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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

GREAT NORTHERN LODGE (No. 1287).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, on Thursday, 18th inst., and in consequence of the large amount of work, it was hoped the brethren and candidates would have been in good time, but unfortunately some were late, and thereby caused much inconvenience. The W.M. (Bro. J. Forbes), who was supported at first by I.P.M. Bro. Slaton, and afterwards by P.M. Bro. Reed, as S.W., and Bro. Lancaster, as J.W., opened his lodge in the First and Second Degrees, and examined Bros. Short, Tribbel, and Stevenson. The lodge was then resumed in the First, when Bros. Hobbs, Arding, Cushion, Fisher, Wymark, and Whewell, and afterwards Bro. Phillips, were also examined. These brethren having retired, the W.M. opened in the Third, and duly raised the three candidates. He then resumed in the Second, and passed the latter-named gentleman. Ballot was then taken for Messrs. J. H. Whitfield, J. Gray, and S. Nicholls, which proving satisfactory, they were admitted into the Order. The W.M. having risen as usual, two candidates were proposed, and a notice of motion for granting a sum of money from the lodge Benevolent Fund having been put to the meeting, was duly carried. This having brought the business of the evening to a close, the lodge was adjourned till December.

GRANITE LODGE (No. 1328).—On Saturday, the 13th November, the brethren of this lodge were summoned to attend at Freemasons' Hall, and with visitors there were some sixty present. So large a gathering not being expected, a little inconvenience at the banquet table was experienced from mine host, Simpson, in the Strand, not having a room suitably large enough to hold all the brethren. It is a great mistake on the part of those who would entertain so large a number of brethren to let them leave our noble hall without making it worth their attraction to banquet on the premises. It is very evident that the brethren are made of granite, and that they can put up with incommodiousness rather than have a lukewarm repast, especially when they can pay for it. The well-known Secretary's (Bro. J. W. Thomas, P.M.) business habits are combined with amazing activity, firmness, and courtesy, and are also thoroughly Masonic in their nature, which all true Craftsmen must admire. Such Secretaries must be splendid adjuncts in helping on the onerous duties of the W.M. of any lodge, more especially so when the brethren are men of high art and classical standing, and in this lodge are to be found sculptors, architects, draughtsmen, and builders of reason: admirably chosen is their motto, "Frangas non Flectis." These granite men have not granite hearts, for 20 guineas were voted to be placed on the W.M.'s list towards one of the charities. Good Granite brethren. You are worthy of the Royal sign, all glory be to God. At the opening of the lodge at 4.15 forty brethren were present. The weather was unpropitious. This lodge numbers over eighty members, twenty-five of which have been initiated, passed, and raised to the sublime degree of M.M. These said twenty-five have also been introduced by Bro. John Oliver, W.M., all honour to him, and the more so because these are men of standing, and Masonry makes them better men. Such can help our charities. The following is an excerpt of the work of the lodge on this occasion by the W.M. Initiates, Mr. T. W. Rowe, Mr. Alfred J. Martin. To pass, Bros. W. Halliday, R. Richardson, W. Brindley, T. L. Carter. To Raise, Bros. F. G. Wyatt, George Landsdown, Jasper Wager. Two gentlemen were ballotted for, and one for joining. The whole of the work was admirably done by Bro. J. Oliver, W.M., in a manner worthy of any recognised preceptor. The W.M. was most efficiently supported by Bro. Muggeridge, S.W., son of Sir — Muggeridge, Knt.; Bro. West, J.W. The S.D. performed his duties with great acceptance; so did the I.G. It is always a pleasure to see the minor officers well up in their duties—moral, a great actor never shines unless he is well supported by those about him. The usual and ordinary toasts

were given and responded to. Visitors, Bros. Larham, E. Lidbury, T. Burdett Yeoman, and others. The Tyler's toast brought the night's labour to a close.

IVY LODGE (No. 1441).—The November regular meeting of this lodge, which has always been spoken of in terms of congratulation for the praiseworthy manner in which it is working its way up in the Craft, was held on Tuesday, the 16th Nov. inst., at the Windsor Castle Hotel, Southwark. The lodge has the neat and very appropriate name "Ivy," for like a slip of ivy planted by the side of a house, it quietly grows till it reaches the top thereof, so is the Ivy Lodge quietly and progressively making its way to the top of Freemasonry, and bids fair to become one of our best and well regulated Craft lodges. The lodge was called for half-past six o'clock, and was duly opened in ancient form by the W.M., Bro. George Mattock. The minutes of the last meeting were then read and confirmed. The lodge then opened in the Second Degree, when Bros. Miller and Goodman, being candidates for raising, were each severally examined in the usual way by the W.M. and retired. Again we have pleasure in mentioning the very perfect manner in which Bro. Goodman answered the necessary questions, which clearly shows he must be working away at the lodges of instruction, as also the interest he already appears to take in Masonry. The lodge having opened up into the Third Degree, Bros. Miller and Goodman were re-admitted, and in a most perfect and impressive manner were raised by the W.M. to the Sublime Degree of M.M. There being no passings, the lodge was resumed to the First Degree, when the W.M. again displayed his skill and ability in initiating M. Chambers into the Masonic Order. The ceremonies being ended, the next business on hand was a notice of motion proposed by Bro. Cantle, S.W., and seconded by Bro. Poupard, J.W., that the lodge be removed to the Surrey Masonic Hall, and the notice having been put to the lodge, it was unanimously carried, and ordered to be recorded on the lodge minutes. All business being ended, the lodge was closed in ancient form with solemn prayer. The officers present were Bros. Mattock, W.M.; C. Smith, I.P.M.; Cantle, S.W.; Poupard, J.W.; Cornhillson, S.D.; Ashwell, J.D.; and D. H. Ashford, as I.G. for Bro. Knight Smith, who kindly undertook the musical arrangements; Fox, Tyler. There were also present Bros. Noke, Burgess, J. R. Ashford, Vernon, Miller, Goodman, Gloag, Skegg, Plock, and several other brethren of the lodge, and Bro. Welsford, 548, visitor. The brethren afterwards sat down to a banquet, provided by Bro. Plock with his usual care and style, to which ample justice was done, after which the usual Masonic toasts were duly honoured. "The Healths of the Initiate and Visitor" were each severally proposed and responded to by those brethren in a few neat and well-chosen words. Bros. Cantle, Knight, Smith, and Vernon greatly added to the harmony of the evening by their excellent singing. The Tyler's toast was given by Bro. Fox, the much respected Tyler of the lodge, which brought the proceedings of a very pleasant and enjoyable evening to a close, and the brethren then separated in perfect peace and harmony, to return home to their respective domestic lodges.

SPHINX LODGE (No. 1329).—The installation meeting of the Sphinx Lodge, No. 1329, was held on Saturday evening, the 20th ult., at the Bridge House Hotel London Bridge. Bro. James Hadland Vockins, W.M., presided, supported by Bros. John Sugden, S.W., W.M. elect; J. S. Abbot Dunbar, J.W.; H. Martin, S.D.; G. T. Bickerton, J.D.; Dr. Bedolfe, P.M.; Nairne, P.M.; P. A. Director of Ceremonies; and a large body of visitors, among whom were C. A. Cottebrune, P.G. Purst; Edward Clark, P.M. 134; Griffiths, 1446; D. R. Carren, P.M. 1159; Morell, 704; H. Thompson, 1426, and P.M. 177, and 1158; D. Rose, P.M. 73; Martin, 188; Pritchett, 1327; Bridges, P.M. 1216; Goodwin, 1326; W. Hook, 1426; and others. The lodge was opened punctually at three o'clock, and the reading and confirmation of the minutes having taken place, the lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and Bros. Pardoe and Thos. E. Heller were passed to the Second Degree. The next business was the raising of Bro. J. H. Salter to the Sublime Degree, both these ceremonies being excellently performed by the W.M. The next and principal business of the day was the installation of Bro. John Sugden, W.M. elect, into the chair as Master of the lodge. The usual presentation by Bro. Nairne, P.M., and preliminaries having been gone through, and all the brethren below the chair having retired, a Board of Installed Masters was formed, and Bro. Sugden was in ancient form installed into the chair as W.M. for the ensuing year. The brethren having been admitted, the new W.M. received the customary salutes, after which he appointed his officers as follows:—J. S. Abbot Dunbar, S.W.; H. Martin, J.W.; J. C. Reynolds, sen., Treas.; W. Andrews, Hon. Sec.; G. T. Bickerton, S.D.; R. Lyon, J.D.; B. R. Bryant, I.G.; P. A. Nairne, P.M., L.C.; G. S. Mansell and H. Forbes, Stewards; Stribling, Org.; and Harrison, Tyler. Bro. Vockins, I.P.M., then delivered the usual addresses in a most impressive manner, and indeed the whole of the installation ceremony was rendered in such an admirable style that he well earned the applause with which the conclusion of his labours was rewarded. The W.M. then said that he had a very pleasing duty to perform, which was to present Bro. Vockins, I.P.M., with a jewel, which had been voted to him by the brethren as a small tribute of their respect and esteem. Bro. Vockins thanked the brethren for their kindness, and said he should always look upon it with pleasure as a token of the esteem entertained for him by the Sphinx Lodge. The newly-installed W.M. immediately entered upon his duties by initiating Mr. James Charles Welch and Mr. William Henry Fraiser into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry, and afterwards passed Bro. Richard Bruce to the Second Degree. The report of the Audit Committee was presented, which showed the financial matters of the lodge to be in a very flourishing condition. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren, about 70 in number, retired to the banqueting room for refreshment. It may be remarked that the floral decorations of the prin-

cipal table were very artistic, and excited general admiration. The banquet itself was varied and bountiful, and gave complete satisfaction. On the withdrawal of the cloth, the W.M. gave "The Queen and the Craft," which was duly honoured. The W.M. said the next toast was one that he was sure would meet with the most hearty response, as it was "The Health of their Most Worshipful Grand Master, the Prince of Wales." He was sure that those who witnessed the able manner in which he discharged his duties in the Albert Hall would ever remember it, and but one wish would be amongst them, and that was his safe return to this country. He gave then "The Health of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," a toast which was most cordially responded to. The W. Master said the next toast he had to propose was one that he was sure would be well received, as it was "The Health of the Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon." Many of those present, no doubt, had often met him in Grand Lodge, and they knew how ably he always acquitted himself there, and how high he stood in the estimation of the Craft. The W. Master said the next toast was "The Deputy Grand Master and the rest of the Grand Officers, Past and Present," and coupled with it was the name of Bro. Cottebrune, P.G. Pursuivant. Bro. Cottebrune said: Worshipful Master and Brethren—I thank you kindly for the honour you have done me in coupling my name with that of our distinguished brother, the Deputy Grand Master and the rest of the Grand Officers, and I must say I was greatly pleased at the manner in which your Immediate Past Master performed the ceremony of installation, and also at the way in which your present W. Master went through the two ceremonies of initiation and passing. I have been most gratified, and on leaving this lodge I shall not fail to mention to my friends that the Sphinx Lodge is one of the best worked in London. Bro. Vockins, I.P.M., then said he had for the first time since he had been a member of the Sphinx Lodge to propose "The Health of their W. Master, Bro. Sugden." At his period of life it was no easy task to go to school again, but he had laboured hard to do them justice, and he was sure that they would appreciate his services when he sat in the chair, and which he had done that evening for the first time. They would find that Bro. Sugden was a man to whom any brother might safely pour forth his sorrows, and he was also sure that in the future he would do all that was required of him. If there was anything wanting in the head it would be amply made up for by the heart, and at the end of his year they would be able to say of him, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant," and they would have the same satisfaction in placing a jewel on his breast as he (Bro. Vockins) had received from them that evening. This toast was most enthusiastically responded to. The W. Master thanked Bro. Vockins for the very kind manner in which he had proposed his health, and he thanked the brethren generally for responding to it. It was his principal object to live not only in the esteem of his brethren but of the outer world, and he would make it his constant study to attend to the wishes of the brethren and the visitors to the Sphinx Lodge. He had no doubt from the support he should receive from the Past Masters that he should have little difficulty in performing the duties during his year of office. He said the next toast he had to propose was that of "The Initiates," and he felt great pleasure in proposing their health, and he felt sure they would reflect great credit to the lodge and their Masonic institutions. The newly initiated brethren severally returned thanks. The W.M. said the next toast he had to propose was one that he was sure would be well received. They were that evening honoured by the presence of a number of visitors distinguished in the Craft, and had all done good suit and service, and he gave them a hearty welcome to the Sphinx Lodge. Bro. Edward Clark, P.M. 134, in reply to the toast of "The Visitors," congratulated the lodge on the accession of such a W.M., and said the Sphinx Lodge was one of the most important on the south side of the Thames, and hoped that its present success would be increased during his year of office. He also congratulated the W.M. on his proud position in presiding over such a lodge. There were a number of visitors at the lodge that evening who represented the world-wide fellowship of the Craft, and although they in England were without a head, he was away and doing duty amongst races who spoke in tongues older than our own, and who moved amongst the relics of civilisation more luxurious than were to be found in England at the present time. Having alluded to the antiquity of Freemasonry, as was evidenced by the marks of it that were to be traced on the ancient edifices of India, he said that its influence was not limited by churches, countries, or national boundaries, and it tended to make men happy wherever it might be their lot to live. The W.M. said he had now to ask the brethren to drink "The Health of the Past Masters of the Lodge," and he was sure that was a toast that would meet with the acceptance of the members. Their brother visitors were not aware of the amount of work they had to perform, and he asked them to drink their health. He coupled with the toast the names of Bros. Vockins and Dr. Bedolfe. Bro. Vockins, I.P.M., said he was pleased to see so many visitors present to welcome their W.M. that night, and it was a double pleasure to him to look round and see that out of a total number of 45 or 46 members, he was senior or grandfather to 33 of them. His year of office had been a very happy one, and indeed the Sphinx Lodge always had years of happiness. He had never known the slightest ill feeling, and he had always found brotherly love and charity to prevail, which was the real heart of Freemasonry. When he saw anything else, no longer would he be a member of the lodge. Many might think that as he had left the chair his duties would cease, but they would by no means cease, for he should feel it to be his duty to attend to the Masonic interests of the fifteen whom he had initiated during his year of office, and, as they were all fit and proper persons, to lift them up the ladder until they held the sam-

position as their W.M. did that evening, and if they called upon him in any way and at any time he should be happy to assist them. He was happy to meet them at that festive board, and he hoped that he should do so on other occasions, and with the same amount of happiness they had done that evening. The W.M. next, in highly complimentary terms, proposed "The Officers of the Lodge," for which Bro. Reynolds, Treas.; Bro. Andrews, Sec., and other officers responded. The W.M. next gave "The Press," for which Bros. Thompson and Middlemass returned thanks. The Tyler's toast brought a very happy meeting to a close, which had been diversified by some excellent songs, and particularly a recitation given by Bro. Bramley, who gave a very amusing and characteristic imitation of Mark Twain.

METROPOLITAN LODGE (No. 1507).—A meeting of this lodge was held on the 18th inst., at the Metropolitan Club, Pentonville Road. Bro. J. J. Michael, W.M., presided, supported by Bro. James Willing, I.P.M.; Williams, S.W.; Kingham, J.W.; Rose, Treas.; Tims, Sec.; Douglass, S.D.; Scales, J.D.; Side, I.G.; Stiles, D.C. and Asst. Sec.; Colls, W.S.; Saintsbury, Gilbert (2); Simona, Clarke, Jones, Cheek, Hatton, Tims, jun., and Read; and visitors: Bros. Walford, P.M. (No. 177); Fowler (No. 244); Morris (No. 177); and nearly fifty other brethren. Bros. Dunmore, Simona, Taylor, Erwood, Levy, Little, Rogers, and Fowler were raised; and Bros. H. Stiles, Solomon, T. Gilbert, jun., and Swaagman passed. There were also initiated Messrs. E. J. Cave, Jean Francis Van Camp, Henry Lovegrove, Paul Edward Vanderpump, and George John Vanderpump; and Bro. E. J. Cain, of Lodge No. 1475, was elected a joining member. On the proposition of the J.W., a vote of thanks was passed to the brethren of the committee appointed to carry out the execution and presentation to the lodge of the portrait of Bro. James Willing, I.P.M.; and for this vote Bros. Scales, Treas., and Stiles, Sec., responded. A vote of thanks was also passed to Bro. Willing for his gift to the lodge of the pictures of the Masonic institutions. All Masonic business being concluded, the brethren repaired to the banquet table, and after the banquet had been disposed of, they honoured the list of toasts. In giving the toast of "The W.M.," Bro. James Willing, I.P.M., congratulated the lodge sincerely on having such an excellent W.M. as Bro. Michael, who had displayed great ability that day in the performance of his work. This was of no ordinary kind, for he had done eight raisings, four passings, and five initiations. The manner in which this had been done had afforded great pleasure to the brethren, and must have been much fatigued by the amount of work. He was, however, such a good Mason that the consciousness of having added so largely to the number of the brotherhood overrode all other considerations. The W.M. briefly replied, and expressed his earnest desire to discharge his duties to the satisfaction of the brethren. He trusted that he should have a happy year of office, and, at the end of that time, the approval of the brethren; and the consciousness that he had not laboured in vain would be in some measure a reward for his toils. The other toasts followed, and the brethren adjourned shortly afterwards. The lodge, we may state, is in a very flourishing condition, for although it has been in existence only a little more than a twelvemonth it numbers already 62 members.

PROVINCIAL.

IPSWICH.—British Union Lodge (No. 114).—The usual monthly meeting of this prosperous and popular lodge was held on Thursday, the 11th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Ipswich, when there was an unusually large gathering of the members. Amongst those present were Bros. A. D. George, W.M.; Rev. E. J. Lockwood, D.P.G.M.; W. Bobby, P.P.G.S.W.; Emra Holmes, P.P.G. Reg. and P.G.D.C., M.C.; W. Spalding, P.M. Sec.; J. J. Burton, P.P.G.D.C. Cambs., S.W.; W. Clarke, P.G.A.D.C., acting J.W.; H. Miller, P.G.P., S.D.; Rev. J. B. Tweed, P.G. Chap., J.D.; T. Casley, acting I.G.; J. Cobbold, 33, of Brazil; A. J. Barber, P.G.O.; P. Cornell, P.P.S.G.D., &c. Visiting Bros. N. Tracy, P.P.S.G.W., W.M. Perfect Friendship Lodge; Rev. J. J. Farnham, P.D.S.G.W., Bombay; Major Fryer, we believe of the Ancient Union Lodge, Limerick, the officer commanding the Carabineers at Ipswich; T. H. Staddon, P.P.G.S.D. of the Perfect Friendship Lodge, &c. The lodge having been duly opened and the minutes confirmed, the ballot was taken for Rev. Nelson Godwin, of East Bergholt, who was unanimously accepted, obligated, and initiated as an E. A. Freemason, the ceremony being performed by the W.M. The lodge being opened in the Third Degree, Bros. Bowes and Fraser were severally raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, Bro. Cornell, P.M., performing the ceremony and Bro. Barber presiding at the organ, and playing the Dead March in Saul. The brethren also sang that beautiful hymn, "Days and moments quickly flying," which added much to the impressiveness of the ceremony. The election of W.M. and Treasurer was next proceeded with, when Bro. J. J. Burton was unanimously elected to fill the chair of K.S., Bro. Schuller being re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. G. Spalding, Tyler. Two officers, one in the army and one in the navy, were proposed for initiation. Bro. Bobby proposed that the thanks of the lodge should be given to Bro. George for his able conduct in the chair during the past year, and that the same be recorded on the minutes, which was seconded by Bro. Lockwood, who said the office had never been better filled. The motion was put and carried unanimously. The lodge was closed at a late hour, and the brethren retired to the dining hall, where Bro. G. Spalding had provided, as usual, an excellent repast, to which the brethren did ample justice. We are bound to add, however, that the waiting was not all that could be desired. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given by the chair, the W.M. making a passing allusion to the Indian visit of our Grand Master, ex-

pressing a hope that he might return to us in health and his visit be productive of much good—a wish in which every one cordially joined. In responding to the toast of "The Newly-Initiated Brother," Bro. Godwin, who is an archaeologist of some local celebrity, spoke very warmly of the ceremony through which he had just passed, and of the manner in which he had been impressed by it, and expressed a hope that he might become in time a credit to the Craft. Major Fryer replied on behalf of the visitors, and said that it gave him very great pleasure to visit their lodge. He thought every soldier ought to be a Mason, and eulogised the Craft for the way in which it brought men of all classes and all shades of opinion together and taught them to know each other and respect each other's opinions. He was delighted with the working of the lodge, and thanked the W.M. for inviting and entertaining him so hospitably and the brethren for receiving him so cordially. Bro. Farnham kindly volunteered an original reading from the "Bombay Masonic Paper" on the initiation of Mr. Brown, the husband of the far-famed Mrs. Brown of Arthur Sketchley origin, which caused some amusement, and the brethren separated, after a very pleasant evening, at low twelve.

DEVONPORT.—Lodge Charity (No. 223).—The members of this lodge met numerously on Tuesday, the 16th inst., for the dispatch of the ordinary business, and to elect the Worshipful Master and Treasurer for the ensuing year. The Worshipful Master, Bro. S. R. Anniss, occupied the chair. The Senior Warden, Bro. E. Patten, was unanimously elected to succeed to the chair. For the office of Treasurer two brethren were nominated, Bro. J. M. Hifley, P.M., and Bro. J. W. Cornish, P.M. A vote by ballot was then taken, and the result was that eleven voted for Bro. Hifley and thirty-two for Bro. Cornish. A few brethren did not vote. The W.M. then declared Bro. J. W. Cornish duly elected Treasurer for the coming year. The W.M. and Treasurer elect returned thanks for the honour conferred. Bro. W. Browning, P.M. and Secretary of the lodge, having discharged the Treasurer's duties since the death of the late Treasurer, Bro. T. Pollard, P.M., was warmly thanked for his services. The lodge then voted five guineas towards the Masonic window proposed to be erected in the new Guildhall, to commemorate the visit of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W. Grand Master of England, last year, proposed by Bro. Woolf, P.M., and seconded by Bro. Cornish, P.M.

LANCASTER.—Fortitude Lodge (No. 281).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held on the 10th inst. at the Athenaeum, Lancaster, Bro. E. Airey occupying the W.M.'s chair in the latter's absence. The meeting was rendered more than usually interesting from the fact that Bro. Dr. J. D. Moore, P.G.S.B. England, was announced to give a lecture on Masonic O.B. The lecture was given in a clear, terse style, and was highly interesting, and the information it conveyed was thoroughly appreciated by the members and visitors present. At its close a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Dr. Moore. Two candidates were proposed for initiation, and the lodge closed in peace and harmony.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—Howe and Charnwood Lodge (No. 1007).—The annual installation meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 16th ult., at the Bull's Head Hotel, Loughborough. Owing to the large floods in the neighbourhood, and the great fair in the town, the attendance was not large. Bro. F. Amatt, P.M., in the unavoidable absence of the W.M., occupied the chair at the commencement of the proceedings, and was supported by Bros. R. Broughton-Smith, as S.W.; Gough, as J.W.; Vial, S.D.; and others. Bro. H. Deane, P.M., P. Prov. G.J.W., then took the chair, and impressively performed that very interesting and important ceremony of installing Bro. R. Broughton-Smith, P. Prov. G.A.D.C., in the chair of W.M. for the ensuing year, having been elected to that office by the unanimous vote of the brethren. The officers appointed and invested by the W.M. were Bros. James, I.P.M.; Gough, S.W.; Vial, J.W., and Treas.; H. Deane, Sec.; A. Marshall, S.D.; J. Hodson, J.D.; W. Vial, Org.; G. Hodson, and C. H. Crossle, Stewards; H. Walker, and G. Bishop, Tylers. The brethren subsequently dined under the presidency of the W.M., who gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts. Bro. H. James, I.P.M., proposed "The Worshipful Master," and in doing so, paid a high compliment to Bro. Broughton-Smith, promising him his cordial support during his year of office. Several other toasts were given, and the brethren separated at an early hour.

LIVERPOOL.—Lodge of Israel (No. 1502).—As might have been anticipated from the Masonic enthusiasm and high social standing of the brethren who identified themselves with the Lodge of Israel at its consecration, and the members who have since joined and been initiated, the first anniversary of the birth of the lodge, held on Monday, the 15th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Liverpool, showed that an almost unprecedented prosperity had attended the first year's existence of the excellently-worked and admirably-conducted lodge. The eminently-satisfactory result has been due in a large measure to the admirable manner in which the first W.M. and all his officers have done their work, and the cordial seconding they have received from every member of the lodge; and there is no doubt, now that the first mile-stone of its existence has been passed, that there is a brilliant future for the Israel Lodge in Liverpool. The attendance on the occasion of the first anniversary celebration was numerous and influential, comprising representatives of the Prov. Grand Lodge, and visitors from London, Manchester, &c., all of whom had specially journeyed for the purpose of being present at the installation of Bro. A. J. Henochsberg, the W.M. elect, and to give a parting countenance to Bro. R. Robinson, the retiring W.M. The brethren were summoned to their Masonic duties at four o'clock, and shortly after that hour the lodge was opened by Bro. Ralph Robinson, W.M., who was

efficiently supported by the following efficient staff of officers:—Bros. M. de Frece, S.W.; A. J. Henochsberg, J.W.; I. de Frece, Treas.; M. Hart, Sec.; A. Jones, S.D.; S. Schonstadt, J.D.; B. Woolf, I.G.; A. Hart, S.S.; P. Crozier, J.S.; W. G. Veale, Org.; and W. H. Ball, Tyler. The members of the lodge who were present comprised Bros. I. Levy, I. Woolf, M. T. Tueski, B. Levy, J. Frank, W. Frank, A. Liebschutz, S. Levy, W. Levy, P. Barnett, I. Joseph, H. M. Silver, D. Herman, J. R. Grant, A. Cohen, A. Rabow, M. Parkes, L. Simmons, L. Hart, J. Sabur, J. Goldberg, D. L. Marcus, J. Lazarus, W. Aronsberg, S. J. Henochsberg, H. D. Marks, J. M. Preslau, A. Saqui, A. N. Lyons, H. Lumb, J. W. Lock, S. Moss, G. J. Somers, M. Aronsberg, and J. Prag. The numerous visitors included names of Bros. J. Maudesley, P.P.G. Reg. and P.P.G.S.; I. Jacobs, 724; L. J. Salomons, I.G. (Montefiore) 1017; R. R. Martin, P.M. 1094; T. Lloyd, 1356; J. W. Ballard, W.M. 724; P. Faust, 1359; Sol. Davies, 188; W. Healing, S.W. 1094; Rev. J. F. Goggin, P.P.G.C., W.M. 1547; J. Lipson, 124; M. Goldstone, 249; Louis Davies, S. Schmerl, 1287; R. C. Yelland, W.M. 1094; F. Siemmes, 241; W. Durran, 1094; J. Jackson, 424; J. R. Bottomley, 1356; J. Curlender, 1182; J. W. Aronsberg, J. W. Johnson, 1356; T. Gray, 1276; and others. After the minutes had been confirmed and the Treasurer's accounts (which showed the lodge in a monetarily healthy state) had been received and passed, Bros. Hart, Levy, and Franks were passed to the Second Degree by Bro. Robinson, W.M., who performed the ceremony in a faultless manner. He then concluded his valuable and admirable services by installing his successor, Bro. A. J. Henochsberg, in the chair of W.M., the whole of the installation work, as well as the charges to the officers, being remarkable for the masterly style and earnestness with which they were performed. The following brethren were subsequently appointed and invested as the officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. the Rev. J. Prag, Chaplain; R. Robinson, I.P.M.; Maurice Hart, S.W.; Alex. Jones, J.W.; Isaac de Frece, Treas. (re-elected); B. Levy, Sec.; S. Schonstadt, S.D.; B. Woolf, J.D.; P. A. Crozier, I.G.; Isaac Woolf, S.S.; S. J. Wareing, J.S.; W. G. Veale, Org.; and W. H. Ball, Tyler. In consequence of ill-health, Bro. Maurice de Frece, the first S.W. of the lodge, was unable to accept the office of W.M., or any other appointment, and the brethren therefore took the opportunity of presenting him with a very handsome gold locket as a mark of respect and esteem. Bro. Henochsberg, the W.M., in making the presentation, said it afforded him the greatest pleasure to be the means of conveying to Bro. de Frece that token of the regard of the brethren, which was also an evidence of the sympathy they felt for him in connection with his illness. Although he was not then able to accept the office of W.M., the brethren hoped he (Bro. de Frece) would soon be restored to perfect health, and be enabled to fill the office of the chair which he was so capable of doing. Bro. Maurice de Frece thanked the brethren for that mark of their esteem, and regretted that ill-health had debarred him from reaching the summit of his ambition, namely, to occupy the chair of W.M. in that lodge. "Man proposes, but God disposes," and they must all remember that they were in the hands of the G.A.O.T.U. He was sure that they had a wise choice in electing Bro. Henochsberg to the office of W.M., and that he would do honour to the lodge and credit to himself. The locket bore the following inscription:—"Presented to Bro. Maurice de Frece, the first S.W. of the Lodge of Israel, No. 1502, by a few friends, members of the lodge, as a mark of their respect and esteem." On the motion of the W.M., seconded by the S.W., it was resolved that the subscriptions to non-resident brethren should be one guinea per annum. The brethren subsequently sat down to an excellent banquet, provided in first-class style by Messrs. Fisk and Fairhurst, and during the evening the usual loyal, Masonic, and complimentary toasts were given and cordially responded to, an almost universal expression for the complete success of the W.M.'s year being given. In giving "The Queen," the W.M. (Bro. A. J. Henochsberg) said there were no more loyal people in the kingdom than the Freemasons, and they are all the more loyal because they knew Her Majesty took the greatest interest in all their institutions. The W.M. also gave "The Princess of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family," and in doing so said the wife of their Grand Master had endeared herself to the people of England by her many virtues, and therefore he had much pleasure in submitting the toast, which was honoured with the greatest enthusiasm. "The M.W.G.M., His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and the Pro. Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon," was next given by the W.M., who said that they had at the head of their Order the heir to the throne of England, and it was indeed a very great honour for the Freemasons of England to be thus acknowledged and honoured by His Royal Highness, who fulfilled his duties most conscientiously. His duties had now called him elsewhere, and they must all rejoice at the reception accorded to him in India on every side—not the least hearty being the welcome given by the Freemasons. Everyone would join him (the W.M.) in wishing His Royal Highness pleasure on his journey, desiring that it might be productive of good, and further wishing him "God speed" and a speedy return to his native country. The toast was drunk with Masonic enthusiasm and honours. The next toast on the "carte" was "The R.W. Dep. G.M., Lord Skelmersdale, P.G.M. of West Lancashire, and the Prov. G. Officers," and in submitting it the W.M. said they had at the head of Freemasonry in that province one of the first and finest noblemen in England; one whose sole effort was to carry out the duties of his office with the utmost fidelity. Bro. the Rev. J. F. Goggin, P.P.G. Chaplain, in responding for the toast, said he had not been disappointed in his expectations with regard to the prosperity of the Lodge of Israel. He saw it in its infancy, and was now proud to find it had grown into a stout and plump boy, and had no doubt it

would develop into a fine manhood. He believed they could not have placed a better man in the chair than Bro. Henochsberg, whom he had always found kind, noble, and gentleman-like. Bro. Ralph Robinson, I.P.M., said it gave him great pleasure to propose the toast of "The Worshipful Master," and he was sure the brethren would receive it with the same amount of pleasure. In Bro. Henochsberg they had secured a man of energy and zeal, who would strive, as Master, to make the lodge second to none in the province. It had been to him (Bro. Robinson) a source of great pleasure to have the honour of installing him in the chair, as he felt that their W.M. would well and worthily represent and uphold the highest interests of the lodge. He felt regret that their first S.W. (Bro. M. de Frece) had not been able to go into the chair, but after that expression of regret he must add that if he (Bro. Robinson) had been asked to appoint his successor, he would have said, "Appoint Bro. Henochsberg." The W.M., whose health was drunk with great enthusiasm, in acknowledging the compliment said he hardly knew what to say in answer to the flattering and complimentary way in which Bro. Robinson had spoken of him. He thanked him very sincerely for the kind way in which he had proposed the toast, and he must also thank the brethren for the cordial response given to it. He (the W.M.) was not by a long way what Bro. Robinson had painted him, but by his future conduct he would endeavour to bear up and bear out many of the kind things which had been said. He considered it indeed an honour to be elected to that high office, and he felt it to be so, especially coming after their first W.M. Bro. Robinson had referred to his (the W.M.'s) virtues, but he had not told them the advantage which he possessed in coming after such a Master, who had ever been so ready and willing to give advice and help when they were needed. It was his (the W.M.'s) intention during the year, if blessed with health, to carry out the duties of the office upon the same principles as they had been carried out during the past year. He could not hope to do them as well, but he would try to imitate the noble example which had been set him. He would look to the officers for their support, and to the brethren for that forbearance which would lead them to comply with this request—

"Be to my faults a little blind,
And to my virtues ever kind."

The W.M. next proposed "The Installing Master," and said he could hardly find terms to adequately express all he felt regarding Bro. Robinson. They had all seen that day a sample of his abilities, and every one must say that the way in which he had performed the ceremony was unequalled. He (the W.M.) had a pleasing duty to perform, and that was to present Bro. Robinson, in name of the lodge, with a Past Master's jewel, bearing the inscription:—"Presented by the Lodge of Israel, No. 1502, to Bro. Ralph Robinson, the first W.M., as a token of fraternal regard and esteem." The W.M. added—To you, Bro. Robinson, is due the very great success which has attended this lodge during the first year of its existence, and to you it is indebted for the proud position which it occupies as being second to none in the province of West Lancashire. You have, by your correct rendering of our beautiful Masonic ritual—by your amiability—by your firmness in the chair, and by your willingness to afford instruction to the brethren, endeared yourself to us all, and I have now the greatest pleasure in handing you this "token of fraternal regard and esteem." Bro. Robinson, in response, said he felt in something like the position expressed by the Spanish phrase, "Things come to such a pitch at times when you must either laugh or cry." He felt inclined to cry, but he must heartily thank the R.W.M. for the kind manner in which he had spoken of him. He could not, however, allow him to say that the success of the lodge was due only to him (Bro. Robinson). He had had the good fortune to be blessed with officers who had done wonders for the lodge; if left in his hands, it would have been a failure. Our Treasurer (Bro. Isaac de Frece) is a gem of a man, and they had no idea how much he had done, not only to conserve the funds of the lodge, but to add to them in every way. Beyond that, they had been fortunate in securing the services of Bro. M. de Frece, who was really the father and founder of the lodge. (Hear, hear.) The Secretary (Bro. M. Hart) had also been a great help, and invaluable in the performance of his duties. After referring to the Lodge of Israel, he said he only asked for certain peculiarities in the ceremonies, as their right as compared with other lodges, and then referred to the kind countenance it had received from Christian brethren. This was a great encouragement, and he most heartily thanked all helpers in the first year of their lodge. The W.M. then proposed "The Visitors," and Bro. Mawdsley, P.P.G. Reg., in responding, expressed the pleasure it gave him to visit that lodge, and see the excellent working, which he had never seen equalled during his long Masonic career. After detailing his rapid progress in Masonry, he counselled every one to strive for distinction in his lodge. Bro. Hardy also responded, and so, from what he knew of the W.M., commercially and masonically, he was certain of his success in the chair. Bro. the Rev. J. F. Goggin also conveyed his congratulations to the W.M., and said it was something to be proud of when they remembered that in a Masonic lodge, Jews and Christians alike could find a hand ready to grasp another, and a heart ready to feel for another. Bros. F. D. Siemms, C. S. Davies, S. Schmerl, Louis, Davis, and Solomons, 1507, also responded, each wishing the W.M. and the lodge the greatest success. Bro. R. Robinson gave "The Fund of Benevolence," and alluded at some length to the benefits which would accrue from such a fund. "The Chaplain" and "Officers" were amongst the other toasts. An excellent musical programme was furnished by Bros. S. Jacobs, M. Hart, S. Schonstadt, W. G. Veale, Franks, S. J. Henochsberg, &c. "Marie," the recently published song by Bro. A. Saqui, a member of the lodge, was well rendered by Bro. S. Jacobs, and cordially received.

PORTMADOC.—Madoc Lodge (No. 1509).—The installation meeting of this lodge, the youngest in the Province of North Wales and Shropshire, was held at the Queen's Hotel, Portmadoc, on Tuesday, the 9th inst., at three o'clock, Bro. Ed. Breese, W.M., in the chair, supported by Bros. Cornelius Davies, J.W., as S.W.; J. W. Poole, P.M., J.W.; and J. W. Wallace, as I.P.M. The lodge was opened in form, after solemn prayer, by the W.M., and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. The ballot was then taken for Mr. Wm. Long, which was unanimous in his favour, and he was accordingly initiated into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry. The Treasurer's report was then read in his absence by Bro. P.M. Wallace, and showed that the lodge, after paying over £300, was only in debt £25, a state of things satisfactory to all. The Installing Master then called Bro. Breese, and informed him that the brethren had unanimously re-elected him, and having signified his assent to the ancient charges, installed him in the chair of K.S. He subsequently invested the following as his officers, viz.: Bros. C. Davies, S.W.; Dr. Robert Roberts, J.W.; Rev. John Lewis, Rector of Dolbenmaen, Chaplain; E. Seymour Greaves, Treas.; Dr. Jones Morris, Sec. (re-elected); Dr. Samuel Griffith, S.D.; O. Morris Roberts, J.D.; Morris Jones, I.G.; Edward Pryce, Dir. of Cers.; F. H. Strouger, Org.; Owen Morris, Dep. Org.; John Roberts and R. F. Roberts, Stewards. At the close of the investiture, Bro. Wallace, on behalf of the brethren of the lodge, presented Bro. Ed. Breese with a handsome P.M.'s jewel, for which the W.M., in suitable words, sincerely thanked the brethren. The brethren then repaired to the Royal and Commercial Hotel to partake of a banquet, which was of a most recherche character, and reflected great credit on the host and hostess, Bro. R. F. Roberts, and Mrs. Roberts. Among those present were Bros. John Francis, P.P.G. J.W.; J. W. Wallace, J. W. Poole, P.M. 606; C. H. Rees, R. J. Davids, W.M. 606; C. Elliot, S.W. elect of the proposed Corbet Lodge; Rev. J. Boucher, S.W. 606; R. Thomas, 606; C. Davies, Rev. J. Lewis, Drs. Roberts, Griffith, and Jones Morris; O. M. Roberts, Morris Isaac, J. W. Wheeler, J. Roberts, T. B. Humphrey, F. H. Strouger, G. T. Picton Jones, Cledwyn Owen, R. Williams, and others. The W.M., in proposing "The Queen," congratulated the brethren on having such a good example of religion and morality at their head. Drank with enthusiasm. The next toast the W.M. proposed was "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," and he remarked he hoped his journey to India would be productive of great benefit to him, and also to his future subjects in the far East. He was sure it was no journey of pleasure, but was prompted by the Prince's desire to fit himself for the position he would some day hold. It was a matter of congratulation to the Freemasons of Wales that the head of the Craft should receive his title from their country. Bro. Davids reminded the W.M. it was the Prince's birthday. "God Bless the Prince of Wales" was then most loyally given by the company. The W.M. in proposing "The Health of the Earl of Carnarvon," said that as Freemasons in Wales they had cause for congratulation because the Prince was their head; they of Carnarvonshire had more cause, as his deputy took his title from their country. He was sure the Prince could not have selected a better and worthier gentleman than the Earl, and the ability displayed by him during the interregnum, occasioned by an event they all regretted, pointed him out as one well able to rule over them had not H.R.H. accepted the M.W.G. Mastership. In proposing "The Health of Sir Watkin Wynn," the W.M. said that there was to be no end of congratulating themselves as Masons, as in addition to all the other names he had mentioned they now had to toast the "Prince in Wales," and who was also their Prince with regard to Masonry. He was sure they could not drink the health of a better man, a more kind-hearted landlord, a thorough patriot, a most excellent Mason; and, whoever was second, there was no better Provincial Grand Master than Sir Watkin, one who acted up in deed and word to the grand principles of Freemasonry. It had pleased the G.A. to afflict him, but he was now better, and he hoped his voyage abroad would be a great benefit to him, and, under the blessing of heaven, would be the means of thoroughly re-establishing his health, so that he may be spared to them for many years. Song: "Sir Watkin Wynn," excellently given by Bro. Picton Jones. The next toast was that of "Bro. J. R. Ormsby Gore, M.P., Dep. Prov. G.M.," who, the W.M. said, was well known to them, his land being around on all sides, as a most kind-hearted landlord and an excellent neighbour. He had told the W.M. he would be present with them that evening if his health permitted, and he was sorry his absence was caused by illness. The I.P.M. then said the next toast was placed in his hands, and he was sure no words of his were necessary to ensure a most enthusiastic welcome to the toast. They had all known the W.M. longer than he, but for his true Masonic spirit he did not think any one had had more opportunities of observing them than he. He was a true Mason, and he need not say anything more than that in praise of Bro. Breese, who had done a great deal for the lodge, and he questioned if the wonderful success that they had had during the year was not altogether due to his exertion and influence. Drank most enthusiastically, with Masonic fire. The W.M., in replying, thanked the I.P.M. for the very kind manner in which he had proposed his health, and also the brethren for the flattering way with which they had received it, as he was sure there was sincerity on both sides. He was sorry he had been absent from many meetings owing to illness, but although that had been the case he never forgot them. He most eloquently dilated on the grand principles of the Order, and in referring to charity, remarked that, owing to other claims pressing on the lodge, they had not the means to do what they would have wished with regard to this grand principle, but he hoped that now those claims were settled they would be

found at the front, if not at the head, of the lodges of the province as far as their contributions to the Masonic charities. Before sitting down he had a toast to propose, viz., "The Immediate Past Master, Bro. Wallace," who had done so much for the lodge, and who was highly esteemed by them all. Bro. Wallace suitably responded. In replying to the toast of "The W.M.'s of the Province," Bro. Davids, W.M. 606, thanked them for the honour done him in coupling his name with the toast, as he was the youngest Master almost in the province, and that was his first appearance since his installation as Master of his lodge at any other lodge, and it gave him great pleasure to be present at the re-installation of one whom his brethren had, owing to his eminent qualities, both socially and Masonically, selected to fill the chair of that lodge for the ensuing twelve months, and he hoped that his example would tend to make all the brethren more zealous in their attendance and discharge of their duties. Masonry, he said, ought to be looked up to, not from its social or mystic position, but on account of the honourable position it had in this country. In proposing "The Visiting Brethren," the W.M. said that he was afraid that was a misnomer, and was not wisely put on the toast list, as they had an idea, from the title, of some brethren whom they never wish to see again, and who were of no ornament to the Craft, but by it was meant their "visitors" that evening, whom they all wished to honour and would most heartily receive again; some of whom had come a considerable distance to be present among them that evening. He was always glad to see visitors, as they always put the officers on their mettle, and sometimes took the little ideas they had of themselves out of them—more especially in country lodges was this the case, as the officers were sometimes inclined to think themselves perfection, and to consider the world as if it were constituted of but three or four miles around them. Bros. Elliot and Francis suitably replied. The other toasts were "The Wardens and Officers," "The Newly Initiated," "The Ladies," and "The Tyler's." This lodge, which was consecrated twelve months ago with 20 original members, now numbers 82 members, 20 of whom have been initiated, and the others affiliated from other lodges under the Grand Lodge of England, Scotland, and Ireland, and the Grand Orient of France and Italy.

HAMPTON.—Hemming Lodge (No. 1512).—The first meeting since the installation of Bro. Hopwood, as W.M. of this lodge, was held at the Lion Hotel, on Thursday, the 18th inst. The lodge was opened at half-past five o'clock in the afternoon by Bro. Hopwood, P.M. 141, W.M., assisted by Bros. W. Hammond, P.M. 201, 1326, P.J.G.D. of Middlesex, I.P.M.; S. Hill, P.M., S.W.; J. Hurst, J.W.; T. Wheeler, S.D.; T. W. Ockenden, acting J.D.; J. C. Jessell, I.G.; D. B. Raw, P.M., Treas.; J. Hammond, P.M. 201, &c., Sec. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, with the exception of that portion of them referring to the resignation of one of the members, which was unanimously rescinded. The ballot was then taken to admit, as joining members, Bros. Knaggs, Treasurer and S.D.; Rogers, S.; and Evans, I.G., all of No. 1503, and upon investigation, was declared by the W.M. to be unanimous. The ballot was also taken on behalf of Messrs. Thomas Moody, Harry Tagg, and William Messenger, and having been unanimously approved, the two first named gentlemen were duly and impressively initiated into the mysteries of the Craft by the W.M. Bro. B. R. Aston was passed to the Degree of F.C. by the W.M. At the request of the W.M., who was indisposed, Bro. Hammond, the I.P.M., raised Bros. J. E. Hunt and J. W. Hiscox to the Third Degree. Several minor matters having been discussed, the lodge was closed according to ancient form, and the brethren adjourned to a cold collation. Upon the removal of the cloth, the W.M. stated that as the hour was late he should not enlarge upon the subject matter of the toasts any more than was actually necessary. He then, with a few brief remarks, gave "The Queen and the Craft," which was well received. In proposing "The Health of the M.W.G.M.," the W.M. stated that as a Mason he was exceedingly pleased to read that thus far His Royal Highness's trip had been eminently successful, and he hoped that throughout the whole tour nothing would occur to mar the proceedings. It was also very gratifying to the Craft at home to hear that their brethren in India had given the Prince a most magnificent reception, and he had no doubt that a very great number of people in England who were not royalists or Freemasons were very much disappointed that His Royal Highness had been so favourably received by all classes abroad and that they have been charmed by his affability and geniality. This toast was most enthusiastically received. "The Health of the Earl of Carnarvon, Pro G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Past and Present," having been proposed and drank, the W.M. gave "The R.W. the P.G.M. of Middlesex," and expressed how grateful he felt at holding the position of W.M. in a lodge that had been so favourably spoken of as the Hemming had been by that distinguished Mason, Bro. Colonel Burdett. This toast having been duly honoured, the W.M. gave "The rest of the Provincial Grand Officers," coupled with the name of Bro. William Hammond, the Junior Grand Deacon of Middlesex, who made an excellent reply for the honour that had been accorded to him in coupling his name with the Grand Officers of so important a province as that of Middlesex. The I.P.M. then rose and proposed in very happy terms "The Health of the W.M.," who had made his "debut" in the Hemming Lodge that evening as a thoroughly good working Mason. From the care and attention that Bro. Hopwood as S.W. had displayed in the discharge of his duties during the past year he (Bro. Hammond) had felt assured that the responsibilities and ceremonies of the position would be creditably performed, and he had not been disappointed, for he was sure that the brethren of the lodge would agree with him that the W.M., although slightly indisposed, "worked" the first and second ceremonies well, and that he was capable of performing the third, but from circumstances already explained

Bro. Hopwood did not that evening feel equal to the work. This toast having been drunk, the W.M. briefly replied, and stated that he hoped the brethren would excuse any shortcomings of his that evening, and that he would at the next lodge meeting endeavour to carry out the whole of the work to their satisfaction, but as they were all aware he had had a very severe illness, and did not feel quite recovered from its effects yet, and that it had to a very great extent interfered with his Masonic working. The next toast was "The Initiates," which was prefaced by the W.M. with a few appropriate remarks. Bros. Tagg and Moody both acknowledged the compliment, and the latter particularly expressed his obligations at having been allowed by the brethren of the Hemming Lodge to become a member of the ancient and noble order of Freemasons, which not only taught the precepts of harmony and benevolence to its members, but endeavoured by its example to disseminate those principles throughout the world. The proceedings having been enlivened by the dramatic and vocal selections of Bros. Ockenden, Hurst, Tagg, Jessit and Walls, the W.M. rose and proposed "The Health of their Visitor, Bro. H. Jones, 1326." In his remarks he stated that he had known Bro. Jones many years, and that he was very pleased to see him as a guest of the Hemming Lodge, which usually had the pleasure of receiving visits from many brethren, and he was very sorry to state that this was the first occasion in its history that its hospitality had been dispensed to only one visitor. "The Health of the Past Masters" was then proposed by the W.M., coupled with the name of the I.P.M., without whose valuable assistance the lodge could never have succeeded, in so short a time, in establishing for itself the good name that it bore in the province. Bro. Hammond having suitably acknowledged the compliment, the W.M. gave "The other Officers of the Lodge," mentioning each personally by name. The toast having been honoured, Bros. Hill, Hurst, Wheeler, Jessell and Ockenden severally replied. Bro. Walls having by request of the W.M. sang a portion of the "National Anthem," and "God Bless the Prince of Wales," the Tyler's toast was given, and the brethren separated until the third Thursday in January.

GREAT STANMORE.—Abercorn Lodge (No. 1549).—In closing the first season of this highly successful new lodge, held at the Abercorn Arms Hotel, we have to record two emergencies, which has enabled all the new members to rank as M.M. The first meeting, held on the 5th ult., was fully attended by the officers and brethren, and under the very able direction of the W.M., Bro. Helsdon, P.M., Bro. Eversden was raised to the sublime degree of M.M. Bros. Hackney, Thompson, and Lloyd were passed. The Secretary then read, to the great satisfaction of the brethren, a reply to his application from the V.W. Bro. the Marquis of Hamilton, S.G.W., accepting the offer of the lodge to become hon. member, upon which Bro. Joshua Nunn, J.W., P.M. and P.G.S.B., proposed, and Bro. Holden, S.D., seconded, that such be duly recorded on the lodge minutes, which was carried unanimously. After the usual enquiries, the lodge closed in perfect harmony at 6 p.m., and the brethren adjourned to refreshment and mutual enjoyment.

The last meeting was held on the 2nd inst., in the presence of the following brethren:—R. Helsdon, P.M., W.M.; J. W. Garrod, S.W.; O. Vincent, acting J.W.; C. Veal, P.M., Hon. Sec.; J. Holden, S.D.; G. Tidcombe, J.D.; J. Patterson, I.G.; and Bros. Best, Swatton, Eversden, Hackney, Thompson, and Lloyd; and visitors, Bros. Netherlands, 920, and M. Drury Lavin, 404, the R.W.P.G.M. and several other brethren sending suitable apologies for their absence. The lodge was opened at 3.45. Bros. Hackney, Thompson and Lloyd were raised to M.M.'s, the usual requirements made for the good of the Craft. The following were proposed as joining members, subject to ballot at next meeting:—Bro. Joseph Ebbs, W.M. 733, proposed by the W.M., and seconded by the S.W.; and Bro. Reuben Roy, M.M. 188, proposed by the Secretary, and seconded by Bro. Felton. The Secretary then brought forward a sad case of adversity, which had ended in a summons from the G.A. O.T.U. to Bro. T. Mackintosh, M.M. Scoon and Perth, No. 3, just as he was about to become a joining member of the lodge. The Secretary himself, with Bros. Felton and Roy, followed him to his last resting place with the sincere hope of his ascending to the Grand Lodge above. Much sympathy was expressed for the widow, and the right hand of charity extended to meet present requirements. Several minor matters were then disposed of, and the lodge adjourned until the first Tuesday in April, when several new members are expected. The brethren then met at banquet with the usual loyalty and harmony, and in reply to his health, proposed by Bro. Veal, P.M., the W.M. expressed his great gratification at the success of their first season, complimenting the officers respectively on their united efforts, and Bro. Veal, Hon. Sec., whom he described as the father and founder of the lodge. On the officers replying through Bro. Garrod, S.W., the Tyler's toast concluded the evening with general satisfaction.

DOMATIC LODGE OF INSTRUCTION (No. 177).—Since this old established Lodge of Instruction has been removed to the Surrey Masonic Hall, in the Camberwell New Road, there is an increased number of Masons at its weekly meetings, which has no doubt been brought about in consequence of the business of the lodge being carried on apart from tavern accommodation. On Tuesday last there was a very full attendance, the evening being set apart for rehearsing the ceremony of installation. Bro. Field, the W.M. of the Burgoyne Lodge, occupied the chair, and there were several Past Masters present, amongst whom were Bros. Messenger, H. 1216; Wallis, 905; H. Thompson, 177 and 1158; Dann, 72; and others. The lodge having been opened in the Second Degree, Bro. Larham (Preceptor of the lodge) presented Bro.

Wallis to receive the benefit of instruction, and the usual ceremony having progressed to the usual point, the brethren below the chair retired, and a Board of Installed Masters having been formed, Bro. Wallis was in due form installed into the chair. After the re-admission of the brethren, Bro. Field gave the usual addresses, and at the close of the ceremony he was greeted with hearty cheering.

Royal Arch.

BATH.—Royal Cumberland Chapter (No. 41).—The first meeting of the season was held at the Masonic Hall on Thursday, Nov. 18th, summoned for half-past seven, but not opened till after eight o'clock by Ex. Comps. Jelley, M.E.Z.; Jas. Parfitt, H.; Thompson, J., in the presence of Past First Principals Geo. Parfitt, Dr. Hopkins, Moutrie, Rubie, Mann, and Reeves. On the admission of nearly 20 companions, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for Bro. Williamson, which proving unanimously favourable, he and Bro. C. Brookes (previously balloted for) were prepared for the ceremony. The acting subordinate officers were R. Carey, H.; Hearn, N.; Moutrie, P.Z. Treas.; Hill, Pr. Soj.; Howes, Asst. Soj. On the admission of the candidates the first part of the ceremony, as far as the Obligation, was conducted by the M.E.Z., and completed by Dr. Hopkins, P.Z., who also gave the historical, symbolical, and mystical lectures. These were listened to with marked attention, and on their conclusion elicited the approbation of those present by loud applause. A vote of thanks was passed to him for his assistance. The bye-laws were read, as is usual once in each year. The following appointments to office for next year were made: Jas. Parfitt, Z.; Thompson, H.; R. Carey, J.; Hill, E.; Hearn, N.; Moutrie, P.Z., Treas. Other business of no general interest protracted the proceedings, which did not terminate till nearly 11 o'clock.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—Charnwood Chapter (No. 1007).—A convocation of this chapter was held at the Bull's Head Hotel, on Tuesday, the 16th ult., under the presidency of Comp. J. C. Duncombe, M.E.Z. 1130, Prov. G.A.S., in the absence of Earl Ferrers, M.E.Z., Prov. G.H. Among the other officers present were Comps. H. Deane, P.Z., P.G.R.; Arnatt, J.; R. Boughton-Smith, Prov. G. Sid. B., S.E. The only business of the evening was to elect the officers for the ensuing year, when a ballot took place, and the following were declared to be duly elected, viz.:—Comps. Deane, M.E.Z.; Arnatt, H.; Boughton-Smith, J. and Treas.; James E. Cooke, N.; Gough, P.S.; Dabell, A.S.; Crossie, A.S.; Story, M.C.; Jacques, Sid. B.; Walker, Janitor. This being the whole of the business, the chapter was closed.

Mark Masonry.

SOUTHWARK LODGE (No. 22).—Time was, say about three years since—when this very old lodge had, except in name, become almost extinct. It was, we believe, originally held under the Scottish Constitution, but in the year 1866 it acknowledged the supremacy of the Grand Mark Lodge of England, and it has since been held under the authority of that now distinguished body. As we have said, three years since the lodge was almost, if not quite in abeyance, but a few energetic members, still left on the muster roll, decided that such a state of things should exist no longer, and the result of their exertions is, that there is now a lodge, built certainly on the ruins of the old, but a lodge of a far different character. Instead of a very few members, some of whom never attended, it now numbers between thirty and forty, and in closing our preliminary remarks, we wish it every success in its new career. But to return. The lodge held its annual installation meeting at the Bridge House Hotel, Southwark, on Tuesday, the 9th inst., and it was exceedingly well attended. There were present W. Bros. E. S. Stidolph, G.S.W.M.; Sparkes, P.P.G.S. Middlesex, S.W. and W.M. Elect.; J. H. Spencer, P.G.S., J.W.; J. J. Hooper Wilkins, P.G.J.O., P.M., Treas.; John Read, P.G. Org., Sec.; and many other brethren. Visitors: Bros. Major Shadwell Clerke, Hyde Pullen, John Webb, F. Binckes, G. Sec.; and Magnus Ohren. The lodge having been duly opened by the W.M., the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, as also was the report of the Audit Committee. At the request of the W.M., Bro. Poore, P.M., then ascended the chair of A., and in a very impressive manner advanced Bro. the Rev. J. Hatch to the degree of a M.M.M. The next step was to install the new W.M., and his duty was also undertaken and most efficiently carried out by Bro. Poore, and here it may be mentioned that this duty was imposed on Bro. Poore at a moment's notice, it having been understood that another worthy and distinguished brother would officiate, but who was absent from some cause which was not explained. The W.M. having been duly installed then invested his officers as follows:—W. Bros. Stidolph, G.S. I.P.M.; Spencer, P.G.S., S.W.; J. Cattle Mason, J.W.; Rev. J. Hatch, Chap.; J. J. Hooper Wilkins, P.G.J.O., P.M., Treas.; John Read, P.G. Org., P.M., Sec.; Poore, P.M., Assist. Sec.; Gilbert, M.O.; Horton, G.O.; Van Baerle, J.O.; Hutt, Reg. Wks.; Klingenstein, S.D.; Walshaw, J.D.; Brettie, I.G.; Middleton, Steward; Austin, Tyler. After some formal business the lodge was then closed in ancient form, and the brethren adjourned to one of those banquets for which Bro. Spencer is so famous. After the removal of the cloth grace was said by the Rev. J. Hatch, Chaplain. The W.M. then proposed "The Queen and M. Masonry," and the toast was duly honoured. Next came "The M.W. Grand M.M. P.G. Masters, and the Deputy Grand Master and the rest of the Grand Officers, Past and Present," and with this was associated the name of the

R. W. Bro. Binckes, Grand Secretary. Bro. Binckes, in reply, briefly sketched the progress the Order had made in the last few years, and congratulated the Southwark Lodge on the position it had attained, and wished it every success. The I.P.M., Bro. Stidolph, then proposed "The Health of the W.M." in an effective speech, and expressed his gratification at the choice the brethren had made, being confident that the brother now in the chair was in every respect well qualified for that high position. "The Health of Bro. the Rev. J. Hatch" was next proposed, and suitably acknowledged. The W.M. then introduced the next toast, which was that of "The I.P.M., Bro. Stidolph, remarking that the great services he had rendered to the lodge, both as S.W. and afterwards as W.M., and the liberal and handsome manner in which he had always promoted its best interests, called for a more substantial recognition than a merely complimentary speech. He had, therefore, much pleasure in presenting him with a P.M.'s jewel, voted by the lodge as a slight acknowledgment of the respect in which he was held by every member, at the same time wishing him all possible happiness in the future. Bro. Stidolph returned thanks, and was proud to have such a jewel, and he further assured the brethren that although now past the chair, he should still continue to give the lodge his warmest support. The W.M. next proposed "The Health of the Visitors," and was very glad indeed to see such a bevy of distinguished Masons present. He assured them that the Southwark Lodge would at all times be glad to accord them a hearty greeting. Bro. Magnus Ohren replied, as also did Bro. Hyde Pullen and Bro. Major Shadwell Clerke. The W.M. then proposed "The Health of the Installing Master, Bro. Poore," associating with it that of the P.M.'s, Bros. John Read and Hooper Wilkins, but they, being Past Grand Officers, a toast already responded to—he would now only call on Bro. Poore to reply. The W.M. paid a well-deserved compliment to Bro. Poore for the manner in which he had performed the duties which had so suddenly devolved upon him, and Bro. Binckes supplemented this by observing that he had been extremely pleased with the whole of the proceedings, and he complimented Bro. Poore in terms which must have been highly gratifying to that able and zealous member of the order. "The Health of the Officers" then brought a most successful and pleasant evening to a close.

SOUTH MOLTON.—Fortescue Lodge (No. 9).—The annual meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, on Tuesday, the 6th inst. The first business was to instal Bro. J. T. Shapland, as W.M. for the year ensuing. This was very ably done by the R.W.P.G. Master, Bro. Major Davey, who very kindly attended at much personal inconvenience for the purpose. The W.M. then appointed his officers for the year ensuing as follows:—Bros. T. Sanders, I.P.M.; R. L. Ricard, S.W.; J. Brewer, J.W.; J. Galliford, M.G.; J. Wood, S.O.; J. T. Widgery, J.O.; Rev. F. King, Chaplain; J. Galliford, Treas.; J. T. Widgery, Registrar of Marks; J. E. Galliford, Sec.; W. Cole S.D.; W. Britton, J.D.; W. C. Oliver, I.G.; R. Kingdon, Tyler. Bro. Thomas Hancock, W.M. of Lodge Concord, No. 1135, was duly advanced. The brethren afterwards dined together at Bro. Cole's, Unicorn Hotel and a very pleasant evening was spent.

LIVERPOOL.—West Lancashire Lodge (No. 65).—The annual installation meeting of this lodge took place on Wednesday, Nov. 3rd, and proved a most successful gathering. During the past 12 months the W.M., Bro. Henry Nelson, had advanced no fewer than twenty-five brethren to this honourable degree, many of them Masons of the highest standing, which satisfactorily shows the progress that Mark Masonry is making in this district. The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. H. Nelson, P. Prov. G.S.O., who was supported by the following officers and brethren:—Wm. Shortis, P.G.I. of Wks., S.W.; T. Clark, P.M., P.G.M.O.; W. T. May, P.M.; J. Kellett Smith, P.M., P.G.J.W.; J. R. Goepel, P.G.M.O., Treas.; H. Jackson, Sec.; A. Bucknall, M.O.; H. Hayes, S.O.; H. Morris, J.O.; H. Burrows, S.D.; J. Capell, Reg.; T. Large, J.D.; H. S. Alpess, P.G.M.O.; T. J. Jeffery, P. B. Forshaw, Thos. Smyth, T. Hooper, F. Cooper, J. Armstrong, T. Chesworth, T. McWean, T. H. Bibby, R. H. Evans, G. A. Wright, W. P. Jennings, W. Fish, R. Reader, A. C. Wylie, Geo. Hutchin, and J. Thompson. The visitors were Bros. G. H. Wilson, P.M. 11, P.G.J.D.; Jno. Pemberton, J. Baxendale, and C. Leighton. After some routine business had been transacted, the W.M. elect, Bro. Wm. Shortis, was presented by Bro. Dr. Smith, P.M., P.G.J.W., and Bro. Thos. Clark, P.M., P.G.M.O., to the W.M., Bro. H. Nelson, for installation. The brethren below the rank of Installed Masters then retired, and on their return Bro. Shortis was duly proclaimed and saluted as W.M., Bro. Nelson acting throughout as Installing Master. Bro. Shortis then proceeded to appoint and invest his officers as follows:—Bros. H. Jackson, S.W.; H. Hayes, J.W.; J. R. Goepel, Treas.; A. Bucknall, Sec.; Reg. Young, Chaplain (by proxy); H. Burrows, M.O.; T. Large, S.O.; J. Capell, J.O.; R. H. Evans, S.D.; W. H. Cooper, J.D.; T. Clark, P.M., D.C.; J. Armstrong, Reg.; T. Thompson, I.G.; Geo. Hutchin, S.S.; A. C. Wylie, J.S.; and Peter Ball, Tyler. The lodge was then closed in solemn and ancient form. The brethren subsequently sat down to banquet under the presidency of the W.M., Bro. Wm. Shortis, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to.

Ancient and Accepted Rite.

THE PALESTINE SOVEREIGN CHAPTER ROSE CROIX.—The November meeting of this chapter was held on the 23rd inst., at the Masonic Hall, Golden-square. Present: Bro. H. C. Levander, M.A. 30°, M.W.S.; Bros. T. L. Fox, Col. Peters, Boyd 30°, Cubitt, 30°, Dicketts, Hirsch, Kenning, 30°, P.M.W.S., Ham-

merton, Moss, Tomkins, Reed, R. W. Little, P.M.W.S.; Holden, Thomas, Vaughan, Dr. Dixon, John Hervey, P.M.W.S., Treas.; Capt. N. G. Phillips, 33°; Major Shadwell Clerk, 33°; G. Sec. General; Hyde Pullen. Visitors: Bros. Bywater and Grabham. The minutes were read and confirmed, and the report of the Audit Committee received and adopted. Bro. John Mason, W.M. 1567, and Bro. J. C. Hall were received into the Order. Bro. Hyde Pullen then installed Bro. T. Lewis Fox as M.W.S. for the ensuing year. The brethren dined at the Café Royal.

Scotland.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF DUMBERTON.

The quarterly communication of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Dumbarton was held in the Elephant Hotel, High-street, Dumbarton, on Saturday evening, the 6th inst., the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Alexander Smollett, presiding. The P.G. Lodge was opened and minutes of last meeting read and confirmed. The P.G. Master then referred to the lamented decease of Bro. Paterson, late P.G.S.W., and said he was one who in his Masonic, social, and business capacities had endeared himself to all with whom he came into contact. He had the interests of Masonry at heart, and we deeply mourn and regret the loss of his presence amongst us. I, as one, shall ever regard his memory with the greatest affection and esteem, and in my official character shall deeply feel his loss. It is, therefore, necessary, under the sad circumstances to fill up the vacant office of P. Grand Senior Warden, and I have now much pleasure in appointing Bro. John Babbie, the present P. Grand Junior Warden, to that office, and Bro. Alexander Denny, the present P. Grand Secretary, to the office of P.G.J.W., and Bro. A. S. MacBride, the present P. Grand Clerk, to the office of P. Grand Secretary. These brethren intimated their willingness to accept the offices named.

The P.G. Lodge then proceeded to elect the other office-bearers for the ensuing year, and the following is now the full list of the office-bearers appointed by the P.G. Master and elected by the P.G. Lodge, viz.: Bros. Alexander Smollett, Provincial Grand Master; Archibald Orr Ewing, M.P., Provincial G. Deputy Master; W. C. Steele, Sheriff Substitute, Provincial G. Substitute Master; John Babbie, Provincial Grand Senior Warden; Alexander Denny, Provincial Grand Junior Warden; A. S. MacBride, Provincial Grand Sec.; William Hodge, Provincial Grand Treas.; Robert Andrew Gray, Prov. G. Chaplain; John McLeish, I.P.M. 321, Prov. G. Senior Deacon; James Marsland, R.W.M. 503, Prov. G. Junior Deacon; Patrick Moir, Prov. G. Bible Bearer; Alexander McGregor, Prov. G.S. Steward; William Ferguson, R.W.M. 543, Prov. G.J. Steward; Thomas Higgins, Prov. G. Inner Guard; John Kennedy, Prov. G. Tyler.

The following were appointed as the Provincial Grand Lodge Committee, viz.: William Barr, R.W.M. 18; David Paul, R.W.M. 170; James Stewart, R.W.M. 321; John McLeish, I.P.M. 321; and Robert Thomson, S.W. 18. After going through a good deal of other business, the P.G. Lodge was closed in due and ancient form by the R.W.P.G. Master.

EDINBURGH.—Lodge of Edinburgh (Mary's Chapel) (No. 1).—Owing to unavoidable circumstances, the second monthly meeting of this ancient lodge for the season was held in the lodge-room, Waterloo Place, on Wednesday evening, the 10th inst., instead of the 9th. The lodge was opened on the E.A. Degree by Bro. J. J. Muirhead, R.W.M., who was supported by Bros. Officer, P.M.; Roy, D.M.; Dr. Dickson, S.M.; E. M. Nightingale, S.W.; W. J. Shiress, J.W.; D. Kinnear, P.M. 291, J.G.D. elect; Hudson, P.M. 5; Matheson, P.M. 5; R. F. Shaw Stewart, P.J.W., &c., and a numerous attendance of brethren. A petition was then read from Mr. George Wilson, Murrayfield House, praying to be initiated into the Craft, and this application having been found to be in regular order, the petitioner was remitted to a successful ballot, after which the E.A. Degree was conferred upon him by Bro. Dr. Dickson, S.M. Petitions were also read from Bro. Henry Erskine Gordon, advocate, of Lodge St. Luke, 44, Edinburgh, and from Bro. D. Smith, solicitor, a Fellow Craft of Lodge St. Machar, Aberdeen, 54, respectively, each desiring to be admitted an affiliated member, and these brethren having also passed through the ballot test successfully, were duly welded as the "last links" of a somewhat lengthy chain. The minutes of last monthly meeting were then read and confirmed. The R.W.M., in a very feeling manner, adverted to the severe domestic affliction through which Bro. Abbott, the worthy and esteemed I.P.M. of the lodge, had recently passed by the death of two of his children. After paying a just tribute to the many and varied services Bro. Abbott had rendered to his mother lodge, he moved that a record should be placed on the minutes, expressive of the deep sympathy of the brethren with him and the other members of his family in a bereavement which must have thrown so deep a shadow over their fireside. Bro. Officer, P.M., seconded the motion, which was cordially agreed to. This having concluded the business, the lodge was then summoned to refreshment, and after the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, the R.W.M. took occasion to propose "The Health of Bro. R. F. Shaw Stewart," whom he singled out as his probable successor to the chair, and whose personal character and high social and Masonic position were a sure guarantee, he thought, of a successful career as Master. Bro. Shaw Stewart, who was received with great applause, returned thanks for the honour which had just been done him. Bro. Officer, P.M., reminded the brethren that, as this would be the last occasion on which Bro. Muirhead would preside at a monthly meeting as Master (owing to his intended departure for the

continent), he asked the brethren to join with him in proposing a hearty vote of thanks to him for the services he had rendered to the lodge during his three years' tenure of office as R.W.M. Bro. Roy, D.M., seconded the motion, which was heartily agreed to. Bro. Muirhead replied in suitable terms. The lodge was shortly afterwards called to labour, and the brethren having been reminded to appear in great force on St. Andrew's Day, 30th Nov., it was closed according to ancient form.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. Mark (No. 102).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in St. Mark's Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, on Monday, the 8th inst. There were present Bros. J. F. Mitchell, R.W.M., in the chair; James Kerr, S.W. chair; D. J. Forfar, J.W. chair; D. H. Miller, P.M.; A. C. Lindsay Gray, D.M.; Wm. Nicholson, S.M.; A. C. Paterson, Treas.; D. Davidson, P.M.; C. Arthur, Mother Kilwinning; J. McInnes, S.W. 408; Wm. Bisland, J.W. 408; and others. The first business before the lodge was, as usual, the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting, which were confirmed. Then came the nomination of office-bearers for the coming year, which resulted in the following selection:—J. Oswald Smith, R.W.M.; Thos. Kerr, S.M.; John Renton, S.W.; J. Thomson, J.W.; A. C. Paterson, Treas.; D. J. Forfar and John Gladston, Secs.; H. McMillan, S.D.; John Leckie, J.D.; Geo. Littlejohn, I.G.; D. M. Miller, Director of Ceremonies; D. J. Forfar, Director of Music; Seth Dery, S.S.; Moor, P.G.S.; and Hardy, O.G. The R.W.M. then intimated that the election and installation of office-bearers would take place that day fortnight in the hall, at the usual hour of meeting, eight o'clock. Applications from the following gentlemen were read:—Messrs. Charles Stewart, John Christie Smith, Alexander Calder, and John Monteith, who were all found clear, after the ballot had been examined, and received the First Degree, the R.W.M. officiating with his characteristic ability. The lodge was then passed to the F.C. Degree, and raised to that of Sublime, or M.M., when two brothers, John Hannay and James Henry Crawford, proved themselves capable of advancement in the Order, and were entrusted with the Sublime Degree of M.M., Bro. D. H. Miller, P.M., officiating in a most complete and impressive style. This brought the business of the evening to a close, and the lodge was closed in ample form.

An emergency meeting of this lodge was held in their hall, 213, Buchanan-street, on the 13th inst., at 12 o'clock. The R.W.M., Bro. J. F. Mitchell, presided, and explained that the object for calling the meeting was to get through with some of the business before the lodge, so that the next regular meeting might be entirely devoted to the election and installation of office-bearers, which to do properly would occupy the whole of the evening. Amongst those present were Bros. W. Nicholson, S.M.; J. Renton, S.W.; G. B. Adams, acting J.W.; A. A. Smith, P.M. 354; W. Spiers, 4; A. C. Paterson Prior, Neil Brown, 570; D. McRae, Neil Campbell, and others. An application for affiliation into St. Mark's from Bro. N. Brown, M.M. of Lodge 570, and he was affiliated in the usual form. There was only one candidate forward for the E.A. Degree, though more were expected to have been present; Mr. Smith was therefore put in possession of the First Degree at the very able hands of Bro. A. A. Smith, P.M. of 354. The lodge was then passed to the Square Degree, when four brethren, members of the lodge, received it, the R.W.M. officiating. After being raised to the Sublime Degree, there appeared five brethren ready to be raised, which was cleverly done by the R.W.M., who, then proposed that Bro. A. A. Smith should be made an honorary member of this lodge for the many valuable services he had rendered from time to time. This was carried, but it was found that Bro. Smith had gone, and the formal ceremony was left over till next meeting. This finished the business, and the lodge was closed in due and ancient form.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Scotia (No. 171).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on the 10th inst., in the Masons' Hall, 170, Buchanan-street. Bro. Joseph Singleton, R.W.M., presided, supported by his office-bearers and a large number of members of the lodge and visiting brethren. We observed among others the following:—R. Gardiner, S.W.; P. Hepburn, J.W.; John Miller, D.M.; Wm. Higgins, Chaplain; Wm. King, Treas.; S. Scott, Sec.; George Gilmour, S.M.; Alex. Singleton, S.D.; Alex. Mercer, J.D.; J. Miller, P.M. 87; J. Morgan, R.W.M. 219; J. Mathison, P.M. 178; John Bannerman, D.M. 73; James Booth, S.W. 87; Adam B. Ferguson, S.W. 354; and others. The lodge was opened in the E.A. Degree, when the minutes were read and passed. The business before the lodge was nomination of office-bearers for the coming year, initiation, passing, and raising. The gentlemen who received the First Degree and were admitted as brothers were Messrs. J. Revie, Wm. A. Jones, and Wm. Brown. The brothers for the F.C. Degree were Bros. William Brown and A. Maund. For the Sublime Degree, Bros. George Pettigrew, Dougald Ferguson, Wm. Brown, for Lodge Scotia and for Lodge Thistle (87); Bros. John Potter, and A. Maund. Bro. Singleton, the R.W.M., officiated with capital taste. The business being finished, the lodge was closed in due and ancient form.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Star (No. 219).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Monday evening, the 8th inst., in the Masonic Hall, 12, Trongate, Glasgow. Bro. J. Morgan, R.W.M., in the chair, Bro. J. Garth, S.W.; James Horn, J.W., and the whole of the other office-bearers in their respective places. The lodge was opened on the Entered Apprentice Degree, and Bro. J. Crawford, Secretary, read the minutes of last meeting, which were approved of. The business before the meeting, being the nomination of office-bearers for the ensuing year, brought a large number of brethren together, numbering over 100. After the nomination of officers, Auditors were appointed, and a com-

mittee to take an inventory of the lodge furniture, jewels, clothing, &c., and report at next meeting. Later on in the evening a number of brethren visited the lodge who arrived in Glasgow from Edinburgh, being there attending Grand Lodge, viz., Bro. Councillor Wm. Barr, R.W.M. Dumbarton Kilwinning, 18; Bro. Alex. Bain, P.M. (103) Union and Crown; and Bros. G. C. H. McNaught, P.M. 275; Wm. Ferguson, R.W.M. 543; J. M. Oliver, S.W. 360; A. Ferguson, J.W., and others. After going through a long sitting, the lodge was closed in due and proper order by the R.W.M.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Commercial (No. 360).—A special meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday evening, the 10th inst., in the Masonic Hall, 30, Hope-street. Bro. J. M. Oliver, S.W., in the unavoidable absence of Bro. John Monro, R.W.M., occupied the chair; Bro. J. Graham, J.W., acting S.W.; Bro. W. Keiller, S.D. acting J.W. The lodge was opened in the First or E.A. Degree, and from the first it was opened in the Second or F.C. Degree, when Bros. Clark and Schroeder, E.A.'s, were passed to the Square Degree of Fellow Craft, Bro. J. M. Oliver officiating in a very able manner. The lodge was then reduced to the E.A. Degree, and closed in due and proper form.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. George (No. 333).—The regular meeting of this lodge took place on the 10th inst., in St. Mark's Hall, 213, Buchanan-street. The meeting was remarkably well attended. The R.W.M., Bro. Alexander Thomson, took the chair, the S.W. chair being occupied by Bro. Jas. Forsyth, that of J.W. by Bro. Anderson. The R.W.M. was supported on the dais by Bros. J. McFarlane, D.M.; J. Findlay, S.M.; Thos. S. Thomson, Treas.; A. McIntyre, Sec.; and others. The lodge having been duly opened, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Several cases for Masonic charity were brought before the lodge, and disposed of in a satisfactory manner. A letter was read from Bro. Trumper, who has now settled in Columbia, requesting that a letter of demit should be sent to him, which the Secretary was instructed to forward. A circular from Bro. Kenning was read, regarding the new "Scottish Calendar for 1876." The Secretary was then instructed to order the number of copies necessary to procure a page for the names of the office-bearers. The nomination of office-bearers was then proceeded with. The R.W.M. read to the brethren a list of names for the various offices which the working committee had submitted. This was unanimously adopted by the brethren present, and the nomination declared completed. The names are Bros. A. Thomson, R.W.M.; Jas. Findlay, S.M.; John McFarlane, D.M.; James Forsyth, S.W.; R. Anderson, J.W.; Andrew Dunn, Treas.; Archd. McIntyre, Sec.; Thos. Hill, S.D.; And. Boyd, J.D., Chaplain; John Clark, S.S.; J. Allan, J.S.; Wm. Miller, M. of C.; A. McIntyre, Std. B.; Robert Fairbairn, Jeweller; Robert Adam, P.G.S.; G. Cranston, I.G.; And. Wright, the present Tyler, remaining in his place. The lodge was then passed to the Degree of F.C., when Bro. G. Kinnard received that degree, after which the lodge was raised to the Sublime Degree, and Bro. S. D. A. Arnott and G. Kinnard received that degree, Bro. Jas. Findlay officiating with admirable style. This finished the business before the lodge, and it was closed in due and ancient form.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Glasgow (No. 441).—The regular meeting of this lodge took place on Tuesday, the 9th inst., in the Masonic Hall, 22, Struthers-street. The meeting was unusually large, perhaps owing to the important business of nomination having to take place that night. The R.W.M., Bro. H. Tulloch, took the chair, supported by Bros. J. Nagle, S.W.; P. Mcmaney, J.W.; W. Sloan, Treas.; J. A. Goldie, Sec.; and other office-bearers of the lodge. The lodge was opened for business in the usual form, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. The R.W.M. then intimated to the members of the lodge that on Friday, the 26th, a special meeting would be held for harmony, and in honour of Bro. Jackson, when, as the members of the lodge were aware, a tangible acknowledgment of his valuable services would be given to him. After a considerable amount of business was got through, a letter was read from an American brother, who had been shipwrecked, and was in great need of assistance. The case was heartily taken up and satisfactorily disposed of. An application from Mr. James H. Adams for admission into Masonry at the next regular meeting, was ordered to stand over till then. Initiation should have taken place that night, but as none of the candidates were forward, the nomination of office-bearers for the ensuing year was proceeded with. The following is the result:—R.W.M., John Mason; S.M., Serj. Wood; S.W., McCinnay; J.W., Nagle; Sec. Goldie; Treas., Martin; S.D., Duncan; Campbell; and Mather; J.D., Sivewright; Chaplain, Caldwell; B.B., B. Cunningham; Std. B., M. Walters; Jeweller, Lawson; Archd., McKirdy, and Forsyth; S.S., J. B. Boyls; J.S., French; P.G.S., Martin; and J. Rannie; I.G., A. Boag; O.G., A. Crawford. A committee was then appointed, to take an inventory of the lodge property, consisting of Bros. Campbell, Boyle, and Rennie. The Auditors were Bros. Martin and Mason. Bro. R.W.M. then congratulated the brethren upon the success of the nomination. The brethren whose names stood on the nomination list were sufficient guarantee for the future success of the lodge. The lodge was then passed to the F.C. and raised to the M.M. Degree, when the following brethren were found worthy to receive that degree, Bro. Bain, P.M. 103, officiating in capital style:—For Lodge Glasgow, No. 441, Bro. McNee; for Lodge Shamrock and Thistle, No. 275, Bros. R. Bald, D. McEwin, Jas. Gibson, L. G. Whittings, P. McCulloch, Serjt. Evans; for Lodge Star, No. 219, Bro. Wm. Dalen. This brought the business of the lodge to an end, and it was closed in due and ancient form.

DALMUIR.—Lodge St. John (No. 543).—The usual fortnightly meeting of this young and prosperous lodge was held on Tuesday evening, the 9th inst., in the New Masonic Hall at Dalmuir. Bro. William Ferguson, R.W.M., occupied the chair, supported by Bros. Thomas T. Johnstone, D.M.; John Crawford, S.M.; James Barrie, S.W.; Robert Struthers, J.W.; Samuel Leckie, Secretary; Thomas Scott, Treasurer; Thomas Millar, S.D.; and others, and a large number of brethren present. The lodge was opened in the First, or Entered Apprentice Degree. At the request of the R.W.M., Bro. S. Leckie, Sec., read the minutes of last regular meeting, which were approved of. The R.W.M. then stated that the meeting was called by circular for the nomination of office-bearers for the ensuing year, at the same time informing the brethren that in consequence of his removing to Glasgow he could not allow himself to be nominated or office another year. The nomination of office-bearers was then proceeded with, after which Auditors were appointed to balance the books of the lodge. It was agreed to have the installation of office-bearers on Tuesday, the 14th December. There was no further business brought forward, and the lodge was transferred from labour to refreshment. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and responded to. The R.W.M., in proposing "The Army, Navy, and Volunteers," coupled the toast with Bro. Col-Sergt. James Barrie, who replied. Bro. T. T. Johnstone, D.M., proposed "The Press," and coupled the name of the R.W.M. with the toast. Bro. Ferguson, of "The Freemason," replied on behalf of Bro. George Kenning. A number of songs were sung, and after spending a happy hour in song and sentiment, the lodge was re-transferred to labour, and closed in due and proper form by the R.W.M.

GLASGOW.—Glasgow Chapter (No. 50).—The regular meeting of this chapter took place in the chapter rooms, St. Mark's Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, on the 11th inst. In the absence of Comp. Miller, Z., Comp. Duthie, Z. of Chapter 67, presided, and opened a lodge of Mark Masters. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. An application for admittance into R.A. Masonry was read from Bro. John Crawford, M.M. of St. John's 34. He was approved of, and was put in possession of the Mark Master's degree, Comp. Mercer officiating. The highly finished and comprehensive style of Comp. Mercer in this degree called forth from Comps. Duthie, Wheeler, and Loutitt an expression of the pleasure they felt in listening to his able rendering of this beautiful degree, and on the motion of Comp. Loutitt, a vote of thanks was given to Comp. Mercer. A lodge was then opened in the Excellent Degree, when Bro. Crawford was instructed in and intrusted with it, Comp. Duthie ably officiating. A Royal Arch Chapter was then opened, Comps. Duthie, acting Z.; Wheeler, H.; Loutitt, J.; Colin Mackenzie, 1st Soj.; Gourley, 2nd Soj.; Wright, 3rd Soj.; Morrison, S.E.; Agnew, Treas.; and a large number of well-qualified companions. Bro. Crawford was then admitted a companion of the Holy Royal Arch. The able and careful way in which Comp. Duthie performed the ceremony was very much admired, and must have left a lasting impression on the candidate, who paid great attention to the ceremony throughout. The chapter was then closed in due and ancient form.

GLASGOW.—St. Rollox Chapter (No. 144).—The regular meeting of this chapter took place on the 12th inst., in the Masons' Hall, Garngad-road. Comp. James Armand, Z., presided, supported by his office-bearers and others, among whom were:—Comps. J. Mills, J.; J. Booth, S.E.; J. Duthie, Z. 69; J. Morrison, Treas.; G. B. Adams, and others. A lodge of Mark Masters was opened and the minutes of last meeting read and confirmed. An application for Royal Arch Masonic honours was read from Bro. Peter Young, M.M. of St. John's Lodge, Kilwig, No. 39. He was found worthy and received the Mark Master Degree, Comp. Duthie, Z. of 67, officiating. Royal Arch Chapter was opened, and the following office-bearers, who had been duly elected, were installed into office by the M.E.Z.:—J. Mill, as J.; John Morrison, Treas.; and B. Smart, as Captain of the First Vail. There being no further business, the chapter was duly closed.

The reports of the following lodges unavoidably stand over:—

St. John, No. 34; Thistle and Rose, No. 73; Thistle, No. 87; St. Mary's, No. 117; Coleronian Railway, No. 354; Clyde, No. 408; St. Andrew's, No. 465; Maryhill, No. 510; St. Vincent, No. 553; Clydesdale, No. 556; Dramatic, No. 571; St. John, No. 175; Union, No. 332.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF MIDDLESEX.

The Provincial Grand Chapter of Middlesex met on Saturday last, at the Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court, for its annual assembling. Previously to the meeting of Grand Chapter, the Royal Middlesex Chapter, No. 1194, held a convocation of the companions, at which Bros. Arthur Taylor and C. E. Eglese were exalted, and Comps. Bateman, W. T. Howe, and Mason were elected joining members. Among the members of the chapter who were present were Comps. Charles Horsley, M.E.Z.; W. F. Laxton, H.; H. W. Hunt, J.; D. M. Dewar, J. elect; W. Roebuck, P.Z.; and W. Dodd, P.Z. At the Provincial Grand Chapter M.E. Comp. Col. Burdett, Provincial Grand Superintendent, presided as Z.; and Comp. W. Roebuck, P.G.H., as H. Among the other companions present were Comps. J. M. Stedwell, P.G.J., as J.; R. Wentworth Little, G.S.E.; W. Smeed, G.S.N.; H. G. Buss, G. Treas.; Charles Horsley, Past G. Registrar; R. T. Whitley, G. Std. B.; F. Davison, Past G.D.C. The Audit Committee met previous to the convo-

cation of the companions being opened, and the Auditors' report arrived at thereat, was read in Grand Chapter, and approved. It exhibited a balance in favour of Grand Chapter. Minutes of former meeting having been read and verified, M.E. Comp. Col. Burdett installed Comp. R. Wentworth Little as Prov. G.H., and Comp. W. Smeed as Prov. G.J. Comp. H. G. Buss was unanimously re-elected Provincial Grand Treasurer, and Comp. Gilbert, Janitor. Col. Burdett invested Comps. T. Cubitt, as E.; John Boyd, as N.; Charles Horsley, as P.S.; F. Walters, as First Assistant; W. Hammond, as Second Assistant; H. G. Buss, as G. Treas.; W. F. Laxton, G. Registrar; H. W. Hunt, G.S.B.; H. Phythian, G. Std. B.; H. Parker, G. Org.; E. H. Thielay, D.C.; and J. Gilbert, Janitor. There was no other business before Grand Chapter, which was thereupon closed. Banquet was afterwards partaken of under the presidency of Col. Burdett, and when the toasts were proposed, Comps. Greatrex, P.Z. 21, and Green, 975, responded to that of "The Visitors." The companions shortly after returned to town.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF NORFOLK.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Norfolk was held on Saturday at the Masonic Hall, Norwich, when Bro. the Hon. F. Walpole, M.P., was installed Provincial Grand Master, in the room of the late Bro. Benjamin Bond Cabbell, who held the office for many years. The popularity of the Hon. F. Walpole, who for many years had held the office of Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and the unanimity with which his appointment by H.R.H. the Grand Master of England was received in the provinces, served to bring together probably the largest assemblage of Masons ever gathered at a Prov. G. Lodge in Norfolk. Upwards of 300 brethren were present, including not merely Norfolk Masons, but many from Suffolk, Essex, Leicestershire, and London. The lodge was opened in due form at high twelve, the Right Worshipful P.G. Master designate occupying the chair, with Bros. Colonel L'Estrange, S.W.; Col. Duff, J.W.; A. M. F. Morgan, Prov. G.S.; H. J. Mason, P.G.D.C.; G. Baxter, Assist. G.D.C.; and George Brittain, P.G.O. Among the brethren in lodge were—Lord Waveney, P.G.M. of Suffolk; Lord Henniker, the Right Hon. E. Knatchbull-Hugessen, Sir R. J. Buxton, M.P.; Sir F. Boileau, W. A. Tyssen Amherst, Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G.C.; J. Bond Cabbell, R. T. Gordon, Rev. J. Cholmeley, Prov. G.C.; Rev. H. Evans Lombe, J. B. Graver Browne, Lieut.-Col. Boileau, Lieut.-Col. Bignold, Major Penrice, Rev. J. Edmund Cox, P.G.C.; Captain Hastings Parker, F. Binckes, P.G.S.; J. Terry, (Prov. G.D.C., Herts); and others.

The banner lodges, whose banners were placed against the walls, were the Faithful, No. 85; the Social, No. 93; the Friendship, No. 100; the Perseverance, No. 213; the Cabbell, No. 803; the Sincerity, No. 943; the Doric, No. 1193; and the Walpole, No. 1500. The other lodges represented were the Joppa, United Friends, Philanthropic, Union, Sondes, and the Unanimity. The W.M. of every one of these lodges were present, with the exception of the Joppa, one of whose Past Masters was its sponsor.

After the formal opening of Prov. Grand Lodge, the Prov. G. Secretary read the rules to be observed in the government of Prov. G. L., and then called over the roll of the lodges. Last Grand Lodge minutes were then read and confirmed and then the Grand Officers for the past year yielded up their collars and jewels of office.

Before the installation of Grand Master, Bro. the Hon. F. Walpole said he wished to propose a vote of thanks from the Grand Lodge to, unfortunately not a Mason, but a worthy Christian, at all events, Mr. Fox, who had obtained a legacy for the province of Norfolk. It had been left to it, but the brethren knew nothing of it, and it would have been lost to the province if Mr. Fox had not unweariedly worked the matter out. It was hardly worth while now to thank the munificent donor, and he thought they had better, therefore, thank Mr. Fox. The vote was seconded and carried unanimously. Bro. Walpole thereupon left the chair and the lodge, and a deputation went out of lodge to conduct Lord Skelmersdale in. On his lordship entering, he was most warmly greeted until he had taken the chair, when the Masonic salute, which created such a profound sensation at the installation of the Prince of Wales in April last, was given. Lord Skelmersdale having bowed his acknowledgments, gave directions that the Worshipful Master Designate (the Hon. F. Walpole) should send in his patent of appointment, and the brethren having agreed to accept this as read, the deputation, which had been sent as an escort for the Worshipful Provincial Grand Master designate, then demanded admission, and, being admitted by command of the W.M., they conducted the new Prov. G. Master into the lodge. Lord Skelmersdale, addressing him, said that all the brethren, both of the province of Norfolk and of the adjoining provinces, would agree with him that it was a good thing for them that the choice of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales had fallen on the Hon. F. Walpole, as Prov. G. Master for Norfolk. Not to dilate upon all the duties that this high office would entail upon the Provincial Grand Master, who, it was certain, would perform them to the utmost of his ability, and would carry on the work which had been so well performed by his predecessor, he might say that Masonry had made such great strides throughout the world of late years, and had become of such importance, that every brother would feel the importance of having a good man, and a man high in office, at the head of the province. In Bro. Walpole they had such a man, and he felt sure that he was a man who would conscientiously discharge the duties of his office. He then inquired of Bro. Walpole if he was willing to accept the office. The Hon. F. Walpole having signified his assent, he

went through that portion of the ceremony, without which no Master can be placed in the chair. He was invested with the magnificent insignia of his office, and afterwards seated on the traditional throne of King Solomon. The Right Worshipful the Provincial Grand Master, in a short address, said he highly appreciated the honour that had been done him. He was thoroughly conscious of the responsibilities he had taken on himself. He would endeavour faithfully to perform what he had undertaken, and he was grateful to the brethren for the honour they had conferred upon him. He was also grateful to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, who had thought him worthy of the great honour of being Provincial Grand Master. He would fulfil the duties of his office, and take care that Masonry in general, and the Province of Norfolk in particular, should lose nothing by his having been inducted in the chair of the province. This announcement was received with much applause. The next part of the ceremony was the appointment and investiture of a Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and to the great satisfaction of the brethren, the honour fell upon Bro. A. M. F. Morgan, who for ten years past has performed the onerous duties of Provincial Grand Secretary. The other Grand Lodge Officers for the ensuing year were appointed as follows:—Bros. Colonel L'Estrange, S.W.; Colonel Duff, J.W.; J. Barwell, Treasurer; Rev. J. Cholmeley, Chaplain; C. Clarke, Registrar; H. Barwell, Secretary; J. H. Thoulless, S.D.; J. B. Aldis, J.D.; H. J. Mason, G.D.C.; G. Baxter, A.G.D.C.; G. Brittain, G.O.; J. Bond, G.P.; R. Gunn, Tyler; Smart, W.M. Sondes; D. R. Fowler, Friendship; J. Commis, S.W. Social; and R. Lamb W. M. Cabbell, Stewards.

Votes of thanks were afterwards passed to the brethren of the neighbouring province of Suffolk and visitors from other provinces, Lord Waveney and Lord Skelmersdale being especially selected. Lord Skelmersdale first, and Lord Waveney next, returned thanks, both expressing their pleasure at attending the installation of the Hon. F. Walpole.

Provincial Grand Lodge was thereupon duly closed.

At half-past two o'clock the brethren assembled, by permission of the Rev. Dr. Jessopp, at the Grammar School, from whence at three o'clock they proceeded to the Cathedral in procession. Every Mason present was clothed according to his rank in the Order, and each lodge was headed by its banner. Forming a line on each side of the nave, the brethren thus opened their ranks to allow the D.G.M. of England, the G.M. of the Province, and the officers of Prov. G. Lodge, together with the distinguished visitors, to pass through.

The brethren then closed and followed to their seats in the choir, which had been, by the kindness of the Very Rev. the Dean, set apart for the accommodation of the Craft. The service was intoned by the Dean, Precentor Medley, and Minor Canon Moore, and the lessons were read by the Dean and the Rev. Canon Nisbet. The Prov. Grand Chaplain, the Rev. J. Cholmeley, preached a sermon from Daniel vi., part of the 23rd verse: "He believed in his God." The collection, which was devoted to the local charities, amounted to about £20.

In the evening the brethren sat down to a magnificent banquet in honour of the occasion at St. Andrew's Hall, which had been specially decorated by Messrs. J. and J. King. The Prov. Grand Master presided.

During the evening the speeches were most agreeably interspersed by the excellent singing of Bros. Minns, Smith, and Thoulless, of the Cathedral choir, and Bro. J. S. Offord, W.M. of Perseverance. Bro. G. Brittain, P.G.O., presided at the pianoforte.

Dinner over,

The Provincial Grand Master gave "The Queen and the Craft," which was received with acclamation, and the brethren sang the National (Masonic) Anthem.

The Provincial Grand Master next rose to propose the toast of "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," and in doing so said, the next toast is one that I am sure will recommend itself to you, even under the simple form of "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," and when it comes as a conjoined one of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as Grand Master of England, I am sure you will receive it with the enthusiasm that it deserves. (Cheers.) H.R.H. has left this country on one of the most glorious missions that ever called a man forth. The Indian race knows well the determined courage and the fierce energy of the Anglo-Saxon. Often have they been conquered by Englishmen, and now the Prince of Wales has gone forth to conquer them in a way that they have seldom been used to—by kindness and courtesy—to give to them a lesson which they have not had taught, that the strongest can be the gentlest, and that the mightiest can be the most courteous. The Prince has taken his place nobly among the workmen of England. Eminently has he done the Order good by the patronage that he has cast over it. Let us wish him then a prosperous voyage, health, and happiness there, and may he soon and speedily return again to honour our body by sitting as our head. (Cheers.)

The toast having been drunk,

The Provincial Grand Master, in proposing the next toast, said—In giving you this toast I must say it is one which no words of mine are needed to recommend to your reception. Whatever my shortcomings may be, I am sure you will receive it with all Masonic honour and cordiality. It is, "The Health of our Worthy Brother the Deputy Grand Master of England." His kindness in coming here is an honour to us all, and it is the highest honour he could have conferred upon me personally and upon Masonry in Norfolk, for it is a recognition of the equality and loyalty that exists among all Masons. (Hear, hear.) I am sure that you are all grateful to him for having come amongst us, and I trust when he returns to the Grand Lodge he will, at all events, give the Masons of Norfolk somewhat of a good character, and tell His Royal Highness, our Grand Master, that no people are more loyal than

the inhabitants of Norfolk, and none are more earnest Masons than the Masons of Norfolk. (Cheers.) I give you "The Health of the Lord Skelmersdale." (Loud cheers.)

Lord Skelmersdale, having returned thanks for the reception accorded the toast, said he should always look back with great pleasure to this day, and with agreeable remembrances of the great kindness with which the brethren in this province had received him. In accepting the office to which he had had the honour of being appointed, he determined to do the duty which belonged to it, and, as he told them in lodge, this was the first instalment of it out of London. They had placed him under an obligation to them which would be further increased if they would have the kindness of meeting him in London on the 9th of February, when he should have the honour of presiding at the Festival of the Benevolent Institution. (Hear, hear, and applause.) Having expressed a warm desire for the continuance of harmony in the province, the noble lord gave "The Health of the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master of Norfolk," remarking that the brethren were well aware what a good appointment it was of his friend and brother Walpole, who took so warm an interest in Masonry, and all would join with him in the hope that he would long live to occupy the chair into which he had the honour of installing him that day. (Loud cheers.)

The Provincial Grand Master (who was received with deafening cheers), in reply, said,—Brethren, I thank you for the kindness of that reception. It encourages me. I was wishing rather to postpone the time of returning thanks, thinking to arrange my ideas; but finding no ideas really to arrange, I get up at your call. It is very difficult to speak on an occasion of this sort. I am sure that when, nearly one and thirty years ago, as a midshipman in Her Majesty's navy, I entered into Masonry, I little thought that in the grand hall of Norfolk I should be installed as a Prov. G. Master. I little thought when, having given it up reluctantly, as it were, recalled into Masonry after a quarter of a century of work, I should be in this first hall of Norfolk the first Freemason of the province, but I have received all along one continued course of kindness, which renders those increasing years, years which we wish also to enjoy, and regret that they are passed. The Right Worshipful Brother on my right hand has spoken of the harmony existing among us. Why, sir, most of the brethren about me, except our guests—they at least that are of Norfolk—I have known from my boyhood upwards. They are men that I meet in daily intercourse. They have been to me "a little more of kin if less of kind," and I feel deeply grateful to them for recommending me to His Royal Highness. Whatever His Royal Highness's wishes were, I should have been rejoiced to obey them, but when I heard that it was almost the unanimous wish of those Masons among whom I had worked for years that I should take this place, I could not but immediately consent to take it. Having accepted it, I will engage truthfully and sincerely to the best of my power to endeavour to do my duty in the office, so that when the time comes for me to retire, neither those who conferred the honour upon me, nor those who, by their kindness and their wish, had it conferred upon me, shall regret it. Having again thanked the brethren, the Prov. G.M. said he would now proceed to a livelier theme than speaking of himself, the toast of "The Visitors." Suffolk was hardly regarded as a "stranger" or a "foreigner," it was not a "shire," but it was a friend and relation. He was grateful to the Provincial Grand Master of Suffolk for the sacrifice he had made in coming to Norwich to this installation. He had been a hard-working man, and he deserved the heartiest reception. He also proposed Bro. Lord Henniker in connection with this toast.

Lord Waveney, after a renewal of cheering, said—Right Worshipful Sir, I believe one of the first characteristics of Masonry is to be quick about your work, to get it well made up and cleanly carried out, and such has been the course this evening with the Right Worshipful Grand Master. (Hear, hear.) He took me, I confess, quite by surprise in so promptly bringing before you the claim he was pleased to think I had of returning thanks as a visitor for those who partake of your magnificent hospitality this day—a day ever memorable in Norfolk, and to me, who have somewhat of an experience of such gatherings, very memorable indeed. (Cheers.) Three times I have been present at an installation. The first, you will understand, was a matter of high interest to me; on the second I was the most important person on the spot at the time, filling the position which has been occupied by the Right Worshipful the Deputy Grand Master of England to-day—(cheers)—and on this, the third occasion, I stand as a pleased spectator of the brilliant and successful results of this day's proceedings, upon which I heartily congratulate you, Right Worshipful Sir, and the brethren of this great province. (Cheers.) The Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master has been pleased to say that he looks upon us Suffolk brethren as very near indeed. We accept that kindness most thankfully, and we are pleased also that with us are associated the many brethren who have come out of the shires, and have had the opportunity of knowing what we can do in the East Anglian corner of the country. (Hear, hear.) I have only this to say, that from my experience in the honourable position which the Right Worshipful Brother has been placed in this day, I know that without the assistance of a willing province and of active Grand Officers progress is always difficult, but with such assistance it is impossible to fail. (Hear, hear.) I would, as a veteran, send you, Right Worshipful Sir, forward on your career with auspices such as those I am sure will be recorded the last time when you shall exercise your power, and which will be verified by the fact, that, under your management, the province has grown from good to better, and from great to greater, not with reference to any disparagement of your predecessor, but on account of the increasing power of Masonry throughout the

country. (Cheers.) On behalf of the visitors I beg to return to you and to the brethren my most grateful and sincere thanks. (Renewed cheering.)

Lord Henniker, who also responded, said—As a young Mason I should have been shy of responding to this toast were it not that my name has been mentioned by my very old friend, your Prov. G.M. I thank you most sincerely for the very kind way you have received me as a visitor. It has given me the very greatest pleasure to be present here to-day, and I thank your P.G.M. for giving me the opportunity of being here at this splendid entertainment, and also at the service at the Cathedral and the lodge this morning; and if you don't want me to come another time, you must not give me an invitation. (Laughter.) I am especially pleased at being present on the occasion of my old friend, my very esteemed friend, being installed as your P.G.M. I am sure this province cannot be in better hands. Though a young Mason, I claim to be second to none in my wishes for the good of Masonry, and I hope as years go by to have an opportunity of making myself useful, not only to the lodges in my district, but throughout England. (Hear, hear.) In conclusion, I must express a wish that your P.G.M. may live many years to hold the position which he will not fail to hold successfully. (Cheers.)

Bro. the Rev. J. E. Cox then proposed, "The Provincial Grand Chaplain," and in so doing stated that 31 years ago he was initiated into Masonry in Norfolk, and was a native of Norwich, having been educated at the Grammar School under Edward Valpy, and a chorister boy—the only one that had risen from the choir to preach in the Cathedral pulpit. On behalf of the brethren, he thanked the preacher of the day for his excellent sermon, and concluded by proposing the toast.

The Rev. J. Cholmeley, in reply, said he thanked the brethren for the cordial reception they had given to the toast, though he had received it with some reluctance, because he was not competent for the office. (No, no.) He knew himself better than his brethren knew him. When he heard he was to be appointed Grand Chaplain he went to Bro. Morgan to tell him he hoped some one else would take his position, but that brother that night had returned from some professional engagement very sleepy, and could not listen to him. He was now thankful he was so sleepy, or he would not now have had the pleasure of supplying a fact he had omitted from his sermon. He then narrated the old Masonic tale of the Masonic chest of an English regiment being stolen in the American war, and returned afterwards by the French at Dominica.

Bro. Bond Cabell gave "The Provincial Grand Officers of Norfolk," coupled with the healths of Bro. Morgan, D.P.G.M.; Bro. L'Estrange, S.W.; and Bro. Duff, J.W.

The Deputy Provincial Grand Master, who was warmly cheered, said that if the day of his marriage was the happiest of his life, this was the proudest. (Hear, hear.) With all his brother Masons in the province, he had looked forward to this day, when they should see the man of their choice in the position which he held to-day. (Applause.) He was sorry that the first duty that truth compelled him to adopt was to correct the Provincial Grand Master in saying that he took his position by the almost unanimous wish of the Craft. He appealed to them whether it was not the unanimous wish of the Craft that he should occupy that distinguished post. (Cheers.) If anything could possibly enhance the pleasure with which he himself had received the honourable appointment of Deputy Provincial Grand Master, it was that it had been conferred by a Mason for whom he had such Masonic esteem as Bro. Walpole, the great honour he felt in acting under such a Master and that the brethren had so kindly approved of the appointment. (Applause.) He could not deny that for something like the eleven years during which he had been their Secretary he had endeavoured to promote the welfare of the Craft generally, and to-day all his Masonic ambition was fulfilled and consummated. (Hear, hear.) The executive duties of the Prov. Grand Lodge would be thoroughly well represented by the Senior Warden, Bro. Colonel L'Estrange and by the Junior Warden, Bro. Colonel Duff, both of whom were admirably fitted for the positions, and especially in physique and general appearance. (Loud cheers.)

Bros. Col. L'Estrange and Col. Duff, both of whom were greeted with great cordiality, also responded, the last-named brother mentioning that he had been a Mason 25 years, and that he should endeavour to perform the duties of the high office to which he had been appointed, to the advantage of this lodge in particular, and of Masonry in general.

The Deputy Provincial Grand Master then proposed "Prosperity to the Lodges in the Province." He said that since he had the high privilege and honour of being a Mason the number of lodges in Norfolk had increased from seven to fourteen. (Hear, hear.) He could look back to the time when it was necessary at every installation of Worshipful Master, to fall back upon a very old and much esteemed brother—Henry J. Mason—to go through the ritual; but now every retiring Master installs his successor. (Hear, hear.) The working of the lodges in this province of Norfolk would be acknowledged to be most satisfactory by any Grand Officer who might honour them with his presence. (Hear, hear.) In proposing the toast he coupled with it the name of Bro. Aldis, the Worshipful Master of the senior lodge—Union Lodge, 52—and he took this opportunity of saying that a great deal of the anxiety and work or preparing for this celebration had been taken off his hands by Bro. Aldis, who had greatly assisted him. (Cheers.)

Bro. Aldis, W.M., in responding, said that if any of the Grand Officers visited the lodges they would find that in this province the old landmarks of the Order were preserved, and further, that every Master vied with each other in carrying on the work of his lodge with credit to himself and the province. (Loud cheers.) Norfolk had never been celebrated for freedom of thought, speech, and action, and

as Masonry was the very first flower of freedom, it was no wonder that it took early, deep, and abiding root in the Masonic free soil of this good old county. As early as 1731 (quoting from Preston) a certain Francis, then Duke of Lorraine, and afterwards Emperor of Germany, was raised to the Third Degree in the ancestral home of the Walpoles, at Houghton Hall, in Norfolk, at an occasional lodge held there. (Cheers.) It was also recorded that in 1736 Masonry made great progress in Norfolk under Edward Bacon, one of the two lodges which were founded under his auspices being Lodge Union, of which he (Bro. Aldis) had the distinguished honour of being Master. (Cheers.) A few years subsequent Richard Bacon was esteemed so highly for his Masonic attainments that to him was delegated the high privilege of initiating the then Duke of Gloucester, and that Richard Bacon was an ancestor of the present P.G. Secretary, Bro. Henry Barwell, than whom a better Mason does not exist. (Loud cheers.) Bro. Aldis concluded by a reference to the proceedings at the installation in the morning, and by thanking the brethren for the reception they had given to the toast.

The Provincial Grand Master then proposed "The Past Provincial Grand Officers," whose services had been so valuable that they ought to have their healths drunk enthusiastically. (Hear, hear.) He coupled with the toast the name of Major Penrice, who might almost be called the father of Masonry in Norfolk.

Bro. Penrice, in the course of his reply, referred to the great impulse Freemasonry had received from the Grand Mastership of the Prince of Wales, and congratulated the province on the advent to the Deputy-Provincial Grand Mastership of Bro. Morgan, who had been a hard-working Mason, and always performed his duties with ability.

The Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G.C., proposed "The Masonic Institutions," and referred to the great good they did. He reminded the brethren of Lord Skelmersdale's presidency of the Masonic Institution's Festival on the 9th of February, trusting that Norfolk would strongly support his lordship, and also referred to the recent complaints which had been made against the Boys' School. "He, however, spoke in the highest terms of Bro. Binckes, the Secretary of that institution, and stated that it was to him the great success of that school was due.

Bro. F. Binckes made an excellent reply, in which he amusingly alluded to the attempts that had been made to cause Freemasons to withdraw their confidence from him. He also mentioned the charge that had been made as to the institution being always in difficulties. He was happy, however, to say that the institution had not wanted money.

Bro. Terry also replied, and exhorted the brethren to support Lord Skelmersdale on the 9th of February, when he would take the chair for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.

The Provincial Grand Master then proposed "The Health of a Distinguished Visitor"—one who, although sitting on the Opposition side of the house (laughter), was unfortunately a Privy Councillor, and must not be passed over. He referred to a good and worthy brother Mason, "The Right Hon. E. Knatchbull-Hugessen." (Loud cheers.)

Bro. the Right Hon. Knatchbull-Hugessen, who was loudly cheered, said,—Right Worshipful Sir and Brother Masons, I am rather overcome with delight at being so honoured by our worthy Provincial Grand Master, that I forgive him having said it is unfortunate I am a Privy Councillor. (Laughter and hear, hear.) I confess that when I was unable to decide where I ought to walk in the procession to-day, I felt entirely overcome with modesty when a gentlemen of great power in your institution, the Master of the Ceremonies, called to me to stand forward as "a distinguished visitor." (Laughter and hear, hear.) But overcoming that natural modesty which all Masons, and especially those who are only "erratic Masons," possess (laughter), I took my place in the procession, and I have been highly interested by witnessing the performances which have taken place to-day. (Applause.) Brethren, my regard for Masonry and for you is so great, that knowing that special trains wait for no man, I will not detain you by any long speech to-night. Suffice it for me to say that an institution like that of Masonry, founded upon the great and immutable principles of brotherly love and universal charity, must commend itself to the regard of every man who seeks to lead a Christian life according to those principles which are found in the Book of Holy Writ. (Cheers.) Brethren, satisfied that in Masonry is to be found one of the best supports of a Christian life, I for my part support Masonry, and glad I am to see that it is so worthily supported in this county of Norfolk. (Applause.) Brethren, I am taken by surprise in being called upon my legs to-night, but I live in a county close by the sea where we are never taken by surprise, or, if we are, we always endeavour to be equal to the emergency. (Laughter.) Had I been called upon at an earlier part of the evening I might, perhaps, have noticed at greater length the observations made by the Grand Master, and if I had done so, I should have reciprocated the kindly feeling which he has expressed towards myself as one of the Opposition, and also have expressed the hope that many years would not elapse before I could return to him the compliment—(laughter and cheers)—and recognise in friendly opposition a countenance which, whether by my side or opposite me, is always the countenance of an honest and faithful friend. (Great cheering.)

Bro. J. B. Graver Browne proposed the last toast—that of "The Ladies," and in doing so took occasion to say, he was proud of the lodge to which he belonged—the Doric—although that was one of the youngest lodges in the province, and no lodge was more delighted at the installation of the Hon. F. Walpole as Provincial Grand Master.

Bro. Geoffrey Buxton having responded to the toast, this successful meeting broke up.

TO OUR READERS.

The *Freemason* is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the United Kingdom, Post free, 10/. Brethren in foreign parts, wishing to have this newspaper sent them regularly from the office of publication, should, in sending their remittances, add to the 2d. per week the postage on 20z. newspapers.

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TO ADVERTISERS.

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Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

Careful attention will be paid to all MSS. entrusted to the Editor, but he cannot undertake to return them unless accompanied by stamped directed covers.

The following communications stand over:—

Consecration of a Lodge at Nairn; W. J. Huggan; York Masonry; Hamall Lodge; Ramsay and Freemasonry, unavoidably kept over till next week; arrived a little too late.

A letter from Bro. C. Pegler and Bro. H. Smith under consideration.

In reply to Bro. Wm. W. Wilson we beg to say:—In the Lodge.

Bro. Henry's communication received; another account has already appeared.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

"The commencement of the Second Christian Epoch."

"The Provident Knowledge Papers."

"Nature Pictures" Sonnets by Bro. Rev. M. Gordon, M.A., Walton, Barnbey.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, NOV. 27, 1875.

OUR ROYAL GRAND MASTER'S VISIT TO INDIA.

The record of the last week may be briefly summed up in the statement that His Royal Highness has been enjoying Indian sporting with much of zest and activity, despite the great heat. He has been to Baroda, has witnessed the cheetah hunting, has enjoyed quail and snipe shooting, and wild boar hunting. His visit seems to be producing very good results.

THE LAST LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

Our readers, we think, will have been struck with the last report of the meeting of this most important committee of Masonic Benevolence. The new cases dealt with amounted to thirty-one, of which one was dismissed and two deferred; and, for the remaining twenty-eight the large amount of £865 was voted. One case was recommended for £250, three cases received £50 each, five small grants were made of £5 each, and the remainder was taken up by various cases receiving £30, £20, £15, and £10 respectively, so as to reach the large amount on the whole, as we said before, of £865. We think that all our brethren will agree that this is a very "strong order," and opens out many serious considerations. Were anything like this to be the average amount of the sums voted by the monthly Lodge of Benevolence, the Fund of Benevolence would require an income of £10,000 a year. And though we are inclined to hope, and to believe, that such claims on our Masonic Charity are exceptional, yet we must not shut our eyes to the fact, for it is one of very pressing import for us all alike, that there is a tendency just now in our Order to increased and increasing demands upon all our benevolent grants and institutions. A question, then, may fairly be asked by the observant Freemason, whence arises this overwhelming application for the benefits of our Masonic funds of relief, aid, and education generally? Whence this strain—for it is a strain, say what you will—on the Fund of

Benevolence in particular? We ascribe it to three causes. First, there is, and has been, a tendency in many lodges to relax the older regulations as regards the strictness of admission. Some brethren contend, that if a man can pay his fees and annual subscription at the time of his admission, no one has a right to look further or demand more. But we beg respectfully to point out that a great fallacy lurks within such a premise. It does not follow that because a man is flourishing to-day he will be so to-morrow, and, in our opinion, before any one is admitted into Freemasonry it ought to be clearly ascertained that he is in such a position as to afford the fair presumption that he will not hastily or speedily have to appeal to his brethren for eleemosynary aid. There are several callings and trades in which, from special causes, life is less secure, and the prosperity is more fluctuating than in others, and where the overweening superabundance of to-day is followed by depression and decadence to-morrow. If candidates are recommendable to lodges only because they are now well-to-do, there is and can be no possible limit to the probable eventual demands on our charitable resources. We, therefore, beg to suggest that lodges should be more careful than they are in admitting many members of doubtful or precarious trades, inasmuch as in nine cases out of ten the ultimate appeal to the benevolence of our good Order is only a question of time. So, too, as regards the habit of granting relief to unaffiliated Masons, a practice we cannot too highly deprecate. Many brethren join a lodge, they then pay two years' subscription; they then "demit," to use an American phrase; they become unaffiliated to any lodge; and yet, after the lapse of five, or seven, or ten years, or even more, of inactive Masonic life, they appeal on the letter of the law for aid and relief. In our humble opinion, all such applications should be considered as only deserving the minimum of benevolence. It is idle to contend that if a brother has so little interest in the Order as to leave it, after two years' membership, and to allow his brethren to bear all the "burden and heat of the day," he is placidly to come in, when need overtakes him, or sickness weakens him, and claim relief on the ground of a qualifying subscription of two years. We do not say that he is not to be relieved, we only advocate the very minimum of Masonic benevolence. Some brethren may be too poor to continue their subscriptions, but we have known cases where brethren have paid for two years, then "demit," then lived on in much apparent material prosperity, and then, "apres tout," have recourse to the Lodge of Benevolence for relief and aid. And, lastly, there is a feeling abroad amongst many that Freemasonry is a wealthy body, and so they enter it for what they can get from it. They join it with the full intention of receiving their "quid pro quo," and there is a large class which thus constitutes a "dead weight" on our prosperous Order. No doubt the very effect of numerical increase and material well doing is to entail on us, owing to the "wear and tear of life," and the inevitable accident and changes of the world, a large class of claimants for temporal assistance. But many cases come before the Board of Benevolence which ought never to be entered on the Grand Secretary's list, and very often the friends of suffering brethren are more to blame than the applicants themselves, as they shift their own burden of responsibility and affection on to the "shoulders," if we may so say, of Masonic benevolence. We shall be glad if the ideas we have suggested may find favour with some of the abler and experienced heads of our Order, and we shall be pleased if they will favour us with their matured and judicious opinions on this most important subject.

PLEASANT MEMORIES.

It is a necessity of this lower earth to lament and lose our friends, and brethren, and companions. It is a compensation however for irreparable loss to remember their pleasant presence, or their useful lives, their warm hearts, or their sunny associations. In Freemasonry we often form fast friendships and warm attachments, and many of us have constantly to mourn over

the loss of some familiar friend, the departure, often unexpected, of some much valued and long-known brother. Then it is that memory, with its vivid power, cheers the present, and soothes the sorrow by the pleasant vision it conjures up for us, of all that was good and graceful, or valuable or consoling in the past hours, struggles, efforts, and career of those whose faces we miss, and whose place on earth or in the lodge knows them no more. Two brethren have lately left us, John Savage, well known in the metropolis, and James Franklin, highly esteemed in West Yorkshire, to whom a few lines of feeling and fraternal tribute may fairly be offered in the pages of the "*Freemason*." Bro. John Savage was well known in London and in the Grand Lodge, where his voice was often heard, and where his presence will long be missed. It may be that we did not always agree with his frankly expressed views, but we believe him to have been honest in his convictions, and sincere in his professions. We knew him to have been a zealous and earnest Mason, as well as a useful and valued citizen. He was a true friend and a genial comrade, and he worked on to the last, retaining the good will and sympathy of his friends and brethren, being always to the fore, and ready for every Masonic work, and most interested in all plans affecting the active development of Masonic benevolence. He was a very valued member of our good Order, and seemed well to typify many of its most ornate and abiding characteristics. Bro. James Franklin was a very respected solicitor at Halifax, and a very zealous member of the old Lodge of Probity, one of the oldest of English lodges, and had received the highest provincial honours. He was emphatically a hard-working, earnest, and resolute man, much looked up to in his own special avocation, and ever foremost in upholding and avowing the true principles of Freemasonry. He was an agreeable companion, a true brother, and a good friend. They were both types in their way of our active metropolitan and provincial Masonic life, and fully represent the energy, and steadfastness, and sterling worth of Freemasonry. They have both left in their respective spheres "pleasant memories" to those who survive, (a good deal, mind, for any of us to say,) and those of us who knew them both in lodge or chapter, or Provincial or Grand Lodge, may well to-day deeply regret that we shall hail their kindly presence, or listen to their familiar voice no more here, as we realize that the Masonic career is ended of John Savage and of James Franklin.

MASONIC CORRESPONDENCE.

Is it not very singular how very unmasonic all Masonic correspondence is apt to become? So marked is this fact, imprinted on the pages indelibly of all Masonic journalism, more or less, that one of the greatest difficulties which publishers of Masonic papers have to contend with, is the disposition of correspondents to "run riot," the habitual tendency to be personal, unmasonic, and even scurrilous. Is it not a strange phenomenon, we ask again, in the history of men, and in the annals of Freemasonry, that the "odium humanum" of our race is so strong in the Masonic body? And yet why is this? We profess to be "brethren of a mystic tie;" "brotherly love" is ever on our lips; we talk by the hour, and spin tremendous long yarns about philanthropy, benevolence, sympathy, toleration, charity; and yet the moment we run into print we become the most bitter, overbearing, and irate of men. Mournful inconsistency! Were it not, indeed, that the Masonic philosophy knows well the inherent weakness and littleness of human nature in all ages, under all circumstances, and in all earthly contingencies, he might be disposed to think, as somebody once foolishly said, that "there is nothing new, and nothing true, and that it does not at all signify." Now, we wish to give a little plain and outspoken advice to our brethren, which we trust they will take in good part. It is this—Never write personally if you possibly can help it. By this we mean, do not ever, if you are attacked, descend to the lower arena of "scribbling vulgarity." Do not damage a good cause by untoward personal reflections on your opponent; do not defend

a weak cause by scurrilous repartee. In the first place, few subjects are worth the exposure of this ceaseless weakness of us all alike. We admit that often it is very difficult, "currente calamo," to restrain the burst of honest indignation, or the full force of effective retort. We feel that there are cases where the perverse disputant, the incompetent critic, or the thoroughly unmasonic scribe deserves famous old Wilson's "Ambrosian" treatment. And, no doubt, we will now add, such is the infirmity of the flesh, such the "lapsus calami," that even the most Job-like of men, of editors, and of writers, may be induced warmly perhaps to expose the ignorance of the impertinent, to ridicule the presumption of the impostor, or to silence the virulence of the malignant. But yet, on the whole, it is, we feel, better for us as mortals, and especially as Masons, to cultivate the gentler graces of forbearance, and calmness, and consideration. Now and then "stern duty" calls us to speak out plainly, and plainly, no doubt, it is better for us to speak, and alike clearly and unmistakably at the same time. But nothing is gained, we feel, by violence of language, while everything is secured by moderation of expression. "A soft answer," our old Grand Master told us, "turneth away wrath," and still most true it is that the reply of geniality, or the turn of harmless chaff, or the half serious, half jocose rejoinder, has more effect than lines of reiterated violence, and the hopeless effusions of excited vulgarity. We therefore recommend to all our correspondents to improve their style, and "amend their vocabulary," all, we mean, who may think themselves aggrieved and "write in haste to repent at leisure." Somebody has said, that almost every man commits himself when he rushes into print, and we all know how some of the ablest of their kind look very small in the columns of a daily journal. As Freemasons we are bound to show to others that we really believe in what we profess, and that we wish to practise what we talk about so eloquently at times; and nothing does Freemasonry so much harm, or is such a stumbling-block in the way of the enlarged spread of Masonic journalism, as that unkindly spirit which, do what you will, creeps into our tolerant pages, together with those personal littlenesses which so often mark the bustling philanthropist, and the zealous Freemason.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF GLASGOW.

We are very glad to note the resolution unanimously agreed to by this important Scottish province, namely, to call the attention of their Grand Lodge, to the systematic violation of its own laws, in the common granting more than one degree in one night. We are quite convinced that if the Grand Lodge of Scotland will deal with the matter at once much good will arise to Scottish Freemasonry in every respect. If the Scottish Grand Lodge would place its law on the subject in exact accordance with that of the English Grand Lodge, which has worked so well, a step would be taken in advance, towards that identity of Masonic legislation, which we hope to see one day, sooner or later attained, between the two Grand Lodges. May we press upon our good Scottish brethren the advisability of one or two other like, and we have reason to believe, needed reforms? Surely the time has come to raise both the initiation and joining fee, to require an annual subscription, and to establish a capitation payment towards a Fund of Benevolence. We say nothing of the question of proxy Masters, because there are evidently two sides to the question, and we hardly feel ourselves competent to express a decided opinion on the subject. But if the three changes we venture to advocate, and the improvement suggested by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow, be carried into effect, we confess we should think, the prospects of Scottish Freemasonry would look brighter for the future. We fear that if the Grand Lodge continues to maintain its "status quo," without any attempt to advance, or improve, or reform, it may have ere long to deal with a financial difficulty, and such a dilemma might be a severe strain on Scottish Freemasonry. We write, as we feel, in all sincere good will, and hearty sympathy for

our brethren, and "Scotch Cousins" across the border. Knowing how many brethren of moral worth, social position, and Masonic excellence and intellectual calibre, are to be found in the ranks of Scottish Freemasonry, we desiderate only the safe development and the peaceful progress of the good old Order to which they belong. The valuable labours and original researches of Bro. D. M. Lyon have lately cast a new light on the past annals of our Scottish brotherhood, and we trust, by a judicious reform of evident anomalies, by a strengthening of weak points, incontestably in their Masonic system, theirs may be a pleasant and prosperous present state of Masonic life and activity, and a still increasing future of Masonic usefulness and Masonic reality.

NARROW ESCAPE OF BRO. SIR MICHAEL SHAW STEWART.

Intelligence has been received of the narrow escape from drowning, in the Bay of Biscay, of Bro. Sir Michael Shaw Stewart, Bart., of Ardgowan, Lord Lieutenant of the county of Renfrew, and Most Worshipful Grand Master Mason of Scotland. About ten days ago Sir Michael left England in his steam yacht Chevalier, intending to spend the winter in the Mediterranean with the Lady Octavia and other members of his family. While passing through the Bay of Biscay, the yacht was caught in a fearful gale, and the sea running very high carried away the yacht's bulwarks, stove her bow, and swept the decks of boats and every moveable. The tiny vessel continued to labour fearfully for some time, when eventually the steering gear gave way, and she was for a length of time left perfectly helpless, indeed, those on board expected every moment the vessel would founder. After great exertions, however, the yacht was put about and reached Plymouth towards the end of last week, in a very crippled state. Sir Michael will now proceed overland to the Mediterranean,

THE CHEQUE BANK.

We are sorry to note in the money article of the "Times," always we may add worth reading, that there is a proposal to wind up the affairs of this very useful institution. We regret such a resolution and such a result for many reasons. We believe that the Cheque Bank has been found most helpful in the transmission of small sums, and for the payment of small accounts, and we believe that its undoubted value has been more and more appreciated by business firms, as time has passed on. We are assured by the head of a large firm of some hundred employes, that he uses it and finds its daily utility in a variety of ways, and as we understand it has surmounted its preliminary difficulties of establishment and confidence. We cannot but express our regret that such should be the decision, as the "Times" tells us, of a persevering minority. Is there no avoidance of such a resolution? Is there no resuscitation of the bank on another footing, and with other shareholders? It seems to us to involve a question of much personal interest and convenience to many business firms, and if we are correct in our assumptions we certainly cannot but express our regretful feelings that the convenience of the many should be sacrificed to the claims of the few.

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 MARK DEGREE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—
"An enquiring M.M." may be interested to learn that he will not effect the object he seeks by taking the English Mark Degree. In America before he can visit a R.A. Chapter, he must have taken the three degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, and Most Excellent Master, (as I have done); and, if I am not much mistaken, he must have taken the Past Master's Degree, as well as that of the Mark, before he can enter a Scotch Royal Arch Chapter.

His remarks on the subject of "the English Masonic laws wanting mending on this point" are, I should conceive, the ideas of a very young Mason; probably when

he is older, and when he has studied the subject, he will see cause to change his opinions.

Yours fraternally,

P.J.

JOINING MEMBERS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Would you kindly in your next impression inform me and several brethren, whose vehicle I am, what is the status of a Past Master, or any other brother, holding the rank of a Warden, or who may have held that rank, when he joins a new lodge. Instances have frequently occurred in newly formed and other lodges where Past Masters and others who have held office have joined with the desire of taking office should an opportunity present itself, and after attending the lodge regularly and paying their subscriptions punctually, and possibly also rendering assistance as subordinate officers, they have been passed over by junior members. Upon them very naturally protesting, they have been told that initiates had priority of claim, although possibly they may have only been initiated into the Craft as many months as those they supplanted had been years. Fortunately these disagreeable cases do not always occur, but when they do they invariably create disappointment and dissatisfaction. I do not think that there is anything said about this matter in the Book of Constitutions, but there ought to be some recognized usage on the subject. Many good old Masons are deterred from becoming joining members of young lodges where their experience and abilities might be of great service, because of the uncertainty of their ever becoming principal officers; and being working Masons they do not care about subscribing to lodges for the sole purpose of becoming partakers of the pleasures of the Fourth Degree. In conclusion I will furnish an example which came under my personal knowledge. An I.P.M. upon the request of several members joined a new lodge which was greatly in need of experienced brethren, and in the course of time he attained the rank of S.D., and believed he was steadily and legitimately progressing towards the chair, but imagine his disappointment when the S.W., upon being elected W.M., appointed the J.D. to the J.W. chair, but considerably allowed him to retain his position of S.D. Upon his demanding an explanation, he was quietly informed by the W.M. that the J.D. being an initiate of the lodge was entitled to reach the chair first. The young Mason thus honoured was I believe qualified in every respect for the Warden's chair, but as he had only been a Mason a very short time, and owed his prominent position in the lodge to a chapter of accidents, it appeared so great an injustice to the S.D., who had worked so energetically and zealously to further its interests, that he immediately resigned, although the members of the lodge, with one or two exceptions, were unanimously of opinion that the W.M. had displayed too great a partiality, and did all they could to induce him to remain. By kindly affording any information on this question you will greatly oblige

Yours truly and fraternally,

AN ENQUIRER.

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE AND MASONIC JEWELS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In to-day's "Freemason" a M.M., Bristol, asks for "the strict Masonic law" respecting the legality of a S.W., in the absence of the W.M., initiating a candidate. I do not presume to be able to give it, but Dr. Oliver, in his work on Masonic jurisprudence, when writing of the "Powers of a Warden," says:—"The Constitutions provide, 'in the Master's absence the I.P.M., or, if he be absent, the S.P.M. of the lodge present shall take the chair. And if no past Master of the lodge be present, then the Senior Warden, or in his absence the Junior Warden, shall rule the lodge.'"

By this law it is clearly intended that during the temporary or permanent absence of the Master, as the case may be, the Senior Warden may summon the lodge, but not rule it if there be a P.M. present. In such a case the S.W., although competent to rule the lodge, ought not to assume the Master's chair, in which he has not been installed, but to occupy a seat in front or to the right of it, in accordance with the practice of Grand Lodge, as a token of his incompetency to perform the highest rites of the Craft, because the chair is for installed Masons only, and no initiations can be legally performed from any other place in the lodge. If these premises be correct, it follows, as a matter of course, that, being a mere locum tenens, he has no power to initiate, pass, or raise—for the terms "rule a lodge" do not embrace the privilege of admitting candidates. In a case of extreme emergency, however, the conferring of degrees by a Warden, in the absence of any P.M. or actual Master, would not be held absolutely illegal, though highly undesirable.

Respecting Masonic jewels, I have a letter before me, dated 23rd June, 1875, from our worthy and respected Grand Secretary, Bro. Hervey, in which he says:—"I am not aware of any jewels authorised to be worn, save the Charity Jewel, especially sanctioned by the Grand Master, and such jewels of past officers as are named in the Book of Constitutions. A lodge cannot adopt a distinctive jewel without the express authority of the Grand Master, and very few lodges, I should think scarcely half-a-dozen, enjoy that privilege. The indiscriminate wearing of jewels is not permitted, and if it were, would lead to much abuse." Dr. Oliver admits, in the work referred to above, that "there is some difficulty in understanding the question of honorary jewels," but after a perusal of Bro. Hervey's letter, I should imagine that difficulty would exist no longer. Seeing a brother's breast bedizened with a multiplicity of jewels is anything but pleasing to the eye, or satisfactory to the judgment of the truly zealous Mason, because it appears to fix attention on the trappings of the Craft, and prevent

many brethren, who might otherwise become bright Masons, from penetrating more deeply into the rich mine of knowledge which is open to their researches by an erroneous impression that Freemasonry is something like gilt gingerbread, with all its glittering treasures spread over its surface.

Apologising for the length of this, believe me, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

JAMES A. HAYES.

Nov. 20th, 1875.

NUMBERS OF LODGES.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

On the 6th July, 1863, fourteen years ago, a circular was sent to all lodges on the roll of the Grand Lodge of England who were affected by it, altering their numbers, so as to fill up the blanks caused by the suspension or voluntary surrender of warrants by many lodges that had ceased to exist. On this occasion Lodge Repose, Derby, which was then nearly the junior lodge, rose from 1104 to 802, a difference of 302.

It may perhaps interest your readers to learn that at the present time there are 111 vacancies in the roll of lodges, and I would, with all deference, suggest to the Board of General Purposes, and to the Grand Secretary, that the course pursued in 1863 should be again carried out, in which case the present junior lodge, No. 1574, would become No. 1463. I would further suggest that, as the number of lodges increases so rapidly—no less than 150 warrants having been granted in 1874, and fifty more already in 1875—that this might be done before any new warrants are granted, so that any lodge warrant granted after the warrant of Lodge 1574 might bear its real number, 1464, instead of 1575. I enclose a list of the missing numbers to verify my statement.

Yours fraternally,

COCKER.

LIST OF MISSING NUMBERS.

17	524	628	717	878	1082
118	527	629	722	886	1084
122	535	635	740	888	1090
138	544	642	744	899	1104
161	553	644	762	909	1109
182	559	648	763	923	1117
351	562	658	770	924	1127
396	565	664	774	927	1142
399	568	668	775	953	1162
400	571	674	783	955	1176
420	575	675	790	961	1187
427	577	676	805	963	1190
436	578	677	808	964	1191
470	596	682	826	965	1217
479	612	688	831	968	1245
480	616	690	835	1023	1412
490	620	693	841	1029	
514	623	695	849	1047	
518	627	701	870	1053	

A QUESTION.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Who is the Bro. William Watson to whom the large sum of £250 has been granted by the last Board of Benevolence? Is he the same brother who has previously received grants? and does he still sit and vote in Grand Lodge?

Yours enquiringly, JOHN JONES, PM., &c.

THE ALEXANDRA PALACE LODGE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,

On my return to town this day, after a somewhat prolonged absence, I find, among other matters requiring attention, a query from a "Master Mason," in the last issue of the "Freemason," respecting the Alexandra Palace Lodge. The Master Mason "has always understood it to be quite contrary to Masonic law for the S.W. to act as W.M., and perform the ceremonies;" and having read that at a recent meeting of the Alexandra Palace Lodge, in the absence of the W.M. (myself), the S.W. took the chair, initiated a candidate, and presided at the banquet, a "Master Mason" asks whether such a course was "correct." My answer on behalf of the lodge is, "Yes, perfectly correct under the circumstances, for the Senior Warden of the Alexandra Palace Lodge kindly undertook the duties of the chair at my request, and he Bro. Kelly King, P.G.S., is an old and experienced Past Master." I may add that the Alexandra Palace Lodge contains among its officers several notably able Past Masters in the Craft, and that its "work" is never likely to suffer from the unavoidable absence of

Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

J. C. PARKINSON,

P.G.D. England, P.D.P.G.M. Middlesex.

P.M. 181, 679, and 778.

W.M. of the Alexandra Palace Lodge.

13, Victoria-street, Westminster, S.W.,

23rd November, 1875.

P.S.—I should perhaps explain to a "Master Mason" that the Alexandra Palace Lodge is in the first year of its existence, and that there are consequently no Past Masters of the lodge itself.

TEW AND PERROTT v. BINCKES.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In the "Freemason," Oct. 23rd, you insert a letter from Bro. Binckes, date Oct. 16th, 1875, in which occurs the following:—"The insinuation is palpable, and what I complain of is that Mr. Tew, &c.," and again—"In opposition to the views of Messrs. Tew and Perrott, &c.," and four times afterwards in the same letter he speaks of Mr. Perrott. I submit, therefore, that your stricture

would have been more appropriately applied to Bro. Binckes, seeing that he committed the first offence. In fairness to Bros. Tew and Perrott I ask you to insert this in your next issue.

I am, yours fraternally, HENRY INGRAM, P.M.

Batley, 22nd November, 1875.

[We publish this letter, and hope that it is the last we shall receive on this subject.—ED.]

MASONIC HALFPENNY TOKENS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In looking over a Masonic relic published in November, 1794, I find the following account of the token in question. The engravings are in good preservation, and your correspondent "T. F." is quite correct as to the animals being beavers. I will try to get our W.M. to make a copy of them, and will send it for your further information.

Yours fraternally,

A MEMBER OF 1089.

"MASONIC TOKENS.—In the course of the past month some copper pieces, newly struck from a die which appears to be executed in a style superior to any of the provincial coins at present in circulation, came to the hands of the proprietor of this magazine. On inspection they appear to be called Masonic Tokens, and to have been invented by a brother who intended them to serve as pocket pieces; but, either from the novelty of the idea or the excellence of the workmanship, it would appear that many persons have been content to receive them in change as halfpence, in the same manner as the Liverpool, Norwich, Lancaster, Anglesey, Bungay, Macclesfield, Leak, Manchester, Coventry, &c., coins have acquired credit and currency."

ELECTION OF W.M. 1458, MANCHESTER.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Your issue of November 20th, contains a report (so-called) of the regular meeting of the Lodge of Truth, held at the Royal Archer, Dale-st, Manchester, on the 6th inst. I think that the portion referring to the election of W.M. for the ensuing year requires a little modification, especially when the title of Lodge 1458 is considered—"The Lodge of Truth." Your report states that, to the surprise of many, the J.W. was elected in preference to the S.W. The surprise, I believe, was confined to few, twenty-two members being present, and the ballot being as follows:—Bro. Charles J. Kent, J.W., 17; Charles Pearson, S.W., and W.M. of 1077, 3; Thomas Tyers, P.M. and Treas., 1; John Kinder, P.M. and S., 1. Bro. Kent was therefore elected by a great majority. Prior to the ballot being taken, Bro. Pearson, S.W., reminded the members that he held the office of W.M. in the Wilton Lodge, 1077, and that on the event of his being elected W.M. of 1458, a dispensation would have to be procured in order for him to act; he did not wish to influence the ballot in any way, but considered it justice to the lodge to mention the fact. This fact, however, is not included in the report sent you; therefore, a stranger to the lodge would infer that our truly Masonic brother, Bro. Pearson, S.W., was not in favour with the junior members of 1458. Such, however, is not the case, he is admired by all, and would certainly have been elected W.M., had there not have been an uncertainty with respect to the granting of a dispensation, a grant which has seldom been allowed in East Lancashire. The "junior members" of a junior lodge (query, Who are the seniors? the lodge being not yet three years old) have not been at complimented in the report sent you. They are charged with not studying the interests of the lodge, making the election a personal matter, and looking for preferment by disposing of the S.W. Such remarks are not Masonic, and will tend to diminish, instead of increase, a desire for Masonic knowledge. I have no hesitation in saying that Bro. Pearson, S.W., would have been elected without one opposing vote, had not the difficulty of a dispensation have presented itself. Bro. Kent, J.W., is now W.M. elect. He has filled the J.W.'s chair ably, and, to the satisfaction, I think, of all, and I doubt not, after a little working, he will be as efficient in the chair of K.S. I trust the disparaging remarks referred to may not impoverish his zeal; or that of the members in the majority—the juniors. By inserting this somewhat lengthy letter you will oblige. I would attach my real name, but by so doing might be termed an office seeker. I therefore subscribe myself,

Fraternally yours,

A JUNIOR MEMBER.

Manchester, November 23rd, 1875.

Multum in Parbo; or Masonic Notes and Queries.

AN OLD JEWEL.

A small jewel has been forwarded to us to ascertain its real meaning. It is in gold, in form of a shield with an apostle, with the halo of glory round his head, holding in his hands a scroll, on which is a cross. Behind him stands a lion, and on a raised ground in the left hand corner are the square and compasses. The whole is suspended to a red hanger by a triangle.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS: Indigestion.—Dreary November is proverbial for its unpleasantness, which may lead directly to disease, unless some tonic like these Pills be occasionally taken to sustain the appetite and relish for food. In all cases of indigestion, producing weariness, low spirits, palpitation, and feverishness, these famous Pills should be resorted to as the gentlest and surest corrective of the stomach, the best antidotes to its ailments. These Pills dispel the cause of dyspepsia. Every one afflicted with it may rejoice at the safe and satisfactory results which can be secured at so small a charge as the purchase of a box of Holloway's Pills. They purify, strengthen, and remedy imperfect development of growth and health in young persons.—ADVT.

Reviews.

"KALENDAR FÜR FREIMAURER." BRO. C. VAN DALEN. Leipzig: Bro. J. G. Findel.

We welcome this well-known and useful little Germanic vade mecum, as put forth by our worthy Bro. C. Van Dalen, Berlin, and by our well-known and able Bro. J. G. Findel. From it we are annually enabled to obtain accurate statistics of German Freemasonry, and through its well arranged pages we learn the progress amid the "Deutsch-sprechender Volk" of our valuable and cosmopolitan Craft. There are some minor points of difference, as to detail and ritual, as between Teutonic and Anglo-Saxon Freemasonry and each has special observances or systematic peculiarities, which each deems to be preferable to the other's. But there is, nevertheless, much of "ähnlichkeit," to use a German word, between our Masonic system and teaching and theirs; the one essential difference being (we speak of Craft Masonry), the completing grade of the R.A. with us, of which in Germany they know but little, that is, actively, in usual work. But despite the foolish attack of some heated writers, some angry and agitated Ultramontane complainants, we believe that as a general rule German Freemasonry, like ours in Great Britain, is entirely free from political proclivities, or religious discussions. Like us, German Freemasons accept and believe in the great principles of toleration and philanthropy, of liberty of conscience and freedom of belief, of the due cultivation of the intellectual faculties, and yet of the encouragement of religious aspirations. Like ours, German Freemasonry is expansive and cosmopolitan, and accepts all who, in a spirit of universal comprehension for the purpose of humanitarian work and sympathy, accept a theistic avowal of faith and truth, and openly acknowledge the great Architect and Creator of all. We therefore gladly hail once again Bro. Van Dalen's useful Masonic compendium and companion, and beg especially to call the attention of our many German brethren in England to its utility and information. w.

"FREEMASONRY, ITS SECRECY, &c." An Oration by Bro. the REV. THOMAS RUSSELL, P.P.G.C. Oxon, and J.G.W. Devon, and W.M. of the Lodge of Benevolence, Bideford, 489. Delivered at Bideford, Oct. 13th, 1875.

We have perused our Rev. Bro.'s oration with much pleasure, and we gladly commend it to the notice of the Craft. It appears to us to be an able refutation of the common fallacy which exists in all the arguments of the "perverse disputant," respecting the secrecy of Freemasonry: At the same time we say this, we feel bound to express our opinion that as the objection to a secret society can only really arise from its being illegal by the laws of the land, in Anglo-Saxon Freemasonry, and in most countries happily now, such an objection becomes "a fabella exoleta" altogether. A religious body no doubt might say to its adherents, "I make it a term of communion that you do not belong to any secret society," but then that is only laying down a subjective if abstract enunciation of work or duty, and seeking to make it objective, as religious bodies often have done, and probably will often do again. The Roman Catholics assert that there is an objection to Freemasonry from its secrecy, arising out of what they term the natural law of right, &c., as between man and man, but that we believe to be utterly untenable. We also accept Bro. Russell's definition of the true position of Freemasonry as regards religious truth, and quite agree with him that Freemasonry, though it assumes a position of absolute neutrality, by no means proclaims its indifference to religious truth, inasmuch as, though not professing to teach religion absolutely, it bases all its moral enunciations, whether of decorum or duty, on the very word of God. We are happy to think that many of our clergy are now beginning to recognize the arguments put forth by the friends of Freemasonry, and to see that Freemasonry, though not religion, is ever friendly to religion; and that the accusations of indifference utterly fail in this, that they do not touch the self-evident truism, that Freemasonry need not be indifferent because it does not pronounce an opinion on matters beyond its scope and its constitution. w.

CONSECRATION OF THE ELLINGTON LODGE, No. 1566, AT MAIDENHEAD.

Wednesday, the 10th inst., witnessed the inauguration of a new Masonic Lodge, bearing the name of the "The Ellington Lodge," and ranking as No. 1566, in the rising town of Maidenhead. The ceremony was fixed for 2.30 p.m., and by that hour the brethren interested in the formation of the lodge assembled at the Bell Hotel, where they were joined by others, who had come many of them from a distance, to assist in the inaugural ceremonies; in addition to brethren from London, the neighbouring Lodges Etonian and Windsor Castle, Windsor, Union and Greyfriars, Reading, the Wycombe and St. John's, Maidenhead, were well represented. The ceremonies of constitution and consecration were undertaken by the Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, Deputy Provincial Grand Master for Berks and Bucks, who, in the course of the proceedings, delivered an impressive address on a subject sufficiently important to brethren at large to warrant a report in extenso. He remarked—It has always been the peculiar characteristic of English Freemasonry to avoid carefully all interference in political matters. The Pro Grand Master of England, at the installation of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, emphatically asserted this fact. "In some countries," he said, "it has been unfortunately the lot of Freemasonry to find itself allied with faction and intrigue—with what I may call the darker side of politics. In England this has been signally the reverse." His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales fully accepted and endorsed the sentiments of the Pro Grand Master. "As long," he said, "as Freemasonry keeps itself from being mixed up with politics, so long will, I am sure, this great and ancient Order flourish." With these assertions, made publicly by the two leading rulers of the Craft, it becomes our duty, surely, to guard this peculiar land mark of our Order, to watch carefully any danger that may seem to affect it. I do think that in our intercourse—our fraternal intercourse—with foreign Grand Lodges we must not forget the words of our Pro Grand Master. It cannot be denied that in some foreign countries to be a Freemason is practically always to be a member of one particular party. So long as and wheresoever this is the case, there must be a wide difference between our principles and those of our foreign brethren. The Grand Lodge of England acts very wisely in her intercourse with foreign Grand Lodges; she receives their representatives, and is represented at their meetings; but this must not be construed into an endorsement of the principles by which, in many matters, those foreign Grand Lodges are actuated. Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen did not commit herself to a despotic line of policy by her public reception of the Shah of Persia. The representative of the Sultan is received at the Court of St. James, but our country does not thereby accept the principles of Turkish finance, and so our Most Worshipful Grand Master by the reception of a deputation from the Grand Orient of Italy at his installation, did not endorse, or give any opinion on the policy of that Grand Lodge. It is very important to keep these facts before our minds, as there are not wanting indications that some Masons in this country are desirous of a closer union between us and foreign Masons, a union, in my humble opinion, likely to interfere with our non-political character, and so to alienate from our ranks those whom we can ill afford to lose. Many of us who labour heartily and conscientiously for the Craft as it is worked in England; we shall be forced to re-consider our position if we are more closely identified with the Grand Orients of Italy or France. I heartily trust that those words of our Grand Master and of our Pro Grand Master which I have quoted may be long treasured and remembered by English Masons, may be a warning and an incitement to us to preserve always pure and unsullied the genuine precepts and principles of the Craft.

We have only to add that the whole of the inaugural ceremony was conducted in a most efficient and impressive manner, and that the

musical arrangements were in the hands of Bro. Tolley, of Windsor.

Subsequently W. Bro. Brownrigg installed the Worshipful Master, W. Bro. William B. Farr, 825, Bengal, who, in turn, invested the following brethren with their insignia of office, viz.; W. Bro. J. Fuller, S.W.; Bro. J. J. Britton, J.W.; W. Bro. H. H. Hodges, Sec.; Bro. H. Turner, Treas.; and Bro. H. H. Durrant, I.G. The proposition of a long list of candidates for initiation closed the proceedings.

In the evening the members of the new lodge and their visitors sat down to an admirable banquet at the Bell Hotel. After the removal of the cloth the Worshipful Master proposed "The Queen and the Craft," "The Prince of Wales, the Most Worshipful the Grand Master," and other loyal and Masonic toasts, not omitting that of "The Visitors." "The Health of the Worshipful Master, and Success to the Ellington Lodge," followed, and was responded to by the W. Master, who said that after the delay and difficulty that had been experienced he was rejoiced to see the lodge really formed. He was confident that, in addition to the long list of names read, many others would join their ranks, "but," he added, "let us each be careful who we introduce to the privileges of our Order, so that we may reckon our strength not so much by our muster roll as by the individual worth of our members; let us so guard our lodge that, from the foundation laid to-day may a superstructure be raised perfect in its parts and honourable to its builders."

In closing our notice of the banquet we must not forget to add that the singing and accompaniments of Bros. Tolley and Videon Harding were warmly applauded.

CONSECRATION OF A MASONIC HALL AT RUTHERGLEN.

The consecration of St. John's Masonic Hall, built by the members of St. John's Operative Lodge, No. 347, took place on Friday evening, the 12th inst., in due form, by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire, East.

The lodge was opened at 7.30 p.m. by Bro. John Cunningham, R.W.M., supported by his office-bearers as follows:—Bros. Wm. Gardner, I.P.M.; Samuel Abbot, D.M.; David Smart, S.M.; John Murdoch, S.W.; Thomas Alston, J.W.; Alex. Warnock, Sec.; Wm. Miller, Treas.; Wm. Young, S.D.; Thomas Brodie, J.D.; and And. Pearson, Chaplain; Matthew Abbot, P.G.S.; James Ritchie, S.S.; and Wm. McKemmie, I.G. There were deputations from the several lodges in the province, as also from the lodges in Glasgow and neighbouring provinces. In all, there would be no less than about 350 brethren present, and the holding capacity of the hall, which for all ordinary occasions is more than ample, was taxed almost beyond its utmost. The following R.W. Masters were present:—Bros. A. B. Thorburn, Kilwinning, 4, Glasgow; David Anderson, Cambuslang, 114, Royal Arch; William Ferguson, Rutherglen, 116, Royal Arch; David Allen, Pollokshaws, 153, Royal Arch; Joseph Singleton, Scotia, 178; John Morgan, Star, 219; R. M. Yuill, Shamrock and Thistle, 275; J. B. Macnair, Union, 332; Alexander Thomson, St. George, 333; James Anderson, Renfrew County Kilwinning, 370, Paisley; William Harper, Clyde, 408; George Glen, Prince of Wales, 426, Renfrew; David Reid, St. Andrew's, 465; William Ferguson, St. John's, 543, Dalmuir; and Wm. Phillips, Clydesdale, 556, and others; also a large number of Past Masters and other office-bearers from the respective lodges.

The brethren having all assembled, the R.W.M. then informed them that the office-bearers of the Provincial Grand Lodge were now in waiting, and requested all to be upstanding.

The P.G.L. then entered, and was received with the accustomed honours. The deputation consisted of Bros. Colonel Archibald, C. Campbell, of Blythswood, R.W. Provincial Grand Master; Lieut.-Col. Reid, of Gallowflat, acting Depute P.G.M.; Ex-Baillie James Caldwell, of Paisley, P.G.S.W.; James Gilmour, P.G.J.W.; Rev. George Campbell, acting P.G. Chaplain; L. R. Henderson, P.G. Sec.; James B. Lamb, P.G. Architect; John Carswell, P.G.M.C.; Ex-Baillie John Fisher, P.G.B.B.; James Buchan, P.G.S.B.;

Alexander McPherson, P.G.S.B.; Andrew Wallace, P.G.S.D.; and Joseph Forrest, P.G. Inner Guard. Having taken their seats on and around the dias, the R.W.M. (Bro. Cunningham) in due form handed over his mallet to and vacated his chair in favour of the P.G. Master, which the latter similarly accepted; and, on the formal request of the R.W.M., proceeded to the work of consecration, the programme of the ceremonial being that authorised by Grand Lodge of Scotland, with slight modifications, and including a brief address by the P.G. Master, having reference mainly to the wonderful corroboration of the Bible narratives of the early history of the world, which have recently been found as the result of Egyptian and Ninevite explorations by Mr. Smith, of the British Museum, and others. In concluding, he said that having dedicated that lodge hall to the Almighty, and recognising Him in the proceedings throughout, they should remember in their lives that he was always looking at them. They had all got to do their duty in this world, but their souls were not bound down to the earth, and he believed that when the Almighty called them to the Grand Lodge above they would find that it would not be a vague, purposeless existence there, but much more active than this, and they would look back and wonder how they could have loved this so much when they should see the glory that should be in the future. (Applause.)

The Provincial Grand Master then declared the hall consecrated to the purposes of Freemasonry, and, in handing back the mallet to the R.W.M., said he felt that he was returning it to a brother who would support all the objects of Freemasonry, who would be an honour to his lodge, and a blessing to the Craft. (Applause.)

The R.W.M. said he had now, in the name of Lodge 347, to return the P.G.M. their heartfelt thanks for his kindness in officiating at the consecration. Before going to refreshment, he added, there was a duty which he thought they ought to perform there and then, and he had therefore much pleasure in proposing that honorary affiliation to the lodge should be bestowed upon the Acting Depute P.G.M., Bro. Lieut.-Col. Reid, and the office-bearers of the P.G.L., whom they had that night with them. The proposal having been carried by acclamation, the brethren in question assembled round the altar, and were obligated accordingly at the hands of the R.W. Master. By command of the R.W.M. the J.W. then transferred the lodge from labour to refreshment, when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, as also that of "The Three Grand Lodges," were given from the chair and duly honoured.

The Chairman next proposed "The Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire (East)," coupled with the name of the R.W.P.G.M. In so doing he said they ought to be proud of such a Master, who not only occupied the highest position in his province, but, as they were aware, had been recently visited by Royalty. (Applause.)

The R.W.P.G.M., in acknowledging the compliment, said that nothing had given him greater pleasure than to be able to preside at meetings of that kind, accompanied, he would say, by his Provincial Grand Lodge, because he had always found that when he made a mistake they were able to correct him. With regard to the reference made by the R.W.M. as to his lately having had a distinguished guest staying with him, he desired to say a word. He had seen it stated that the visit of Prince Leopold to Blythswood, was done with an ulterior object. Before them all, he declared that there was no truth in that whatever. He (the speaker) had no more notion a month or two before that event, that His Royal Highness was coming to Blythswood than they had that he was going to come into this lodge. The sole reason of the visit was the Prince's friendship with his (the speaker's) brother, whom he desired to visit, and, when that wish was expressed, it was simply his duty to acquiesce. In concluding, the P.G.M. stated that he had heard from Prince Leopold himself that his reception in Renfrewshire had caused him the liveliest delight, and the deepest and greatest satisfaction. (Applause.)

A number of other toasts followed, including "The Visiting Brethren" from the [chair,

coupled with the name of Bro. Wm. Ferguson, R.W.M. No. 116.

"The Chairman," proposed in eloquent terms by Bro. J. B. Macquair, R.W.M. No. 332, was modestly acknowledged by Bro. Cunningham, and others. We should state that the musical portion of the consecration ceremonial was rendered by a vocal choir, under the conduct of Bro. John Miller, Dir. of Music, P.G.L. of Glasgow, and that the routine of toasts subsequently was agreeably relieved by song and recitation, contributed by Bros. Allen, Wm. Niven, 27, and others. As a description of the building has already appeared in the columns of the "Freemason," when the memorial stone was laid with Masonic honours by Bro. John Cunningham, R.W.M., in the month of March last, it will suffice to repeat here that it is a substantial stone and brick structure, the main hall being 40 feet by 30 feet, inside measurement, with an 18 feet ceiling, that the ventilation and lighting are each unusually excellent, and that when the painter and decorator have finished their share of the work it will be in most essentials the finest Masonic temple in the west of Scotland.

CORNISH FACTS AND NOTIONS.

The next Provincial Grand meeting of the Cornish Masons will, in all probability, be held at Falmouth. Eleven years have passed since a Grand Lodge was held in that town. The new Mayor (Bro. Webber) is the M.W. of the Falmouth Lodge, "Love and Honour," No. 75. It is likely that before long a Provincial Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the Province of Cornwall will be formed, as the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe is the Provincial Grand Superintendent nominate. There are now eight active chapters in Cornwall for this degree, and one dormant, Royal Arch Masonry having been practised in the province for nearly a century. Chapters meet in Penzance, Truro, Liskeard, Tywardreath, St. Day, St. Germans, Hayle, and St. Austell. The old chapter at Falmouth, which is dormant, is likely to be soon restored.

Many have tried to compile a list of Masonic lodges in existence at the time of the union in 1813, but have failed, until in 1875 it had fallen to the lot of that exceptionally zealous and distinguished Mason, Bro. W. J. Hugan, of Truro, who is a Masonic author of great repute, to accomplish this difficult task. The difficulty of its compilation has been much increased because of the paucity of the materials from which the information has been gleaned. A complete list of all lodges in existence at the union of the "Ancients" and "Moderns," or the "Regular" and "Athol Masons," is given, with subsequent alterations, and he also shews those in existence at the present time. There were nine Cornish lodges in existence at the time of the union. "Love and Honour," Falmouth, was warranted in 1751. Then its number was 110, now it is 75. In 1869 a centennial warrant was granted to it. Next comes "Druids," Redruth, No. 127 at the union, now 589. The warrant is dated 1754. The lodge became extinct about 1830, but was renewed under a new warrant. The "Mount Sinai," Penzance, was warranted in 1771, was numbered 200 at the time of the union, and is now 121 under a new warrant granted in 1813. The "Fortitude," Truro, follows in order. At the union it was numbered 213, having been warranted in 1772. It is described in the official calendars and documents as "In Royal Regiment of Cornish Miners," and was transferred to a civil lodge under a warrant dated 1826. Coming next was the "Unity," Falmouth, which was warranted about the year 1780, was 244 on the register at the union, and became extinct about 1830. The "Three Grand Principles," Penryn, was warranted in 1799, and was numbered 596 at the time of the union. About 1830 it became extinct, but was revived by a new warrant, numbered 970. Succeeding is the "True and Faithful," Helston, 76 years old; "One and All," Bodmin, 65 years old, and at the time it was warranted (1810) it was numbered 625, and was described as "Royal Cornwall Lodge in Cornwall Regiment of Militia" (Cornwall Rangers). It was afterwards changed

to a civil lodge, and is now No. 330. The "Phoenix," Truro, is of the same age, was numbered 627 at the union, but is now registered 331. There are now over 1500 lodges under the Grand Lodge of England. At the time of the union there were 647 lodges. Of them 339 exist under the Grand Lodge of England, the remainder having joined other lodges or ceased to exist. We may add that this list is published for private circulation, and is an appendix to Bro. Hugan's "Memorials of the Union," issued last year, and now out of print.—"Western Morning News."

Obituary.

BRO. JAMES FRANKLIN.

Bro. James Franklin, whose loss we have to deplore, was a well-known solicitor in Halifax, and a member of the leading firm of Messrs. Stocks and Franklin. He was an active and much respected citizen. Bro. Franklin was an ardent Freemason, and in the long roll of surviving members of the Ancient Lodge of Probity he stood ninth on the list, having been initiated in 1849. In 1854 he was elected Master of the lodge. He also became a member of the Provincial Grand Lodge, and in that served as Grand Warden. He was also a Past Principal of the chapter and P.P.G. officer in the P.G. chapter of West Yorkshire. He was interred on Saturday, the 13th inst., amid many regrets, and he will long be remembered by his brethren in Freemasonry.

BRO. J. CHAMBERS, P.G. CHAPLAIN, PENNSYLVANIA.

We deeply regret to have to record the death of Bro. Rev. John Chambers, Grand Chaplain of both the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania. Bro. Chambers died, however, full of years and full of honours—having well spent a long life. Bro. Chambers was admitted a member of Lodge No. 51, of Pennsylvania, on May 22, 1851. On April 17, 1856, he was exalted a Royal Arch Mason, in Oriental Chapter, No. 183. He was created a Knight Templar in St. John's Commandery, No. 4, and upon the formation of Kadosh Commandery, No. 29, he was one of its charter members. In all of these relations he was beloved and respected by his brethren and companions.

UNITED GRAND LODGE.

The following is the agenda of business for the Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge, on Wednesday, 1st December, 1875:—

The minutes of the Quarterly Communication of the 1st September, 1875, for confirmation.

Nomination of a Grand Master for the ensuing year.

Appointment of a President of the Lodge of Benevolence.

Election of a Senior and Junior Vice-President of the Lodge of Benevolence.

Election of twelve Past Masters to serve on the Lodge of Benevolence for the year ensuing.

Report of the Lodge of Benevolence for the last quarter, in which are recommendations for the following grants, viz:—

The widow of a brother of the St. John's Lodge, No. 70, Plymouth	£70	0	0
A brother of the Witham Lodge, No. 297, Lincoln	50	0	0
A brother of the Cosmopolitan Lodge, No. 917, London	75	0	0
A brother of the Lodge of Peace and Harmony, No. 199, Dover	75	0	0
The widow of a brother of the Lodge of Fidelity, No. 230, Devonport	50	0	0
A brother of the Hertford Lodge, No. 403, Hertford	100	0	0
N.B.—Bro. Haselwood received £10 on account of this grant, but he died on the 1st November.			
A brother of the Robert Burns Lodge, No. 25, London	250	0	0
A brother of the Lily Lodge of Richmond, No. 820, Richmond	50	0	0
The widow of a brother of the Lodge St. John of Wapping, No. 1306, Wapping	50	0	0
The widow of a brother of the Hertford Lodge, No. 403, Hertford	100	0	0
A brother of the St. James's Union Lodge, No. 180, London	50	0	0
The widow of a brother of the Strong Man Lodge, No. 45, London	50	0	0
The report of the Board of General Purposes, to the United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England:—			
"The Board of General Purposes have to report that they have taken into consideration a complaint of two members of the Blackheath Lodge, No. 1320, Blackheath,			

to the effect that on the 17th day of June last the W.M. elect was installed without the previous confirmation of the minutes. And further, that on the 15th day of July the lodge was opened before the time named in the summons. After a long investigation of the facts of the case and hearing the evidence, the Board decided that the specific charges made were not proved. As however great laxity appeared to have prevailed in recording the minutes of the lodge, the Board admonished the Master to be more careful in future in seeing that the proceedings of the lodge were duly and properly recorded, reminding him that although the Secretary was the proper person to take the minutes, the Master was at all times responsible for their being correctly entered.

(Signed) "JOHN B. MONCKTON, President."

To the report is subjoined a statement of the Grand Lodge accounts at the last meeting of the Finance Committee, held on Friday, the 12th day of November instant, shewing a balance in the hands of the Grand Treasurer of £3436 19s. 2d.; and in the hands of the Grand Secretary, for petty cash, £75; and for servants' wages, £96 15s.

The appeal of Bro. Robert Levingstone, of the Lodge Orion in the West, No. 415, Poona, against the decision of the District Grand Master of Bombay, that Bro. Braine was eligible to be elected the Master of Lodge No. 415.

N.B.—The papers relating to this appeal will be in the Grand Secretary's Office till the meeting of Grand Lodge, and open for the inspection of the brethren during office hours.

Report of a special meeting of the Governors and subscribers of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons, held at Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday, the 10th day of November, 1875, will be laid before Grand Lodge, and the following proposed alterations of the rules which were then agreed to will, in accordance with the laws of the institution, be submitted for the approval of Grand Lodge, viz:—

To add to Clause 19, page 10 of the rules and regulations, after the words "Serving the Stewardship," and as a new paragraph, the following:—

"Every Steward at the anniversary festival who shall procure donations or subscriptions to the extent of not less than £50, in addition to his personal donation, shall receive two additional votes at each election, and two further extra votes for every additional sum of not less than £50."

And also to expunge from the same clause the following:—

"If unaccompanied with a personal donation, but by means of his services, not less than £20 shall be paid to the funds, he shall be entitled to one additional vote for every subsequent Stewardship."

That the law as altered now read thus:—

"A Life Governor who has served the office of Steward at the anniversary festival and subscribed £10 or upwards shall, on every occasion of subsequent service of such office, if accompanied with a similar donation, be entitled to four votes; if accompanied with a donation of £5, to two extra votes. A donor, who has qualified as a Life Governor and afterwards served the office of Steward at the anniversary festival, and qualifies again as a Life Governor, shall be entitled to the same number of votes as if he had paid both at the time of serving the Stewardship."

"Every Steward at the anniversary festival who shall procure donations or subscriptions to the extent of not less than £50, in addition to his personal donation, shall receive two additional votes at each election, and two further extra votes for every additional sum of not less than £50."

Notice of motion:—By Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G. Chaplain:

"That the sum of one hundred guineas be granted by this Grand Lodge in aid of the Palestine Exploration Fund, with the view of promoting the continued prosecution of the interesting and important work of exploring the ancient landmarks of the Holy Land."

GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, &c.

The following is the agenda for Tuesday, 30th November, 1875:—

1. Read and confirm minutes of Grand Lodge of 1st June, 1875.

2. Nomination of M.W.G.M.

3. Election of Grand Treasurer.

4. Report of the General Board, which includes the following recommendations:—

A.—"That the existing treaty with the Supreme Council 33°, and the Grand Master of the Temple, requires modification in the following sense:—

B.—"That no sentence shall be carried out in the Mark Degree, unless with the unanimous consent of the representatives of the Mark Degree present at the meeting of the Judicial Council (on appeal), two representatives being a quorum.

C.—"That an appeal be in all cases allowed to Grand Lodge.

D.—"That the Grand Stewards' contributions towards expenses of Grand Festival be fixed at two guineas (£2 2s.)

E.—"That the sum of £25 be granted from the Fund of Benevolence to Bro. P That the sum of £5 per annum be granted from the Fund of Benevolence to Mrs. S, widow of the late Bro. J. R. S"

FREDERICK BINCKES, G.S.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF WEST YORKSHIRE.

At a Provincial Grand Chapter, holden in the Masonic Hall, Dewsbury, on Wednesday, 10th November, 1875, at 3.30 p.m., there were present M. E. Comps. John Hervey, G.S.E., as Prov. G. Supt.; Henry Day, P.Z. 208, as Prov. G.H.; William Elliott, M.D., P.Z. 61, Prov. G.J.; Henry Smith, P.Z. 302, 387, 495, Prov. G.S.E.; Thomas Hill, P.Z. 302, as Prov. G.S.N.; W. W. Widdop, P.Z. 275, P. Prov. G.S.N.; John Booth, P.Z. 258, P. Prov. G.S.N.; Benjamin Blakeley, P.Z. 827, as Prov. G.P.S.; William Smith, P.Z. 290, P. Prov. G.P.S.; W. G. Dyson, P.Z. 290 Prov. G. 1st A.S.; W. J. Beck, P.Z. 289, Prov. G. 2nd A.S. John Fisher, P.Z. 61, Prov. G. Treas.; Thomas Senior, P.Z. 495, Prov. G. Reg.; W. H. B. Tomlinson, P.Z. 154, Prov. G. Reg.; Wm. Tasker, P.Z. 61, as Prov. G.Sd.B.; Thomas Heaton, P.Z. 275, P. Prov. G.Sd.B.; John Gill, P.Z. 495, P. Prov. G.S.B.; James Atkinson, P.Z. 258, Prov. G.Sd.B.; Jas. Rigby, P.Z. 242, P. Prov. G.Sd.B.; Thomas Schofield, P.Z. 306, Prov. G.D. of Cers.; Edward Sewell, M.A. 302, Prov. G. Org.; Mark Newsome, J.P., P.Z. 827, 208, Prov. G. Steward; Thomas Ruddock, P.Z. 275, Prov. G. Steward; M. E. Naylor, P.Z. 154, Prov. G. Steward; W. F. Wilkinson, P.Z. 448, as Prov. G. Steward; Joshua Lee, P.Z. 290, Prov. G. Janitor; and Acting Principals, Past First Principals, and Companions of Chapters 61, 154, 208, 242, 258, 265, 275, 289, 290, 302, 304, 306, 308, 337, 387, 448, 495, 521, 600, 837, 1214; and visitor, Comp. John Kelley, Friendship, No. 202.

Letters of apology for unavoidable absence from Lieut.-Col. Sir Henry Edwards, Bart., 61; G. H. Westerman, J.P., 154; Capt. W. Rothwell, J.P.; Thos. Perkinson and Isaac Booth, 61; Major Hartley, 208; Hy. Pawson, Hy. Maleham, R. Arnison and John F. Moss, 296; Chrstr. Pratt and B. Broughton, 302; Rev. T. C. Smyth, 289; Rev. J. Senior, 495; Edward Armitage, 275; John Barnes, 337; H. Matthews, 139; J. B. Emmott, 265; John P. Bell, M.D., Grand Supt. N. and E. Yorkshire.

The Prov. G. Chapter was then opened in form by E. Comp. John Hervey, G.S.E., and the officers of Prov. G. Chapter. The roll of Prov. G. Chapters was called. The roll of Present and Past G. Officers was called.

The minutes of Prov. G. Chapter, holden at Halifax May 20th, 1874, were presented for confirmation, when it was moved by Comp. John Wordsworth, seconded by Comp. C. L. Mason, and resolved, that the "minutes be taken as read." Moved by Comp. Wordsworth, and seconded by Comp. W. J. Beck, and resolved, "That the minutes be confirmed."

E. Comp. John Hervey, G.S.E., who was warmly greeted, addressed the chapter, briefly explaining the reason for his occupying the chair, and the special duty he had undertaken to discharge.

Comp. S.N. announced that Comp. Bentley Shaw, P.P.G. H., was at the door, asking to be admitted for the purpose of being installed. E. Comp. John Hervey directed that Comp. Bentley Shaw should send in his patent. The Prov. G. Registrar examined and read the patent.

E. Comp. Z. then directed the following deputation to retire and introduce the Prov. G. Superintendent nominate:—E. Comps. John Fisher, 61; John Wordsworth, 154; James Hunter, 208; John Booth, 258; W. W. Widdop, 275; Wm. Smith, 290; Manoh Rhodes, 302; Thomas Hill, 302; Thos. Schofield, 306; John Gill, 495. Comp. Bentley Shaw, G. Superintendent nominate, was then introduced and presented by E. Comp. Manoh Rhodes.

The greeting was of so warm a character that it was some time before the ceremony could be proceeded with. E. Comp. Z. then addressed the G.S. nominate, and heartily congratulated him on his appointment, which he was happy to find was so acceptable to the province, for had he ever doubted the propriety of the selection, the warmth of the reception must have in one moment dispelled it. E. Comp. the P.G. Superintendent nominate was then placed in the centre, and took upon himself the obligation attached to the office: he was then invested with the collar and jewel, and the sceptre placed in his hands, and in each instance suitable addresses were given. The G.S. was then placed on the throne, amidst the cheers and applause of a crowded chapter. The G.S., in most feeling terms, endeavoured adequately to thank the installing officer, E. Comp. John Hervey, G.S.E., for having as the representative of the Grand Superintendent, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G., installed him. His admirable address to the companions also was listened to with feelings of deep respect and admiration, and repeatedly applauded.

The G.S. then appointed E. Comps. T. W. Tew, P.Z. 495, H., and Henry Day, P.Z. 208, J., who were accordingly installed and addressed by E. Comp. John Hervey, G.S.E.

The G.S. then appointed and invested the following officers:—

Henry Smith, P.Z. 302, 387, 495.....	Prov. G.S.E.
Mark Newsome, P.Z. 208	Prov. G.S.N.
Thomas Schofield, P.Z. 306	Prov. Prin. Soj.
Thomas Ruddock, P.Z. 275	Prov. 1st Asst. Soj.
Edward Sewell, 302	Prov. 2nd Asst. Soj.
E. L. Mason, P.Z. 304	Prov. G. Reg.
Wm. Tasker, P.Z. 61.....	Prov. G. Swd. B.
Jas. Atkinson, P.Z. 258	Prov. G. Std. B.
John Wordsworth, P.Z. 154	Prov. G. D. of Cers.
W. H. Hopkinson, 208	Prov. G. Org.
T. H. C. Scatterd, P.Z. 61; J. Bottomley, P.Z. 275; S. H. Stocks, P.Z. 258; J. W. Monckman, P.Z. 600, Prov. G. Stewards; and Joshua Lee, P.Z. 290, Prov. G. Janitor.	

Moved by E. Comp. W. W. Widdop, seconded by E. Comp. T. Ruddock, and unanimously resolved, "That E. Comp. John Fisher be re-elected Treasurer, and that the best thanks of this Prov. G. Chapter be accorded to him for his past services."

The G. Superintendent then addressed the Prov. G. Chapter, concluding his remarks by moving, "That the best thanks of this Prov. G. Chapter be given to Comp. John Hervey, G.S.E., for attending here to perform the ceremony of installation at this inclement season." Seconded by E. Comp. T. W. Tew, supported by E. Comp. Henry Day, J., and carried unanimously.

The Grand Superintendent then proposed a cordial vote of thanks to the Chapter Three Grand Principals, 208, for the sumptuous manner in which they had received and entertained Prov. G. Chapter at their own cost. E. Comp. J. Wordsworth seconded the proposition, which was unanimously carried. E. Comp. C. E. Rhodes, in the absence of E. Comp. James Hunter, feelingly replied.

E. Comp. W. F. Smithson, Z. 289, invited the Prov. G. Supt. to hold the next chapter in Leeds, under the Banner of Fidelity, No. 289, at the Masonic Hall, Carlton Hill, to which he acceded.

The Prov. G. Chapter was then closed in due form at 5.30 p.m.

The companions repaired to the banquet hall, where refreshments were served, preparations having been made for 100, and about that number sat down. After the banquet numerous loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and a most harmonious evening spent.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The monthly meeting of the General Committee of Subscribers to this school was held in the Board-room, Freemasons' Hall, Lieut. Col. Creaton, V.P., in the chair. There were also present Bros. A. H. Tattershall, Thomas Massa, Thomas W. White, L. Ruf, Hyde Pullen, Griffiths Smith, Robt. B. Webster, Walter Wellsman, Wm. Paas, H. M. Levy, H. Massey, "Freemason," Robt. Kenyon, Benj. Head, H. A. Dubois, Dr. Ramsay, Wm. Jones, A. H. Diaper, and R. Wentworth Little, Secretary.

After the preliminary business of the Committee had been transacted, the Secretary read the schemes which had been submitted to the Special Committee to consider the enlargement of the school building, and announced that the Special Committee had determined to recommend Col. Creaton's suggestion to build a large hall with dormitories capable of accommodating 94 children, to erect a covered way between the old and new building, and to erect larger laundries at the end of the grounds.

The Chairman having said a few words, explaining the advantages of his plan, and stated that the cost would be under £20,000.

Bro. Kenyon proposed as an amendment the purchase of land at Sunninghill, and the erection of a building there, whole cost not to be more than £12,000.

The Chairman ruled, on Bro. H. A. Dubois suggestion, that the amendment of Bro. Kenyon must be moved at the Quarterly or Special Court.

Bro. Head proposed, and Bro. Dubois seconded the adoption of Lt. Col. Creaton's scheme for recommendation to the Quarterly Court, and the motion having been carried, the brethren proceeded with the remaining business, and placed four candidates on next election list.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman closed the proceedings.

Masonic and General Tidings.

The new Masonic Temple at Albany, N.Y., was dedicated on the 8th September. It was a memorable occasion; the largest assembly of Masons that ever congregated at the capital of the State were present, and everything passed off pleasantly and with great credit to the fraternity.

The Grand Commandery of Knights Templars, New York, continued its annual convocation on the 13th of October. The grand procession in the afternoon was the finest and most attractive exhibition ever seen in Rochester. About one thousand Sir Knights were in line, and their glittering accoutrements, elegant uniform, and disciplined movements attracted much admiration. An immense throng of spectators filled the streets. At the Driving Park the line was reviewed by the Grand Officers, followed by the dress parade. At the conclusion of the parade, St. Omer, Hugh de Payen, and Central City Commanderies entered into competition in tactics and drill for the prize banner offered by Monroe Commandery. The prize was awarded to Hugh de Payen Commandery of Buffalo. The following officers were elected: Sir Knt. Charles Roome, G.C.; Sir Knt. Robert Black, D.G.; Sir Knt. Townsend Fonday, G.G.; Sir Knt. Charles H. Holden, G.C.G.; Sir Knt. the Rev. John G. Webster, G. Prelate; Sir Knt. Thomas C. Chittenden, G.S.W.; Sir Knt. George W. Walgrove, G.J.W.; Sir Knt. John S. Perry, G. Treas.; Sir Knt. Robert Macoy (for the twenty-sixth time), G. Rec.; Sir Knt. S. V. McDowell, G. St. B.; Sir Knt. John S. Bartlett, G. Swd. B.; Sir Knt. William S. Bull, G. Warder; Sir Knt. Johnson Fountain, G. Sentinel. The Committee, through its chairman, reported the next place of meeting for the Grand Commandery to be in New York city.

Monsignor Roncetti, the Papal envoy, who was deputed by the Pope to bear to the newly created American Cardinal his berretta of the Cardinalate, was lately appointed Papal Legate to the Republic of Ecuador, S.A. Owing, however, to the fact that the authorities of Ecuador have taken the position of defenders of the Craft against the persecutions of the Romanists, the Holy Father has withdrawn his commission to Roncetti, and must look for "Peter's-pence" elsewhere. In spite of all this, Ecuador will live; and the longer the Papal Legate stops out of the country, the more prosperous will the country grow.—"The Square."

Amongst other country papers which have quoted the recent article in our contemporary "The Masonic Magazine" on the "Freemasons and Architecture," and particularly the suggestion of Bro. Emra Holmes, that Grand Lodge should help in the completion of St. Paul's, we notice that the "South Durham and Cleveland Mercury," the leading Liberal organ in the district, and the "Grimsby Observer and Humber News," of the 3rd inst., both notice the proposal with approval. Let us hope Grand Lodge will awake to a sense of its duty and give £500 towards the new peal of bells.

In consequence of alterations which are being made at the Castle Tavern, Holloway, the "Royal Standard" Lodge of Instruction will meet for the present at the Finsbury-park Tavern, Seven Sisters'-road, Holloway, every Friday at 8 p.m.

Bro. J. Perry Godfrey, S.D., Golden Rule Lodge, 1261, of Gray's Inn, solicitor, has been appointed by the Hon. Sir Richard Davies Hanson, Knight, Chief Justice of South Australia, and the Hon. Edward Castres Gwynne, Judge of the Supreme Court of that province, a Commissioner of the said Supreme Court to take affidavits therein. And the Hon. Sir A. P. Burt, Chief Justice of the colony of Western Australia, has also appointed Bro. Godfrey a Commissioner to administer oaths, and to receive acknowledgments of deeds by married women in and for that colony.

The annual meeting of the Grand Lodge of Scotland will be held in Freemasons' Hall, George-street, Edinburgh, on Tuesday, the 30th inst., at five o'clock p.m., for the election of Grand Office-Bearers; and also in the same place, at six o'clock p.m., at a banquet in celebration of the Festival of St. Andrew, over which the Right Hon. the Earl of Mar and Kellie, &c., &c., &c., R.W. Depute Grand Master Mason, will preside, supported by the G. Wardens, Major Hamilton-Ramsay, of Garion, and the Right Hon. Lord Rosehill.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh has leased Gunton Hall, Norwich, the seat of Bro. Lord Suffield.

Bro. Henry Gabb, of the Rosemary Branch, Islington, Past Governor of the Incorporated Society of Licensed Victuallers, and Past Chairman of the Licensed Victuallers' Protection Society, has been elected to the office of Chairman of the Licensed Victuallers' Asylum for the ensuing year.

Bro. the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Zetland, R.W. Provincial Grand Master of the North and East Ridings of Yorkshire, will be exalted to the Royal Arch Degree on Wednesday next, in the Zetland Chapter attached to the York Lodge, No. 236. The chapter will be held at the Masonic Hall, Duncombe-place, York, at 4 o'clock.

The King of Denmark has presented Bro. John Shaw, the general manager of the South Eastern Railway, with a magnificently mounted diamond ring, in acknowledgment of the valuable services rendered by him to His Majesty and family on the occasions when they have travelled over the South Eastern Railway.

Bro. EMRA HOLMES.—For many reasons the public will regret to learn that Mr. Emra Holmes, of H.M.'s Customs, so well known amongst us as a lecturer and reader, is leaving Ipswich. It is, however, satisfactory to know that Mr. Holmes is not going to a distance. He was first offered the collectorship of Banff, in Scotland, but declined it, and his valuable official services have now been rewarded by the collectorship of Woodbridge. The inhabitants of Ipswich have too often been indebted to Bro. Holmes for instruction and amusement to allow him to depart even to a neighbouring town without the public expression of thanks which we hereby tender him on their behalf.—"East Anglian Daily Times."

The William Preston Lodge, No. 766, met on Thursday last. A full report will appear in our next issue.

EMULATION LODGE OF IMPROVEMENT.—The annual festival of this lodge took place on Friday. A full account of the proceedings will appear in our next issue.

LATE STEAMER ON THE THAMES.—For the accommodation of playgoers, but more especially of theatrical artists living up the river, the steamer Victoria has been converted into a commodious saloon-boat, by the covering-in of her after-deck; and she will now leave Putney every evening, weather permitting, for Waterloo Pier, calling at Chelsea and Charing-cross. Her return voyage is made at half-past twelve from Waterloo, Putney being reached in an hour.

Why is an engaged lover like a Freemason? Because he is free and accepted.—"Punch."

Felton and Sons' (of Albemarle-street) "Spécialité" sherry is deservedly making its way, chiefly through the recommendations of the medical profession, founded on its honestly excellent qualities, its freedom from acidity and heat, and its uniform soundness.—"British Medical Journal."

WIPE YOUR FEET.—The best Cocoa Nut Mats and Matting are made by Treloar & Sons, 69, Ludgate Hill.

DAYLIGHT reflected in dark rooms. Gas superseded in day time. Health, comfort, and economy promoted by adopting Chappuis' Patent Daylight Reflectors.—Manufactory, 69, Fleet-street, London.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS

For the Week ending Friday, December 3, 1875.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27.

Chap. 176, Cavac, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-street.

INSTRUCTION.

Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-road.
Sinai Chapter Union Tav., Air-street, Regent-street.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29.

Lodge 79, Pythagorean, Ship Hot., Greenwich.
Chap. 188, Joppa, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
Red Cross Conclave, Premier, M. H., Regent-st.

INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Crown Tav., Clerkenwell Green.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-street Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden To.
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
West Kent, St. Saviour's College, Forest-hill.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.
Metropolitan, Coach and Horses Hot., 323, Strand.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30.

Grand Mark Lodge, F. H., at 5.

INSTRUCTION.

Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Surrey M. H., Camberwell New-road.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, Gladstone Tav., Bishopsgate-st. Within.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatheaf Ho., Hand-court, Holborn.
Percy, Grapes Tav., Little Windraill-street, W.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe-road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Metropolitan Chapter, St. Michael's Alley, Cornhill.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1.

Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge, at 6 for 7.
Lodge 511, Zetland, Anderson's Hot., Fleet-street.

INSTRUCTION.

Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Cas. Tav., Southwark-bd.-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Confidence, White Hart Tav., Abchurch-lane.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Pk. Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Mount Edgecombe, 19, Jermyn-street, St. James's.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2.

Lodge 10, Westminster and Keystone, F. M. H.
" 27, Egyptian, Anderson's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 45, Strong Man, M. H., Masons' Avenue.
" 192, Lion and Lamb, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
" 227, Ionic, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 231, St. Andrew's, F. M. H.
" 538, La Tolerance, F. M. H.
" 554, Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
" 822, Victoria Rifles, F. M. H.
" 1178, Perfect Ashlar, Bridge House Hot.
" 1351, St. Clement's Dances, 265, Strand.
" 1445, Prince Leopold, Sandringham-rd., Kingsland.
Chap. 2, St. James's, F. M. H.
" 9, Moriah, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 174, Sincerity, Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars.

INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-street.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-street, W.
Finsbury Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-street, City-road.
United Mariners', Three Cranes, Mile-end-road.
Whittington, Crown Tav., Holborn.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-street, Poplar.
Ebony, 12, Ponsonby-street, Millbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street.
Marquis of Ripon, Albion Tav., Albion-rd., Dalston.
Doric Chapter, Three Cranes Tav., Mile-end-road.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3.

Lodge 706, Florence Nightingale, M. H., Woolwich.
" 890, Hornsey, Anderson's Hot., Fleet-street.
" 1489, Marquis of Ripon, Mct. Soc. As., Balls-Pond-rd.
Chap. 8, British, F. M. H.
" 259, Prince of Wales's, Willis's Rms., St. James's.

INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-street, Woolwich.
St. George's, Globe Tav., Royal-hill, Greenwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-street, Regent-street.
Belgrave, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), Freemasons' Hall.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-street.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-street.
Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Metropolitan, Pentonville-road.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M. H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Farmers' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
St. Luke's, Commercial Tav., King's-road, Chelsea.
Chigwell, Bald-faced Stag Hotel, Buckhurst-hill.

Burdett Coutts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.
Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, December 4, 1875.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29.

Lodge 148, Lights, M. R., Warrington, at 6.30.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30.

Chap. 721, Grosvenor, M. R., Eastgate-row, Chester.
Merchants' L. of I., M. H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1.

Lodge 730, Ellesmere, Royal Oak Hotel, Chorley.
" 1013, Royal Victoria, M. H., Liverpool, at 6.
" 1335, Lindsay, 20, King-st, Wigan.
" 1354, Marquis of Lorne, M. R., Leigh.
Chap. 477, Fidelity, 55, Argyle-st., Birkenhead.
Downshire L. of I., M. H., Liverpool.
De Grey and Ripon L. of I., 80, North Hill-st.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2.

Lodge 249, Mariners, M. H., Liverpool.
" 1473, Bootle, Molyneux A. R., near Liverpool.
Chap. 758, Bridgewater, M. H., Runcorn.
St. John's L. of I., M. H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3.

Lodge 680, Sefton, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool, at 4.30.
" 1375, Architect, Didsbury Hot., Didsbury.
" 1387, Chorlton, M. R., Chorlton-cum-Hardy.
" 1505, Emulation, M. H., Liverpool,
Duke of Edinburgh L. of I., M. H., Liverpool.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, December 4, 1875.
All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29.

Lodge 103, Union and Crown, 170, Buchanan-street.
Chap. 122, Thetis, 35, St. James's-st., Kingston.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30.

Chap. 73, Caledonian Unity, 170, Buchanan-st.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1.

Lodge 0, Mother Kilwinning, M. H., Kilwinning
" 4, Glasgow Kilwinning, 170, Buchanan-st.
" 21, Old St. John, M. H., Lanark.
" 86, Navigation, Commercial Hall, Troon.
" 117, Partick St. Mary's, M. H., Partick.
" 126, St. Andrew, George Hot, Kilmarnock.
" 128, St. John, M. H., Shettleston.
" 166, St. John, 29, Graham-st., Airdrie.
" 198, Royal Arch, King's Arms, Maybole.
" 354, Caledonian Railway, 30, Hope-st.
" 442, Neptune, M. H., Ardrossan.
" 571, Dramatic, 213, Buchanan-st.
Chap. 87, Shamrock and Thistle, 12, Trongate.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2.

Lodge 11, St. John, King's Arms, Maybole.
" 22, St. John's Kilwinning, George H., Kilmarnock.
" 27, St. Mungo, 213, Buchanan-st.
" 149, St. Andrew, M. H., Irvine.
" 157, St. John, Main-st., Beith.
" 165, Royal Arch, King's Arms, Ayr.
" 202, St. Clement's, Trades Tav., Kilmarnock.
" 320, St. John Royal Arch, M. H., Ardrossan.
" 370, Renfrew, Masonic Hall, High-st., Paisley.
" 465, St. Andrew's, M. H., Garngad Road.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3.

Lodge 114, Royal Arch, M. H., Cambuslang.
" 116, Royal Arch, Council H., Rutherglen.
" 135, St. James', Crown Inn, Tarbolton.
" 175, St. John, St. John's H., Greenock.
" 215, St. Andrew, Avondale Inn, Strathavon.
" 217, Cumberland, Kilwinning, T. H., Port Glasgow.
" 242, Houston, Cross Keys Hot., Johnstone.
" 248, Lockhart St. John, M. H., Carnwarth.
" 275, Shamrock and Thistle, 22, Struthers-st.
" 360, Commercial, 30, Hope-st.
" 408, Clyde, 170, Buchanan-st.
" 459, Kelburne, Cumbrac Hot., Millport.
" 512, Thorntree, M. H., Thornliebank.
" 551, Clydesdale, Royal Hot, Larkhall.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4.

Lodge 458, St. John's Wilson's H., Busby.
" 544, St. Andrew's, M. H., Coatbridge.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, December 4, 1875.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2.

Lodge 97, St. James, St. James's H., Writers'-court.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3.

Lodge 291, Celtic, Ship Hot., E. Register-st.

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