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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

GRAND MASTER'S LODGE (No. 1).—This ancient lodge, the mother lodge of England, met on Monday, the 18th inst., a numerous and distinguished company of brethren, amongst others Bros. Sir F. W. Truscott, Alderman Pater-son, R. H. Giraud, Sandeman, Case, Rawson, Muggeridge, and others, being present. Bro. W. A. Colls, W.M., opened the proceedings by initiating Mr. G. R. Steel and the Rev. John Condor and passing Bros. Sir J. H. Glover and H. L. Freeman. He then requested Bro. W. S. Gover, P.M. No. 1, to perform the remainder of the duties, which consisted in raising Bro. Douglas Straight, and in instal-ling the new Worshipful Master, Bro. G. Payne, and which were performed by Bro. W. S. Gover with his usual ability and to the great satisfaction of the brethren. After work the brethren sat down to a sumptuous banquet. Covers were laid for eighty.

COWES.—MEDINA LODGE (No. 35).—The annual meeting of this lodge, which is the most ancient in the Province of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, was held on Thursday 14th inst., at the lodge rooms, in High Street. The brethren assembled at about 3 p.m., for the purpose of assisting in the installation of Bro. T. W. Faulkner. Bro. Faulkner has already filled the chair on one or two occasions, but the brethren knowing his zeal for Freemasonry again selected him as the Master for the year 1875. The lodge having been opened in the three degrees, the ceremony was carried out by Bro. J. G. Wheeler, the retiring Master, assisted by the other Past Masters of the lodge. The Master having been duly installed, proceeded to the appointment of his officers, when Bro. J. G. Wheeler was invested with the collar and jewel as I.P.M., and Bros. J. Hall Smith, S.W.; J. C. Ains, J.W.; G. Munt, S.D.; E. Wyatt, J.D.; S. Ben-zie, I.G.; J. Wallace, D.C. The business of the lodge having been concluded, the brethren retired to the Fountain Hotel, when Bro. Jones again served a splendid banquet. The chair was taken by the W.M., and the vice-chair by Bro. J. Hall Smith, P.M. and S.W.; each chair was well supported by the officers and brethren of the lodge. The various dishes having been partaken of and thoroughly en-joyed, the cloths were removed, when the chairman rose and proposed "The Health of the Queen," remarking on the many virtues of Her Majesty, and asking what country could boast of so good a Queen and mother. Music—"God save the Queen." The next toast was "The Prince of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family." The W.M. re-marked that although the retirement of the Marquis of Ripon from Freemasonry altogether might be considered by the outer world as a blow to the Craft, it was no such thing; for our distinguished brother, the Prince of Wales, had most nobly come forward and would in a short time be installed in the chair as Grand Master of England. Other remarks worthy of our Grand Master elect were made and the toast was drunk with much enthusiasm. Music—"God bless the Prince of Wales." The next toast that followed was "Grand Lodge of England, and the Officers of the same." This was also well received. The chairman then proposed "The Health of the Provincial Grand Master, and the Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge," coupling with it the name of Bro. J. Hall Smith, the P.P.G.J. Deacon, remarking upon the zest that the P.G.M., Bro. W. W. Bench, had for Masonry, that he was always ready to do anything to further its objects, and to promote its welfare. All knew that Bro. Bench was a life governor of the charities, and they stood out in a most prominent way, showing to the world what Freemasonry did. The toast was well re-ceived, and Bro. Smith responded to the same. "The Healths of the I.P.M., the Past Masters, and Officers of the Lodge," was given, and drunk with a deal of good feeling. A most pleasant evening was passed, and as the hour of eleven drew on the brethren separated. A unanimous vote of thanks was passed with Masonic honours to the landlord for his preparations, and the even-ing concluded. We must not omit to remark that some capital songs were sung, and Bro. Scadding presided at the pianoforte.

BATH.—ROYAL CUMBERLAND LODGE (No. 41).—The monthly meeting was held on Thursday, Jan. 7th, at the Masonic Hall. The lodge was opened at 7.30 by Bro. Major Preston, W.M., assisted by Bros. R. Carey, I.P.M.; Clark, S.W.; Brown, J.W.; Ashley, Treasurer; Evering-ham, Secretary; Falkner, S.D.; C. Wilkinson, J.D.; Braham, I.G.; Gazzard, acting as Tyler; and many other members of the lodge. The following also were present as visitors: Bros. Tate, 170; G. H. Cooke, S.W. 279; J. Sumpson, J.D. 53; B. W. Watts, S.W. 626. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, a ballot was taken for the admission of Bro. Dr. H. Hop-kins, P. Prov. G. S. W. for Warwickshire, as a joining member, which proved unanimous in his favour, and the

W.M. announced receipt of a note from him expressive of regret at his unavoidable absence from the meeting, owing to severe indisposition. Mr. Jacob Smith was reported as having presented himself, after the usual notice of a month, as a candidate for Freemasonry, and the ballot proving favourable, he was duly initiated by the W.M., who also gave him the charge in the first degree. Subsequently the newly-initiated brother addressed the W.M., Officers, and brethren, very neatly and feelingly, expressing his ap-preciation of the honour he had received, and his desire to prove himself worthy of it. The only other business which remained, was the election of W.M. and Treasurer for the ensuing year. To the latter office Bro. Ashley was re-ap-pointed, and the ballot for W.M. resulted in the election of Bro. Clark, S.W. The lodge was finally closed soon after ten o'clock.

ROCHDALE.—HOPE LODGE (No. 54).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, January 13th, at the Spread Eagle Inn, Rochdale, and there was a good attendance of the brethren, all officers being pre-sent—Bros. Richard Simpson, W.M.; Ab. Barker, S.W.; James Barnish, J.W.; Dan Mitchell, P.M., Secretary; (Treasurer, being very ill, could not attend); R. Colling-wood, S.D.; O'Dherty, J.D.; Bincliffe, I.G.; James Midgley, P.M., Tyler. The lodge was opened in due form, and with solemn prayer, at 5.15 p.m., and the minutes of the former lodges were read and confirmed; after which Mr. J. T. Worth, and Mr. J. Clegg, candidates for Free-masonry, were balloted for and approved. On account of business, Mr. J. T. Worth could not attend. Mr. J. Clegg was then initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry by Bro. Dan Mitchell, P.M., assisted by C. M. Jones, P.M., and T. B. Ashworth, P.M., after which he retired. The lodge was then opened in the second degree. Bro. Hutchinson, after having given proofs of his pro-ficiency in the former degrees, was then entrusted, and retired. The lodge was then opened in the third degree. The candidate was then admitted and duly raised by T. B. Ashworth, P.M., assisted by W. Davies, P.M. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren then adjourned to refresh-ment, which was well provided by the host and hostess. After the cloth was removed, the brethren partook of the cup of cheerfulness, and the usual toasts were then given, amongst which C. M. Jones, P.M., gave "Our Three De-ceased Brethren," who had all departed this life within a few days of each other. It was given in solemn silence. "The Initiate" was next given, and was suitably responded to. The usual closing toast was then given, and the brethren departed in peace.

BEDFORD LODGE (No. 157).—The members of this old lodge met on the 15th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, and disposed of a large amount of Masonic busi-ness, the W.M., Bro. Briggs, initiating, passing, and raising several gentlemen and brethren into the various degrees in a very able manner, and which was much appreciated by the members and visitors. Bro. J. R. Stacey, P.M., installed Bro. James Lear Drew into the Master's chair, with his usual care. The W.M. then made very judicious appointments to the several offices: Bros. Walton, S.W.; Poole, J.W.; and Creak, S.D. There was a good muster of P.M.'s of the lodge to do honour to the W.M., among them we noticed Bros. P.M. Cubitt Millis, Holland, Hills, Smith and Brander. Among the attendance of visitors were Bros. Farthing, W.M.; Boyd, P.M.; Beard, P.M.; Kelping, P.M.; Pope, P.M.; Darke, P.M.; Nicholls, P.M.; Hillis, P.M.; G. R. Stacey, P.M.; and T. Butler. The usual P.M.'s jewel was unanimously awarded to the retiring W.M. An excellent banquet followed, the W.M. presiding with much ability. The evening's entertainment was much enhanced by the excellent singing of Madame Constantin, Mr. G. T. Carter, and Mr. Beale, Mr. J. D. Cunster presiding at the pianoforte.

ST. JAMES'S UNION LODGE (No. 180).—The usual monthly meeting of this large and important lodge was held at the Freemasons' Hall on Tuesday, the 13th inst., under the presidency of the esteemed W.M., Bro. Gallico, assisted by the whole of his officers. The meeting was called for half-past three o'clock, when Bro. Ladbury was duly raised to the third degree. Bro. Kasper passed to the second degree, and Messrs. Balestra, Raimo, Thompson, and Pavitt, were initiated into the mysteries of Free-masonry. Bro. Parsons, S.W., and W.M. elect, was then presented by Bro. Smithett, I.P.M., to receive from Bro. Gallico, W.M., the benefit of installation. A board of In-stalled Masters having been formed, he was inducted into the chair in a most able manner by Bro. Gallico. The W.M. then appointed and invested Bros. Gallico, I.P.M.; Gillard, S.W.; Annett, J.W.; Robinson, P.M., Treas-urer; H. A. Stacey, P.M., Secretary; Pillin, S.D.; Smith, J.D.; Harrison, I.G.; Herf, P.M., and Farwig, W.S.; J. R. Stacey, P.M., D.C.; and Gilbert, Tyler. The ad-dresses to the Master, Wardens, and brethren, were given by Bro. Gallico in a most eloquent and impressive man-ner. The W.M. then invested Bro. Gallico with the Past Master's jewel, which had been unanimously voted at the previous meeting, accompanying the investment with a short speech expressing his own and the brethren's feel-ings towards the W.M. Bro. Gallico having returned thanks, the W.M. rose and announced, in feeling terms, the decease of Bros. Archard, P.M., and Thorn. Bros. H. A. Stacey, P.M., Cameron, P.M., and Parsons, W.M., having announced their intention of becoming Stewards for the Aged Freemasons', Girls', and Boys' Institutions respectively, at the forthcoming festivals, the lodge was closed, and the brethren (104 in number) adjourned to a most enjoyable banquet, which was presided over by the W.M. with intelligent ability. The various toasts were duly honoured, and some excellent singing by members and visitors—of whom there were thirty-seven—enlivened the evening. The brethren, amongst whom were many highly-distinguished, as Boyd, Cottebrune, Wilkinson, Binckes, and others, were loud in their praise of Bro.

Gallico for the very able and eloquent manner in which he had mastered the difficulties of the English language, and performed the various ceremonies and the installation. The brethren dispersed about eleven o'clock, after being reminded by the W.M. that the thirteenth annual ball would take place, on the 4th February, at the Freemasons' Hall.

DEVONPORT.—LODGE SINCERITY (No. 189).—The members of the Lodge Sincerity held their annual banquet at the Royal Hotel, Devonport. The banquet was an excellent one, and was exceedingly well served. Bro. J. E. Curteis, W.M. of the lodge, presided; and there were present, Bros. I. Latimer, I.P.M., and P.G.J.W.; R. R. Rodd, P. Prov. G.S.W. of Cornwall, and P. Prov. G.R. of Devon; Colonel Elliott, P. Prov. G.S.W.; Vincent Bird, P. Prov. G.T.; S. Jew, P. Prov. G.T.; the Rev. J. E. Risk, P. Prov. G.C.; G. Shanks, P. Prov. G.J.W.; C. Leigh, P. Prov. G. Secretary; T. W. Lemon, P.G. Chaplain; J. Sadler, P. Prov. G.S.B.; Aubrey Thomas, P.G.S.D.; Fowler, W.M. 1212; J. J. Avery, W.M. 70; J. H. Blackell, W.M. 1099; F. Hall, W.M. 156; J. Rendle, W.M. 1247; A. Latimer, S.W. 189; T. W. How, J.W. 189; R. H. Rae, Secretary, 189; and P. Prov. G.S.D.; J. E. Moon, J.D. 189; J. T. Fouracre, C. Croydon, Lieut.-Col. Fitz-gerald, A. S. Hendy, J. Lewis, R. J. Laity, R. B. Oram, G. Barrett, G. H. Evans, H. Horton, J. Dampney, P.M., P. J. Pilditch, T. W. Hussey, Organist; G. Davis, G. H. Emery, Organist, 1205; C. Mutton, S.S. 1205; and J. Rogers, P.M., P.G.A., Tyler. After dinner the W.M. pro-posed the usual toast, commencing with "The Queen and the Craft." This was followed by "The Health of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, M. W. Grand Master of England," and the W.M. in proposing the toast remarked that the Masonic events with which his Royal Highness had been connected during the past year had been great and important. He now occupied the proud position of being Master of all the Masons of England, and he was quite sure the Prince was loved and respected by every one of his brother Masons. In proposing "The Right Worshipful the Earl of Carnarvon, D.G.M., and the other Grand Officers past and present," the W.M. said there were a great many people who thought Masonry would suffer when the Marquis of Ripon resigned the Grand Mastership, but subsequent events had proved how mis-taken this idea was; and, while he should be exceedingly sorry to say anything that might be considered offensive, he could not refrain from expressing as his opinion that when a man forgot his country for the sake of a religion which fettered him hand and foot, rendering him a bonds-man without mind of his own and compelling him to obey the dictates of a foreign potentate who had denounced Free-masonry in the most bitter terms, he was better out of Masonry than in it. He could not understand why it was that they had not more Grand Officers elected in the country. It seemed to him that brethren in the provinces holding Grand Offices were in a large minority, and that most of those offices were held by brethren in London. He presumed this arose from the fact that at those who had the disposal of these offices saw more of their London brethren, but at the same time there were many worthy Masons in the country who had fairly earned such a distinction, and in this respect there was room for improvement. The healths of the P.G.M. and D.P.G.M. of Devon, Bros. Huyshe and Metham, were next drunk with enthusiasm, and that of the G.M. of Cornwall, the Earl of Mount Edgecombe, followed. The W.M., in proposing these toasts, referred in eulogistic terms to the merits of the three worshipful brethren mentioned, and expressed a hope that many years would pass before any changes were made in the high offices held by them. The Worshipful Master next proposed "The Prov Grand Officers of Devon, past and pre-sent." He said those brethren were near and dear to them as Masons, and all lodges alike, to a very great extent, looked up to them for guidance and advice. Those offices were not given to them unless they first worked hard for them; they did their work thoroughly well, and their hearts and souls were in Masonry. Bro. Latimer, Prov. G.J.W., re-turned thanks. During the few years that he had been connected with the Order, a very great advance had been made, both in point of numbers and influence, and recent events had tended to show that this advance had been accompanied by the most admirable feeling existing amongst all Masons. They had evidence of this in the generous and liberal response which was made, not only in this province, but over every part of the country, to the appeal of Bro. Metham for special funds in aid of the excellent institution with which he had been so long con-nected. During the time that Bro. Metham had been the D.P.G.M. of Devon, the affiliated societies connected with this great Order had taken a position, mainly through his activity, which they had never taken before. As an in-stance of the great cordiality of feeling existing amongst Masons, he would mention that not long since he received an invitation to attend a meeting of Mark Master Masons in Lincolnshire. That invitation was extended, he believed, to every part of the country, and he had since ascertained that no less than 250 Mark Masons were en-tertained by the Grand Master of the province on that occasion. This showed how wide and extensive was the feeling of brotherhood existing amongst all Masons; and it was a great pride to him to be connected with such a fraternity, distinguished alike for its honour, nobility, and benevolence. Bro. Latimer next proposed "The Health of the W.M. of Sincerity," Bro. Curteis. It was, he said, a great pleasure to him to be succeeded by a brother who was so competent to discharge the duties of the respon-sible office which he now filled, and who carried them out in a manner which reflected honour upon the lodge. Bro. Cur-teis was assiduous in the discharge of his duties, and he brought to bear upon them an amount of intelligence and accuracy which was exceedingly gratifying to all who had the pleasure of listening to him. He commanded the respect and esteem of all his brethren, and he (Bro. Latimer) hoped

that he might pass through a good and successful year's work. The W.M. briefly acknowledged the toast, and, in so doing, he called attention to the fact that although the numbers of Masons had increased, he was afraid due regard was not had as to the character of the persons admitted to the Order. Lodge Sincerity had always been most particular upon this point, and he trusted that the W. Masters of other lodges present would be the same. The W.M. also touched upon one or two matters connected with Sincerity Lodge, having reference to its working, and the attendance of past officers. Bro. Rodd responded for the Past Masters of Sincerity, and Bro. Col. Elliott for "The Visiting Brethren and Sister Lodges." "The Wardens of Lodge Sincerity" was the next toast proposed by the W.M., who spoke very highly of the way in which those officers did their duties. Bro. A. Latimer, S.W., who was the first to respond, said Lodge Sincerity had always taken a good stand amongst Masons, and the W.M. was certainly doing all he could to maintain the position which it had so long held. In that work Bro. Curteis would have the hearty support of all his officers. Bro. How spoke in similar terms. It was a great pleasure to the young members of the lodge to see the way in which the older members did their work, and they hoped that by and bye when their time came to fill the higher offices they might be able to do their work with equal ability. The Treasurer, Secretary, and assistant officers of the lodge were next toasted, and Bro. Rae, the Treasurer, and Bro. Moon, S.D., responded. The last toast of the evening, "Our Poor and Distressed Brethren," was proposed by the Tyler, and received in the usual manner. Valuable musical assistance was rendered during the evening by Bros. Moon, Rendle, Lemon, Horton, and Mutton; Bro. Hussey gave a very amusing recitation, and Bro. Jew, as usual, led the musical responses with his well-known vigour and ability.

PORTSMOUTH.—PHOENIX LODGE (No. 257).—The installation of the Worshipful Master of the Phoenix Lodge, No. 257, for the ensuing year took place on Tuesday, 29th ult. The ceremony was very ably performed by the retiring W.M. (Bro. John Lillywhite), and at the close the newly-installed W.M. (Bro. J. Cornelius Wheeler, of Southsea), appointed and invested the following as his officers:—Bros. J. Lillywhite, I.P.M. and Treasurer; H. Reed, S.W.; F. Court, J.W.; E. W. Jolliffe, Secretary; J. T. Oliver, S.D.; O'Connor, J.D.; Puttock, I.G.; Woodfall, Organist. About twenty-five members afterwards sat down to a banquet, at which the W.M. presided. Amongst those present were Bros. Meehan and J. N. Palmer, P. Prov. G. Wardens; G. S. Lancaster, P.J.G. Warden; Forbes, P. Prov. G.W. Essex; Frost, P.G. Treas.; De Fraine, P. Prov. G. Deacon; Diver, P.D.G.M. Bombay; G. Rake, H. Wood, W. M. Richards, and Pean, P.M.'s; Morrison, W.M. 309; J. Craven, W.M. 342; Maltby, W.M. 487; and Hall, W.M. 903, and others.

BOSTON.—LODGE OF HARMONY (272).—The brethren of the above lodge celebrated the festival of St. John on Thursday, 7th January, when Bro. John Ashlin Thomas was installed Worshipful Master for the ensuing year. The lodge was held in the Assembly Rooms, and the ceremony of installation was performed by Bro. Francis Snaith. The newly-installed W.M. appointed the following brethren as his officers: Bros. Francis Snaith, I.P.M.; Rev. G. W. Lowe, S.W. and Chaplain; W. H. Barwick, J.W.; C. Pickering, S.D.; A. Thorpe, J.D.; W. H. B. Bratley, O.; E. Organer, I.G.; and W. Wharrie and T. Laughton, Tylers. After the lodge was closed the brethren adjourned to their hall, in Main Ridge, where a sumptuous banquet had been prepared by the Misses Jackson, of the Peacock Hotel, and it is almost needless to add that it was a splendid entertainment, done in the usual style for which the Peacock is so famous. Full justice was accorded to the repast by the brethren present, and grace after meat having been tendered by the worthy Chaplain, the following toasts were given in eloquent terms: The W.M. proposed "The Queen and the Craft;" "The Prince and Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family;" "The M.W. Grand Master of England, the Prince of Wales; the R.W. Deputy Grand Master of England, the Earl of Carnarvon, and the Grand Officers." Bro. W. H. Bailes, P.P.G.S.W. West Yorks., proposed "The R.W. P.G.M. of Lincolnshire, the Duke of St. Alban's, the D.P. G.M. of Lincolnshire, Major Smythe, and the Prov. Officers, past and present;" Bro. C. Pocklington, P.P.G.S.W. responded. Bro. F. Snaith, P.M. P.G.S.D. proposed "The W.M.;" Bro. J. Ashlin Thomas, W.M. responded. The W.M. proposed "The Immediate P.M.;" Bro. F. Snaith, P.M. P.G.S.D. responded. Bro. J. Queenboro' proposed "The Past Masters;" Bro. T. B. Hildred, P.M. responded. Bro. G. Young, P.P.G.S. of W. proposed "The Past Officers;" Bro. W. H. B. Bratley responded. Bro. W. Clegg, P.P.G.S.W. proposed "The Newly-invested Officers;" Bro. G. W. Lowe, S.W. and C. responded. Bro. C. Jackson, P.M. P.G.S. proposed "The W.M., Wardens, and Brethren of all the other lodges in the Province;" Bro. Wm. Pooles, W.M. 838, P.G.A.D.C. responded. Bro. W. H. Barwick, J.W. proposed "Prosperity to the P.G.L. Benevolent Institution;" Bro. F. Stanwell, P.M., responded. Bro. W. R. Fowler, Secretary, proposed "The Visiting Brethren;" Bros. Pooles and Cranmer responded. Bro. E. Organer, I.G. proposed "The Ladies;" Bro. H. Snaith responded. In giving the toast of "The W. Masters, Wardens, and Brethren of all other lodges in the Province," Bro. C. Jackson, P.M. said: I have the honour to propose the next toast; I wish the toast had fallen to the lot of some expert brother, more competent to perform so important a duty, and who could more fully have done it that justice which its importance demands. We, as brethren and members of lodges in the Province of Lincolnshire, cannot be otherwise than very proud of the position which our province holds in the good estimation of the Craft generally throughout the country. The wonderful zeal and energy displayed by distinguished brethren in the cause of charity and other good works cannot but be fully

appreciated by us, and such zeal is an excellent incentive for others—"go and do likewise." You, worshipful sir, and brethren of the old Lodge of Harmony—senior lodge in the province—have plenty of work cut out for you during the ensuing year. The proper reception of the Provincial Masters, Grand Officers, and Grand Lodge will tax your zeal and energies fully enough. But our work will, no doubt, be lightened by the effective help, which I am sure we shall receive from our sister lodge "The Franklin." From the excellent W.M. downwards, the members of that lodge are all workers, and we shall need their very valuable assistance. As my toast is of such a comprehensive and widely extended nature, and the mere allusion to all the lodges in detail would take up too much of your time, I shall only revert to one, and that is the Provincial Grand Mark Lodge recently instituted. The Grand Master of that lodge, Bro. John Sutcliffe, is a Mason of whom we may be proud indeed. His princely efforts in the cause of charity, and his wonderful liberality, make him truly a "Mark" Mason. There are observations often indulged in by some brethren, to the effect that the Mark Degree is not recognized by the Grand Craft Lodge. If it is not, all I can say is, that it ought to be. When we see around us so many zealous Masons who are members of Mark Lodges, there cannot be much reason why it should not be, and if the interests of the Craft generally are benefited by Mark Lodges, the time will soon come when their usefulness and importance will be fully recognized in the proper quarter. I now give you, with much pleasure, "The health of the W.M.'s, Wardens, and Brethren, of all the other Lodges in the Province," coupling the toast with the name of Bro. Wm. Pooles, W.M. of the Franklin Lodge.

GIBRALTAR.—LODGE OF FRIENDSHIP (No. 278).—Monday, December 28th, 1874, was the day fixed for the installation of the W.M. for the ensuing year, and at 9.30 p.m. a very numerous body of brethren assembled in Horse Barrack Lane to do honour to the occasion. Bro. Carver, P.M., occupied the chair and opened the lodge in the first degree, when the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was then opened in the second degree, and the W.M. elect, Bro. F. J. Marshall, was presented for installation, who, having pledged his allegiance to the ancient charges, the ceremony was proceeded with and completed in due form. The W.M. then invested the officers for the ensuing year as follows:—W. Glassford, S.W.; E. Gatt, J.W.; J. Speed, Treasurer; C. V. de Santy, Secretary; B. E. Owen, S.D.; N. Clavarezzo, J.D.; J. Preston, D.C.; J. J. Aboab, I.G.; A. Mackworth and A. de la Cruz Frolich, Stewards; J. Peterkin, Tyler. The entire ceremony was most admirably and impressively carried out by Bro. Carver, P.M., who received the hearty thanks for the very efficient manner in which it was done, more especially as it was the first occasion on which he had been called upon to act in the capacity of Installing Master. Bro. Carver assured the brethren that he felt much gratified by this kind expression of their appreciation of his services, and that he should at all times be happy to do all in his power towards furthering the prosperity of the lodge. The W.M. then thanked the lodge for the distinguished honour they had conferred upon him, that he should do his utmost to support its high character and to hand it over to his successor in as flourishing a state as it was at the present time. The lodge was then closed, but, prior to the brethren quitting the room, the customary bowl of punch, brewed by Bro. Francis, P.M., one of the oldest and most esteemed Masons in Gibraltar, and who for many years has concocted the "loving cup" at the installation of the W.M., was circulated, the brethren standing, and commencing with the Past Masters, each in turn drinking to the health and prosperity of the W.M. and the lodge, the W.M. finally completing the chain, by reciprocating their good wishes and drinking to their good health. An adjournment to the adjoining room then took place, where the brethren partook of supper, after which the customary loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and responded to the Tyler's toast bringing the proceedings to a close. The members of the lodge present were:—Bros. Haynes, P.M.; Francis, P.M.; Erjenth, Marshall, Glassford, White, Clavarezzo, Gatt, Speed, de Santy, Peterkin, Patterson, Crisp, Sarcone, Harding, Butler, Ashton, Ingram, Frolich, Bensilum, Aboab, Gzowski, Owen, Coghill, and Adams. Amongst the visitors were Bros. Deverill, P.M. 743; Roberts, de Winton, Wilkinson, Collin (Virgin Lodge, Nova Scotia), Warde, P.M. 706; Lees, J. R. Morgan, P.M. 115; Gillmore, 153.

FAREHAM.—LODGE OF HARMONY (No. 309).—A large gathering of members of the Craft took place on Thursday, the 7th inst., on the occasion of the installation of Bro. Henry Ford (P.M. of the Phoenix Lodge, No. 257, and P.P.G.W.) as the Worshipful Master of the Lodge of Harmony, No. 309, for the ensuing year. The W.M. elect, being an Alderman and Past Mayor of the borough of Portsmouth, there were a large number of visitors from that town. The ceremony of installation was performed by Bro. Forbes, P.M., in his accustomed able manner. Nearly two dozen P.M.'s and W.M.'s were present, including Bros. G. S. Lancaster, P.J.G.W.; M. E. Frost, P.G. Treasurer; H. Cawte, P. Prov. G.W.; G. A. Gale, P. Prov. G.W.; W. H. Ford, P. Prov. G.W.; W. Edmonds, P. Prov. G.R.; J. Tayler, P. Prov. G.W.; E. M. Wells, P. Prov. G.D.; De Fraine, P. Prov. G.D.; A. Cudlipp, P. Prov. G.D.C.; J. Lillywhite, P.M. 257; J. Cornelius Wheeler, W.M. 257; J. Craven, W.M. 342; J. Maltby, W.M. 487; Hall, W.M. 903; E. G. Holbrook, G. A. Green, A. Riddell, J. B. Goldsmith, and W. Johnston, P.M.'s of the Lodge of Harmony, G. Wilkins, P.M. 342. Among the other visitors were Bros. J. Astridge, P. Prov. G.P.; E. Bunting, J.W. 487; W. H. Watkins, G. Bond, Sherman, F. Feltham, F. Feltham, J. Bradford, Woodfall, S. C. Heath, S.D. 248, (Wrexham). The ceremony of installation being concluded, the W.M. appointed the following brethren as his officers:—Bros. Morrison, I.P.M. and Treasurer; J. Whale, S.W.; H. Gilbert, J.W.; E. G.

Holbrook, P.M., Secretary; E. Downing, S.D.; T. Robinson, J.D.; S. Gamblen, I.G.; S. D. Forbes, D.C. About fifty members subsequently sat down to a most recherche banquet, at which the W.M. presided. The proceedings were of a most agreeable and interesting character throughout, the health of the Worshipful Master being received with great enthusiasm.

PORTSEA.—ROYAL SUSSEX LODGE (No. 342).—The installation of Bro. Richard Newland (member of the Portsmouth Town Council) as the W.M. of this lodge took place on Wednesday, the 20th inst., the ceremony being ably conducted by the retiring W.M. (Bro. J. T. Craven). The following brethren were afterwards appointed and invested as officers for the ensuing twelve months:—Bros. Craven, I.P.M.; Turney, S.W.; H. J. Guy, J.W.; Redward, P.M., Treasurer; Willson, P.M., and S. Edwards, Secretaries; W. Payne, S.D. The banquet was provided by Bro. Geo. Bond, of the Castle Hotel, Southsea, and the following toasts were duly honoured:—"The Queen and the Craft," "The M.W. Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and the M.W. Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon;" "The R.W. Deputy Grand Master, Lord Skelmersdale, and the Officers of Grand Lodge;" "The R.W. Prov. Grand Master, Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., and Officers of Provincial Grand Lodge;" "The W.M.'s and representatives of neighbouring lodges;" "The Visitors;" "The Worshipful Master;" "The Installing Master, Bro. Craven;" "The P.M.'s of the Royal Sussex Lodge;" and "The Officers of the Royal Sussex Lodge."

PETERBOROUGH.—ST. PETER'S LODGE (No. 442).—The brethren of this lodge celebrated the Festival of St. John on Thursday, Jan. 14th, in their lodge room. There was a good attendance of the brethren present, amongst them being Bros. the Rev. John Bird, W.M.; R. H. Griffin, W.M. elect; E. Vergette, Buckle, Strickland, Paviour, Davidson, S. B. Smith, E. Vergette, jun., Pilcher, Mangan, Pank, J. Jones, Gaches, W. Dixey, Bays, Bond, Clarabut, Dandy, Keddy, Lound, De Key, Whitsett, Waller, Lythall, Wilkins, Pearson, Pheasant, and others. Amongst the visitors were Bros. Butler, Wilkins, D. Prov. G. M. elect; J. U. Stanton, Jno. Bingley, Pomfret Lodge, 360, Northampton; Marson and Hawley, Socrates Lodge, 373, Huntingdon; Orford, Wright, Peak, and Norton, Lodge of Merit, 466, Stamford; Kew, St. Luke's, 144, Chelsea; Hayward, St. John's, 1306, Wapping. Before the installation of the W.M. elect, Bro. Buckle, Prov. G.S., presented the patent of office to Bro. Butler Wilkins, of the Pomfret Lodge, Northampton, who has been appointed D. Prov. G. M. of Norths and Hunts, by the Prov. G.M. his Grace the Duke of Manchester, and expressed the pleasure it gave them that the choice of the P.G.M. had fallen on so promising a successor to the late D.P.G.M., Bro. S. Inns, of the Lodge of Fidelity, 445, Towcester. Bro. Butler Wilkins thanked the brethren present for the cordial reception given to him, and hoped that the fact of his having been nominated to the office by the brethren at one end of the Province (Northampton), and receiving the document of office at the other (Peterborough), was an augury for good of united action in all Masonic matters amongst the brethren. Bro. E. Vergette, sen., then installed the W.M. elect., Bro. R. H. Griffin, according to ancient custom, in a very impressive manner. The W.M. then went through the ceremonies of raising Bros. Pearson and Pheasant, and of passing Bro. Wilkins, and acquitted himself in such a manner as to receive the congratulations of the brethren present. The D.P.G.M. took the opportunity of congratulating the lodge in electing so efficient a W.M., and considered the fact of the ceremonies being so well performed on the first occasion, promised well for the good working of the lodge throughout the year. The brethren (considerably augmented) afterwards sat down to a banquet in their lodge room, and the evening was spent very harmoniously.

PORTSMOUTH.—PORTSMOUTH LODGE (No. 487).—There was a large attendance of members of this lodge at the meeting on Thursday evening, the 14th inst., on the occasion of the installation of Bro. Thomas Moore as W.M. for the ensuing year. The present position of the lodge is eminently satisfactory, and the W.M. is to be congratulated on entering upon his year of office under the most favourable auspices. The lodge is now one of the most numerous in this part of the country, and possesses the finest hall of any lodge in the neighbourhood. On Thursday evening a gratifying and pleasing event took place at the commencement of the proceedings—the presentation of a handsome gold Past Master's jewel to the retiring W.M. (Bro. J. Maltby), under whose rule the Portsmouth lodge has flourished to an unprecedented extent. The jewel bears the following inscription:—"Presented to Bro. John Maltby, P.M., P. Prov. G.S.B. Hants and Isle of Wight, by the brethren of the Portsmouth Lodge, No. 487, in recognition of his able and valuable services as W.M., 1874." The presentation was made by Bro. G. S. Lancashire, P.M., Prov. J. G. Warden, who referred to the services rendered to the lodge by the recipient. Bro. Maltby suitably acknowledged the gift, so spontaneously offered him by his brethren. The usual formalities having been gone through, Bro. Moore was then installed as W.M. of the lodge, in the presence of the following W.M.'s and P.M.'s:—Bros. G. S. Lancaster, P.J.G.W.; M. E. Frost, P.G. Treas.; Ogburn, P. Prov. G.W.; Forbes, P. Prov. G.W. (Essex); J. Cornelius Wheeler, W.M. 257; Craven, W.M. 342; G. Felton, Lancaster, W.M. 903; A. J. Emanuel, W.M. 1069; Sir John Alleyne, Bart., W.M. 1324; J. Maltby, A. Cudlipp, T. Batchelor, E. Groves, E. G. Holbrook, S. R. Ellis, and Sleeman. The ceremony was ably conducted by Bro. Frost, who has, on many previous occasions, had the opportunity of installing the W.M. of this lodge. At a later period of the evening it was carried by acclamation that the cordial thanks of the lodge be tendered to Bro. Frost. The W.M. appointed the following brethren officers of the lodge for the ensuing year:—Bros. J. Maltby

I.P.M.; E. Bunting, S.W.; G. Bond, J.W.; G. S. Lancaster, P.M., Treas.; M. E. Frost, P.M., and J. Astridge, Secs.; R. W. Beale, S.D.; C. Vine, J.D.; A. German, I.G.; A. Cudlipp, P.M., D.C.; R. Osborne, Organist; G. Sherman and J. Moore, Stewards; J. Watson and J. Exell, Tylers. It was resolved, on the motion of Bro. Frost, seconded by Bro. Astridge, that the best thanks of the lodge be tendered to Bro. Maltby for his services during the past year, and that the same be recorded on the minutes. Upwards of fifty of the brethren subsequently partook of an excellent banquet in the dining room of the hall, at which the W.M. presided. The menu was of the most recherche character, and reflected great credit on Mr. Butler, the caterer. The W.M. proposed the first toast, "The Queen and the Craft," which was duly honoured. "The Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," was proposed, in suitable terms, by Bro. Maltby. Bro. Sir John Alleyne gave "The M.W. Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon." The toast of "The Deputy Grand Master (Lord Skelmersdale) and the Officers of the Grand Lodge" was entrusted to Bro. Cudlipp, who spoke of the rapid strides Freemasonry had made of late years, and alluded, in eloquent terms, to the grand principles of the Craft. Several other toasts followed, "The Health of the Worshipful Master" (proposed in eulogistic terms by Bro. Maltby) being received with great enthusiasm. In responding, Bro. Moore assured the brethren that it would be his earnest endeavour to carry out the duties of his office to the satisfaction of the lodge and with credit to himself. Bro. Ogburn responded for "The Visitors," and gave "The I.P.M., and P.M.'s of the Lodge," which was acknowledged by Bro. Maltby. Bro. Bunting, as Senior Warden, responded for "The Officers of the Lodge," and promised the Worshipful Master, on their behalf, all the aid in their power during his year of office.

Fitz-Roy Lodge (No. 569).—On Friday, 22nd inst., the installation meeting of the Fitz-Roy Lodge was held at the Armoury of the Honorable Artillery Company, and it was attended with the success which distinguishes all the meetings of this lodge, and which its members always exert themselves to promote. This success is not confined to the happiness which prevails whenever the brethren meet at the lodge, but is also of that substantial character which places the lodge in a position to follow the true end of Masonry, and practise the virtue which Freemasons are proud to profess—charity. In short, the funds of the lodge are in a prosperous condition; indeed, so prosperous, that probably no other lodge can parallel it. Its funds, as announced by Capt. Egles, the Secretary, in reading the balance sheet at the last meeting, now amount to £240, besides, among its assets, a stock of wine worth £56, the lodge furniture, officers' collars and jewels, and a valuable piano. Under such circumstances the brethren, habitually happy, and with no drawback to alloy their happiness, could not but be in the best spirits on their installation day, and they entered on their business shortly after four o'clock with great zest. The W.M., Bro. W. H. Honey, a P.M. also of No. 11, took the chair, and opened the lodge, and then initiated a member of the Honorable Artillery Company, Mr. James Smith, in the earliest mysteries of the Craft. The heavier business of installation was entrusted to the veteran P.M. and Treasurer, Bro. Peter Matthews, who, being the father of the lodge, has had that important and onerous duty ceded to him by the presiding Master for several years. He therefore took the chair, and Bro. Honey presented to him Bro. Griffiths Smith, solicitor, S.W., and a P.M. of No. 21 for installation. Bro. Matthews immediately entered on his duties, and installed in impressive style Bro. Griffiths Smith in the W.M. chair. In no less impressive style did Bro. Egles deliver the charges when the W.M. was installed, and the officers were invested, and both Bro. Matthews and Bro. Egles received the applause of the brethren on the completion of the ceremony. The officers appointed for the year were Bros. F. Graves, S.W.; Spicer, J.W.; Peter Matthews, P.M., Treasurer; Capt. J. Egles, P.M., Secretary; Webster, S.D.; Everingham, J.D.; Sanderson, I.G.; and Rafterford, T. During the ceremony there were some seventy brethren in the lodge, and at the Board of Installed Masters twenty were present. Among the brethren were Bros. F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., Past Grand Deacon; J. A. Rucker, Grand Deacon; R. W. Little, Provincial Grand Secretary, Middlesex; Linzel, Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies, Middlesex; Dr. Barringer, Thomas W. White, Main, P.M.; many brethren of the Emulation lodge, and Bro. H. Massey (*Freemason*). At the conclusion of the ceremony, a splendid banquet was provided in the great hall, and on the clearing of the cloth, grace was sung, and the toasts were proposed and honoured. The W.M., in giving the first toast, said that "The Queen" they drank in a double capacity, not only as citizens, but as members of the Hon. Artillery Company. As loyal and true men, they were much concerned at the present time for the health of one of Her Majesty's sons, Prince Leopold, who was also a brother. When another of her sons, the present Grand Master, was ill, they were equally anxious, and they evinced the greatest pleasure when he was restored to health. They wished also to see Prince Leopold restored, and he could not but say they would be pleased to hear when the time should come that he was able to take his third degree, that he had arrived at that grand point in Masonry. "The Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," was the next toast, and the W.M. again drew attention to the exceptional position of the Fitz-Roy Lodge with respect to this toast, as compared with ordinary lodges. His Royal Highness was Colonel of the Company; and as it was out of this Company the lodge was formed, it was with extra enthusiasm they drank his health. Speaking of "The Earl of Carnarvon, Pro Grand Master"—in proposing that nobleman's name as the next toast, in conjunction with Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M., and the Grand Officers—the W.M. said that he worked very hard in Masonry, and had for many years sustained a foremost part in the administration of the

affairs of Grand Lodge. Lord Skelmersdale was also an active worker, and had already served the office of president at one of the festivals of the Girls' School. No doubt he would also serve the other charities when the time came. Of the rest of the Grand Officers, who were represented on that occasion by Bros. Rucker and Philbrick, he could only tell the brethren what they knew before—that their praise was in all the lodges on account of their zeal in the cause of Masonry. Bro. Hervey, G.S., would have been present, but unluckily he was very unwell; and, while regretting this circumstance, the brethren would wish him better and speedy health. Bro. Rucker regretted that he had been chosen instead of Bro. Philbrick to respond, but as the duty of everyone, whether Mason or soldier, was obedience, he would endeavour to reply for the distinguished brethren included in this toast. He could hardly conceive anything more honourable than to be appointed by the Grand Master to hold Grand Office, and the pride was much heightened by having one's name associated with such distinguished Freemasons as the noblemen named in the toast. What the Grand Officers did was well known to all Freemasons, and those who attended Grand Lodge, or knew anything of the constitution of the Board of General Purposes, of the Colonial Board, and those several Boards which managed Masonic affairs, knew that a strong sprinkling of Grand Officers were on them. It was very gratifying to be present at such a lodge as the Fitz-Roy, and to witness the ceremony of installation so ably performed, and such an excellent Master placed in the chair. The ceremony was in fact perfectly performed, and though no doubt there were plenty of P.M.'s in it, who were proficient in that beautiful ceremony one could not but feel delighted at hearing such a veteran brother as Bro. Peter Matthews deliver the ritual of the degree. Bro. Honey, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M.," who, he said, would devote himself entirely to the benefit of the lodge, and fluently perform any of the ceremonies for which he might be called upon. The W.M., in his reply, said little of himself, but dwelt particularly on the kind feeling that was always felt by the members of the lodge towards each other. He said they were a very united lodge, and never had an ill word for one another. As many of the members were members also of other lodges they carried this good feeling abroad and diffused it throughout the Craft. Bro. James Smith responded as "The Initiator," and promised to do his best to make a good Freemason. To the toast of "The Visitors," Bros. Philbrick and Macqueen replied; and a handsome Past Master's jewel was presented by the P.M. to Bro. Honey. Bro. Honey expressed his great gratification at receiving such a mark of the favour of the brethren, and said that although during his year of office the work had not been heavy, the year had been one of the most pleasant he had ever spent with the Masonic brotherhood. Bro. Little replied for "The Charities," and laid their claims very earnestly before the brethren, strongly urging them to support those institutions and thereby show the world that they were imbued with the true Masonic spirit. Charity was the brightest jewel in the Masonic crown, and was the great end of Freemasonry. Without charity Freemasonry was nothing, but with it, the Order were able to demonstrate to the outer world that they did not live for themselves alone. The following Wednesday would see the festival of the Aged Freemasons' Institution, at which it was to be hoped there would be a large subscription. In May the Girls' School would hold their festival, and in June the Boys' School would hold their annual dinner. He asked for the support of the brethren for all these festivals. Bro. Peter Matthews, P.M., Treasurer, and Bro. Egles, P.M., Secretary, returned thanks for their names when proposed, and the other toasts having been disposed of, the brethren separated. The evening was enlivened with some beautiful singing by Bros. Ransford, F. Elmore, Lester, Lawler, Donald King, and Cozens.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—ABBEY LODGE (No. 624).—The installation of the Worshipful Master elect, Bro. R. H. Auty, and the twenty-first anniversary of the Abbey Lodge, Burton-on-Trent, was held on Tuesday, the 19th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Union-street. The lodge having been opened in due form by the W.M., Bro. Lucas, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed, the lodge was again opened in the second degree, when the chair was assumed by Bro. J. Meredith, P.M., as Installing Master, and the W.M. elect, Bro. R. H. Auty, was presented by Bro. Starey. After the usual preliminaries had been gone through, all brethren below the chair retired, and a Board of Installed Masters having been formed, Bro. H. Auty was, according to ancient custom, installed into the chair of K.S., as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, the ceremony being most ably performed by Bros. Meredith and Starey. In due course the other brethren were admitted, and the new W.M. having been proclaimed, greeted, and saluted in the three degrees, proceeded to appoint and instal his officers as follows:—Bro. J. Lucas, I.P.M.; J. Hobday, S.W.; C. Graham, J.W.; Rev. J. Robertson, Chaplain; W. J. Gothard, P.M., Treasurer and Director of Ceremonies; S. Briggs, Secretary; K. Macrae, S.D.; J. Martin, J.D.; L. F. Day, Organist; T. Halliday, I.G.; R. Lane, Tyler. The Provincial Grand Master, the Right Hon. the Earl of Shrewsbury, was present during the installation, but was unable, in consequence of other Masonic engagements, to stop for the banquet; and letters expressing regret for their unavoidable absence were read from the D.P.G.M., Bro. James, Bro. S. C. Allsopp, M.P.; Bro. Geo. Allsopp, Bro. Bodenham, Bro. McLean, and others. Further business having been transacted, the lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to the banqueting hall. Grace having been said by the Rev. J. Robertson (lodge Chaplain), the brethren betook themselves to the agreeable task of discussing the merits of the numerous viands—which pleasing duty inspired them with spirits elate and satisfac-

tory. Under such influence, the cloth was removed, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts followed. The W.M., Bro. Auty, was supported by P.M.'s Lucas, Meredith, Gothard, Russell, Starey, Wood, Bradford, Beadmore, Canton, and others. The W.M. proposed "The Queen and the Craft;" and, in doing so, said he was proud to think that the toast of her Majesty was the first proposed in that Masonic Hall, and he trusted the time was far distant when any toast would supersede or take precedence of that of the sovereign of these realms. Her Majesty, not only from her exalted station, but also from her domestic virtues, was entitled to the esteem and to the affection of every class of her subjects, and by none were those claims more freely admitted or more warmly acknowledged than by the Masons of the United Kingdom. Throughout her career Her Majesty had been closely allied with Freemasonry. More than twenty years ago she became the patroness of the Freemasons' Boys' School, and she still remained their patron, much to the advantage of the Institution. Her Majesty was not only the daughter of a Mason, but three of her children had been admitted members of the brotherhood, and lately by the acceptance of the Grand Mastership of England by the Prince of Wales, another link had been added to Her Majesty's association with the Craft. She being now the mother of the Grand Master of the Order. The toast was duly honoured. The next toast, "The Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family," proposed by the W.M., was warmly received. With respect to the Princess of Wales he could say without fear of contradiction that no lady ever set foot upon these shores who in so short a time had enjoyed, and not only enjoyed but retained, the affection and the sympathies of the people of this country as her Royal Highness had done. Whatever places she visited, wherever she appeared in public she was greeted with most rapturous applause, and he thought those who lived in this part of the country might congratulate themselves that nowhere had her Royal Highness received more enthusiastic welcomes than she did some year or two ago at Derby, and more recently still in the neighbouring town of Birmingham. As to the Prince of Wales, from that day in 1868, when His Royal Highness was initiated into Freemasonry by the late King of Sweden, he had performed all his duties and obligations to the Craft in a manner calculated to arouse the just pride and to fulfil the expectations of every Mason in the country. His Royal Highness was not merely a speculative but he had proved himself to be an operative Freemason. He had himself initiated his brother Prince Arthur, and from the accounts of that event which had been handed down, the ceremony was performed with all the ease and with all the address of a practised Mason. Under all circumstances and in every position in connection with the Craft His Royal Highness had shown himself thoroughly appreciative of the excellency of Freemasonry, and his last step in boldly coming forward, and under peculiar circumstances accepting the Grand Mastership of England, and thereby the most prominent Masonic position in the world, had met with the universal concurrence of Masons. He might say further, not only of Masons, but of the great mass of the Protestant people of this country, who were inclined to look upon that step of His Royal Highness as a sort of a snub—if he might use the expression—to that domineering power which more than once had not hesitated to curse both the Craft and its members. Of His Royal Highness it might be said in the language of our ritual, "He has not thought it derogatory to his dignity to exchange the sceptre for the trowel, he has patronized our mysteries, he has joined in our assemblies." The next toast, "The M.W.G.M. of England, the Pro G.M., and the D.G.M.," was duly given and honoured. "The R.W.P.G.M., the Earl of Shrewsbury, the R.W.D.P.G.M., Bro. James, and the Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge," was then proposed by the W.M., who reminded the brethren of the great interest the P.G.M. had taken in Freemasonry from the time of his acceptance of his high position, that he had never spared himself in his labours for the benefit of the Craft, and was always prominent in every work of charity. The fact of his Lordship's presence among them that evening, his attendance at Cannock to consecrate a new lodge on Wednesday, and his presiding at the Masonic Benevolent Institution in London on the 27th inst., spoke more than words, of his interest in the Craft. Some of the brethren, too, had had the privilege of attending the last quarterly meeting of Grand Lodge at Alton Towers, under the presidency of the P.G.M., and they would not easily forget the way in which the principles of the Craft were there carried out. With reference to the D.P.G.M., Bro. James, all the brethren knew how indefatigable he was in his labours. He had been with them on many previous occasions, and it was a source of regret that other engagements had prevented him from being present at their anniversary to-day. With this toast, which was most cordially received, was coupled the name of Bro. Meredith. Bro. Meredith, in acknowledging the toast, said, it always afforded him much pleasure to visit the Abbey Lodge, and never was that pleasure greater than on the present occasion. After referring to the efficient working of the Lodge, and to the unavoidable absence from the banquet of the Earl of Shrewsbury and P.M. Anderson (the last Provincial Grand Officer), which he was sure all would regret, he concluded by wishing continued prosperity to the Lodge. "The P.G. Masters of the neighbouring Counties" was then given and appropriately responded to by Bros. Past Masters Gothard, Jackson, Hillam, and Bradford. Bro. Lucas then rose and said, he was privileged to give the next toast, which was the toast of the evening. It afforded him great pleasure to have to propose the health of one (as his successor), who was in every sense so well qualified and specially fitted to fill the important office which he now holds. He assured the brethren that it would give them great pleasure to meet Bro. Auty as their Worshipful Master, in the Abbey Lodge, they would see for

themselves the efficient manner in which he would discharge his duties, and carry out the principles of Masonry. The toast was drunk with enthusiasm and musical honours. In acknowledging the toast of the "W.M." Bro. Auty said that he was deeply grateful for the flattering manner in which the toast had been received. He could assure the brethren he had not occupied that chair without a deep sense of the responsibilities attached to the position, it was no slight honour to be the Master of a lodge of such reputation, and which from its numerical strength and working, had long been considered the first in the province. From his first entrance into that lodge he had considered the Master's chair an object of legitimate ambition, and he would recommend every young Mason so to consider it, and work his way into it. Now, however, that he was in the chair, the next most desirable thing seemed to be to get out of it. He had before said, and he was still happy in believing, that the new year had opened most auspiciously. He had a new building to begin with, replete with every comfort and thoroughly adapted for the purpose it was intended for. He had officers equal to any in the province, plenty of work before them, and he believed he possessed the confidence of the majority of the brethren, and when his term of office expired he hoped he should be able to vacate that chair with the consciousness that he had added another stone to the edifice which had been raised by the many and able Masters who had preceded him. The "Visiting Brethren" was heartily given, and appropriately responded to by Bros. Edwards, Fisher, Canton, and Bradford. The "Installing Master, Bro. Meredith," was also given in elegant and eulogistic terms by Bro. Russell, and suitably acknowledged. The "P.M., Bro. Lucas," proposed by the W.M., was most cordially received by the brethren, who testified their appreciation of his labours during the past year, particularly in connection with the new building to which his attention and care had been unceasing. "The Officers of the Abbey Lodge," proposed by Bro. Starey, was acknowledged by Bro. Hobday, S.W., also by the following officers:—Bros. Graham, Robertson, Briggs, Martin, Day, and Gothard. Bro. Russell, P.M., next proposed the "Past Officers of the Abbey Lodge," and coupled with the toast the names of Bros. Bellamy, P.S.W., and Anderson, P. Secretary. This toast being feelingly and appropriately acknowledged, the Tyler's toast concluded a very agreeable and satisfactory re-union of the brethren.

DEVIZES.—WILTSHIRE LODGE OF FIDELITY (No. 663).—The installation meeting of this lodge took place on Tuesday, the 19th inst., at the Town Hall, when Bro. Henry Isaiah Ward, the S.W. for the past year, was installed in the chair of K.S. by Bro. William Nott, P.M. of this lodge, and P. Prov. G. R. Wilts. The newly-installed W.M., after having been duly saluted in the various degrees, proceeded to invest the Officers of the lodge for the ensuing year as follows:—The Rev. Henry Richardson, P. G. Chaplain Wilts, I.P.M.; T. B. Fox, S.W.; Thos. Raymond, J.W.; Rev. H. Richardson, Chaplain; D. A. Gibbs, Treasurer; W. Nott, Secretary; J. Parker, S.D.; W. H. Burt, J.D.; H. Howse, I.G.; T. Waite, M.C.; F. V. Holloway and W. Day, Stewards; S. Badham, Organist; J. Hayter and J. Philpott, Tylers. Explanations of the duties of these officers were given to them by the I.P.M., Bro. Richardson, and the usual addresses to the Master, Wardens and brethren were delivered by the Installing Master, Bro. Nott. The out-going W.M. presented to the lodge a very curious old Engraving of a Model of the Temple of King Solomon, and received for this handsome and appropriate present the thanks of the lodge by acclamation. After the usual routine business of the Annual Meeting, the lodge was closed, and the Members and Visitors adjourned to the Crown Hotel, where a banquet in Bro. Raymond's best style awaited them. Bro. Watson Taylor, of Erlestoke Park, contributed a liberal supply of venison and game. Amongst the visitors present were Bro. R. de M. Lawson, P. Prov. S. G. W. Wilts, P.M. 632, &c.; Henry Wilson, I.P.M. "Royds" 1204; Charles Saxty, S.W. 632; Charles Barnes, G.R.I. 325; and others.

NEWPORT.—ISCA LODGE (No. 683).—The installation of Bro. W. H. Wickey Homfray as Worshipful Master of the Isca Lodge, No. 683, took place at the Grand Masonic Hall, in Dock-street, Newport, on Wednesday, 20th inst. Between forty and fifty brethren were present, amongst them not fewer than fifteen Past Masters, who, in a duly constituted board, installed the W.M. in the chair of King Solomon. The ceremony was performed in a very able manner by Bro. L. Augustus Homfray, brother of the W.M. The following were the officers appointed:—Bros. Major Pearson, I.P.M.; Wm. Hitchcox, Senior Warden; Walter West, Junior Warden; J. W. Osman, Chaplain; Henry Mullock, Treasurer; Jno. Middleton, Secretary; Fredk. Flood, Senior Deacon; E. Lawrence, Junior Deacon; R. J. Chambers, D. of C.; H. J. Groves, Organist; A. P. Filluel, I.G.; Wm. West, jun., Steward; James McBean, Steward; Henry Fletcher, Tyler. Bro. Watkins, W.M., of the Albert Edward Prince of Wales Lodge, was entrusted by the P.G.M. with the jewel of the P.G. Supt. Wks., the office having become vacant by the death of Bro. Randall. After the usual vote of thanks to the P.G.M., the D.P.G.M., the retiring Master, &c., the lodge was closed in Masonic form. The banquet took place at the King's Head Hotel, where Host Gretton had made ample and splendid provision for his guests. From fifty to sixty brethren sat down, under the presidency of the Worshipful Master, Bro. W. H. Wickey Homfray. There were present:—Bros. Colonel C. Lyne, P.G.M. Mon.; Captain J. G. Homfray, D.P.G.M. Mon.; W. H. Wickey Homfray, W.M. 683 and P. Prov. G.S.B. Mon.; Major J. R. Pearson, I.P.M. and P.G.J.W.; L. A. Homfray, P. Prov. G.S.W. and P.M. 683; Captain Haldane, P.M. 818; Rev. J. W. Osman, Chaplain 683; R. Laybourne, P. Prov. G.S.W. and P.M. 683; W. Pickford, P.G. Treasurer and P.M. 471; W. Watkins, P.G. Supt. Works, and W.M. 1429; R. J. Chambers, P. Prov. G.R. and P.M. 683; W. West, P. Prov. G.D.C. and P.M.

471; T. Williams, P. Prov. G.D.C. and P.M. 683; R. B. Evans, P.G.S.W. and P.M. 471; J. Maddock, P. Prov. G.S.B. and P.M. 683; H. J. Groves, P.G. Org. and P.M. 683; C. H. Oliver, P. Prov. G.R. and P.M. 471; W. H. Lloyd, P.G.R. and I.P.M. 1258; J. S. Adam, P.G.J.D. and P.M. 95; J. Griffiths, P. Prov. G. Superintendent of Works and P.M. 471; W. B. Broad, P. Prov. G.D. and P.M. 457; C. Simpson, P.M. 683; C. R. Lyne, P.G.S.B. and S.W. 471; S. W. Harford, P.G.D.C., East Division, South Wales, and S.W. 960; J. Rogers, P.G.S.B., East Division, South Wales, and S.W. 237; W. Parfitt, P.G.D.C. and P.S.W. 683; G. B. Passadora, P.S.W. 683; H. P. Tippings, S.W. 457; G. Hoskins, P. G. Steward; W. Hitchcox, S.W. 683; W. West, J.W. 683; H. Mullock, Treasurer, 683; F. Flood, S.D. 683; E. Lawrence, J.D. 683; W. West, jun., Steward, 683; J. McBean, Steward, 683; H. Fletcher, Tyler; G. W. Jones, 471; J. Abernethy, 471; S. T. Hallen, 471; D. Hopkins, J.W. 960; A. Taylor, 471; J. T. Firbank, 683; Louis Herrnessen, 1429; T. Richards, jun., 683; H. Richards, 1429; A. Williams, 683; Isaac E. Thomas, 1429; H. A. Huzzey, 1067; J. Thompson, 683; J. L. Lloyd, 471; F. Matthews, 471; A. Jacob, 471; J. J. Hale, 683; E. T. Hale, 683; Lewis Rogers, 683; J. B. Schilling, 1005; W. Neill, 237. The toasts were of the usual loyal, patriotic, and social character, which invariably distinguishes these Masonic gatherings. "The Queen and Craft," "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, G.M." "The R.W. the Earl of Carnarvon, Pro G.M.; the Viscount Skelmersdale, Dep. G.M.; and the Grand Lodge of England." Bro. L. A. Homfray proposed "The R.W. Colonel Lyne, P.G.M. of Monmouthshire." Bro. Lyne returned thanks, and proposed "V.W. Samuel George Homfray, D.P.G.M., and the P.G.L. of Monmouthshire." Bro. Homfray returned thanks. The toast of the evening, that of "The W.M. 683, Bro. Wickey Homfray," was entrusted to Bro. Major Pearson, and appropriately acknowledged. Then followed the subjoined toasts:—By Bro. the Rev. J. W. Osman, "The Installing Master, Bro. L. A. Homfray, and the P.M.'s of the Isca Lodge." Bro. L. A. Homfray returned thanks. By Bro. W. West, "The Visitors," coupled with the names of Bros. Rogers and Harford, who returned thanks. Bro. W. Adam, of London, gave "The Masonic Charities," coupled with the name of the D.P.G.M., who returned thanks. Bro. J. Griffiths proposed "The P.G. Superintendent and Officers of the P.G. Chapter." Bro. Col. Lyne, as the P.G.S., returned thanks. Bro. G. W. Jones gave "The Principals and Past Principals of the St. Woolos and other Chapters of the Province." Comps. Thomas Williams and R. B. Evans, as First Principals of the Isca and Silurian Chapters, respectively returned thanks. By Bro. L. A. Homfray, "The W.M.'s and Brethren of the Silurian and Prince of Wales Lodges," coupled with the names of Bro. William Watkins, W.M. of the Albert Edward, Prince of Wales Lodge, and Bro. Gibbs, J.W. 471. "The other Lodges of the Province," was responded to by Bros. Halden and Lloyd. "The Officers of the Isca Lodge," was acknowledged by Bros. Hitchcox and Walter West. The Tyler's Toast, "To all Poor and Distressed Masons, &c.," brought the convivial gathering to a close. In the course of the evening it was announced that Bro. S. G. Homfray had undertaken a stewardship in connection with the Boys' School in May. A collection was made in the room, and the sum of £31 1s. 6d. was realized. Bro. Lyne, as P.G.S. of the Chapter, made a special appeal, and generously offered to subscribe liberally, in order to secure for the P.G. Chapter of Monmouthshire a vice-presidentialship. The sum required is £50. The appeal was at once responded to by a subscription of £25, making the total amount for charitable purposes £56 1s. 6d., in a company not exceeding 56 persons. It is expected that the qualification of £50 will be far exceeded by the contributions of the other Chapters in the Province. Bro. George Homfray will therefore proceed to the Festival in May with something over 200 sovereigns in his pocket as the representative of the Monmouthshire Province.

NEW CONCORD LODGE (No. 813).—At the regular meeting of this lodge there were present Bros. Thos. Bartlett, P.M., Worshipful Master; H. J. Gabb, S.W.; J. Gallant, J.W.; Cusworth, S.D.; Harper, J.D.; Harris, I.G.; Jno. Emmens, P.M.; W. H. Main, P.M., Hon. Sec.; Watkinson, D.C.; Wallsby, Organist; Stead, Steward; and a large attendance of the brethren. Visitors: Bros. Parker, P.M.; Beadon, 619; Turner, High Cross 754; Denhan, Royal Cumberland 41; Hall, Temperance East 898. The lodge was opened at four, and the minutes were read and confirmed. The brethren then proceeded to ballot for candidates for initiation, all of whom were elected. The raisings were then performed, and then the passings. Mr. Westfield, being in attendance, was initiated, the whole of the work being done in Bro. Bartlett's usual impressive manner. Bro. Cusworth, S.D., accepted the office of Steward at the forthcoming festival of the Boys' School in June next. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet, when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and received, "The Masonic Charities" being coupled with the name of Bro. Harper, J.D., who expressed his gratitude to the brethren of the lodge for the handsome list of donations he should take up to the ensuing festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. The evening was enlivened by some excellent singing by Bros. Hubbard, W. S. Taylor, Vernon, Walesby, Morrison, and Wicks.

GOSPORT.—GOSPORT LODGE (No. 903).—The installation of the W.M. (Bro. G. Felton Lancaster) took place on Tuesday, the 12th inst., at the Star Assembly Room, on which occasion there was a numerous attendance of members of the lodge and visiting brethren. The following formed the board of Installed Masters:—Bros. M. E. Frost, S. D. Forbes, Lieutenant Miller, R.M.; Cornelius Wheeler, J. Craven, Ellis, Main, Wallingford, Ubsdell, Sleeman, Maltby, A. L. Emanuel, Stapleford, and J. Hall, I.P.M., by whom the ceremony of installing his successor was performed in a most impressive and re-

markably able manner, doing justice to the sublime ritual of the Craft. The efficient aid rendered by Bro. Hall, and his valuable services to the lodge during his year's rule, and previously as Secretary, were suitably acknowledged, and a Past Master's jewel was presented to him. It bore the following inscription:—"Presented to Bro. John Hall by the brethren of the Gosport Lodge, No. 903, in recognition of his able and valuable services as W.M., 1874." The W.M. appointed his officers as follows, it being a matter of deep regret to the brethren that Bro. the Rev. E. B. C. Churchill had not sufficiently recovered from the effects of a recent accident to be present:—Bros. J. Hall, I.P.M.; J. Maling, S.W.; the Rev. E. B. C. Churchill, J.W.; C. B. Whitcomb, Treasurer; W. Hillier, Secretary; V. Brown, S.D.; Robinson, J.D.; Lover, D. of C.; Wise, I.G.; Misselbrook, Organist; Mitchell and Grant, Stewards. The installation banquet took place at the India Arms, under the presidency of the W.M. After an excellent bill of fare had been discussed, the W.M. proposed "The Queen and the Craft." No class, he said, were more loyal than the Free and Accepted Masons. In submitting "The Most Worshipful Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," the W.M. (who discharged the duties of his position with marked tact and ability), said it was gratifying to see the great interest which his Royal Highness took in the Craft, and in everything connected with it. From the moment of his initiation, he believed he had always evinced a most lively interest in everything connected with Freemasonry; and they might be sure, now that he had attained the highest honour the Craft could bestow upon a member, that that interest would not be lessened. It was a very proud thing that the heir to the Throne was at the head of the Craft, and many of them hoped shortly to be able to attend at his installation. The W.M. next gave "The Most Worshipful the Pro Grand Master (the Earl of Carnarvon) and Officers of Grand Lodge." In introducing "The R.W. Prov. G.M. of Hampshire and Isle of Wight (Bro. W. B. Beach, M.P.), and the Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge, present and past," the W.M. said nothing could be more satisfactory than the attention which the R.W. the P.G.M. gave to the business of the province, from the smallest to the largest item, while the great amount of courtesy which the brethren always met with, merited their warmest commendation. In Bro. Frost they had a very hard-working Grand Officer. His name was never brought forward in Grand Lodge without being received with hearty cheers, showing how well he stood in the estimation of the brethren. Bro. Frost, in responding, congratulated the W.M. upon the position which he had attained, and the lodge upon the admirable manner in which Bro. Hall had carried out his duties as Installing Master. He was gratified to know that the lodge had an outgoing Master who could instal his successor in the way that Bro. Hall had done it that evening. Bro. Lieutenant Miller responded for "The Past Provincial Officers." They all felt indebted to the brother who presided over them, and to whose personal qualifications they were very much indebted for the progress which Masonry had made in the province. Bro. Hall gave "The W.M.," who suitably acknowledged the compliment. "The Worshipful Masters and Representatives of Neighbouring Lodges, and the Visitors," was acknowledged by Bros. Cornelius Wheeler, W.M. 257; G. A. Green, P.M.; G. L. Green, and Major Harris, R.M. The other toasts were "The Installing Master," "The I.P.M. and P.M.'s of the Lodge," and "The Officers of the Lodge." With the aid of harmony, the evening was passed most pleasantly.

WALMER.—LORD WARREN LODGE (No. 1096).—A meeting of the lodge was held on Friday, January 15th, at the lodge-room, Lord Warden Hotel, Walmer. Bros. B. R. Eastes, W.M.; Dyling, acting S.W.; Powell, acting J.W.; Dow, acting S.D.; Drew, acting J.D.; Young, acting I.G.; Usher, P.M. and Secretary; &c. The W.M. passed Bro. Phelps, and Bro. Usher raised Bro. Kirby to the sublime degree of M.M. The lodge was then closed down, when two brothers were proposed and seconded to become joining members and a candidate proposed to be ballotted for at the next meeting for initiation, after which the W.M. rose and said, in a few suitable words, that he had one of the most pleasing duties to perform next, which was to present Bro. T. J. Usher, P.M. and Secretary, with a handsome Past Master's jewel, which the lodge had voted to him for the invaluable services he had rendered the lodge from its formation. After placing it on his coat, Bro. Usher duly responded, and thanked the lodge, and the meeting adjourned.

TREDEGAR.—ST. GEORGE'S LODGE (No. 1098).—On Thursday, Jan. 14th, the installation of Bro. Edward Swidenbank as W.M. of St. George's Lodge, took place. The brethren assembled in the Masonic Hall at two o'clock, when the lodge was opened in due form by the W.M., Bro. J. J. Morgan. The installation ceremony was performed by Bro. G. A. Brown, P.M. 998, P. G. R., 1098, after which the W.M. elect appointed his officers as follows: Bros. J. J. Morgan, I.P.M.; N. Bradley, S.W.; R. Spencer, J.W.; Rev. E. Jones, P. Prov. G. C., 1098, P.S.W. 960; G. A. Brown, Treasurer; C. L. Hunter, Secretary; C. A. Browne, S.D.; H. Hall, J.D., P.G. Steward; J. Evans, I.G.; J. Morgan, D.C.; Golding, Org.; Donlevy, O.G.; C. Widdowson, and J. North, Stewards; Peaty, Sup. of Works. The banquet was held at the Castle Hotel, Bro. R. Spencer, mine host, catering in his usual liberal manner. The assembly room was beautifully decorated with evergreens, and budding geraniums and other flowers, by the Misses Spencer. The chair was taken by the W.M. elect, Bro. N. Bradley being his *vis-a-vis*. About fifty brethren attended the banquet, there being several from Abergavenny, Cardiff, Newport, Rhymney, Ebbw Vale, and one from Australia. The W.M. gave the toast of "Queen and the Craft," the National Anthem and "God bless the Prince of Wales," being sung in full chorus. Bro. Brown gave the "Prince of Wales (the M.W. Grand Master) and

the rest of the Royal Family." Song, "God Bless the Prince of Wales." Toast, "The R.W. the Pro G.M., the Earl of Carnarvon," proposed by the W.M. "The R.W. P.G.M. Bro. Col. Charles Lyne," "The V.W. the D.P.G.M. P.G.M. Captain S. G. Homfray." "The Bishop and Clergy and Ministers of all Denominations," by Bro. W. Davis, P.M. 1098. Responded to by Bro. Rev. E. Jones, Chaplain 1098, and Bro. Rev. J. H. Hughes, 1098. "The Installing Master, Bro. G. A. Brown, P.M. 998, P. Prov. G. R. Mon. and 1098." Responded to by Bro. Brown. "The W.M.," by Bro. Morgan, I.P.M. Responded to by the W.M. "The Past Masters of the Lodge" was given by the W.M., and Bro. J. Lewis responded. "The Lodges of the Province" was proposed by Bro. H. Hale, and replied to by Bro. W. Lloyd. Bro. G. A. Brown gave "The Visitors," and expressed the pleasure he felt at seeing so large a muster from distant places. Bro. Spooner, who had only recently returned from Australia, replied to the toast. Bro. R. Laybourne gave "The Chapters of the Province." The toast of "The Officers of the Lodge" was proposed by the W.M. Bro. R. Spencer responded, and in a few felicitous remarks concluded an allusion to his old friend, the W.M., as follows: if his eloquence will not adorn the chair, I am quite sure his principles will. "The Tyler's" toast was proposed by Bro. G. A. Brown. Bro. Golding presided at the piano, and some capital songs were contributed by Bros. Lloyd, Brown, North, J. Morgan, T. Spencer, and others. Bro. J. Spooner presented a handsome Masonic jewel to the W.M., Bro. Swidenbank. Accompanying the jewel was a letter, the contents of which were supposed to have reference to the continual kindness shown by the W.M. towards the near relatives of the writer during the long years of the absence of the latter in Australia. This closed a purely Masonic evening, at an early hour.

METROPOLITAN LODGE (No. 1507).—The regular monthly meeting of this young lodge was held on the 21st inst., at the Metropolitan Club, 269, Pentonville-road, under the presidency of Bro. James Willing, jun., W.M. Among the other brethren present were Bros. Michael, S.W.; Williams, J.W.; Tims, P.M. Treasurer; Child, S.D.; Kingham, J.D.; Douglas, I.G.; Stiles, Scale, Side, Cheek, W. B. Clarke, J. Pomeroy, W.M. 723; J. S. Wilkes, 177; Harris, and Croaker. Bros. Colls, Hopton, Jones, Cook, and Carter were raised; Bros. Gilbert, Dunmore, Cox, Trimmings, Brumell, Bunkill, and Easey were passed; and Messrs. Tims, Hutton, and Horton were initiated. Bro. Abbott Smith, and T. J. Cadett were balloted for as joining members; and the W. Master's motion "That a Lodge of Instruction be attached to the lodge, under the presidency of the W.M." was brought on and carried. Banquet was afterwards provided, to which 41 brethren sat down; and the toasts were afterwards honoured. Bro. Tims, P.M., proposed "The W. Master's Health," and in reply, Bro. Willing referred to the great prosperity of the lodge in this, its first year; everything the lodge possessed being paid for, and the Treasurer having in hand £60.

Royal Arch.

BARNSTAPLE.—CHAPTER OF LOYALTY AND VIRTUE (No. 251).—On Wednesday, the 20th inst., the annual meeting of this chapter was held at the Masonic Hall, Queen Ann's-walk, when, after the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, the officers for the ensuing year were appointed as follows:—Comps. F. Symons, Z.; W. H. Brewer, H.; W. Britton, J.; Joseph Harper, P.Z.; E. Furse, Scribe, E.; J. T. Shapland, Scribe, N.; Wm. Oliver, Principal Sojourner; J. T. Widgery, Assistant Sojourner; John List, Treasurer; J. Edwards, Organist; A. Bater and H. J. Hancock, Janitors. After some brethren had been proposed for exaltation, the chapter was closed according to ancient custom. The companions then adjourned to the Royal and Fortescue Hotel, where a banquet was prepared by Comp. May, and a most pleasant evening was spent under the very able presidency of Comp. Brewer.

Scotland.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF GLASGOW.

A special meeting of the P.G.L. of the Province was held on the 14th inst., in St. Mark's Hall, Buchanan-street. The R.W.M., Bro. W. Montgomerie Neilson, presided, supported by Bros. J. Baird, R. Robb, J. B. Walker, J. Fraser, J. Balfour, T. Halkett, J. Gillies, A. Allison, and G. Thallon. The lodge having been duly opened, the Chairman said that, as they were aware, this was a special meeting, called for the purpose of nominating office-bearers of the lodge for the Masonic year 1875. According to custom, the members of the P.G.L. Committee had met an hour previous for the purpose of preparing and commending to their approval a list of names of brethren whom they considered eligible to hold the respective offices to be filled up, and that list the Secretary, Bro. McTaggart, would now put before them. The Secretary accordingly did so, with the result that in almost every case the nominee of the committee was approved of *nem. con.* The following is the list of those who were thus *de facto* elected:—J. B. Walker, Treasurer; J. Gillies, S.D.; G. Thallon, J.D.; J. Ritchie, P. G. Architect; R. Robb, P. G. Marshal; J. Fraser, Assistant Marshal; A. Allison, P. G. Jeweller; A. Bain, P. G. B.B.; J. Balfour, P. G. D. of C.; J. Miller, P. G. Dir. of Music; W. Phillips, P. G. Swordbearer; A. Arriek Smith, P. G. Inner Guard; J. B. Hardie, P. G. Outer Guard; G. Sinclair, Treasurer of the Benevolent Fund. It was agreed, on the recommendation of the Committee, that the salary of the O.G. be £5 a year, and also that the annual levy on the province for the support of P.G.L. be continued at the rate of £2. Thereafter, the Chairman said that with reference to his own commissioned office-bearers (viz., the D.M., S.M., S.W., and J.W.), he was not

going to name them just yet. He had been for some time in communication, with a very influential gentleman in Glasgow—one, too, with plenty of money—whom he (the Chairman) wanted to come and take office among them, and put his hand to the work and help them. That was his reason for not being that night prepared to name his office-bearers; but he hoped by next meeting night to present a list that would meet their approval. After some discussion regarding the forthcoming festival of all the lodges in the province, to be held on Friday next in the City Hall, the lodge was duly closed.

GLASGOW.—**LODGE ST. JOHN (No. 5).**—This most prosperous lodge held their regular bi-monthly meeting in their lodge room, 213, Buchanan-street, Glasgow, on Tuesday, 19th inst. Bro. Wm. Bell, R.W.M., in the chair. Bros. John Young, S.W.; David Horn, J.W.; R. B. Dalzell, Treasurer; John Dick, Secretary; P. Brownlie, S.D.; John Reid, J.D.; and the remaining officers in their places; there were also present: Bros. Thomas Fletcher, P.M.; J. B. Walker, P.M.; W. H. Bickerton (*Freemason*); and a large gathering of the members of the lodge and visiting brethren. The lodge was opened by the R.W.M.; minutes read and confirmed. Letters of application were read to admit the following gentlemen into the Order (duly proposed and seconded), viz.:—John F. McFarlane, Robt. Boyle, jun.; James Paterson, and Daniel Montgomery; there being no objection, the candidates entered and received the Entered Apprentice Degree. The lodge was then raised to Fellow Craft, when the following brethren received that degree, viz.: Jas. Paterson, John F. M. Farlane, Robt. Boyle, jun.; Daniel Montgomery, James Buttle, and Andrew Cameron. The ceremony of both degrees being performed in a most able manner; the 1st degree by the R.W.M., Bro. Wm. Bell; and the 2nd degree by the Secretary, Bro. John Dick. Bro. Wm. Bell, R.W.M., reminded the brethren of the festival of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow, to take place in City Hall, on Friday, 22nd inst., the proceeds of which was to be devoted in aid of the benevolent fund. He therefore hoped that as many members of St. John's as possible would endeavour to be present on that occasion. The lodge was then called from labour to refreshment, where it remained in harmony until high twelve, recalled to labour and closed in due form.

COLTNESS.—**LODGE ST. MARY (No. 31).**—At a general meeting of this lodge, held in Scott's Commercial Hall, the following office-bearers were duly installed for the ensuing year: Bros. Robert Kelso, R.W.M.; Charles Gilchrist, P.M.; Alexander Marshall, D.M.; Robert Scott, S.M.; R. Laurie, S.W.; James Wyllie, J.W.; P. Pearson, Secretary; James Scott, Treasurer; Wm. Forrest, Chaplain; Thomas Fulton, B.B.; James Barr, S.D.; Robert McKillop, J.D.; Wm. Sandilands, S.S.; John Lyle, J.S.; David Dalziel, S.B.; H. Naismith, I.G.; J. Braidwood, Tyler.

GLASGOW.—**LODGE THISTLE (No. 87).**—The members of this lodge met in their lodge-room, No. 12, Tron-gate, Glasgow, on Tuesday, the 19th inst., Bro. J. W. Burns, R.W.M., in the chair; Bros. Jas. Booth, S.W.; Wm. Wilson, J.W.; John Miller, P.M.; C. K. Jenkins, D.M.; Jas. Love, S.M.; Thos. Paton, Treasurer; D. McDougall, Secretary; W. H. Bickerton (*Freemason*); and a goodly number of brethren and visitors. The lodge was opened by the R.W.M., and the minutes of last meeting and applications from candidates for admittance into the Order read and confirmed. There being no objections to the candidates, Mr. H. Palmer and G. H. Barton received the first degree. Bros. J. Robertson, J. Brown, C. C. Lapsley, and John Lindsay, were then passed to the degree of Fellow Craft, and raised to the degree of Master Mason, the ceremonies being carried out in a most impressive manner—the first degree by the R.W.M., Bro. J. W. Burns, the two last by P.M. John Miller. The lodge was then closed in due form.

GLASGOW.—**LODGE UNION (No. 332)** met in their lodge-room, 170, Buchanan-street, Glasgow, on Monday, the 18th inst., it being their regular bi-monthly meeting. Bro. J. B. Macnair occupied the chair, and there were also present Bros. D. McKeidy, S.W.; J. Fash acting as J.W.; R. Mitchell, P.M.; Jas. Balfour, W. H. Bickerton, (*Freemason*); and a goodly number of brethren. The minutes of last meeting having been read and some private matters connected with the lodge discussed, applications for admittance to the Order were read from Mr. Wm. Goudie, H. Veysey, A. E. Bartlett, and R. Williams, their application being received unanimously. During the absence of the candidates in the adjacent room, Bro. Balfour gave notice of motion for the raising of the fees of the lodge. The candidates then entered, Mr. Wm. Goudie receiving the 1st degree, and H. Veysey, A. E. Bartlett, and R. Williams the three degrees, they having been certified as about to leave Scotland on Friday, 22nd inst. The ceremony of the whole three degrees being performed in a most able and impressive manner; the first degree by the R.W.M., Bro. J. B. Macnair; the second by Bro. Fash; the third by J. Dobbie, S.M. There being no further business, the lodge was closed in due and ancient form.

GLASGOW.—**LODGE COMMERCIAL (No. 360).**—The regular bi-monthly meeting of this lodge was held in their lodge-room, 30, Hope-street, Glasgow, on Friday, the 15th inst., Bro. John Munro, R.W.M., in the chair; Bros. J. M. Olliver, S.W.; Wm. Finlay, acting J.W.; J. Brode, P.M.; Wm. Bell, R.W.M. Lodge St. John, No. 3 bis. Deputations from Lodge Thistle, No. 87, and Lodge Union, No. 332; Bro. W. H. Bickerton (*Freemason*), and a goodly number of brethren. The lodge was opened by the R.W.M., and the minutes of last meeting read and confirmed. The R.W.M., Bro. J. Munro, gave a Masonic reading in a most impressive and masterly style, to the great delight of all those present. There being no further business, the lodge was closed in due form.

CAMBUSNETHAN.—**LODGE ST. CLAIR (No. 427).**—The brethren of this lodge held their usual monthly meeting on the 15th inst. in their lodge room, when the follow-

ing office-bearers were duly installed:—Wm. Smith, R.W.M.; Thomas Gillespie, D.M.; W. McGibbon, S.M.; Walter Gibbs, Secretary; Anthony Muir, Clerk; David Johnstone, Treasurer; Henry Hamilton, S.W.; William Johnstone, J.W.; George Kirk, Chaplain; Wm. Stark, S.D.; W. Brown, J.D.; Andrew McCredie, S.S.; John Frame, J.S.; James Nichol, I.G.; John Nelson, S.B.; P. Burns, Tyler.

GLASGOW.—**LODGE MARIE STUART (No. 541).**—In the *Freemason* of the 9th inst., we reported the first of a series of three meetings of instruction, organized by the R.W.M. of this young and prosperous lodge, Bro. J. D. Porteous, and held in the Queen's Park Rooms, Crosshill, on 21st ult. On that occasion, as local readers will remember, the ceremonial of initiation was performed in an impressive manner by Bro. Julius Brode, S.M. of the lodge. On Monday, 11th inst., the second meeting of the series was held in the same place. In the absence, through indisposition, of the R.W.M., Bro. Brode presided, and of the other Office-bearers there were present Bros. W. Mc G. Mason, S.W.; Jas. Stamm, J.W.; S. Findlater, Treasurer; and R. A. Buchanan, Secretary. On the dais, supporting the chairman, were Bros. Walker, Chaplain; William Gillies, P.M. of the lodge; and John Munro, R.W.M. 360. Among the visiting brethren present were Bros. William Wilson, J.W. 87; a deputation from Lodge 347 (St. John's Operative, Rutherglen), consisting of Bros. John Cunningham, R.W.M.; David Smart, S.M.; and John Murdoch, S.W.; Bros. D. Lamb, D.M. 360, and J. Stewart, *Freemason*. The lodge having been opened in the E.A. degree, the Chairman first called attention to a pair of marble ashlar, one rough hewed and the other polished, laid on the table before him, and then read a letter from the donor, Bro. Stamm, J.W., in which he said:—"In presenting these emblems to Lodge Marie Stuart 541, I have been asked to say a few words, both from an operative and speculative point of view. First, from an operative point of view, we are all aware that a stone as it comes from the quarry is unfit for the use of the builder until it is put under the hands of the persevering craftsman who, with maul, chisel, square, and compass, and the Architect's plan on the trestle-board, transforms it into a thing of beauty in order to adorn the building for which it is intended. We, however, as speculative masons look upon these emblems from a much higher and nobler standpoint. First, all men are born into this world on the level, all are as rough stones from the quarry, and according as the light of education dawns upon them, so is the first application of the chisel which may make them statesmen, or suit them to move in whatever capacity they may be placed in this life, and with their mind divested of all impurities, prepares them for those mansions, not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. With these few remarks, brethren, I beg to hand over these emblems to Lodge Marie Stuart and to the care of the present R.W.M. and to his successors in office in perpetuity, and trust they may not suffer the fate of their predecessors. The chairman then introduced Bro. Munro, R.W.M. Lodge Commercial (360), who, he said, would perform the work of the evening, and from whose instructions he trusted they would all derive benefit that night. Bro. Munro then entered upon a lengthy and interesting lecture, in which, while tracing the origin and objects of Freemasonry generally, he referred in particular to the nature and obligations of the second, or Fellow-Craft, degree. He thereafter passed Bro. Peter Martin from the E.A. degree to that of Fellow-Craft in unusually complete and impressive form, the ceremonial including music vocal and instrumental, under the superintendence of Bro. Schob, Organist of No. 541. The third and concluding meeting of the series is announced for Monday, 22nd. prox., when the ceremonial of raising to sublime degree, with service of music from Mendelssohn's "Antigone," will be performed by the accomplished R.W.M. of the lodge, Bro. J. D. Porteous.

DISTRICT GRAND LODGE OF GIBRALTAR.

The regular half-yearly meeting of this lodge, was held on Monday, 28th December last, at the rooms of the Lodge of Friendship, and was presided over by the R.W.D.G.M., Bro. Cornwell, supported by the R.W. Deputy D.G.M., Bro. Capt. Gibbard. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, as also the financial statement for the past year. The officers for the ensuing year were appointed and invested by the District Grand Master.

It was resolved that the thanks of the lodge, as also a testimonial, be presented to Bro. R. B. Hepper, the District Grand Secretary, for his constant efforts in furthering its welfare, and for the great skill and ability displayed by him in designing and arranging the books and documents connected with the records of the lodge.

After a few words of friendly counsel from the Grand Master to the various lodges, the Grand Lodge was closed in due form.

WINES AND SPIRITS (Foreign) on

which Duty was paid in London by some of the principal firms during the past year.

WINES (FOREIGN)	Gallons	SPIRITS (FOREIGN)	Gallons
W & A Gilbey	886,298	W & A Gilbey	348,534
Dingwall, Portal & Co	130,632	Twiss & Browning	193,211
F W Cosens	115,800	Daniel Taylor & Sons	165,005
R Hooper & Sons	103,095	Trower & Lawson	163,687
Max Greger & Co	100,166	Dingwall, Portal & Co	130,794
D Taylor & Sons	86,555	Galbraith, Grant & Co	91,828
Dent, Urwick & Co	79,791	R Hooper & Sons	84,264
Cunliffe and Co	78,251	E S Pick & Co	65,362
T W Stapleton & Co	76,834	R Burnett & Son	58,691
W J Murray	76,202	Dunn & Vallentin	56,320
H T Mayfield	73,665	Osmond & Co	56,181
C G Phillips & Co	72,003	Fulcher & Robinson	46,549

Besides the preceding there were about 200 firms who paid duty on Wines and Spirits in less quantities than those above mentioned. — *The Trade Review*, 15th January 1874.

NOTICE.

The Subscription to THE FREEMASON is now 10s. per annum, post-free, payable in advance.

Vol. I., bound in cloth	4s. 6d.
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United States of America.

THE FREEMASON is delivered free in any part of the United States for 12s. per annum, payable in advance.

The Freemason is published on Saturday Mornings in time for the early trains.

The price of the Freemason is Twopence per week; annual subscription, 10s. (payable in advance.)

All communications, letters, &c., to be addressed to the Editor, 198, Fleet-street, E.C.

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

Births, Marriages and Deaths.

DEATH.

BELL.—On the 12th January, very suddenly, at his residence, Thirsk Hall, Bro. F. Bell, P.M., P.Prov.G.S.W., aged 44.

Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 6 o'clock on Wednesday evening.

All Communications should be sent to 198, Fleet Street.

HIRAM.—Can a W.M. vacate his chair?

[We think not—the W.M. can call on a P.M. to assist him, but he should stand by the Master's side. The Master alone can govern the lodge.—En.]

P.M.—In case a Warden, Secretary, or other assistant officer in a lodge resigns his office, has the W.M. power—see Book of Constitutions, p. 79, section 9—to appoint another brother to the post at once? If so, has the W.M. power to “invest” the newly-appointed brother in open lodge? Further—If the resignation results in a step being given to each of the junior officers, is it necessary for them to formally resign their present respective collars, and to be “invested” with those belonging to their new office in open lodge?

[We are of opinion that the W.M. has power, on resignation, to appoint another officer, just as in the case of “displacement,” which is specially provided for by the Book of Constitutions. P.M. is no doubt aware that no mention of resignation occurs in the Book of Constitutions at all, and the step is apparently not contemplated, at any rate, it is a “casus omissus” in our Masonic jurisprudence. Indeed, it has been contended that no officer can resign, especially as the Book of Constitutions has made no provision for such a step. With regard to the other officers, we could not advise such a proceeding as change of situation and re-investment. In the case of a Junior Warden, it would simply disqualify him for the Master's Chair. We do not think such a course is either legal or practicable. The only alternative in such a case of absolute resignation is the appointment and investment of a new officer, “pro tanto,” in open lodge, to fill up the vacancy until the next regular appointment of officers.—En.]

A CORRECTION.—In the report of the Lodge of Fortitude, Truro, page 31, Bro. Hughan, in speaking of Lord Petre, is made to say that his lordship presided “nominally” over the Grand Lodge. It should be “Roman Catholic nobleman presided over the Grand Lodge.”

The following communications stand over:—

Letters on “Masonic Jurisprudence” from T. A. D. U., and W. Letter from Bro. Harriott. Funeral of Bro. F. Bell. Reports of lodges:—Phoenix, 331; British Union, 114; Faith, 141; Duke of Edinburgh, 1182; Combermere, 645; Alliance, 667; Hartington, 1021; Norman, 1334; Ivy, 1441; Pleaides, 710; Hemming, 1512; Gosport, 903; John o'Gaunt, 523; Urban, 1196; Tregulow, 1006; Union of Waterloo (Instruction), 13. Scotland:—Mother Kilwinning; Athole, 384.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30, 1875.

OUR ROYAL BROTHER, PRINCE LEOPOLD.

The state of the august sufferer's health still must inspire some uneasiness in all who read the cautious bulletins. He continues very weak, but there is yet grounds for hope. The whole Craft deeply feel for and sympathize with the Queen and the Royal Family.

BROTHERLY LOVE.

We hear a good deal in Freemasonry of brotherly love; it is alike the key-note of our teaching, and the foundation-stone of our whole great Masonic building. But brotherly love, like most other virtues—charity especially—has a duplex existence, if we may so speak, in the conscience and acts of man; has two sides, so to say, in its theoretical teaching and its practical development. For instance, we may have the technical performance of charity without its constraining spirit; we may have the letter of brotherly love without having embraced fully its gentle and healing and tolerant sympathies. We may give liberally; our names may be inscribed on many charitable tablets, and found on many subscription lists; but yet we may remain all the while, even to our dying day, narrow-minded and intolerant, fanatical and uncharitable to our fellow men. We have given of our substance, as we think, fairly and freely for works of piety or utility or benevolence; but we have not entered into that diviner spirit, which is ever best shown forth here, by the loving heart and the enlarged mind. And so it is with brotherly love. We talk a deal about it, we profess it very often; it is the glory and distinguishing merit of Masonic teaching, in our eyes, and we boast of our practising what we profess—of our actions following our precepts. In one sense, no doubt, we do carry out its genuine teaching in our great channels of active benevolence; and our Masonic charities may fairly be adduced in defence of this Masonic vitality of ours. But though it is true, as we feel bound to say, that we give with no niggard hand, whether to the Benevolent Institution or the Orphan Academies, we yet often fail, as it appears to us, in another feature of true brotherly love, kindness, and fairness to others. How often, for instance, do we see in Masonic literature, the most remarkable evidence of a thoroughly non-Masonic spirit in the unbrotherly letter and the hostile incrimination. How frequently do we note that the profession of brotherhood is only a cloak for much of personal animosity, for feelings of active antagonism, and relentless opposition. Rivalries and jostlings for place or influence will ever arise and abound in all earthly institutions; and Freemasonry does not profess, as it cannot expect to be exempt from the frailties of humanity. But yet we might have anticipated, from our own first principles, that if such all but inevitable tendencies were developed in our fraternity, they would be somewhat checked and mitigated by the benign teaching and holy morality of our benevolent Order. Yet, alas! not so! There are always some little men who will be jealous of their neighbours; there are ever some inferior minds who will begrudge to talent its rightful sway, and to high character its well-earned reputation. And if, in addition to this, we call to mind that men will not always “run straight” here; that there are those who are neither very creditable members of society, or very scrupulous citizens of the word, who are flippant in speech, vulgar in sentiment, and lax in morals, we must concede, we fear, that, whether as men or as Freemasons, brotherly love cannot be fully appreciated, and, above all, perfectly realised by very many of us all in our transactions through life, in our conversation in the world. Were we to attempt to defend Freemasonry as perfect, and only made-up of those who fully acted up to what they professed, we should be doing more harm than good. We write to improve as well as to inform, to amend as well as to elucidate. We will therefore attempt to sketch out one or two defects in our higher spiritual practice of brotherly love, and to point out, if most imperfectly, what we believe to be the true teaching of our own incomparable formularies, and of the great and ennobling principle of fraternal goodwill in its highest of all representations and characteristics. We may some of us remember how an inspired writer has told us that though we may give all our goods to feed the poor, yet if we “have not charity” we are, after all, really as “sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal.” If then we wish to cultivate the highest and truest spirit of brotherly love ours must be a surrender of all that is mean, and low, and base, and treacherous,

and unworthy in our intercourse with our fellow creatures, above all with our brother Masons. We must not think that in order to carry a point or gain an end, we may strain the moral law, on this side or that. If we fancy that we can rise on the fall of others, if we believe that some of our brethren are in our way, if prompted by ambition or tempted by interest, we are given to think that all is fair, if only we succeed, we shall soon over-step the narrow boundary line which divides truth from falsehood, honour from dishonour, treachery from fair dealing, and right from wrong. So too, again, brotherly love bids us always to be most careful of the character of our brethren, to be most chary of believing any reports to their disfavour or discredit. There are those who have an innate love of gossip, of scandal, of detraction which nothing can weaken or remove. To them the idle tale of a brother's folly, for we are all mortal, to them the sadder story of a brother's disgrace, are literally a source of actual enjoyment. They listen with greediness, they retail with alacrity. It matters to them nothing, what feelings they hurt, what wounds they inflict, what tender hearts they lacerate. “Dame rumour,” for them is no “idle jade,” but a lady of the highest reputation. Unlike the good old parson, whom Præd paints for us in such pleasant verse, who did not “count all scandal fair, although he had a taste for joking,” they are deeply impressed with Father Bartolo's theory of the excellency and expediency, nay, of the necessity, of “La Calomnie.” And thus it comes to pass, that when in Freemasonry we look for brotherly love amidst our professed declarations, the moment we dive beneath the surface—we find too often as in most of the things of this world, that lip-verbiage is one thing, that heart-truth is another. Great and good as Freemasonry is, it wants from time to time the reminder that on it, as on all other human institutions, are inscribed in indelible letters, these two sad little words, “Frailty and Decay.” If we are sincere in our professions, as many of us are, if we love Freemasonry for its own inherent graces, and not for the glamour of its idle show, or high name, or stately rank, or festive hilarity, or glittering decorations, we shall rejoice to be once again reminded of our higher duties, and warned against passing imperfections. The truest of all philosophers is he who seeks not to please but to instruct, not to gratify but to edify, and he is the soundest of Masonic teachers, in our humble opinion, who does not “daub the wall with untempered mortar,” but speaks out clearly, freely, manfully, honestly, face to face, and heart to heart, for the welfare of our common Order, and the elevation of an honourable brotherhood.

GRANTS TO THE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

Bro. Binckes has announced, though not in our columns, what was his intended amendment to Bro. Clabon's motion in Grand Lodge, namely, “a reference to the Board of General Purposes to report on all present Grand Lodge grants to the charitable institutions associated with the Order.” If we understand Bro. Binckes correctly, £150 is now paid by Grand Lodge to the Boys' School, and Bro. Binckes thinks that the time has come, when “Grand Lodge might fairly be asked to reconsider the amount annually contributed from its funds to the two educational institutions.” The time may have arrived certainly when such a matter may fairly be considered, but, on the whole, we are inclined to think that we had better “leave well alone.” The Girls' School cannot clearly allege the same claim as the Boys' School, namely, absence of funded capital, and we do not see what any grant our Grand Lodge could vote would do for that object, which is now the main “desideratum” for the Boys' School. Bro. Binckes seems to think that £800 annually, as representing the 1812 grant on the certificates, would be about the figure, but supposing an equal amount granted to the Girls' School, that would necessitate £1,600 annually. Serious objections occur to us at once to any such proposal. In the first place, at our last audit, the balance of the Fund of Benevolence would not have paid £1,600, or, if it

did, it would have left the Fund of Benevolence penniless. In the next place, if we are to have a revision of grants, we must have, it appears to us, a revision of a good many other matters. There are many points which, when such a contingency takes place, would require consideration, as, from some experience in educational work, we express a very common opinion on the subject, when we say that we cannot admit "finality" or "perfection" to be the characteristics of the arrangements of any educational institutions. We are still of opinion that our Masonic Educational Institutions having flourished so greatly and expanded so wondrously on the liberal offerings of the Craft, without subsidies to fall back upon, had far better adhere to a course which has been productive of so much good to them in the past. We admit that candidates are many; indeed, Bro. Binckes rates them, we see, for the four institutions at 525, though we should like to see the official figures. Our course would be easier altogether if we were enabled, on the authority of our great institutions themselves, to lay the "hard reality of figures" and the actual facts of the case before our brethren. As it is, we have to have recourse to what we can obtain for ourselves in the best way we can, or to second-hand information, in sparse quantity, and often after date.

THE ORIENTAL ORDER OF THE TEMPLE.

Until we read the paper which is to be found in our "Masonic Notes and Queries," we confess that we had never heard of this Order. Perhaps it was our great ignorance. But yet with some little knowledge of old documents and Knightly Orders, we have never before lighted upon the "Oriental Order of the Temple." This circular is very interesting, and if its claims to historical authenticity are admitted, it must be a very ancient Order. But yet, who is Roger de Flor? We have thus, it will be seen, a "duplex transmissio." This circular assumes the Larmenius Charter to be genuine; we have, we are sorry to say, the gravest doubts on that subject. Roger de Flor is apparently of Spanish origin, and so must be Sancho de Vargas; but we had always understood historically that the Order of the Temple in Spain had been incorporated with the Spanish Order of Calatrava. Yet here we have a Spanish perpetuation at Constantinople. We shall be glad to see the Charter of this new branch of the Templars, the more so as the words quoted, which we presume are translated from the Latin, are hardly early 14th century words. The whole question of the Templar perpetuation deserves enquiry, as if we have thus two charters dating, one at Constantinople, 1313, and another at Paris, 1324, and they stand the scrutiny of the expert, there can be no doubt, but, that we have a Templar perpetuation still. We see that the circular states that since 1313 Roger de Flor, custodian of the original seal, re-established the Order, having also received transmitted powers in 1307, from Jaques de Molay. Thus, in 1313 the Militia or Order of the Temple was set up again at Constantinople, by the Charter of the Constitution, of date Easter Monday, 1313, and confirmed in 1316, so that this Order has been "preserved to the present day." We shall be obliged to the brother who has kindly sent us this circular, if he will favour us with a little more detailed information of the historical evidence of the Order, and a fuller account of the Charter of Roger de Flor, on which this "Oriental Order of the Temple," apparently relies for its continuation and existence in the world.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION ANNIVERSARY, 1875.

We are unable, as we go to press on Thursdays, to do more than just allude to this interesting event. We hope to recur to the subject next week, and refer our readers to the report in our columns. We are glad, however, at being able to announce that the amount reported on the various lists reaches to the sum of £6,630 13s. 6d., with eleven lists to come in.

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 DEGREE OF MARK MASTER AND EXCELLENT MASTER.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

The letter of your able and intelligent correspondent, Bro. Walter Hill, of New Zealand, in your last number, with enquiry as to the "true position" of the two degrees above mentioned, will doubtless attract the attention of brethren better qualified to reply than myself, but I am anxious to address a few observations on the points raised by Bro. Hill with reference to the degree of Mark Master.

Though not admitted as such by the United Grand Lodge of England, there can be no doubt in the mind of any dispassionate and unbiassed student that the Mark Degree possesses sufficient internal evidence to justify its title to be considered an integral portion of "pure and ancient Freemasonry." I may assert this without entering into the vexed question why the Grand Lodge of England, at the settlement of 1813, declined its recognition as such, seeing that under every other jurisdiction the degree is regarded as more or less essential.

The difficulty in connection with the Mark Degree is, as your correspondent rightly states, its "position" in relation to other degrees.

Claiming for the Mark an antiquity superior to that of the Master Mason's degree, it may seem anomalous that by the Constitutions of the English Grand Lodge of M.M.M., the degree can be conferred only on those who are M.M., but it must be borne in mind that in the organisation of the present Grand Mark Lodge many points of delicacy and difficulty presented themselves. Prominent amongst these was the risk of "colliding" in some way with the Grand Lodge of England, which—no matter what some of their opponents may state to the contrary—it was the anxious desire of the founders of the Mark Grand Lodge to avoid. To steer clear of one difficulty, the rule was made that the degree should be conferred only on M.M.'s, and Bro. Hill will remember in a very early portion of our ritual, this part of the W.M.'s address to the candidate. "Since the, &c., and the institution, &c., of, &c., as practised in this country, a regulation has been made, &c."

But to discuss more closely the proper position the Mark Degree should occupy in the Masonic system. I believe three distinct views are taken of this.

(a).—That the Mark is the necessary and natural fulfilment of the F.C. Degree, and therefore, as a matter of course, should be given to F.C., and made a preliminary to the M.M. Degree.

(b).—That it is introductory to the R.A. Degree, and a link between the M.M. and that degree, and should only be given to M.M.'s.

It is very difficult, if not impossible, to discuss these propositions in public, but it may be said that the degree has much greater affinity with the F.C. than with the M.M., and I confess that for some years I was firmly of opinion that the Mark was the legitimate consequence and completion of the F.C. Degree. I never could understand its connection with either the M.M. or R.A. Degree, though fully acquiescing in the policy which confined the degree to M.M., for reasons previously stated.

(c).—There is a third opinion to which I have for some time past been a convert, and which, I think, deserves more attention than it has met with, and in support of which a considerable amount of weighty evidence may be adduced. This, however, is absolutely impossible in public.

But let me again ask Bro. Hill to remember the question put to the candidate—"Why does he wish to," &c., and the reason, "to qualify him to preside over," &c. Now, bearing this in mind, let anyone visit the lodges in some of our Northern Counties—be present at the installation of the W.M. of a Craft lodge, and then at the ceremony of advancement in a Mark lodge, e.g., at Blackburn, where the old ritual is preserved, and he cannot fail to be convinced that the Mark is—as it is described on the title-page of an old M.S. ritual sent to me by the venerable Bro. Punshon, of Killingworth—the "Chair-Master's" Degree.

I must be brief, however, and only spare a few lines on the definition of Mark Man as contrasted with Mark Master, and the difficulty stated by Bro. Hill in conferring the mark, or reward of merit, properly belonging to F.C. in a lodge composed of M.M., who, as M.M.M. also, are thereby considered as superior to M.M. This difficulty fades when the qualification of M.M. is understood as precautionary, if I may so term it. Our newly-authorised ritual, which Bro. Hill describes as "contradictory," will not be so held by him when he keeps this in view; and if he will note how, in the introductory portion of the ceremony of advancement, the rank of F.C., or Mark Man, is carefully maintained, until the skill, regularity, &c., is rewarded by the conferring of the full rank of M.M.M.

To conclude, and I fear I have already trespassed upon your space at too great length, it is very gratifying to see such testimony as that of Bro. Hill borne to the work done by our Grand Mark Lodge; and I can quite understand this being thoroughly appreciated in the Colonies. On this point more may be written on another opportunity.

One other word. Though not able to dissociate myself from the official position I hold in this Grand Lodge, I desire it to be understood that—recognising the differences of opinion already referred to—the views I have expressed are merely my own—and are not to be taken as

those of the Grand Lodge of M.M.M., or of any of its rulers, speaking with authority—*ex cathedra*—or otherwise.

I am, Sir and Brother, yours faithfully and fraternally,
FREDERICK BINCKES.

London, January 19th, 1875.

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

As we cannot settle the P.M.'s question of Status on rejoining his lodge after a 12 months' absence, I will pass that over, and now return to the legality of lodges voting away their funds for charities not Masonic. If my memory serves me, you intimated an opinion in a former number that they could do so. Now I am of a contrary opinion, and am not singular in saying that we Freemasons do not subscribe our monies to make a fund for such purposes, and I shall be glad if you or some of our brethren "learned in the law" of the Craft, will point out to me, where, in the Book of Constitutions, such a law is enacted, and I shall be obliged.

Very fraternally yours,

AN OLD P.M., ONE, &c.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Sir and Brother,—

I think your leading article as to the status of a P.M. who has ceased to subscribe 12 months, and rejoins his lodge, will carry conviction to nearly everyone who studies the point. I should be content to let the matter drop, were it not for an ambiguity in one paragraph. You say, "If a P.M. leaves his lodge for 2 years, he loses his precedence as Senior P.M., and on his rejoining the lodge, becomes the Junior P.M. at the time of his re-admittance." I submit this scarcely goes far enough; he not only becomes the Junior P.M. at the time of his re-admittance, but ever after remains Junior to any P.M. of the lodge who has subscribed since he occupied the chair; that, in fact, he rejoins as one of those strange P.M.'s referred to by Bro. Tebbis, who have no seniority with respect to the P.M.'s of the lodge itself. Grand Lodge membership depends entirely on membership of a private lodge, which is lost directly the subscription ceases to be paid, and cannot afterwards be recovered, unless the condition originally required (occupying the chair 12 months) be again complied with.

Yours, fraternally,

J.E.P.

MASONIC PRESENTATION TO THE MARQUIS OF RIPON.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

My curiosity and interest have been equally aroused by a somewhat sensational and startling extract from the *Rosierucian*. Where is this beautiful casket to be seen? One is lost in admiration at that true Masonic spirit, which should induce the donors of so costly a gift to cover it with Masonic emblems. The idea is really equally touching and sublime; in fact, it could only emanate, I venture to think, from the highest degree of Masonic sympathy, and the highest grade of chivalrous mysticism! Perhaps the editor of the *Rosierucian* will enlighten your readers as to this last development of the genial spirit of our Order, and oblige deeply, with many more,

Your humble servant,

AN ENQUIRING (IF DOUBTING) BROTHER.

[We have been struck with the extract from the *Rosierucian* also. We can hear nothing about the mysterious casket.—Ed.]

Multum in Parbo; or Masonic Notes and Queries.

THE MILITIA OR ORIENTAL ORDER OF THE TEMPLE—JERUSALEM AND CONSTANTINOPLE.

"The Order of the Temple, founded at Jerusalem in the year 1118 of the Christian era, was declared abolished by Pope Clement V, on the 2nd of May 1312, 'as a measure of provision and not through a Sentence of Suppression.'"

"The Grand Master Jacques de Molay was burned alive by order of Phillippe IV, of France, the 11th of March 1314."

"In 1319, Pope John XXII, solemnly re-established the Order of the Temple in Portugal under the name of Militia of Christ."

"Jacques de Molay the Grand Master and Martyr at the time of his arrest (13th of October 1307), transmitted his powers to Roger de Flor, Commander of Catalonia; and later from the depth of his dungeon, he by provision, delegated Jean de Larmeny who re-established the Order in Western Europe, by a Charter dated 23rd of February 1324."

"Roger de Flor, being custodian of the original seal, re-established the Militia or Order of the Temple, at Constantinople, from whence it spread widely among the Eastern Nations, and firmly withstanding many persecutions, the Oriental Order has been preserved to the present day with all its primitive traditions, constantly rendering signal services to oppressed Christians."

"Roger de Flor dated his Charter of reconstitution of the Order from Constantinople on Easter Sunday 1313, secularized it and rendered it independent; his Successor, Sancho de Vargas, confirmed it in 1316."

"The following is the text which has been preserved:—
"This is the Charter of the Militia or Oriental Order of the Temple such as it was established by the Grand Master Roger de Flor, delegate of the Martyr and elected by his Brethren."

"In the name of the Lord, Architect Almighty of the World and the Worlds, who has reigned, reigns, and shall eternally reign."

"Thou shalt confess the Name of the Lord; Thou shalt make it respected.

"Thou shalt establish His Reign; Thou shalt propagate His Laws.

"Thou shalt obey His Thought; Thou shalt demand it from the Heavens, and Thou shalt execute it on Earth.

"Thou shalt give to thy poor Brethren the bread which the Lord hath given thee.

"Thou shalt pray the Lord to forgive thine enemies; thou shalt strike them with thy glove, because they have been the enemies of thy Brethren.

"Thou shalt plunge into the tempest to succour thy Brethren; without considering if the tempest may annihilate thee.

"The Lord will help thy weakness; thou shalt become strong; thou shalt have confidence in thy strength; thou shalt not measure danger.

"Thou shalt be pitiless to traitors, everywhere and always.

"The Lord will protect thee as long as thou wilt protect thy Brethren."

"Now, as in the ancient days of its glory and grandeur, the Militia or Oriental Order of the Temple is absolutely governed by the Grand Master, named for life by the Convent of Brethren. He is assisted by a Chapter composed of six members.

"The Militia or Oriental Order of the Temple is composed of Commanders, Knights, and Equerries.

"Ladies are admitted into the Order with the title of Sisters Hospitallers of the Militia or Oriental Order of the Temple. They have a Special Chapter presided over by a Grand Mistress named for life.

"The Lieutenants of the Grand Master are employed to maintain or establish the Militia or Oriental Order of the Temple in all the countries where Christians, resolved to practise the law of Charity, wish to observe the Charter of Constitution of the Order; and to that effect unite in the bonds of Brotherhood to give their co-operation to the sublime and magnificent work of devoting themselves to unobtrusive and persevering efforts in the cause of Christianity and Humanity.

"Christmas Day 1874."

Can any brother tell me anything about this apparently new Order, whose programme is dated "Christmas Day, 1874." Who is Roger de Flor? Is he a real or mythical personage? I see this circular states that Jacques de Molay transmitted his power to Roger de Flor, Commander of Catalonia (I do not understand this term in old Templary), and later gave a delegation to Jean de Larmeny. Roger de Flor dates, it is said, his Charter of Reconstitution from Constantinople, Easter Sunday, 1313, which was confirmed by Sancho de Vargas in 1316. This Charter is said to be preserved. Can it be seen? or is this another "fraus pia" to be added to the long list of unreliable charters, &c.

A MASONIC STUDENT.

THE TARGUMS AND MASONIC LEGENDS.

Our good friend, the Editor of the *Freemason*, promised to report the result of his examination of the "Targums of the Book of Chronicles," published at Amsterdam 1715, and at Cambridge 1725, from a MS. in the University library of the latter city.

I am anxious to have the report, and hence write again to ask the favour from the Editor, for the subject is an important one.

W. J. HUGHAN.

"The third and last toast was a verse from an old English Masonic song:

"The Craft, the Craft, the brave old Craft,
That has weathered the storm so long;
It has won renown from crozier and crown,
And a leaf from the child of song."

Where does this genial stanza come from?

PAUL PRY.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The Annual Festival of this institution was held on Wednesday evening, at Freemasons' Tavern, the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot, Provincial Grand Master of Staffordshire, presiding. The company, consisting of ladies and brethren, numbered altogether about 700, for whom the excellent arrangements of the Stewards procured every possible comfort. Among the brethren at his lordship's table were the Rev. C. J. Martyn, Past Grand Chaplain; Dr. Strong, Hon. Surgeon to the Institution; Ex-Sheriff Hutton, Professor Erasmus Wilson, Samuel Tomkins, Grand Treasurer; J. Percy Leith, Grand Deacon; Major Creaton, Past Grand Deacon; John Hervey, Grand Secretary; R. W. Little (Secretary Girls' School); F. Binckes (Secretary Boys' School); F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., Past Grand Deacon; Hyde Pullen, Past Grand Sword-Bearer; John Sutcliffe (Gt. Grimsby), P. Prov. G.W. Lincolnshire; C. A. Cotterburne, P.G.P.; T. Cubitt, G.P.; Bro. Charles Horsley, and Bro. C. J. Cooke, P. Prov. G.S.W. of Kent.

Grace having been said at the conclusion of the repast, the toasts were proposed in regular order as follows:—

The Chairman: Ladies and brethren, I rise to offer you a toast which, in all assemblies of Englishmen, I am glad to say, is always cordially reciprocated; and I can venture to say as a Mason that it will be enthusiastically received upon this great occasion. It is difficult, in taking the chair, to find words to express, without fulsome adulation, the power of affection that Her Majesty exercises over her subjects, because, whether we look at her in the aspect of a sovereign, whether we look upon her as a mother of a family, and as the mother of a great nation, she reigns deeply, dearly, and affectionately in our hearts. Let us compare our position with that of the rest of the continent, and we shall find that whatever differences of opinion may exist at home, there is but one reigning sentiment towards the sovereign of these realms. (Hear,

hear.) And, brethren, I regret that to-day I have to ask your sympathy for our sovereign as a mother. We know that one of the princes is down on the bed of sickness, and I need not any words of eloquence to ask you, as fathers of families and brethren, to sympathize with Her Most Gracious Majesty in her present distress. Happily, the tidings are a little better of His Royal Highness Prince Leopold's state; but when we think of the anxious watching of the mother, when we think of the anxiety that must naturally crowd on her mind as she sees danger about one of her children, I am sure that it needs no words of mine to ask the brethren to sympathize with our Queen. I do not do this in a Masonic spirit only, but in a national spirit, and ask you, therefore, to drink the toast in a way that Masons would desire it to be drunk.

The toast having been honoured and followed by the National Anthem,

The Chairman again rose and said: I now rise to give you a toast which is second in all public assemblies of Englishmen, a toast which I venture to say is particularly dear to Masons. Our Craft aspires to high ascendancy, and we are honoured by having one to preside over us, who holds the highest position in this realm, and I can confidently say that that illustrious personage would not have accepted what we consider a very high dignity unless he thought he could fill it with benefit to the Craft, and honour to himself. When we recollect the emergency that we were placed in by the retirement of one whom we greatly revered—I mean our late Grand Master—I am sure I may be permitted in this hall to say that every Mason deeply regrets that from conviction he was obliged to leave us, because no man as a Grand Master filled his position so worthily, so honestly, and with such integrity as the Marquis of Ripon. We may regard the loss of the noble lord with regret as Englishmen. I am not here to obtrude religious feelings on Masonic brethren. Our faith is of so enlightened and free a nature that in my opinion in the dark ages when religion was in difficulty Freemasonry preserved the morality of the country. (Hear, hear.) For that reason it would induce me to join the Craft; and I trust that the day will come when the noble Marquis will once more rejoin us—when he will be emancipated from that thralldom which I do not care to speak of further. As regards our present Grand Master, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, I would like to ask the company this question, "Did you ever know His Royal Highness to be called upon that he did not come forward to perform his duty?" And I think we, as Masons, can say we are proud of our Prince because he knows thoroughly how to enjoy himself. (Cheers.) At the same time, there is no man in Great Britain who has the power of self-denial more than His Royal Highness. I will defy anyone to say that he does not abnegate himself many agreeable duties, to perform those which belong to his high station in society. Thus we are proud of him as our Grand Master, and our future King. In both those respects, I give you his very good health. (Cheers.)

The Chairman: I hope you will not think that I am precipitate in getting through the list of toasts; but I am anxious, as I said in the early part of the evening, that you should have that pleasant intellectual enjoyment in the other hall, which, I hope, will give you gratification. And now I regret that on this festive occasion, whilst offering you the toast of "The Health of our Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon," I have to ask your deepest sympathy for him in what you and I will consider the greatest distress that can possibly happen to mortal man. When I tell you that the noble Earl reigns in our affections, and when I tell you that he is a personal friend of my own, as was also the late Lady Carnarvon, who has just left this world, I trust and believe for higher realms, I can hardly suppress my emotion and can hardly tell how, as a friend and a Mason, I sympathize with my noble friend, and I ask you if you will do me the kindness on this occasion to permit me to be your echo of the feelings which I am sure exist throughout this great assembly at the proper time to convey to Lord Carnarvon the deep sympathy of his brother Masons in his bereavement. I am glad, however, to think that the noble lord knows really where to look for comfort; but when we are in distress as well as in joy the sympathy of our friends is most soothing and charming. I hope I may be permitted to convey from this great assembly our deep sympathy with him in his bereavement. I am sure you will drink his health with cordiality on this occasion. But now let me pass to a more joyous topic. When I think of the Deputy Grand Master, my noble friend, Lord Skelmersdale, a man whose comely presence does one's heart good to see, whose Masonic conduct in his province has endeared him to all his brethren, I feel I am offering you a toast which will meet with the cordial acceptance of all brother Freemasons. When I tell you that Lord Skelmersdale holds one of the offices of the Court as Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard, when your humble servant tells you that he has the honour of commanding the Gentlemen-at-arms, I trust that it will not be impertinent of me to say that I trust the day will come when Freemasonry is recognised at Court. I shall be glad to see the day when Masonic clothing is worn at Court. I know that there are no subjects more loyal to the throne than Freemasons, and though it would be far from me to attempt to initiate any change, because I belong to the old conservative Craft, yet belonging to this Craft I should like to see that honour conferred, which I, particularly as we are presided over by His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, should esteem a valuable one. I know also that it would be very gratifying to the Fraternity to be received in our Masonic capacity at Court.

Bro. Ex-Sheriff Hutton, Grand Deacon, replied, and after expressing his own sympathy with Lord Carnarvon, said he should be very glad to see, when the Prince of Wales came to the throne, Masonry recognised at Court. He did not however, think there was a great probability of it. But

if such a subject was mooted, he would endeavour to support it. He then thanked the brethren and ladies for their attendance, and said he hoped that the position of Masonry in England would be a guide to the whole world as showing what it could achieve, and what charity could accomplish.

The Chairman next proposed a special toast, "The Duc de Manignon," and addressed the company in French.

The Duc de Manignon having replied in French,

The Chairman said: I have another important duty to discharge, and reverting to my native language is a relief to me, and though I feebly attempted to convey your sentiments to the illustrious stranger, permit me to say that I feel I had your kind co-operation, because Masonry is above language, because it is the language of the heart. You heard what the noble Duc said to us about the wants of the poor, about the wants of the child, about the wants of the aged widow and of the aged Mason. I feel he has given me a text upon which, if time permitted, I would dilate. But brethren, I am proud to think that this is the third time that I have had the honour of advocating the cause of Masonic charity in this chair, and I venture to appeal to this meeting I address, to say the first one that every Freemason ought to desire to support is this. What is Royal Arch? What are all the honours of Masonry to the honour of a good conscience and a knowledge of having done your duty? If I may be permitted for a moment in the presence of friends whom I greatly respect and whom I deeply thank for being present here upon this occasion, I may ask them to corroborate the sentiment that since I have been their Provincial Grand Master, my chief object has been charity! charity! charity! Not that I would for a moment deny the cordial friendship that must exist between a Provincial Grand Master, of necessity and the Provincial Grand Lodges and Grand Lodge, because I believe that in no time has Masonry been so ascendant as it is at the present time, and I should not like to anticipate Bro. Terry's agreeable announcement, that I understand he has been enabled to make by your kind support of me in this chair, because I feel that I should be a poor man, and indeed a very poor Mason, if I could not sacrifice one evening to come among one of the most influential and respectable assemblies that can possibly be congregated in the Craft. When I think, brethren, of the influence that permeates throughout the width of the land when I know that I speak to hundreds of thousands this evening, it makes a man proud who has nobility to boast of, that he should be permitted also to be a representative of the people in promoting what he sympathizes with, the great cause of Christian charity. I know not whether Bro. Binckes or Bro. Little is here to-day. (Bro. Terry: Yes, my lord, both.) Then let them recollect that I am the slave of Bro. Terry, (laughter), and kindly forget all I have said on behalf of the Boys' School and the Girls' School. Recollect, brethren, that time passes, that I began at the wrong end, that I ought to have advocated the claims of the aged before I advocated the claims of the boys and girls. But I do not see why I cannot go round again. (Hear, hear.) I am glad to know that I have the cordial approval of the brethren of my own province, when I say that Masonry necessarily attaches itself to the heart of a moral and respectable man; it inculcates cordial good feeling towards one another, and I may say that in the position I have occupied in my own district, nothing has tended to make me more cordial to different classes of the people than this Craft to which I have the honour to belong. It is that which cements, and adopts, and helps that kind feeling which is wanted. I have always inculcated in every lodge that it should never assemble without paying a quota to the charities. I say if you drink a bottle of champagne which costs 10s. 6d., put 10s. 6d. in the box; if you drink a glass of spirits which costs 3d., put 3d. in the box. You have then done your duty like a man. I need not, I think, trouble you with the details of this great Institution, but I want just to say one word, because, perhaps, if I refrain from pressing the point upon you, you will put your hands in your pockets without any further observation; but when I tell you that there are a great number of applicants—68 applicants, and only 12 vacancies—I ask you, what are you about, Brother Masons? You are the representatives of this great city: what are you about? When I tell you that there are 35 widows, and only 3 vacancies, I ask you again, what are you about? 33 male candidates, and 9 vacancies; and 35 widows, and 3 vacancies! Now what are you about? Why, you have been drinking champagne instead of gin-and-water. Perhaps it is my fault to have too great a tendency to geniality, but, I say, let us recollect our Masonic duties first, and our pleasures afterwards. We are a very high, honourable, and distinguished body; we have the most distinguished persons connected with us; but let us practise abnegation. I heard of a lodge last night—I did not visit it because I was with the Prudent Brethren where those principles are inculcated—I ought to have visited those brethren who indulged in celery and cheese. I believe that morals may be inculcated, perhaps in a pleasant manner sometimes; and there is a moderation in all things. Masons, I think, know how to be moderate, and know how to be cordial and friendly; but if such a hint as I have given you this night would swell the funds of these great charities, do not you think we should have cause to be more proud of ourselves than at present? Our permanent income is about £2,200, and we want about £8,000 or £9,000 a year. Is it necessary that we should meet at our banquets and our festivals and our musical assemblies to know what is our duty? Let us enjoy ourselves by all means; let us meet on every opportunity. I am proud to take this chair. I want to inculcate what I now do without fear—that the basis of Masonry is charity—charity first, pleasure and cordiality and good-fellowship second. You may, perhaps, think, I have administered a lecture to you; but I shall call upon the Secretary to read that list which is a gratification to us all, and then see if you cannot give a little more the next time. I have

now the pleasure of concluding my remarks by giving you "The Health of Bro. Tomkins, the Treasurer." I need only say that I feel it entirely unnecessary to make observations of him. He is rather of a leech than a Freemason. (Laughter.) He got me in a charity last night which was well supported by the Freemasons of London, the Margate Infirmary. He is most insidious and kind-hearted, and I am sure he will entwine himself round your hearts. (Cheers.)

Bro. Tomkins replied. Year by year, and he was speaking as an old Mason, their gatherings were nobler and nobler. Every year the amount collected exceeded that of the preceding year. This charity plunged into the affections of Masons, although all the charities were equally appreciated. The great Craft was constantly having great additions made to it; and every year, naturally, some of the brethren who came into the Order required assistance from their opulent brethren, and their children likewise required assistance. It would be very painful to have demands coming upon the Craft which there was no provision to meet; and therefore, while every Mason was in prosperity he should assist the charities. The Craft was now, as it were, in a period of prosperity, but they must expect in future years, the demands upon the benevolent fund would be larger than they were now. The Stewards who exerted themselves so well that evening had brought this fact to his mind, and he trusted that they would hand that on to future years, and not rest on their oars. He would advise them to make provision for the charities adequate to the wants of the different institutions. (Applause.)

Bro. James Terry then read the lists of subscriptions, which amounted in the whole to £6,630 13s. 6d., with eleven lists to come in. Staffordshire sent up £271. Great cheering followed the reading of the lists.

The Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G. Chaplain, proposed "The Health of the Chairman," and said that under his lordship's presidency, the largest amount had been obtained, with one exception, when the Prince of Wales took the chair.

The Chairman said he would just thank the brethren for their kindness, but not to waste any time he would propose "The other Masonic Institutions, the Girls' School (Festival 12th of May) and the Boys' School (Festival 30th of June)" and would call on Bro. Little to respond.

Bro. Little said he had experienced the greater gratification that evening because the subscriptions were so large. He hoped that similar success would attend the other institutions. As a matter of formality, he might inform the brethren that the Lord Mayor of London would preside at the Girls' Festival, and it was hoped that the Stewards on that occasion would meet with the same support as their brother Stewards of that evening. The Boys' Festival the Pro Grand Master would preside at—at least it was hoped he would; but his lordship had just sustained a severe bereavement, in which all the brethren would sympathize with him. On behalf of both the institutions he (Bro. Little) solicited the support of the brethren.

Bro. Binckes being loudly called for, rose to reply. Why did they insist on bringing him on his legs? The noble chairman had called on Bro. Little, who had said everything that could be said, and gracefully too, on behalf of the Girls' and Boys' Schools. He would add his (Bro. Binckes's) congratulations to Bro. Terry on the success of the evening. He had entered the room as his lordship was asking what the brethren were about, and when he was alluding to his presidency of the Boys' and Girls' Schools. Now, he must inform his lordship that these institutions had not done with him yet. They would call on him again to give them the light of his countenance. As one who studied humanity he might say that when an English nobleman and gentleman like his lordship took the chair it warmed up the heart. He was proud to state in public what he had frequently stated in private, that a more thoroughly English gentleman was not to be found than the noble lord who presided over the province of Staffordshire. The brethren knew that the Boys' School was always in a chronic state of distress (laughter); but then the brethren insisted on doing, and doing, and doing, till they had got 177 boys into the school. It was an enormous number to take care of. The institutions were always fortunate in obtaining a chairman. Bro. Little had very gracefully alluded to Lord Carnarvon's terrible bereavement, which might possibly interfere with his appointment to take the chair at the next Festival of the Boys' School. He hoped it would not interfere with the support to be rendered to the school, but would rather be a stimulus to the brethren. He trusted they would supplement what they had done that day by their efforts on behalf of the other institutions. (Cheers.)

Bro. Philbrick proposed "The Ladies."

Bro. Rogers, of Stafford, returned thanks, and hoped the ladies would deal more liberally with the brethren in the judgment they passed on Masonry. It had been said that Masonry consisted in assembling together and eating good dinners; but he thought, after hearing the glorious announcement made by the Secretary, they would be convinced that this was not all they did. If they would only understand that Masonry taught the brethren to love them as they were intended to be loved, and that it was the brethren's desire and ambition to love and solace them in their hours of trouble, they would give Masons all the assistance in their power to the Masonic Charities. On behalf of the Ladies he begged to assure the brethren that they would further the interests of the Charities by making their claims known among their lady friends.

Bro. S. Rawson, P.D.G.M. of China, responded for "The Stewards," and in referring to the coming installation of the Prince of Wales, said he did not know of any place so capable of accommodating the multitude of brethren who would then be present as the Albert Hall. It would be celebrated on the 28th of April, and no doubt 12,000 brethren would be present. Wherever it was to be held,

whether at the Albert Hall or the Agricultural Hall, the Alexandra Palace or the Crystal Palace, the Stewards would do their best to suit the comfort of the Craft.

The whole company then adjourned to the Temple, where a choice concert was given under the direction of Bro. Thaddeus Wells. The artistes were Miss Banks, Miss Marion Severn, and Madame Thaddeus Wells, who were assisted by Bros. George Perren, Chaplin Henry, and Ransford, and Mr. Henry Guy. Bro. H. Nicholson (musical director to the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot) performed on the flute, and Bro. Henry Parker and Madame Thaddeus Wells on the pianoforte.

The dinner was well supplied by Bro. Francatelli, and Bro. Harker performed the duties of toast-master.

KNIGHTS' TEMPLAR IN THE UNITED STATES. TRIENNIAL CONCLAVE OF THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT.

The nineteenth Conclave of Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the U.S. was held in New Orleans, commencing on Tuesday, December 1st., 1874. Monday was distinguished by the arrival of Grand and Subordinate Commanderies from every part of the U.S.: even after the midnight of Tuesday, the thunder of artillery announced new arrivals. By 9 o'clock, Carondelet-street, the grand boulevard of New Orleans, was filled with Knights, and gay with dancing plumes. Bunting was displayed from almost every house. Even from the Custom House an immense national ensign hung, in honour of the day.

Tuesday, the opening day, was fair and beautiful, and about 3,000 Knights had arrived in the city, and were preparing for the Templar proceedings and pageant. The three principal head-quarters of the New Orleans Commanderies were:—Odd Fellows' Hall, Grunewald Hall, and Exposition Hall. Odd Fellows' Hall was the headquarters of Indivisible Friends' Commandery, No. 1; Grunewald Hall, of Jacques de Molay, No. 2; and Exposition Hall, of Orleans, No. 3. All of these halls were decorated in the most lavish manner, with bunting, immense palm-trees, evergreens, wreaths of cedar, graceful Sibley tents, tropical plants, Templar banners and monograms, floral Maltese crosses, gushing fountains,—in fact, each Hall constituted a fairy land of art and nature, almost miraculously combined. Some of the fountains gushed forth a crimson fluid, while from the walls there stood out blood-red crosses from a black back-ground. Then the banquetting halls were supplied with every necessary and luxury of life, and when the festivities were at their height, during the visits of the various visiting Commanderies and Grand bodies, there was a brilliant combination of rich Templar uniforms, costly ladies' toilets, the busy hum of conversation, the merry ripples of laughter, the rattle of knives and forks—well, the reader may imagine the rest.

We cannot praise too highly the knightly and whole-souled reception extended to the visiting Knights by their fraters of New Orleans. Everything was done that could be done for the comfort and pleasure of the visitors, and their pilgrimage to New Orleans will be one of the pleasantest reminiscences of their Templar lives.

We need scarcely say that during the entire period of the Grand Conclave, receptions and visits by the different Commanderies and serenades by their bands were of continued occurrence. In fact, the whole city was alive with Templar uniforms, and, for a time, the business of the entire city appeared to be to do honour to the visiting Knights Templar.

The Templar parade, on the last day (Thursday) exceeded in splendor any display ever before made in New Orleans. It would be invidious to pretend to draw distinctions between the various bodies, but we may say, without exaggeration, that the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania with the subordinate Commanderies of Philadelphia and other portions of the State, at least equalled any other body in the largeness of its numbers, the accuracy of its marching, and its general brilliant appearance.

The route of parade was as follows:—

St. Charles-street to First, to Magazine, to Calliope, to Camp, to north side Canal, to Royal, to Esplanade, to Chartres, to St. Louis, to Peters, to south side Canal, to Carondelet, to Gravier, when the several Commanderies left the line and marched to their quarters.

The buildings along the line of the parade were profusely decorated with banners and flags, and the streets named were thronged with spectators.

The Knights were welcomed to Masonic Hall by Grand Master M. E. Girard. The most important business transacted was the triennial election of officers of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States, which resulted as follows:—

Sir Knt. James Herron Hopkins, Pittsburg, Pa., Grand Master; Sir Knt. Vincent L. Hurlbut, M.D., Chicago, Ill., Deputy Grand Master; Sir Knt. Walter L. Bragg, Montgomery, Ala., Grand Generalissimo; Sir Knt. Edward T. Shultz, Baltimore, Md., Grand Captain General; Sir Knt. Benton H. Langley, Winona, Minn., Grand Senior Warden; Sir Knt. Charles Reinker Woodruff, Louisville, Ky., Grand Treasurer; Sir Knt. John W. Simmons, New York, Grand Recorder; Sir Knt. Theodore S. Parvin, Iowa City, Iowa, Grand Prelate; Sir Knt. Joseph P. Horner, New Orleans, Grand Standard Bearer; Sir Knt. John H. Brown, Kansas, Grand Sword Bearer; Sir Knt. J. W. Fellows, New Hampshire, Grand Warden.—*Keystone.*

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—This purifying and regulating medicine should be occasionally had recourse to during foggy, cold, and wet weather. These pills are the best preventives of hoarseness, sore throat, diphtheria, pleurisy, and asthma, and are sure remedies for congestion, bronchitis, and inflammation. A moderate attention to the directions folded round each box will enable every invalid to take the pills in the most advantageous manner; they will there be taught the proper doses, and the circumstances under which they must be increased or diminished. Holloway's Pills act as alteratives, aperients, and tonics. Wherever these pills have been taken as the last resource, the result has always been gratifying; even when they fail to cure, they always assuage the severity of symptoms and diminish danger.—*Advt.*

Obituary.

THE LATE COUNTESS OF CARNARVON.

We deeply regret to announce the death of Lady Carnarvon, the wife of our distinguished Pro Grand Master, at eight o'clock on the morning of the 25th inst., at the residence of her husband in Bruton-street, at the early age of forty years. Lady Carnarvon was the only daughter of George, sixth Earl of Chesterfield, by the Hon. Anne Elizabeth Forester, eldest daughter of Cecil, first Lord Forester, and sister of the seventh Earl, whose sudden death from typhoid fever caused much sensation in September, 1871. Her ladyship married in September, 1861, the present Earl of Carnarvon, by whom she has left a family of four children. According to "Lodge's Peerage" they are George Edward, Lord Porchester, born in 1866; the Ladies Winifred and Margaret Herbert, and an infant daughter, scarcely a month old.

The news of Lady Carnarvon's death was immediately telegraphed to Highclere Castle, Lord Carnarvon's seat, near Newbury, and in the whole of that neighbourhood it was received with unfeigned regret. At Newbury the funeral knell was tolled, and among all classes were heard expressions of sorrow for her loss, and sympathy with Lord Carnarvon in his sad bereavement. Those feelings will be universal among all who had the privilege of her acquaintance, and could appreciate the charm of that household which is now left desolate.

BRO. WILLIAM IBBETSON, P.M. 302, P. Prov. G.S.W., WEST YORKSHIRE.

It is with much regret that we have to record the death of Bro. William Ibbetson, P.M. 302, Bradford, and P. Prov. G. Supt. of Works of West Yorkshire, which took place at his residence, Ashgrove, Bradford, on Thursday, the 21 inst., at the comparatively early age of fifty years. The cause of death was a severe attack of rheumatism, with inflammation of the lungs, which terminated fatally, as above named. Bro. Ibbetson, who was initiated into Freemasonry in the year 1860, was an active and zealous member of the Order, and after filling several of the subordinate offices, was, in 1867, elected to the honourable position of W.M. of his mother lodge, the largest in the Province of West Yorkshire. He was also a Royal Arch Mason, and in the year 1872 held the rank of M.E.Z. in the chapter attached to the lodge, and in all his relations his earnestness of purpose met with the cheerful response of those with whom he was associated. He was at all times a firm and liberal supporter of the several Masonic charities, and took a lively interest in their welfare and success. Bro. Ibbetson had been for several years, and was at the time of his death, a member of the Town Council, and always took a prominent position in any movement which had for its object the welfare and prosperity of the town, or the recognition of the merits of his fellow-citizens. Candour, openness of manner, honesty of purpose, and heartiness of disposition, were some of the more prominent characteristics of his nature, and ever amongst the foremost in good works, he displayed an earnestness of manner in everything he took in hand, whether in public affairs or in matters connected with the Craft. By his kindness of heart, his genial manners, and his untiring usefulness, he won for himself the respect and esteem of all who knew him; and his loss will be long and deeply felt by his brethren in the Craft, as well as by the public at large. Truly it may be said of him that "he was one whose hand was guided by justice, and whose heart was expanded by benevolence." The remains of Bro. Ibbetson were conveyed to their last resting-place at Undercliffe Cemetery on Monday the 25th inst., attended by a large gathering of personal friends, as also by the Mayor and Members of the Bradford Corporation, the funeral cortege being headed by a body of the Borough Police, whilst the tolling of the large bell of the Town Hall added to the solemnity of the occasion. The mournful services were impressively rendered by Bro. the Rev. T. H. Flynn, P. Prov. G. Chaplain, there being also present a large number of the members of the several Masonic Lodges of the town, including many past and present Provincial Grand Officers, who had assembled to pay the last tribute of fraternal respect to the memory of a departed brother.

BRO. F. M. COWLEY, W.M. 1242.

A very sad fatality in a family has just occurred at Douglas, Isle of Man. A young man named F. M. Cowley, son of Mr. Cowley, tailor, Strand-street, was engaged in a shooting contest at the Tromode Range, with the Douglas Rifle Corps, on New Year's Day. The weather was bitterly cold, with sleet and snow. Bro. Cowley, who was a young man of considerable promise, had not taken the precaution of sufficiently protecting himself with warm clothing against the inclemency of the weather, and the result was that he must have then caught the cold which, some days afterwards, developed into rheumatic fever. The disease rapidly increased in intensity, and on Monday last he succumbed to its effects. What makes the case the more melancholy is the fact that his sister, who was his junior, was stricken with the same disease, and died on Sunday last (the day before her brother). A few weeks ago their mother fell down stairs and broke her collar bone and arm, and has ever since lain in a dangerous state; and, to add to the troubles of this unfortunate family, another sister is suffering from erysipelas in one of her legs. The deceased young man was a member of the Masonic body, and exactly a fortnight prior to the day of his death he was installed by the writer of this paragraph into the position of W.M. of the Tynwald Lodge, No. 1242, of which he was the S.W. during the previous year. On the night of his installation he appeared to be in the best of health, and intensely delighted with having attained a position which he had long been ambitious to fill, that of W.M. of his "Mother Lodge." Little did those brethren

who took part in the gay festivities of that day think that in one short fortnight afterwards the esteemed brother whom they had raised to the highest position which the Craft can give, or the lodge bestow on any of its members, would be summoned to the Grand Lodge above. The brethren assembled at the lodge-room on Monday, 4th inst., and resolved to attend the funeral of their deceased brother on Wednesday morning, wearing simple Masonic emblems—white gloves, and a crape band around the left arm. A large number mustered at the funeral, which took place at Kirk Braddan Cemetery. Brother and sister were laid in the one grave, and a sadder sight than this dual burial it has never been our lot to witness. The account of Bro. Cowley's installation was published in the *Freemason* of the 16th ult.

ROYAL ORDER OF SCOTLAND.—There will be no meeting of the Provincial Grand Chapter and Lodge for London and the four M.C.'s in the month of February.

His Grace the Duke of Abercorn, as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, gave the first drawing-room for the season, on Wednesday last. There was a large and brilliant attendance.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, February 5, 1875.

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, JANUARY 30.

- Lodge 1297, West Kent, Forest Hill House, Lewisham.
- " 1491, Athenæum, Athenæum, Camden-road, Holloway, N., at 5.30.
- Manchester Lodge of Instruction (179), Yorkshire Grey, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-sq., at 8; Bro. H. Ash, Prec.
- Lily Lodge of Instruction (821), Greyhound Hotel, Richmond, Surrey.
- Star Lodge of Instruction (1275), Marquess of Granby, New Cross-road, at 7; Bro. C. G. Dilley, Preceptor.
- Perfect Ashlar Lodge of Instruction (1178), Victoria Tavern, Lower-road, Rotherhithe, at 8; Bro. C. W. Kent, Preceptor.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1.

- Lodge 12, Fortitude and Old Cumberland, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
- " 25, Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall.
- " 69, Unity, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.
- " 72, Royal Jubilee, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
- " 83, United Lodge of Prudence, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
- " 144, St. Luke's, Mason's Hall, Basinghall-street.
- " 188, Joppa, Mason's Hall, Mason's Avenue, Basinghall-street.
- " 256, Unions, Freemasons' Hall.
- " 1319, Asaph, Freemasons' Hall.
- Chap. 28, Old King's Arms, Freemasons' Hall.
- Mark Lodge, 139, Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham.
- Prince Leopold Lodge of Instruction (1445), Lord Stanley Tavern, Sandringham-road, Kingsland, at 7; Bro. T. Austin, Preceptor.
- Strong Man Lodge of Instruction (45), Crown Tavern, Clerkenwell green, at 8; Bro. Beckett, Preceptor.
- Sincerity Lodge of Instruction (174), Railway Tavern, Fenchurch-street Station, at 7.
- Camden Lodge of Instruction (704), Adclaide 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. Gottheil, 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, Deptford, at 8; Bro. C. G. Dilley, 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, FEBRUARY 2.

- Colonial Board, at 3.
- Lodge 7, Royal York Lodge of Perseverance, Freemasons' Hall.
- " 18, Old Dundee, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-st.
- " 101, Temple, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
- " 172, Old Concord, Freemasons' Hall.
- " 217, Stability, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
- " 765, St. James's, Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge.
- " 1257, Grosvenor, Caledonian Hotel, Adelphi.
- " 1259, Duke of Edinburgh, Cape of Good Hope Tavern, Commercial-road.
- " 1261, Golden Rule, Regent's Masonic Hall, Regent-street.
- " 1298, Royal Standard, Marquess Tavern, Canonbury.
- " 1381, Kennington, Surrey Tavern, Kennington Oval.
- " 1472, Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich.
- Chap. 145, Prudent Brethren, Freemasons' Hall.
- " 169, Temperance, White Swan, Deptford.
- " 507, United Pilgrims, Horns Tavern, Kennington.
- 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. J. L. Mather, P.M. 65 and 1227, Preceptor.

St. Marybone 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), Wheat-sheaf 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.

Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement (975), Jamaica Coffee House, St. Michael's Alley, Cornhill, at 6.30; Comp. Jas. Brett, Preceptor.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3.

Grand Chapter, at 7.

Lodge 511, Zetland, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.

" 1491, Athenæum, Camden-road, Holloway, N.

Mark Lodge, Old Kent, Masonic Hall, Masons' Avenue.

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

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

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, 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, Dalston Lodge of Instruction (975), Havelock Park, Albion-road, Dalston, N.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4.

Lodge 10, Westminster and Keystone, Freemasons' Hall.

" 27, Egyptian, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.

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

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

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

" 231, St. Andrew's, Freemasons' Hall.

" 538, La Tolerance, Freemasons' Hall.

" 554, Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.

" 822, Victoria Rifles, Freemasons' Hall.

" 1178, Perfect Ashlar, Gregorian Arms, Bermondsey.

" 1351, St. Clements Dane, 265, Strand.

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

Chap. 2, St. James's, Freemasons' Hall.

" 9, Moriah, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.

" 176, Caveac, Westminster Palace Hotel.

Fidelity Lodge of Instruction (3), Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W., 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. L. 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.

The Great City Lodge of Instruction (1426), 111, Cheap-side, at 6.30.

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

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5.

Lodge 706, Florence Nightingale, Masonic Hall, William-street, Woolwich.

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

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

Chap. 8, British, Freemasons' Hall.

" 259, Prince of Wales, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.

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.

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

Unions Emulation Lodge of Improvement for M.M.'s, Freemasons' Hall, at 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 (1293), the Castle Tavern, Holloway, at 8; Bro. W. F. Rogers, Preceptor.

Pythagorean Chapter of Instruction (79), Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd., at 8; Comp. W. Smith, Precep.

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, Duke or Edinburgh, Brixton, at 7. Bro. M. S. Larham, Preceptor.

St. James's Lodge of Instruction, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-road, Bermondsey, at 8; C. W. Kent, 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.

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

Stability Lodge of Instruction (217), Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue; Bro. H. Muggeridge, P.M., Precep.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, February 6, 1875.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1.

Lodge 113, Unanimity, Bull Hotel, Assembly Rooms, Preston.

" 1045, Stamford, Town Hall, Altrincham.

" 1051, Rowley, Masonic Rooms, Athenæum, Lancaster.

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

" 138c, Skelmersdale, Queen's Hotel, Waterloo, near Liverpool, at 2.30 (Installation).

Chap. 605, De Tabley, Seacombe Hotel, Seacombe, at 6.

Red Cross Conclave 77, Skelmersdale, M.H., Liverpool, at 6.

Everton Lodge of Instruction (823), Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7.30.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2.

Lodge 995, Furness, Masonic Temple, Ulverstone.

" 1476, Blackpool, Clifton Arms Hotel, Blackpool.

Chap. 203, St. John of Jerusalem, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 6.

Mark Lodge 161, Walton, St. Lawrence School, Kirkdale.

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

Downshire Lodge of Instruction (594), Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3.

Lodge 673, St. John's, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 6.30.

" 730, Ellesmere, Royal Oak Hotel, Chorley.

" 1013, Royal Victoria, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 6.

" 1335, Lindsay, 20, King-street, Wigan.

" 1354, Marquis of Lorne, Masonic Rooms, Leigh.

Chap. 477, Fidelity, 55, Argyle-st., Birkenhead.

De Grey and Ripon Lodge of Instruction (1356), 80, North Hill-street, Liverpool, at 7.30.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4.

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

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

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

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5.

Lodge 680, Sefton, Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool, at 4.30.

" 1375, Architect, Didsbury Hotel, Didsbury.

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

" 1505, Emulation, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 6.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND VICINITY.

For the week ending Saturday, February 6, 1875.

All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1.

Lodge 332, Union, 170, Buchanan-street.

" 556, Clydesdale, Crown-street Assembly Rooms.

Chap. 119, Rosslyn, 25, Robertson-street.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2.

Lodge 31, St. John, 213, Buchanan-street.

" 73, Thistle and Rose, 170, Buchanan-street.

" 87, Thistle, 12, Trongate.

" 441, Govandale, Portland Buildings, Govan.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3.

Lodge 4, Glasgow Kilwinning, 170, Buchanan-street.

" 117, Partick St. Mary's, Partick.

" 128, St. John Shettleston, Shettleston.

" 354, Caledonian Railway, 213, Buchanan-street.

Chap. 8, Shamrock and Thistle, 12, Trongate.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4.

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

" 465, St. Andrew, Garngad-road.

" 553, St. Vincent, 162, Kent-road.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5.

Lodge 360, Commercial, 30, Hope-street.

" 408, Clyde, 170, Buchanan-st.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, February 6, 1875.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1.

Lodge 429, St. Kentigern, Royal Hotel, Fenuick.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2.

Lodge 5, Canonsgate and Leith, 86, Constitution-street.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4.

Lodge 97, St. James, St. James's Hall, Writer's-court.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5.

Lodge 291, Celtic of E. and L., Ship Hotel, E. Register-st.