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LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 1871.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

From the official report of the proceedings at the Annual General Meeting, held at Freemasons' Hall, on Friday, 19th May, 1871, we are enabled to give the following particulars respecting the position and progress of the Institution:—

The Committee of Management in issuing their Annual Report, have to congratulate the Brethren on the continued prosperity of the Institution, notwithstanding the large amount of money the late continental strife has drawn from this country for various purposes, and which has so seriously affected many of the public charities at home.

The Annual Festival holden by direction of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, the Right Hon. The Earl de Grey and Ripon, K.G., on the 3rd Febrary last, was presided over by the V.W. Bro. Samuel Tomkins, V.P., and Treas. of the Institution, acting for Bro. Col. Francis Burdett, R.W. Provincial Grand Master for Middlesex (who was unable to be present through a severe domestic affliction.) The Donations and Subscriptions contained in the Stewards' Lists amounted to £3,514.

The Committee have to report that they have received the sum of £200, being a legacy, free of duty, left by the late Miss Sarah Dorset, of Reading, one moiety to be paid in the name of one of the executors, to constitute him a Vice President of the Male and Female Fund, the other moiety to be equally divided between the two funds of the Institution.

The Committee have also to report, that since the last election the votes to which Lodges and Chapters were entitled by virtue of the payments to the Male branch of this Institution by the Grand Lodge and Supreme

Grand Chapter have been reduced; this was rendered necessary by the large increase of Lodges and Chapters which caused such a preponderance of free votes as to influence the elections to the prejudice of private Donors and Subscribers and the interests of the Institution. A Special General Meeting was held on the 15th October, when after discussion it was resolved:—To amend Rule 17 by substituting the word “two” for “four” in the 3rd line, and the word “two” for “three in the 9th line, which alteration was approved by the Grand Lodge at its Meeting on the 7th December last.

At the date of the last Report, there were 165 Annuitants receiving the benefits of this Institution, these were increased to 169 at the last election; in the interim 10 have died, and the Committee now recommend the election of 25, thus making the number 184, besides 9 Widows receiving half their late husbands' Annuity. This steady addition in the number of the recipients of its funds can only be maintained by a corresponding increase of its Income, and the Committee again urge on all the Members of the Craft the great claims the Institution has upon them individually.

The comfort of the inmates of the Asylum at Croydon has again been supplemented by the Annual grant of £50 from the Grand Lodge funds for the purchase of Coals, which were distributed amongst them during the late winter months.

For the information of the President, Past Presidents, Vice-Presidents, Governors, Subscribers and Friends of the institution, the Committee subjoin a statement of the Receipts and Disbursements during the year ending the 31st March, 1871, together with the particulars of the fixed Income of the Institution.

MALE FUND.

Receipts.		£	s.	d.
Balance 31st March, 1870		1,873	11	4
Donation from Grand Lodge		500	0	0
Do. from Grand Chapter		100	0	0
Donations from Lodges, Chapters, and Individuals		1,557	3	0
Annual Subscriptions		771	15	0
Moiety of Legacy of late Miss Sarah Dorset, of Reading		50	0	0
Dividends on Stock in the Government Funds ...		679	10	0
		£5,561 19 4		
Disbursements.		£	s.	d.
Payment to Annuitants		2,545	10	0
Salary, Secretary		100	0	0
Commission, { Secretary		70	8	7
{ Collector		133	17	0
Messenger		5	0	0
Medicine for the inmates at the Asylum		25	0	0
Warden, Gate-keeper, and Gardener, do		45	10	0
Taxes do		24	11	0
Stationery, Books, Printing, Ballotting Papers, &c		46	12	3
Office Expenses, Rent, Gas, Coals, &c		24	5	0
Advertisements		7	11	8
Postage		43	1	3
Petty Disbursements, including Election expenses		23	13	5
		£3,095 0 11		
Purchase of £600 Stock, 3 per cent. Consols ...		552	0	0
		£3,647 0 11		
Balance on this Account		1,914	18	5

FEMALE FUND.			
Receipts.			
Balance 31st March, 1870	£	s.	d.
1,061	2	11	
Donation from Grand Lodge	300	0	0
Do. from Grand Chapter	50	0	0
Donations from Lodges, Chapters and Individuals	1,500	2	6
Annual Subscriptions	521	11	0
Moiety of Legacy of late Miss Sarah Dorset, of Reading	50	0	0
Dividends on Stock in the Government Funds ...	396	15	0
	£3,879	11	5
Disbursements.			
Payment to Annuitants	1,745	0	0
Salary, Secretary	100	0	0
Commission, { Secretary	47	10	8
{ Collector	101	2	6
Messenger	5	0	0
Taxes, Asylum	24	11	8
Mrs. Mary Walker's Funeral Expenses	5	9	6
Stationery, Books, Printing, Ballotting Papers, &c	44	10	9
Office Expenses, Rent, Gas, Coals, &c,	24	5	0
Advertisements	7	11	8
Postage	38	2	11
Petty Disbursements, including Election Expenses	23	13	5
	£2,166	18	1
Purchase of £450 Stock, 3 per cent. Consols ...	£414	2	9
	£2,581	0	10
Balance on this Account	£1,298	10	7
FOR SUSTENATION OF BUILDING:—			
Receipts.			
Balance 31st March, 1870... ..	£	s.	d.
8	10	9	
Subsequent Receipts	30	0	0
	38	10	9
Disbursements.			
Repairs, &c., done at the Asylum... ..	£	s.	d.
24	7	8	
Balance on this Account	14	3	1
The Permanent Income of the Institution is as follows:—			
MALE FUND.			
Annual Grant from Grand Lodge... ..	500	0	0
Do. from Grand Chapter	100	0	0
Dividends on £22,650 Stock in the Government Funds	688	10	0
	£1288	10	0
FEMALE FUND			
Annual Grant from Grand Lodge... ..	300	0	0
Do. from Grand Chapter	50	0	0
Dividends on £13,450 Stock in the Government Funds	403	10	0
	£753	10	0
FOR SUSTENATION OF THE BUILDING:—			
Dividends on £1,000 Stock in the Government Funds	30	0	0
Total Permanent Income	£2072	0	0

The foregoing will be read with interest by the Subscribers to the Institution, and by the Craft in general, who will all feel a great interest in the

prosperity of the Institution affording relief to its aged members and their widows.

It is a source of congratulation that the enormous drain upon the stream of British charity, consequent on Continental disturbances, has so little affected the contributions, during the year, to this and the other Masonic charities.

THE M.W. GRAND MASTER.

The following, from the "Daily Telegraph," of June 13th, will doubtless prove a source of gratification to all English Masons:—

The distinguished services rendered by Lord de Grey in connection with the Treaty of Washington will, we are glad to know, meet with suitable recognition. The country will learn with pleasure that his lordship is about to be raised to the rank of Marquis, under the title of Marquis of Ripon. This step will, we are sure, receive the warm approval of men of all parties, who will recognise the value of Lord de Grey's labours in the negotiations so happily completed, and the beneficial influence he has been enabled to exert in strengthening the bonds of amity between England and the United States.

Lord Tenterden, who acted as Secretary to the English members of the Joint High Commission, will be made a civil C.B.

GRAND ORIENT OF FRANCE.

The following is the translation of a circular issued by the "Grand Orient of France, Supreme Council for France, and the French possessions."

Orient de Paris, 29th May, 1871.

To the brethren of the Lodges of the Jurisdiction.

Very dear Brethren,

The criminal and lamentable events of which Paris has recently become the theatre, has induced, on the part of a certain number of Freemasons, acts which are prejudicial to the cause of Masonry, not only in France, but throughout the world. These acts public opinion has already judged. The principles of our institution and its laws absolutely interdict such manifestations as have been made by this party of Freemasons, (or

so-called Freemasons), of whom the greater part, we are happy to state, are not under the jurisdiction of the Grand Orient of France.

It is not the custom of the Council of the Order to publicly notice acts of this nature, which should ordinarily be brought under the cognizance of the General Assembly, but we desire to publicly announce that although the Grand Orient, in consequence of the scattering of its members, has been unable to prevent such acts, it has not participated in them in any manner, but on the contrary has denounced them.

Since the 29th April, the very day on which these culpable manifestations took place, and with great regret at not having been able to act sooner—the present members of the Council addressed to the W. Masters of all the lodges, and inserted in various journals, a protest against the resolution adopted at a meeting of Freemasons at Châtelet. A number of W. Masters of lodges had also protested against and endeavoured to prevent these manifestations. All these efforts were vain, and were rendered abortive against passions raised by interested and perverse interests.

In the absence of the Grand Master the members of the Council of the Order, present in Paris, consider it their duty, without delay, to notify to all Freemasons this resolution, so that of the acts which have been committed the responsibility rests individually with the authors of them; and they desire it to be distinctly understood that French Masonry, as a constituted body, has not for a moment wandered from the principles upon which it is founded, and the wise laws which govern it.

Accept being, dear Brethren, the assurance of our fraternal regards.

De St. Jean.
Montanier.
Bécourt.
Galibert.
Grain.
Renaud.
Pouille.
Viénot.
Portallier.

Members of the Council of the Order.

P.S.—The W. Masters of Lodges are requested to cause this circular to be read at the next meeting of the lodge.

“POMEROY'S DEMOCRAT,” NEW YORK,
AND THE “FREEMASON,” LONDON.

The following appeared in “Pomeroy's Democrat” of June 7th.:

If it were not for the fraternal kindness of a brother contemporary in this city, who called our attention to the fact, we should not have been aware that the editor of the “Freemason,” London had been making flippant remarks about us, in the 6th of May number of that paper, for subsequent to date of April 22nd, no copy of it had been received by us. Why the paper in which the article headed “Pomeroy's Democrat and the Rochdale brethren” appeared, was not sent us, seems extraordinary, as among honorable journalists, it is always customary, when a contemporary's position is assailed, or statements denied, that a copy of the paper containing the same be sent, so that, if deemed advisable, a reply can be made. It is an act of cowardice, to say the least, not to do so, unworthy the character of a genuine British Mason, as well as a breach of the laws governing gentlemen.

But to the case in point.

The “Freemason's” editor writes, “we have received a letter addressed to the ‘Editor of Pomeroy's Democrat,’ New York, by Bro. William Ashworth, of Rochdale. Now, beyond question, our brother editor did use some hard language respecting the Rose Croix Chapter at Rochdale, but this we conceive he *did* upon imperfect information as to the facts.”

Our contemporary's conceiving is entirely at fault, in fact it was “a false conception.” We again repeat, what we stated in these columns, March 29th last, that “we have the most positive information from England that the said body”—meaning the Rose Croix Chapter at Rochdale—“is *entirely illegitimate and not recognised* by the Supreme Council 33°, for England and Wales.” Now, let us see if our information was imperfect. The Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General, 33°, of the Ancient Accepted Rite, whose Grand Secretary General's Office, is at 33, Golden Square, London, is the acknowledged and legitimate head of that Rite for England and Wales and Dependencies of the British Crown, and is recognised by all the Supreme Councils of the world. It is the ruling power over all legitimate Lodges, Councils, Chapters, and Consistories, and its laws and regulations for the government of each one of the bodies enumerated must be obeyed.

This Supreme Governing Body *does not recognise* the Rose Croix Chapter, at Rochdale, as a lawful body, but on the contrary; and when this Rose Croix

Chapter held a meeting for the purpose of conferring the 30^o and 32^o, it usurped a power which did not belong to it, and became in the eyes of all covenant-keeping and conservative members of the Rite, at home and abroad, "entirely illegitimate." A correspondent of that truly conservative and respectably conducted weekly, "the Freemasons' Magazine and Masonic Mirror," London, in alluding to this act of the usurpers at Rochdale, says :

"I am sorry to see that the force of evil example in Freemasonry, is soon felt, and that some of the members of the Rochdale Chapter of Rose Croix have held a meeting for the purpose of conferring the 30th and 32nd degrees, which they have no more right to give than the M.A. or D.D. of Oxford and Cambridge. The Craft in general must have a very good idea of what these so-called degrees are worth, when I inform my brethren that I have learnt, on very good authority, that the sum charged to such candidates as may be gulled will not exceed 1s. 6d."

And yet with all these facts in our possession, the "Freemason," (that organ of all the sore-heads, covenant-breakers, and usurpers in England), with the assurance of a *man-milliner*, or costumer for females seeking admission to Androgynous bodies, tells us, that we wrote upon "imperfect information as to the facts." The remark is as insolent as it is false.

But we were in possession of other and official information when we denounced the Rochdale Chapter to justify us in doing so—information which the Freemason could have, without doubt, become possessed of, if it paid as much attention to legitimate Masonry as it has to the spurious organizations in England, got up by the schismatics, covenant-breakers, and patrons of petticoat Harems, Chapters, &c., *aut alio nomine quoquumque vocaris*.

We had the following, contained in an official Communication addressed by order of the Supreme Council, 33^o, A. A. Rite for England, &c., under seal, and signature of the Grand Secretary-General, dated Feb. 25th, 1871, to the Supreme Councils, North and South, in the United States, and which will be respected by them, and their subordinates :

"I am sorry to report for the information of your Sup. Coun. that an *illegal* body at Rochdale, in Lancashire, is giving all the degrees of the A. and A. Rite, at about one shilling and sixpence each; though every precaution has been taken to prevent the spread of this pernicious body, still it is thought but right our American brethren should be put on their guard."

Was this imperfect information as to facts ?

Immediately succeeding the extract we have already commented on, we find the following :

We do not ourselves know the precise origin of the chapter, but if its non-adhesion to the S. G. C. 30^o is to be accepted as *primae faci* evidence of a spurious basis, all we can say is—and we say it for

the especial benefit of "Pomeroy's Democrat—that the oldest Rose Croix Chapter in England, namely, the "Baldwyn," at Bristol, has never acknowledged the Council in Golden Square, and yet no one presumes to stigmatise its members as spurious Masons. It would have been wiser if Bro. Tisdall, the Masonic Editor of "Pomeroy's Democrat," had learned a little more of the past history and present status of Masonic degrees in England before he dipped his pen in gall and denounced a number of true and honourable Masons.

In the first paragraph quoted, we are charged with acting on "imperfect information." How did the "Freemason's" "Gold Lace man and Embroiderer" come to *that* conclusion, when in the first line of this second paragraph he admits : "We do not ourselves know the precise origin of the Chapter." At this side of the Atlantic people of *brains* generally, nay universally, try to inform themselves on subjects before they express opinions on them. We therefore hope that when hereafter he says anything for "the especial benefit of "Pomeroy's Democrat," he will not so plainly show his insolent ignorance, and prove the truth of a homely adage :—

"The higher a monkey climbs, the more clearly will he show his caudal extremity."

We have hitherto not mentioned the "Baldwyn's" at Bristol, but with all due deference to our contemporary, we will place it in the same category in which we placed the Antiquity Chapter, at Bath, in our issue of (April 12th ult—CLANDESTINE—but we do so from conscientious motives, and a desire to benefit legitimate Masonry, in which is contained enough to satisfy the most fastidious, unless they are *speculators* in Masonry, or its enemies.

The "Freemason" then winds up its article by an attempted reply to our exposure of the "Red Cross of Constantine," in this manner :

"It may interest him to know that the Red Cross Order had a separate Grand Council in England, presided over by our best Masons, long before the Supreme Grand Council, 33^o, was imported from America; that the strongest documentary proofs of its high-standing still exists, and have been procured from what even Bro. Tisdall will not venture to call a spurious source—the archives of the Grand Lodge of England."

We were aware that a degree called the "Red Cross of Constantine," or some such degree, was at one time worked in England, by a class of Cagliostro's. It, as well as the Rite of Misraim, was suppressed, under the Grand Mastership of the Duke of Sussex, and the rituals, books, letters, &c., placed away in sealed packages in the *Archives* of the Grand Lodge of England, by the Grand Secretary, the venerable William White; with the intent that they should never see the light; and they never would have seen the light, and their spurious workings again been

introduced to the English Craft, were it not that a clerk in the office of the present Grand Secretary of England, a kind of Masonic Paul Pry, poked his nose into them, and re-introduced them, by the aid of certain enthusiastic young Masons, like Lord Kenlis, and speculators in Masonry, or manufacturers of Masonic gew-gaws, like the publisher of the "Freemason."

Had a clerk in the office of any American Grand Secretary committed such an offence, he would have been dismissed forthwith, and tried and expelled afterwards.

That's all. The imperfect information as to facts was not on this side of the great herring-pond.

ADDRESS TO SIR R. A. SHAFTO ADAIR,
PROV. G.M. SUFFOLK.

The Freemasons of the Province of Suffolk have, through their D. Prov. G.M., the Rev. E. I. Lockwood, sent the following address of condolence to Sir R. A. Shafto Adair, Prov. G.M. for Suffolk, on the death of Lady Adair. The reply of the Hon. Baronet follows. The documents speak for themselves, and we may add that the brethren of the Craft have only given expression to the universal feeling of all classes of people in the county:—

Belstead Rectory, May 20th, 1871.

Right Worshipful Sir, and Brother,—In the name of all the Lodges of your Province, and with their special sanction, as signified to me by their several Worshipful Masters, I have a melancholy satisfaction in assuring you of their heartfelt commiseration under the heavy affliction with which it has pleased the Great Architect and Supreme Ruler of the Universe at this time to visit you.

May he, at whose creative fiat all things were made, and who in His own good time bringeth all things to an end, be with you in your hour of sorrow, and comfort you with the well-assured hope of a blessed re-union with your loved and loving one in the Grand Lodge above, where there shall be no more need of mysteries, and where distinctions of all kinds shall cease; and there shall be one heart, one soul, one life of love and peace and joy, pure, perfect, endless.

I am, Right Worshipful Sir and Brother,
Yours faithfully and fraternally,
EDW. I. LOCKWOOD.
D. Prov. G.M., Province of Suffolk.

The R.W. Prov. G.M.'s Reply.

Flixton Hall, Bungay, May 25th, 1871.

Worshipful and dear Sir and Brother,—The sympathy in my heavy sorrow which you so feelingly express on behalf of the Brethren of the Province is to me very acceptable and touches me deeply.

This kindly tender of condolence will aid me in bearing the burden which, though it may be mercifully lightened, can never during time be wholly removed.

For this alleviation I must look to the Great Disposer of this world's ways and works with humility.

I trust with sincere earnestness that joys may be enhanced, sorrows lightened to my dear Brethren, who practice what they profess—the Christian sympathy which bids us join ourselves to the mourners as well as to those who rejoice.

I remain,

Worshipful and dear Sir and Brother,
Faithfully and fraternally yours,
R. A. SHAFTO ADAIR,
Prov. G.M., Suffolk.

W. Bro. the Rev. E. I. Lockwood, D. Prov. G.M.,
Province of Suffolk.

ADDRESS BY THE CROWN PRINCE OF
PRUSSIA.

DELIVERED AT THE CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE
GRAND LODGE AT BERLIN, JUNE 24, 1870.

‡ (Translated from the *Freemasons' Gazette, Leipsic*.)

My Brethren:—

The solemn moment has arrived which ends the first century of the existence of this Grand Lodge of Freemasons in Germany. Before we announce the beginning of the new century I wish to call your attention to a few facts, which I feel it my duty to do, as substitute of the Protector and Grand Master of this jurisdiction.

I am in my capacity of substitute for the Protector, as near to each one of the three Grand Bodies of Prussia; therefore, I am somewhat at a loss, as in my conviction there exists only one Freemasonry which has only one doctrine, although it may be carried out under different forms, which may not be well understood by those who are not acquainted with the history of our Order.

We call Freemasonry a Craft—the Royal Craft; therefore it comprises not only the knowledge and possession, but the highest order of knowledge and possession; the exhibition of morality in all the

walks of life. But my brethren, Freemasonry has also another side, which makes it related to craft and art.

Like the artist, the Masonic principle gives its truth and doctrine in a form perceivable to our senses. Only there is the difference that art and craft create objects in which we see the ideas of the artist, like an immediate impersonation before us; Freemasonry, however, uses symbols which only indicate the idea, signs which are more or less wilfully connected with those thoughts and those ideas—may they notwithstanding be most appropriate. But this symbolization is very suitable to the aim of Masonry. Because signs and thoughts are not fully congruent, because the former does not find in the latter its full and immediate expression; therefore the signs want a special interpretation, and can be used to express to the adept all that the ignorant acolyte cannot be supposed to understand.

So, on the other side, it could occur that many different explanations are connected with these symbols; from the simplest ideas up to the most abstract opinions, from the merest trifles up to the most earnest thoughts. It can also be found that in various circles and under various circumstances, these forms, coming from the simplest origin, terminate in a great and endless variety. Let us add that, as we are told, the traditions of our Order come from old time to us in different lines, and we must understand that the various forms have their beginning and end in one doctrine.

But it is equally clear, that, with all the variety of forms, we have only one Freemasonry emanating from the same original source, only differently formed and coloured by various influences.

It is a misfortune that this fact is not acknowledged in Freemasonry to its full extent. The Masonic history of the last century is filled with the record of vehement quarrels and odious accusations of heresy. Let us thank God that now, at the termination of this hundred years, these things exist no more.

We have to-day the pleasure to see representatives of different Grand Lodges, with brotherly love, participate in our celebration. Let us thank all the brethren who have contributed so largely to promulgate the knowledge that Masonry is unity. Let us especially thank his Majesty the King, our High Protector, that through his influence the Grand Bodies of Prussia have come

nearer together, and that thus he strengthened the bonds of unity between the Brethren and the Lodges of different forms.

As for my part, this unity, which in its apparition tends to diffuse the true spirit of Masonry, meets with my hearty approval, and I consider myself specially bound, as representative of our High Protector, to follow the endeavours of my father. I therefore urgently pray you, my brethren, to-day at our festival to keep steadfastly before you, in the future, the consciousness of the Unity of Freemasonry in all its various forms. Let every one divest himself from the idea that he alone possesses the truth and the true and veritable method to teach and exemplify the original form. But we pray also that this new century may be the commencement of a new era, in which those who believe in one form may be in unison and working in brotherly love with all others, and may each and all of the brethren say to each other Peace and Good Will.

Can it honour us to boast of having the best traditions, the most correct and strict explanations and interpretations, if we omit to solve the real task of our Craft, and to be guided by the principles and teachings of Masonic life? Of what value can it be to call ourselves Brethren in the Lodge, when the quarrel for superiority leads to a total denial of mutual brotherly sentiment? No, my brethren, let us look upwards, and in abiding by the principles and teachings of Freemasonry, as designated by its signs and symbols, let us forget the trifles and unessentials, and subordinate them to the main questions and tests.

Let us endeavour to have such a unity, that all Grand Bodies conscious of the same origin, and undertaking the same task, may consider themselves as members of one great union, like provinces of the same empire, each one preserving its peculiarities, but all united by the same ambition to promote the prosperity of the whole commonwealth. Unity is the chief and most important wish I desire to make to-day to all our brethren!

I address myself specially to that Grand Lodge who celebrates this day, and to whom I am attached and connected as Grand Master—the Grand Lodge of Freemasons of Germany. This Grand Body, up to this period, has been often the object of very odious invectives. Such attacks shall not cause us to misconduct ourselves, inasmuch as those who call in question the origin and history of this

Grand Lodge, know only a few fragments of such history, and even such fragments very inaccurately.

It is a well known fact, that that which to the common mind would be considered as mere waste, in the eyes of the antiquarian or artist would be worth years of study, in so much as from a mere fragment the antiquarian can construct a whole figure.

The only judge whom we will acknowledge as competent to decide on the merits of our Grand Lodge is one who is thoroughly acquainted with its history and doctrines. I like, however, to place the matter in question in such a light, that those not directly connected with this Grand Lodge of Prussia, shall be enabled to form a correct judgment in the premises. And therewith connected I call attention to the following. The historical documents of the Grand Lodge say distinctly and clearly, that the origin and development of this system is very different from others. They teach that our Grand Body received, to be sure, the same knowledge as other Freemasons; but by another way, through an other medium, and that therefore our organisation has preserved it in the form handed down to us by our history.

Such differences cannot at, the present day, be reasons for disunion or separation. It is true, the old regulations and historical documents of this Grand Lodge prescribe that its history shall be kept totally secret, and shall only be communicated to the oldest and most trustworthy and approved members.

In consequence, a demand has been created, which the past century could comply with but incompletely, and which every moment renders more difficult to meet. Why not make a distinction in the nature of such a matter, and separate that history which is in close connection with the symbolic acts and mysteries of the several degrees of the system, from the history of the origin and development of this Grand Lodge. Our Grand Lodge ought to promulgate its history, that it may be investigated by every member of the Craft.

By so doing we would know that the history of our Grand Lodge (which could not totally prohibited from other Freemasons) had come to us from true sources, and that it had not been published as incomplete and spurious. False judgment would not be sustained, and propagated

amongst other Grand Bodies, and the brethren of our own jurisdiction would not be dubious about our origin.

It is not my intention to question the judgment of our predecessors by this desire for change; on the contrary, I offer, with you, our thankful devotion to the names of our deceased brethren, who obtained with pain and sacrifice these documents, and guarded and delivered them to us through a whole century, with piety, often in distress and sorrow, often even without the reward of a full acknowledgment.

But their motives to keep and confine the secret do not oblige us, under other circumstances, to bind ourselves to an equally close and narrow course, if we consider that the history of the origin of our doctrine and system is no more a secret one, and cannot be so, because that history has been often published in print, although, unfortunately, in an incomplete or partially correct form.

I therefore do not hesitate to break to-day at our centennial anniversary, the limits and frames of this secret history, and to lay open before the Masons a historical document, kept so far as a secret one.

(To be Continued.)

THE EYE THAT SEETH IN SECRET.

There is an eye from which nothing is concealed. Which peers into the "hidden things of darkness" with the perspicuity of noonday, and sees with the unerring certainty of light, every secret thought. Not only the tangible objects of the outer world, but which are subject to physical forces and visible to the natural eye, and are made apparent by the light of the natural sun; but even the secret things of the unseen world. To its microscopic power, not only are the latent wonders of science revealed, but even our very thoughts stand out in bold relief. Our most selfish and secret plans and ideas for present gain and future emolument, are photographed upon its retina, with a distinctness and certainty that is indelible. All our machinations of evil and our contrivances for good are alike open to that sight, to which darkness is an obscurity.

It is the want of a proper recognition of this great truth that gives a kind of immunity to crime.

"Men love darkness rather than light, because their deeds are evil." They will not come to the light lest their deeds should be reprov'd. Night is both the seed time and the harvest of the burglar, the incendiary, and the villain of every grade. Crime awaits with satisfaction the lengthening shadows of the setting sun, and is glad when the dark folds of night have exclusive control of surrounding conditions, so that, amid prevailing gloom, her operations may be the more secure against interruptions. As the hours advance and slumber closes the eye of the weary, the curtain rises upon the carnival of iniquity. Honesty sleeps. Conscious integrity is blessed with happy dreams. But we know not what a day may bring forth. While innocence is disarmed by its own sense of purity, and the heart filled with the charity that thinketh no evil, Satan is busy. During the small hours all that we have treasured amid the toil and tire of long and weary years—the stately pile that we have reared and to which too often our hearts may have bowed the knee may have vanished in flame. The strong box containing the dust that we have mined from the sweat and blood, and pinched privations of ceaseless, anxious industry, may have been confiscated by dishonesty and spirited away by adroit fingers to which both bolts and bars are no obstruction. Those whom we have loved as the apple of our eye, and whose endearing tenderness we have valued far above earthly treasure may be empoled in their own blood. Assassination may have marked with an aim too deadly and unerring, the heart that beat but for the gratification of its own instinctive benevolence. All this and more, is chargeable to the covert shadows through which mortal eyes cannot see.

But Masonry points her candidates to an over-looking eye to which darkness is light, and secrecy exposure. From the level upon which all are equals, and within the tilted doors of seclusion, she points to the eye that never sleeps, and to which concealment is a word without meaning. She tells us that as to that orb all things are known, the path of wisdom is so to walk as to render secrecy unnecessary; so to walk as to challenge scrutiny and invite criticism, so to walk that an overflowing charity may bless our steps, and that the light of our lives may be so directed as to lead others into the ways of pleasantness and peace.

The eye that overlooks the Masonic floor sees the virtues and the excellencies of every heart, as well as the lies, the bigotry, and prejudices to which we are all subject. It sees the divine image in every child of sorrow and even of crime, and recognizes, even when covered with obloquy and clothed with guilt, a brother whom it were worth our strongest effort to redeem. That eye frowns upon the clouded brow of exclusive righteousness, and teaches a charity that breaks the trammels of creeds, and bursts through sectarian boundaries, a charity that sees a brother through all the distinctions of nationality, race, colour, and condition.

That eye looks into the heart of every brother from the moment of initiation, not only during that communication, but all others throughout his entire Masonic life. That eye that gazed upon us when we first saw the light, sees us through all our ramblings ever afterwards. In the great conflict with the world, in the perpetual strife for wealth, in the home of meditation, when in the silence of our chamber, from which the world is shut out, that is cognizant of all we do, and of whatever we think. We cannot avoid it.

What manner of men, therefore, should we be, to be always prepared for this grand visitation. Our house perpetually set in order, our jewels always bright and properly adjusted, our passions subdued, our propensities circumscribed by prudence, and our hearts securely tyed against the intrusions of outside temptations.

Not being in any way sectarian, Masonry has no rewards to offer to the good, nor punishment to the evil, as any motive to do right. To her view both such incentives are mercenary. She appeals to a higher sense of virtue, and addresses the conscience of every brother to do right, for the sole and only reason that it is right.—*The Mystic Star*.

MASONIC JOTTINGS, No. 74.

BY A PAST PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER.

MINUTES OF LODGES.

"A Masonic Student" asserts that the minutes of Lodges recently, (October 1869), by brothers in their communications to the "Freemasons' Magazine," prove how utterly hopeless and untenable is the mistaken theory, a Contributor has set himself with such energy a determination to uphold.

VASTNESS.

English Freemasonry, considered not as a Universal Freemasonry, but as a Christian Freemasonry only, would lose very little of its vastness.

A NURSERY.

Brother—You may call Masonry a Nursery—a Nursery of the young virtues.

INFINITE.

Amongst Speculative Masons there is as much diffidence of opinion respecting this word as there is amongst Metaphysicians. Probably Speculative Masons, in general, think with Locke, that "we have no positive idea of the infinite; that it is only the negative of an end or termination."

ROSIERUCIANISM—THEOSOPHY—17TH CENTURY.

During parts of the 17th century, the Accepted Masons of the English Lodges are said to have pursued Rosierucianism and Theosophy in preference to their own Speculative Philosophy.

THE MORAL LAW.

The moral Law is part of God, the Mason's Glorious Architect of Heaven and Earth.

THE 1717 THEORY.

Brother,—You are mistaken. The denial which has for some time been found at the root of this theory, is not a denial that Speculative Masonry existed, but merely a denial that it was taught before the beginning of the 18th century.

IGNOTUM PER IGNOTIUS.

See the communication "Christian Freemasonry," *ante* page 428.

An Entered Apprentice calls this a very notable example of an attempt to explain the "ignotum per ignotius."

The example, adds my young Correspondent, is the more notable, from the Contributor having, in the columns of the "Freemasons' Magazine," more than once, and not long ago, *denied the existence of Christian Freemasonry.*

LECTURES OF 1720.

A Brother suggests that there was much in the Lectures of 1720 which was incompatible with the doctrines of the Churches and Sects, whose members were admitted into our Lodges by virtue of the Charges of 1723.

ADMISSION INTO OUR LODGES, 1723 TO 1738.

From the year 1723 to the year 1738, admissions into our Lodges were regulated by the Charges of 1723, which, however, were not, as I have reason to believe, very strictly observed.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

THEISM—THE KILWINNING FRATERNITY.

(Continued from page 447).

According to the Eglinton MSS., Wardens of Lodges were held responsible to the Presbytery (a convocation of parish ministers) for 'all offensis' committed by the 'Maisson's subject to the ludgeis' over which they were placed; and to the Deacon and Warden of Kilwinning was it 'geeven to put forth of their societie and cumpany all personnes disobedient ather ta *Kirk*, Craft, Counsall, &c.'

At the period in which these statutes were penned in connection with the Ordinance issued for 'ye guid ordour keeping' of the Lodge of Kilwinning, the Presbyterian Kirk of Scotland was that to which the Scottish Craft was amenable for offences against religion.

"An old MS., 'Narration of the Founding of the Craft of Masonry,' still preserved in the archives of the Lodge of Kilwinning, opens with a prayer which could only be offered by Christian Masons:—O, Lord God, the Father of Heaven, with the power of His Glorious Son, and the Holy Ghost, which are three Persons in one Godhead, be with us at our beginning, and give us grace so to govern us in our living that we may come to the bliss which shall never have an ending. Amen. So mote it be.

"And the following sentence in the Charges to Prentices embraced in the same MS., clearly shows the Roman Catholic Faith to have been that of the Craftsmen to whom the Mason oath was administered prior to the Reformation:—'That you sall be a trew man to God and the *Holy Church* and that you use no heresie nor error, to your understanding, or discreit man's teaching, So help me God and the *Holy Dame.*'

"So much, then for the universality of the Masonic faith, as exemplified in the practice, past and present, of Mother Kilwinning."—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

ORIGINAL YORK CONSTITUTIONS.

Bro. Dr. Oliver, in a note to his edition of "Preston's Illustrations," page 121, says that for reasons which he has stated *in extenso* in the "American Freemasons' Quarterly Review," for 1858, page 546, he takes the Constitutions, of which a copy may be found in the old Royal Library at the British Museum (Bib. Reg. 17 A.L. ff 32), and published by Mr. Halliwell in 1840, to be a veritable copy of the original York Constitutions.—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

OPINIONS ON THE VOLUME OF THE SACRED LAW.

An Entered Apprentice will find a small collection of opinions on the volume of the "Sacred Law," vol. 15, page 30, of our good periodical. My young brother is strongly recommended to commit all of them to memory, including opinions of individuals supposed to have been pure Theists.—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

THE FRENCH ANTI-GERMAN LEAGUE.

The anecdote subjoined is taken from the "Freemasons' Magazine," vol. 13, page 430. A Metropolitan Correspondent suggests that it should be brought under the eyes of a French Brother, Member of the Anti-German League. But will it not be said that the anecdote is not applicable; that the year 1793 does

not sufficiently resemble the year 1870, and that the Prussian knew not that the drowning man was a Frenchman?

Will it not be better to represent to our Brother that the League is a lamentable violation of the principles of Universal Freemasonry, and of the four Particular Freemasonries, Christian Freemasonry, Jewish Freemasonry, Mahomedan Freemasonry, and Parsee Freemasonry?

The Anecdote. "A.D. 1793. The Master of a Berlin Lodge, whilst walking in a meadow adjoining the Spree, heard the cries of a man who by some accident had fallen into the river, and he speedily ran to the bank, but being a very indifferent swimmer he hesitated to go any further. The drowning man had already sunk twice, when, on coming to the surface once more, he contrived, in the midst of his struggles, to make a Masonic sign. The Master of the Lodge recognised it, and he hesitated no longer; he plunged into the water, and succeeded, although with great difficulty, in rescuing the brother, who proved to be a Frenchman, holding a high office in the Grand Orient of Paris."—A. PAST PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER.

MASONIC SAYINGS AND DOINGS ABROAD.

At the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, held in the city of Providence, Monday, May 15th, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Bros. Thomas A. Doyle, G.M.; Lloyd Morton, D.G.M.; Emerson Goddard, G.S.W.; William Gilpin, G.J.W.; Gardner T. Swartz, G.T.; Charles D. Greene, G.S.; Daniel Babcock, G.S.D.; Benjamin Tallman, G.J.D.; Israel R. Sheldon, and William T. C. Wardwell, G.S.; Israel M. Hopkins, G.M.; Rev. Henry W. Rugg, G.C.; Charles R. Cutter, G.S.B.; John B. Pierce, G.P.; Henry C. Field, Grand Lecturer; and Ebenezer B. White, G. Tyler.

It was regretted by all the Craft in New York, that some demonstration in honour of the Grand Master Mason of England, M.W. Bro. Earl de Grey and Ripon could not be made (as every brother, from our M.W. Grand Master, Bro. John H. Anthon, his Grand officers, and all of our subordinate Lodge Masons desired), so as, to extend to him, before his departure for the motherland of our American Masonry, and giving an expression of our fraternal regard and respect, and an opportunity to greet him, as his exalted Masonic rank demanded.

The mission—a glorious one, and worthy of a Mason—which brought him here, to establish Peace between two kindred nations, now successfully accomplished, detained him at Washington, until almost the last moment; merely giving his Lordship time to make his arrangements for embarkation; much to the regret of Grand Master Anthon, and the great body he represents—and will continue to represent.

An incident, successful in its issue, however, occurred, and we record it with much pleasure. Everybody in New York knows that the Masonic heart of W. Bro. Isaac H. Brown, Master of Puritan Lodge, No. 339, is as large as himself—and by way of parenthesis we

would say he only weighs 387lbs. averdupois—stole a march on all. He is a sharp coon, and having set himself to work to beat us all, succeeded in his undertaking. What was it? Why he procured a copy of R.W. Bro Daniel Sickels' "Ahiman Rezon," had it bound in Turkey Morocco, and on the cover stamped in gilt letters:

RT. HON. EARL DE GREY AND RIPON,
Grand Master of Masons of
ENGLAND.

From
ISAAC H. BROWN,
Master Puritan Lodge, 339, of
New York,
1871.

and presented the same to his Lordship, on Tuesday, May 23rd, the eve of his departure, by whom it was cordially and fraternally received.—*Pomeroys' De mocrat.*

Obituary.

W. BRO. WILLIAM PETTIFOR, P. FROV. G.S.W.
FOR LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND.

We regret to have to record the decease, on the 28th ultimo, at his residence, Rushin Terrace, Leicester, of the above named Brother, at the age of fifty-one.

The lamented Brother, who was esteemed and respected by all who knew him, was one of the oldest Past Masters and most zealous Masons in the Province.

Bro. Pettifor was initiated in St. John's Lodge, Leicester, in the year 1845, and at the end of the following year he was appointed Junior Warden. In 1848-9 he served the office of Master, and on retiring from the chair, was presented with a Past Master's Jewel by the unanimous vote of the Lodge.

He was appointed a Steward in the Provincial Grand Lodge, in 1846, Superintendent of Works in 1847, and Senior Grand Warden in 1848. Having been exalted in Royal Arch Chapter of Fortitude, attached to the Lodge; he was elected Principal Sojourner, the duties of which office (as, indeed he did all which he undertook,) he performed with efficiency; and having passed through the third and second chairs, he was appointed M.E.Z. in 1851, and in 1858 the Grand Superintendent, Earl Howe, appointed him Third Principal in the Provincial Grand Chapter.

He was advanced a Mark Master in the Newstead Lodge, at Nottingham, and was one of the Founders of the Howe Lodge of Mark Masters, 21, at Leicester, (now removed to Melton Mowbray), in which he served the office of Warden in the years 1858 and 1859, and in the following year he was elected Master; and also held office in the Mark Grand Lodge of the Province. He was a zealous Mason, and during his membership of more than a quarter of a century, his services were always available in any capacity whenever required, either in Lodge or Chapter, and although more than once declining to preside over the Lodge as Master a second time, on two occasions, in the years 1855 and 1862, he accepted the subordinate office of S.W., under other brethren.

Bro. Pettifor was one of the most quiet, unobtrusive Masons, and his obliging disposition, and strict integrity of character caused him to be universally esteemed and respected.

After an illness, of many months duration, he gradually sank, and expired on the 28th ult., at a comparatively early age, leaving a widow and young family to mourn his loss.

At a meeting of St. John's Lodge, 279, on the 7th inst., a resolution, expressive of the deep regret of the brethren at his decease, and of their sympathy with his widow and family, was adopted, as reported in another part of our paper.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

* All communications to be addressed to the EDITOR, at No 19, Salisbury-street, Strand, London, W.C.

MASONIC MEMS.

The Provincial Grand Master of Cumberland and Westmoreland has announced that the Provincial Grand Lodge will be held at Kendal, at the latter end of September, or, the beginning of October.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF SOMERSET.—The next meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge will be on the 18th of July at Crewkerne.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Kent, under the Grand Mastership of Lord Holmesdale, will be holden at Dover, on Wednesday the 28th inst.

LODGE MUSIC FOR THE MARK DEGREE.—We beg to call attention to the announcement in our Advertisement columns of the Music for the Mark Degree, just re-published in a convenient form, for use in lodges. It is dedicated by authority to the Grand Mark Master, who has given his express sanction for its use in lodges under the English Jurisdiction.

ANGEL LODGE, (No. 51).—The Annual Festival of St. John the Baptist, is fixed to take place at the Cups Hotel, Colchester on Thursday, June 22nd, Bro. Henry Samuel is the W.M. Eleet.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire will be held at Ripon, on the 12th of July next. A Grand Festival will be held on the same day, at Fountain's Abbey, and the Right Hon. Earl de Grey and Ripon, K.G., M.W.G.M., and Prov. G.M. West Yorkshirc, has given the Craft the privilege of visiting the magnificent ruins of Fountain's Abbey and the adjacent grounds of Studley on that day. A banquet will be held in the spacious cloisters, in which ladies will be admitted. The proceeds of the Festival will be devoted to the fund of the De Grey Scholarships.

Craft Masonry.

ENGLISH CONSTITUTION.

METROPOLITAN.

LODGE OF JOPPA, (No. 188).—The last meeting of the lodge for the present season was held on Monday, the 5th inst., at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street. The chair was taken by the W.M., Bro. Maurice Alexander; supported by Bros. Berkowith, S.W.; E. Hunt, J.W.; J. Elkan, Treas.; E. P. Albert, Hon. Sec.; O. Roberts, S.D.; C. Nathan, J.D.; S. Hickman, I.G.; Dobson, D.C.; J. Goldsmid, Steward; E. P. Van Noordan, Org.; and Past Masters Bros. B. W. Aaron, I.P.M., L. Alexander, H. Harris, M. Van Diepenheim, J. Abrahams, H. M. Levy, L. Lyons, and others. Visitors, Bros. A. L. Emanuel, P.G.J.D. Hauts, 1069; J. Harvey, W.M. 957; M. H. Benjamin 416; L. H. Beck, 185; J. Freeman 1287; J. G. Shearman, 28; B. Rothschild, (late 188); and Webb, J.D., 11. The lodge having been opened the minutes were read and confirmed. Ballots were then taken for the admission of Messrs. G. Gregory and Nathan, who were duly initiated into the Order. Bros. Morris and Frank, having answered the usual questions satisfactorily, were passed to the degree of fellow Craft, and Bro. C. Hyman was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason. The lodge was called off, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet. The W.M. gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts. The toast of the Joppa Benevolent Fund was responded to by Bro. B. W. Aaron, P.M. and V.P., The toast of the Newly Initiated was responded to by Bros. Gregory and Nathan. The toasts of the W.M., Past Masters and Officers, were proposed, and the toast of the Visitors

was responded by Bros. Emanuel Webb and M. H. Benjamin in very eloquent terms. The lodge was then called, and several propositions were made; and it was then closed until October next.

PERFECT ASHLAR LODGE (No. 1,178).—The brethren of this lodge met on Thursday, the 1st inst., at the Gregorian Arms, Jamaica Road, Bermondsey. Bro. F. Walters opened the lodge, Bro. James W. Avery, P.M., raised Bro. A. Lewis to the third degree; passed Bro. C. A. Swaine, No. 73, to the second degree; and initiated a new member. One gentleman was proposed for initiation at next meeting, and notice of motion was given by Bro. F. Walters to change the place of meeting, in accordance with the desire of the landlord.

HARROW LODGE (No. 1,310).—On Tuesday the 6th inst., the members of this Lodge met at the Railway Hotel, Harrow. Bro. George Pymm, the recently elected Master, occupied the chair, and was supported by Bros. E. Harper, J.W.; Samuel Homewood, S.D.; and Frederick Walters, Sec. The minutes of the Lodge were confirmed. Bro. Tyte was raised to the sublime degree of M.M. Bros. Martin and Rawson were passed. The Lodge then proceeded to ballot for Mr. William Spells, for initiation, and also for the introduction of Bros. Wickham, 749, Thomas Arno, 749, Thomas Hammond, 212, and James Moore, 212, as joining members of the Lodge. At the close of the business, the company sat down to an excellent repast, after which, the usual loyal, patriotic and Masonic toasts were given and responded to.

PROVINCIAL.

CUMBERLAND.

COCKERMOUTH.—SKIDDAW LODGE, No. 1,002.—INSTALLATION.

The eighth Installation Festival in connection with this Lodge was held on Tuesday, 6th inst. The members, together with a strong contingent of visiting brethren, from sister lodges, met at the handsome and well-appointed rooms in the Market-place, at "high-twelve." The Installing Master of the day was Brother Crowther Morton, P. Prov. S.G.W., P.M. 872, 1,002, and 1,267; and the other brethren present were Brothers G. W. Kenworthy, Prov. J.G.W., 119; E. Busher, Prov. G. Sec., P.G.S.B. Eng., 129; Rev. H. L. Puxley, P. Prov. G. Chaplain, W.M. 1,002; R. Robinson, Prov. G.J.D., P.M. 1,002; Rev. W. Williams, Prov. G. Assistant-Chaplain, J.W. 1,002; J. R. Tickle, Prov. G.P., 371; J. Rothery, W. Alsop, 119; J. Jackson, 1,267; Joseph Morton, 872; P. de E. Collin, Dr. Jones, T. Mandle, W. Armstrong, G. M. Tickle, 371; W. Gaspey, E. Hinks, W. Lamony, D. Crosthwaite, 1,073; W. Shilton, P.M., W. Taylor, S.W., I. Evening, Treasurer, C. Mayson, Secretary, W. H. Lewthwaite, S.D., J. Allinson, J.D., R. Brown, I.G., W. Potts, T., J. Bolton, J. Pearson, Joseph Mayson, Joseph Graham, R. Bailey, H. Hammil, and W. F. Lamony, 1,002.

Brother Puxley, the retiring Master, having opened the lodge in form, the minutes of the preceding meeting were read and confirmed, after which Brother Puxley returned thanks for the support accorded to him by the members of the lodge during his term of office, and he added that he was about to be succeeded by a brother who would well and worthily govern the lodge for the next twelve months.

The Installing Master then assumed the presiding position in the East, whereupon Brother Puxley presented to him Brother John Pearson, for installation as W.M., this being followed by the delivery and reading of the usual obligation and charges by the presiding officer and the Prov. G. Secretary. All those who had not passed the chair were then requested to retire, and an Installing Board was formed as follows;—Brothers Kenworthy, E. Busher, H. L. Puxley, R. Robinson, W. Shilton, and J. R. Tickle. On the re-admittance of the lodge, the newly-installed W.M. was successively saluted by the brethren, according to the several degrees of the blue ritual, during the progress of which Brother W. H. Lewthwaite played on the harmonium the customary salutary marches. The retiring officers having divested themselves of their collars and jewels, the newly-installed Master invested their successors, viz;—C. Maysou, S.W.; R.

Bailey, J.W.; I. Evening, Treasurer; W. H. Lewthwaite, Sec.; J. Allison, S.D.; J. Bolton, J.D.; W. H. Smethurst, I.G.; W. Potts, Tyler. The lodge was then closed in form, the working proceedings of the installation having been performed in a most artistic and craftsmanlike style by Brother Morton, who, it should be observed, was assisted very materially by Brother Kenworthy.

Before the lodge was closed, the Provincial Grand Secretary announced that the Grand Master had appointed the Provincial Grand Festival to be held at Kendal, sometime in the latter end of September, or beginning of October, and that the Right Rev. Dr. Magee, Lord Bishop of Peterborough, would be asked to preach on the occasion.

THE BANQUET.

About two o'clock an adjournment was made to the Globe Hotel, where a first-class dinner had been provided by Brother Rapley. Brother Pearson, the newly-installed W.M., presided, and was supported right and left by Brothers Kenworthy, Tickle, Collin, Morton, Busher, and Robinson. The two wardens (Bros. C. Mayson and H. Bailey) occupied the vice-chairs. After dessert had been placed upon the tables,

The Worshipful Master proposed "The Queen, and the Craft," and in doing so said it required no effort on his part to secure the reception of the toast, inasmuch as Her Majesty formed the first subject of every Freemasons' gathering. The name of the Queen was at the head of every charity in connection with the Order. (The toast was drunk with all the honours.)

The Worshipful Master next gave the "Prince of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family." With respect to the connection of the Prince of Wales with the craft, he (the Chairman) had no doubt that should he ever be called upon to take the station so long held by the Earl of Zetland, His Royal Highness would fill the office to the credit and admiration of the Order. (The toast was drunk with full Masonic honours.)

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER then rose to propose "The Health of Earl de Grey and Ripon, Most Worshipful Grand Master of England." Although his Lordship was very young in his high office, he (the Chairman) had no doubt that before long he would hold the office with credit to the same extent as did his predecessor, the Earl of Zetland. Earl de Grey and Ripon was not only a Mason of note, but had done great service to his country as a statesman. (The toast was duly received with Masonic honours.)

The Worshipful Master then gave the toast of "The Deputy Grand Master of England (the Earl of Carnarvon) and the Grand Officers." The Deputy Grand Master was—like Lord de Grey and Ripon—on his trial; but from what Brother Puxley had stated at Whitehaven the other day, His Lordship was a Mason likely to do honour and prove an ornament to the craft. With regard to the rest of the Grand Officers, he could only mention one present, in the person of Brother Busher, a man who had done more for Masonry in this province than any brother he knew.

Brother Busher, in returning thanks, said he was only sorry that the gentleman who represented this province as Deputy Grand Master (Brother Colonel Whitwell, M.P.), and who had been honoured with a Grand Wardenship at the hands of the Grand Master of England, was unavoidably absent. He was happy to say that though their Provincial Deputy Grand Master had only just risen from a bed of sickness, he was at present in a fair way of recovery, thanks to the care and skill of Dr. Fox, one of Her Majesty's physicians. Returning thanks for himself he could only say it gave him great pleasure to meet the Cocker-mouth brethren, and as an instance of it, could assure the members of Skiddaw Lodge that he should do his best at the next election board in London to secure the election of an orphan daughter of one of their earliest members.

The Worshipful Master followed with the Health of the "Grand Master of the Province, the Earl of Bective M.P.," and in doing so bore testimony to the zeal, evinced by His Lordship in the cause of the craft. Though the Whitehaven lodges had had the honour of a visit from Lord Bective already, there was no doubt His Lordship would pay each lodge in the province a periodical visit. (The toast was drunk with all the honours.)

The Worshipful Master then gave the "Deputy Grand Master of the Province, Col. Whitwell, M.P.," and the rest of the Provincial Officers." Brother Whitwell was a Mason of sterling worth,

He coupled with the toast the names of Brothers C. Morton, Kenworthy, Busher, and R. Robinson.

Brother Kenworthy having returned thanks,

Brother R. Robinson followed. He said he wished to pay Brother Whitwell, their worthy D. Prov. G.M., a well deserved compliment. The zeal and ability shown by that gentleman, whether in consecrating a lodge, installing a master, or the manner in which he had performed the other duties of his high office, entitled him to all the praise which had been bestowed upon him to-day. It was highly gratifying to every lodge in the province that his merits had been recognised at head-quarters, by an appointment to one of the highest offices in the Grand Lodge of England—and that while they all lamented his severe illness, they were glad to be informed by Brother Busher that he was in a fair way to recovery. Another proof of the excellent judgment shown by the Provincial Grand Master in the selection of his officers was that of the J.G.W., Brother Kenworthy, than whom there was not a more zealous mason in the province. With regard to himself (the speaker), the honour of a provincial office conferred upon him last November, he took as a compliment to the lodge to which he belonged, rather than to any merit of his own. In common with them all, he rejoiced that they were honoured to-day by the presence of an officer of the Grand Lodge of England, who, in the multiplicity of his engagements, had found time to be there to do honour to their newly-elected Master. He was also glad to see around that festive table so many brethren from other lodges, evincing, as it did, not only the deep interest which they took in the welfare of the Craft, but a desire to promote that social intercourse which could not fail to cement them still closer in the fraternal bonds of the Order. But if peace and harmony reigned at that convivial board, they could not forget that many thousands of their brethren had lately met in that deadly conflict which had spread the pall of sorrow over the continent of Europe. That minister who talked of going to war with a light heart, must, by this time, know that hearts of another and a sadder kind had darkened many a home. Who could depict the horrors and the misery of that gigantic struggle? Beautiful Paris, once renowned as the queen of cities, had been shorn of her grandeur by feuds in human form—beautiful France, rich in vines and every blessing that a bountiful Providence could send for the sustenance of man, had been laid waste by the tramp of an invading host. Numberless thousands of their fellow-men had been cut down by the needle gun, the chasseur, and other engines of destruction, the names of which he could not pronounce. Countless thousands of widows and orphans were thrown on the world, bereft of those who were their only support. When these stupendous conflicts were to end was known only to Him who sits on the highest throne, and in whose hands are the fates of all kings and dynasties on earth. But, whatever calamity might have befallen the two contending powers, he rejoiced that not one drop of English blood was mixed in the unholy strife. What became of their boasted Christianity and civilization, when men, who professed and called themselves Christians, were engaged in that atrocious and inhuman butchery? As Masons, professing brotherly love, it was their duty on every fitting occasion to protest against the murderous warfare. If, "by the exercise of brotherly love, they were taught to regard the whole human species as one family, and the high, low, rich, and poor as all created by the same Almighty Parent, and sent into the world for the mutual defence and protection of each other," let them endeavour to carry that grand principle into practice. Surely, man was created for a higher and a holier purpose than to kill and maim each other, to appease the gory appetites of ambitious kings, and unscrupulous and intriguing ministers. Let them, then, get rid of that passion for war; let them cultivate that friendship and kind feeling which ought to exist amongst men of every race and of every clime. They could then join in the song of the heavenly host—"Glory to God in the highest, on earth peace, good will toward men."

Brother Busher likewise returned thanks.

Brother R. Robinson, in proposing the health of the newly-installed Master, Brother Pearson, bore testimony to the services of that gentleman in a public sense, particularly as Chairman of the Board of Guardians. As a Mason, he had been a regular attendant at all their meetings, and had that day received the highest honours a Mason could receive at the hands of the members of his lodge. (The toast was drunk with all honours.)

The Worshipful Master, in response, said it almost unnerved

him in the attempt to respond, after the very flattering remarks made in his favour by Brother Robinson. However, he only hoped and trusted that he deserved those remarks, and was certain they would act as a stimulant to deserve them more. He must confess that he had only belonged to the Craft for a very few years, but he was not long in finding out that the principal object of Freemasonry was to do all the good they could to their fellow-men, and do everything in their power to ameliorate their condition. Whenever there was an object brought forth to accomplish these benefits he had never shrunk in doing everything which lay in his power to effect its consummation. Such, he believed, was the line to be adopted by every one who wished to carry out the principles of Masonry. He had to-day been placed in a position which he truly felt proud of—that of Master of Skiddaw Lodge; and he trusted that during his term of office his conduct in the chair would meet with approbation of all the brethren, so that when he retired from his Mastership he would retire with the goodwill of them all.

The Worshipful Master then proposed "The health of the Retiring Master, Brother the Rev. H. L. Puxley," and paid a well-merited tribute to the efficient manner in which the chair had been filled during the past twelve months by Brother Puxley, who had unfortunately been called from amongst them, by reason of duty.

Brother R. Robinson returned thanks on behalf of Brother Puxley.

Brother Busher gave the health of "Brother C. Morton, Installing Master," who, he believed, had been one of the first and most active members and promoters of Skiddaw Lodge. Brother Morton was one of those exceedingly nice fellows, whom he would like to say a deal about had he not been there; but he was present, and that was a different thing. However he had no doubt they would accord to Brother Morton all due honour and praise.

Brother Morton returned thanks, and in doing so, said he had installed every Master of Skiddaw Lodge but one, and had initiated most of the members, including their newly-elected Worshipful Master. Alluding to the sickness which kept Bro. Faithfull from amongst them—a brother who was one of the founders of their Lodge—he trusted he would quickly recover, and be present at their next anniversary. Although it was he who said it, there was no better conducted lodge than Skiddaw, 1,002.

Brother Shilton proposed the "New Officers," and went into the history of the foundation of Skiddaw Lodge.

Brother C. Mayson responded.

The remaining toasts were the "Retiring Officers;" "The Press," coupled with the names of Brothers Alsop, Gaspey, and W. F. Lamouby; the "Visiting Brethren," and "To all poor and distressed Masons."

The proceedings were agreeably varied by the musical contributions of Bros. W. H. Lewthwaite (who presided at the piano-forte), Dr. Jones (who sang Miss Blamire's pretty ballad, "Welcome into Cumberland," lately set to music by Mr. W. Metcalf), J. Mayson, C. Mayson, W. Taylor, and G. W. Kenworthy.

This was undoubtedly the most pleasant and successful reunion ever held on the occasion of a Skiddaw Lodge St. John's Festival, and, perhaps, the only thing wanting was the presence of Bro. Faithfull, a past officer of the province, and one of the founders of the Lodge, whose forced absence called forth expressions of sympathy in his affliction on every hand.

ESSEX.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Essex was held at the Masonic Hall, Maldon, on Thursday, June 8th, under the presidency of the R.W. Prov. G.M., Robert John Bagshaw, who was attended upon the occasion by the Dep. Prov. G.M., Andrew Meggy, by the W.M. of the Richmond Lodge, by the Past Grand Chaplain, the Rev. Bro. C. J. Martyn, and other Grand Officers. Every Lodge in the province, (with one exception,) was represented, either by its Master, or by two or more of its members.

Immediately after the opening of the Lodge, the Grand Secretary of the Province, Bro. John Wright Carr, read the minutes of the last meeting, presented the reports and financial statement, &c.

The following appointments were made:—Bro. Andrew Meggy, to be again D. Prov. G.M.; Bro. G. P. Jay, to be S.W.; Joseph Bell, J.W.; Joseph Burton, Treas. (seventh time); John Wright Carr, Sec. (fourth time); Charles R. Tatham, Reg.; Rev. Eustace H. Crate, Chap.; Daneil B. Grout, S.D.; C. S. Tovell, J.D.; Robert Grout, Supt. of Wks.; Peter Matthews, Dir. of Cers.; Joseph Francis, S.B.; Henry Barton, Organist; Thomas Aldham, Purst.; Thomas S. Sarel, Tyler.

The brethren then quitted the Lodge, and walked to All Saints Church, to attend Divine Service. Prayers were read by the Vicar, the Rev. Bro. E. Horwood, the first lesson by the Rev. Bro. Martyn, the second lesson by Rev. Bro. E. H. Crate, and the sermon preached by the Rev. Bro. J. F. Bullack, Radwinter. There was no collection, but upon the return of the Brethren to the Lodge to resume duties, the Treasurer was authorised to hand to the Vicar, who was present, the sum of ten guineas, as a contribution towards the funds of the Maldon National Schools.

After the Lodge had been closed, about seventy of the brethren partook of a banquet, served in excellent style by Mr. and Mrs. Hickford, of the Blue Boar Hotel.

The following is a list of those who took part in the proceedings of the Lodge:—

Bros. R. J. Bagshaw, R.W. Prov. G.M.; Andrew Meggy, D. Prov. G.M.; Rev. F. B. Shepherd, S.G.W., 276, P.M., P.G.C.; J. Burton, P.M., 276, 1,024, P.S.G.W., P.G. Treas.; J. Wright Carr, W.M. 160, 276, 1,343, Prov. G. Sec.; Joseph Tanner, P.M., S.G.D.; George Cooper, G. Supt. of Wks.; John Glass, G.S.B.; T. S. Sarel, Tyler; W. Humphreys, P. Prov. G.J.W., P.M., 276, 1,024, F. G. Green, P.M. 276, 1,024, P. Prov. G.W.; J. T. Bott, P.M. 276, P. Prov. G.S.W.; T. Aldham, 1,024 P.M.; Samuel H. Wymark, P.M., 659, P. Prov. G.S.D.; James Durrant, P.M. 650, P. Prov. J.G.D.; Charles Samuel Tovell, W.M. 650; W. H. L. Pattison, 276; F. A. Jones, 276; James L. Brown, 276; George Bannister, 486; Albert Carr, 650; J. Bell, P.M. 1,280; James Cantor, W.M. 1,000; H. W. Moffatt, 72; Frederick Wood, P.M. 1,000, P. Prov. G.S.W.; W. Bright, 1,024; D. B. Grout, P.M. 160; Robert Grout, 160; William Calthorpe, W.M. 697; J. T. Gale, P.M. 1,024, P. Prov. J.W.; W. G. Small, 1,024; J. Maskall, 1,024; J. B. Taylor, 1,024; Robert J. Francis, 1024; Alfred Day, 453; C. R. Tatham, W.M. 453; Thomas Rix, S.W. 697; John F. Kemp, 1,024; Joseph Francis, P.M. 432; Thomas Eustace, J.W. 697; W. Giles, P.M., 453; T. B. Harrington, 51; T. Carter Wigg, 1,024; J. W. Jolly, 433; John Coppin, P.M. 51, P. Prov. G.J.W.; Samuel Ratcliff, 1,024; W. F. Francis, 1,024; G. G. Gardner, P.M. 453; John E. Wiseman, P.M., P. Prov. A.G.D.C.; James Self, P.M. 214; Edward Kemp, 1,024; Rev. E. H. Crate, Chap. 51; John James Hawkins, J.W. 1,024; A. C. Voley, J.W. 276; F. Whitmore, 51, 276; James Nicholls, 1,024, 276, S.W.; T. Smee, S.D. 276; W. Hickford, 51, 1,024; C. Clarke, 1,024; C. Cobb, 51; G. Motion, 453; R. W. Motion, 453; J. F. T. Wiseman, P.M., P. Prov. G.S.B.; Rev. E. R. Horwood, P.M.; Samuel Cox, S.W. 1,000; H. Rowley, P.M. 1,000, P. Prov. G.S.D.; J. English, 1,000; Samuel Chaplin, 51; G. P. Jay, W.M. 1,024; Edward, J. Sands, 51; Frederick, A. Cole, 51, J.W.; Rev. Charles J. Martyn, P.G. Chap.; W. P. Lewis, W.M. 51; H. Barton, 1,000, and others.

A painful occurrence took place whilst the members of the Provincial Grand Lodge were on their way to Church; one of their number, Bro. W. Hickford, of the Blue Boar Hotel, Maldon, was seized with a fit, and had to be carried into the Corn Exchange. Fortunately, medical and other assistance was at hand, and the necessary restoratives having been administered, he was soon removed home, but he remains in a very weak state.

LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND.

LEICESTER.—*St. John's Lodge* (No. 279).—The last regular monthly meeting of this lodge, before the summer recess was held at the Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday, the 7th inst., when, in addition to the W.M., Bro. Clement Stretton, P. Prov. G.R., there were present Bros. Kelly, P.M., and R.W. Prov. G.M.; L. A. Clarke, P.M., and P. Prov. S.G.W.; Weare, P.M., and Treas.; Crow, S.W.; Dr. Pearce, J.W.; Widdowson, Sec.; J. Wright Smith, J.D.; Halford, I.G.; Bembridge, Tyler; McAllister, Worthington, Edwards, Tarratt, Donisthorpe, Blankley, Cleaver, Beeton, Statham, and Kirby. Visitors: Bros. Buzzard, W.M.; Toller, P.M.; W. Beaumont Smith, P.M.; Sculthorpe, S.W.; Partridge, S.D.; Dr. Clifton, Whittaker, and

Parsons, of No. 523. After some preliminary business, Bro Charles J. Worthington, having been duly examined, was passed to the degree of Fellow Craft, after which Mr. Thomas Henry Kirby, *M.R.C.S.*, was duly initiated into our mysteries, the ceremonies being performed by the Provincial Grand Master, and the working tools being explained by Bro. Toller. At the last meeting Bro. William Pettifor, an old and highly respected Past Master of the lodge, had a vote of thanks accorded to him for past services, and he was nominated an honorary member, the ballot being on the list of business for this meeting. His death having, however, occurred in the previous week, the W.M. announced the fact to the lodge in appropriate terms of regret. The Provincial Grand Master, after alluding in high terms of eulogy to the zeal of the late Bro. Pettifor as a Mason, and his character as a man, proposed a resolution expressive of the deep regret of the brethren at the decease of one, who as a P.M. of the Lodge, a P.Z. of the Chapter, as P. Prov. S.G.W. of the Province, &c., "during more than a quarter of a century had rendered valuable services to Masonry in the Province in general, and to this Lodge in particular; whilst his quiet unobtrusive manner, his obliging disposition, his strict integrity of character, and his other sterling good qualities, in all the relations of life, had gained for him the respect and esteem of all with whom he was associated." The resolution concluded with an expression of sympathy with the widow and youthful family of the departed brother in their bereavement. This was seconded by Bro. L. A. Clarke, P.M., and supported by the W.M., and also by the W.M. of the John de Gaunt Lodge, who stated that Bro. Pettifor was no less esteemed, and his loss would be no less deplored by the members of that lodge than by those of St. John's Lodge. The resolution was carried unanimously, and a copy of it ordered to be signed by the principal officers, and to be transmitted to Mrs. Pettifor. The W.M. proposed his son for initiation at the next regular meeting of the lodge in October, which would occur on the day after the candidate's coming of age. The lodge was then closed and the brethren adjourned to refreshment.

LANCASHIRE.

LEIGH.—CONSECRATION OF THE MARQUIS OF LORNE LODGE (No. 1354).

On Wednesday, May 31st, the ceremony of consecration of this lodge, which was to have been performed by the V. Worshipful Deputy Grand Master of the province, the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, was conducted by Bro. A. C. Mott, P.M., P.Z., P. Prov. S.G.D., and P. Prov. G.S.W., assisted by Bro. H. S. Alpass, Prov. Grand Sec.

The lodge was opened by the consecrating officer, assisted by Bros. John Bowes, P. Prov. G.R., Cumberland and Westmoreland, and P.G.S.B. West Lancashire, as S.W.; D. W. Finney, P.M. 148, as J.W.; Dr. S. D. Lees, P. Prov. S.G.W. East Lancashire; J. Barker, P. Prov. G. Treas. East Lancashire; Jos. Leach, P.M., P.Z. 300; Dr. J. F. Pennington, P.M. 484; Nat. Dumbille, 152; J. C. Gillman, W.M. 1345; W. S. Hawkins, 1250; J. Smith, 300; J. Kershaw, 300; John Fogg, 484; John Bury, J.W. 325; R. F. Woodruff, W.M. 325; Thos. J. Broadbent, W.M. 430; Fred. Cook, P.M. 300; Jos. Taylor, P.M. 300; Ed. Beswick, 1134; G. P. Brockbank, P.M. 221; Jas. Pilkington, 37; D. P. Isherwood, S.W. 325.

The lodge was opened in due form in the three degrees, when the Presiding Officer called upon the Provincial Grand Secretary to read the petition and warrant, and to enquire if the brethren of the new lodge expressed their approval of the officers named therein. This being answered in the affirmative, the Consecrating Officer called upon the acting Chaplain to deliver an oration, after which the choir, under the direction of Bro. Beswick, sang the anthem:—

"Behold, how good and joyful a thing it is: brethren to dwell together in unity.

"It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down into the beard: even unto Aaron's beard, and went down to the skirts of his clothing.

"Like as the dew of Hermon: which fell upon the hill of Sion.

"For there the Lord promised His blessing: and life for evermore."

The first portion of the Consecration Prayer was then given, followed by the chant, "Glory be to Thee, O Lord," and the Invocation.

Bros. Alpass, Lees, and Barker carried the vessels containing corn, wine and oil thrice round the lodge, to solemn music, and halting in the East, the anthem:—

Glory be to God on high,
Peace on earth,
Good will towards men,

was sung by the choir.

The acting Chaplain then carried the censer three times round the lodge, and halting in the East, delivered the second portion of the consecration prayer.

The anthem:—

Glory to God on high,
Let heaven and earth reply,
Praise ye his name;
Masons His love adore,
Tyled in their mystic lore,
And cry out evermore
Glory to God!

was then sung by the choir.

The Presiding Officer proceeded to solemnly constitute the lodge in ancient form, the ceremony of consecration being concluded by the singing of the Hallelujah Chorus.

The lodge having been resumed in the second degree, Bro. J. T. Lancashire, W.M. designate, was presented to the Presiding Officer for the benefit of installation. The ceremony proper to this degree being concluded, a Board of Installed Masters was opened, and the W.M. designate was solemnly installed into the chair of K.S., and proclaimed and saluted according to ancient custom, Bro. J. Longworth was invested as I.P.M.

The W.M. having been proclaimed from the E., W., and S. proceeded to appoint and invest the following brethren as officers for the ensuing year, viz.:—Bros. James Jackson, S.W.; Joseph Hartley, J.W.; W. Bryce, Treas.; George Dickenson, Hon. Sec.; Robt. Nield, S.D.; W. Duncan, J.D.; Thos. Smith, I.G.; H. Heap, Tyler.

At the close of the business the brethren adjourned to the banquet.

The cloth having been withdrawn the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were drank:—

Bros. Alpass and Mott, being obliged to leave at an early hour the W.M. begged to call upon them to address the brethren.

Bro. Alpass, Prov. G. Sec., said that his visit to Leigh had been a pleasant one. From the W.M. downwards, they seemed to be imbued by a truly Masonic spirit, which augured well for the future. He was pleased that they had been enabled to secure private rooms, for he believed the time was fast approaching when Masons would cease to meet in houses of public entertainment. He regretted that he was compelled to leave so early; and concluded by proposing the health of the W.M.

Bro. Capt. Mott was well pleased with the work of the day. He could endorse all that the Prov. G. Sec. had said, and he counselled each to do his duty individually, and the lodge would flourish. The W.M. had impressed him with the belief that he was the right man in the right place, and that being so, he was sure his selection of officers would be good. Bro. Mott dilated in eloquent terms on the excellence of Masonry, and concluded by joining Bro. Alpass in wishing the W.M. health and happiness during his period of office.

Bros. Alpass and Mott then withdrew, amid the hearty cheers of those assembled.

The W.M., on rising to propose "The Queen," said it was always found on a Masonic toast list, and Her Majesty had no more loyal subjects than Masons.

The W.M. next proposed "H.R.H. Bro. Albert Edward Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family." He said no words of his were needed to ensure for the toast a hearty reception. His Royal Highness was allied to them as a brother, and he believed he was "a good man and true."

The W.M. proposed "The Right Hon. the Earl de Grey and Ripon, M.W.G.M., the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, R.W.D.G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers."

The S.W., Bro. Jackson, on rising to propose the next toast, viz., "Sir T. G. Fermor Hesketh, Bart., M.P., R.W. Prov. Grand Master; Lord Skelmersdale, V.W. Dep. Prov. G.M., and the rest of the Provincial Grand Officers," said the G.M. and his Deputy were, he had no doubt, well known to most of them, better even than to himself. For his own part, he must say he should not rest content till the lodge deserved "the purple," and

the Grand Master should be induced to hold a Provincial Grand Lodge at Leigh. He begged to call upon Bro. Bowes, P.M., P. Prov. G.R., to respond to the toast.

Bro. Bowes responded to the toast. It was, however, a pleasant duty they had imposed upon him. He believed that Sir Thomas Hesketh, their Grand Master, was most anxious that Masonry should flourish in the province, and that the lodges should be well worked. The D.G.M. was also eminently qualified for the position he held. He was a thorough "working" Mason, as those who had witnessed his conduct in a lodge well knew. He thanked them for the compliment paid to the Prov. Grand Master and the Prov. Grand Lodge.

Bro. Longworth, P.M., proposed "the Masonic Charities," coupling with the toast the name of a brother who had acted as a Charity Steward—Bro. Brockbank.

Bro. Brockbank, P.M., said he was pleased at the hearty manner in which the toast of "The Masonic Charities" had been received. As they all knew, they had a Boys' School, a Girls' School, as well as Institutions for Aged Freemasons and their Widows, which institutions were all worthy their warmest support. It was rather early to give the members of the Marquis of Lorne Lodge a lecture on charity; but he had no doubt that in due time they would become aware of their responsibilities in this respect. In Bolton, where he resided, they had a large share of the benefits of Masonic Charities. He thanked the brethren for the reception they had given his name in connection with the toast.

Bro. Barker, P. Prov. G. Treas. E.L., said, after the able manner in which the Worshipful Master's health had been proposed by Bros. Alpass and Mott before leaving, little need be said by him by way of supplement. As a man and a Mason, the W.M. was esteemed and respected by all who knew him. As an old personal friend, it had afforded him extreme pleasure to be present that day, and witness the always-interesting ceremonies of consecration and installation. He proposed "The health of the W.M." in the full assurance that they would unite with him in doing it justice.

Bro. Lancashire, M.W. said, after the kind manner in which the toast had been proposed by Bros. Alpass and Mott, and supported by his worthy and kind friend Bro. Barker, who had so efficiently acted as Director of Ceremonies of the day, he experienced great difficulty in finding fitting words to express his thanks. He had been charged with ambition; he pleaded guilty to one species of ambition—a desire to discharge his duty efficiently. From the time he first saw the mystic light, he had acted in belief of that principle; and as long as it pleased T.G.A.O.T.U. to give him health and strength, he intended to continue in the same undeviating path of duty. He had told the Grand Master's representatives that day—and he was in earnest when he did so—that he hoped at no distant period to see Sir Thomas Hesketh in Grand Lodge assembled at Leigh, and to see, at the same time, some of their members invested with the "purple." In conclusion, he tendered his thanks to the members of No. 1354 individually, for the substantial assistance they had rendered him in discharging their pecuniary obligations. This was not a light matter, but he was happy to say there was no outstanding accounts. He had undertaken the office of W. M. and he relied upon efficient service from his officers. This done he should retire from the chair with feelings of pride and satisfaction, and be enabled to hand the warrant to his successor as unsullied as he had that day received it. Let them then, one and all, be determined that their lodge should rank second to none in the province for efficient working and Masonic zeal. He again thanked the brethren, and sat down.

Bro. Wright said that they were favoured that day by a number of brethren from a distance. They were proud to see them, and he trusted they should ever prove themselves worthy of the honour they had that day received at the hands of the visitors. He begged to offer for their acceptance the toast proposed, "The Visiting Brethren."

Bro. Finney, P.M. and M.E.Z., 148, most sincerely thanked the brethren for associating his name with the toast; and he trusted that the lodge—the Marquis of Lorne—whose advent was commemorated that day, would abundantly flourish and be eminently successful. He congratulated the brethren on the auspicious occasion. The W.M.—judging from what has been seen of him this day—who is likely to do honour to the chair, and to the Craft in general, and in so doing to heap double honour upon himself. His worst wishes were that the Marquis of Lorne Lodge may be as prosperous as the W.M. and brethren could themselves wish and desire.

Bro. Bowes, P.M., P.Z., P. Prov. G. Reg., proposed the toast of the evening, "Prosperity to the Marquis of Lorne Lodge." He undertook the duty assigned to him with the utmost pleasure, but not without a thorough sense of the responsibility he had voluntarily undertaken. He was not ignorant of the labour and anxiety consequent upon the formation of a new lodge, and he rejoiced to find their labours brought to a successful issue. All honour was due to the W.M. and the other promoters for the long continuance in well-doing, and it must be a proud satisfaction to them to witness that day the success which had crowned their united endeavours. The W.M. would not occupy the position he did unless he merited the highest esteem of the brethren, and he was quite sure the officers invested that day enjoyed the highest confidence of the W.M. Some of them he knew, and he knew them only to respect and esteem them. He witnessed the introduction of their S.W., Bro. Jackson, to light, and he had watched his Masonic career both with interest and satisfaction. He was a brother thoroughly imbued with a deep sense of his Masonic responsibilities, and an able "worker." Such was his opinion of one of their officers, and he knew that the other officers were equally entitled to their respect and esteem. Some brethren were in the habit of looking down upon the subordinate offices—the Deacons, for instance—but this was a great mistake. A good Deacon made a good W.M., and a bad one never should be W.M. at all. It only remained for the "brethren all" to do their duty, and then, without doubt, the genuine tenets and principles of this noble Order would be transmitted through Lodge No. 1354.

Bro. W. Duncan, M.D., J.D., responded to the toast of "The Marquis of Lorne Lodge."

Bro. Jackson, S.W., proposed "The Newly-invested Officers," which was duly responded to.

The Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

MONMOUTHSHIRE.

NEWPORT.—*Silurian Lodge (No. 47).*—The usual monthly meeting of the members of this Lodge took place on Wednesday 7th inst., and there was a very large attendance, the W.M. Bro. Grate was in the chair. The minutes of the last general meeting, and two emergencies having been read and confirmed, Count Metexa was balloted for, and unanimously admitted. Bro. Perrin, of the New Forest Lodge, Winchester, was also admitted as a Subscribing Member. Bros. Hibbard and Ellis being in attendance, were examined in open Lodge as to their progress each had made as Entered Apprenticed Freemasons, and their answers proving satisfactory, those brothers retired, the Lodge was then opened in the second degree, and the two brothers, lastly named, were passed to the degree of Fellow-Craft Freemasons, and Bro. Samuel Davies, who had been initiated, and passed in the Harrington Lodge, 49, Quebec, was then questioned in open Lodge as to the progress he had made as a Fellow-Craft Freemason, and his answers being also satisfactory, he retired. The Lodge was opened in the third degree, when Bro. Davies was raised to the sublime degree of M.M. The Lodge was then closed down, and we may safely state that the two degrees were very correctly and ably rendered by the W.M. Five new candidates were proposed to be balloted for at the next meeting. A subscription was then started in the room for a distressed brother, formerly a member of this Lodge, and we are happy to say a very handsome sum was collected, which was reserved by the supplicant with tears of great joy. The Lodge was closed in harmony at 9.45 p.m.

NEWPORT.—*Kenard Lodge (No. 1,258).*—The Installation of Bro. Griffiths, as W.M. for the ensuing year, will take place in the new Masonic Hall, Pontypool, on the 26th inst., and from the known popularity of the W.M. elect, a large gathering is anticipated.

SUFFOLK.

FRAMLINGHAM.—*Lodge Fidelity (No. 555).*—A large gathering of the Masonic fraternity took place in Framlingham Castle, on Friday, the 9th inst., to assist at the installation of the Right Hon. Lord Henniker, as Master of Lodge Fidelity, No. 555. The brethren of the lodge assembled soon after five o'clock, including among the number Lord Henniker, G. S. Corrence,

M.P.; Fred. Jennings, J.R. Capon, Rev. J. A. Brereton, Geo. Bond, E. F. Alston, W. Whitmore, and others. The following also were among the visitors: Rev. E. J. Lockwood, Prov. D.G.M.; G. Harper, Prov. D.G.W.; W. Lucia, Prov. G.S.; Newson Garrett, P. Prov. G.R.; D. Adams, P. Prov. G.S.B.; the Rev. E. Catlow, P. Prov. G. Chap., Oxford; A. J. Barber, Prov. G. Org.; G. S. Golding, W.M. 228; G. O. Lias, W.M. Norfolk; Jno. Read, Sec. 308. The lodge was opened by the W. Master, Bro. Capon; who then vacated the chair, which was taken by the Past Master, Bro. Jennings, who after passing a candidate to the second degree, proceeded to install Lord Henniker as Master of the Lodge 555, and was assisted in the ceremony by a large Board of Installed Masters. The newly installed W. Master, after thanking the lodge for the honour conferred upon him, proceeded to invest his officers for the year. After closing the lodge the brethren adjourned to the Castle Hall, (which was most tastefully decorated for the occasion), and sat down to a splendid banquet, provided by Bro. King. On the cloth being withdrawn, the noble chairman gave the usual Masonic toasts. In proposing "The Health of the Queen," he said that it was a toast which would always be received in Masonic circles with gratification, she being both the daughter and mother of a Mason. In proposing "The Health of the Grand Master of England," he said it was very satisfactory for Masons to welcome him back to England on his return from America, where his mission had been a truly Masonic one, being for the cause of peace. W. Bro. Jennings proposed the toast of the evening, "The Health of the newly installed Worshipful Master, Lord Henniker, which was most enthusiastically received; he said the Lodge Fidelity had availed itself of the privilege which every lodge had once in every year, to select a Master to rule over them; their choice fell unanimously upon the Senior Warden, and that result had been satisfactory not only to themselves, but it had been endorsed by all the Masons of the province, as proved by the large gathering this evening, to do honour to their choice. The new Master, he said, had been chosen for his many Masonic qualities, as the liberal landlord, the courteous gentleman, and open handed neighbour, and not because he was a peer of the realm. The W.M., in returning thanks, expressed his gratification at the manner in which the toast had been given and received, and he hoped he should prove himself worthy, and he would exert himself to become proficient. As a young Mason, he should require some aid from the past officers of the lodge. The "Healthis of the Dep. Prov. G. Master, Rev. J. Lockwood, W. Bro. F. Jennings, F. S. Corrence, *M.P.*;" "The Visitors, coupled with the name of the Rev. E. Catlow, P. Prov. G. Chap., Oxford," were given and responded to. Some excellent singing by Bros. Read, Flicke, Robt. Capon, &c., accompanied by the Prov. G. Organist, Bro. Barber, enlivened the evening's proceedings; and the brethren of Suffolk will long remember the meeting as a most pleasant one.

ROYAL ARCH.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

MELTON MOWBRAY.—*De Mowbray Chapter* (No. 113).—The second anniversary of this flourishing chapter was held on Thursday 1st inst. Present Comps. E. J. Orford, M.E.Z.; Newcome, P.Z. as H., in the absence of Comp. Douglass, through a professional engagement; J. J. Fast as J.; Rev. Wm. Langley P.Z.; Duncombe, Adeock, Johnson, Bugg, and Selby; apologies were received from other companions, who, from various causes were unable to be present. The minutes having been read and confirmed the M.E.Z. proceeded to invest Comp. Duncombe as Scribe E.; Comp. Adeock as Treas., Comp. Johnson as Assist. Sej; the chapter was then closed, and the companions sat down to an excellent banquet provided by Comp. Selby. The usual Loyal and R.A. toasts were given "The health of the respected M.E.Z." by Comp. Langley, P.Z.; the I.P.Z., by Comp. Adeock; Comp. Duncombe proposed the health of Comp. Langley, the first M.E.Z. of this chapter, which was most enthusiastically received. The M.E.Z. proposed "The Officers," acknowledged by Comp. Fast, which brought this agreeable evening to a close.

MARK MASONRY.

GRAND MARK LODGE.

The half-yearly communication of the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters of England, Wales, and the colonies and dependencies of the British Crown, was held on Tuesday, in the Crown Room, Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street.

The proceedings commenced at half-past three o'clock, at which hour a Lodge of Improvement was held, and the Mark Master degree worked with great excellence by V.W. Bro. Stevens, P.M. 104, assisted by Bros. Hammerton and Hargreaves, as Wardens, and Bros. Rosenthal and Binckes, as Overseers.

At the opening of Grand Lodge, there was a large muster of Mark Masters present, and a good attendance of Grand Officers. Amongst them were Bros. W. W. B. Beach, *M.P.*, G.M.; J. R. Stebbing, G. Treas.; Colonels Burdett and Adair; the Revs. J. Huyshe, T. F. Ravenshaw, D. Shaboe, and Bigsby; Jas. Stevens, G.S.O.; C. H. Hammerton, John Horvey, Eugene Cronin, W. Worrell, Morton Edwards, S. Rosenthal, T. Hargreaves, Joshua Nunn, M. Lazarus, J. C. Parkinson, and H. Massey.

A procession was formed in due order of precedence, and the M.W.G.M., the Rev. G. R. Portal, was escorted with proper formality to the chair.

Grand Lodge having been opened in ample form, the minutes of the meeting of Grand Lodge of December, 1870, were read and confirmed.

The brethren then proceeded to take into consideration, which ultimately terminated in adoption, of treaties which had been entered into by the M.W.G.M. and the Supreme Grand Council of the Ancient and Accepted Rite, and the United Orders of the Temple and Hospital and Malta, for the better maintainance of Masonic discipline, as well as of mutual defence and support, and also for the purpose of discountenancing all other Masonic jurisdictions whatsoever, except the Grand Lodge of Craft and Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons throughout England and Wales.

These several treaties were ratified and confirmed, with considerable unanimity of feeling, with what result time alone can decide, because the Grand Commander of the Royal Ark Mariners, an order, it is alleged has long been in abeyance, and has lately been resuscitated, who was present, on being asked to surrender his authority to the Most Worshipful Grand Mark Master, could not be induced, after very lengthened debate, so to do, and as the Grand Master's intention is to advise every Mark Lodge under his jurisdiction to work the Ark degree also, offering every reasonable facility in his power, here is a difficulty at once to contend with, an independent Grand Lodge of that order being in full work.

This lengthy discussion having terminated, Grand Lodge proceeded to elect a Grand Master and Grand Treas. for the ensuing year, the result being that the M.W.G.M.M.M. was re-elected for a third year of office, being the last time according to the constitution of the Order he can remain in the chair: Bro. J. Rankin Stebbing, P.G.D., was unanimously re-elected Treasurer.

The M.W.G.M.M.M. having been appropriately saluted, returned thanks for the high honour done him, and proceeded to invest the grand officers, as follows:—Bro. Earl Percy, D.G.M.; J. R. Stebbing, G. Treas.; F. Binckes, G.S.; Lord Skelmersdale, G.S.W.; J. C. Parkinson, G.J.W.; Rev. Bigsby, G. Ch.; R. A. Benson, G. Reg.; Magnus Ohren, G.M.O.; G. Hardy G.S.O.; Thos. Williams, G.J.O.; E. Cronin, G.S.D.; M. Edwards, G.J.D.; Normanton, G. Sup. Wks.; F. Long, G.D.C.; W. Hudson, G. Asst. D.C.; Trigg, G. Sd. B.; Wickens, G. Std. B.; Robt. Gregory, G. Org.; and Dawson, I.G.

A number of jewels were then presented by the M.W.G.M.M.M. to brethren who on various occasions had signalled themselves in the cause of masonic charity, in connection with the Mark degree, and after the transaction of some other business Grand Lodge was closed.

A banquet was afterwards served, presided over by the M.W.G.M.M.M. The usual toasts were given, and the enjoyment of the evening was much enlivened by the presence of Bros. Coward, Carter, Distin, and Jekyll, who gave an admirable selection of music.

In the course of the evening the Grand Master gave a gratifying account of the results of a conference lately held here with a deputation from the Grand Lodge of Scotland, on the subject of mutual rights and recognition, and announced that between the last meeting of Grand Lodge and the end of May no fewer than 16 warrants for new lodges and 699 certificates had been issued.

ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED RITE.

SUFFOLK.

IPSWICH.—*Victoria Sovereign Rose Croix Chapter*.—An emergency meeting of this chapter was held at the Masonic Hall, Ipswich, on Monday, the 12th inst. Present: Ill. Bros. Rev. R. N. Sanderson, 30°, M.W.S., and Emma Holmes, 31°, 1st. Gen., Acting Recorder; Ex. Bros. Capt. Terry, and W. Warren, R. of the 60th Rifles; W. T. Westgate, Acting G.M.; P. Cornell, C.G.; Dr. Mills, 2nd Gen.; G. Spalding, Janitor. The chapter having been opened, the ballot was taken for Bros. A. A. Watts; G. A. B. Beecroft, P.G.O. Oxford; and H. B. MacCall, Lieut. 60th Rifles; who were candidates for perfection. Having taken the obligation of allegiance to the Supreme Grand Council, and signed the petition praying for admission to this illustrious order; they were passed through the intermediate degrees, and duly installed and perfected as Knights of the Pelican and Eagle, and Sovereign Princes Rose Croix. The Rev. G. W. Marwood, M.A., Prelate of the Hilda Chapter, was balloted for and accepted as a joining member. The third point having been given, and the newly installed Excellent and Perfect Princes received into the living circle, the sovereign chapter was closed, and the brethren retired for refreshment.

BLACKBURN.

LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE OF ST. PETER'S NEW SCHOOLS.

The foundation stone of new Church of England school for St. Peter's parish, Blackburn, to replace the present unsuitable premises in Bent-street, was laid on Saturday afternoon, with all the beautiful display and solemn ritual of Freemasonry.

The building is to be Gothic, of the 15th and 16th century style, and there will be accommodation for 359 infants and 200 girls. The dimensions are as follows:—infants' school-room, 73ft. 6in. by 30ft.; girls' school-room, 79ft. by 20ft.; infants' class-room, 31ft. by 20ft.; girls' class-room, 20ft. by 20ft. There is also to be a commodious play-ground attached. The building is estimated to cost £2,600. In the interior the roof is to be dressed pitch pine 16ft. by 18ft. to the under side of the collar beam. The architect, whose plans were approved by the Council of Education with little delay, is Mr. Joseph Brierley, C.E.

The proceedings of the day were commenced by a procession of scholars from Bent-street schools, at three o'clock. There was a very large turn-out of scholars, and their neat appearance and the order with which they marched were the subject of general admiration on the part of hundreds of spectators. They were led up by the Borough Band, while two large banners and several bannerets graced the procession. Arrived at the Old Bull Hotel the Masonic body joined the procession. The lodge on which the arrangements for the day devolved was the Perseverance, No. 345, of which Mr. Dennis Towers is the Worshipful Master; but in addition to the members of this lodge, a number of brethren from the Fidelity and distant lodges joined, and several of the provincial office-bearers. Of the latter there were:—Bros. W. R. Callender, jun., D. Prov. G. M. E. L.; Joseph Handley, Prov. G. T.; A. B. Creeke, Prov. G. Reg.; John S. Veervers, Prov. G. S. D.; Wm. Dawson, Prov. G. J. D.; R. Seed, P. G. Org.; Thos. West and Geo. Stuttard, Prov. G. Stewards; Thos. Clough, P. Prov. G. Reg. E. L.; Franklin Thomas, P. Prov. G. Reg. Oxon.; Charles Tiplady, P. Prov. G. T. E. L.; Richard Radcliffe, P. Prov. S. G. D. E. L.; R. C. J. Duckworth, P. Prov. G. Steward E. L. There were also among the brethren:—D. Towers, W. M.; George Duerden, J. W.; C. Tiplady, Treas.; Rev. C. Hughes, Chaplain; E. Halliwell, Sec.; Robert Birkett, S. D.; Thos. Bramley, J. D.; John Rigby, D. C.; J. Ingham and J. W. Lutener, Stewards; George Ellis, Org.; H. Shuttleworth, J. C.; W. Croft, Tyler; John Proctor, P. M.; John Rigby, P. M.; E. Eastwood, P. M.; T. Robinson, P. M.; G. P. Hartley, P. M.; William Ainsworth, W. M. 269; Thomas Sharples, P. M. 346; and other brethren, to the number altogether of more than 130. The procession moved down Darwin Street and St. Peter's Street, to the church, in the following order:—

Borough Band.
St. Peter's Banner.

Rev. C. W. Woodhouse, Subscribers to the School Fund, Teachers, and Female Scholars.
Banner.

Rev. G. Burwell, curate, Subscriber to the School Fund, Teachers, and Male Scholars.

W. R. Callender, Esq., and the Provincial Officers of the Masonic body.

Fourteen young girls dressed in white, and bearing choice bouquets. The names of the girls are—The Misses Bertwistle, Hindle, Duckworth, (Nab-lane), Duerden, Ingham, Liversey, Duckworth, (Bridge Street), Thompson, (Witton), Hartley Eastwood, Robinson, Cotton, and Simpson.

The Masonic Body.

Four boys, eldest sons of Masons (Robert W. Towers, son of the W. M.; son of P. M. John Rigby; son of John Ingham; son of Thomas Liversey,) carrying the open Bible.

The route was lined with spectators, and the procession was much admired; but the bulk of the praise was given to the flower-bearers, whose neat and uniform attire and splendid bouquets (the gift of R. B. Dodgson, Esq., and H. M. Feilding, Esq.) made them the "observed of all observers." The Masons, with their brilliant ornaments and splendid sashes and aprons, also made a very effective display. On reaching the church the sacred edifice was filled in almost every part. The area was reserved for the scholars, Masons, and subscribers, &c., to whom tickets had been furnished, and the gallery was thrown open. Among the clergymen present at the church, and afterwards at the stone, were:—Major Feilden; T. H. Pickup, Esq., Mayor of Blackburn; the Revs. C. W. Woodhouse, and G. Burwell, of St. Peter's; Dr. Moss, Christ Church; L. Rawstorne, Balderstone; W. Stones, Curate of Holy Trinity; J. Baker, Vicar of St. John's; W. Mayor, Vicar of St. Paul's; T. Cooper, of Clayton-le-Moor; J. Allott, Rishton, &c. The service in the church consisted of the "Te Deum Laudamus," the Litany, and a hymn.

The procession then re-formed, and went to the site of the new schools, which is situated almost directly opposite the front of the church. By the erection of large platforms, a great number of persons were enabled to witness the ceremony without the discomfort caused by pushing usually encountered on such occasions. Before the proceedings were commenced the band played "And the Glory of the Lord" (Handel), after which the whole assembly joined in singing the 100th Psalm.

Mr. William Thompson, in the following words, then presented to Bro. Callender, a handsome silver trowel with which to lay the stone:—I have great pleasure, on behalf of the incumbent and congregation of St. Peter's, to present you with this trowel to lay the foundation-stone of the new schools which are now about to be erected in this important and popular parish. It is not necessary for me to remind you of the important advantages which are derived from education, and also the increased efforts which are required at our hands at the present moment. You, as a member of the School Board, will heartily appreciate and sympathise with us in this object, and assist us with your good wishes. I am sure we all wish that you may long be spared, and that you may hear of the successful completion of these schools, and of their hearty co-operation and connection with the Church of England. Accept, sir, this trowel as a memento of this day's proceedings. Mr. Thompson then handed the trowel, on the blade of which was engraved these words—"Presented to William Rounaine Callender, Esq., on his laying the foundation-stone of St. Peter's Parochial Schools, Blackburn, June 10th, 1871."

Bro. W. R. Callender, Jun., in replying, said: Mr. Thompson, I have very great pleasure in accepting this trowel, with which to lay the stone, and I am sincerely obliged for the very handsome present you have made. You may be sure that you have my best sympathies in your work of erecting schools in connection with the Church of England. To save the time of this meeting, I shall not call upon the Secretary to read the dispensation authorising this meeting to be held; but I shall call upon him to produce the plate, after which it will be placed in its proper position.

Bro. E. Halliwell, Secretary, produced the brass plate, on which had been neatly engraved in antique letters, with illuminated capitals, the subjoined inscription. The plate was engraved by Messrs. Dugdale and Sons, and is an excellent piece of workmanship:—"St. Peter's Parochial Schools. This stone was laid on June 10th, 1871, by the V. W. Deputy Prov. Grand Master of East Lancashire, W. R. Callender, Jun., Esq., assisted

by the brethren. Donor of the site, H. M. Feilden, Esq., M.P., Lord of the Manor. The Rev. C. W. Woodhouse, M.A., Vicar, the Rev. G. Burwell, B.A., Curate. William Thompson, Esq., and R.D. Coddington, Esq., Wardens; Mr. W. Thompson and Mr. J. E. Sharples, Sidesmen. Architect, Mr. J. Brierley. Clerk of the Works, Mr. J. Simpson. To be built in the name of the blessed Trinity. A bottle (containing the names of the Masons present and a copy of the local papers) was then placed in the cavity, over which the plate was fixed. On the bottom bed of the stone we should mention, were hewn a representation of the square, level, and plumb rule.

The Rev. C. Hughes, Chaplain, read a portion of Scripture, and offered up prayer. The ceremony then proceeded in the following order.—Junior Warden, George Duerden, advanced to the Grand Master.—Brother Junior Warden: What is the emblem of your office? The plumb rule, right worshipful sir.—How do you apply the emblem to your office? To try and adjust all uprights while being fixed on their proper bases.—By direction the junior warden applies the plumb, which having been done, he says: Right Worshipful sir, the Craftsmen have done their duty.—Senior Warden Robert Duckworth then advances, and in similar form tries the level and proves the horizontals. Worshipful Master D. Towers then applies the square to try and adjust all rectangular corners of buildings, and to assist in bringing rude matter into form. The Grand Master then applies each of these instruments to prove the correctness of their assertions. Past Master Thomas presented a mallet to the Prov. Grand Master, who, having given the stone three distinct raps, declared it to be built and properly laid, according to the science of masonry. Brother Brierley presented the plans, which had been duly examined and proved, and the Prov. Grand Master gave them back into his custody as Superintendent of Works. Brother T. Clough presented corn, the sacred emblem of plenty, and the Grand Master spread a few grains on the stone. Brother T. Bertwistle presented wine, the sacred emblem of truth, and a few drops were poured on the stone. Brother C. Tiplady advanced with oil, the sacred emblem of charity, and a few drops were also poured on the foundation by the Prov. Grand Master. The choir joined in singing the Masonic glee. "When the temple's first stone was slowly descending." The ceremony was then concluded by each of the fourteen girls before mentioned laying a flower on the stone.

The Rev. C. W. Woodhouse then ascended the stone and addressing the assembled crowd, said: Ladies and gentlemen,—There is a sentence in the Book from which a portion has been read in the solemn ceremony of this afternoon which I am sure many of you will remember with great distinctness, namely, that "Hope deferred maketh the heart sick;" and I know that there are present to-day on this great occasion many whose hearts were beginning to fail them and who were beginning to think that St. Peter's new schools would never be reared in the midst of them. Many had passed away who took a part in the early movement for the building of these schools. So early as May the 19th, 1863 the congregation of St. Peter's were called together to consider how they might best accommodate the increasing number of scholars at the schools which were established in this populous parish. Then came on the disastrous cotton famine, the effects of which were felt in perhaps all the families of this advancing borough, and that disastrous famine stayed those who were canvassing for subscriptions whereby these schools might be erected. But as the years rolled on the scholars in our schools never felt that their hearts were sick, but that rather hope prevailed over fear; and I may tell you for your satisfaction that during the years that have elapsed since 1863, £64 has been contributed in pennies and half-pennies in our schools—something like £6 or £7 a year, up to this year in which we are now assembled. Then came the late pressure which was put on the educational movement in this country, by the passing of that Act of Parliament which we trust in its results will bring about many blessings to the people of this realm. Under the influence of the conclusions which were drawn from that Act, we of St. Peter's felt that we had a new argument to present to our friends around us in asking for their help, in order that we might if possible begin our schools whilst the Government were for one year more prepared to render their aid. I must say with great gratitude to the subscribers to the fund on which we are working to-day that the readiness with which they came forward to contribute their money towards this great object proves that in Lancashire edu-

cation is appreciated, and above all, the education of the good old Church of England. I must say that the contributions which you have given on that occasion were not only given readily and promptly, but in many cases without being asked for; and as there are £200 or £300 yet wanting; perhaps some may come without being asked for, and some may come with the hint; at all events we have no fear that we shall accomplish, with God's blessing, the work which we have commenced to do. Having said this much, I feel that there are two debts of gratitude which ought to be given expression to by the people of St. Peter's—of whom I am the mouthpiece to-day—a debt of gratitude to our honourable member Mr. Feilden; and secondly, a debt of gratitude to the honourable society of the Masons who have come to start us in this noble work. Mr. Feilden, our active and able member, could not be present with us to-day because of his Parliamentary duties on special committees, which work the younger members of that House, even out of school hours, or he would have joined us in the ceremony of this afternoon. He had promised to come on Whit-Tuesday, but we found our friends the Masons could not come, and many gentlemen of this town could not come who wanted to be with us, and we were obliged to postpone until this auspicious day, the work on which we are now engaged. But a worthy brother of our friend is with us to-day, Major Feilden, who represents that brother whom we love for his own sake, and who will, I hope, as the friend of us all, carry away a brief expression of our gratitude to his elder brother for the great benefit which he has bestowed upon us. You are perhaps, many of you, aware that his late long-lived and long-revered father gave to us this plot of land on which we are now assembled to-day; but that as it pleased God to take him, after a long and useful life, before we were enabled to take possession of it, the law ordered that it dropped out of the power of his successor to give it in the ordinary course of events. But our member was able to take advantage of an Act of Parliament which was especially passed through the House in order to facilitate the erection of schools for the education of the working classes, and he has become the donor afresh of this plot of land—valued at £1,016,—on which we are assembled to-day. I beg, therefore, that Major Feilden will be kind enough to accept this trowel, which can be used as a fish knife, and which is made of silver and ivory, and put into a little box, I ask that the Major will accept this on behalf of his brother, and convey to that brother thanks which nothing that we can bestow will impress, and which our heartiest applause to-day will fail fully to convey. I think, ladies and gentlemen, that we in Blackburn know how to respect that family, which has thus given us this plot of land, and I trust that the Christian sentiments which have ever actuated the members of that family, will be sentiments which will be spread in the borough, and that the church will become venerable to many who are here to-day. There are a few who were present when its foundation stone was laid; in that Church Mr. Feilden learned the early principles which have guided him through his active life since then; there he learned his Church Catechism; there he learned to take part in that worship in which we have joined together to-day, and therefore I feel especial gratitude and thankfulness that he should have been spared when he grew up to be a man, and had power over this manor in which you are assembled, and in which your works are situated, to give us this plot of land to lend an aid to the work of education, and to worship, in this parish. May the day never pass when education and Christian worship shall be joined hand in hand. Take education without the love of Christ and the worship of the Triune God, and what is it worth? It makes men greater knaves, it makes them worse citizens; but take education, coupled with Christian worship, with the knowledge of the Triune God, redeemer of the lost souls of men, and then we learn the Lord is reasonable and is eternal, because worship alone without knowledge, descends to fanaticism, but worship joined with instruction, joined with sound knowledge, is our motto in the old parish of St. Peter's. The worship of the Triune God, and true knowledge, this is the marriage union which we celebrate to-day. I have now to express in your name our gratitude to the honourable company of Masons, and especially to the principal amongst them to-day. Bro. William Romaine Callender, who with his brethren, have come, I know at great sacrifice, I know at great cost, to lay us this grand stone on which I am standing at this moment, I say we owe them a debt of gratitude,

because the honourable company of Masons represent a long line of art—an art of the finest character, in the ages that have gone, by and which we are only developing in our time. The old Freemasons, as tradition tells us, were the depositories of these grand secrets of architecture by which churches vaster and nobler than ours, the cathedrals of England, the cathedrals of France, the cathedrals of Germany, were raised out of the quarries of bare fields, in the hope and prospect that the day might arise when congregations should worship in them. I believe that the Masons preserved by tradition, long before the art of our architects and of our superintendents of works were known, the art of building those vast structures which we can only try to reproduce in the modern buildings of to-day; they preserved this in its best and purest form, and along with the preservation of architecture, I believe they preserved the rudiments of music, I believe they preserved the rudiments of painting, I believe they preserved all the rudiments of study which the increased intelligence of our day have developed into the arts and sciences, which we all strive to impart in the education of our children, and combined with religion, for the raising of this money-gaining but grand folk of England. I think, therefore, that we owe a debt of gratitude to the Masons to-day. The trowel which Mr. Romaine Callender has used was put into his hand before the ceremony was commenced, but we hope that he will give it back to us, but that he will take it, or Mrs. Callender or her daughters will take it, and it will cut many a salmon and turbot, and less fish, upon their ample table—and when they take it up and eat the fish they will feel that they did not come in vain to this dark town of Blackburn, to help us in building a school, in order that we might raise its education and promote its religion. Accept, sir (addressing Mr. Callender), our best and most grateful thanks, and we shall ever retain in our memories our gratitude, which has been so feebly expressed by myself, for this auspicious commencement. May you and yours, and those who are around me to-day—for the most part our own friends who sympathise with us—live to see those larger buildings, the foundations of which at this moment you cannot see. May God prosper our work according to the prayer that has been offered, and to-day be memorable, because it was at the beginning of a train of blessings which came from the Triune God, in the week when the Church of England commemorates the foundation doctrine of our faith, the Three in One, to the praise, and to the honour, and to the glory of His eternal name—Mr. Woodhouse then handed to Major Feilden the trowel, which bore the following inscription: “Presented to M. H. Feilden, Esq., M.P., donor of the site, on the laying of the foundation stone of St. Peter's Parochial Schools, Blackburn, June 10th, 1871.”

Major Feilden in appropriate terms, acknowledged the gift, on behalf of his Brother, whose parliamentary duties prevented him from taking part in this interesting ceremony.

Bro. W. R. Callender, jun., who was next called upon, took his stand on the stone, and said: Ladies and gentlemen,—In complying with the request of Mr. Woodhouse, that I should say a few words to this meeting, I cannot pretend to express the pleasure which I feel on coming among you on an occasion like this, nor to assure you how very far Mr. Woodhouse's thanks exceed anything that we have done. Still less have I to ask for good wishes and the earnest prayer of this meeting on the undertaking which we have met to-day to inaugurate; but I may, perhaps, answer the possible inquiry, “Why are the Freemasons of East Lancashire represented at a meeting like this?” I rejoice to think that the object which has brought you together—the promotion of education—cannot in any sense be regarded as either a political one, or one provoking any religious animosity—and therefore as Freemasons, knowing by our constitution, and I hope by our practice, none of such distinctions, we are able to come among you without inconsistency, and without the possibility of giving any offence. The national mind, which is always slow to move, but if once convinced of the necessity of any important work, never fails to accomplish it, has at last determined—not one day too soon, and many of us would perhaps say a generation too late—that education of a sound, practical, and solid character shall henceforth be the property of every child born in this kingdom; that poverty shall be neither swept away nor unfairly dealt with, yet religious opinions shall be strictly respected. It seems impossible to some men to defend the recent Elementary Education Act as

a perfect scheme. It was avowedly passed as a compromise, which perhaps may disappoint some of our hopes, but which I hope will belie some of our fears. I regard its value principally as recognising the importance of a national measure of education. I believe it was honestly framed, that all parties are desirous to work it to the best possible advantage, and that they are wishful to forget all past differences, and to work for the common good of those neglected ones to whom the great principles of religion, faith in the Great Architect of the Universe, hope for salvation, and to be in charity with all men, the three principle steps in our Masonic spiritual ladder, are as yet unknown in practice, even if they may have been taught in words. And if such be the result, as I believe it to be the intention of the Act last session, there is a peculiar propriety in our coming here to-day. We claim to come before you in two characters—one of a speculative, the other perhaps of a more practical nature. We claim to represent, in some measure, at least, those builders of whom Mr. Woodhouse has spoken, who, at a time when education was the privilege of the few, and not, as we trust it is about to become, the property of the many, erected to the worship of the one eternal God, that magnificent temple whose regal splendour and unparalleled magnificence far surpasses the human imagination. This was due to the wisdom of King Solomon, the strength of Hiram, King of Tyre, and the skill of the pious, faithful, and earnest architect whose name, handed down to us in Holy Scripture, is connected with the most solemn and sacred lessons of our mystic teaching. The lessons of nature, the problems of science, and the unchanging eternity and universal love of the Great Jehovah must have been deeply impressed upon the minds of the ancient artificers: and we can trace the same feeling in later days operating with those mediæval craftsmen who erected buildings which testified to the piety and liberality of our ancestors, their devotion to the beautiful and the sublime, which we regard with pride as national monuments, and which we hope may long remain to be

“The bulwarks of our native isle,
The glory of our land.”

But we come to you on another, and what some may perhaps think a more practical ground, and that is the special interest which from our constitution we take in every measure of an educational character. The costume which we wear, the service we use, the implements we employ, convey to the mind of everyone among us those sublime teachings which form true religion wherever and by whomsoever they may be conveyed, their twofold love to God and man which the Great Law-giver Himself declared to be the sum and substance of the Decalogue. We may, indeed we must—as who does not?—fall far short of our ideal; but every Mason has a moral face before him, contrasting his natural state of ignorance, typified by the unhewn stone, with that more perfect form of education which is represented by the perfect ashlar. To a general assembly like this I am not permitted to divulge any part of our secret art and hidden mysteries, but I may tell you all this, that the highest attainments in Masonry, not less than its merest rudiments, are acquired solely by education; to the humble, earnest, faithful, mind Masonry opens its gates, disclosing a vista of peace and benevolence, increasing from stage to stage, until by square conduct, level steps, and upright intentions, the humble, faithful disciple may, by the exercise of prayer and self-denials attain a place in that divine mansion above, where the world's Great Architect lives and reigns for evermore. I have to thank you, not only for the compliment you have paid to myself and family, whom I am sure will long cherish it, and look back with pleasure to this day; but I have to thank you on behalf of the Freemasons here, and not only in their name, but for the 4,000 Masons in this province, for the high honour you have conferred upon us.

The band then played the National Anthem, and the meeting dispersed, after the Benediction had been pronounced. About 50 of the Masons sat down to dinner at the Old Bull Hotel. The Prov. Grand Master presented each of the four lads who carried the Bible in the procession with a silver “lewis” attached to a silk sash. At a meeting of the Lodge Perseverance, 345, a vote of thanks was passed to R. B. Dodgson and H. M. Feilden, Esqrs., for the donation of flowers.

LIST OF LODGE MEETINGS &c., FOR WEEK
ENDING JUNE 24TH, 1871.

METROPOLITAN LODGES AND CHAPTERS.

Monday, June 19th.

LODGES.—Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham; City of London, Guildhall Coffee House, Gresham-street; Marquis of Dalhousie, Freemasons' Hall; Eclectic, Freemasons' Hall.

Tuesday, June 20th.

Board of General Purposes at 3.

LODGES.—Salisbury, 71, Dean-street, Soho.—CHAPTERS.—Enoch, Freemasons' Hall; St. John's, Radley's Hotel, New Bridge-street, Blackfriars; Industry, Freemasons' Hall.

Wednesday, June 21st.

Lodge of Benevolence at 6.

LODGES.—Sincerity, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street; Nelson, Masonic Hall, William-street, Woolwich; Buckingham and Chandos, Freemasons' Hall; Blackheath, Royal Standard Tavern, Blackheath.—CHAPTER.—Westminster and Key-stone, Freemasons' Hall.

Thursday, June 22nd.

House Committee Girls' School, at 4.

LODGES.—Mount Moriah, Freemasons' Hall; Peace and Harmony, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street; Prosperity, Guildhall Tavern, Bishopsgate-street; South Middlesex, Beaufort House, North End, Fulham.—CHAPTER.—Domatic, Auderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.

Friday, June, 23rd.

House Committee Boys' School.

METROPOLITAN LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF
INSTRUCTION.

Monday, June 19th.

LODGES.—Temple, Old George, St. Mary Axe, E.C.; Justice, Royal Albert, New Cross-rd, Deptford; St. James's Union, Swan Tav., Mount-st., Grosvenor-sq.; Industry, Dick's Coffee House, Fleet-st.; Crystal Palace, City Arms Tav., West-sq., Southwark; High Cross, White Hart Ho., Tottenham; Eastern Star, Royal Ho., Bardett-rd., Mile-end-rd.; Camden, Adelaide Tav., Haverstock Hill; British Oak, Bank of Friendship Tavern, Bancroft Place, Mile End, E.; Tower Hamlets' Engineers, Duke of Clarence, Commercial Road, E.; Union Waterloo, King's Arms, Woolwich; Old Concord, Turk's Head, Motcomb Street, Belgrave Square; Sincerity, Railway Tavern, Fenchurch Street; Wellington, White Swan Tavern, Deptford.

Tuesday, June 20th.

LODGES.—Faith, Fisher's Restaurant, Metrop. Dist. Rail., Victoria Station; Domatic, Palmerston Arms, Grosvenor-park, Camberwell; Jordan, Alwyne Castle, Canonbury; Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney; Prince Frederick William, Knights of St. John's Tav., St. John's-wood; Dalhousie, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney; Royal Albert, White Hart, Abchurch-lane; Sidney Lodge, Cambridge Hotel, Upper Norwood Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich; City of London, Shepherd and Flock Tav., Bell-alley, Moorgate-st. New Wandsworth, Freemasons' Ho., New Wandsworth; Ben Jonson Club of Instruction, Ben Jonson Tav, Goodman's Yard, Minories, E., at 8.
—CHAPTER.—Metropolitan, Price's Portugal Ho., Fleet-st. Mount Zion, White Hart, Bishopsgate-st.; Robert Burns Sussex Stores, Upper St. Martin's Lane.

Wednesday, June 21st.

LODGES.—Confidence, Railway Tav., London-st.; United Strength Bull and Gate, Kentish Town; Israel, Rising Sun Tav. Globe Road; New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton; St. Mark's, Mawby Arms, Mawby-st., S. Lambeth; Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham-Rye Temperance in the East, George the Fourth, Catherine-st. Poplar; Prosperity, Gladstone Tav., Bishopsgate-street; Royal Union, Bro. Duddy's, Winsley-st., Oxford-street.—CHAPTER.—St. James's Union, Swan Tav., Mount-street. Grosvenor-square.

Thursday, June 22nd.

LODGES.—Fidelity, Goat and Compasses, Euston-road; Kent, Duke of York, Borough-rd., Southwark; United Mariners, Three Cranes, Mile-end-rd.; Vitruvian, White Hart, College-st., Lambeth; St. George's, Globe Tav., Royal Hill, Greenwich; Manchester, Berkeley Arms, John-st., Berkeley-square; Tranquillity, Sugar Loaf Tav., Great St. Helen's, E.C.; Whittington, Crown Hotel, 41, High Holborn; Royal Oak, Royal Oak Tavern, Deptford; City of London, Shepherd and Flock Tav., Bell Alley; St. John's, Hollybush Tav., Hampstead; Merchant Navy, Jamaica Tav., W. India Dock Road, Poplar.—CHAPTER.—Joppa, Prospect of Whitty Tav., 57, Wapping-wall.

Friday, June 23rd.

LODGES.—St. Luke's, Pier Hotel, Cheyne-walk, Chelsea Temperance, Victoria Tavern, Victoria-road, Deptford; Unions (Emulation Lodge of Improvement for M.M.), F.M.H.; United Pilgrims, Duke of Edinburgh, Shepherd's Lane, Brixton; Westbourne, the Grapes, Duke-st., Manchester square; Florence Nightingale, Freemasons' Tav., Woolwich; Ranelagh, Royal Sussex Hotel, Broadway, Hammersmith; Belgrave, Duke of Wellington, Spring-gardeus, Charing-cross; St. James's, Gregorian Arms, Jamaica-row, Bermondsey; Doric, Three Cranes, Mile End-rd.; Victoria, Andertons' Ho.; Fleet-st.; Hervey, Swan, Walham-green; Metropolitan, Price's Portugal Ho., Fleet-st.; Charter House, Hat and Feathers Tavern, 27, Goswell-rd.; Robert Burns, Union Tav. Air-street, Regent-st.; Rose of Denmark, White Hart, Barnes; Lily, Greyhound, Ho., Richmond; Stability, Guildhall Tav., 33, Gresham Street; Royal Standard, Marquess Tavern; Canonbury; Burdett Courts, Approach Tav., Victoria-park, at 7.—CHAPTER.—Domatic, Fisher's Restaurant, Victoria Station.

Saturday, June 24th.

LODGE.—Sphinx, Stirling Castle, Camberwell.—CHAPTERS.—Mount Sinai, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street; Domatic, Horns, Kennington.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

** All Communications to be addressed to 19, Salisbury-street, Strand, W.C.

We shall be glad to receive from brethren any proceedings of Masonic meetings, which shall be duly inserted. Communications should be forwarded so as to reach us as early in the week as convenient—not later than Wednesday if possible. We have to request our correspondents to be particular in writing names distinctly.

Our Correspondents, and especially our Foreign Exchanges are requested to Address in full to

"The Editor of

The Freemason's Magazine and Masonic Mirror,
19, Salisbury Street, Strand,
London, W.C."

Letters and Papers, Address, "Freemasons' Magazine," London although mostly reaching us are liable to miscarriage, and are invariably delayed in delivery.

As many of the Lodges of Instruction have a recess during the summer months, Secretaries are requested to notify us thereof, so that they may be omitted from the list.

We again call attention to the W.M., the Treas., and Members of the following Lodges, that numerous applications have been made for payment of the sums respectively due from them, and we hope that they will, by remitting the amount, render any further steps unnecessary.

Independant Lodge, New South Wales, £1 15 10, to June, 1871	
Cooma Lodge, New South Wales	3 0 8 do.
Star in the East Lodge, Cape of Good Hope	7 4 1 do.
Zetland Lodge, Fort Beaufort, Cape of Good Hope	5 10 2 do.
Leinster Lodge, No. 166, British P. O., Constantinople	6 9 8 do.

G.H.—The Constitutions make no objection to a brother holding a subordinate office in two lodges. The prohibition only applies to the W.M. of a Craft Lodge. A dispensation from the Grand Master, however, enables a brother to hold that office in two or more lodges.