

THE Freemason.

REPORTS OF THE GRAND LODGES ARE NOW PUBLISHED WITH THE SPECIAL SANCTION OF
SIR ROBERT MICHAEL SHAW-STEWART Bart., M.W. Grand Master Mason of Scotland; the Right Hon. the EARL OF ROSSLYN,
the M.W. Past Grand Master for Scotland; and the Grand Masters of many Foreign Grand Lodges.

Vol. 7, No. 290.]

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1874.

REGISTERED FOR
TRANSMISSION ABROAD.

[PRICE 2d.]

PROVINCE OF SUSSEX.

THE
Provincial Grand Lodge
OF
Mark Master Masons

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WILL BE
CONSTITUTED

BY

The R.W. Bro. the Rt. Hon. the EARL
OF LIMERICK, R.W.D.G.M.M.M.,

AND THE

INSTALLATION

OF

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W.M. Keystone Lodge 168,

As the R.W. PROVINCIAL GRAND M.M.M.

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The business of the day having concluded,

A BANQUET

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Tickets (price 7s. 6d. each, exclusive of wine)
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Brighton; Bro. J. Pearson, W.M. 164, Hay-
ward's Heath; Bro. Thos. Trollope, W.M. 166,
Hastings; Bro. W. R. Wood, S.W. 168, Brigh-
ton; Bro. Kirkland, S.W. 166, Eastbourne;
Bro. J. M. Cunningham, P.M. 75, P.G.J.O.,
Hailsham; Bro. C. Smith, Sec. 168, Cliftonville,
and of Bro. S. R. Ade, S.W. 164, 157, North
Street, Brighton.

By order of the Committee,

THOS. J. SABINE,

W.M. 75, P.M. 22, P.A.G.D. of C.,
Acting P.G. Sec.

54, Ship Street, Brighton,
Sep. 23rd, 1874.

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Kilwinning, 15th August, 1874.

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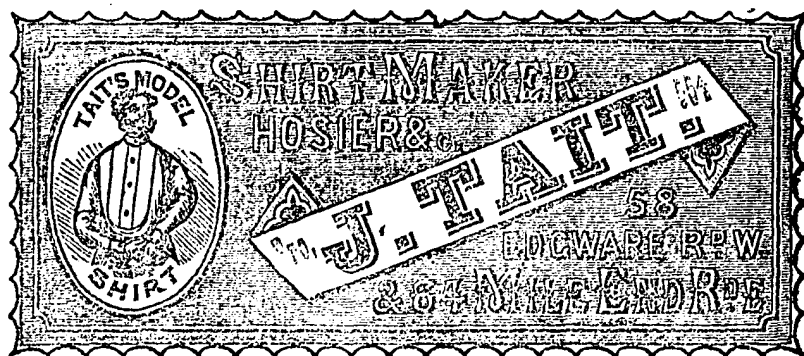
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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

PLYMOUTH.—*Lodge of Fortitude* (No. 105).—The above lodge met on Monday evening, September 4, at the Huyshe Masonic Temple, when there was a full attendance of the brethren, and Bro. Robert B. Twose, W.M., was supported by the whole of his officers. The lodge was opened by the W.M., and the minutes having been read and approved, W. Bro. James Stevens, the W.M. of Great City Lodge, and a member of the Lodge of Fortitude, being present, by desire of the W.M., occupied the chair of K.S., for the purpose of performing the ceremonies in the first and second degrees. Brother Griffin was passed to the degree of F.C., Brother Stevens (the acting W.M.) concluding the impressive ceremony by delivering the lengthy lecture on geometry peculiar to this portion of masonic working. Mr. John S. Roach, after having been duly ballotted for and accepted as a candidate of Freemasonry, was introduced in an efficient manner and duly initiated into the Order. He was proposed by V.W. Bro. S. Jew, and seconded by James Rowe, P.M., Secretary. On the proposition of Brother John Northey, seconded by the Senior Warden, a ballot then took place for Bro. John S. Gray, of Loyalty Lodge, 358, Bermuda, as a joining member; and Bro. Gray, who was in attendance, was admitted. On vacating the chair, and on its being resumed by Bro. Robert B. Twose, W.M.; the thanks of the lodge were voted by acclamation to W. Bro. James Stevens for his interesting services on this occasion, in acknowledging which he expressed his pleasure and gratification in having had the opportunity to attend the lodge, and the great honour which had been accorded to him by the request to perform the ceremonies. Thanks were also most cordially passed to V.W. Bro. S. Jew, for the very efficient manner in which he had performed the onerous duties allotted to him at the recent Masonic demonstration. He (Bro. Jew) has also taken a very active part in assisting the Deputy Provincial Grand Master in collecting subscriptions for the erection of the new wing to the Royal British Female Orphan Asylum. At the supper, the usual loyal toasts were given, and altogether a very pleasant evening was passed.

BOLTON.—*St. John's Lodge*, (No. 221).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 16th inst., at the Commercial Hotel, Bolton, at seven o'clock in the evening. There was a very large attendance of members of the lodge, and amongst the visitors was Brother Samuel Walker, of Radcliffe, who had been an active Mason for 42 years, and now in his old age is in the receipt of an annuity from the Royal Benevolent Institution. The lodge was opened promptly at 6 o'clock, every officer at his post, viz., Bro. W. H. J. Jones, W.M.; Bro. Grime, S.W.; Bro. Rutter, J.W.; and as usual a large array of Past Masters, including Bros. G. P. Brockbank, P. Prov. S.G.D., Bro. Entwisle, P. Prov. Superintendent of

Works, and Bro. J. W. Taylor, Prov. G. Organist. The lodge having been opened, and ordinary business transacted, proceeded to the third degree, when Bros. Aldred and Stead were raised to the degree of Master Mason by Bro. Entwisle, the concluding portion of the ceremony being very effectively rendered by Bro. Thomas Mitchell, an old Past Master of the lodge. At the proceedings subsequent to the banquet, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, and in reply to the "Masonic Charities," Bro. Brockbank announced that he had now twenty members in that lodge who had become life subscribers or governors to one or more of these institutions, and that he had succeeded in obtaining the services of one brother in the lodge to serve as Steward for each of the charities for 1875, viz., Bro. Rutter for the Benevolent Institution, Bro. Green for the Boys' School, and Bro. Entwisle for the Girls' School. The pleasure of the brethren was greatly enhanced by the musical treat given by many of the number who, under the able guidance of Bro. Taylor, Director of Ceremonies, and Bro. Staton, Organist, contributed materially to the enjoyment of a very pleasant and happy re-union.

PANNURE LODGE (No. 720).—This lodge met for its duties at the Balham Hotel, Balham, on Monday evening last, when there were present, Bro. Henry Payne, W.M.; C. Pulman S.W.; W. Withall, S.W.; G. Lilley, Treasurer; Henry F. Huntley, P.M., Secretary; D. Trusler, S.D.; Thomas Poore, P.M.; James Stevens, P.M. and W.M. 1426; B. Richardson, Smith, C. P. McKay, W. Cole, T. Kirtland, T. Broadbridge, T. E. Biddlecome, and Dr. Moore. The following visitors also attended:—W. Steedman, 754, F.M.; Geo. Mead, 1328, W.M.; and E. A. Frances, 4. The minutes of the last lodge meeting, and of the lodge of emergency, were read and confirmed. Bro. C. P. McKay was passed, having been initiated at the previous meeting. Bros. J. E. Biddlecome and T. Kirtland were raised. A discussion then took place with respect to the arranging of the proposed musical portion of the ceremonies, but the question was adjourned. Two propositions were received for initiation at the next meeting. Among the other Masonic business which came under the consideration of the lodge was the granting of Boys' votes to Bro. Stevens for the son of a late P.M. of the lodge, which was agreed to. There were no toasts nor songs at the banquet, held at the close of the meeting, and the whole of the proceedings terminated at a comparatively early hour.

WALTHAM NEW TOWN.—*King Harold Lodge* (No. 1327) held its monthly meeting on the 15th September, at the Britannia Hotel, Waltham New Town. There was a numerous attendance of the brethren. The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Middleton was passed to the second degree. The election of the W.M., Treasurer, and Tyler for the ensuing year then took place. Bro. Charles Lacy, P.M., P.G.J.D. Herts, was elected as W.M. Bro. Barwick, who has filled the office of Treasurer since the foundation of the lodge in 1870, was re-elected. Bro. Steedman was re-elected Tyler. A Past Master's jewel, together with five guineas to purchase a life vote in one of the Masonic charities was voted to Bro. J. K. Young, the W.M., who has, during his year of office, given entire satisfaction, both as regards the management of the lodge, and also the zeal and ability with which he performed the several duties of his office. A Past Master's jewel was voted for Bro. W. C. Barnes, junior, who served the office of W.M. in the King Harold Lodge for ten months in the years 1871-2, and who worked very energetically in the formation of the lodge, but was obliged to resign before serving his full year, in consequence of being about to settle in Canada. The death of Bro. James Martin Austin, proprietor of the Swan and Pike Inn, Enfield Lock, on the 26th ult., was announced to the lodge, and the Secretary was instructed to address a letter of condolence to Mrs. Austin, expressing the regret and sympathy of the King Harold Lodge at her recent sad loss. The business of the meeting was

brought to a close, and the lodge was closed in perfect harmony. The brethren present were Bro. J. K. Young, W.M.; Bro. J. W. H. Evans, S.W.; Bro. W. Gilbert, J.W.; Bro. E. West, P.M., P.P.G.S.D. Herts; Bro. C. Lacy, P.M., P.G.J.D. Herts, the W.M. elect; Bro. E. Parker, P.M., P.P.G.P. Herts; Bro. James Barwick, Treasurer; Bro. Thos. Reilly, Sec.; Bro. W. Moony, S.D.; Bro. Tydeman, J.D.; Bro. Holmes, I.G.; Bro. Steedman, Tyler; Bros. Calvert, Cole, Cox, Creed, Bull, Eversfield, Fisher, Hodges, Jacobs, Kent, Imrie, Leemsden, Middleton, Malcolm, Noyes, Pritchett, Price, Sheldon, Skinner, Shepherd, Robinson, Soul, and Wyatt.

LEYTONSTONE.—*Beacontree Lodge* (No. 1228).—The last meeting of the season of the above lodge was held in the Masonic Rooms, Red Lion Hotel, Leytonstone, on Monday last, on which occasion Bro. W. Mundy was installed in the chair of K.S. The ceremony was efficiently performed by Bro. Alcock, P.M. of the lodge. Mr. Jas. Gallagher was subsequently initiated into the mysteries of the Order by the newly installed W.M., in a most impressive manner. At the close of the business the brethren adjourned for refreshment, and sat down to an excellent repast, prepared by the host, Bro. Thos. Barford, in the best style. The lodge was honoured by a goodly attendance of visitors, among them Bro. Hervey, Grand Secretary.

IVY LODGE (No. 1441).—The brethren belonging to this youthful and vigorous offshoot of Metropolitan Freemasonry, were summoned to attend to their duties on Tuesday, the 15th inst., at the Windsor Castle Tavern, Southwark Bridge-road, on repairing to which hostelry the brethren were gratified to find that during the recess, the spirited proprietor, Bro. Block, had made some extensive and very much wanted improvements in the lodge accommodation, which is now equal to all which is likely to be demanded for some years to come. The lodge on this occasion was announced for 6.30, and the officers and candidates were particularly requested to be punctual in their attendance, a request, which we regret, was not more rigidly attended to, the consequence being that the W.M. was unable to proceed to the duties of the evening until nearly eight o'clock, and although only the second and third ceremonies were worked, owing to the scrupulous and careful manner in which every candidate receives his various degrees in the Ivy Lodge, it was long after ten o'clock before the lodge was closed, and considerably after eleven before the cold collation which succeeded could possibly be served. We hope some pressure will be put on future candidates to obviate this unseemly delay. We have before now, in these columns, bore cheerful testimony to the excellence of the working of the Ivy Lodge, by Bro. Charles Smith, W.M., and his talented officers. The working of the two degrees this evening was up to the former high standard, being listened to with the greatest interest by many brethren to whom every syllable uttered was as familiar to them as their own names. The ceremonies were beautifully rendered, the various candidates for the third degree, as we have already stated, being separately introduced. Propositions of fresh candidates were made before the lodge was closed. Besides the W.M., there were present Bros. G. Mattock, S.W.; J. J. Cantle, J.W.; E. Thurkle, Treasurer; C. S. Jolly, W.M. 87, Secretary; C. F. Poupard, S.D.; L. Cornelison, J.D.; and many others. Also Bros. J. Ashwell, 22; Laing, P.M.; 45; E. Harris, P.M. and Treasurer, 73; G. Morris, P.M. 73; W. M. Robinson, 87; E. Farwig, 189; W. P. Drew, 749; D. S. Stewart, 1158; C. C. King, 1321; and others.

Knights Templar.

PRESCOT.—*William de la More Encampment*.—A conclave of the Knights of this encampment was held at the New Court House, Prescott, on Thursday, the 17th inst., when there was a good attendance of the members of the conclave. Amongst those present were Sir Knights J. W. J. Fowler, P.E. Preceptor; G. Turner,

P.E. Preceptor; Richard Brown, Prelate; J. K. Smith, Constable; R. Young, Marshall; T. Ashmore, Registrar; J. Wood, Treasurer; P. H. Whittaker, Almoner; H. Nelson, Sub-Marshal. The encampment was opened at five o'clock, and after the minutes had been read and passed, the following candidates were installed members of the Order:—Comps. W. J. Thomson, Robert Corke, Wm. Tyrer, and C. D. Turton. Sir Knight J. K. Smith, was unanimously elected E. Preceptor for the ensuing year, and Sir Knight Wood was also re-elected Treasurer for the ensuing year. After five candidates had been proposed for installation, the encampment was closed, and the Knights sat down to an excellent banquet.

Red Cross of Constantine.

LIVERPOOL.—*Walton Conclave* (No. 97).—The annual assembly of this conclave for the enthronement of M.P. Sovereign and investment of officers, was held on Monday, 14th September, at the usual place of meeting at Kirkdale. The Chivalric Knights mustered at seven o'clock, and the conclave was duly formed. The M.P. Sovereign, Eminent Sir Knight J. C. Lunt, occupied the throne, surrounded and assisted by the following officers:—Em. Sir Knt. Thos. Ashmore, P.S.; Sir Knts. Jesse Banning, Viceroy, Eusebius, M.P.S. elect; Revd. T. W. Richardson, H.P.; Wm. Quayle, Rec., G. E. Hammer, S.B., M. Williamson, Sentinel. Amongst the visitors were Ill. Sir Knt. J. Kellett Smith, M.D., Deputy Intendant General for West Lancashire; Em. Sir Knt. Thos. Clark, M.P.S. 55; Em. Sir Knt. J. T. Callow, M.P.S. 77; Sir Knts. J. Skeaf, Org. and Rec. 55 and 77; J. McCarthy, J.G. 77; Wm. Cottrell, V.E. 77; H. Jackson, S.G. 77; and others. After some other business, Sir Knight Jesse Banning, who had been elected at the last conclave for the throne of M.P.S. for the ensuing twelve months, as also Rev. Sir Knight T. W. Richardson, the Viceroy Eusebius elect, received the superior grades appertaining to their offices, and were respectively installed in their seats of honour by Ill. Sir Knight J. Kellett Smith, the Deputy Int. Gen. for West Lancashire, assisted by Em. Sir Knight Thos. Ashmore, P.S., and the M.P.S. of the conclaves 55 and 77. The officers for the next twelve months were appointed and invested as follows:—Sir Knts. W. Quayle, S.G.; G. E. Hammer, J.G.; W. Dwelly, H.P.; J. C. Lunt, P.S., Treasurer; Hayner, Recorder; R. William, Prefect; J. Atherton, Stand. B.; W. H. Beardwood, Herald; M. Williamson, Sentinel. After the receiving hearty good wishes from representatives of Conclaves Nos. 55 and 77, the newly-enthroned M.P.S. directed the conclave to be closed, and the assembled Sir Knights adjourned to the refectory for refreshment.

Scotland.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE, RENFREWSHIRE, EAST.—This body assembled on Saturday, Sept. 19, at Paisley, in the hall of the Renfrew County Kilwinning Lodge No. 370. The lodge was opened at 5 p.m. by Colonel Campbell, of Blythswood, P.G.M.; Oliver McGregor, P.G.S. W.; Caldwell, J.G.W.; J. Jack, P.G.S., and a good attendance of Masters and Wardens of the province. The lodge having been opened in due form, the P.G.M. addressed the brethren, informing them that as he was about to leave Scotland for some time, and was desirous to ensure the good working of the province, and see that the lodges were properly visited as soon as possible after their next election, he had called this special meeting to nominate those officers which, by the constitution, he had the right of appointing, leaving the P.G.L. to elect the others at their next regular meeting. Some of the officers had now been in harness for a long time, and were desirous of being relieved, he had therefore to announce that he had appointed the following brethren to office for the ensuing year:—Henry Lee Harvey, of Castle Temple, as D.P.G.M.; Capt. F. McDonald, R.W.M. 205, as P.G.S. M.; Bro. O. McGregor had long and honourably filled the office of S.W., he would now, as

he had wished be relieved of those onerous duties, place Bro. Caldwell, the present J.W. in the post of P.G.S.W. This would enable him to reward one of the best working Masons in Scotland, one who he was glad had become the Master of a lodge in the province, thus enabling him to give him an office that he knew he would adorn, namely, that of P.G.J.W., (Cheers.) The Chaplain, Bro. Stephens, he re-appointed, and the only other officer he would appoint was the Secretary. They all knew how well Bro. Jackson had filled the office for the last eight years; he could not induce him to retain it, but at a very short notice he had been enabled to find a most efficient successor in the person of Bro. R. L. Henderson, of 370, whom they all knew and respected. These brethren were then installed into office, except the D.P.G. M., who was not present. Arrangements were then made for the visitation of the 14 lodges in the provinces. The bye-laws of the Marie Stuart, 341, and the East Kilbride Lodge, were then passed, and the P.G.M. gave a cheque for £10 to the Benevolent Fund. Bro. Proctor reported that his lodge, by an entertainment they got up, had realised £24 for the widow of the late Chaplain. This being all the business, the P.G.M. favoured the P.G.L. with a highly interesting sketch of the work in which he was about to engage, which necessitated his leaving; this was to join one of the scientific parties sent out to examine and report on the Transit of Venus. He would start on Monday to proceed to Egypt. He then, in a familiar and lucid style, explained the nature of the various modes of observation that would be employed by the different sections of observers sent out by our own and other Governments, the modes of correcting those observations, and dwelt on the good to be derived from those investigations, not only in a purely scientific sense, but also the shipping and commercial interests of the community. The P.G.S.W. moved the thanks of the lodge to the P.G.M. for the very instructive lecture he had given them; they would now read with additional interest the accounts they would from time to time see in the papers, knowing they had their respected P.G.M. out there exploring; seconded by the P.G.J.W. There being nothing further offered for the good of Masonry, the lodge was closed in due and ancient form.

LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE OF THE BARNCLUITH RAILWAY BRIDGE AT HAMILTON.

On Tuesday, September 15th, the ancient Burgh of Hamilton and the adjacent villages presented an animated appearance, it having been announced that the foundation stone of the Barncluith Bridge was to be laid with Masonic honours.

The bridge, when completed, will be a handsome, as well as solid, structure. It has four arches of 72ft. span. The line, although only two and a half miles in length, has presented many engineering difficulties, and will cost no less than £250,000. The bridge is close to the mouth of a tunnel that passes under the Duke of Hamilton's deer forest, and facing Barncluith Terrace, close to the mansion of Lady Ruthven, who, with the *élite* of the ladies of Hamilton and district, were accommodated with seats on a raised platform at the mouth of the tunnel, forming, with the gardens, a picturesque background.

The platform had been erected by Bro. Scott, of Mother Kilwinning, No. 6, the contractor for the whole railway, who defrayed the whole of the expenses of the day's proceedings, including the holiday, with an extra day's pay to the whole of the workmen on the line.

The Masonic ceremonial was under the charge of Lodge Kilwinning Hamilton, No. 7, who met and opened their lodge in their own hall. Lodge Hamilton No. 233, met in Waddle's Hall, while the Provincial Grand Lodge of the Middle Ward of Lanarkshire assembled in Bro. Spalding's Commercial Hotel, from whence each, preceded by a band, proceeded to the Town Hall, where the various lodges from the surrounding towns had assembled.

The procession left the Town Hall at three p.m., in the following order of lodges:—557,

551, 544, 437, 424, 406, 347, 306, 305, 244, 233, 177, 153, 118, 114, 88, 73, 40, 31, 20. Then Mother Kilwinning, No. 6, headed by Bro. Scott, the contractor, and Bro. Tweed, P.J.W., the Provost Baillie, and Town Councillor of Hamilton. The working tools were borne by Bros. Purday, Allen, Scott, and Henderson, of No. 7. The weather, which had been stormy, now cleared up, and when the procession arrived at the bridge, which is about one mile out of the town, the sun shone out as if to bless the undertaking. On reaching the entrance to Barncluith Valley, the ranks opened out for the Provincial Lodge, No. 7, to pass through their midst. Bro. John Clark Forrest, P.G.S.M., then laid the stone with the usual Masonic ceremonial, Bro. Graham, Chaplain of No. 7, offering up the prayer, and the band playing appropriate music. At the conclusion, the cheers from the Masons were loud and hearty, while the labourers gave others—not in the programme—for the Freemasons, and also for Bro. Scott, their employer.

Brother Forrest then said—Ladies and Gentlemen,—I have now the pleasure to declare this stone duly laid—

Deep in the quarries of the stone
Amid vast heaps of other rock,
In darkness hid, to art unknown,
We found this rude and shapeless block.
Now shaped by art, its roughness gone,
And fit this noble work to grace;
We lay it here, a corner-stone,
Chosen and sure, in proper place.
Within this stone there lies concealed
What future ages may disclose,
The sacred truths to us reveal'd
By Him who fell by ruthless foes;
On Him this corner stone we build,
To Him this edifice erect,
And still until this work's fulfill'd,
May heaven the workmen's ways direct.

This is no ordinary occasion. We are assembled to-day for the purpose of laying the corner stone of the Barncluith Bridge—of a splendid work of art—which is in course of erection for the Caledonian Railway Company by that celebrated contractor, Mr. Scott, of Ibrox Holm. Mr. Scott is no apprentice. He is a trustworthy Master Mason, who has had much experience in successfully carrying through many contracts, the following amongst others:—The Busby Railway, Habbies Howe Water Works, Barrhead Water Works, Fife and Kinross Railway, Monklands Railway, Peebles and Broughton Railway, Albert Dock, Leith; Graving Dock, Govan; and Douglas and Muirkirk Railway. This structure is the first railway bridge which has ever spanned the River Avon, and it will be the connecting link between Hamilton on the Clydesdale Branch and the main line of the Caledonian Railway. So soon as it is completed and the short line of railway opened from the present Hamilton terminus to Fernegare, we will have direct communication with every place of any consequence in Scotland and England. I dare not venture to attempt a description of all the bridges in this neighbourhood. We have the famous old Roman Bridge at Orbiston, reminding us forcibly of the words of King Solomon—"There is nothing new under the sun." We have the comparatively new and improved one over the River Clyde at Bothwell, which took the place of the old "Botwell Brig" of the times of the Covenanters; but what Scotsman is there who has not indelibly impressed upon his heart a faithful history of these stirring times. Within a short distance we have several across the Avon, which are worthy of notice. The old Hamilton Bridge was erected about the eleventh century, by a body of masons from Lesmahagow, in consequence, it is said, of a monk of that place having been drowned in attempting to ford the river on his return from Hamilton. The masons of Lesmahagow were then skilled beyond all others as builders, and it is recorded that they travelled from one district of Scotland to another, and erected many handsome bridges which have long withstood the ravages of time. The present Avon Bridge of the Carlisle-road Trust dates from 1824. The ornamental iron erection at Ross is a structure of another description.

It was renewed a few years ago by the present proprietor, and forms a very beautiful object in the landscape. The new stone bridge at Chatelherault was built by the late Duke of Hamilton (to whose memory was erected the temple containing his bust, which now overlooks us), and we need not wonder at its strength and picturesque appearance when we recollect that the late noble Duke was a Master Mason, and that he held the office of Provincial Grand Master of the Middle Ward of the County of Lanark, and that the 10th Duke was Grand Master Mason of Scotland. Ladies and gentlemen, we are standing within a few paces of Cadzow Forest, and quite close to the ruins of the old Castle, celebrated in history as the resting-place of Queen Mary on her way from Lochleven Castle to the disastrous battle field of Langside. I wonder whether any of you regret that you did not live at the time

When princely Hamilton's abode
Ennobled Cadzow's Gothic towers,

When—

The song went round, the goblet flowed,
And revel sped the laughing hours.

These are said to have been good old times; but, ladies and gentlemen, we live in happier days; our lot has been cast under a brighter sun. Who would wish to "call back" the troublous times when

Proudly the chieftain marked his clan,
On greenwood lap, all careless thrown,
Yet missed his eye the boldest man
That bore the name of Hamilton.

I am sure it is the universal wish that the Fernegare Branch will turn out to be a profitable investment to the Caledonian Railway Company. I am certain it will confer great advantages on the general public—be the means of largely increasing the profits of many of our townsmen, and of developing the hidden resources of this immediate neighbourhood. It will be invaluable to the Lesmahagow mineral district, as it will give a shorter route to the present markets in the West of Scotland, and by the aid of the proposed East Kilbride Branch, will open up new markets in that thriving locality. I hope the people of Lesmahagow will be well repaid for the benefits conferred by the building of Hamilton bridge 700 years ago. I will only add that it is to Mr. Scott and Mr. Best that we are indebted for the very comfortable arrangements, and for the success of this day's proceedings. The whole expense has been borne by Mr. Scott, and I ask you to join with me in wishing that, when this contract is completed, and when he has paid every man his due, he may have a comfortable balance to send to his banker.

Provost Dykes addressed the meeting, thanking the Freemasons for having done him and the Council the honour of inviting them to be present, and congratulating them on the highly satisfactory way in which the whole of the proceedings had been conducted. He also bore testimony to the satisfactory way in which Bro. Scott was executing the work and the peaceable and orderly manner in which the whole of his workmen conducted themselves, giving himself and the rest of the magistrates very little trouble.

Bro. Scott briefly acknowledged the compliment paid to him.

The procession then returned in inverted order to the Town Hall.

The banquet took place in the Masonic Hall, the property of No. 7, and about 120 brethren sat down to an excellent repast, prepared by Bro. Minto, the viands, wines, and liquors, being all of first-class quality.

Bro. Mackay, as Acting Master of No. 7, presided, having on his right Bros. Scott and Forrest, P.G.S.M., who in a eloquent speech responded on behalf of the Provincial Grand Lodge.

Bro. D. Mitchell proposed "The Visitors," which was responded to in a humorous speech by Bro. Wm. Forrest, of 31, who feelingly spoke of the presentation he had received the preceding day at Wishaw.

Bro. Scott then presented the handsome silver trowel with which he had laid the stone to Bro. John Clark Forrest, P.G.S.M., who said he would treasure it, and hand it down to his children as an heirloom.

"The Army, Navy, and Reserve Forces," was given in a highly eulogistic speech by Bro. Spalding, S.W., and responded to by Bros. Main and Chaplain.

The Lord of the Manor (the Duke of Hamilton) was proposed by Bro. Best, and enthusiastically received.

Bro. Dr. Robertson, in a neat speech, proposed the Provost, Magistrates, and Town Council. The R.W.M., Bro. Mackay, who is Treasurer of the Board, was called upon to reply, which he did in a brief, but pointed speech.

Bro. Forrest, P.G.S.M., then gave "Bro. W. Scott, the guest of the evening," alluding not only to his good qualities as a Mason, but also to his liberality as an employer, and that exhibited this day, by defraying all the expenses attending the demonstration.

Bro. Scott, who, on rising, was greeted with loud cheers, said he only had to do his duty in that state of life in which he had been placed, and for the sake of the old lodge, Mother Kilwinning, he was glad that his conduct had gained him the approbation of his brother Masons.

"The Caledonian Railway Company" was given by Bro. Nesbet; after which

"The Health of the Acting Master of No. 7, Bro. Mackay," who briefly acknowledged the compliment.

The Tyler's toast concluded a very happy day's proceedings, everything having gone off without the slightest hitch in the programme.

We should mention that Bros. Dr. Robertson, D. Mitchell, D. Wright, W. Dunlop, McCalbin, and Gardner, by their singing, and Bro. Schrider, by presiding at the organ, in the Town Hall, and at the harmonium in the evening, contributed much to the enjoyment of the mental part of the feast.

WISHAW.—PRESENTATION TO BRO. FORREST.

On Monday evening the brethren of "St. Mary's," Coltness (No. 31), met in Bro. Scott's Hall, where they were joined by influential deputations from "St. Clair's," Cambusnethan (427), and "St. John's," Woodhall, Holytown (305). Shortly after seven o'clock the lodge was opened in due form, after which Bro. Gilchrist, R.W.M. of "St. Mary's," issued instructions for the lodge to be formed into marching order, and to proceed to Wishaw House, there to meet Bro. Forrest, and accompany him back to the lodge-room, where he was to be presented with a mark of the esteem in which he was held by the brethren of the Craft. On leaving the hall, the procession was headed by the Clydesdale instrumental band, and as they marched through the policies of Wishaw House as shades of evening were beginning to close, the strains of music, as they re-echoed through the woods and glens, had a grand and pleasing effect. On approaching Wishaw House the brethren were received by Bro. Forrest, who expressed regret at the absence of Mr. and Mrs. Russell, who happened to be from home; and would, he said, had they been present, heartily accorded the welcome to the Craft which he now humbly offered. Bro. Forrest then passed a high eulogy on Mr. and Mrs. Russell for the uniform kindness they had always shown to himself since they came to reside at Wishaw House, and also for their readiness in giving the public an opportunity of enjoyment by admitting them to the grounds. Three cheers were then given for Mr. and Mrs. Russell and family, after which the procession was re-formed, joined by Bro. Forrest, and marched back to the lodge-room to the inspiring strains of the "Merry Masons." When the lodge-room was again entered, after certain preliminaries that are only known to the members of the "mystic tie," the usual loyal and patriotic toasts were proposed and responded to with all the enthusiastic characteristics of the Order; after which

Bro. Gilchrist, R.W.M., rose to propose the

toast of the evening, and, in a neat speech, presented Bro. Forrest with a full equipment of Masonic regalia, tastefully decorated with gold and silver embroidery, in which were beautifully wrought his initials and the name and number of his lodge; also a handsome silver-mounted walking cane, bearing the following inscription:—"Presented to Bro. Wm. Forrest, P.M. Lodge "St. Mary's," No. 31, by the R.W.M., office bearers, and brethren of said lodge, as a mark of esteem and respect.—14th September, 1874." The whole of the articles, which were from Bros. G. Kenning's Glasgow establishment, were greatly admired for the highly artistic style in which they were executed.

In making the presentation, Bro. Gilchrist said that in representing "St. Mary's" on this auspicious occasion, although the feeble, he hoped to be the faithful interpreter of their sentiments. He had known Bro. Forrest for a long period of years, and he had always found him to be the pioneer of everything that was likely to advance the interest of "St. Mary's" Lodge, and also to extend the general advantages that accrue from Masonry. (Cheers.) He then proposed the health of Bro. Forrest, which was responded to with Masonic honours.

Bro. Forrest, on rising to reply, was received with loud and prolonged cheers. Words failed him, he said, to express himself in terms sufficiently eloquent for the honour that had been conferred upon him on this occasion. They had made him a proud man—(cheers) not only by the handsome and tangible token of esteem with which they had presented him, but with their appearance there that night in such large numbers in response to the invitation of the committee to meet in his honour. (Applause.) He was not a hand, he said, at framing neat speeches, but only spoke out from the heart whatever happened to be uppermost, and he could not deny the pride and pleasure he experienced in being thus recognised for any little interest he had taken in the affairs of "St. Mary's," Coltness. Some of the pleasantest evenings of his life had been spent in a Masonic Lodge, and a large proportion of those were spent in the Lodge that was now met to do him honour. (Cheers.) The most of those who formed the local lodge when first he was connected with Masonry in Wishaw were now no more, but the great Architect of the Universe had been pleased to spare him to a good old age, and from the result of that evening and former marks of approbation he had received from the Craft, he was sure that he would be pardoned when he said that his life had been spent—"not without honour." (Cheers.) He again thanked them for the handsome token of their esteem, and said that while it was God's will to spare him he would always look upon the gifts with a happy remembrance of the brethren of "St. Mary's," Coltness. (Applause.)

The next toast was that of "St. Clair's," Cambusnethan, to which Bro. Smith, R.W.M., replied, in the course of which he complimented Bro. Forrest on the active interest he had always shown in anything pertaining to the advancement of Freemasonry, and concluded by hoping that their venerable brother might be spared to wear out to rags the handsome regalia with which he that night had been presented, and he was sure "St. Mary's" would be happy to present him with another set. (Applause.)

In reply to the toast of "St. John's," Woodhall, (Holytown), Bro. M'Murdo, R.W.M., also paid a tribute to Bro. Forrest. After an acquaintance, he said, extending over a long course of years, he had never known Bro. Forrest to deviate from what he considered his duty to the ancient and honourable Order with which they were all connected. "St. Mary's," Coltness, he said, in thus honouring Bro. Forrest, was doing honour to herself, as he (Bro. Forrest) had been instrumental in a high degree in bringing about that happy state of prosperity which was now a characteristic of the Lodge. (Cheers.)

The rest of the evening was spent in song and sentiment, and the company broke up at a seasonable hour, after spending a most enjoyable evening.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF CHESHIRE.

By command of Bro. the Right Hon. Lord de Tabley, R.W.P.G.M., a Provincial Grand Lodge of the Masonic brethren in Cheshire was held on Thursday, the 17th inst., in the Town Hall of the ancient city of Chester. No larger gathering of the brethren of the province of Cheshire has ever been held; and if any proof of the vitality and progress were wanted by outsiders, they were abundantly furnished, not only in the mere numerical strength of the assembly, but also by the most influential nature of the gathering. Every one of the 37 lodges under Bro. Lord de Tabley's jurisdiction was represented on the occasion. No. 721 (Independence, Chester) sending 50 brethren, and No. 477 (Mersey, Birkenhead) no fewer than 48 brethren—and the total number of those who were present could not have been fewer than about 400, these included upwards of 80 W.M.s and P.M.'s, a brilliant array of P.G. officers, and a strong muster of Wardens and other officers.

The use of the Town Hall had been kindly given by the Corporation of Chester, and about one o'clock the Craft lodges assembled in the council chamber, to receive the P.G.M. and P.G. Lodge, which they did with the usual honours. Bro. the Rt. Hon. Lord de Tabley, R.W.P.G.M. was accompanied by a numerous assemblage of Provincial Grand Officers of his own and other provinces, and a large gathering of members of the various lodges in the province.

After the Provincial Grand Lodge had been opened, and letters of apology for non-attendance from several distinguished brethren had been read, the roll of lodges was called by the P.G. Sec., Bro. E. H. Griffiths. He also read the minutes of previous P.G. Lodge, held at Altrincham, and a special P.G. Lodge held at Knutsford, in September last, in connection with the laying of the foundation stone of the new college there. The minutes having been confirmed, Bro. Jackson, Assistant P.G. Treasurer, submitted the annual accounts, from which it appears that there was a balance to the credit of the Fund of Benevolence, amounting to £1402 18s. 1d., and to the Provincial Grand Lodge of upwards of £363 5s. 8d. After the accounts had been passed, the P.G. Sec. read a letter from Bro. Bland, P.G. Treasurer, resigning his office, in consequence of ill health, after holding the appointment for upwards of a quarter of a century.

The R.W.P.G.M. (Bro Lord de Tabley) said he would now address a few words to the brethren of his province with respect to the state and progress of Masonry during the past year, its present condition, and also refer to its future prospects. Those words, however, must be very few, because he was present that day at the Provincial Grand Lodge meeting in disobedience to his medical adviser's orders, and for this reason he must also apologise for not taking his usual place at the banquet. He could hardly address them on the state of Masonry without mentioning what must be a subject of the deepest regret to the whole Craft throughout the kingdom, namely, the retirement of their late Most Worshipful Grand Master, the Marquis of Ripon. Into the reasons for that retirement it was not for him or the brethren to inquire, far less to judge; but in the regret which that retirement had occasioned, let them not forget the eminent services which his lordship had rendered to the Craft, not only during the short time he presided over them as Grand Master, but also during the series of years when, as Deputy Grand Master, he so ably and zealously supported Lord Zetland, their late Grand Master. He was certain that their thanks for those valuable past services would follow the Marquis of Ripon into the retirement to which he had gone. Referring to the affairs of the province, his lordship said he had only to continue the same congratulatory strain which it had been his good fortune to address to them in previous years during his Masonic rule. The very large assembly over which he had the honour of presiding that day sufficiently indicated the flourishing state of Masonry in the province of Cheshire. Every lodge in that

province was represented there—several of them most numerous—and every lodge, he felt convinced, came there actuated by a spirit of good fellowship, and determined to do the best which could be done, not only to promote the welfare of their own individual lodges, but of Freemasonry generally, and the great and sacred cause of charity. The retirement of Bro. Bland, the P.G. Treasurer, his lordship said, must be a matter of great regret to every one who had known him during his long service as P.G. Treasurer, and he was sure that a vote of thanks, which he was about to submit, would be heartily passed to Bro. Bland for his valuable services in the past. During the period of his Provincial Grand Mastership, his lordship said, the efforts of that province in the cause of charity had been most successful. He had only held the office for nine years, yet during that time they had carried 18 candidates to their various Masonic charities. This had only been accomplished by the hearty co-operation of every lodge in the province, and he therefore trusted this co-operation would continue, for by acting together they were always sure to carry their candidates, whilst by acting separately they must very frequently fail. The lodges of the province had, as a rule, acted very energetically in the cause of charity. When he first assumed office, scarcely a lodge had votes for the charities, but now most of them had, and he would specially refer to the Cestrian Lodge, held in Chester, which had made most zealous and liberal exertions, greatly aided by Bro. Williams, of that lodge. Last year he (the P.G.M.) suggested the propriety of their making a Masonic gift to the Chester Cathedral, now undergoing restoration, and the subscriptions for that object had been most liberally contributed by almost every lodge in the province. Already £303 had been raised; and as other contributions had yet to come, he had no doubt about £400 would be realised, with which to make a gift to the ancient cathedral which would be worthy of the Craft. If the Provincial Grand Lodge approved, they would be able to present either a pulpit or a font, but it would be necessary to consult Mr. Gilbert Scott, the architect, as to the style; and he would suggest that Bros. Griffiths, Dutton, and Lloyd should be appointed a Committee to consult with the Dean of Chester as to the form and details of the gift. In conclusion, he thanked the brethren from his heart for the constant support which he had received at their hands, and hoped when he got over his present weakness he might long be able and have the honour of presiding over them. His lordship, before sitting down, formally moved that Bro. Bland's resignation as P.G. Treas. be accepted, and that the thanks of the P.G. Lodge be conveyed to him for his past services.

The motion was seconded by Bro. Dutton, and carried unanimously. Bro. J. Jackson was appointed P.G. Treasurer, and Bros. E. H. Griffiths, Dutton, and Horatio Lloyd were appointed a deputation to wait upon the Dean of Chester with respect to the proposed Masonic gift.

Bro. Lord de Tabley next moved that the salary of the P.G. Sec. (Bro. Griffiths) should be increased to £80 per year, a proposal, he was sure, which would meet with the entire approval of the brethren. When they remembered the amount of work which Bro. Griffiths had now to perform, and the zeal, courtesy, and kindness with which he discharged his duties, he was sure every one would agree with the propriety of the increase. When Bro. Griffiths was appointed, in 1839, there was only 17 lodges; but now, in 1874, there were no fewer than 37 lodges. The number of members then was 413, but they had now increased to 1550, thus greatly increasing the work and responsibility of their P.G. Sec.

Bro. Gilbert, W.M. of the Cestrian Lodge, seconded the proposition, which was carried by acclamation, the vote being suitably acknowledged by Bro. Griffiths.

Bro. Captain Cope then moved that the sum of 150 guineas be voted to the funds of the Masonic Institution for Boys, for the purpose of constituting the R.W.D.P.G.M., Bro. George Cornwall Legh, a vice-patron in perpetuity of that institution.—Bro. Dutton seconded the

motion, which was also carried without a dissentient voice.

Bro. F. Binckes, Sec. to the Boys' School, acknowledged the handsome gift in very appropriate and eloquent terms.

On the motion of Bro. Cope, seconded by Bro. Dutton, the sum of £100 was also voted for the purpose of making the D.G.M. a vice-patron of the Royal Institution for Aged Freemasons.

The R.W.P.G.M. then appointed the following as his officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. Horatio Lloyd, P.S.G.W.; William Bulley, P.J.G.W. Rey R. Hodgson and Rev. J. Lomax, P.G. Chaplains; J. Wood, P.G. Reg.; F. Jackson, P.G. Treas.; E. H. Griffiths, P.G. Sec.; James Salmon, P.G.S.D.; G. Burrows, P.G.J.D.; W. Blackshaw, P.G.S. of W.; Wilmot Eardley, P.G.D.C.; R. Newhouse, P.G.A.D.C.; R. Worrall, P.G.S.B.; T. H. Kirk, P.G.O.; William Greatrix, P.G. Pur.; J. Swindells, P.G. Tyler; J. J. Cunnah, W. Johnson, J. Knox, T. M. Lockwood, W. Matthews, S. Spencer, P.G. Stewards.

The P.G.M. then presented a very handsome chronometer and appendages to Bro. J. P. Platt, P.P.J.G.W., subscribed by a number of brethren in the province, in recognition of his valuable and successful efforts in connection with the Masonic charities. Bro. Platt suitably acknowledged the presentation.

A charity jewel was subsequently presented to Bro. Williams, one of the P.M.'s of the Cestrian Lodge, in acknowledgement of his having filled the office of Steward to one of the London Masonic charities.

After the business of the P.G. Lodge had been concluded, the brethren walked in procession to attend divine service at the Cathedral, the musical portion of the service being rendered by the cathedral choir, under the direction of Bro. Kirk, the P.G.O. Mr. Gunton and Mr. Irons presided at the organ. The musical service comprised the processional hymn "Onward, Christian Soldiers," the "Magnificat," and "Nunc Dimittis," being Tours' in F, and the anthem was Dr. S. S. Westley's "Blessed be the God and Father." The sermon was preached by Bro. the Rev. J. Lomax, one of the P.G. Chaplains, the text being taken from Romans xii., 5, "So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another." A collection was made at the close in aid of the Chester Infirmary and the Provincial Fund of Benevolence.

After the service about 250 brethren sat down to a banquet at the Town Hall, provided by Bro. Bolland, of Chester. In the absence of the P.G.M., Bro. Horatio Lloyd, P.G.S.W., presided, and after the toast of "The Queen" had been proposed and cordially responded, he gave "The Health of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales and Earl of Chester, M.W. Past Grand Master of England; the Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family." In doing so, he expressed a hope that when His Royal Highness returned to this country he would give a favourable answer to the request to become the Grand Master, so that the brethren might again have a royal scion at the head of the Order. It was a good thing for Masonry to have a member of the Royal Family at its head, and no one better could be found than the Prince of Wales.

The P.G.S.W. next gave "The R.W. the D.G.M., and the other Officers of the Grand Lodge of England," and added that he could only follow the remarks which had been made that day by the P.G.M. with respect to the retirement of the Marquis of Ripon. They must remember him as an able and efficient Grand Master, and for the great services he had rendered to the Craft in that capacity, as well as in his position as D.G.M., they must all very much regret his loss, and he hoped that his successor might fulfil the duties of that high office as well as he had done.

Bro. Latham, Past Grand Deacon of England, responded to the toast, and remarked that in their hour of danger and difficulty it was not for him to say with what feelings of dismay the Grand Lodge received the tidings of the resignation of the Grand Master. He was not going to say one single word as to the motives which actuated the course taken by Lord Ripon. He

believed sincerely that the same feelings which had actuated him from boyhood—namely, of speaking as he thought, and acting on sincere convictions—had actuated his lordship in the case. Still, he (Bro. Latham) could not but wonder that the first mandate, which seems to have come from the Vatican, did not in some measure shake his lordship's resolution. When he found that the first condition of leaving his faith was that he must say farewell to a society of which he must have never known anything but good, which was a great promoter of charity, he might well have hesitated in the step which he had taken. He had a more intimate knowledge of the Craft than any one in England, and he must have known that there was no moral or social reason why he should become disassociated with it. By the mandate he had received he had to say "good bye" to those with whom he had been intimately associated for many years; and this severance of ties was conveyed in a letter which was so short as to appear positively discourteous. In this letter there was not one word of desire for the welfare of the Craft, nor any expression or regret—the only expression of feeling which it contained being the hope that the brethren would not be inconvenienced by his resignation, but without one word of sympathy. He (Bro. Latham) was there to return thanks for a body without a head. All they wanted now, however, was time and opportunity to recruit their forces. He hoped the Earl of Chester would accept the offer made to him of presiding over the Craft, but if he and his advisers thought it better for the Craft that one so near the throne should not sit on the Masonic throne of this country, but continue to occupy the present position which he held, he (Bro. Latham) felt there remained plenty of true and noble men to take the Grand Mastership—men like the head of the Province of Cheshire—who were perfectly able to preside over the Craft, under whose presidency the Grand Lodge would not lose its lustre, nor the Craft generally lose the glory of its name for charity and benevolence, attained under the presidency of him whose absence they now deplored.

The toast of "The Right Hon. Lord de Tabley, R.W.P.G.M.," and others of of a Masonic nature, were subsequently given. Excellent music was furnished during the evening by Bros. Halliday, Knowles, and Cuzner, and Mr. Orme, the accompaniments being played by Bro. Kirk, P.G.O.

THE MARQUIS OF RIPON AND THE CRAFT.

However much Protestant readers and brethren may regret the perversion of the Marquis of Ripon, it is quite clear according to the fundamental principles of Freemasonry—unconcerned as it is with questions of a religious or political nature—that the individual right of following any special form of worship cannot be violated. The Grand Master of Freemasons in England in a somewhat curt way conveyed his resignation to Grand Lodge, and however suggestive the phraseology to those acquainted with the forms of procedure common to perverts, it was, as Hamlet says, "*caviare* to the general." Yet, if disposed, he was in his right.

But these spectral appearances happening now and again in a century, of the falling off of a good man from a brave and honest profession of faith, need not dismay us. On the other hand the very shallowness of modern political Jesuits is the thing to be wondering at! Great jubilation has been entertained in the Roman Catholic camp upon the important conquest of a large income; for to the conqueror the comparative jeopardy of a soul or two can be nothing when their chief holds the keys of Heaven and Hell. Hence to them, judiciously, or otherwise, overlaying the pervert's conscience with purgatorial asbestos, warranted to preserve

"the delighted spirit
To bathe in fiery floods,"

it matters little or nothing.

The fact remaining that the gain to Romanists may be represented on the present occasion as being exactly equal to zero. Of course the fealty of the Marquis of Ripon is transferred—

his brother Pius IX. of Rome is now his master—to him and his subordinates he owes an allegiance if he be aught of a man, which should be, in truth undivided. It is, in fact, impossible to temporize with Rome—but it is equally impossible to avoid such occurrences as the present. That, however, Freemasonry is likely to suffer cannot be entertained for a moment. The present state of things will ultimately do more good than harm. The secession of an individual, however distinguished, is after all only the secession of an individual, and, for my part, if our late Grand Master finds comfort envired by the sophistries of the Jesuits, I wish him a good *viaticum* and a happy deliverance.

Sep. 18, 1874.

CRYPTONIMUS.

THE NEW MASONIC HALL, HOBART TOWN.

One of the handsomest buildings recently erected in Hobart Town is the above hall. It is situated next the Savings Bank in Murray-street. The foundation stone was laid on Thursday, the 20th March, 1873, by His Excellency the Governor, in the presence of a large muster of the members of the Order and visitors. It has been erected from plans and specifications furnished by Mr. H. Hunter, architect; Mr. J. Gregory being the builder, and the handsome edifice, now nearly completed, reflects great hon on him.

The style of the building is Italian, of a plain and unpretending character, and is of brown stone, relieved with white dressings or mouldings. The entrance is from Murray-street, and is approached by a flight of seven stone steps, leading to a lobby and spacious entrance hall, 25ft. x 9ft. The ground floor consists of a fine banqueting hall, 33ft. x 25ft., with a height of 14ft. 6in., with a handsome panelled ceiling; off the banqueting room is a library and reading room, 20ft. x 16ft.; committee room, 15ft. 3in. x 12ft. 9in. The domestic offices are all below, and are fitted with every requisite comfort and convenience. Under the grand staircase is a lavatory, &c. The top floor comprises a spacious landing, robing room, 16ft. 6in. x 15ft. 3in., ante room, 20ft. x 16ft. The lodge room is a very fine chamber, 20ft. high, and 43ft. x 25ft. It has a handsomely encircled cornice and panelled ceiling, with a frieze of cornice and Masonic emblems. The room is lighted by five windows, and from the centre flower a 72 burner gas light, specially imported from England, will be suspended. At one end of the hall is a raised platform, on which the Master of the lodge sits. The Ionic pillars are beautifully got up, as also are the Corinthian and Doric pillars. The tympanum of the pediment over the entrance has the all-seeing eye in the centre on a shield, surrounded by handsomely carved foliage, interlaced with Masonic emblems, the same being introduced throughout the building wherever convenient. The whole of the plaster work is specially worthy of mention; the cornices and mouldings in the chief room reflect great credit on the workmen, and were done by three brothers named Paton.

The furniture to be used will be that belonging to the Tasmanian Operative Lodge, 345, I.C., which meets at Riley's Hotel in Murray-street.

When the building is finished and opened it will be one of the handsomest Masonic halls in the colonies, and reflects great credit on the spirited and enterprising gentlemen who conceived the idea of building such a hall, and have so successfully carried out their undertaking.

Germany possesses at the present time 325 Masonic lodges, with altogether about 30,000 members, under eight German Grand Lodges of different rites, of which three are at Berlin, and the others are those of Saxony, Hamburg (the oldest in Germany), Frankfort-on-the-Maine, Baireuth, and Hessen.

Obituary.

BRO. SAMUEL SOMERVILLE.

The grave closed, on the 18th inst., over the remains of an old Mason who was much respected and beloved in Edinburgh. Bro. Dr. Samuel Somerville, Hart-street, Treasurer of the Royal College of Physicians, whose sudden death on Saturday last cast a deep gloom over a wide circle of friends and patients. The place of interment was the family vault at Carnwath, and the funeral was attended by the President, Council and Fellows of the College in their official costume, and by a large train of friends and acquaintances, as well from Edinburgh as from the Upper Ward of Lanarkshire. The funeral service was conducted by the Very Reverend the Dean of Edinburgh. Bro. Dr. Somerville was the representative of the ancient family of Somerville of Ampherlaw, near Carnwath, and was held in high estimation in that neighbourhood, both as an improving proprietor and a most honourable and upright man. As Treasurer of the College of Physicians, he proved himself an excellent man of business, and had the gratification of knowing that the institution had attained unprecedented prosperity during his tenure of office. Every one acquainted with him well knew his gentlemanly bearing and his genial and unobtrusive manner. But his more immediate friends alone knew how deep were his feelings and attachments, and how anxious he was to consult their welfare. To some of them, indeed, his loss can never be replaced. Bro. Dr. Somerville had attained to the highest degree in Freemasonry, and was greatly esteemed by the brethren. He also represented in Scotland the Grand Lodge of Ireland. In politics he was a staunch Tory of the old school, as he was delighted to declare all his forefathers had been before him. The immediate cause of his death was found to be the rupture of an aneurism in the chest, and he passed away without any struggle.

BRO. JAMES HAMER.

On Friday, 18th inst., Bro. James Hamer, for many years closely identified with Masonry in Liverpool and district, died at his house in Crown-street, Liverpool, after a serious illness, which lasted for exactly seven weeks. Our deceased brother was conspicuously known for eleven years as P.G. Treas. of the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Lancashire, and for many years he was familiarly known to the brethren as P.M. of several lodges, P.Z. of more than one chapter, and P.M. of a local Mark Lodge. The deceased was for 34 years a Mason in Liverpool, and during the whole of his Masonic career he endeared himself to every brother in the district, as much by his Masonic zeal and ability as well as by his invariable courtesy and brotherly feeling. He was for some time identified with the Liverpool Licensed Victuallers' Association as chairman, and therefore he will for some time be very much missed in many circles. His funeral, which took place on Tuesday, was of a private nature.

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The following stands over:—Report of Lodge 1278.

ERRATUM.—In our report of the Consecration of St. Elth Lodge last week, the name of Bro. Capt. Chas. Hunter, P.G.M. East Aberdeenshire, P.G.W. Greece, was erroneously printed "Hunker."

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1874.

PROPOSED ROYAL SCOTTISH MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

In our last week's impression we stated, that, up to the present time, no really worthy manifestation of Scottish Masonic benevolence had made itself known or felt, which state of things we deeply deprecated, as injurious to the prestige of Scottish Freemasonry, and certainly not in accordance with the real views and wishes of our warm-hearted brethren across the border. Since then, our attention has been called to a prospectus and a letter, which we print in another column, and certain suggested rules and regulations for a proposed "Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution." We not only offer to such a proposal our warm support and hearty encouragement, but our ever ready and liberal publisher will give, we understand, one hundred guineas, as proprietor of *The Freemason*, to the fund, if it shall be successfully floated and established. The proposed Benevolent Institution includes within its scope and end:—First, the maintaining, clothing, and educating the sons and daughters of Freemasons, as well as the clothing and supporting aged and decayed Freemasons, and the widows of Freemasons. That such a benevolent association is both wanted, and important to Scottish Freemasons and Scottish Freemasonry, we do not hesitate at once to say, and therefore we warmly welcome such an effort; and though we do not pledge ourselves, to day, to the endorsement of all the suggested rules and regulations, or the proposed "modus operandi," we shall be sincerely glad if in the main the ideas of the benevolent and fraternal promoters are carried out, and Scottish Masonry is able to hail the commencement of an effective benevolent institution, with such commendable aims. The Scottish Freemasons are men of much sagacity and business habits, and well able to manage their own affairs, and all we would venture to say to day is, don't waste time or money about any mere tentative schemes, especially those in which both the question of supply and demand, and success and failure most largely enter, but seek at once to raise funds which will enable you to begin the good work of educating the orphan, and of aiding the necessitous and aged Freemasons. We have always thought, and still think, that

the true teaching of Freemasonry is best always manifested to the outer world in works of philanthropy and labours of love. Whatever some may say, or however others may hold forth upon the social charms of Freemasonry, though we do not deny their importance, we venture to assert that no profession of Freemasonry can be real, and no system of Freemasonry can be sound, where no effort is made to put into effective practice that which we have ever been taught is the distinguishing characteristic of a Freemason's heart—charity. The benevolent offerings of Freemasons, the schools we maintain, the asylums we raise, the annuities we grant, the relief we provide; all these demonstrate to those who doubt, to those who sneer, alike, that Freemasonry is not merely "the passing pageant of an hour," but symbolizes in its great organization, certain sound and beneficent principles which tend greatly to the welfare of society, the happiness of Freemasons, and the peace and prosperity of the human race. No better reply to our many assailants, no safer response to the voice of slander or obloquy, can be offered than that which says to the impugner, or the contemptuous, to all who deny the value of Freemasonry, "Si queris, circumspice." So then, to-day, we hail this effort of our good brethren across the border, as, emphatically, "a move in the right direction." We trust that all success may attend their initiatory efforts, and that we may congratulate the Craft in Scotland on possessing a benevolent institution, which in its principles and practice, its rules and regulations, its labours and its success, is a lasting credit to Scottish Freemasonry. As we said before, we do not necessarily pledge ourselves on merely an "ex-parte" suggestion of the proposed regulations, to accept them as the laws of the Medes and Persians, as we think it just possible that some modifications may be introduced before the Scottish Benevolent Institution is working, or workable. But we wish all possible success to it and to its zealous promoters, and we are glad to be allowed to be the medium of announcing the proffered donation of our worthy and energetic publisher. May our anticipations be realised, and the proposed Scottish Benevolent Masonic Institution become an established fact.

THE ROYAL VISIT TO PLYMOUTH.

THE many letters we weekly publish, demonstrate unmistakeably that the subject has still much of interest for our readers, and is not by any means yet fully settled. Indeed, in one respect, the evidence becomes more conflicting in each week's *Freemason*, though we also think that there is now to be discerned the possibility of our arrival at a pretty general understanding at where the blame actually lies, of this great error, and, we repeat, of this very great blunder. One correspondent indeed, (Brother Curteis, W.M.), seems to deprecate the editorial foot note we appended to the original letter of "A Soldier Freemason." But despite Brother Curteis's remarks, we adhere to our original opinion, that a greater mistake never was made than in this exclusion of our brethren, the non-commis-

sioned officers, at Plymouth, and that they have a right to complain, if, indeed, there be such a thing as equality in Freemasonry, or if the practice of Freemasonry is to accord with its professions. Every letter that has been transmitted to us only serves to shew, how very perverse has been, indeed this sad "contretemps," where everything else seems to have been so perfectly, and so happily arranged. We confess that, despite all the letters we have perused, we do not yet see it clearly proved that any military prohibition took place whatever. Bro. Col. Elliot all but distinctly states that no such prohibition was given, and though he quotes our gallant Bro. Capt. Shanks as stating that such permission was refused, he does not say so himself. "Leo," no doubt, also states the same, and perhaps "Leo" will favour us with the evidence on which he bases his statement. Nothing has as yet been brought forward which, to our minds, decisively contradicts the clear assertion of "Soldier Freemason," at the beginning of the controversy, that the Major-General commanding did not object to the non-commissioned officers marching in the procession in uniform, but, as they were altogether ignored, he did naturally object to their appearing in "coloured clothes." We are glad to see that Bro. Col. Elliott confirms our statement that permission has been accorded to officers and non-commissioned officers to march in Masonic processions, with Masonic clothing over their uniforms. We ourselves saw the foundation stone of the lighthouse at Europa Point, Gibraltar, laid by the Governor and Lieutenant-General Commanding, though, alas, now many years ago, in the presence of the Provincial Grand Master, Dr. Burrows, and a large number of Freemasons, and many officers and non-commissioned officers, with their Masonic clothing over their military clothing; and, as we understand several other precedents of the same usage can be brought forward, we feel that, if a Masonic procession, to meet our brother, the Prince of Wales, is to be considered a "a party or political procession," the sooner an authoritative decision on the subject is obtained, the better. We shall recur to the subject before very long, and finally.

PROPOSED SCOTTISH ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT FUND.

We have been requested to publish the following letter and short prospectus:—

KILLIMORE LODGE, KIRK COWAN, 1874.

Sir and Brother,—

The want of a Scottish Masonic Benevolent Institution has been long and keenly felt by many a Brother of the Order. In other sections of the United Kingdom, as also in foreign countries, such Institutions flourish and abound. Why then should the Freemasons of Scotland deny themselves that true exposition of "Charity," which all, from the first moment that they become Freemasons, so earnestly profess to admire?

Whence arises the fact that Scotland, alone of the different portions of Great Britain, is so wanting in its duty towards God, its neighbour, and itself?

Is it apathy? Is it unwillingness? Is it inability? Far be it from any one to say so. We have many great monuments of Scottish benevolence throughout the land. Our fellow countrymen are actuated by as high principles

as any other nation. The real reason is that no scheme sufficiently certain and comprehensive has hitherto been brought forward. The *short* and *full* prospectuses enclosed will clearly explain their aims, and it is earnestly hoped by the promoter and those brethren who have so kindly given him their aid, that the scheme herein drawn out may, fully satisfy the acknowledged want.

To prevent confusion in arrangement, the several plans and systems have been carefully drawn out and based on similar plans of similar Institutions in other countries, especially England; so that the feasibility of the design and its practicability is amply evidenced by existing Institutions.

The scheme as worked out at present, will, of course, be the one to be followed out until a sufficient number of donors and annual subscribers can be obtained to form a General Court. At this Court it can be determined whether the scheme should be carried out *in toto*, or whether revisions should be made.

These preliminaries being gone through it will be our duty to bring the proposed Institution before Grand Lodge, officially, so that we may obtain its assistance and patronage. I say officially, as most of the members of Grand Lodge individually will have all information at once, and their co-operation obtained where possible.

What we at once seek to gain is the sympathy of our brethren, both in Scotland and in the Colonies holding under the Scottish Constitution, whether rich or whether poor. As will be seen by looking over the short prospectus, every opportunity is given for the wealthy to give of their abundance, while measures have been devised whereby the poorer brethren, either *individually or collectively*, can, out of their penury, contribute their widow's mite.

At first we only ask the brethren who approve of the scheme to send their names and amounts of donations or subscriptions to the appointed agents, collectors, secretaries, &c, so that a General Court might be summoned when sufficient members have signified their assent to the proposal. The short prospectus will show how we seek to carry out and combine the several branches in one Scottish Masonic Benevolent Institution, how we propose to maintain the same; as well as our estimates of probable expenses and receipts. It is, in fact, a general view of the whole scheme.

The *full prospectus* will show the details in every branch, as deduced from the following sources, viz.: Boys' School, Girls' School, Asylum for Widows and Decayed Masons, England; The Lancashire Benevolent Institution; the Irish General Masonic Charity, likewise several smaller works, the qualifications for candidates in all branches and other general rules.

It is earnestly hoped that those brethren who are able, will give Annual Subscriptions as well as larger Donations, as it is proposed to use all the Donations as Capital and to leave said Capital to accumulate to a sufficiently large sum to carry out the scheme on an extended scale.

The Annual Subscriptions will be Revenue to maintain the Institution in all its branches. This is fully described in the short prospectus.

Earnestly hoping for your assistance,

I am, Sir and Brother,

Yours fraternally,

GEO. R. HARRIOTT,

Prov. G.M. Wigtown and Kirkcudbright,
Originator and Promoter of the Scheme.

SHORT PROSPECTUS OF PROPOSED ROYAL SCOTTISH MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

NOTES.

N.B.—All information as to officers of institution, qualifications of candidates in each of the several branches, and other miscellaneous information, to be seen in the full prospectus, to be issued shortly to every lodge, province, &c., holding under Scotch rule.

Special provision for ladies (Lewises), daughters of Masons, clergymen, and professional men, whether Masons or non-Masons, gratuitously assisting the institution.

When funds permit building to be under-

taken, extra donations of five guineas to the Building Fund to carry two additional votes for every five guineas.

Brethren acting as stewards at anniversary festivals to have one extra vote at all elections for such stewardship.

MEMBERS.

| | | | |
|---|----|----|---|
| Patrons, donors of 100gs. or more, with 40 votes. | | | |
| Vice-Patrons „ 50 „ „ 20 „ | 50 | 20 | „ |
| Vice-Presidents „ 25 „ „ 10 „ | 25 | 10 | „ |
| Life-Governors „ 5 „ „ 2 „ | 5 | 2 | „ |
| Life-Subscribers „ 2½ „ „ 1 „ | 2½ | 1 | „ |
| Annual Subscribers „ 1½ „ „ 1 „ | 1½ | 1 | „ |

| | | | |
|---|-----|----|---|
| COLLECTIVE MEMBERS.—Lodges, Chapters, Councils, &c., represented by their R.W.M., &c. | | | |
| Patrons, donors of 200 guineas, with 40 votes. | | | |
| Vice-Patrons „ 100 „ „ 20 „ | 100 | 20 | „ |
| Vice-Presidents „ 50 „ „ 10 „ | 50 | 10 | „ |
| Life Governors „ 10 „ „ 2 „ | 10 | 2 | „ |
| Life Subscribers „ 5 „ „ 1 „ | 5 | 1 | „ |

OBJECTS OF INSTITUTION.

1. To provide schools for boys and girls (children of decayed or aged Masons of good character), and to maintain said children while belonging to the institution.

N.B.—Under the meaning of the word maintain is meant lodging, feeding, and clothing.

2. To provide halls in connection with the several Scotch Universities, where students, sons, as above, of aged and decayed Masons, may be maintained and receive instruction; to keep them in their University career, to pay University and professors' fees, with a small annual sum as pocket money.

3. To provide an asylum for the aged and distressed Masons of good character, and their widows, also maintain them in the asylum, or to grant annuities to them, as laid down in the full prospectus.

ESTIMATES OF ERECTION, &c.

It is estimated that out of the number of Scottish Masons, both in Scotland and in the Colonies, as well as those Scotchmen now living in England and Ireland, we might reckon on 5,000 people subscribing their half-guineas per annum. Say, £2,650 per annum.

That this could be supplemented by annual subscriptions from Grand Lodge, Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter, Chapter General of Temple, Supreme Council 33°, Consistories, 31°, 32°, 30°, Chapter of Rose Croix, Royal Order. Say, £100. Total, £2,750 per annum. This to be annual revenue.

Note.—The larger donations to be as capital.

That it be resolved that no capital be touched until at least £12,000 or £15,000 shall have accumulated.

No doubt many brethren might, on first sight, be deterred from promoting this scheme, for fear of failure from the magnitude of the design; it is right, therefore, that the promoters should inform the brethren at large that it is not their intention to take up all the branches of the institution at once, or even to carry out too far the branches which are considered most urgent.

As has been already stated, the annual subscriptions are to be considered revenue, this then will be all the money available to start the institution, the larger donations having to accumulate as capital.

It has been estimated, and is earnestly hoped, that at least 5,000 brethren will contribute their half guinea; this gives an annual income of £2,650. We trust that Grand Lodge and the other ruling Masonic bodies will contribute at least £100 yearly, if not more; this, then, would give £2,750 to work upon.

Considering that schools in Scotland are so fully developed, we propose at first to pass on to the cases of advanced students seeking University education and maintenance, and to the relief of the aged and widows. As no building is to be proceeded with till £12,000 or £15,000 has accumulated, no colleges, halls, or asylums are to be built.

The following is the proposition at first starting:—

1st.—To rent a house at one of the Universities, as a college hall on a small scale, say to take 10 or 15 students; from statements and

accounts of similar institutions it is estimated that with careful administration this would cost about £1,800 or £1,900 per annum, leaving a balance of, say, £850 for general management and for annuities, as laid down in the full prospectus, for a limited number of widows and aged.

2nd.—As the Universities of Edinburgh and Glasgow are situated in towns where land and houses would naturally be very expensive, it is presumed that the General Court would fix on Aberdeen or St Andrew's for the site of their first college hall, and if, after a time, as funds increase, students display great ability in particular branches, such as medicine, &c., a limited number of out-students so gifted might be allowed certain sums annually to go to Universities where such specialities are particularly attended to, provided only that the character of the student when first admitted to the college hall is good enough to warrant the General Committee in placing such confidence in said student.

The following brethren have consented to receive names, donations, and subscriptions:—

J. Laurie, Esq., Grand Secretary of Scotland, Interim Secretary of Proposed Benevolent Institution.

Geo. R. Harriot, Esq., Provincial G.M. Wigtown and Kirkcubright, Killiemore Lodge, Kirkcowan, Wigtownshire, and No. 4, Howard place, St. Andrew's, Fife.

W. Spencer, Esq., F.R.G.S., Masonic Depot, 26, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London.

J. McMuldrow, Esq., Prov. Grand Sec. Wigtown and Kirkcubright, St. Cuthbert Street, Kirkcubright.

Capt. G. Shanks, Recruiting Service, Greenock.

A. J. Douglas, Esq., Lockerbie House, Dumfriesshire.

Original Correspondence.

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

THE ROYAL VISIT TO PLYMOUTH.

To the Editor of The Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I have read, with considerable attention, the various letters which have from time to time appeared in your valuable paper on this subject, and I have no doubt but that a categorical reply from Bro. Col. Elliott, as suggested by Bro. Hughan's last letter, would, or ought to, clear the whole matter up, but I am afraid such an answer is not likely to be seen in your columns. In the first place, I think Bro. Hughan is in error in stating that the military part of the programme was left in the hands of Col. Elliott. I recollect his being asked to seek permission for the use of the military barracks where the brethren assembled, and to make arrangements for the attendance of a military band, but nothing further.

In the second place, Bro. Col. Elliott is a Mason, but, above all, a soldier, and, although in his zeal for the Craft, and with a view to alleviate that heart-burning which appears to exist amongst the military brethren, he mentioned to the Provincial Grand Lodge that the order prohibiting their forming part of the Masonic procession emanated from the Commander-in-chief, there can be no doubt that he was scarcely warranted, from a military point of view, in doing so, and that for him to divulge in a public paper the authority from which he derived his information would be a breach of his professional duties.

Dealing with the matter upon its merits, I cannot but express an opinion that your foot note to the letter of "A Soldier Freemason," in your issue of the 22nd ult., was somewhat hasty, and unwarranted by the actual circumstances of the case.

I was one of the General Committee appointed to carry out the arrangements for the reception of our Royal Brother, and I also formed one of

the Sub-Committee who framed the obnoxious regulations, and I must say that I do not shrink from the responsibility of having done so.

The W.M. and P.M. (a retired naval officer) were also members of both committees. The question was fully ventilated at several meetings, and if "C.M., 1205" and the other brethren who feel "extremely sore" upon the point, would only act consistently with their Masonic obligation, and have some belief in the truthfulness of their brethren, we should not be exposing to the "uninstructed world" the melancholy spectacle of one brother accusing another of falsehood.

That the General commanding the district did take it into his head that this was one of the cases to which the Queen's Regulations referred there can be no doubt, and although I believe, and I know many of the committee share my opinion, that the General's views were wrong, there was no alternative but to bow to his decision.

The regulations as to dress were framed solely for the purpose of avoiding the incongruity of the brethren appearing in white hats, &c., &c., certainly not for the purpose of excluding our military brethren, whom we should have been very pleased to have seen amongst us.

I am, Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours fraternally,

J. EDWARD CURFEIS,

W.M. Lodge Sincerity (189).

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,

I notice a letter from the W. Bro. Col. Elliott, (P.P.W.S.G.W. for Devon) in the *Freemason* of to-day; but as an editorial note is attached stating a further communication is to be published next week, I shall reserve my statement of the matter until after its issue.

Certainly no one who took part in the splendid reception to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, was otherwise than sorry at the absence of our non-commissioned officers in the procession, and I acknowledge that you, Bro. Editor, have a perfect right to request an explanation of the apparent mistaken regulation, as the organ of the British Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons.

W. J. HUGHAN.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I wish to ask, in order to promote the cause of a full, fair inquiry into the reason of the exclusion of our non-commissioned officer brethren from the procession at Plymouth. Is it true that a request was sent by the non-commissioned officers to the Committee to ask for permission to march in the procession, and that such letter has never been answered?

I am, Dear Sir and Brother, Yours fraternally,
EMERITUS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I am somewhat pleased that the letter sent to you by me last week did not reach you in time for publication, inasmuch as had it stood side by side with that of Bro. William James Hughan, dated 5th September, without further explanation from me, the two would have been to your readers confusing and inexplicable.

Unhappily my avocations took me much out of Plymouth about the time that the Committee were holding their meetings, and I fear I attended but three of those meetings, at only one of which do I remember meeting Bro. Hughan.

The only part of the programme entrusted to me was to secure the use of the Mill Bay Barracks as a place of assembly for the brethren, and to apply for the regimental bands. When asked to take upon myself this latter duty, I did mention to the Committee that but a few weeks previous to that time, the authorities had refused to sanction the volunteer band marching in a procession of "Oddfellows," and that the officer who made the request was referred to sec. 6, par. 44, of the Queen's Regulations. I did not thereby infer that the meetings were similar, but,

as I was not prepared for a refusal in one case, I did not feel quite sure in the other.

Further than I have herein explained, the military part of the programme was not left in my hands. The Committee were never told by me that non-commissioned officers would not be allowed to walk in the procession: they could never have been told so; for it was not until my return from Cornwall, on the day immediately preceding the Masonic procession, that I learnt from Bro. Capt. Shanks that such permission had been refused.

Bro. Hughan requires that I shall mention to whom I applied for permission, and who it was that refused me. I was never deputed by the Committee to ask such a question, hence I never applied, and was never refused.

What I stated in the Provincial Grand Lodge was strictly true. The statement was intended as a privileged communication for the information solely of the brethren present. I was not prepared to see my words repeated, and in some cases mis-quoted, in the *Freemason* newspaper; for, as an officer on full pay in the service, I am amenable to the Queen's Regulations and Orders for the Army, and a reference to sec. 6, par. 45 and 46, will explain why I would rather not have had my words published.

As an individual brother, I desire to thank you for the opportunity thus afforded me of replying to the various letters in your paper on the subject of the Royal Visit to Plymouth. I confess, I should have felt better pleased had some of your correspondents practised a little more of that "Charity which thinketh no evil," and of which we hear so much, in the proper time and in the proper place.

I am, Dear Sir and Brother, Yours fraternally,
J. ELLIOTT, Colonel,
P.P.G.H. and P.P.S.G.W. of Devon.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In reading the correspondence relative to the recent Masonic procession here, one cannot but be struck with the regret expressed by all those taking part therein, at the exclusion of the military brethren. That they have not received from the hands of the committee such consideration as their case deserves, will, I think, be amply illustrated by the following few words. As soon as the military brethren found out that they were not to be allowed to attend the procession, they applied to the W.M. of their Lodge, 1205, and requested him to endeavour to induce the committee to make arrangements, whereby they might be enabled to attend the meeting of the United Provincial Grand Lodges of Devon and Cornwall, and he promised to do his best on their behalf, as he thought it but a reasonable request, and one that, under the circumstances, the committee would comply with. But they were disagreeably surprised when they were informed that the committee had declined to make any arrangement for their benefit. One of the Past Masters on the committee, however, stated that if the military brethren presented themselves after the procession had filed in they would be admitted if vouched for, if there was room; but another P.M. of 1205, asked the Director of the Ceremonies for Devonshire, (prior to the procession marching off) whether this would be permitted, and he said most distinctly, *no*; no one would be allowed to enter the hall unless they walked in the procession.

Such are the true facts of the case, and the military brethren, from no fault of their own, found themselves shut out both from the procession and the meeting.

Can the committee justify their conduct in this matter?

Yours fraternally,
A SOLDIER FREEMASON,
AND A PAST MASTER.

Plymouth, 19th Sept., 1874.

ORDER OF THE TEMPLE AND MALTA.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I and many others, equally wishful to submit to the will and give undivided support to the powers that be, have been waiting very patiently for some time expecting to hear, see, or realise some advantage to the Order—either

particular or general—by the alterations made in the statutes, consequent on the acceptance of office by His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales as Grand Master of the Order.

Having, like others, been disappointed in my humble and modest expectations, I am very much dissatisfied, for I have not realised, nor can I see, or hear, that any advantage has accrued to the Order, or to anyone connected with it, by the alteration, but, on the contrary, I find that much dissatisfaction prevails amongst the Sir Knights, wherever I go.

What was the origin and object of the alteration I have never understood, nor seen, or heard it explained. I should like to know and understand the motive for the alteration which has proved so disastrous. Will some one in authority favour your readers with an explanation?

Why alter the titles? Is it more dignified or proper to say:—

Great Priory than Grand Conclave.
Preceptory than Encampment.
Preceptor than Commander.
Constable than Captain?

Why, indeed? Is there either beauty, use, or reason in the new titles? One gentleman of some eminence recently remarked, on his appointment as Prov. Constable, "I have been a magistrate of this county and borough for many years, but never was a constable until now. It looks like coming down a peg."

Why abolish past rank?

What has been gained by the alteration?

Has anyone gained by it? Is anyone better for it?

Is the Order any better for it? So far as I know the Sir Knights are neither benefited nor pleased. The number of subscribing Sir Knights has decreased, and many of those who have not actually resigned are so indifferent to the consequences that they don't care whether the Order sinks or swims, as at present constituted and worked, and only keep their membership from a love to the old statutes and working, to which they assert, and, with great confidence, we shall have to come back. Meantime, they pay and grumble, but do not attend the meetings, or interest themselves as they used to do.

In Lancashire, once a stronghold of Knight Templarism, the result of the alteration is absolutely painful, as I witnessed at the Provincial Priory Meeting recently held at Preston, when there was not more than half the number present that usually attend these annual gatherings. Had it not been that the Eminent Prior is much loved and respected by the Sir Knights of the province, he might have had difficulty in finding a sufficient number in attendance willing to accept the empty honour—the badge of office for the year.

My object in writing to you is to ascertain, if possible, the feeling of the Sir Knights, and the state of the obnoxious part of the statutes. If the alterations have created half the dissatisfaction elsewhere, as in the Province of Lancashire, the sooner our rulers retrace their steps the better.

The Lancashire Sir Knights are resolved to seek an alteration, and have appointed a committee to consider the following suggestions of an eminent member of the Order, and one who took a very active interest in the recent alterations, but who, finding he made a mistake, now "thinks something should be done as soon as possible to retrace our steps," and is ready to do all he can to help us. His suggestions are:—

1. That a committee be appointed to consider the alterations made in the statutes of the Order, and say which they disapprove of.
2. That the alterations disapproved of be embodied in a memorial.
3. That the committee be requested to draw up a memorial for each encampment.
4. That each encampment be requested to get the memorial signed by the whole of its members.
5. That an interview be sought with the Right Hon. the Earl of Limerick.
6. That a deputation be appointed to present the memorials and discuss the subject with the Great Prior.

What is the state of the country? Perhaps our excellent Grand Vice-Chancellor will tell us through your columns. I should like to see a comparative statistical and financial statement.

P. E. C.

MEMORIALS OF THE MASONIC UNION OF 1813.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Will you kindly allow me to thank you for the kind reference to my forthcoming "Memorials of the Masonic Union of 1813," and also to state that in consequence of the full hundred not being applied for (in Great Britain), it is not my intention to issue a list of subscribers with the work; and not having the time to solicit the co-operation of Masonic students, I must leave the disposal of the few not applied for, until after the publication of the volume, the completion of which has been delayed a few weeks, to include the whole of the "Book of Constitutions" of 1815.

It is my intention to dedicate the work to the brethren of the lodges and chapters, who have been so good as to elect me one of their honorary members.

W. J. HUGHAN.

"H. M. G." AND "OUR LATE GRAND MASTER."

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,

Bro. "H. M. G.," in the *Freemason* of Sept. 19th, says, "For the first time since the establishment of the Grand Lodge in 1717, has the ruler of our Order become a Roman Catholic, and surrendered his moral liberty."

Many may consider, from this statement, that we have never had a Grand Master since 1717 who was a Roman Catholic, whereas I presume, the writer simply means to note the fact that not one of our Grand Masters has become a Roman Catholic during his Grand Mastership who was a Protestant previously. The latter may be true, although it is scarcely susceptible of proof now, but that we have had a Roman Catholic Grand Master heretofore is proved from the fact that Lord Petre, who was Grand Master from 1722 to 1776, was a warm adherent of that religious body, and "he held his faith without bigotry, and by his liberality and worth, won the esteem of all parties," so we are told by one of his biographers. We are also told that Lord Petre was considered for some time "as the head of the Roman Catholic body in this country." Bro. Preston dedicated his "Illustrations of Masonry" to his Lordship, and we have had few Grand Masters who equalled that nobleman as Ruler of our ancient Craft. It is just probable that other Grand Masters were also Roman Catholics. In claiming for ourselves liberty of conscience, let us not make too much noise in the world when others claim a like privilege, though they differ from us, and whilst to us it appears impossible to discuss how any one can be a *Freemason* and a *Roman Catholic*, others seem to have solved the question, and yet still remained members of our fraternity. What reasons there are for a Grand Master resigning now, when one of his predecessors was a member of the same religious sect, would be a curious study.

W. J. HUGHAN.

FREEMASONRY IN THE ARMY.

The following is part of a letter which appears in the *Broad Arrow*, signed "In Hoc Signo Vincas":—"On the occasion of the visit of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales to Plymouth recently, to open the new Guildhall, the Provincial Grand Lodges of the Cornwall and Devon Freemasons, taking advantage of the presence of their Royal Brother amongst them, united to give him a loyal and fraternal welcome. The Masonic fraternity is now, as indeed it has ever been, in great favour with the higher class of the non-commissioned officers of the army, who not only are an acquisition to the lodges, but, from their intelligence and experience, an ornament to the Craft. This is the case in nearly all garrison towns, and Plymouth is no exception to the rule,

Being a large town, the number of non-commissioned officers (members of the fraternity) is very great indeed, and the wish to join their civilian brethren in bidding welcome to their illustrious visitor was not only natural but commendable. Accordingly, as in duty bound, they requested permission from the General commanding to take part in the demonstration. But imagine their disappointment, when, in reply, they were informed that as it would be an infringement of the Queen's Regulations, permission could not be accorded them. The blow was indeed a hard one, not only to those immediately concerned, but to hundreds of their civilian friends, who never for a moment anticipated such a result. Since then I have looked up the "Regulations," and, notwithstanding a very diligent search, failed to discover anything sufficient to warrant the authorities to prohibiting the non-commissioned officers from joining the demonstration. Paragraph 44, Section 6, reads as follows:—"Officers, non-commissioned officers, and soldiers are forbidden to institute or take part in any meetings, demonstrations, or processions, for party or political purposes, in barracks, quarters, camp, or elsewhere." Freemasonry, as all the world knows, excludes from its midst all questions of party or politics; its principles are universal, and it is about the only secret society recognised by the State. Then, surely, this cannot be the foundation of such an Order; or if it is, how will the following incongruities be reconciled?—the same authorities that ignored the non-commissioned officers lent an entire barracks to the brotherhood on the occasion, for the purpose of meeting, &c.; with full concurrence from the same source, two military bands marched with the procession to and from the Guildhall, and among the many hundreds black-coated and aproned, I recognised several army officers of distinction. Now if the above quoted paragraph was sufficient to influence the powers that be in the case of the non-commissioned officers, was it not anything but consistent in them to sanction or countenance what, under the circumstances, would be, not only a glaring irregularity, but a gross violation of the "Queen's Regulations?" On the other hand, if the loan of the barracks and regimental bands to the Freemasons, and the fact of the military officers (who concealed their profession by wearing a black coat) walking in the procession, was in accordance with the spirit of the Regulations, then the prohibitory order to the non-commissioned officers can be construed into nothing less than an insult to their position, and a slur on the coat they wear. Hitherto a soldier has been proud of his uniform, and justly so; but if his red coat debars him from appearing in society, simply because it is a red one, is it not more than likely he may begin to feel ashamed of it? The army is not what it once was, and with respect to the non-commissioned officers the change is marvellous. Education and intelligence have replaced loud-toned ignorance and tyranny, and it is a well-known fact that that particular class is chiefly responsible for the maintenance of good order and discipline in the Service, a fact that unfortunately does not seem to be recognised in the proper quarter. Why, then, should soldiers be treated like serfs and not men?

Culture in Parbo, or Masonic Notes and Queries.

RABBINICAL LITERATURE AND MASONIC LEGENDS.

In reading the *Voice of Masonry* (Chicago) for September, I was much pleased to peruse a racy article by our indefatigable Brother Jacob Norton, and also several other able communications from well known Masonic writers. Bro. Norton refers to the Rev. Dr. George Oliver's last work, in which that distinguished Mason mentions that the legend of the "third degree" is to be found in a work printed in 1715, from a MS. found in the Cambridge Library, entitled "Idle Hebrew Tales from the Jewish Targums." It is just possible that I noticed this allusion to the legend in one of Dr. Oliver's

works, and not in Dr. Mackay's Grand Encyclopædia, as I fancied. Would our Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, M.A., P.G.C., kindly institute a search in the British Museum for the "Hebrew Tales," and thus add to the many kind and valued aids to the Masonic studies of W. J. HUGHAN.

"A. M. G. D."

These initials have been used lately, and said to be in some way descriptive of Roman Catholicism. Will your Editor kindly explain them to me and to others of your readers who know them not. REVIRESCO.

[They mean, "Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam."—Ed.]

Bro. FINDEL.

I see that Bro. Findel in his new work, "Geist und Form der Freimaurerei," makes the following very important statement, at page 288, in a foot note:—

"In 1641 John Amos Comenius went to England, out of whose didactic works Bro. Anderson introduced many passages almost word for word into his Book of Constitutions."

Will my able brother Findel furnish me with the references to the didactic works of Comenius, and whence these passages are taken, as his statement is one of the most important I have seen for a long time. I may add that Bro. Hughan agrees with me in this opinion, and either of us will feel deeply obliged to Bro. Findel to favour us with references to the identical passages in Comenius's works.

A. F. A. WOODFORD, P.G.C.

FREEMASONRY IN JAMAICA.

The consecration of the Caledonian Lodge (No. 554), took place on Tuesday, the 4th August, at 2 o'clock p.m., at Port Maria. The ceremony was performed by the R. W. W. G. Astwood, acting P.G.M. (by deputation) for the R. W. S. Constantine Burke, P.G.M. for Scotland, who was unavoidably prevented from attending, assisted by Brother the Revd. M. G. Constantine, who acted as Prov. Grand Chaplain. The ceremony of dedication being ended, the R. W. acting P.G.M. called on Bro. B. Mortimer Dias, acting Grand Director of Ceremonies (who very ably performed the duties assigned to him), to read the proclamation constituting the lodge. The acting P.G.M. afterwards installed the following Officers:—Christian Legget Hider, W. Master; Isaac Gomez Mesquitta, D.M.; Thomas Gordon Black, S.W.; Thaddeus Constantine Dias, J.W.; Douglas Newell Berwick, Sec.; Amos DaCosta Levy, S.D.; Alexander Reid, J.D.; Henry Hire, I.G.; Jacob A. Hinds, Tyler. The officers, in appropriate terms, severally returned thanks, and the lodge was closed in the usual way.

At eight o'clock, p.m., the brethren re-assembled at the Court House, where a grand display of the good things of this life was provided, to which ample justice was done.—The usual loyal and patriotic toasts were proposed by the newly-installed Master. Other toasts were proposed during the evening and suitable replies made to each. Thus ended a day long to be remembered in Port Maria.

Masonic Tidings.

STAR LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, (No. 1275).—The anniversary banquet of this flourishing lodge will be held at the lodge house, "The Marquis of Granby," New Cross Road, on Friday, the 2nd of October, 1873. Tickets, 4s. each, may be obtained of the Stewards on any of the previous lodge meetings.

The Etonian Lodge of St. John, hitherto meeting at the Royal Adelaide Hotel, Windsor, on the Tuesday nearest full moon, will in future be held at the Masonic Hall, Windsor, on the first Tuesday in the month.

We regret to announce that the Grand Lodge of Brazil has lost a very worthy and zealous

brother, the "Vicomte de Monte Ferriera," who had attained the highest honour of Freemasonry, and died recently deeply regretted by his brethren, at the age of 78.

The ceremony of installation will be rehearsed in the Confidence Lodge of Instruction, White Hart Tavern, Abchurch Lane, Cannon-street, E.C., on Wednesday, the 30th inst., at eight p.m., by Bro. John Constable, W.M. 185.

MARK MASONRY.—The Provincial Grand Mark Master of the new Mark Province of Sussex, will be installed by the Right Hon. the Earl of Limerick, D.G.M.M., acting for the Right Hon. Earl Percy, G.M.M., on the 23rd prox., and the new P.G.M.M. of Lincolnshire will be installed by the R. W. Bro. Romaine Callender, M.P., on the 29th prox.

The Chigwell Lodge, No. 453, will meet on Saturday, 27th Sept., for the last time this season, at the Castle, Woodford, when our worthy Brother Hogard, P.M. of 205, will be installed into the chair of K.S., he having been unanimously elected to that high office at the last lodge meeting.

The Fifteen Sections will be worked at the Strong Man Lodge of Instruction, St. John's-gate, Clerkenwell, on Monday evening next, the 28th inst., at 7 prompt, the following brethren taking part:—W.M., Beckett; S.W., Solonie; J.W. Percy; and Bros. Barker, Crutch, Crawley, Wheeler, Cadett, Bentley, Saul, Morrison, &c. This will be the last meeting of the lodge at the St. John's-gate, previous to its removal, by permission of the W.M. of the parent lodge (No. 45), to P.M. Maples's, the Crown Tavern, Clerkenwell-green, on Monday, Oct. 5th.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

The "Freemason" of May 10th and 17th, 1873, and April 11th, 1874 (numbers 218, 219, and 266) being out of print, the publisher will be glad to receive copies from brethren who may have them. Stamps will be sent on receipt.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, October 2, 1874.

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

Saturday, September 26.

Manchester Lodge of Instruction (179), Yorkshire Grey, 77, London-street, Fitzroy-square, at 8; Bro. H. Ash, Preceptor.

Lily Lodge of Instruction (820), Greyhound Hotel, Richmond, Surrey.

Star Lodge of Instruction (1275), Marquis of Granby, New Cross-road, at 7; Bro. C. G. Dille, Preceptor. Banquet.

Monday, September 28.

Lodge 79, Pythagorean, Ship Hotel, Greenwich.

Prince Leopold Lodge of Instruction (1445), Lord Stanley Tavern, Sandringham-road, Kingsland, at 7; Bro. T. Austin, Preceptor.

Strong Man Lodge of Instruction (45), Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's-gate, Clerkenwell, at 8; Bro. Beckett, Preceptor.

Sincerity Lodge of Instruction (174), Railway Tavern, Fenchurch-street Station, at 7.

Camden Lodge of Instruction (704), Adelaide Tavern, Haverstock-hill, at 8; Bro. T. A. Adams, Preceptor.

Eastern Star Lodge of Instruction (95), Royal Hotel, Mile-end-road, at 7.30; Bro. E. Gutheil, Preceptor.

British Oak Lodge of Instruction (813), Bank of Friendship Tavern, Mile-end, at 7 for 8.

St. James's Union Lodge of Instruction (180), Horse and Groom Tavern, Winsley-street (opposite the Pantheon), Oxford-street, at 8; Bro. J. R. Stacey, Preceptor.

Wellington Lodge of Instruction, White Swan Tavern, Deptford, at 8; Bro. C. G. Dille, P.M. 1155, Preceptor.

West Kent Lodge of Improvement (1297), St. Saviour's College, Stansted-road, Forest-hill, at 7.30; Bro. H. W. Lindus, Preceptor.

Metropolitan Mark Lodge of Instruction, Coach and Horses Hotel, 323, Strand, at 8.

Tuesday, September 29.

Yarborough Lodge of Instruction (554), Green Dragon Stepney, at 8; Bro. Barnes, P.M., Preceptor.

Domestic Lodge of Instruction, Palmerston Tavern, Grosvenor-park, Camberwell, at 8; Bro. Larham, Preceptor.

Faith Lodge of Instruction (141), Refreshment Rooms, Victoria-st., (opposite Westminster Palace Hotel), at 8; Bro. C. A. Cottebrune, Preceptor.

Prince Fredk. William Lodge of Instruction (753), Lord's Hotel, Lord's Cricket Ground, St. John's-wood, at 8; Bro. F. G. Baker, Preceptor.

Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction (860), King Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7.30; Bro. Crawley, Preceptor.

Prosperity Lodge of Instruction (65), Gladstone Tavern, Bishopsgate-st., Within, at 7.30; Bro. Bolton, W.M. 1227, Preceptor.

St. Marylebone Lodge of Instruction (1305), British Stores Tavern, New-street, St. John's Wood, at 8; Bro. T. A. Adams, Preceptor.

Constitutional Lodge of Instruction (55), Wheatsheaf Hotel, Hand-court, Holborn, at 7; Bro. J. R. Stacey P.M. 180, Preceptor.

Percy Lodge of Instruction, Grapes Tavern, Little Windmill-street, W.

Pythagorean Lodge of Instruction (79), Prince of Orange, Greenwich, at 8; Bro. J. Robt. Nash, Preceptor.

Israel Lodge of Instruction, Rising Sun Tavern, Globe-road, at 7.30.

Wednesday, September 30.

Lodge 898, Temperance in the East, 6, Newby-place, Poplar.

Chap. 822, Lily of Richmond, Greyhound Hotel, Richmond.

New Concord Lodge of Instruction, Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton, at 8.

Royal Union Lodge of Instruction, Horse and Groom Tavern, Winsley-street, Oxford-street, at 8; Bro. T. A. Adams, Preceptor.

Confidence Lodge of Instruction, White Hart Tavern, Abchurch-lane, at 7.30.

Peckham Lodge of Instruction, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham, at 8; Bro. David Rose, Preceptor.

Temperance in the East Lodge of Instruction, George the Fourth, Catherine-street, Poplar.

Stanhope Lodge of Instruction, Thicket Hotel, Anerley, at 7.30 p.m.; Bro. H. W. Lindus, Preceptor.

Finsbury Park Lodge of Instruction (1288), Finsbury Park Tavern, Seven Sisters'-road, N., at 8. Bro. P. Dickinson, Acting Preceptor.

United Strength Lodge of Instruction (228), the Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, Kentish-town, at 8; Bro. J. N. Frost, Preceptor.

Southwark Lodge of Instruction, (879), Southwark Park Tavern, Southwark Park, at 8; Bro. Charles William Kent, Preceptor.

Dalston Lodge of Instruction (975), Havelock Tavern, Albion-road, Dalston, at 8.

Thursday, October 1.

Lodge 27, Egyptian, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-st.

" 45, Strong Man, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell.

" 192, Lion and Lamb, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.

" 227, Ionic, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.

" 538, La Tolerance, Freemasons' Hall.

" 554, Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.

" 742, Crystal Palace, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge.

" 822, Victoria Rifles, Freemasons' Hall.

" 1178, Perfect Ashlar, Gregorian Arms, Bermondsey.

" 1351, St. Clements Danes, 265 Strand.

" 1360, Royal Arthur, Duke of Edinburgh Tavern, New Wimbledon.

" 1445, Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tavern, Sandringham-road.

Mark Lodge 3, Keystone, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.

Fidelity Lodge of Instruction (3), Yorkshire Grey, London-st., Tottenham Court-road, at 8; Bro. T. A. Adams, Preceptor.

Finsbury Lodge of Instruction, Jolly Anglers' Tavern, Bath-street, City-road; Bro. Stean, Preceptor.

United Mariners' Lodge of Instruction, Three Cranes, Mile-end-road, at 8; Bro. T. J. Barnes, Preceptor.

Whittington Lodge of Instruction (862), Crown Tavern, Holborn, at 8; Bro. Lewis Alexander, P.M. 188, Preceptor.

Doric Chapter of Instruction, Three Cranes Tavern, Mile-end-road, at 8; Comp. T. J. Barnes, Preceptor.

Ebury Lodge of Instruction, Bro. Palmer's, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank.

Highgate Lodge of Instruction (1366), Bull and Gate, Kentish-town, at 8; Bro. J. N. Frost, Preceptor.

Friday, October 2.

Lodge 709, Florence Nightingale, Masonic Hall, William-street, Woolwich.

" 890, Hornsey, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.

" 1489, Marquess of Ripon, Metropolitan Societies Asylum, Balls Pond-road.

Mark Lodge 8, Thistle, Caledonian Hotel, Adelphi.

St. George's Lodge of Instruction (140), Globe Tavern, Royal-hill, Greenwich.

Robert Burns Lodge of Instruction, Union Tavern, Air-st., Regent-st., at 8.

Belgrave Lodge of Instruction, (749), Lyceum Tavern, 354, Strand, at 8; Bro. Pulsford, Preceptor.

Pannure Lodge of Instruction (720), Balham Hotel, Balham, at 7.30.

Unions Emulation Lodge of Improvement for M.M.'s, Freemasons' Hall, a 7.

Temperance Lodge of Instruction, Victoria Tavern, Victoria-road, Deptford, at 8.

Clapton Lodge of Instruction (1365), White Hart, Clapton, at 7.30; Bro. James Brett, P.G.P., &c., Preceptor.

Royal Standard Lodge of Instruction (1298), the Castle Tavern, Holloway, at 8; Bro. W. F. Rogers, Precep.

Pythagorean Chapter of Instruction (79), Prince of Orange, Greenwich-road, at 8; Comp. W. West Smith, Preceptor.

Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, Portugal Hotel, Fleet-street, at 7; Bro. Stacey, P.M. 180, Preceptor.

Westbourne Lodge of Instruction (733), Horse and Groom, Winsley-street, Oxford-street, at 8.

United Pilgrims Lodge of Instruction, Antelope Tavern, Lorn-road, Brixton, at 7.

St. James's Lodge of Instruction, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-road, Bermondsey, at 8; Bro. Howes, P.M., Preceptor.

Duke of Edinburgh Lodge of Instruction, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar, at 7; Bro. D. S. Potts, Preceptor.

Doric Lodge of Instruction, Three Cranes Tavern, Mile-end-road, at 8.

Burgoyne Lodge of Instruction, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W., at 8; Bro. P. M. Wuest, Preceptor.

St. Luke's Lodge of Instruction (144), Rose Tavern, Fulham-road, S.W.

Chigwell Lodge of Instruction, Bald-faced Stag Hotel, Buckhurst-hill, at 8.

High Cross Lodge of Instruction (754), Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.

Union Club of Instruction, Windsor Castle, Victoria Station, at 8 p.m.; H. Ash, P.M., Instructor.

Burdett Coutts Lodge of Instruction (1278), Approach Tavern, Approach-road, Victoria-park, at 8; Bro. Geo. W. Verry, Preceptor.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE,

For the Week ending Saturday, October 3, 1874.

Monday, September 28.

Lodge 148, Lights, Masonic Rooms, Warrington, at 6.30

Chap. 241, Friendship, Masonic Temple, Liverpool, at 5.

Tuesday, September 29.

Lodge 178, Antiquity, Royal Hotel, Wigan, at 6.30.

" 1384, Equity, Walker's Commercial Hotel, Widnes, near Liverpool, at 6.

Chap. 721, Grosvenor, Masonic Rooms, Eastgate-row, Chester, at 6.30.

Merchants' Lodge of Instruction (241), Masonic Temple, Liverpool, at 6.

Wednesday, September 30.

Lodge 1061, Triumph, Masonic Hall, Lytham at 7.

Alpass Encampment, Masonic Temple, Liverpool, at 5.

St. John's Lodge of Instruction (673), Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8.

Thursday, October 1.

Lodge 249, Mariners', Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 6.

" 1473, Bootle, Molyneux Assembly Rooms, Bootle, at 6.

Chap. 758, Bridgewater, Masonic Hall, Runcorn, at 6.

Friday, October 2.

Lodge 680, Sefton, Masonic Temple, Liverpool, at 5.

" 1264, Neptune, Masonic Temple, Liverpool, at 6.

" 1375, Architect, Didsbury Hotel, Didsbury.

" 1387, Chorlton, Masonic Rooms, Chorlton-cum-Hardy.

" 1086, Walton, Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, at 6.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND VICINITY.

For the week ending Saturday, October 3, 1874.

All the Meetings take place at 8 o'clock.

Monday, September 28.

Lodge 103, Union and Crown, 170, Buchanan-st.

" 219, Star, 12, Trongate.

" 362, St. Clair, 25, Robertson-street.

" 541, Marie Stuart, Watson's Academy, Langside-road, Crosshill.

Chap. 122, Thetis, 35, St. James-street.

Tuesday, September 29.

" 426, Prince of Wales, Freemasons' Hall, Renfrew.

" 73, Caledonian Unity, 170, Buchanan-street.

Chap. 117, Govan, Portland Hall, Govan.

Wednesday, September 30.

Red Cross Conclave 114, Glasgow, 213, Buchanan-street.

Thursday, October 1.

Lodge 27, St. Mungo, 213, Buchanan-street.

" 465, St. Andrew's, Masons' Hall, Garngad-road.

" 370, Renfrew Kilwinning, Freemasons' Hall, High-street, Paisley.

" 22, St. John, George Hotel, Kilmarnock.

" 149, St. Andrew's, Masonic Hall, Irvine.

" 202, St. Clement's, Trades' Tavern, Kilmarnock.

" 290, Blair Dalry, Masonic Hall, Dalry.

Friday, October 2.

Lodge 275, Shamrock and Thistle, 22, Struthers-street.

" 360, Commercial, 60, Hope-st.

" 408, Clyde, 170, Buchanan-st.

" 116, Royal Arch, Council Hall, Rutherglen.

" 135, St. James, Crown Inn, Tarbolton.

" 217, Cumberland, Old Town Hall, Port Glasgow.

" 242, Houston, Cross Keys, Johnstone.

" 459, Shelburne, Cumbrine Hotel, Milport.

" 512, Thorn-tree, Thornliebank.

Saturday, October 3.

Lodge 458, St. John, Freemasons' Hall, Busby.

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FUND FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE WIDOW OF THE LATE W. BRO. J. R. STEBBING, P.G.D (ENGLAND) AND D. Prov. G.M.

PRESIDENT.—The Right Worshipful W. W. B. BEECH, M.P., Provincial Grand Master.

At a meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge, recently held at Landport, it was unanimously resolved that a Committee be appointed for the purpose of raising a fund, to provide a suitable memorial to our late deeply-lamented Bro. Stebbing.

In pursuance of the foregoing resolution, a meeting was held at Southampton, which was largely attended, when the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

"That the Lodges and Chapters of the Province and Freemasons generally be solicited to subscribe to a fund, to be appropriated as the Committee shall determine, for the benefit of the Widow of our late lamented Bro. J. R. Stebbing, whose circumstances at the time of his decease render this appeal absolutely necessary."

"That copies of these resolutions be forwarded to each Lodge and Chapter in the Province, inviting their co-operation, as well as that of Brethren and Companions generally, in obtaining subscriptions to the fund."

"That a circular stating the circumstances be also transmitted to all other Lodges and Chapters in England."

The name of the late Bro. J. R. Stebbing is so well known in all Masonic circles that it seems unnecessary to set forth at length his long and valuable services. For many years he was a constant attendant at Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter, assisting the interests of the Brethren and Companions. He was Vice-President of the Board of General Purposes in 1861, 1862 and 1863, and also an active member of the Building Committee of the present Freemasons' Hall, London.

He was rarely absent from the elections in the various Charities, giving his valuable aid to the poor and distressed amongst the brethren and their relatives, contributing from his means to the advancement of those charities, in which he had qualified as Vice-Patron of the Boys' School, Life Governor of the Girls' School, and Life Governor of the Benevolent institution; and it is sincerely hoped that the Widow of one who was so actively engaged for the benefit of others (herself a Life-Governor of the Boys' School) should be placed in circumstances which will assist her in her present unexpected bereavement.

Subscriptions in aid of this fund may be transmitted to the Treasurer, Aldermoor House, near Southampton; or to his bankers, Messrs. Maddison, Atherly, Hankinson, and Darwin, Southampton.

W. HICKMAN, Treasurer.

J. E. LE FEUVRE, Secretary

OCTOBER ELECTION, 1874.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS:

The Vice-Presidents, Life Governors, and Subscribers, desiring to Vote in favour of

BEATRICE A. F. NEWMAN

No. 4 on the List, are respectfully requested to forward their proxies (after signature) to either Mr. John Bertram, Alexandra Palace, Muswell-hill, N.; Mr. George Newman, 26, Great Winchester-street, E.C.; or Mr. Henry T. Thompson, 85, Palmerston-buildings, Bishopsgate-street, E.C.

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