The Princess Louise will open the Workmen's Exhibition, to be held at the Crystal Palace, under the auspices of the Worshipful Company of Tinplate Workers, on June 29.

Mr. Shakespeare announces a grand morning concert to take place at 43, York-terrace, Regent's Park (by kind permission of Mrs. W. W. De la Rue), on Tuesday, June 11.

Canada will join the International Postal Union on the 1st of July.

A meeting of the Victoria (Philosophical) Institute was held on Monday last, at its house, 7, Adelphi-terrace. Among the members elected several were resident in the United States and in the Colonies. A paper on Physical Geography was read by Mr. J. Thornhill Harrison, M. Inst. C.E., in which he gave a description of the various changes which had taken place in the position of the earth which had tended to produce its present state. A discussion ensued, in which several took part.

The *Globe* is requested to say that the paragraph in *Truth* stating that the accomplished amateur actress, Mrs. Monckton, has accepted an engagement at the Olympic Theatre is entirely without foundation.

ROYAL PARK THEATRE.—"Hawk's Nest" is the title of Mr. Joseph Mackay's new drama, to be produced at this popular little Theatre, on Saturday evening, the first of June. Mr. George L. Gordon's new piece "Auld Lang Syne" will be played for the first time on the previous Monday. Mr. Lin Rayne, Mr. George Temple, Mr. Desmond, and Miss Emmerson, are among the artistes engaged.

RYE HOUSE.—On and after May 30th, the business at this very popular house and grounds, will be carried on by Mrs. Jane Teale, under the name of J. Teale and Company. We are confident that a large number of our readers will be glad to learn that Mrs. Teale is still in charge of the ever popular Rye House.

THE PRIMITIVE ILLUMINATI—ERRATUM.—The quotation from Milton's "Acropagica," employed as an illustration in the last communication, in magnificent language, supposes an eagle "kindling her undazzled eyes at the full mid-day beam; purging and unscaling her long abused sight at the fountain itself of heavenly radiance." By an obvious misprint the word "fountain" appeared in the text as "foundation."

The annual moveable meeting of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England is appointed to be held at Keswick, on Friday, the 14th of June, under the banner of the Provincial Grand Mark Lodge of Cumberland and Westmorland. The Grand Lodge will be opened in the Court Buildings, and the banquet will take place at the Keswick Hotel. Two new Mark Lodges in Cumberland, viz., Fletcher (Whitehaven) and Henry (Frizington), will, it is expected, be formally consecrated the same day.

SIR HUGH MYDDELTON LODGE, No. 1602.—The installation meeting of this flourishing lodge was held on Friday, at the Agricultural Hall, Islington. Bro. Thomas J. Coombs being installed W.M. for the ensuing year. A full report of the proceedings will appear in our next.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, Lord E. W. P. Clinton, and the officers of the 1st Battalion Rifle Brigade were entertained at the Royal Artillery mess on Tuesday evening, on joining the garrison at Woolwich.

A meeting of the Grand Lodge of the Province of East Lancashire took place at Bury on Thursday, a report of the proceedings at which will appear in our next.

An English journal for Paris is announced under the title of *Le Journal Anglais de Paris*. Bro. E. J. Fairman, the founder and editor of the first English newspaper published in Florence (Italy), is the promoter.

A large and attractive exhibition of paintings and articles of "virtu" was opened on Thursday week by the Mayor of Manchester, at the Royal Institution in that city. The receipts for admission are to be applied in aid of a new building for the Manchester School of Art, an institution founded forty years ago through the influence of the celebrated painter Haydon. After a somewhat languishing existence in its earlier years, the school has attained to a growing prosperity under its present head-master, Mr. Muckley, who was appointed in 1862. An increase of accommodation is required, and a site for a new building has been obtained in Cavendish-street, Chorlton, where it is proposed to combine with the school a public art gallery and museum for the city of Manchester. Assistance has been given in the projects by Lord Huntly, Mr. G. D. Leslie, Mr. G. Wallis, Sir H. Cole, and Lord Derby, from whom a donation of £500 was announced last year. The building fund amounted to £15,000 some time ago. The present exhibition is much larger than the collections annually made in the Royal Institution, additional room being obtained by covering over the spacious entrance-hall. The contents are almost entirely lent from the private galleries of residents in Manchester, and they include an important display of the British artists, besides a few relics of Fra Angelico, Andrea del Sarto, Van Orlay, Guido Reni, and Albert Durer. Mr. Rossetti, Mr. Burne Jones, Mr. Millais, Mr. Holman Hunt, Mr. Leighton, and many other contemporary artists are represented, along with older names, among which Turner, Constable, and Ary Scheffer are conspicuous. A fine collection of china, oriental porcelain, embroidery, and antiquities, helps to make this the richest exhibition of "art treasures" that has been held in Manchester since the unique effort of 1857. The Mayor stated that the exhibition would remain open for two months, and that the sum still required was £20,000. The visitors at the opening included the Bishop of Manchester, Cardinal Manning, and the Roman Catholic Bishop of Salford.

Continental nations are rapidly taking advantage of the new sea route to Siberia. Six expeditions will leave Europe for Tobolsk and Yenesei during the current month, one being German, one Dutch, one Swedish, one Danish, and two Russian, from St Petersburg. But for the probability of war, several expeditions would have also left this country for the Siberian rivers, the idea of establishing direct relations with the commercial centres of the great Asiatic dependency of Russia being favourably regarded by several leading London merchants.—*Whitehall Review*.

Two live birds of paradise (*paradisea papuana*) have just been added to the Zoological Society's collection in Regent's Park. The only other specimens brought to this country were two of the same species which were purchased for the society at Singapore by the celebrated naturalist, Mr. A. R. Wallace, and brought home by him when he returned from his Eastern travels in 1862.

The names of Bro. Henry Lovegrove, 1507, and Bro. Geo. Clark, 1507, were omitted from our report of the consecration of the Farringdon Without Lodge, No. 1745, last week.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS
For the Week ending Friday, May 31, 1878.

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

SATURDAY, MAY 25.

Lodge 1541, Alexandra Palace, Alexandra Palace, N.
" 1670, Henry Muggieridge, Prince, George, Park-rd, E.
" 1706, Orpheus, F.M.H.
Chap. 176, Caveac, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-sq.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-rd.
Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, S.W.
Percy, 113, Southgate-road, N.

MONDAY, MAY 27.

Lodge 4, Royal Somerset House and Inverness, F.M.H.
" 26, Castle of Harmony, Willis's Rooms, W.
" 183, Unity, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 902, Burgoyne, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 905, De Grey and Ripon, F.M.H.
" 1615, Bayard, 33, Golden-sq.
Chap. 188, Joppa, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Old Rodney's Head, Old-st., E.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden Town.
Tredegar, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Upper Norwood, White Hart Hot., Church-rd.
Marquis of Ripon, Pembury Tav., Amherst-rd., Hackney.
Loughborough, Warrior Hot., Brixton.
West Smithfield, New Market Hot., West Smithfield.
St. George's, Globe Tav., Greenwich.
London Masonic Club, at 101, Queen Victoria-st. E.C., 2nd and 4th Monday every month, at 6 o'clock.

TUESDAY, MAY 28.

Lodge 14, Tuscan, F.M.H.
" 99, Shakespeare, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 259, Prince of Wales's, Willis's R., St. James's.
" 1158, Southern Star, Montpellier Tav., Walworth.
" 1719, Evening Star, F.M.H.
Chap. 21, Cyrus, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
Rose Croix Palestine, 33, Golden-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.
Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Florence Nightingale, F.M.H., William-st., Woolwich.
Constitutional, Bedford Hot., Southampton Bldgs., at 7.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.
St. John of Wapping, Gun Hot., High-st., Wapping.
Islington, 23, Gresham-st.
Leopold, Woolpack Tavern, Bermondsey-st.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
Mount Edgcumbe, 19, Jermyn-st., St. James's.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 29.

Lodge 898, Temperance-in-the-East, Newby-pl., Poplar.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Confidence, Railway Tav., Railway-place, Fenchurch-st.
Burdett Courts, Salmon and Ball, Bethnal Green-road.
Jordan, Devonshire Arms, Devonshire-st., W., at 8.
Mt. Lebanon, Horse Shoe Tav., Stones-End, E.
Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London-st., Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
La Tolerance, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Whittington, Red Lion, Poppin's-court, Fleet-st., at 8.
Lewis, King's Arms Hot., Wood Green.
Royal Jubilee, 81, Long Acre.
Langthorne, Swan Hot., Stratford.
Temperance in the East, George the 4th, Ida-st., Poplar, 7.30.

THURSDAY, MAY 30.

Gen. Com. Girls' School, at 4.
Lodge 1524, Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., E.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

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

FRIDAY, MAY 31.

House Com. Ben. Inst.
Chap. 749, Belgrave, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Harp Tav., Jermyn-st., W.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st., at 7.
St. Marybone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Westbourne, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey y
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, 79, Whitechapel-road, at 8.
Burgoyne, The Red Cap, Camden Town, N.W.
St. Luke's, White Hart, King's-rd., Chelsea.
Chigwell, Prince's Hall, Buckhurst-hill.
Royal Standard, The Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's-rd., N.
Ranelagh, Bell and Anchor, Hammersmith-rd.
William Preston, Feathers Tav., Up. George-st., Edgware-rd
Hervey, 99, Fleet-street, at 8.
Earl of Carnarvon, Mitre Hot., Gouborne-rd., Notting-hill.
Pythagorean Chapter, Portland Hot., London-st., Greenwich.
MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND
CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, June 1, 1878.

MONDAY, MAY 28.

Lodge 148, Lights, M.R., Warrington.
Chap. 241, Friendship, M.H., Liverpool.
Derby L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, MAY 28.

Lodge 1609, Dramatic, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1675, Antient Briton, M.H., Liverpool.
Chap. 721, Grosvenor, M.R., Chester.
" 1094, Temple, M.H., Liverpool.
Merchants L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
Prince Arthur L. of I., 80, N. Hill-st., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 29.

Lodge 730, Ellesmere, Royal Oak, Chorley.

THURSDAY, MAY 30.

Lodge 1313, Fermor, M.H., Southport.
Mariners L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

For Masonic Meetings throughout Scotland see *Scottish Freemason*, which can be obtained at the Office of this paper, 198, Fleet-street, London.