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KNIGHT TEMPLAR JOTTINGS.

(Continued from page 185.)

We have several times heard of the Baldwyn Encampment, Bristol, and no wonder, when we recollect that it was one of the chief Encampments of the last century, and that under its auspices the "Supreme Grand and Royal Encampment of the Masonic Knights Templar" was formed A.D. 1780, and revived A.D. 1857. A "circular letter" was published A.D. 1857, affording considerable information as to its character, but few, however, seem to know of the existence of such a useful little work. Its "Laws and Regulations" were published A.D. 1850, a copy of which we have. We are not aware of a more recent edition, although such might reasonably have been expected, as the Encampment only joined the Grand Conclave of England a few years since (A.D. 1862, we believe). The origin of the Baldwyn Encampment is not with certainty known. Bro. Dr. Leeson, a great authority on Masonry, states that it was "founded by French Masons, who had brought it from Canada, towards the close of the last century, a fact of which he was certain, as the original books were in his possession" (*Freemason's Magazine*, August 2, 1862). Bro. John Yarker, however, quotes an authority also in opposition to this statement, viz., Bro. Thomas Dunckerley (who was installed in this Encampment), to the effect that the Baldwyn had been in existence "time out of mind," before A.D. 1791. At this period of Templar History it is impossible to decide on the date of its institution. We have therefore to examine what remains of its records, none of which prove the existence of such Encampment long before 1780. In fact, throughout England no records exist, that we know of, before this date. In the excellent "Guide to the Royal Arch Chapter," by Bro. J. L. Gould (Masonic Publishing Company, New York), however, an excerpt from minutes dated 1769, mentioning the Knight Templar degree in connection with the Royal Arch is given, which is an earlier record than we had previously heard of. This extract is also to be found in Moore's *Masonic Magazine*, December, 1865. A document engrossed on parchment, and dated 20th day of December, 1780, is the earliest preserved by the Baldwyn Encampment. It states that by "Charter or compact, our Encampment is constituted the Supreme Grand and Royal Encampment of this Noble Order." In the "circular letter" this "charter or compact" is considered to refer to a previously existing document, but on what grounds seems difficult to imagine.

The MS. contains some twenty clauses, some of which appear to hint at the modern constitution of this Grand Encampment, partly from the fact that Knights would be recognized as legal if made before 1780 in Encampments not acknowledged by this constituted authority. It bears the signature of the Supreme Grand

Master, Joshua Springer, and is the first information we have of the institution of a Grand Encampment south of York. Part of a minute-book of the Honourable Order of the Knights Templars "assembled in the Grand Lodge-room at York," being still preserved, commences *February 18th, 1780*, "Sir Francis Smyth, Grand Master." (Bro. Francis Smyth, according to Bro. Dr. Bell's valuable Stream of English Freemasonry was "Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of all England, held at York," A.D. 1780). We have also seen among the archives of the old Grand Lodge at York, a copy of a certificate, signed by "John Brown, G.S.," as follows:—

"Admitted 1st degree, 26th January, 1779,
Raised 2nd degree, 29th February, 1779,
Raised 3rd degree, 27th September, 1779,
Raised 4th degree, or R.A.M., 27th October, 1779,
Knight Templar, 29th November, 1779."

So far as existing documents go, York possesses the earliest as to a constituted authority for Knight Templary. After Bristol comes London, under Thomas Dunckerley, A.D. 1791. (The *third* in point of antiquity). The Encampment held at Bath was under the control of the Baldwyn Grand Encampment, and joined the Grand Conclave when the Baldwyn did, on the revival of the Bristol authority A.D. 1857. Bath, Birmingham, Warwick, Highbridge, Salisbury and the Encampments, we believe, recognized and supported the movement, which Templars of to-day know nothing of. Then, however, it was an active organization, but soon collapsed. Correspondence with the Grand Conclave of London commenced in A.D. 1809, and continued from time to time up to A.D. 1820, when all communications ceased until about A.D. 1860. H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex was elected a member, and also Grand Master of the Bristol organization as well as the Grand Conclave. The former we are told was by his consent, which certainly seems strange. The Templars in London, however, could well afford to pass over such an act, as their subsequent rapid and proud position affords evidence of the stability of their branch of the Order.

W. J. HUGHAN.

(To be continued.)

THE FREEMASONS' LIFE BOAT.

A meeting for the purpose of carrying out this praiseworthy object, was held on Thursday, the 9th inst., at Bro. Forsters' the Railway Tavern, London-street, Fenchurch-street. Bros. A. E. Harris, P.M. (141), in the chair; E. Gottheil, Hon. Sec., P.M. (141); S. Davis (141), Treas. A committee having been formed of the following brethren, the minutes of the preliminary meeting were read and confirmed. The following brethren were proposed, and carried form a committee, with power to add to their number, each one being duly ballotted for, viz.

A. E. Harris, P.M. (141), President.
S. Davis (141), Treasurer.
E. Gottheil, P.M. (141), Hon. Sec.
M. Manns (188).
J. Kennett (141).
C. C. Taylor, J.W. (141).
M. Bamberger (141).
B. Salmon (141).
L. London.
Chas. Davis.
T. S. Mortlock, W.M. Industry.
Thomas White, W.M.-elect (22).
H. M. Levy, P.M. (188).
N. Gluckstein, P.M. (51 and 141).

Several resolutions were proposed, and a vote of thanks was proposed to the chairman, which was carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned until January next.

The above-named brethren taking into consideration the position of so numerous and influential a body as the Freemasons, have determined to do all in their power to present to the National Life Boat Association a Boat worthy of them, and it is to be understood that this scheme is in no way connected with any other that has been formed.

At the meeting of Royal Arch Chapter 145, last week, Comp. R. Wentworth Little, M.E.Z. 177, P.Z. 975, Hon. Member of Chapters 176, 619, and 1056, was unanimously elected an Honorary Member.

We are informed that it is in contemplation to hold a Masonic Ball at Swindon in the month of January in connection with the Royal Sussex Lodge of Emulation, No. 355. This is one of the oldest lodges in Wiltshire, and the most extensive, but Masonry is rapidly progressing in this province, and another lodge is in contemplation for New Swindon, which is a rapidly increasing locality.

Reports of Masonic Meetings.

THE CRAFT.

METROPOLITAN.

Union Waterloo Lodge, No. 13.—This very old and prosperous lodge held its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, the 8th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Woolwich. Presided over by the W. Master, Bro. Graydon, supported by Bros. Appleby, S.W.; G. Davies, J.W.; N. Norman, P.M., and Sec.; J. Henderson, P.M. and Treas.; C. Young, S.D.; C. Cook, P.M., and J.D.; and Bro. Hills, acting as I.G. The lodge was opened in due form and with solemn prayer. The minutes and cash accounts were read and confirmed. The ballot was taken for Messrs. Camelly and McPherson, candidates for initiation, which proved in each of their favor, and being in attendance, were with Mr. Wooff already balloted for, duly received into Freemasonry. Bros. James and Walton received the 2nd deg., and Bros. Brading and Deal, were raised to the sublime degree of M. Masons. The Lodge was then closed down to the first degree, and this being the meeting to elect the W. Master, Treasurer, and the Tyler for the ensuing year, the ballot was taken for the W. Master, and Bro. Appleby was elected W.M., Bro. J. Henderson was again re-elected Treasurer, and B. Alison, was re-elected Tyler. A committee was then appointed to audit the Treasurer's accounts, which appear in a very prosperous condition. Proposed by Bro. P.M. Hedley, seconded by Bro. W. Rickards, that six guineas be presented to Bro. J. Graydon, from the funds of the lodge, for the very efficient manner he performed the duties as W. Master, and if this sum was applied to any of the charities, then the sum might be increased to ten guineas, which was put to the lodge and carried unanimously. Nothing further being offered for the good of Freemasonry or this lodge in particular, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to Bro. H. De Grey's, the Freemasons' Tavern, where they spent a very cheerful evening, and parted in perfect harmony.

Cavac Lodge, No. 176.—This lodge assembled on Saturday last at Radley's Hotel. Bro. P. A. Nairne, P.M., in the absence in the country of the W.M., opened the lodge, and raised Bro. Grove to the third degree, passed Bro. Quilhampton to the second degree, and initiated Mr. Winstone. The character of the working was blameless. Bro. Charles Browne, P.M., presided at the banquet, which was one of Bro. Hart's best, and, on its removal, proposed the Masonic toasts with that suavity which has endeared him so much to all his brethren. Bro. W. J. Franklin, P.G.S., responded for the D.G.M., Bro. P. A. Nairne for the W.M., Bros. Hughes and Whaley for the visitors, and Bro. Walters for the Masonic charities. The cordial welcome which this lodge always gives to its visitors was extended on this occasion also, and everything was done by the brethren which could make their friends feel at home. The list of members of the lodge and the invited members of other lodges was a long one, and included among many others the names of Bros. Nairne, Pemble, Browne, E. Litchfield, C. H. Dorey, C. Brown, T. Quilhampton, R. S. Foreman, H. Bealey, F. H. Goodsell, H. Jermyn, E. Hughes (22), F. Walters (73), F. W. Bryant (49), J. L. D. Hewart (252), W. T. Whaley (late 176), C. B. Plestow (478), W. J. Franklin (551), and F. Burghard, Post Nubila Lux, Amsterdam.

Domestic Lodge No. 177.—On Friday, the 10th instant, the election meeting of this lodge took place at Anderson's Hotel. The lodge room was densely crowded, and many brethren could not be accommodated with seats. Bro. Richard Tanner, W.M., opened the lodge and presided. Messrs. Newhill and Dyer were initiated, and Bros. Clarke, Palmer, Gill, Macklin, and Percival raised. Bro. Chapman was passed, and Bro. Foulger, S.W., elected to fill the Master's chair for the year 1870. Bro. Joseph Smith, P.M., the Treasurer of the lodge, was unanimously re-elected to that office; but as Bro. Bradley was considered too old to undergo the fatigue which the T. of such a numerous supported lodge is sure to have imposed on him, he was superannuated with an allowance, and Bro. J. Daly, jun., appointed in his stead, and his remuneration fixed. The Audit Committee, consisting of Bros. Ferguson, Pulsford, Montague, Bird, and Blount, was arranged to meet at Anderson's on the 23rd instant, at six in the evening. The W.M. then told the brethren that it was his intention to stand as Steward at the Festival of the Girls' School, in May, 1870, as during the eighty years of the Domestic Lodge's existence the lodge had not contributed anything to the funds of that institution. Bro. Jos. Smith, P.M., then proposed that as the W.M. had been one great cause of the prosperity of the lodge, by getting in the arrears, and as the lodge now consisted of 145 members, and could well afford to subscribe, fifty guineas be placed on Bro. Tanner's list. This proposition was carried amidst great cheering. The petition of a widow to the Board of Benevolence for relief was recommended and signed in open lodge, and the sum of two guineas was given to a brother who was in deep distress. Bro. Joseph Smith again rose and proposed that a testimonial of the value of ten guineas be presented to Bro. Tanner from the lodge funds; and Bro. James Brett immediately seconded it, adding that the lodge was much indebted to Bro. Tanner, not only for the skill he had displayed in performing his duties as W.M., but for having taken on himself, in addition, the office of acting Secretary; his success in this latter capacity had been so great that he had collected dues to the amount of hundreds of pounds which never would have been received but for his exertions. The motion was carried *nem. con.*, and the brethren in the course of the evening added their names on a list of individual subscribers who wished to show their sense of the W.M.'s labours by making the testimonial of greater value than ten guineas. The lodge was closed, and the brethren sat down to a first-class banquet

supplied by Bro. Clemow, and personally superintended by Bro. G. Smith, and at its conclusion honoured the customary toasts with their usual fervour. About 90 brethren partook of the banquet, and among them were P.M.'s H. Potter, H. Thompson, H. Elmes, J. Simpson, M. Haydon, W. Carpenter, T. Marshall, and Joseph Smith. Several visitors were also present, and Bros. R. Wentworth Little and F. Walters were among the number.

Lion and Lamb Lodge, No. 192.—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, on Thursday, the 2nd inst., Bro. E. King, W.M., in the chair. The officers present were Bros. E. Roberts, J.W., as S.W.; Geo. Newman, as J.W.; W. Goodyer, P.M., Treas.; J. G. Marsh, P.M., Sec.; F. Trott, J.D., as S.D.; G. Abbott, I.G. There were also present, amongst a large number of other members, Bros. E. Lacy, P.M., H. Cates, P.M., Charles Hosgood, P.M.; George Kenning, P.J.W., H. Davis, E. Raffe, Chas. Arkell, R. E. Bright, C. D. Page, E. Taylor, T. Cohu, J. Glinnan, A. J. Dickenson, S. Haynes, J. R. France, W. R. Baker, W. Younger, J. Kent, J. Elliott, E. L. Roberts, B. Marsland, H. Legg, J. Harvey, P.M., W. Harwood, Chas. Cann, J. McKiernan, Dr. Bringlee, and George Parker. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the lodge was duly opened in the first and second degrees. Bro. J. W. Marsden, being present, underwent the usual examination; the lodge was then opened in the third degree and the said brother was duly raised to the sublime degree of M.M. The lodge was then resumed in the first degree, and Messrs. H. Griffin and Thos. Fisher, being present, (after having been ballotted for and approved), were initiated into ancient Freemasonry. A ballot was also taken for Mr. A. F. Isleton for initiation, which was also unanimous. The ceremonies of raising and initiation were worked by Bro. J. G. Marsh, P.M. and Sec. in an impressive manner. A ballot was then taken for two joining members, viz., Bro. George Parker (Angel Lodge) and Bro. Dr. Bringlee (late member of the Lion and Lamb), which proved to be a unanimous election. The lodge then proceeded to the election of Master and Treasurer for the ensuing year by ballot, when Bro. Ebenezer Roberts, J.W., was elected to the high and responsible office of W.M., and Bro. W. Goodyer, P.M., (who has filled the office for many years), was re-elected Treasurer. Bro. J. G. Marsh, P.M., who has discharged the duties of Secretary, under the sign-manual of the W.M., during the last twelve months, was formally invested by the W.M. with the collar and jewel of that office. Some minor business having been disposed of, the lodge was closed in ample form and adjourned. The brethren then retired from the well-spent labours of the lodge and partook of a banquet of the most *recherché* description, served in Bro. Sydney Spencer's usual good style, for which the Cannon-street Terminus Hotel so deservedly recommends itself. The Lion and Lamb, as usual, was honoured with the presence of several distinguished visitors, including Bros. Magnus Ohren (33), W. C. Miller (766), H. T. Thompson (P.M. 742), A. Prince (1139), C. W. Ohlits (831), T. W. Tucker (933), A. Bryant (P.M. 192 and S.D. 12), R. W. Williams (73), T. H. Hick (9), R. H. Hall (206), and J. W. Marsden. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and elicited some very excellent speeches from the brethren of the lodge and the visitors, the W.M. not forgetting the toast on behalf of the Masonic Charities, which also met with a hearty response from the brethren by their subscribing a sum of upwards of £20 in support of the funds of the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows at the forthcoming festival. Between the toasts Bros. Harvey, Ohren, Abbott, and others greatly contributed to the pleasures of the evening by singing several very excellent songs. The proceedings at the festive board terminated with the Tyler's Toast, when the brethren, after having spent a delightful evening, retired in peace and harmony.

Lodge of Stability, No. 217.—The lodge met at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Tuesday, 7th inst., at 5.45 p.m. Bro. Edward Hughes, W.M., in the chair. The business before the lodge was the initiation of Mr. Thomas Goodman Clapcott and the election of W.M. and Treasurer for 1870. The former was satisfactorily performed by the W.M. and his officers, and Bro. James S.W., was unanimously elected W.M., and Bro. Brodey, P.M., was re-elected Treasurer for the ensuing year. The "Stability Charities Fund" was inaugurated, and the first ballot fell to the lot of Bro. Thorpe, who gave his subscription to the Annuities Fund on Bro. P.M. Taylor's list, Bros. James, S.W.; Brodey, P.M. and Sillifant, P.M. each gave £5 on Bro. Taylor's list and he announced that the Mount Zion Chapter, No. 22, had also given him £5, which with the lodge and other subscriptions had now brought his list up to about £35, and he expressed his acknowledgments for the support he had received on this the first occasion of a steward going up from the lodge. Bros. James and Brodey returned thanks for the election. The petition of the daughter of the late Bro. Brown was signed in open lodge by the W.M. and brethren. Nothing further being offered for the good of Freemasonry in general or of Stability, No. 217, in particular, the lodge was closed in due form and with solemn prayer. Visitors, Bros. Mackey and Williams. There was no banquet.

Montefiore Lodge, No. 1017.—The installation meeting of this select lodge was held on Wednesday, December 8, at the Freemasons' Hall, W.C. The W.M., Bro. Rev. M. B. Levy, opened the lodge at half-past three, assisted by his officers Bros. S. Pollitzer, S.W., and W.M.-elect; F. S. D. Phillips, J.W.; Brahm, S.D.; Bloom, J.D.; J. L. Rosenthal, I.G.; E. Palbert, P.M. Sec.; L. Jacobs, Treas.; S. V. Abrahams, P.M.; Eskell, P.M.; De Solla, P.M.; Brandon, P.M. The minutes of the last lodge were read and confirmed; Messrs. Knight and Zweigler were then ballotted for, as also Mr. Julius Spier, and each ballot being unanimous in their favour, they were severally introduced and admitted into the mysteries and secrets of Freemasonry in that impressive manner usual with the

Rev. W.M. Bro. Beck likewise received his second degree. The Grand Secretary, Bro. John Hervey, having been announced, he was admitted and received most heartily by the W.M. and the brethren. Bro. S. V. Abrahams, I.P.M., then presented Bro. S. Pollitzer, S.W. and, W.M.-elect to the W.M., Bro. the Rev. M. B. Levy, to receive at his hands the benefit of installation. The usual charges having been read over by the Secretary, the brethren below the chair retired, and a board of installed Masters was formed. When the brethren were again admitted Bro. S. Pollitzer was proclaimed W.M. of the Montefiore Lodge, and saluted in the three degrees. The charges and the entire ceremony were delivered by Bro. the Rev. M. B. Levy, in a manner which elicited the greatest admiration from many old P.M.'s present, who observed it was seldom that the beautiful exhortations were so impressively and solemnly rendered. The officers were then appointed as follows: Bro. Phillips, S.W.; Brahm, J.W.; Bloom, S.D.; Rosenthal, J.D.; Ehrman, I.G.; De Solla, D.C.; E. Palbert, P.M. Sec., re-invested; L. Jacobs, Treas., re-elected. Immediately after the installation ceremony was completed, Bro. S. V. Abrahams, rose and said a most pleasing duty had devolved on him, which he would have preferred to have seen done by a more able speaker than himself, but as the brethren were all thoroughly satisfied and highly gratified with the talented and efficient manner in which the new I.P.M., Bro. the Rev. M. B. Levy, had performed the duties of Worshipful Master during the past two years, it needed but little for him to add, except to those who were unaware of the fact that the Rev. Bro. was the first who thought of a benevolent fund attached to the lodge, and who had succeeded by dint of perseverance and great zeal in establishing that fund, to assist members of the lodge in time of need; and he was happy to say it received the hearty support of the members, and was now in a most flourishing condition. He concluded by presenting him with a magnificent P.M. jewel of fine gold and adorned with three lustrous brilliants which had been subscribed for by the brethren. The Rev. Bro. returned his thanks in a feeling speech, and assured the brethren that he would spare no trouble or labour to assist in the good working and harmony of the lodge, and it was to him a source of great pleasure that throughout his term of office the brethren had all vied with each other in carrying out the business of the lodge with perfect harmony and unanimous good feeling. The lodge was then called off, and the brethren retired to the banqueting room where a sumptuous banquet was provided by Bro. Gosden. The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. E. P. Van Noorden, who was assisted by Bro. F. Elmore, Miss Mabel Brent, and others. The visitors were Bros. John Hervey, Grand Secretary; Holbrook, W.M. (185); Lazarus, P.M.; Coote, P.M.; J. Lazarus, P.M.; Littaur, P.M., and several other eminent P.M.'s. Among the brethren present were Bros. M. A. Loewenstark, Werthner, Kisch, Grunebaum, Rev. L. Dangger, L. Moore, Curelbock, Frankenstein, and Regnart. After the usual toasts had been disposed of, the lodge was resumed and several candidates proposed for initiation. The lodge was then closed.

Copper Lodge, No. 1076.—This excellent working lodge held its first meeting under its Worshipful Master Bro. Henry G. Sisley, at the Marine Hotel, Victoria Docks, on Thursday the 9th inst., supported by Bros. Gaskell, S.W.; Pincombe, J.W.; Ashdown, S.D.; Brown, J.D.; Brayslaw, I.G.; Park, Treas.; J. Henderson, P.M., and Secretary; with S. Watkins, E.P.M.; Page, P.M.; and E. West, P.M. The lodge was opened in due form, and with solemn prayer. The minutes and cash accounts were read and unanimously confirmed. The ballot was taken for Messrs. Schramm, Smith, Dix, and Harrison, candidates for initiation, which proved unanimous in each of their favour, and with the exception of Mr. Harrison, were duly received into Freemasonry. Bro. Crabtree being a candidate for the 2nd degree, was examined, received further instruction and retired. The lodge was opened in the 2nd degree, and Bro. Crabtree was introduced and duly passed to the degree of a Fellowcraft Mason. Bros. Steel and Jenkins, candidates for the 3rd degree, went through the usual examination and retired. The lodge was opened in the 3rd degree and they were admitted and duly raised to the sublime degree of M. Masons. The lodge was resumed in the 1st degree. It was then proposed, seconded, and unanimously carried, that a vote of thanks be placed upon the minutes of the lodge to Bro. Edward West, P.M., for the very able and efficient manner he performed the ceremony of installation at the last meeting of the lodge. The sanction of the lodge having been some time passed, granted to hold a lodge of instruction under its warrant, it was proposed that the same be held in future at Bro. West's, the Three Crowns, North Woolwich, on every Thursday evening, except the 2nd, which was put to the lodge and carried, and that the first meeting be held on Thursday the 16th inst. All Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed in due form, amongst the visitors we noticed the following:—Bros. the Rev. W. Smith, Chaplain to the Cornwall Lodge, 1107; W. Noot, 1107, P.M. Smith, 169, Baker, 260, Adamson, 84, and several others.

Marquis of Dalhousie Lodge, No. 1159.—The monthly meeting was held at the Freemasons' Hall on Monday, Bro. Captain Harby Barber, W.M., in the chair. Bro. Captain Arthur Tulloh (Madras Army) was passed to the second degree, and two joining members were proposed.

Macdonald Lodge, No. 1216.—This lodge met at the head-quarters of the First Surrey Rifles at Camberwell, on Wednesday, the 8th instant, and was very fully attended by both members and visitors. Amongst those present during the evening were Bros. Major A. L. Irvine, the W.M.; James Stevens, P.M., S.W.; J. H. Hastie, as J.W.; F. Dubois, S.D.; S. Wagstaffe, J.D.; G. Waterall, I.G.; J. J. Curtis, Sec.; Dr. Cronin, Treas.; H. Puckle and W. J. Messenger, Stewards; W. Worrell, Organist; E.

Ball, A. Scruby, W. V. Bedolfe, M. S. Larham, H. Francis, W. H. Thomas, D. Fourdrinier, Thos. Meggy, P.M.; J. A. Patton, and numerous other members. The attendance of visiting brethren was also large, and included Bros. E. H. Patten, P.G.S.B.; H. E. Levander, P.M.; Mortlock, P.M.; Henley, P.M., and many others. In the temporary absence of the W.M., the lodge was opened by the S.W. in the three degrees, and Bros. A. Scruby and W. V. Bedolfe were raised to the degree of M.M. On the arrival of the W.M. the ceremonies were further completed by him, and the lodge having been closed down to the first degree, was called off for the usual refreshment. On the resumption of business, Mr. Daniel Alexander Ross was duly initiated into Freemasonry, and the lodge was then closed in due form. We were much gratified by the new arrangement made by this lodge for perfecting its musical accessories. The opening and closing hymns have been arranged by the Hon. Asst. Organist to the lodge, Bro. W. Worrell, and published in very handsome style for the use of members and visitors by Bro. Kenning, of Little Britain. The assistance which this arrangement gave to the musical accompaniment was very great, and was highly appreciated by all present on the above occasion. The ensuing meeting of the lodge is appointed for Wednesday, the 12th January.

PROVINCIAL.

Ipswich.—St. Luke's Lodge, No. 225.—On the 8th inst. the usual monthly meeting took place. Present, Bros. P. Whitehead, W.M.; J. W. Robb, S.W.; J. Turner, P.M., as J.W.; C. Byford, S.D.; G. S. Golding, J.D.; T. Prentice, I.G.; Syer, Tyler. P.M.'s J. Whitehead, Westgate, King, Davy, and A. Barber; Bros. Baker, Jackson, R. Dance, Skinner, Lewis Favre, and G. Dance. Visitors, Bros. Pedgrift, W.M. 388, and W. Parsons, 959. The first business was the installation of the W.M. (the lodge having previously been opened with solemn prayer in the three degrees). A Board of Installed Masters, was formed, and Bro. J. W. Robb was most ably installed into the chair of K.S., by P.M. Jos. Whitehead; proclaimed, and saluted. He at once proceeded to appoint and invest his officers, viz., Bros. Golding, S.W.; Byford, J.W.; Prentice, S.D.; Lewis, J.D.; Skinner, I.G.; Barber, Sec.; and Syer, Tyler. The lodge was resumed in the second degree. Bros. R. Dance, Jackson, and Favre, were then examined retired and re-admitted, and raised to the degree of M.M. The ceremony, charge, and working tools being given by P.M.'s J. Whitehead, J. B. King, Davy, and Westgate. The lodge was closed in harmony. Business being ended the brethren placed themselves under the the J.W.'s gavel for refreshment, and a pleasant hour or two passed most successfully under the presidency of the W.M., loyal, Masonic, and other toasts, being interspersed with song and recitation. During the evening a handsome silver salver, suitably inscribed, was presented to the lodge by S.W. Golding, to receive the alms of poor brethren in the first degree.

BATH.—Lodge of Honour, No. 379.—This lodge met at the Masonic Hall, Old Orchard-street, Bath, on Monday, the 13th inst., for the purpose of installing the newly-elected Worshipful Master. A tolerable attendance of brethren took part in the proceedings, amongst whom were several Provincial Grand Officers. The lodge was opened at five o'clock p.m., by the W.M. Bro. Clement Smith Barter, and after confirmation of the minutes of the previous meeting had been made, Bro. Charles Edward Davis, was duly presented as W.M.-elect, and was installed by his predecessor in a very admirable manner. The brethren then adjourned to the Castle Hotel, where a most *recherché* banquet was provided for them, after doing ample justice to which, the W.M. called upon the brethren to honour the usual Masonic toasts. In replying to that of the "Visitors," Bro. James Stevens, P.M. and S.W. of a London Lodge, Macdonald 1216, took occasion to refer to the resolution of last Grand Lodge on his motion for securing greater Uniformity of Ritual. His remarks were received with much cordiality, and the co-operation of many members of this lodge in the efforts he is making was heartily accorded. The new song, "What better theme than Masonry," by Bro. Stevens, was with several others, sung in the course of the evening, and after one of the most pleasant meetings we have had the privilege to attend, the brethren separated.

HARTLEPOOL.—St. Helen's Lodge, No. 531.—On Thursday, December 2nd, the members of the St. Helen's Lodge celebrated the Festival of St. John, and performed the ceremony of installing the Worshipful Master-elect for the ensuing year. For this purpose they assembled at the Masonic Hall, Regent-square. The Mayor of Hartlepool (Dr. G. Moore, P.M., P.P.J.G.W.) in a very efficient and impressive manner duly installed in office the Worshipful Master-elect, Bro. James Johnson Armstrong, assisted by Bros. T. Forbes, I.P.M.; J. Groves, P.M., P.P.J.G.D.; W. J. Swiwright, P.M.; S. Armstrong, P.M.; J. B. Watt, W.M., Harbour of Refuge Lodge and Simon, Blyth Lodge. The Worshipful Master appointed his officers as follows: Bros. R. Ropner, S.W.; C. Coulson, J.W.; J. Hunter, jun., Sec.; T. Proctor, Treas.; W. H. Carter, S.D.; W. Pearson, J.D.; W. Coverdale, I.G.; J. Mowbray, Tyler; Glendinning and Fleetham. Stewards: Bros. S. Armstrong, P.M., D.C., and J. H. Atley, Organist. After the ceremony the brethren assembled at Bro. C. Humble's, Cleveland Hotel, where a most sumptuous banquet was prepared. Nearly forty brethren sat down, amongst whom were the following visitors: Bros. J. B. Watt, Worshipful Master; Cameron, S.W.; Bros. Coxon, Sadler, and Gallon, from the Harbour of Refuge Lodge, West Hartlepool; Bros. Simon, T. Marshall, and R. Michie. With tyled doors the Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and the brethren spent a most agreeable evening.

MANCHESTER.—Blair Lodge, No. 815.—On Friday evening, the 10th inst., this lodge met at the Hulme Town Hall, and was honoured by the presence of Bros. Stephen Blair, the R.W.P.G.M. of this Province of E. Lancashire;

Hine, P.P.G.S.W.; Rev. Figgins, P.P.G.C.; Barker, P.P.G.T.; Kennedy, P.G.T.; Heywood, P.G.R.; Dr. Dill, P.P.G.P.; Smith, P.G.P., and others who had accepted the invitation of the W.M. The chair was occupied by Bro. James Redford, W.M., supported by W. F. Towle, I.P.M.; Worthington, S.W.; Norris, T.; W. J. Towle, Sec.; M. Robinson, Dir. of Cer., and other minor officers. There were also present many P.M.'s and brethren, numbering upwards of sixty. The lodge was opened in due form, and Bro. Ellis was passed by the W.M. to a F.C. Bro. Moore was raised to the sublime degree of a M.M. by the I.P.M., and other business was transacted. The prayers throughout the various ceremonies were impressively given by the Rev. — Figgins, P.P.G.C. After a substantial repast, the customary loyal and Masonic toasts were given with appropriate remarks to each. The W.M. then proposed the health of Bro. Stephen Blair, R.W.P.G.M. of East Lancashire, and in a feeling speech, said that P.G.M. was endeared to them by his many munificent acts of benevolence, and a P.G. Mastership of firm and gentle rule with which he had governed during his office the large accession of members to the order, ensuring in a remarkable degree, that unanimity which is ever required in Freemasonry. The W.M. thanked the R.W.P.G.M. for the honour he had done them by his presence that evening. The R.W.P.G.M. in replying, thanked the brethren for the hearty reception given to him that evening. He had been connected with Masonry for forty years, and was appointed to his present office by the Earl of Zetland, twenty-three years ago, to succeed the Earl of Ellesmere, and he had been ably supported by the P.G.O.'s and brethren of his province during that time. Bro. Cheetham, P.M., proposed the healths of Bro. R. Callender, R.W. D.P.G.M., and the P.G.O.'s Past and Present. The toast was responded to by Bros. Dr. Dill, P.P.G.P., and Dr. Smith, P.G.P. The R.W.P.G.M. then proposed the toast of the W.M., and congratulated him on the way in which he did his work, and upon the success of the lodge. Bro. James Redford, the W.M., in responding, said that when initiated he was delighted to find that Freemasonry contained so many beautiful ceremonies, and that the tools which were around him daily, and with the more delicate of which he had pursued his avocations in this, his own, and in many foreign countries—that these tools and old friends were made "to paint a moral and adorn a tale." With a zealous I.P.M. and an efficient staff of officers, he had found the duties of W.M. lighter than he anticipated. In five years their numbers had increased from ten to seventy, and they had accommodation which very few lodges apart from the metropolitan Freemasons' Hall, possessed. They had a splendid suite of rooms, and in one of them could seat eight hundred people, and had every appliance on the premises for ministering to their wants. He looked forward to a glorious future for the Blair Lodge, and said it was an honour to be the W.M. of it. Bro. Kennedy, P.M. and P.G.T., gave the toast of the Masonic Charities, and said that Bro. Binckes, the able Sec. of the Boys' School, had £50 promised to that charity when he was at the Blair two meetings ago. Bro. Hine, P.M. and P.P.G.S.W., responded, and as Chairman of the Charity Committee of the Province, complained of the proposed alteration by Grand Lodge of the presentation of votes, and in a lucid speech explained how it would affect East Lancashire. Bros. Royle, Knight, and Smith agreeably enlivened the evening with songs; other speeches followed, and at an early hour, the brethren dispersed, after spending one of the pleasantest and most successful evenings in connection with the lodge since it was formed.

COCKERMOUTH.—*Skiddaw Lodge, No. 1002.*—The usual meeting of the above lodge was held on Tuesday week, in the Masonic Temple, Market-place, under the presidency of Bro. Robinson, W.M., Knight of the Red Cross of Rome and Constantine. Owing to the absence of the initiates on other business, the W.M. intimated that he would give the first section of the second degree, if agreeable to the brethren, which was cordially agreed to. Nothing further remained to be done for the good and welfare of Masonry, a vote of thanks was unanimously passed to the W.M. for his kindness in getting up the sections, and the lodge was closed according to ancient custom. There were present: Bros. T. F. Taylor, S.W.; E. Thwaites, Past J.W. as J.W.; Pearson, Prov. G.S.D., Treasurer; Williams, Sec.; Evening, S.D.; Lewthwaite, Allison, Brown and W. Taylor; J. Dodd visitor from 142, N.B.

LANCASTER.—*Rowley Lodge, No. 1051.*—On Monday, the 6th instant, the regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Rooms, Athenaeum, Lancaster. The chair of K.S. was occupied by W. Bro. Mason, W.M., supported by Bros. Hall, S.W.; Mercer, J.W.; E. Simpson, P.M. (281); W. Bro. J. D. Moore, Prov. G. Sup. of Wks.; Dodson; Sly; W. Barker, Treasurer; Conlan, Taylor, and Watson. After the usual business had been transacted the lodge proceeded to the election of a W.M. for the ensuing year, the list of brethren who were qualified for the chair was read over and the ballot taken, which resulted in the unanimous election of Bro. Hall, who had efficiently filled the post of S.W. during the last two years. On the motion of Bro. Moore, the Treasurer, Bro. W. Barker, was re-elected to that office with thanks for his past services; Bro. Richard Taylor was also re-elected Tyler. It was resolved that the Installation of the W.M. elect take place at the lodge-room, on Tuesday, 21st inst., at four o'clock in the afternoon, and that a suitable banquet be provided at the King's Arms Hotel, at six o'clock. The necessary arrangements for that day's proceedings were left in the hands of Bro. Moore. The business of the evening being ended, the lodge was closed in due form.

SCARBOROUGH.—*Denison Lodge, No. 1248.*—This flourishing and select lodge held its regular meeting in the lodge room, Grand Hotel, on Thursday the 9th inst. The following officers and members were present: Bros. J. O. Surtees, P.G.R., W.M.; J. W. Woodall, J.P., P.P.S.G.W., P.M.; W. F. Rooke, J.P., P.P.J.G.W., P.M.; S. H. Armitage,

M.D., S.W.; J. Groves, J.W.; J. Donner, Sec.; J. E. Green, S.D.; W. H. Garnett, J.D.; R. Sloman, Org.; H. C. Martin, P.M., I.G.; G. Knight, P.M., Treas.; J. Verity, Tyler; and Jarvis, Delamere, Mervin, Kitchen, J. Knight, Brearey, V. Stewart, Cook, Mason, Walshaw, and Frinur, (manager of the hotel.) Visitors, W. Bros. W. H. Smyth, P.M., D.P.G.M., Lincoln; J. Parker, H. A. Williamson, P.M.; D. Fletcher, J.W. of 200, and Wingfield, 306. The lodge was opened in the first degree, at 7.15 p.m. The minutes were read and confirmed, one brother was elected as a joining member, and Mr. Foster, (of the Society of Friends,) for initiation, and being present, he was admitted and initiated by the W.M. in a very impressive and able manner. The working tools were ably explained by the S.W., the duties of the Deacon (Bro. Green), were also very nicely performed, and the ceremony, being so carefully gone through by all, we are happy to state had an impressive effect on the candidate (as will be seen by his speech at the refreshment board.) Bro. J. W. Woodall, P.M., &c., announced that he had accepted the office of Steward for the Masonic Boys' School at the next election, and he warmly advocated the claims of the same, saying that he would be happy at any time to receive subscriptions from the brethren. Bro. Dr. Sloman played one or two nice airs on a new harmonium, to prove its worth to the brethren, after which they unanimously agreed to purchase it at a price of forty guineas. Five guineas were voted from the lodge funds, in aid of the widows and orphans of the fishermen who were lost in the late gale. The lodge was now closed in due form, and the brethren spent a pleasant hour at the refreshment board. The usual toasts were given and responded to, including that of the newly-initiated. In returning thanks, Bro. Foster stated he was very much obliged to the brethren for having admitted him as a member of the Denison Lodge, that he was much impressed with the ceremony, and that he had long felt that there must be something good in Masonry, and from the deep impression made upon him this evening, he should persevere, and hoped ultimately to fill a chair.

SCOTLAND.

Lodge St. Mark, No. 102.—On Monday the 29th ult. the members of this lodge met for the annual election of office bearers. The following is the list for the ensuing year:—Bros. Thomas Halket, R.W.M.; Major R. D. Barbour, P.M.; Alexander Veitch, D.M.; W. Haddow, S.W.; W. B. Spence, J.W.; B. H. Schiff, Treasurer; James F. Mitchell, Sec.; J. Oswald Smith, V.S.G.P.L.; R. Jamieson, S.D.; D. Stewart, J.D.; J. White, Jeweller; W. A. Baillie, D.C.; A. Denholm, I.G.; James Pollock, Tyler. The installation ceremony was performed by Bro. Donald Campbell in his usual able and eloquent manner, for which he received a most hearty vote of thanks. The lodge was then called from labour to refreshment, and after harmonising in the light was recalled to labour and closed in due order.

Union, No. 332.—The annual meeting for the election of office-bearers of the Lodge Union, No. 332, was held in their hall, 170 Buchanan-street, on the evening of Monday the 6th inst., when the following office-bearers were duly elected for the ensuing year:—Bros. Robert Mitchell, R.W.M.; W. Gibson, D.M.; David Somerville, S.M.; John Smith, S.W.; David B. Birrell, J.W.; David C. Miller, Secretary; John Pettigrew, Treasurer; E. McGee S.D.; Thomas Hall, J.D.; James Jamieson, S.S.; Robert Craig, J.S.; Robert Johnstone, P.G.S.; James Gilfillan, B.I.; W. Dempster, architect; John Stack, Standard-bearer; James McArthur, M.C.; Alex. Campbell, Sword-bearer; H. Brown, I.G.; R. P. T. Mallen, Tyler; Joseph Stirrat, chaplain. After which the office-bearers were installed by Bro. James Balfour, I.G.P.G.L. The lodge was then closed in due and ancient form, and the brethren with song and sentiment spent the remainder of the evening in social harmony.

Lodge Kelburne, Isle of Cumbrae, No. 459.—At a meeting of this lodge, on 3rd Dec., the following were nominated as office-bearers for the ensuing year:—Rev. H. H. Richardson, R. W. Master; A. Dickson, Past Master; Alexander Hunter, Senior Warden; W. Wishart, Junior Warden; James Ross, Treasurer; C. H. Hazellhurst, Secretary; Alexander Houston, Director of Ceremonies; Robert Robertson, Senior Deacon; Walter Paton, Junior Deacon; John King, John Macmillan, and Peter Hunter, Stewards; John Hunter, Inner Guard; W. Douglas, Tyler. The installation and annual festival takes place on Monday Dec. 27th.

IRELAND.

KILREA.—*Inauguration of New Lodge Star, No. 16.*—This new lodge, which bids fair to be a prosperous one, was most successfully inaugurated on the 1st inst. The following gentlemen were duly elected as office-bearers:—R. McKee, W.M.; G. Marks, S.W.; S. Macaw, J.W.; J. McCahon, S.D.; J. Bamford, J.D. The visiting brethren were:—Bro. J. Wallace, from 640, Derry; Bros. J. Mabin, junr.; R. McCurdy, and J. Shields, from 17, Vowferry. Business being concluded, the brethren retired to supper in the Mercers' Hotel. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been proposed and duly honoured, the brethren separated wishing success and prosperity to the new lodge.

THE ROYAL ARCH.

METROPOLITAN.

Royal Jubilee Chapter, No. 72.—The installation meeting of this chapter was held on Thursday, the 9th inst., at the Horns Tavern, Kennington, when about twenty-five companions were present, amongst whom we noticed Comps. W. H. Webb, M.E.Z.; W. Platt, P.Z., H.; W. Watson, P.Z.; H. Webb, P.Z., Treas.; J. Nunn, P.Z., S.E.; W. H. Wright, E. Dodson, and several visitors: Comps. J. Thomas, P.G.D.C.; T. A. Adams, P.Z.; W. Ough, P.Z.; R. Wentworth Little, P.Z.; W. West Smith, and J. Griffin. Comp. Platt was installed as Z., and Comp. T. Foxall as H., but the J. was unable to be

present. Comp. Wright was invested as S.N., and the other offices were also filled up. The chapter was then closed, and the Companions adjourned to an excellent banquet. During the evening Comp. Dodson sang in his usual inimitable style, and Comps. Griffin and West Smith gave some interesting recitations, while the M.E.Z., with his usual urbanity, favoured the Companions with his eminently descriptive "Punch." The entertainment was all that could be desired, and our only regret was that there were no exaltees upon the occasion to appreciate the bonhomie and good-fellowship of such worthy Royal Arch Masons as Comps. Thomas, Adams, Webb, Nunn, et hoc genus omne.

Beacon Chapter, No. 619, held its customary convocation at the Greyhound, Dulwich, on Thursday week. Comp. F. Walters, P.Z. (73), took the Z. chair; Comps. R. Watts, P.Z., the H.; and H. Massey, the J. The other Comps. present were Comps. G. Smith, P.S.; W. H. Green, 2nd Asst.; F. Deering, R.; W. Taverner, and W. Y. Laing, Janitor; Alfred Avery, P.Z., and James W. Avery, H., were in attendance later in the evening. The candidates for this supreme degree, however, did not follow their example, and the Principals, therefore, while banquet was in preparation recited their several parts, and afterwards closed the chapter. A very pleasant evening both in the chapter and at the table was spent, and the companions' enjoyment was increased by some good singing, which was given by Comps. Smith, Walters, and Deering.

MARK MASONRY.

Macdonald Lodge of Mark Masters, No. 104.—The fourth regular meeting of this promising lodge was held at the Head Quarters of the First Surrey Rifle Volunteers, Brunswick-road, Camberwell, on Saturday the 11th inst., under the presidency of the V.W. Bro. Thos. Meggy, P.G.M.O., the W.M., supported by Bro. Major A. L. Irvine, S.W.; W. Bro. James Stevens, Grand Steward, J.W.; Bro. Dr. E. Cronin, M.O.; V.W. Bro. C. Swan, P.G.S.B.; Brother J. H. Hastie, J.O.; V.W. Brother Frederick Binckes, Grand Secretary, Treasurer; Bro. C. Hammerton, S.D.; Bro. A. Wolton, J.D.; Bro. C. T. Dorey, I.G.; Bro. W. Worrell, Organist; and other brethren. Amongst the visitors were V.W. Bro. Levander, P.G.D.C.; V.W. Bro. W. H. Warr, G.D.C.; Bro. Thomas Vesper, P.M.; &c., &c. The lodge having been duly opened, and the opening hymn sang, ballots were taken for Bros. P. de Keyser, Capt. W. Thomas, Robert Berridge, T. W. White, Thos. A. Massey, and George Newman, which proved unanimous in each case, and the last five named brethren being in attendance were severally introduced and advanced to the honourable degree of Mark Master Masons, with full musical ceremony. The whole of the music, newly arranged for this lodge by the Organist Bro. W. Worrell, and published for the lodge by Bro. Kenning, was most effectively rendered, and greatly aided the very beautiful and impressive ceremonies. The lodge having been duly closed the brethren adjourned for refreshment, during which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and the evening enlivened by some excellent singing. Bro. Stevens sang his new Masonic song, "What better theme than Masonry," which appears to give unqualified satisfaction and to be a great success. After a very pleasant evening, the brethren separated much gratified by the whole of the proceedings.

THE name of Sir Kt. G. Kenning, P. Sov. and Prefect, was accidentally omitted from the list of members present at the last meeting of the Premier Conclave.

THE New Vade Mecum (invented and manufactured by Charles H. Vincent, optician, of 23, Windsor-street Liverpool) consists of a telescope well adapted for tourists, &c., to which is added an excellent microscope of great power and first-class definition, quite equal to others sold at ten times the price. Wonderful as it may seem, the price of this ingenious combination is only 3s. 6d., and Mr. Vincent sends it (carriage free) anywhere, with printed directions, upon receipt of post-office order or stamps to the amount of 3s. 10d.—*Advrt.*

BREAKFAST.—Epps's COCOA.—Grateful and Comforting.—The very agreeable character of this preparation has rendered it a general favourite. The *Civil Service Gazette* remarks:—"The singular success which Mr. Epps attained by his homoeopathic preparation of cocoa has never been surpassed by any experimentalist. By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately flavoured beverage which may save us many heavy doctor's bills." Made simply with boiling water or milk. Sold by the Trade only, in $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., $\frac{1}{2}$ lb., and 1 lb. tin-lined packets, labelled JAMES EPPS & CO., Homoeopathic Chemists, London.—*Advrt.*

THE BLOOD PURIFIER.—Old Dr. Jacob Townsend's Sarsaparilla. Other Medical Testimony.—In speaking of the "Blood Purifier," old Dr. Jacob Townsend's Sarsaparilla, G. C. Kernott, M.D., L.S.A. Lond., says:—"I strongly recommend it in cutaneous diseases and all impurities of the blood." March 24, 1869.—In a letter to the proprietors, June 6, 1869, Dr. Irvine, of Irvine's-town, says:—"I have been in the habit of ordering your Sarsaparilla for my patients with the best results. Send me six quarts and six mammoth bottles." For all skin diseases, for purifying the system of mercurial poisons, and building up the broken constitution it is the only safe and certain remedy.—In Bottles 2s. 6d., 4s., 4s. 6d., 7s. 6d., 11s. Sold by all Druggists, Pills and Ointment each in Boxes, 1s. 14d., 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d. Testimonials also from the Hon. the Dean of Lismore; General William Gilbert, of the Indian Army; ordered also by Apothecaries Hall, London. Caution—Get the red and blue wrappers, with the Old Doctor's head in the centre. No other genuine.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

We have great pleasure in announcing that we have decided to publish THE FREEMASON—commencing with Volume III., January 1st, 1870—on toned paper, and with old-faced type, similar to that used by the Pall Mall Gazette and other high-class publications.

The size will also be permanently enlarged to Sixteen Pages, and, with other improvements contemplated, THE FREEMASON will then be the leading weekly organ of the Craft throughout the globe.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

CALDCLEUGH.—On the 4th instant, at 1, Queen's-crescent Haverstock-hill, the wife of Bro. Dr. Simon Caldcleugh (P.M. Lodge 173), of a daughter.

GRANT.—On the 30th ultimo, at 182, Broomielaw-street, Glasgow, the wife of Bro. Richard Grant (P.G.S. Lodge Clyde, 408), of a son.

DEATHS.

BATY.—On the 13th inst., at Worlabye, Roehampton, Bro. the Rev. Thomas Jack Baty, M.A., late Fellow of Sydney Sussex College, Cambridge, (S.W. Lodge of Harmony, No. 255, Richmond), aged 36; and on the 14th instant, Ettrude Laura Margaret, only daughter of the above, aged 5 years and 3 months.

LAMBERT.—On the 12th instant, at the Hotel Meurice, Boulogne-sur-Mer, Bro. Charles Fernley Lambert, of Chateau du Crœq, Samer pas de Calais, eldest surviving son of the late Francis Lambert, of 12, Coventry-street, London, and Acton, deeply and deservedly regretted.

MACRAE.—On the 7th inst., at 92, West-street, Glasgow, aged 2 years and 8 months, Jean Mills, daughter of Bro. Peter Macrae, B.B. Lodge Clyde, No. 408.

WITHALL.—On 11th inst., at Bell Cottage, Dulwich, aged 8 months, Walter Horace, youngest son of Bro. William Withall, of the Panmure Lodge, No. 720.

Answers to Correspondents.

All communications for THE FREEMASON should be written legibly, on one side of the paper only, and, if intended for insertion in the current number must be received not later than 10 o'clock a.m. on Thursdays, unless in very special cases. The name and address of every writer must be sent to us in confidence.

W. C.—On enquiry we are informed that the dimensions of the Hall are as follows:—About 80 feet in length, 33 to 35 feet in breadth, and about 30 feet in height.

M.M., R.A., St. James Border Union, No. 424.—If you will call at 3, Little Britain, we may be able to introduce you into a lodge, the warrant for which has just been granted. Bring your own, and your father's certificate with you.

VERITAS.—We rejoice at your approval of our sentiments, and we are happy to say that thousands of the Craft give us credit for expressing our views in plain, honest language upon every subject that may come under our notice.

CRUX.—Yes; the unfortunate Dr. Dodd was the first Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of England. He expiated his offence in June, 1777.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

We are indebted to the following Grand Bodies for volumes of their proceedings:—

Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, 1869.
Grand Lodge of Louisiana, 1869.
Grand Lodge of Colorado, 1868.
Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, Report of Committee, 1869.
Grand Orient of France, Bulletins for several months, 1869.
Grand Chapter of Canada, 1869.
Grand Chapter of Texas, 1869.
Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, 1868.
Grand Commandery of New York, Statutes and Regulations, 1868.

We have great pleasure in announcing that Bro. W. J. Hughan, the eminent Masonic author, is preparing a series of articles for THE FREEMASON, to be entitled "Masonic Historians." No. 1, on Bro. J. G. Findel, of Leipzig, will appear in No. 43, the first number of our Third Volume.

Report of the Consecration of Stability Chapter, No. 217, will appear in our next. In type: Reports of St. George's Red Cross Conclave, the Cornubian K.T. Conclave, Ipswich Victoria Chapter of Rose Croix, and other interesting matter for which we have not space this week.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1869.

THE FREEMASON is published on Saturday Mornings in time for the early trains.

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The Editor will pay careful attention to all MSS. entrusted to him, but cannot undertake to return them unless accompanied by postage stamps.

ROUGH AND PERFECT ASHLARS.

THE choice of good material for an edifice intended to endure is an imperative duty on the part of the architect or builder. Unsound timber, ill-burnt bricks, crumbling granite, are uncereemoniously rejected by the superintendent of the work, when he is, as he ought to be, a man of integrity and honour. The same principle should guide us in our selection of material for the construction of a temple, grander by far than any mansion or palace—a temple composed of living stones, cemented together by the bond of fraternity and affection—a temple which, in a word, is Freemasonry.

Now it cannot be gainsaid, that there is a lack of caution in the admission of candidates into the Order which is painful to all thoughtful brethren, and absolutely perilous to the stability of the institution itself. A. B. proposes C. D. for initiation, because he has met C. D. occasionally, either in business or otherwise, thinks him a good fellow, and knows nothing against his character. The brethren of A. B.'s lodge knowing him to be a fair sample of humanity, accept C. D. without the slightest inquiry. C. D. is initiated, and within a brief period he figures in the gazette as a bankrupt under "shady" circumstances, or mayhap is advertised in the "Hue and Cry," as having levanted to parts unknown with sundry incumbrances, in the shape of pieces of gold and silver, to which other parties not unreasonably fancy they have a prior claim. In other instances which have fallen under our own observation, the newly-admitted brother turns out to be an incorrigible sot, whose proclivities in that respect must, to some extent at least, have been known to his proposer. Or if he be free from those more hideous failings, he sometimes proves to be a Marplot, a thorough cynic, an unmitigated "disagreeable," never better pleased than when disturbing the harmony of the lodge and promoting dissensions amongst its members. We want stricter enquiry into the antecedents of our candidates; we want greater discrimination on the part of the proposers and seconders, and if the institution is to hold its own in the estimation of mankind, inflexible rules and regulations on these heads must be enforced by the rulers of the Craft. At present the use of the ballot-box in many English lodges is a perfect farce; "yea" being looked for by the brethren with as much certainty as they expect receipts for their subscriptions, indeed so much is this the case, that when a few bold and upright men have the courage to blackball an obnoxious candidate, vague threats are held out to them about the "Board of General Purposes," "suspension," and so forth, as if they had been guilty of some great crime.

This is contrary to one of the first principles of Freemasonry, and although we deprecate the improper use of the black ball as much as any one can, we must maintain the indefeasible right of every brother to exercise his own judgment in the selection of members

of his lodge, and to reject all upon whose reputation there rests a stain of misconduct or crime. On the other hand, we would rigorously punish the Mason who betrays the great trust reposed in him, for the purpose of indulging in personal or vindictive feelings; one, for instance, who would exclude E. F., because he is proposed by G. H., or is a friend of J. L. Such a man is simply desecrating the Masonic sanctuary by the introduction of his own base passions. We are taught that "perfection is not given to man," and we can make allowances for many shortcomings and errors. We know that the high standard of morality which it is the privilege of the Masonic Order to unfold for our guidance, is one seldom—perhaps never—to be fully attained by mortal men, but we should all nevertheless strive to conform our lives and actions to its precepts, and to avoid placing stumbling-blocks before the uninitiated world.

It ought to be our constant study to demonstrate what Freemasonry really is by our own conduct; to show that the solemn ceremonies, the august rites, in which we have participated, tend to make us better men in every relation of life. A great responsibility therefore rests upon the conscience of every upright brother when he proposes what our Continental *freres* call a "profane" for admission to our mysteries, and nothing but a thorough conviction of the moral fitness of the neophyte should induce him to incur this responsibility. We have too many "rough ashlar," too many warped and worm-eaten planks, in the building; there are individuals in the Masonic Order now who ought never to have been admitted, and whose continued connection with a fraternity like ours is a reproach and a disgrace. If we cannot get rid of such men, let us at least be more careful for the future; let us reflect that every one who enters our portals becomes a member of a society whose principles are founded upon honour and virtue, and that the fact of his being a Freemason will entitle him to the recognition, companionship, and friendship of the best men of every clime and creed.

We have no right to admit men tainted with ignoble vices into a brotherhood of the free, the wise, and the good. We have no right to confer the inestimable privileges of our Order upon persons whose deeds will give the lie to all its teachings; we have no right to leaven the mass of truth and integrity with samples of mental and moral depravity. The desire to increase our numbers must not be allowed to sway our minds. Freemasonry does not depend upon numerical strength for its influence; nay, the reverse is the case when the material is otherwise than "perfect ashlar." This is a subject which comes home to every Mason; many must have seen with sorrow instances like those to which we refer, and it behoves all to make a vigorous effort for reform in this direction, for let us be assured that with true men as the pillars of our temple, Freemasonry can never be shaken from its lofty seat, but will remain throughout the revolving cycles of time a perfect monument of Wisdom, Strength, and Beauty.

We deeply regret to learn (from Pomeroy's *New York Democrat*) that our esteemed confrere of the *New York Dispatch*, Bro. R. D. Holmes, is seriously indisposed; but we sincerely trust soon to hear that the G.A.O.T.U. has restored him to health, and to the sphere of his useful Masonic labours.

Multum in Parvo, or Masonic Notes and Queries.

I, for one, thoroughly endorse the comments of our esteemed Bro. Hughan upon the evil doings in certain lodges on the Continent English brethren have no conception of the "fantastic tricks" they play, or of the scandalous doctrines with which they seek to identify Freemasonry. It is time that some notice were taken of such flagrant violations of the ancient and fundamental laws of the Craft. VIATOR.

It is a matter for congratulation that the "unrecognised degrees" are going to amalgamate, they may then be able to lay down fixed rules for admission into each degree or order, rules to be equally binding on all. It will be, as stated in THE FREEMASON last week, a stroke of true policy if this alliance can be effected. ALPHA, 30°.

"CIPES" AND FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

I notice a letter from "Cipes" respecting some noted Friendly Societies. Not having had time to examine into the merits of the late discussion between him and a writer styling himself "Res non Verba," I do not write now to offer any opinion on the subject; I simply desire to express my surprise at the concluding statement in the letter by "Cipes" (page 261.) He states that the "Odd Fellows, Rechabites, Foresters, Good Templars, &c., are illegal because they require an oath of secrecy from their members; but for this they would be legal." I speak as an "Odd Fellow," and most emphatically deny the statement of "Cipes." We take no "oaths" whatever, either at initiation or during the subsequent degrees; neither do the Rechabites, Foresters, or the Good Templars. That being the case according to the position laid down by "Cipes," these societies are legal. I beg to draw the attention of "Res non Verba" and "Cipes" to this view, and hope the latter will take the earliest opportunity of acknowledging his error. WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN.

BRO. "LEO" AND THE SCOTTISH TEMPLARS (p. 263).

Adopting the same argument as Bro. "Leo," any one who is not a Freemason at all could easily post himself up upon, and become acquainted with all its workings, and be able to discuss the whole subject as well as those that have been admitted into the Order for years. I deny this, and am ready to dispose of any man who may have "Less" notions, and dispel his fancy. I repeat, the Order of Knights Templar, as practised in Scotland, is not a Masonic degree. It may possibly owe its revival and present existence to Freemasons, but from the fact that a few cannot be admitted, clearly and distinctly proves it to be not Masonic. I can easily give the names of those admitted as members into the Order who were not Freemasons, but see no reason why their names should be paraded. CIPES.

BRO. "LEO," AND THE MAIMED, ETC. (p. 263).

Bro. "Leo" seems to dispute the very first principle adopted by Masons, whether operative or speculative or combined, when he says, "a Speculative Mason may be able to do all his needful work with a good head and a good heart." I deny this; they are unable to uphold the recognised modes of recognition, and although they number many, there is only one mode of recognition among Freemasons over the world, in which the one can know the other in the light as well as in the dark. For the maimed to recognise a Freemason in the dark is impossible. The modes of recognition admit of no variation, but are the same in all countries where Freemasonry is practised. CIPES.

BRO. W. J. HUGHAN, BRO. "LEO," AND THE LANDMARKS.

In an admirable and honourable intention to uphold the Order in its entirety and purity, Bro. Hughan alludes to the "landmarks of the

Craft for centuries," while Bro. "Leo" tells us, a few lines further on, that "we have no landmarks in Speculative Freemasonry older than 1717." Perhaps Bro. W. J. Hughan would kindly for the good of the Craft settle this with Bro. "Leo." CIPES.

Original Correspondence.

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

FREEMASONRY AND THE LAWS OF THE LAND.

(To the Editor of The Freemason.)

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER.—I have inadvertently attributed to "Cipes" the expression "Christian Order" as applied to Freemasonry, which occurs in the report of a meeting of the Mount Calvary Chapter, A. and A. Rite. I can scarcely say how the mistake happened, but as I made the blunder I crave his forgiveness.

The object of my former communication was to find fault with the sectarian principle the above words implied, and not as "Cipes" supposes with his essay on "Freemasonry and the Laws of the Land," which I read, as I do most of his writings with interest and pleasure. Neither is he quite correct in his surmise that I had "rushed into print without a due consideration of the subject," for even a superficial observer cannot fail to perceive the desire which exists amongst the most intelligent and influential members of the Craft, to Christianize, that is to sectarianize, Freemasonry. The Masonic Press shows the same tendency; read the paragraph headed "Love" in the last number of THE FREEMASON.

I am pleased to find that my antagonism to "Cipes" was only imaginary, and that I do not fight against, but with him under the same banner.

As bearing upon the same question, I would ask, can "Cipes" or any other brother inform me firstly whether a Jew, Mahometan, or Parsee, may conscientiously enter the ranks of what are (as I think erroneously) termed the higher degrees of Freemasonry? and secondly, is there anything beyond the Royal Arch entitled to be considered as part of the "Ancient and Honourable Order of Free and Accepted Masons?"

Yours fraternally,
E. GOTTHEIL.

"E.A." AND THE BYE-LAWS.

(To the Editor of The Freemason.)

SIR,—I much doubt if the Bye-law quoted by E.A. in your last number, with reference to the exclusion of a member who neglects to pay his subscription, is in accordance with the Constitutions.

The method of dealing with such members has always been a difficulty, but the Book of Constitutions seems to leave no alternative to the course clearly prescribed, page 65, and much trouble has, in my experience, arisen from a deviation from the strict letter of the law.

I should recommend your correspondent to submit the Bye-law in question to our worthy Grand Secretary, for his opinion on its legality.

Yours fraternally,
P.M.

DISGRACEFUL INTOLERANCE.

(To the Editor of The Freemason.)

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I enclose the following clipping from last week's newspaper:—"Nineteen students of the Wesleyan University at Mount Pleasant, Iowa, have petitioned for the removal of a coloured student from their class."

Anything more intolerant could hardly be conceived; because the skin of one of the students happens to be darker than that of his fellows, he is therefore to be excluded! We wonder if he was the best scholar in the class? If the "cat-o'-nine-tails" had ever a duty to perform, it has it now in claiming acquaintance with the backs of these "Nineteen Students." We further ask, will there be separate classes in heaven, so that these white-skinned Wesleyans may not be contaminated by being forced to intermix with "coloured" saints? Or I, ask, will there be separated parlours in hell for classifying the differently "coloured" inmates? If the latter, these "Nineteen Students" have a bad chance (unless they "turn over a new leaf") of getting an extra shovelful or two of coals placed under their hot-plate. However, be that as it may, if there was any "removal" took place upon this "petition" we trust that the subjects of it were the aforesaid "Nineteen Students."

I am, yours fraternally,
LEO.

BRO. FINCH, P.M. (217).

(To the Editor of The Freemason.)

SIR,—In your last week's impression Bro. Finch, P.M. (217), at a meeting of the Lodge Temperance in the East, is reported to have invited the brethren

from the newly-initiated to the officers, even up to the Installing Officer, to apply to him when in doubt, and he would give them the correct working.

There surely must be some error in this. Bro. Finch, I should hope, would not give utterance to such presumption and egotism; at any rate, if he did I trust it was a *lapsus linguae*. I should sincerely hope, however, that it is a mistake on the part of your reporter misunderstanding the remarks which fell from Bro. Finch.

I write this in no antagonistic spirit, but simply that such remarks as the above should not pass unchallenged. For the respect in which Bro. Finch is held witness the testimonials he has received—gold watch, purse of sovereigns, diamond ring, &c.—and a denial on his part, or a correction on the part of your reporter, would ease the minds of those who never heard such remarks drop from the late Bros. Peter Thompson, Barton Wilson, or our present esteemed preceptor, Henry Muggeridge.

I remain fraternally,

Your obedient servant,
P.M., 217.

ANCIENT AND MODERN MYSTERIES.

BY BRO. ROBERT WENTWORTH LITTLE,

President of the London Literary Union, Editor of
"The Rosicrucian," &c.

(Continued from page 263.)

Since writing the few remarks on the *Collegia Artificum* which appeared in last week's FREEMASON, I have seen in the Philadelphia "Keystone"—a very valuable organ of the Craft in America—an article from the facile pen of Bro. Albert G. Mackey, upon the same subject, which is so interesting that I gladly avail myself of the opportunity of reproducing it for the benefit of your readers. Dr. Mackey, is, I need hardly observe, a great stickler for the truth of Masonic traditions, and his "Lexicon," though not at all times reliable, contains much information of an instructive character:—

"It was, I think, the German writers on the history of the institution, such as Krause, Heldmann and some others of less repute, who first discovered, or at least first announced to the world, the connection that existed between the Roman Colleges of Architects and the Society of Freemasons.

"The theory of Krause on this subject is to be found principally in his well-known work, entitled, *Die drei ältesten Kunstzirkeln der Freimaurer Bruderschaft*, or 'The three oldest professional documents of the Brotherhood of Freemasons.' This work is very elaborate, for the subject is pursued with all that microscopic tenacity of enquiry so peculiar to the modes of Teutonic thinking, so that scarcely anything is left in the field to reward the investigations of subsequent gleaners.

"But while it may be difficult to add to the facts which this German antiquary has so industriously amassed, there is abundant room for discussion of the theory which he has advanced. We may admit the authenticity of his historical statements, but we may have good reason to deny or to doubt the correctness of the conclusions to which he has arrived.

"His theory is, that Freemasonry as it now exists, is indebted for all its characteristics, religious and social, political and professional, its interior organization, its modes of thought and action, and its very design and object, to the *Collegia Artificum* of the Romans, passing with but little characteristic changes through the *Corporationen von Baukünstlern* or 'Architectural Guilds' of the middle ages up to the English organization of the year 1717, so that he claims an almost absolute identity between the Roman Colleges of Numa, seven hundred years before Christ, and the lodges of the nineteenth century. We need not, according to his view, go any further back in history, nor look to any other series of events, nor trouble ourselves with any other influences for the origin and the character of Freemasonry.

"I propose in the present article to discuss the correctness of this theory, and to discover from the historical data of which we are in possession, what is the true connection between the Masonic institution and the political organizations established under the name of 'Colleges' by the second King of Rome.

"In the prosecution of such a task, the first thing to be done will be to investigate, so far as authentic history affords us the means, the true character and condition of these Roman Colleges.

"It is to Numa, the second King of Rome, that historians, following after Plutarch, ascribe the first organization of the Roman Colleges, although as Newman reasonably conjectures, it is probable that similar organizations previously existed among the Alban population, and embraced the resident Tuscan artificers. But it is admitted that Numa gave to them that form which they always subsequently maintained.

(To be continued.)

INSTALLATION OF THE PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER OF HAMPSHIRE AND THE ISLE OF WIGHT.

There was a large and influential gathering of Freemasons at Southampton on Tuesday the 30th ult., on the occasion of the installation of the Right Worshipful Bro. W. W. B. Beach, Esq., M.P., as Provincial Grand Master of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. The Hartley Hall had been, by permission of the Council of the institution, placed at the disposal of the brethren, of whom upwards of 250 attended to meet their Masonic Chief, including a large number of Past Prov. Grand Officers. The ceremony of installation was ably performed by the Right Worshipful Bro. the Earl of Carnarvon, Prov. Grand Master of Somersetshire; Bro. the Rev. C. Pettat, officiating as P.G. Chaplain; Bro. R. S. Hulbert as P.G.S. Warden; Bro. W. H. Ford, as P.J.G. Warden; and Bro. S. D. Forbes, P.P.G.W., Essex, as Director of Ceremonies, assisted by Bro. R. Holbrook, P.P.G.D.C., and Bro. Dr. Eagles, P.P.G.A.D.C.

At the conclusion, the P.G.M. appointed and invested his officers as follows:—Bros. C. E. Deacon (394), Deputy Prov. G.M.; W. Hickman (130), P.G.S. Warden; J. Douglas (487), P.J.G. Warden; Rev. C. Pettat (694), P.G. Chaplain; Dew (694), P.G. Reg.; M. E. Frost (487), P.G. Treas., (re-elected by the Prov. G. Lodge); J. E. Le Feuvre (130), P.G. Sec.; C. S. Woollons (309), P.G.S. Deacon; Wilkinson (359), P.G.J. Deacon; Lemou (394), P.G. Superintendent of Works; E. S. Main (903), P.G. Dir. of Ceremonies; Bettesworth (804), P.G. Asst. Dir. of Ceremonies; Caffé (35), P.G.S.B.; Bradbear (804), P.G. Org.; Rebbeck (195), P.G. Pursuivant. Bros. Snelling (76), Jones (130), De Fraine (257), G. A. Green (309), Harle (359), and Hine (394), P.G. Stewards; Bros. Dawkins (394), and Biggs (130), P.G. Tylers.

In the course of the Prov. Grand Lodge business it was referred to the Committee of Benevolence to report on a better mode of ensuring a more efficient election of Hampshire candidates to the various Masonic charities than now exists, and a proposition by Bro. J. R. Stebbing, P.G.D. of England, expressive of opinion that no future Grand Master of England should hold that office more than three successive years, was carried by a large majority.

The financial and other routine business of the Province was subsequently transacted, and the lodge was closed about four o'clock, after sitting nearly four hours.

During the ceremony of installation a special ode and a hymn for the occasion were sung by a choir composed of members of the Craft, who were under the skilful direction of Bro. F. G. Bradbear, P.M., the Prov. Grand Organist.

A sumptuous banquet was subsequently served in first-rate style by Bro. Dartnall, of Southampton, at the Victoria Assembly Rooms, Portland-terrace, at which about 200 of the brethren attended. The Prov. Grand Master presided, and was supported by the Earl of Carnarvon, Prov. Grand Master of Somerset; Bros. Wyndham Portal, P.G. Warden of England; C. E. Deacon, D.P.G.M. and P.G. Deacon of England; J. R. Stebbing, P.G. Deacon of England; John Hervey, Grand Sec.; Patten, Sec. of the Masonic Girls' School; Spiers, D.P.G.M. of Oxfordshire; Sir Nelson Rycroft, Bart., &c.

In proposing the toast, "The Queen and the Craft," the Prov. Grand Master expressed his gratification that the Prince of Wales had lately been admitted into the Fraternity, and hoped that his appreciation of what he learned on the threshold of Masonry would lead to his taking every means for being admitted into the inner precincts.

By the choir "God Save the Queen."

The Prov. Grand Master next gave "The Most Worshipful the Grand Master, the Earl of Zetland," whose signal efforts in behalf of Masonry he eulogised, and the toast having been drunk, thanks were cordially tendered to the Earl of Carnarvon, who had to leave by an early train, for the proficiency he had shown and the kindness he evinced in acting as installing master.

The EARL OF CARNARVON, who was received with great enthusiasm, made an admirable speech in reply, assuring the brethren that he at all times experienced great pleasure as a Hampshire man in meeting Hampshire men, but this feeling was greatly enhanced when he found himself amongst Hampshire masons. It had been a real personal satisfaction to him to be allowed to take part in the proceedings of that day. Interesting at all times as such a ceremony was, it was doubly interesting to him on this occasion, because the friendship existing between their Prov. G.M. and himself dated back many, many years, and he hoped and believed had grown with each year. (Applause.) It was a friendship inaugurated, he might say, under the shadow of masonry, because it was under the council and tutelage of his right worshipful friend that he was induced, to his own satisfaction and comfort and never ceasing gratification, to be enrolled in the ranks of masonry (cheers). He rejoiced, therefore, if it was in his power, in however feeble a degree, to return the obligation that the Provincial Grand Master had

imposed upon him in early life. (Cheers.) They would allow him, without ceremony, and without exaggeration, to congratulate them upon having as Prov. G.M., a brother who would devote his time, energy, best thoughts, and attention to the duties of the office, without stint and without fear of trouble to himself. More than this, he held there was no man in England more truly devoted to the interests of the craft, more familiar with its working, or more fitted in every way to be its exponent. (Cheers.) He thought also that he might congratulate his right worshipful friend upon entering on the rule of a province second to none in this country, whether as regards its prosperity, its wealth, the intelligence of its members, or the position which some of them took in Freemasonry. Without for one moment desiring to speak in disparagement of small provinces, he thought there were many advantages connected with large provinces like this one, and he owned he should deeply regret if ever the province of Hants abandoned the advantages which he thought its present size gave it in the Craft, as he desired to see it not only worthily represented by its Grand Master, but also by the number and strength of its lodges, securing that weight and importance, that credit and dignity, that was always due to a large and influential province, and he hoped that when his right worshipful friend had to surrender the charge he had taken that day the prosperity of the craft would be still larger in the province than it now was. (Cheers.) The great and imposing ceremony which had taken place that day ought not, he thought, lightly to pass from their recollection. To his mind it had spoken various morals. In the first place, it pointed a distinct contradiction to those calumnies and misrepresentations which masonry sometimes experienced. Those who followed the course of their proceedings, who carefully weighed all that was said and done, who took in the sense of the obligations, the promises, the professions, and the charges, must have felt that Freemasonry in England at least can never be accused, as it has been accused and vilified sometimes abroad, as the friend of anarchy and disorder—(hear, hear.)—but rather that it is the sure, the loyal friend of order, of good government, of social harmony—in a word, of everything that tends to raise, to improve, and even to ennoble man—(loud cheers)—that it is loyal to the great and sacred institutions of this country, and that it is intimately bound up with those great foundations upon which all the peace and happiness, and the prosperity of society depends. (Hear, hear.) In the next place, he thought it must have suggested itself to every brother's mind who attended to the proceedings to-day that the fundamental principle was the admission of the worthiest to the highest positions in the province. That was the principle they desired to recognise, and upon which he hoped they proceeded, and it was one which should be kept steadily in view, because in the administration of a large province it was right that none should be selected but those really competent and worthy to bear rule. And in the administration and management of their individual lodges they should, he thought, diligently and carefully keep in mind that none should be admitted to the Craft unless they are likely in every sense of the word to become good Masons. (Cheers.) He cheerfully recognised the right of every lodge to admit those who might be agreeable companions, and who, from social habits and intercourse, were eligible as members of a society constituted in a great degree upon social considerations, but he also hoped that they would keep steadily before them the fact that there were certain qualities requisite in their opinion—certain principles with which they would not dispense—when they admitted any to the fellowship and membership of a lodge. (Hear, hear.) They laboured under the difficulty that the principles of Freemasonry were in a great degree secret—they were not at liberty to publish them on the housetops, nor to make them the subject of itinerant lecturing, but on the other hand they might, at least, refute the calumnies from time to time thrown out against them by showing that in their daily practice, in their constant, habitual life, they not only put forward a claim to certain great qualities and principles, but were prepared to exercise them at any cost of personal trouble and at any sacrifice, no matter what that sacrifice might be—(cheers)—and that they would act not so much in the letter as the spirit of their laws. Those who thus endeavoured to make Masonry a living reality would have an easy conscience. They would feel that in their own sphere, be it humble or be it high, they had, at least, according to their light, done their best for the promotion of that great order to which they belonged, to the welfare of which they were pledged, and, as he believed, the interests of which they all had most dearly at heart. (Loud cheers.)

"The Deputy Grand Master (Earl de Grey and Ripon) and Grand Officers" was afterwards proposed, and Bros. HERVEY, Grand Secretary, WYNDHAM PORTAL, Past G.W. of England, and J. R. STEBBING, Past G.D. of England, returned thanks. The latter proposed the health of the R.W. Prov. Grand Master of Hampshire, and took the opportunity of explaining, in reference to some annoyance which the Isle of Wight brethren felt at their province having been annexed to Hants, that so far from his having advocated the

union—as had been misrepresented concerning him in some of the public papers—he had never ceased to oppose it—(hear, hear)—and as to the Hampshire Masons having exerted themselves to the same end, he ventured to say they knew nothing about it, and had nothing to do with it, and that they only desired, with himself, that nothing should disturb the kindly feeling which had ever existed between the Masons of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. (Cheers.)

The PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER, in acknowledgment of the toast, made reference to the same subject, and said that he himself pointed out to the Grand Master certain objections which suggested themselves to him in reference to the amalgamation of the two provinces, but the Grand Master having over-ruled them, he considered he should have been guilty of a great dereliction of duty had he not at once given way. (Hear, hear.) He was anxious to give the Island brethren every facility for exercising the privileges of Freemasonry within the Isle of Wight—(hear)—and if the end would be attained by holding an additional Grand Lodge yearly or by a half-yearly meeting, he should be found heartily co-operating and doing all that he could to give the Island brethren every possible facility. From what he had seen to-day he was not sure that the interests of so important a province were efficiently served by meeting only once a year. (Hear.) If it met with the concurrence of brethren it would be his duty to ask them to meet oftener—(hear, hear.)—and as he knew it would be inconvenient to many to come long distances, he should ask advice upon the subject. The right worshipful brother proceeded to dilate at some length upon the many excellent qualities of Freemasonry, and resumed his seat amid loud applause.

"The Deputy Provincial Grand Master" (Br. Deacon) was subsequently given and acknowledged, and the "Wardens and Officers of P.G. Lodge," coupled with the name of Bro. W. Hickman, as P.G. Senior Warden, was similarly honoured, and responded to by Bro. Hickman.

MASONIC FEMALE ORPHAN SCHOOL, DUBLIN.

A general meeting of the Board of Governors of this Institution was held at the School House on Tuesday, the 7th inst., when there was a numerous attendance of those entitled to be present.

The chair was taken by the Deputy Grand Master, in his capacity of Senior Vice President.

The ordinary business having been disposed of the reports from the several committees were submitted, and it was most gratifying to learn that the finances of the Institution were in such a prosperous condition. The receipts for the month were £260 7s. 2d., including £30 from Lodge 59, Belfast, and £30 from Lodge 93.

William E. Gumbleton, V.P., handed in a donation of four shares (£20) in the Masonic Hall Company, which with his previous donations, amounted to £70.

The thanks of the Board were voted to Brother Gumbleton.

The Scrutineers of the ballot for the election of three pupils then presented their report, from which it appeared that of the brethren entitled to vote 132 Life Governors, 581 Annual Governors, and 286 Official Governors, had exercised the privilege. The total number of votes recorded was 3,366, as follows:—

Christina Allen	...	...	596
Jane S. Andrews	...	...	103
Anna Matilda Copeland	...	...	252
Louisa Ellis	...	...	23
Louisa McMullen	...	...	332
Margaret Maxwell	...	...	428
Mary E. St. P. Orr	...	...	918
Helen Mary Perry	...	...	159
Catherine Sayers	...	...	535

Mary Orr, daughter of the late Samuel Orr, M.D., of Innishannon, county Cork; Christina Allen, daughter of the late Richard Allen, Assistant Engineer, Harbour Office, Belfast, and Catherine Sayers, daughter of the late Michael Sayers, cabinet maker, Dublin, were then declared duly elected as pupils of the school.

The several Honorary Officers and Committees of the School were re-elected for 1870.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—The most beneficial Medicine.—Disease in the multifarious forms in which it assails mankind generally has its origin in some impurity, some irregularity of action, some overstrain of the vital forces or contagious matters. Nothing has yet equalled the efficacy of these balsamic pills in checking disease in, and restoring vigour to the body. They root out all the impurities from the blood, and regulate, and invigorate, every organ. Immense care is taken to secure the genuine preparation to the public, that no disappointment may be caused to all seeking health by Holloway's Pills. Their composition and careful packing prevents the impairment of their virtue by time, sea voyage or climate. They never gripe or cause any inconvenience.

TO CONSUMPTIVES.—A grateful father is desirous of sending by mail, free of charge to all who wish it, a copy of the prescription by which his daughter was restored to perfect health from confirmed Consumption, after having been given up by her physicians and despaired of by her father, a well-known physician, who has now discontinued practice. Sent to any person free.—Address O. P. Brown, Secretary, 2, King-street, Covent-garden, London.—ADVT.