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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

FAITH LODGE (No. 141).—The last meeting of the season of this popular City lodge was held at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Tuesday, the 25th ult. The lodge was convened at half-past four in the afternoon, when there were present Bros. Waygood, W.M.; Kennett, I.P.M.; Themans, P.M.; Hopwood, P.M., W.M. 1512, acting S.W.; Walls, acting J.W.; Dailey, J.D., acting S.D.; Rumbold, W.S., acting I.G. The officers present later in the evening were Bros. Stuart, P.M., Sec.; Carter, P.M., Treas.; Taylor, P.M.; Davis, S.W.; Mallett, J.W.; Bye, I.G. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The W.M. having raised Bros. Ginz and Manley to the Third Degree, vacated the chair, and Bro. Hopwood, P.M., by his permission, raised Bro. Kendall. Bros. Smith and Leftley being candidates for the Second Degree were accordingly passed as F.C.'s by the W.M., who afterwards initiated Mr. Barrett. The question of holding a summer banquet having been discussed the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet. The visitors were Bros. Simmonds, P.M. 141, 554, and W.M. 1159; Joseph Wright, P.M. 1158, and W.M. of the Royal Commemoration; Tully, 209; Stichling, Zetland; Cook, Royal Union; Heffer, Southern Star; Cousins, Yarrowborough; Barrett, Star of the East. Upon the removal of the cloth the W.M. briefly gave the usual toasts of ceremony, which were duly honoured, and Bro. Walls having sung the National Anthem, "The Health of the W.M." was warmly proposed by Bro. Taylor, P.M., in the absence of the I.P.M. In concluding his remarks he called upon the brethren on that occasion to give the toast every honour as they were about to separate for many months, and that when they again assembled the W.M.'s reign would be almost over, and he therefore desired the brethren to give Bro. Waygood such a parting "fire" as his indomitable perseverance in endeavouring to surmount many obstacles that stood in his Masonic progress so thoroughly deserved at their hands. It is, perhaps, but needless to say that after such an address the toast was most heartily drunk. The W.M., in reply, thanked Bro. Taylor for the kind manner in which he had introduced the toast, and the brethren for the warmth with which it had been received, and briefly touched upon his long connection with the lodge, and the services he had humbly endeavoured to render it. In conclusion he told them that during the long summer recess he should look back to that meeting with pleasure, and with a hope that they would all meet again in September in the full possession of good health, and of every domestic prosperity. The initiate, Bro. Barrett, having been toasted, made an excellent reply. In proposing "The Health of the Visitors" the W.M. took occasion to mention that one of the visiting brethren that evening, Bro. Simmonds, had passed the chair in that lodge nearly thirty years ago, and was W.M. of 1159, at the present time, proving that his zeal for Freemasonry had not abated. They had also, he said, another very hard working brother present on that occasion in the person of Bro. J. Wright, P.M., whose attention to the ancient Craft was pretty well known to them all. The W.M. in conclusion also mentioned the names of the other visitors present that evening, and hoped that their visit to the Faith had been in every way agreeable to them. This toast having been responded to, the remaining toasts were given very quickly by the W.M., and as briefly acknowledged. They were "The Past Masters of the Lodge," "The Treasurer and Secretary," and "The Junior Officers." In the intervals Bros. Robinson, Mallett, Leftley, Themans, Walls, and others instrumentally and vocally enlivened the proceedings. The next meeting of the lodge will be held on the last Tuesday in September. This lodge will be represented at the Boys' Festival in June by Bro. E. Hopwood, P.M.

JORDAN LODGE (No. 201).—The last regular meeting of this very old established lodge was held on the 21st ult. at the Freemasons' Tavern. There were present Bros. Wagner, W.M.; Elsam, P.M. (Dobie), P.P. G.D.C. of Surrey, S.W.; Read, J.W.; Sumner, S.D.; Smith, J.D.; Arliss, P.M., Sec.; Pain, I.G.; Robinson, P.M., acting I.P.M.; Davage, P.M., W.S.; Whitley, P.M. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The agenda of business contained the names of several brethren for passing

and raising, and also three candidates for initiation, but from various causes they were all prevented from attending, and the W.M. in order to fill up the time rehearsed the ceremony of initiation, with Bro. Harper for a candidate, and the S.D. at its close delivered the charge. A discussion then ensued upon the propriety of holding a summer banquet in connection with the lodge, which was ultimately unanimously agreed to, and a committee appointed to carry it out. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet. The visitors were Bros. Bofill, Royal Jubilee; Stroud, late of the Jordan; Cook, Domestic; Walls, S.D. Kennington. Upon the removal of the cloth the W.M. gave "The Queen and Craft," "The M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," "The Pro G.M.," "The D.G.M. and the rest of the Grand Officers, Past and Present." Bro. Read having contributed the National Anthem, Bro. Robinson, P.M., arose, and proposed "The Health of the W.M." in a very neat speech. In the course of his remarks he stated that although Bro. Wagner that evening had had no work to do, yet his zeal for Freemasonry was such that he had gone through the first ceremony as a rehearsal in a manner that left little to be desired, and in conclusion he hoped that the remainder of the W.M.'s year of office would be attended with every prosperity. This toast having been duly honoured, the W.M. in a few brief words acknowledged the compliment that had been passed to him, and immediately gave "The Health of the Visitors," in which he deplored the circumstances that had prevented him and his officers that evening from exhibiting the working of the lodge to their guests, but he hoped that on a future occasion, should they honour them with their company, to show them that the Jordan Lodge had not degenerated. This toast was responded to by Bros. Cook and Walls. "The Health of the Past Masters" followed, and was replied to by Bros. Robinson, Whitley, and Davage. The latter brother shortly afterwards took occasion, when "The Masonic Charities" was proposed, to regret that this toast was not given at all lodge banquets, as he was of opinion, that much monetary good would arise if the cause of charity in connection with those valuable institutions was brought to the notice of the brethren at the convivial board. He stated that as one of the Governors of the charities he would be only too happy to accompany any brother at any time over the different buildings, and to explain their working and management. "The Health of the Treasurer and Secretary and the Junior Officers" followed, and was acknowledged by Bros. Robinson, Elsam, Read, and others. Contributions of harmony and poetry were given during the evening by Bros. Read, Robinson, Walls, and others. The Tyler having discharged his duty, the brethren separated until the third Friday in October.

THE ROYAL OAK LODGE (No. 871) held its regular meeting on 27th ult. at the White Swan Tavern, Deptford. There were present Bros. H. J. Tison, W.M. (who presided, and did all the work in good style); W. Andrews, P.M., Treas.; F. Walters, P.P. G.P. Middlesex, P.M., Sec.; G. Andrews, P.M., M.C.; W. Myatt, P.M., W.S.; S. O. Lewin, I.P.M.; J. J. Pokes, S.W.; J. B. Langley, J.W.; G. T. Linn, S.D.; R. Harman, J.D.; J. G. Vohmann, I.G.; H. J. Fisher, Organist; and about 40 other members. The large number of visitors who honoured the lodge with their presence were Bros. H. J. Green, W.M. 1538; H. Keeble, P.M. 1275; J. Griffin, P.M. 933; J. Roper, P.M. 147; C. Nash, P.M. 79; H. Caston, 40; T. W. Adams, 765; W. T. Hunt, 79; and several others, whose names we were unable to ascertain. Bros. G. Eve, W. Simmons, and G. A. Leighton were Crafted. Five guineas were voted to a deceased member's widow, and her petition to Lodge of Benevolence signed in open lodge. Several candidates were proposed for initiation. The lodge was adjourned. Good banquet and dessert followed. The usual loyal toasts were given and responded to. Songs and recitations followed.

URBAN LODGE (No. 1196).—Saint John's Gate, Clerkenwell, has long been noted for being one of the relics of the London that is passed. Garrick there made his debut in the hall which is over the gateway; it was in the coffee-room that Dr. Johnson presided over the Urban Club, and it was there also that Oliver Goldsmith spent most of his ready cash. With such reminiscences as these it would be impossible for any to enter the hostelry of St. John without some feeling of awe and respect; and this feeling would be intensified were they to attend a meeting of the Urban Lodge of Freemasons which sprang out of the Literary Club of which Johnson was president. On Tuesday, the 25th ult., a lodge was held at the ancient tavern, which was presided over by Bro. Japheth Fickle, W.M. There were of the members a very good muster. Visitors: Bros. Caravoglia, Donald King, Righton, Hamer, Watts, Hepburn, Shawson, Roberts, Pogmore, Buss, Kidder, and others. After the business (two initiations performed by the W.M. and a raising through the courtesy of the W.M. conducted by P.M. Marsh) of the lodge was completed the whole meeting adjourned to the banquet-hall (the identical room in which Garrick made his first essay at comedy), where a most elegant but at the same time substantial repast had been prepared by the host, Bro. Gay.

"Course followed course, and round the bottle flew; Laughter and mirth prevailed amongst the crew." The toast of "The Queen and Craft" was proposed by the W.M. and drunk with a great degree of loyalty, whilst that of "The Grand Master" was received with fervour such as is seldom witnessed, and as Bro. L. chmeyer at the piano played "God Bless the Prince of Wales" such a hearty chorus of voices joined in the refrain that shewed too plainly to be mistaken how sincere and heartfelt were the wishes for the Prince's welfare. The other usual toasts were all well received and responded to, and the whole evening passed off most pleasantly, with one exception, and we do not doubt that the

brother who caused the slight unpleasantness will (to us c his own words) "regret in the morning the speech of the previous night." The Secretary (Dr. Carpenter) spoke of the flourishing state of the lodge's finances. Bro. Terry, in a very eloquent speech, pleaded for the Masonic charities, and we think that the Urban Lodge will not fail to take his advice and to endow their W.M. as a Vice-President of one of these excellent institutions. During the evening the brethren were favoured with some very fine songs from Bros. Caravoglia, Donald King, and Righton, and Bro. Lehmeyer delighted all his hearers with the exquisite amount of pathos and expression he displayed in his rendering of Thalberg's "Home, Sweet Home." Bro. Fairchild also gave a recitation, "My Pipe," with great dramatic force, which shewed he possessed histrionic powers of no mean ability. The brethren separated at 11.30, having passed an evening one of the most happy within any of their recollections.

SURREY MASONIC HALL LODGE (No. 1539).—The regular meeting of this flourishing lodge was held on Thursday evening, May 4th, at the Masonic Hall, Camberwell New Road. Bro. Mark S. Larham, W.M., presided, and the following officers were present:—Bros. E. Clark, P.M.; W. Ramsey, S.W.; T. L. Green, J.W.; J. Oliver, Sec.; N. Ritherdon, S.D.; W. Smale, J.D.; D. A. Ross, I.G.; and S. J. Harvey, D.C. The following visitors were also present:—Bros. Middlemass, 957; Murfin, 733; Reynolds, 1319; F. Wallis, I.P.M. 905; Holt, P.M. 235; Dubois, P.M. 1326 and 1423; H. Thompson ("Freemason") 1426, and P.M. 177 and 1158; J. Burgh, 2; S. T. Carter, 1328; G. J. Dawson, 749; C. Sims, 1555; and Vockins, P.M. 1329. The lodge having been opened in due form, and the minutes of last meeting read and confirmed, the lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and Bro. Collins was raised to the Sublime Degree, the whole ceremony being impressively performed by the W.M. with his usual ability. The lodge was then lowered to the Second Degree, and Bros. Clans and Moss were passed to that of F.C. The next business was to ballot for the admission of Mr. Frederick George Wells, which being unanimous in his favour, he, being in attendance, was impressively initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Ancient Freemasonry. The next item on the programme was the election of a W. Master for the ensuing year, and the choice fell upon Bro. Ramsey, S.W., who returned thanks for his election, and Bro. Larham was elected Treasurer for the coming year. Bro. E. Clark, P.M., then proposed that a jewel of the value of ten guineas be presented to Bro. Larham, as a recognition on the part of the lodge of his services, and the able manner in which he had discharged his duties as W. Master. Bro. Green, J.W., seconded the motion, which was put and carried unanimously, and for which the W. Master returned thanks. Bro. Geider, P.M., was re-elected Tyler, and the Audit Committee having been appointed the lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment, well served by Bro. Bromley, of the Clapham Road. On the removal of the cloth the W.M. gave "The Queen," and afterwards "The Health of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Most Worshipful Grand Master," and expressed a hope that the Masons of England would again see him amongst them at the next meeting of the Grand Lodge, when he hoped they would all give him a hearty welcome. The toast was most cordially responded to. The W. Master next gave "Bro. Wells," their newly initiated brother Bro. Wells, in responding, said he begged to thank them most sincerely for the manner in which his health had been proposed and drank, and he trusted that he should become a respectable member of their ancient and honourable fraternity. Bro. E. Clark, P.M., said, in proposing the next toast, which was "The Health of their W. Master," he did so with a certain amount of regret, as he was sure from their associations they did not like losing his services in his present capacity of W. Master. He had always been with them, and had done his work well, to say nothing of the cordiality that had always existed between them, and he was sure that they all appreciated his services. The toast was cordially received. The W. Master thanked Bro. Clark for the kind remarks he had made, and the brethren for the very hearty manner in which they had responded to them. He hoped that he had given them satisfaction, and he trusted that the S.W., his successor, would have as successful a year of office as he had, and he concluded by proposing "The Health of the W.M. Elect." Bro. Ramsey returned thanks. He was full of hopes for the future, and he hoped with the assistance of such a hearty and thorough Mason as their present W. Master to carry out the work of the lodge to their satisfaction. The W.M. said the next toast was a very pleasing one to him, as it was to propose "The Health of The Visitors," and he must say that he felt highly gratified to see so many present on that occasion. Having read over the list he said he should call upon Bro. Thompson, who he believed was the oldest Mason present to return thanks for the visitors. Bro. H. Thompson ("Freemason") said the W.M. had cast upon him a most important duty to return thanks for such an array of visitors as was then present, and the more so as he should be but an unworthy exponent of the feelings of those who were far more able to discharge that duty. (No, no.) He took their observations as a kindly feeling towards him, and in the first place he begged to thank the lodge for the splendid hospitality with which they had been received, and in the next to express the high satisfaction they derived in witnessing the very able manner in which the whole of the three ceremonies in the lodge had been performed by the W.M. That was no more than he (Bro. Thompson) expected from him, having seen how assiduous he had been in his attendance at lodges of instruction, where he was always to be found giving instruction to young Masons who required it, and what particularly added to its value was the very unostentatious way in which that

information was conveyed. In this respect he followed closely the course taken by his own teacher, the late Bro. Thomas, and he might say that like the mantle of Elijah that fell upon Elisha, the mantle of their late revered Bro. Thomas had fallen upon Bro. Larham, and he hoped he might long live to enjoy the honours which that night had been conferred upon him. The Tyler's toast was given, and a very harmonious meeting was brought to a close.

CHAUCER LODGE (No. 1540) held its regular meeting on Wednesday, April 26th, at the Bridge House Hotel, Borough High-street, Southwark. In the unavoidable absence of the W.M., Bro. T. J. Sabine, P.P.G.S.B. Middx., P.M. 738, the lodge was opened by Bro. T. J. H. Wilkins, P.M. 73, who is doing good suit and service to this young lodge by the really efficient manner in which he performs the duties of I.P.M., and by the great assistance he is to every officer who requires any help, being ever ready, able, willing, and obliging to undertake the duties of any officer who might be absent. When we overheard the veteran Secretary, Bro. F. Walters, P.P.G.P. Middx., P.M. 73, Secretary of several lodges, state he never had his work better done (during his absence) by any one than when Bro. T. J. H. Wilkins, P.M., did it for him, that shows his able services are well appreciated by those whom experience makes good and excellent judges of what ought to be done. He was well supported by Bros. J. C. Mason, S.W.; E. S. Stidolph, J.W.; F. Walters, P.P.G.P., P.M., Sec.; W. J. Kemp, S.D.; G. H. Wright, P.M. 28, as J.D. (another zealous member, ever ready as a good old P.M. to render any assistance whenever called upon to do so); H. Faija (C.E.), I.G.; A. J. Hawkes, M.C.; and a large number of the members, there being a good full lodge. Amongst the distinguished visitors who attended this meeting were Bros. H. J. Tuson, W.M. 871; W. Lane, P.M. 28 (Royal Benevolent Institution); Rev. T. W. Cave, L.L.D., Sec. 1309, &c.; T. C. Walls, S.D. 1381; T. W. Adams, 565; J. Davies, 1309; J. S. Sweasy, 1423; and others whose names we were unable to learn. The minutes of former lodge meeting were read and unanimously confirmed. The ballots, taken separately, were unanimous in favour of the admission of all the candidates for initiation. Bros. H. Blackwell, A. F. Diack, R. C. Harrison, and E. Hooper having given proof of their proficiency, were passed to the Second Degree, Bro. T. J. H. Wilkins doing the ceremony with his customary care and in an able manner, which must have produced a lasting impression on all of the candidates. Bro. T. J. Sabine, P.P.G.P. Middx., P.M., &c., W.M., having arrived from Brighton, where he resides, he took the chair. He initiated M. H. Levy in an admirable manner into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry. Bro. H. Faija (C.E.), I.G., made an appeal to the lodge to help with his list as their Steward for Girls' School. This was nobly responded to; for Bro. E. S. Stidolph, J.W., put his name down for ten guineas. The indefatigable Bro. T. J. H. Wilkins, P.M., whose exertions on behalf of the Masonic charities never flags, in a most telling speech urged the members to subscribe amongst themselves, and make the lodge a Life Governor of the Girls' School in the name of the W.M. for the time being. At the same time he put in practice his words by commencing with his guinea for so desirable an object. The W.M., Bro. T. J. Sabine, supplemented this good cause with his guinea, and in as many seconds the guineas required were subscribed for, and this young lodge possesses its first Life Governorship. Some good candidates were as usual proposed for initiation. The lodge was adjourned. This being Grand Festival night, the usual banquet was dispensed with.

NEW CROSS LODGE (No. 1559).—On Saturday last the first general business meeting since the consecration of the lodge in February last was held at the New Cross Public Hall, Lewisham Road, the brethren meeting at half-past two in the afternoon. The business, as set forth on the agenda, was very heavy, there being no fewer than five brethren for raising to the M.M.'s Degree, the same number for passing, and three candidates for initiation. These were, however, reduced by the non-attendance of Bros. Jewel and Moss to three for the Third Degree. Those present were Bro. W. B. Woodman, W.M.; Bros. E. Thiellay, S.W.; H. Simmonds, J.W.; H. Keeble, P.M., Sec.; F. Walters, P.P.G.P. Middx., P.M., Treas.; L. Beck, S.D.; H. Green, J.D.; W. Hardman, I.G.; A. B. Church, Tyler; H. Henton, W. Smurthwaite, S. H. Beckles, E. E. Smith, P. Malpas, R. I. Steeres, R. Buck, and H. Metham. The following were visitors: Bros. T. Waite, P.M. 144; J. Lightfoot, P.M. 147; C. J. Hogg, P.M. 58; Govan Macdonald, S.W. and W.M. elect 1158, and Preceptor Star Lodge of Instruction; G. Allen, S.W. 144; and G. H. Kitson, 548. In the temporary absence (as explained above) of the W.M., Bro. F. Walters, P.P.G.P. Middx., P.M., Treas., assumed the vacant chair, and having opened lodge in the First Degree, asked the visitors to kindly retire while some private business was transacted. After their withdrawal the acting W.M. proposed, and Bro. H. Keeble, P.M., Sec., seconded, the election as honorary members of Bros. John Harvey, Grand Sec.; J. Terry, P.G.D.C.; E. M. Hulbeck, P.M. 58, 132, and 140; and C. J. Hogg, P.M. 58, which was carried unanimously. Bro. P.M. Hogg, who was present, replied. The minutes of the consecration meeting in February, and three subsequent meetings of emergency, having been read by the Secretary and adopted, the ballot was then taken, and declared to be unanimous in favour of the initiation of Messrs. T. Grummant, proposed by Bro. H. Keeble, P.M. Treas., seconded by Bro. E. E. Smith, and W. Cowley, proposed by Bro. W. Simmonds, J.W., seconded by Bro. H. Keeble, P.M. Sec. Lodge was now opened in the Third Degree, and of the five brethren for raising, Bro. Hiram Henton, Samuel Husbands Beckles, and William Smurthwaite answered to their names, and were duly and solemnly raised to the degree of Master Mason, Bro. Walters working the ceremony in a highly impressive and admirable manner.

Lodge having been closed in the Third, was now opened in the Second Degree by Bro. Keeble, P.M. Sec.; and firstly Bros. E. E. Smith, David Malpas, Robert John Steeres, and subsequently Donald Buck and Henry Metham, were ably instructed by our worthy Bro. Secretary in the duties of Fellow Craft Freemason. Upon the conclusion of the twice performed ceremony, lodge was resumed in the Entered Apprentice's Degree, and at this moment the W.M., Bro. W. B. Woodward, arriving, he took the chair, and Messrs. Thomas Grummant and William Cowley were introduced and initiated. The W.M. having risen for the first time, Bro. F. Walters, P.P.G.P. Middx., Treas., proposed, and Bro. W. Simmonds, J.W., seconded, that Bro. E. H. Thiellay, S.W., represent the New Cross Lodge as Steward at the forthcoming Festival of the Girls' School. This, upon being put to the brethren, was unanimously carried. There being no further business to transact, lodge was closed, and declared adjourned until the second Saturday in August, emergency meetings excepted. The brethren and visitors then adjourned to light refreshment, whereof an abundance was provided, and in reply to the toast of W.M., Bro. Woodward, who was cordially received, expressed his regret that business had precluded the possibility of his attending lodge until late in the afternoon, but stated that he should always do his utmost and strain every possible point in order to attend at future meetings, and if, as on the present occasion, he failed to appear at the opening of lodge it would be on the sole account of pressing and urgent business. "The Initiates," given by Bro. Walters, P.P.G.P. Middx., P.M. Treas., was responded to by Bro. W. Cowley on behalf of himself and brother initiate; and shortly afterwards the brethren separated.

SIR HUGH MYDDELTON LODGE (No. 1602).—The following is a list of the brethren who were present at the consecration of this lodge on Saturday week, which we were unable to give in our last impression. The names of those brethren who acted as officers of the lodge during the consecration having been before given, are omitted from this list:—Bros. E. P. Albert, G.P.; J. Boyd, G.P.P.; T. Cubitt, P.G.P.; J. Emmens, G.P.P.; J. Wright, G.P.P.; H. G. Buss, Prov. G.T. Middlesex; W. T. Howe, P.G.P. Middlesex; C. B. Payne, Grand Tyler; J. M. Bedwell, 861; C. F. Berham, 1339; J. Blyth, 813; J. Bond, 813; E. W. Braine, J.W. 1471; Buchan, 1259; T. J. Cusworth, S.W. 813; C. Daniel, J.W. 65; R. V. Davies, W.M. 1288; T. Davy, P.M. 65; W. Dawson, 822; H. Durham, 177; A. Fauquez, 813; H. J. Gabb, P.M. 813; J. R. Gallant, W.M. 813; J. Gibbs, 1036; J. Green, W.M. 27; W. F. Green 861; Hallett, 871; W. Hester, P.M. 749; J. Hobbs, S.W. 749; A. Johnson, P.M. 284; H. Johns, 749; J. Kew, P.M. 179; J. Klenck, P.M. 72 and 1339; W. Finch, 1365; R. Leach, P.M. 861; W. H. Lee, P.M. 1524; L. Arrens, P.M. 1364, and W.M. 1471; J. Linzell, P.M. 754, W.M. 1579; W. W. Lowles, 861; H. Massey ("Freemason"), P.M. 619; S. G. Moss, P.M. 185; J. Perry, 354; T. E. Purdy, P.M. 861; J. Roberts, 195 and 1228; J. H. Shead, 749; M. Ullmer, 49; T. Upward, 487; J. Webster (Panmure, Arbroath), 299; W. Miles, W.M. 173; F. Williams, 167; J. F. Wilson, P.M. 1298; J. F. Wuest, P.M. 753.

MIDDLETON.—Imperial George Lodge (No. 78).—This thriving lodge assembled as a lodge of emergency at the Assheton Arms, on Wednesday, April 5th, and was opened at 6 p.m. by the W.M., Bro. David Reid. The business of the evening was to pass to the F.C. Degree Bros. David Tatton and Edwin Dodd; also to raise to the Sublime Degree as "polished ashlers" our Bros. Albert Swallow and Moses Mills. Labour in the F.C. Degree having been completed, the brethren adjourned to the ante-room to partake of slight refreshment, which occupied but little time, after which the brethren were called upon to fulfil their task. None but expert Craftsmen, resumed labour, who having adjusted all things necessary for the completion of the edifice, Bros. Swallow and Mills were each in turn admitted to take part. Work being ended the brethren separated in the usual Masonic manner, each to his home and own fireside and then to peaceful sleep.

The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was also held at the same place on Thursday, 27th ult. Bro. David Reid, W.M., having opened the lodge at 5 p.m., Bro. Forrester Fethergill, Secretary, read the minutes of the last regular and emergency meetings, which were duly confirmed. A ballot was taken for two candidates for initiation, Messrs. Robert Berresford and George Brunt. In each case favour was reported, and accordingly the applicants were prepared and in due course beheld Masonic light. Bro. David Reid, W.M., performed the ceremony of initiation for the first-named candidate, and Bro. W. H. Kershaw, I.P.M., for the second, after which Bro. George Bradbury, S.W., was summoned to the pedestal, and there delivered the charge to the two E.A.'s in a clear and impressive manner. In accordance with notice, Bro. Wood, P.M., D.C., brought forward an idea for enhancing the charity fund, which was unanimously accepted. The discussion, however, brought up another important matter, and notice of motion relative to it for the next meeting was given by Bro. Wood, P.M., D.C. This motion if carried will also deal indirectly with the Imperial George Charity Fund. We therefore reserve particulars of business relating to charity till in its entirety, feeling persuaded that in our next Imperial George report the "sidewind" will have sprung up into a full and steady breeze, which will keep unfurled the sail of charity, and we trust, together with the benefit to be derived from the increasing of the initiation fee, in accordance with the proposition brought forward by Bro. Harvey Heywood, P.M. and Treasurer, and willingly acceded to by the lodge, that our right hand of fellowship will give a firmer grasp, and enable many who require it to pass through troubled waters

by its aid. In conclusion we must add, the lodge having been closed in due form, the brethren adjourned to the social meal, after which the usual attendant toasts were given, and at 10 p.m. the brethren separated.

OXFORD.—Churchill Lodge (No. 478).—The anniversary festival of this lodge was held on Monday last, at the Masonic Hall, Oxford, when there was a large attendance of brethren. Among those present were the Deputy Provincial Grand Master (Bro. R. Bird, M.A., Fellow and Vice-President of Magdalen College); the Hon. W. W. Vernon, Junior Grand Warden; F. P. Morrell, M.A., St. John's College, Past Grand Deacon; the Past Deputy Provincial (R. J. Spiers); Past Masters Sir John Hayes, Bart., Capt. A. Cook, Capt. Ferrier, H. Riach, T. S. Tuke, &c.; the Worshipful Master of the Alfred Lodge, Oxford, (Jules Bue, M.A.), Alfred Wigan, and others. After an initiation and passing the chief business was proceeded with, viz., the installation of Bro. H. Offley Wakeman, B.A., Fellow of All Souls' College, as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year. The installation ceremony was admirably performed by the retiring Master, (Bro. H. R. Cooper Smith, B.A., of Magdalen College), and at its conclusion the new W.M. appointed and invested his officers as follows:—S. F. Hood, B.A., Magdalen College, Senior Warden; W. Peppercorn, Junior Warden; Rev. L. K. Hilton, M.A., Christ Church, Chaplain; F. P. Morrell, M.A., St. John's; Treasurer, T. F. Plowman, Secretary; Captain Ferrier, Past Master, Senior Deacon; J. J. Harding, Magdalen College, Junior Deacon; J. E. C. Bodley, Balliol College, Director of Ceremonies; T. H. Janson, Christ Church, Inner Guard; E. Cholmeley Jones, Magdalen College, Organist. The anniversary banquet was served at half-past seven, when the new Worshipful Master presided, and introduced the usual loyal and Masonic toasts in graceful and felicitous language. Several excellent speeches were delivered in reference to the Craft in general, Bro. Alfred Wigan responding for "The Visitors" in happily chosen and amusing terms. The lodge's reputation for harmony was fully maintained, and a very festive and enjoyable evening was spent.

ROTHERHAM.—Phoenix Lodge (No. 904).—An exceedingly interesting incident took place at the last meeting of the above lodge held at their lodge room, Ship Hotel, Rotherham, on the evening of the 27th March. Bro. Clement Hamill Perrot having very ably filled the chair of this lodge six years since, was this year, by the unanimous vote of the brethren, again installed as W.M., and subsequently, at the last meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire, held at Wakefield on the 8th April, under the presidency of the R.W. Provincial Grand Master, Sir Henry Edwards, Bart. D.L., he received the further distinction of the appointment of Provincial Grand Organist. The officers and brethren of 904, therefore, deemed this a fitting occasion for evincing in a practical form the high esteem in which they hold Bro. Perrot, as well as their appreciation of the various Masonic services rendered by him to their lodge, and it was, accordingly, decided by them to present him with a very handsome gold P.M.'s jewel, which presentation was made in a very feeling and able manner by Bro. J. Fawcett, P.M., and Treasurer, and supported by Bro. W. Sairth, P.M., and Bro. W. C. Smith, P.M. Bro. Perrot, though greatly affected by this quite unexpected mark of his brethren's esteem, thanked them very heartily in a brief but eloquent speech, assuring them that their handsome gift would always be exceedingly prized by him, not merely on account of its intrinsic worth, but as an evidence of the regard in which he was held by them, and he concluded by assuring his brethren that in the future as in the past, it would always be a pleasure to do anything in his power to promote the interests of the Phoenix Lodge. At the banquet which followed, presided over by the W.M., Bro. Perrot, the usual Masonic toasts, were given, and also several songs in a very pleasing manner by Bros. H. J. Bingham, J.W.; F. Mason; A. Badger, and others, the accompaniments being ably played by Bro. C. Harvey, J.D. and Org. Altogether a very pleasant and harmonious evening was spent.

LEICESTER.—Commercial Lodge (No. 1391).—The installation meeting of this flourishing lodge was held on Easter Monday, at the Masonic Hall, Halford-street, Leicester, and was attended by a numerous and distinguished company. The lodge was opened at four o'clock by the W.M., Bro. R. A. Barber, P.P.G.P., and his officers. Among the visitors we noticed Bros. Rev. J. Langley, P.M. 50 and 1130, P.P.S.G.W.; Rev. J. Henry Smith, Chaplain 279, P.G. Chaplain; J. McAllister, W.M. 279; J. T. Thorp, W.M. 523; I. J. Hooper Wilkins, P.M. 73; T. Wykes, J.W. 523, P.G.O.; J. F. Pearson, J.W. 925; S. E. Johnson, W.M. 779; Grant, W.M. 1330; C. Stretton, P.M. 279, P.P.G.W.; and there were also present the Past Masters of the lodge, Bros. Dr. Clifton, J. Halford, and J. R. Hall. The minutes of the previous lodge, and of a lodge of emergency held on the 20th March, were read and confirmed. It was then proposed in a very felicitous speech by the W.M., that Bro. S. S. Partridge, Prov. G. Sec., be elected an honorary member of the lodge. The proposition having been seconded by Bro. Edwin Mason, the S.W., and W.M. elect, was carried by acclamation. Bro. Partridge then entered the lodge, and, having been informed of what had just taken place, thanked the brethren in a very feeling manner for the honour they had conferred on him. He was at all times pleased to attend the meetings of the Commercial Lodge, and to render it any service in his power, but now that he was a member, though only an honorary one, he should feel it his duty to attend as regularly as possible. The installation of the W.M., Bro. Edwin Mason, then followed, the ceremony being ably performed by Bro. Partridge, to whom Bro. Barber resigned the chair for that purpose. Next came

LIVERPOOL.—The Alpass Preceptory.—By direction of the E.P., a conclave of the Alpass Preceptory was holden at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, on Thursday, the 4th inst., for the transaction of important business. The priory was opened shortly after four o'clock by Sir Knight W. Doyle, E. Preceptor, when the minute-roll was called, and the following were present:—Sir Knights T. Clark, P.E.C. Prelate; J. E. Jackson, 1s

Captain; Moses Mawson, 2nd Captain; W. Bulman, Almoner; W. Shakespeare, Expert; J. Gallagher, 2nd Standard Bearer; John Kenyon, Captain of Lines; T. Evans, J. Lloyd, J. Capell, S. Hickins, J. B. Widdows, W. Fletcher, H. Firth, and H. Burrows. The visitors included Sir Knights C. R. N. Beswicke-Royds, Dep. P.G. Prior, Lancashire; E. Pierpoint, P.E.C., 2nd Grand Capt. of Lines; Captain T. Berry, P.E.C., G. St. B.; H. Nelson, Marshal, Wm. de la More Preceptory; and Joseph Wood, Treasurer Wm. de la More Preceptory ("Freemason"). The records of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for Comp. Douglas, and as he was duly elected and in attendance he was duly exalted by the E. Preceptor, assisted by the D.P.G. Prior, saluted, and proclaimed a Knight of the Order. The Deputy Grand Prior then ascended the throne, when Sir Knight John Edward Jackson, the P. elect, was presented to the D.G. Prior by Sir Knights Pierpoint, P.E.C., and W. Doyle, I.P.E. Preceptor, to receive the benefits of installation with the usual ceremony. At the proper stage, all the Sir Knights below the rank of E.P. retired, and on being re-admitted the newly-installed E. Preceptor (Sir Knight Jackson) was saluted according to ancient custom. He immediately proceeded to invest the following as his officers:—Sir Knights W. Doyle, Prelate; M. Mawson, Constable; R. Brown, Marshal; W. Shakespeare, Registrar; T. Clark, Treasurer; J. Capell, Almoner; J. Kenyon, Expert; T. Evans, 1st Standard Bearer; S. Hickins, 2nd Standard Bearer; J. B. Widdows, Herald; J. Gallagher, Captain of Lines; H. Burrows, Chamberlain; and Sir Knight P. Ball was elected Equerry. After the transaction of some formal business, the preceptory was closed in due form with solemn prayer. The assembled knights then adjourned to banquet, which was provided by Sir Knight Ball in a most satisfactory manner. The wine *carle* and the banquet were of the highest order. The newly-installed E. Preceptor presided, supported by the D.P.G. Prior, Sir Knights Pierpoint, Berry, Doyle, Clark, and about 20 other knights. The usual toasts were given and responded to with great cordiality, and the genial company broke up about 10 o'clock.

Scotland.

GRAND LODGE OF SCOTLAND.

The quarterly communication of the Grand Lodge of Scotland was held on Monday evening, the 8th inst., in the Freemasons' Hall, George-street, Edinburgh. There was a very large attendance of the brethren. In the unavoidable absence of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Sir M. R. Shaw Stewart, the throne was occupied by Bro. Henry Inglis, of Torsonce, P.S.G.M., and P.G.M. of Peebles and Selkirk, supported by Major Hamilton Ramsay, of Garion, S.G.W.; William Hay, S.G.D., acting J.G.W.; Lauderdale Maitland, of Eccles, P.G.M. of Dumfriesshire; Dr. Loth, representative of the Grand Orient of France; John Laurie, G.S.; D. Kinnear, J.G.D.; William Oliver, P.G.D.; Alexander Hay, G.J.; John Coghill, G. Dir. of Cer.; Daniel Robertson, G.B.B.; Captain G. F. R. Colt, of Gartsherrie, G.S.B.; W. M. Bryce, G.T.; and others. The Grand Lodge having been duly opened, the acting G.M. prefaced the proceedings with an intimation of the decease of Bro. David Bryce, R.S.A., Architect to the Grand Lodge, which took place on Sunday last, and after referring to the many estimable qualities of the deceased, moved that an expression of deep regret be engrossed in the minutes of the Grand Lodge of the loss sustained. The G.S. read apologies for absence from the Earl of Rosslyn, P.G.M., and others. Charters for new lodges were granted for The Northern Star, Kursong, India; The Lachlan, Forbes, New South Wales; Hamilton, Surat, India; Canterbury Killwinning, Canterbury, New Zealand; Manukau, Auckland, New Zealand; Islami, Bombay; The Calendar, Falkirk; Gordon's, Buckie; and the St. James, Harthill, Whitburn. After the acting G.M. had reported the successful inauguration of the Lodge St. Leonard, Loanhead, Midlothian, a motion of which notice had been given at last communication was brought forward, and carried by a majority, that the election of R.W. Depute G.M. be vested in Grand Lodge as formerly, and not as at present in the M.W.G.M. Also that Grand Lodge accounts be audited monthly. The question was brought up relating to lodges in arrears, and agreed to that they be struck off the Grand Lodge roll, and should they wish afterwards to be resuscitated to come in rotation at the bottom of the roll; and after other business of minor importance, Grand Lodge was duly closed.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Glasgow Kilwinning (No. 4).—The monthly meeting of this old lodge was held in their hall, 170, Buchanan-street, on Wednesday evening, 3rd inst. Bro. R. Prout, W.M., occupied the chair; G. Holmes, S.W.; J. McInnes, S.M. 408, acting J.W.; J. D. Dixon, D.M.; J. McKeand, Treasurer; J. Currie, Secretary; A. Riddle, J.D.; W. D. Gourlay, Jeweller; J. Carmichael, S.S.; and a full attendance of members and visiting brethren, among whom were Bros. J. Morgan, W.M. 219; W. Bell, I.P.M. 31; R. Mitchell, P.M. 332; William Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); and others. On the lodge being opened Bro. J. McNair was passed to the Fellow Craft Degree by Bro. Wheeler, 73. The lodge was then resumed in the First Degree. It was then announced that the Provincial Grand Lodge were in waiting. The W.M. gave instructions to receive them, which was accordingly done with the usual honours. The deputation consisted of Bros. J. Baird, P.G.S.M.; G. Sinclair, Treas. of Benevolent Fund; A. McTaggart, M.A., P.G. Sec.; J. Gillies, P.G. Treas.; A. Bain, P.G.B.B.; Allison, P.G.J.; Ritchie, P.G. Architect; J. Miller, P.G.J.D.; J. Miller, P.G.D. of M.; and D. Reid, P.G.I.G. The deputation having taken their places on the dais, Bro. McTaggart, P.G. Sec., read

the report, which was as follows. "We, the undersigned office-bearers of the P.G.L. of Glasgow, hereby certify that we visited the Lodge Glasgow Kilwinning, No. 4, examined the various books, and found them in a very satisfactory condition, and generally the lodge is working in strict harmony with the Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of Scotland." Bro. Baird briefly substantiated the statements made by the P.G. Sec., and was sorry they were leaving or had to leave this fine hall, but wished them every success in their new premises, and trusted they would be as prosperous in the future as they had been in the past, and even more so. Bro. Prout, W.M., thanked the deputation for their annual visit, and moved a vote of thanks to the P.G. Officers present, which was enthusiastically given. The P.G.L. deputation then withdrew. The lodge then went on to harmony, when the brethren spent a short time in a social capacity.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. Mungo (No. 27).—The regular meeting of this old lodge was held in St. Mark's Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, on Thursday evening, 4th inst. Bro. D. Butler, W.M., presiding; J. M. Oliver, S.W. 360, acting S.W.; G. McComb, J.W.; D. Dick, S.M.; A. R. Wilson, V. Chap.; S. Dory, S.S.; W. Albin, Dir. of M.; and James, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. A. Bain, P.M. 103; T. Graham, J.W. 360; C. McKenzie, J.W. 354; W. Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); T. Wallace, 117; H. Hall, 117; S. Aitken, 128; A. Harper, 292; E. Master, 292; R. Rae, 49; W. McHardie, 360; J. McEwan, 362; J. Allan, 399; J. Brock, 399; W. B. Paterson, 360; J. Stewart, 360; and others. On the lodge being opened, Mr. Robert Hood was admitted and received the First Degree at the hands of Bro. Baird, P.M. 103, in his usual able manner. The lodge was then called to refreshment, when the chairman proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, which were heartily responded to, and after spending a short time in harmony the lodge was called to labour, and closed in due form.

DUNBAR.—Dunbar Castle Lodge (No. 75).—A Masonic ball was held in the assembly rooms here on Wednesday, 3rd inst., under the auspices of this lodge. The company numbered about one hundred and forty. Long before the hour for dancing immense crowds had thronged about the doors, gazing with admiration upon the rich and dazzling brightness of the ladies as they alighted from the carriages, with their magnificent and fragrant bouquets, a scene so pleasing and gratifying that amply rewarded the bystanders. Dancing commenced at ten p.m., and was kept up with good spirit till an early hour in the morning. Mrs. Vallance and Bro. C. Nelson, W.M., opened the ball; Bro. J. Blake, S.W., ably officiated as M.C. Bros. H. Payne, A. Robertson, and J. Tait were members of committee, and deserve great praise for the zealous manner they filled their office. The orchestra was under the able leadership of Bro. D. Vallance, P.M., and consisted of eight musicians, who played some beautiful airs with exceedingly good taste, and elicited frequent applause during the evening.

GALASHIELS.—St. John's Lodge (No. 252).—The brethren of this lodge held their monthly meeting on the 1st inst., when Bro. Robertson, of the Abbotsford Hotel, and Bro. Owens were raised by the W.M., Bro. Thomson, to the high and sublime degree of a Master Mason. In consequence of the death of Bro. William Kerr, who has long held the honourable office of Bible Bearer, Bro. Alexander Wood was elected to the office. The arrangements for laying the foundation-stone of the new Masonic Hall on May 12th are nearly complete. It is expected to be the largest Masonic meeting ever held in the south of Scotland. Deputations from English lodges are expected.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Caledonian Railway (No. 354).—The P.G.L.D. on leaving Kilwinning, No. 4, proceeded to visit this lodge on the evening of Wednesday, 3rd inst. Meantime the lodge had been opened by Bro. J. Fraser, P.M. 87, in the unavoidable absence of Bro. A. B. Ferguson, W.M.; J. Harley, S.W.; C. McKenzie, J.W.; D. Buchanan, D.M.; D. T. Colquhoun, Treas.; R. A. McLean, Sec.; and the other office-bearers in their respective places. The hall was completely filled with members and visitors, among whom were Bros. J. Booth, W.M. 87; J. Morgan, W.M. 219; W. Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); and others. The deputation was received by the brethren standing, and with the customary formalities. Bro. McTaggart before reading the report said, he was proud to say it was a most favourable one; in fact, no better in the province, and most encouraging. It was simply this, "We, the undersigned office-bearers of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow, hereby certify that we visited Caledonian Railway, 354, on the evening of Wednesday, 3rd May, examined the various books of the lodge, and found them in a most satisfactory condition, and that generally the lodge is working in strict harmony with the laws of the Grand Lodge of Scotland." Bro. Baird, P.G.S.M., said: This report must be very satisfactory to every member of the lodge, and, indeed, it stands next highest to any lodge in the province, so far as we have visited this year, as regards charity. You have disbursed no less than close upon £20 towards the relief of the poor and distressed, and I will take the first opportunity of conveying to Bro. Neilson, the P.G.M., the flourishing condition of this his mother lodge. Bro. Fraser, the acting W.M., then thanked the P.G.L. deputation, and apologised for his presence in the chair. He was kindly waited upon, and requested, in the absence of the respected W.M., Bro. Ferguson, to preside that evening, therefore his appearance here to night. He (the chairman) concluded by proposing a vote of thanks to the Provincial Grand Lodge officers, which was heartily responded to. On the motion of Bro. Harley, S.W., and seconded by Bro. McKenzie, J.W., Bros. J. Miller, P.M. 87, P.G.J.D., and Ritchie, P.G. Archt. were obligated honorary members of the lodge. The P.G.L. deputation then retired. The lodge was then called to refreshment, when a most enjoyable evening was

spent in harmony. Bro. Hardie, of Lodge 87, presided at the harmonium, and gave some splendid selections of music. The chair was occupied in rotation by Bros. Fraser and D. Reid, I.P.M. 465.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Dramatic (No. 571).—The regular meeting of this prosperous lodge was held in St. Mark's Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, on Wednesday, 3rd inst., at three o'clock p.m. The W.M., Bro. W. J. E. Dobson, occupied the chair, supported by Bros. H. W. Jackman, S.W.; R. S. Smyth, S.D., acting J.W.; J. Houston, D.M.; W. Barbour, Treas.; Weir, acting Sec.; L. Mitchell, J.D.; J. Robertson, I.G.; and Hardie, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. D. Lamb, D.M. 360; J. M. Oliver, S.W. 360; W. Phillips, W.M. 556; P. Brownlie, J.W. 31; W. Ferguson, P.M. 543 ("Freemason"); R. Allan, Sec. 581; Dr. Buchanan, 4; G. W. Wheeler, 73; W. Reynolds, 556; and others. On the minutes being read and confirmed, Mr. A. A. Gibb was initiated into Freemasonry by the W.M.; Bro. W. Buchanan passed to the Fellow Craft Degree by Bro. Oliver, S.W. 360; and Bros. G. Connell and F. Muir were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason by Bro. D. Lamb, D.M. 360. The working of the three degrees was rendered in a careful and impressive manner.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Plantation (No. 581).—A meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, Craigiehall-street, on Monday evening, 1st inst., Bro. T. Stobo, W.M. in the chair; Alex. Gow, S.M.; D. Peacock, S.W.; J. Henry, J.W.; W. Taylor, Treas.; R. Allan, Sec.; T. Paterson, I.G.; and Cumming, Tyler. Visitors, Bros. D. Smart, W.M. 347; J. McMillan, P.M. 31; W. Bell, I.P.M. 31; T. Fletcher, P.M. 31; J. Cunningham, I.P.M. 347; J. W. Burns, I.P.M. 87; J. M. Oliver, S.W. 360; R. Macpherson, 31; R. Russell, 437; and others. On the lodge being opened, and the minutes of last meeting read and confirmed, the Secretary read code of by-laws for the second time, as drawn up by the committee appointed for that purpose. Mr. T. Walker was initiated into the E.A. Degree by Bro. J. W. Burns, I.P.M. 87. The lodge was then raised to the Third Degree, when Bros. J. Wilson, W. F. Mabon, and A. Gow were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason by Bro. McMillan, P.M. 31, in that brother's well-known, able, and most impressive manner. The lodge was then resumed in the First Degree, when the first four admitted and raised brethren of the lodge presented one of their instructors with the ancient fee (a Kilmarnock bonnet), he having agreed to walk to the nearest parish church the first Sunday convenient thereafter.

SIR HENRY EDWARDS' VISIT TO THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

On Monday afternoon the annual visit of the Chairman of the festival of this institution, accompanied by the Stewards of the day, was paid to the schoolhouse, at St. John's Hill, Battersea Rise, by Sir Henry Edwards, Bart., Deputy Lieutenant of the West Riding, and Provincial Grand Master of West Yorkshire, who presided at the 88th anniversary festival of the institution held on Wednesday evening. Sir Henry was accompanied by Lady Edwards and Mr. Priestly Churchill Edwards, who were met at the doors of the institution by Bro. Thomas White, Past Grand Steward, Chairman of the day of the House Committee, Colonel Creaton, Colonel Burdett, Colonel Peters, Bros. Joshua Nunn, P.G. Sword Bearer; J. A. Rucker, P.G. Deacon; Griffiths Smith, Past Grand Steward; H. A. Dubois, Rev. J. M. Vaughan, R. W. Little (Sec.), and Miss S. L. Davis (head governess). They were then conducted to the exercise-room, where 124 of the girls were put through their calisthenic exercises, while others played march tunes on the pianoforte. The party were afterwards conducted over the building, and the general arrangements of the establishment for the comfort and health of the little inmates were fully shewn and explained. After this private view had been completed the distinguished visitors partook of slight refreshment, and at four o'clock, when the Stewards of the festival and their families arrived to partake in the day's proceedings, adjourned to the hall, where the pupils were ranged to give specimens of their proficiency in the various branches of education pursued at the school. The room was densely crowded, and afforded sufficient evidence of the necessity for the additions to the building which have lately been decided upon. Sir Henry, Lady, and Mr. P. C. Edwards, supported by the above-named brethren of the House Committee, Miss Davis, and the other governesses, sat in front, while the executants of the different selections performed on the platform erected at the south end of the hall.

A selection of music and recitations was then given by the following pupils:—Florence S. Groves, Agnes Barron, Dora C. Bowles, Fanny J. Lawrence, Eliza Beveridge, Sarah Young, Caroline E. Holland, Caroline Hart, Charlotte A. Jay, Edith Patten, Laura Stransom, Agnes A. Nash, Lucinda Broadbent, Ellen A. Cates, Helena Meacock, Louisa Hole, Leila Pulman, Jane R. Upton, Lilian M. Nelson, Jane P. Pattison, Mary Young, Alice M. Taylor, Frances C. Clark, Kathleen N. Crampton, Beatrice M. Wray, Mary C. A. Sargent, Ellen Lucy Morgan, Beatrice A. Bindon, Elizabeth Owens, Mary E. Sharp, Melora F. Goodridge, Mary E. Barnes, Kate Hulme, Lily O. Hiron, Lucy Kate Clemence, Ethel Hinson, Rosalie Bowditch, Matilda M. Sherry, Katherine Emery, Louisa Christine Oates, Florence R. Sargent, Rose A. Jennings, Alice M. Newbould, Fanny S. Craig, and Colina Sharp.

These performances were very loudly applauded, the whole assembly exhibiting much pleasure at the readiness and fluency with which they were given. At the conclusion of these proceedings,

Sir Henry Edwards, before presenting the prizes, said that the display had taken so long that the time for the remainder of the day's proceedings was very much nar-

rowed. He should, therefore, excuse himself from making a long speech to the meeting, and would simply address himself to the pupils to whom the prizes had been awarded. He could not, however, resist the temptation of, in the first instance, congratulating, with his whole heart and soul, Miss Davis on the result of her labours, as evinced by what the children had just done. It must be to her one of the proudest days of her life. He had not enjoyed the pleasure of partaking of such a treat as he had had that day for a long, long time, and he hoped it might not be the last occasion, but that it might be followed by many others on which he might have an opportunity, year after year, of seeing the admirable progress made by the pupils of that institution. He had been perfectly astounded at what he had seen and heard; he had had no conception—he confessed it at once—that the education of children was conducted to such a pitch as in that school. He had just heard some of the finest playing he had ever listened to in his life; some of the best recitations from pupils who appeared 10, 11, or 12 years old, such as surprised him as much as they had his lady on his right. But one thing that astonished him perhaps as much as anything was the admirable time kept by the 20 and 30 hands on the pianos all at once. He had never heard anything like it. It must also be quite clear to all the ladies and gentlemen present that these young persons were taught foreign languages very well. They had given specimens of French and German; and the French was so good that he had enquired of Miss Davis whether they had visited on the Continent for some time, and he was more astonished when he was told they had not, but were entirely educated by herself. The fact was that Miss Davis superintended the education of every child belonging to the establishment, and whether it was English, French, or German, music, or general education, the credit was due to her. Nobody could deny, after what they had seen, that the girls understood English grammar perfectly. What he very much admired was that in their pronunciation there was nothing provincial; there was a pure, soft dialect about it which was found in the south of England, but not in the north—Yorkshire, for instance. (Laughter.) Also in general literature it appeared to him the pupils were very far advanced indeed. He likewise understood, though he had not had an opportunity of witnessing it, that great capability was shown by the girls in the dancing class. He could not help noticing how happy the children were; and when he came to look at Miss Davis's face he could not wonder at it, for he must confess she bore the appearance of a most kind and good-natured friend. As to the general arrangements of the establishment for the health, comfort, happiness, and education of the children, he never saw anything so perfect in his life. He and Lady Edwards had gone all through the place, and found there was not a single thing out of its place. There was every requisite for each girl; and the establishment was so well conducted that every Freemason in England ought to go there and see the whole thing, and satisfy himself how well the money he had subscribed was laid out.

Sir Henry Edwards then distributed the prizes in the following order to the recipients whose names appear in the list, Bro. Thomas W. White calling the little girls up seriatim:—

LIST OF PUPILS WHO RECEIVED PRIZES.

Lilian Mary Nelson, the gold medal for proficiency, given annually by Bro. William Paas, with £5 given annually by Bro. William Winn (Leila Lucy Caparn having gained them last year).

Lucy Kate Clemence, the silver medal for good conduct, given annually by the Institution, with £5 given annually by Bro. William Winn.

Jane P. Pattison, £5 for general proficiency, given annually by Bro. William Winn.

PRIZES GIVEN ANNUALLY BY THE INSTITUTION:—Leila Lucy Caparn (since left), for taking honours Cambridge Examination, with distinction in religious knowledge; Lilian Mary Nelson and Jane P. Pattison, for passing Cambridge Examination; Lily O. Hiron, for general improvement, 1st Class; Mary Emma Barnes, for French; Louisa Hole, Melora F. Goodridge, Dora C. Bowles, and Jane R. Upton, for music; Josephine B. Mackay and Fanny J. Lawrence, for vocal music; Eliza Beveridge, for music among the little girls; Kate Holme, Henrietta J. Featherstone, and Blanche E. Morris, for drawing; Ada Gertrude Chapman and Amy Emma Mills, for general usefulness; Janet S. Davidson and Caroline E. Holland for needlework; Annie Gertrude Earle and Mary H. Davies for machine work; Henrietta J. Featherstone, for good conduct; Blanche E. Morris, for general proficiency, 2nd class; Edith A. Wilson, for general proficiency, 3rd class; Catherine J. Scurr, for general proficiency, 4th class; Frances E. Gardner, for perseverance, 2nd class; Grace A. Colvill, for perseverance 3rd class; Maud A. Jay, for perseverance, 4th class.

By Bro. Joshua Nunn, for fancy work:—Lucy Kate Clemence and Leila Pulman.

By Bro. Raynham Stewart, for dictation:—Frances Haryman, 1st class; Ellen A. Cates, 2nd class; Fanny Ashby, 3rd class; Mary Emma Barsby, 4th class; Mary Louisa Bowler, 5th class.

By Bro. Rev. P. H. E. Bratte, D.D., for French:—Louisa Hole.

By Mrs. Crick, for elocution:—Agnes Barron, Alice Maud Thornbury, and Colina Sharp.

By Bro. John M. Clabon, for good conduct:—Annie S. Dawson and Matilda M. Sherry.

By Bro. Joseph Starkey, for drawing:—Florence S. Groves and Leila Pulman.

By Bro. Collard Moutrie, for music:—Florence S. Groves.

By Bro. Louis Hirsch, for German:—Lilian Mary Nelson.

By Bro. H. W. Hemsworth, for amiability, as voted by their schoolfellows:—Caroline Hart and Matilda M. Sherry.

Sir Henry Edwards announced that for the first time another prize has been presented, which was as follows:—

ADDITIONAL PRIZE:—"The St. James' Yates memorial Prize," given annually by the St. James' Lodge, No. 482, Handsworth, £2 10s., for proficiency in domestic duties:—Ada Gertrude Chapman.

He remarked that he was very much gratified that the brethren of Handsworth had selected such a subject for a prize; for no accomplishment was more valuable or more tended to the happiness and comfort of the family circle than proficiency in domestic duties. He then heartily congratulated Ada Gertrude Chapman on having won this prize.

Bro. Thomas W. White then rose and said, that there was one thing they could not separate without doing, and that was to give a cordial vote of thanks to Sir Henry and Lady Edwards for so kindly coming down to Battersea to inspect the institution and to give away the prizes. They must all be highly gratified by what Sir Henry Edwards had said of the institution, of the detail of the education, and the whole arrangements.

Bro. Griffiths Smith having seconded the motion, it was unanimously adopted.

Sir Henry Edwards, in reply, said he could not part with the meeting without saying a word or two. First, he would thank the meeting for the vote just passed on behalf of Lady Edwards and himself. He would repeat again what he had said before, because he thought it was of importance that the world should know it, that he never was in an establishment so complete in all its branches, and so satisfactory to all those interested in it, as this establishment of the Masonic Girls' School. Everything about it was so complete that he did not really see what more could be said about it. The occasion of giving these prizes was a very interesting one, and it was rendered more interesting when he saw nearly half of the entire number of the children in the establishment had won prizes. He hoped that next year very many more would do so. He was sure their conduct merited it; but all could not gain prizes; some only must win, and some must lose. There were different gradations of working talent. Some were far more talented than others, and it was frequently on account of no fault, but only from want of ability, that some did not win. Therefore, it was always a painful thing to find that those who had nearly caught the mark had failed.

Sir Henry Edwards and party then retired, and the company, which numbered between 400 and 500 ladies and gentlemen, partook of tea, and afterwards saw the children go through their exercises, and then joined them in dancing till eleven o'clock.

The brethren and ladies below were among those who took part in the proceedings:—Mr. and Mrs. Dubois, George Kenning, H. Massey ("Freemason"), H. C. Le-vander, J. N. Butcher, Thomas W. Festibree, Miss Russon, Miss McWilliam, E. H. Thielley, Miss Wheatley, Mrs. Bingham, J. Southwood, W. Hudson, Miss Cox, Mrs. Spoor, Miss Crich, A. C. Veley, Mrs. T. W. White, Mrs. and Miss Bowie, Mr. and Mrs. John Gould, Geo. Penn, Charles Jardine, Miss Allshorn, Miss Kipel, Miss Amy Kipel, George King, jun., Miss C. M. King, J. C. Adham, J. T. Berri, Charles Frederick Hogard, Mr. and Mrs. Josiah Howe, Richard Boney, Edward Cox, Mrs. Cox, and Miss Cox, J. L. Spoor, B. Hamilton, Mrs. Hamilton, Mrs. Parker, Miss Milne, Josh. Seeley, Josh. Clever, Miss Coutts, Mrs. Iretton, Miss Maggie Coutts, Thomas Willes, R. H. Davis, Mrs. Davis, Louis Hirsch, A. G. Baines, Mrs. Baines, G. M. E. Snow, M. S. Larham, P. Larham, Mr. Newton, C. Burmeister, H. W. Hemsworth, J. A. Farnfield, H. W. Milson, W. G. and Mrs. Lockwood, Hormusjee Jamssetjee Rustomjee (from Kurrachee), C. H. Dye, J. H. Bennett, W. Mitchell, H. Pinn, E. C. Mather, Mrs. E. C. Mather, W. Langton, Mrs. Muttahini, Mrs. Withers, Mrs. Potter, Mrs. C. Potter, H. Potter, W. T. Willes, the Misses Massey (2), R. B. Webster, R. H. Williams, R. C. Mansfield (7), W. Bailey, W. Smith Miss Mugleton, W. G. Barnes, W. G. Lemon, W. Winn, J. K. Stead, D. Betts, W. W. Baxter, George Weeks, Chas. Horsley, Levy, F. Keily, T. H. Miller, Mrs. Miller, W. Ruddoch, Mrs. Ruddoch, R. V. Ruddoch, H. D. Wood, J. Webberley, Mrs. Puller, Mrs. E. Shaw, Miss E. Shaw, J. B. Sorrell, J. B. Sorrell, jun., R. W. Smith, J. D. Allcroft, H. H. Dobree, B. H. Mallam, T. Riley, A. S. Stewart, Miss F. Pratt, T. Bull and Mrs. Bull, Mrs. W. H. Moses, Mrs. F. Fenner, Miss and Master Fenner, R. S. Davies and Mrs. Davies, C. Atkins, Miss Atkins, Mrs. Hill, A. J. Thomson, L. Thomas, J. M. Cox, E. Sewell, M.A., Mrs. Sewell, J. Mason, W. T. Howe, Miss Howe, W. W. Morgan, jun., Mrs. Morgan, Miss Morgan, Wm. Klingenstein, Mrs. Schubach, John Symonds, Thos. Fairweather, E. Simpson Baitrie, G. P. Brockbank, G. A. Brockbank; John Constable, Mrs. Constable, Miss Constable, Miss Hurst, H. Moore, C. A. Leigh, Mrs. Mills, D. W. Pearce, L. Pearce, H. Browse, W. Hilton, Thos. Hamilton, Robert Griggs, Mrs. A. San-ley, C. F. Poupard, Emily Poupard, W. K. Drew, Mrs. Poupard, James Warner, W. Clouston, Mrs. Clouston, G. J. Grove, North Ritherdon, Dr. Henry J. Strong, Mrs. Strong, Thomas Massa, F. Binckes, Walter Char-teris, J. G. Marsh, Edw. Spooner, T. H. Tibbits, T. J. Berry, C. J. G. Rushworth, G. W. Verry, John Ap-pleby, Thomas Cubitt, John Farnfield, Captain J. Wordsworth, E. B. Chalmer, M.A., W. F. C. Moutrie, W. Murlis, William Stephens, W. H. Hubbard, and W. H. Diamond.

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ARRIVAL IN ENGLAND OF THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Most Worshipful Grand Master of English Freemasons, after an absence of exactly seven months, during which he has visited the chief places of note in India, returned to his native land on Thursday afternoon. His vessel was sighted off Portland at seven o'clock in the morning and he arrived at Portsmouth at three.

Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales left London on Wednesday evening with the royal children to meet her husband, and reached Portsmouth about eight o'clock the same evening. Portsmouth from an early hour in the morning was gaily decorated with flags, and business was entirely suspended. The whole place put on an holiday garb; the ships were similarly adorned; and the dockyard and rail-way station were most profusely and tastefully enlivened with flowers and bunting. All the naval authorities turned out to welcome His Royal Highness, and to catch as early a glimpse as they could of the long absent Heir Apparent. The day was beautifully fine, the sun being un-clouded the whole day. While every one was busy in seeing how he could best honour the arrival of His Royal Highness the Freemasons of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight were not behind them, and it was arranged, as noticed by us last week, that a Provincial Grand Lodge should be held for the purpose of voting and presenting him with a welcome address in the very province in which he first touched English soil. Accordingly a Provincial Grand Lodge of Emergency was called, and the brethren were directed to assemble at half-past eleven at the beautiful Masonic Hall in St. Mary-street, Ports-mouth. Seldom, perhaps, has a Provincial Grand Lodge been so well attended. The day suited everybody, as it was a general holiday, and consequently about 200 of the brethren attended. A procession of Past and Present Grand Officers was formed in the clothing room, and from thence they conducted Bro. W. Beach, M.P., Prov. G.M., into the lodge. At this time many brethren were obliged to stand, all the available seats having been taken. Among the brethren present not belonging to the province we noticed Bros. F. Binckes and Captain J. Wordsworth. The formation of the lodge was as follows:—

Bro. W. B. Beach, Prov. G.M.; Bro. W. Hickman, D.P.G.M.; Bros. Revd. J. U. Palmer, 698, as P.S.G.W.; J. W. Fordell, 175, P.G.J.W.; Rev. E. B. C. Churchill, 257, P.G. Chaplain; M. E. Frost, Prov. G. Treas; F. F. Hare, Asst. G. Reg.; J. E. Le Feuvre, 130, P. G. Sec. J. S. G. Thomas, 130, P.S.G.D.; H. Strickland, 698, P.J.G.D.; T. Giles, P.G. Supt. Works; J. S. Fulcher, 1112, P.G.D.C.; R. Newland, 342, P.G.A.D.C.; J. Parker, 141, P.G.S.B.; T. White, 1331, P.G.P.; R. Osborne, 437, P.G.C.; N. E. Manby, 130, A. Hughes, 175, E. R. Lester, P.G.Stewards; G. Cross, 359; G. R. Johnson, 487; J. H. Biggs, 130, P.G. Tyler; F. J. Excell, 1069, T.

At high noon Grand Lodge was close tyled, and the Prov. Grand Master directed Grand Secretary (Bro. Le Feuvre) to call over the roll of lodges. This having been done, and the brethren having answered, the Prov. Grand

Master opened the lodge in due form, and directed the Grand Secretary to read the summons calling the Grand Lodge. After this the Prov. Grand Secretary read the following telegram which he had received.

From Knollys, Madrid, to Provincial Grand Secretary, Southampton, England.

"The Prince of Wales will be happy to receive an address at the railway station at Portsmouth; but he regrets it cannot be read, but only handed in."

The Prov. G. Master then rose and said: Brethren, we have assembled together on a peculiar but gratifying occasion, viz., to present an address to our Royal Grand Master on his return from a foreign country, and certainly the Provincial Grand Lodge of Freemasons never assembled with such an interesting purpose in view. Brethren, in former ages Princes of Wales have gained honour and distinction on the field of battle; they have extorted the admiration of surrounding nations by the prowess they have displayed; and they have been cited as ornaments to their order. But, brethren, there are other distinctions to be won, and there are other honours to be achieved besides those of the battlefield; and probably he has not done the least in his generation who has contributed in some degree to cement the blessings of peace, amity, and good-will among the various nations of the earth. (Applause.) Brethren, the relations which England holds to India are very peculiar; there is no record in history presented which affords an equivalent to it. The throne over which the mighty Akbar and Auring-zabee the magnificent once presided has been for many a long year vacant. But it has been the valour, the talent, the splendid qualities of Clive, of Hastings, and many other eminent men whose memory is recorded wherever history presents the page, that have contributed to turn the trading settlements of a company into a mighty empire united with this. Brethren, as our relations are peculiar, and as we have assumed the rule of that great country, the permanence of that rule must depend upon the conviction which must be instilled into its inhabitants that we hold this great position for their good and for their happiness. (Applause.) And I believe though occasionally difficulties have occurred, though many wars we have had to sustain, yet I believe on the whole we have established the principle that England has so wielded her single power as to tend to produce happiness and security among the people of India. (Renewed applause.) And in what better manner could the interest which is sustained by England in that great country be displayed than when the heir of our throne takes upon himself to visit that country, and personally to enquire into the various circumstances which there exist; into the welfare of the people, into their wants and their habits, and so make himself well acquainted with everything which can tend to enable him one day to rule over that great country. (Applause.) And brethren, during that visit which he has paid, every one must have been struck with the conciliatory demeanour, and with the manner in which he has on every occasion conducted himself. The acclamations with which the fendatory princes and the people of India have greeted him have shewn that they entertain feelings of loyalty to him, which feelings of loyalty will be cemented by the personalities which his presence among them cannot have failed to inspire. Long may the feelings which he has instilled be continued. May India long be united with this country by the most intimate ties, and may the visit of the Prince of Wales be the harbinger of peace and happiness to that country, and be the means of strengthening the ties between India and England. (Renewed applause.) Brethren, there is a united feeling in favour of congratulating the Prince of Wales on his return to this country which is felt throughout the whole of our land; but by no body of men can it be more sincerely and heartily felt than by those Freemasons, over whom, we are proud to think, he is our ruler. (Applause.) Brethren, we cannot but have been aware that during the time he has been away the Prince of Wales has not neglected the principles of our order; he has taken every opportunity of joining in Masonic ceremonies,

and has shown his interest in Freemasonry in every part of the world that he has visited. Then I am sure it will be with one hearty acclaim, with a united feeling of congratulation, that we are ready to vote an address to him to express our pleasure at his return, our hearty congratulations on the success which has attended his expedition. (Applause.) I will read the address now, which is as follows:—

"To His Royal Highness Albert Edward Prince of Wales, the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Ancient and Honourable Order of the Free and Accepted Masons of England and Wales.

May it please your Royal Highness, We, the Provincial Grand Master, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Wardens, Officers, and Brethren of the Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, desire to approach your Royal Highness and to offer you our sincere and hearty congratulations upon the successful termination of your important mission to India, and upon your safe return to your native land. We deem this a fitting opportunity to acknowledge with pride and pleasure the hearty reception accorded to your Royal Highness by the Princes and people of that country; such reception was indeed worthy of your exalted position, as the representative of Her Most Gracious Majesty, and a fitting tribute to the esteem and regard in which Her Majesty is held by her subjects in those distant lands. We have watched with much interest the many useful and benevolent undertakings which your Royal Highness, in your exalted position as Grand Master of our Ancient Order, as well as the Heir to the Throne of these Realms, has so auspiciously inaugurated. We pray that those works of charity and public usefulness may result in the realisation of your most cherished anticipations. Permit us to offer to your Royal Highness a fraternal greeting on your arrival in this province, and we pray the Great Architect of the Universe may long spare your valuable life to the service of the Ancient Order over which you so worthily preside, and enable you to realise to a still greater extent the noble objects you have always had in view—the promotion of the happiness and prosperity of the people of England, and of peace and amity among the different nations of the earth.

"By order of the Provincial Grand Lodge.

"W. W. B. BEACH, P.G. Master.

"W. HICKMAN, D.P.G. Master.

"Countersigned,

"J. E. LE FEUVRE, P. G. Secretary."

I beg to move that this address be signed on the part of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

Bro. Hickman, D.P.G.M., in seconding the motion said: It affords me great pleasure to second the proposition of our Grand Master which he has enunciated in so eloquent a manner. I will merely add to the observations he has made, that we in this province feel peculiar interest in the arrival of the Grand Master, inasmuch as his first step on English ground is on the shore of our province after a splendid tour in India; and I am sure the gratification we ourselves feel in presenting the first address to him, will be felt generally throughout the country by the whole body of Freemasons. I beg leave most cordially to second the proposition of our Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master.

The motion having been unanimously adopted, the Prov. Grand Master said that the Grand Treasurer had a number of tickets for the brethren for the railway station. He was afraid, however, that the space was but circumscribed, but some brethren might perhaps prefer to take their chance of seeing His Royal Highness in the streets. Those brethren who chose to apply were at liberty to do so.

The tickets were then distributed, and the brethren closed the lodge, and in plain clothes proceeded to the railway station, where the address was handed in to His Royal Highness, who graciously received the same.

We may add that His Royal Highness's reception throughout his route was of the most enthusiastic and cordial description, and by the side of the railway along which the Royal special ran groups both of old and young gathered to

cheer him and his amiable partner and their family with their utmost strength of lung. The Royal party seemed much pleased with their reception.

FUNERAL OF THE COUNTESS DOWAGER OF DERBY.

The funeral of the late Dowager Countess of Derby took place on Thursday morning, the 2nd inst., at Knowsley Church, in the presence of a large congregation, consisting mainly of the Knowsley tenants and the villagers of the neighbourhood. The remains of the deceased lady, who died in London on the 26th ult., were brought by train to Huyton the previous day, and taken thence to Knowsley. By the express wish of the family, the funeral obsequies were of the most private character possible, with the exception of the assembly of the congregation in the church. The body was conveyed from the hall to the church in a hearse drawn by four horses, and was followed by four mourning coaches and one of the family carriages. The chief mourners were the Earl and Countess of Derby, Bro. Colonel the Hon. F. A. Stanley, M.P., D.G.M., W.L.; Lady Constance Stanley, Colonel the Hon. Charles J. F. Stanley, Rev. Canon Hoopwood, Bro. Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M., Eng., P.G.M.; Mr. Arthur Wilbraham representing his father, Col. the Hon. E. B. Wilbraham, (at present in Rome), Admiral Hornby, Mr. G. C. Hale, Mr. T. H. Sanderson, private secretary to Lord Derby; and Mr. William Moul. The body was met at the church gate by the Rev. W. L. Fielden, rector of the parish; the Rev. J. B. Boulton, curate; and the Rev. O. H. L. Penrhyn, rector of the adjoining parish of Huyton, and taken into the church, where the service of the Church of England was impressively read. The bearers of the coffin—which, upon being taken from the hearse, was covered with a black pall bordered with white—were old labourers upon the estate. The coffin was deposited in the family vault under the nave of the edifice, which previously was tenanted only by that of the late Earl of Derby. It is a fac-simile of that which contains the remains of the late earl, being covered with crimson velvet, and having brass mountings. Upon a massive brass plate in the lid was engraved the following inscription:—

EMMA CAROLINE,
COUNTESS DOWAGER OF DERBY;
Born, March 17th, 1805.

Married

Edward Geoffrey, 14th Earl of Derby.

May 31st 1825.

Died April 26th, 1876.

The flag at Huyton Church was hoisted half-mast high, and the peal of bells (muffled) rang at intervals during the morning. At the close of the service, Lord and Lady Derby and the other chief mourners descended into the vault and took a last look at the coffin, and afterwards the congregation availed themselves of the privilege accorded to them to inspect the resting place of the deceased and her illustrious husband. Lord Derby left in the afternoon for London.

A movable Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons was held on Friday, the 28th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Bristol. A report of the proceeding will appear in our next.

A sermon will be preached by Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, P.G.C., on Sunday the 21st inst., at St. Michael and All Angels, North Kensington, and a collection will be made in aid of the payment of a debt due to the estate of the late esteemed Bro. John Cowland.

The Marquis of Hartington, P. G. M. Derbyshire, the leader of the liberal party in the House Commons, had a parliamentary dinner on Wednesday evening at Devonshire House, Piccadilly.

WHEN the summer, with all its attendant pleasures, comes round, there is invariably an increased demand for sparkling wines. Under this head, however, a good many things are sold which do not resemble the juice of the grape except in name. It is a fact that since wines have been more generally consumed the consumption of spirits has decreased in proportion to the population, and so much having been gained it would be well to go a step further by drinking wines of pure quality only. This is especially essential in regard to sparkling wines, which are perhaps the more generally "doctored" of all. It is, therefore, with satisfaction that we have noticed the endeavours of such a firm as McCracken's, of Queen-street, who have earned a reputation in the City for more than forty years for supplying wines of the finest vintages at fair prices, to introduce a good sparkling wine under its own name, and thus let us know what we are drinking. The wines of Neuchatel were first brought before the readers of the Press by the "Times" some years ago, when reference was made to the Neuchatel Champagne, imported by the firm we have named, in the highest terms. Since then the demand in the upper circles for this genuine sparkling wine, instead of the inferior qualities from the districts round the Marne, has steadily increased, so much so that Bouvier Frères, whose vineyards are in proximity to the lake from whence the wine takes its name, have found it necessary to double the extent of their plant to keep pace with the demand. When it is remembered that so far back as 1862, and again in 1867, the wine received medals at both Exhibitions it is not surprising that it should have gained further in public opinion. And when we consider that the price of the wine is only 42s. per dozen, and that the quality is above reproach, we may fairly confirm the high medical opinion expressed by the "Times" to the effect that it is really invaluable in the hands of the physician.

Reviews.

THE ROSICRUCIAN, &c., A QUARTERLY MAGAZINE.

We have perused with gratification the new issue of the "Rosicrucian." It is edited by Bros. W. R. Woodman and R. W. Little, both well known in Masonry as well as in the High Grades, and is, we think, likely to find much favour as well among those for whom it is mainly intended as among the Masonic-reading public. Not being a member ourselves of these exalted grades, for which our two confreres so ably cater in the "Rosicrucian," we feel much difficulty and some diffidence in approaching the subject of Rosicrucian literature! The editors express their hope that they are to be assisted by "some of the best and brightest Masons in Great Britain" in the future numbers of the "Rosicrucian," and only humble Craft Masons, ourselves, as the Frenchman said, "Rien de moins et rien de plus," we still deem it to be right to call attention to this addition, or rather restoration, to our Masonic serial literature. We therefore are very glad to mention the subject of this fresh effort of our enterprising publisher, as many, no doubt, do not know of its existence. The articles are interesting and varied, and such as will sustain the editorial character of the magazine. We always feel how deferentially we poor Craftsmen should speak of those so-called Higher Grades, which have so much attraction for many. For us, rightly or wrongly, we will not pause to consider, Freemasonry ends with the Royal Arch, and beyond its broad basis and its wide limits we find no standing point for ourselves, we do not feel disposed to go. But others have done so, and do so daily, in their full liberty on the subject. For them a magazine is needful and rightful as is for our "Masonic Magazine;" for them it may be, let us hope, also as helpful as for us, and sure we are that in no better hands could the editorial pens be placed of the "Rosicrucian." So we wish it all success, and we congratulate Bro. Kenning both on its neat appearance and its literary value, as a very fitting representative of the High Grades. W. F. A.

INDIAN NUMBER OF THE "GRAPHIC."

We commend this paper, full of most interesting engravings, to our numerous readers, as a pleasant souvenir of our Royal Master's visit to India. W. F. A.

TESTIMONIAL AND DINNER TO BRO. WM. HERBAGE.

On Wednesday week a number of gentlemen assembled at dinner at the City United Club, Ludgate Circus, to present a testimonial to Bro. Wm. Herbage, late the manager of the Ludgate Hill Branch of the City Bank. The testimonial consisted of an epergne and plateau, together with a silver tea and coffee service, manufactured by Messrs. Martin, Hall, & Co., (Limited), at a cost of about £140.

Bro. Herbage was for many years general manager at the City Bank, Ludgate Hill, and left there to become joint general manager of the London and South-Western Bank. The Chairman of the committee was Bro. Alderman S. C. Hadley; the Vice-Chairman, N. Salamon, Esq.; and the Hon. Secretary, Bro. F. Kent, C.C., P.M. 177.

The committee were Alderman Hadley (Hadley Brothers), Henry Jeffery, Esq. (Cassell, Petter, and Galpin), Messrs. Chant and Crawford (Messrs. Dollond's), Chas. Samuel, Esq. (Samuel Brothers), F. Kent, C.C. (Kent and Kent, parliamentary agents), Dr. Wilson, Henry Harben, Esq. (Prudential Assurance Office), N. Salamon, Esq., Alfred Pearce, Esq., Bro. Henry Mathew, J. J. Merriman, Esq., T. W. Braithwaite, Esq. (Record and Write Clerks' Office, Chancery Lane).

The donors were over fifty in number, and their names were set out on the menu card, which was designed by the Hon. Secretary, Bro. F. Kent, C.C., and printed by Messrs. Jones and Cuthbertson, of Friday Street.

Bro. Herbage has greatly distinguished himself as a student of the "Theory and History of Banking," and some years ago, when public lectures were delivered in the City of London on the subject, and certificates of proficiency offered, Bro. Herbage was one of the competitors, and was one of the three who obtained the certificates.

The list of donors to the testimonial consisted of Bro. Alderman Hadley (Messrs. Hadley Bros.), the Municipal Permanent Building Society, Messrs. Cassell, Petter, and Galpin, Dr. Wilson, Messrs. Kent and Kent, T. W. Braithwaite, Esq., A. B. Pearce, Esq., Messrs. Dollond and Co., Messrs. Judd and Co., G. H. Judd, Esq., Charles Samuel, Esq., N. Salamon, Esq., British Mutual Investment Co., S. Whitaker, Esq., Bro. Henry Mathew, Messrs. Trice and Chapman, Thos. Ingram, Esq., J. R. Burchett, Esq., J. Jones, Esq., Prudential Assurance Co., W. J. Villars, Esq., W. J. Twigg, Esq., James Green, Esq., Rev. C. Rogers, LL.D., W. J. Almond, Esq., John Galpin, Esq., R. Hall, Esq., A. Berkett, Esq., F. Martin, Esq., A. W. Martin, Esq., H. W. Minter, Esq., F. Hancock, Esq., Henry Watts, Esq., C. Binyon, Esq., Messrs. Keene and Rogers, G. W. Dray, Esq., John Hurren, Esq., the Royal Historical Society, W. Liebeskind, Esq., Amity Investment Co., Limited, S. E. Fox, Esq., W. Barwell, Esq., J. H. Grain, Esq., L. C. Alexander, Esq., LL.D., John Marshall, Esq., A. Thierry, Esq., Miss Connop, F. Walton, Esq., S. B. Gwynn, Esq., and the General Mutual Investment Building Society.

Bro. Alderman Hadley took the chair, and, after a very choice banquet had been partaken of, proposed "The Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, and the other Members of the Royal Family." He then proposed the toast of the evening, "Mr. Herbage," and presented the testimonial, which was displayed at one end of the room. In presenting it, he said that the donee was a gentleman whom they all appreciated and admired. The City of

London for many, many generations had been renowned for producing great men, whom it had brought to the front not only in its own internal management and direction, but also those who had stepped outside, after being nurtured and cultured in it, to rule and destine the world. The gentleman whom they were then assembled to honour had in his own sphere and in the particular locality to which all the gentlemen present belonged acquired to himself an amount of friendship and esteem which few had achieved in the short space of time during which he had been located in that neighbourhood. As men of business, they knew perfectly well what it was to contend with all the various vicissitudes and turmoil and changes of a mercantile life. They also knew how great a thing it was for them to meet with friends in such circumstances who could lend a helping hand. Such a friend and such a man was Mr. Herbage, and throughout his business career he had shown great ability, energy, and talent. It was for this that they as business men, understanding what business was, wished to show their appreciation of these qualities. Mr. Herbage had been associated with the City Bank for 20 years, and there was not a single customer of that bank but would bear testimony to his unswerving fidelity, his great ability, his kindness and courtesy at all times. While faithful to his duties to his employers he was ready with his assistance as bank manager to the customers; and while bidding him farewell, as he was going into another sphere of usefulness, they all wished him every success in it, assuring him all the while that they would never forget the friendship which had sprung up between them.

Bro. Herbage, who was received with loud applause, expressed his great gratification at such a recognition of his endeavours to win the confidence and esteem of those with whom he was brought into business relations. In the neighbourhood west of St. Paul's, where he had been engaged for seven years as bank manager, there was as large an amount of important business carried on as there was east of that centre, although people living eastwards were not disposed to recognise the fact; and in confirmation of his opinion he referred to the very large establishments which had risen of late years to colossal dimensions. With reference to the testimonial, he said it would leave an indelible impression on his mind, and it would be transmitted to his children, he hoped, as an incentive to them to follow in the path which he had tried to walk in. (Cheers.)

Mr. Judd proposed "The Chairman's Health," and Mr. Braithwaite that of "The Vice-Chairman," to which two toasts Bro. Alderman Hadley and Mr. N. Salamon responded.

Dr. Rogers responded for "The Royal Historical Society."

Mr. Dimsdale proposed "The Committee and Secretary," to which Bro. F. Kent replied, stating with how much pleasure he had performed his duties, which were certainly of a somewhat onerous character.

The meeting shortly afterwards broke up.

The inscription on the salver presented to Bro. Herbage was as follows:—"This salver, with an epergne and a tea and coffee service in silver, was presented to Mr. William Herbage by customers of the City Bank, Ludgate Hill, on his retiring from the management of that bank, as a mark of their friendship and appreciation of the ability and uniform courtesy shewn by him at all times in his conduct of business during the seven years of his management. Committee: Alderman S. C. Hadley, Chairman; T. W. Braithwaite, Henry Mathew, J. R. Chant, Hon. Treasurer; N. Salamon, J. J. Merriman, Tyson Crawford, Henry Harben, Henry Jeffery, Fred. Kent, Alfred Pearce, Charles Samuel, F. W. Wilson, M.D."

ANCIENT AND PRIMITIVE MASONRY.

The following has been forwarded to us for publication:—

In consequence of enquiries and suggestions emanating from Canada and various parts of this kingdom, I am instructed by the G.M. to promulgate the following order and decree.

S. P. LEATHER, 33-95°, Sec.-Genl. pro tem., Burnley, Lancashire.

"In the name of the Sovereign Sanctuary of Ancient and Primitive Masonry in and for Great Britain and Ireland. Salutation on all points of the Triangle. Respect to the Order.

"Peace. Tolerance. Truth.

"Whereas the Ancient and Primitive Rite of Masonry, of 33°, represents the Ancient and Primitive Rite of Memphis, embracing 96 degrees; and whereas the Grand Master and officers of the Sovereign Sanctuary in and for Great Britain and Ireland, duly constituted, are also certified members of the Ancient and Primitive Rite of Mizraim, embracing 90 degrees, of which there is no governing body within the limits of the jurisdiction of the said Sovereign Sanctuary, and whereas a large number of holders of the degrees of the said Rite of Mizraim have elected to work under the said Sovereign Sanctuary: Be it known, therefore, that at the request of the said members the Grand Master has decreed: That it is lawful for the Sovereign Sanctuary in and for Great Britain and Ireland, and its dependencies, or any subordinate body thereof, to grant by communication any or all corresponding degrees of the Oriental Rites of Mizraim and Memphis of 90 and 95 degrees respectively, or by request to work any of the discarded degrees of the Ancient Rite of Memphis, and that upon payment of the fees the same may be endorsed upon the certificates of the Sovereign Sanctuary of the Ancient and Primitive Rite of Masonry in and for Great Britain and Ireland.

(Signed)

JOHN YARKER, G.M.

"April 28th, 1876."

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The General Committee of this institution met on Saturday, the 6th ult., at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. Raynham W. Stewart in the chair. There were also present Bros. Benj. Head, H. W. Hunt, Jesse Turner, J. G. Chancellor, S. Rosenthal, A. Durrant, Capt. J. Wordsworth, Hyde Pullen, Alex. Wallace, John Symonds, Alfred H. Diaper, Robt. B. Webster, S. S. Cooper, J. Terry, W. F. C. Moutrie, Frederick Adlard, Charles Horsley, H. Norman, J. W. Dosell, H. Massey ("Freemason"); F. Binckes, Secretary.

Seven cases for election were before the committee, of these, four were accepted, two deferred and one rejected. There were two cases of purchase, which were recommended to the House Committee for report. Four outfits were granted to boys who had left the institution and obtained situations.

The following brethren were nominated for the Audit Committee whose election will be held at next meeting of the General Committee, nine to be elected:—Bros. John Boyd, J. W. Dosell, Benj. Head, W. Mann, D. W. Pearce, Hyde Pullen, James Terry, Jesse Turner, Robt. B. Webster, A. Wallace, G. P. Row, and A. H. Tattershall. The following brethren were nominated for the House Committee, whose election will be held at the same time:—Bros. H. Browne, B. Head, J. G. Chancellor, W. F. C. Moutrie, Hyde Pullen, W. Roebuck, S. Rosenthal, R. W. Stewart, Captain J. Wordsworth, H. W. Hunt, W. Paas, Dr. Charles Sanders, J. Bagot Scriven, and Alfred H. Diaper.

Bros. Adlard, Durrant and Wilson were chosen scrutineers for the election.

Cheques were ordered to be signed for outstanding accounts, after the report of the Audit Committee had been adopted. The brethren then adjourned.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The Committee of this Institution met on Wednesday at Freemasons' Hall. Colonel Creaton presided, and was supported by Bros. S. Rawson, Benj. Head, Griffiths Smith, Thomas W. White, Dr. Hogg, H. M. Levy, H. G. Warren, C. A. Cottebrune, Wm. Stephens, James Brett, J. Newton, John Bellerby, G. Bolton, Raynham W. Stewart, Hyde Pullen, John Constable, L. Stean, Captain J. Wordsworth, C. F. Hogard, W. Hale, Dr. Erasmus Wilson, Dr. Strong, H. Massey ("Freemason"), and James Terry (Secretary).

Bro. Terry announced the death of one annuitant, who had received altogether the sum of £160. He also announced that there were 23 men and 32 women on the list for the election, 17 men to be elected and 10 women. Bro. Terry also read the report of the committee, containing a narrative of the year's proceedings, which have been given from time to time in our columns.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart then gave notice of motion for the employment of Miss Norris, the daughter of Bro. Norris, the Warden of the asylum, to attend upon the old ladies there. He said that Bro. Norris was a widower and his daughter had resided with him, leaving an excellent situation to do so. It was quite necessary that a female should be employed to look after the wants of the women, and she had been very valuable in that capacity for a long time. Miss Norris's services were voluntary; but he thought the Institution ought not any longer to accept them as such. He would give notice of motion for her to be employed as an officer of the Institution at a salary of £30 per annum.

Dr. Strong bore testimony to the great service Miss Norris had been in the asylum. She was exceedingly kind to the old people, and if anything ever went wrong she was always pouring oil on the troubled waters. She frequently got up in the middle of the night when any of the female annuitants were taken ill. The brethren would allow him to say that there was nobody in the employ of the institution to do these offices. He might also add that it required a person who was in a measure in authority, and Miss Norris's father being the Warden of the institution, that requisite was supplied. Bro. Norris was a good Warden, and he exercised his office without the least show of authority.

Bro. C. F. Hogard nominated Bros. Adlard, Bellerby, and W. Hale for re-election on the committee.

Bro. Terry read a letter from Bro. Cutbush, acknowledging receipt of the vote of thanks which was passed at last meeting for his gift of shrubs to the asylum, and stating that he should always be pleased to repeat the gift when informed that it would be acceptable. The letter was couched in most kind and graceful terms, and the writer concluded by desiring Bro. Terry to convey to the committee his thanks, and to say that he felt highly honoured by their kind resolution, and should prize it as a mark of their favour as long as he lived. Bro. Terry then said he was sorry to inform the committee that two days after the date of that letter Bro. Cutbush ceased to exist.

This announcement was received with great regret, and a vote of condolence with Mrs. Cutbush was then passed, on the motion of Bro. John Constable, seconded by Bro. Bellerby.

Bro. Terry asked for and obtained the sanction of the committee for the use of the hall of the asylum for a summer entertainment for the inmates.

The committee adjourned after passing a vote of thanks to the chairman.

HAVE THE REMEDY WITHIN YOUR REACH.—Nothing has yet equalled the efficacy of Holloway's Balsamic Pills in checking disease in and restoring vigour to the human body. They root out all impurities from the blood, and regulate and invigorate every organ. Immense care is taken to secure the genuine preparation to the public, that no disappointment may be caused to invalids seeking health by Holloway's medicines. Their composition, and careful packing, prevent the impairment of their virtues by time, sea voyage, or climate. They never gripe, or cause inconvenience. In disturbances of the system, disorders of the digestive apparatus, and derangements of the bowels, these Pills exercise an almost magical power, which conquers disease safely, quickly, conveniently and cheaply.—ADVT.

TO OUR READERS

The *Freemason* is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the *United Kingdom*, Post free, 10/- P.O.O.'s to be made payable at the chief office, London.

NEW POSTAL RATES.

Owing to a reduction in the Postal Rates, the publisher is now enabled to send the "*Freemason*" to the following parts abroad for One Year for Twelve Shillings (payable in advance):—Africa, Australia, Bombay, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, China, Constantinople, Demerara, France, Germany, Gibraltar, Jamaica, Malta, Newfoundland, New South Wales, New Zealand, Suez, Trinidad, United States of America, &c.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS

are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month.

NOTICE.—It is very necessary for our friends to advise us of all money orders they remit, more especially those from the *United States of America* and *India*; otherwise we cannot tell where to credit them.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The *Freemason* has a large circulation in all parts of the Globe, its advantages as an advertising medium can therefore scarcely be overrated.

For terms, position, &c., apply to

GEORGE KENNING, 198, Fleet-st.

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.

J.V.—Your items will be very acceptable.

The following stand over:—Consecration of Richard Giddy Lodge, Nelson, New Zealand; Egyptian Lodge, 27; Priory Lodge, 1000, Southend; St. Barnabas Lodge, 948, Leighton-Buzzard; Pomfret Lodge, 360, Northampton; Henley Lodge, 1472, North Woolwich; Thames Valley Lodge, 1460, Halliford; St. Hilda's Lodge, 240, South Shields; Albert Edward Lodge, 1560, Leicester; Hartington Lodge, 1085, Derby; Royal Cumberland Lodge, 41, Bath; Lodge of Truth, 1458, Manchester; Royal Kent Lodge of Instruction; Faith Lodge of Instruction; St. David's Lodge of Instruction, Manchester; and the following Scotch lodges: Maryhill, 510; Commercial, 360; Union, 332; St. John's, 32; Clyde, 408; Shamrock and Thistle, 275; Mark Lodge Fortescue, 9, South Molton; Red Cross Conclave, Edinburgh; "The Mark Degree Assailed."

Bro. W. Tebb's remarks in our next.

"An Eye Witness" must send his name in confidence to the Editor.

NOTICE TO OUR MANY CORRESPONDENTS AND READERS.

A supplement to the "*Freemason*" will be published next week, containing an account of our Royal Grand Master's reception in London, on his happy return from India. Orders should be sent at once, to ensure certainty of delivery, to Bro. George Kenning, 198, Fleet-street, E.C.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d. for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTHS.

BROAD.—On the 9th inst., at Lewisham, the wife of Bro. Broad, 184, of a daughter.

CLARK.—On Feb. 26 last, at Hobart Town, Tasmania, the wife of J. K. Clark, of a son.

CRANE.—On the 6th inst., at Wood-lane, Shepherd's-bush, the wife of W. Crane, Esq., of a son.

CUTHBERT.—On the 5th inst., at Guernsey, the wife of Major R. T. P. Cuthbert, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

FLOWER—WHITE.—On the 4th inst., at St. Thomas's, Orchard-street, Portman-square, Henry Vincent Flower, Esq., of Scarrington, Notts, to Christine Sophia, daughter of G. F. White.

REED—ROPES.—On the 6th inst., at Avranches, Normandy, Charles Edward Baines, son of Sir C. Reed, of Earlsmead, Tottenham, to Ailie Elizabeth, daughter of W. H. Ropes, Esq.

GREEN-BRERETON.—On April 27th, at the Church of St. Mary, Bedford, by the father of the bride, Edmund Green, Esq., J.P., Captain B.V.R., and W.M. of the Stuart Lodge, 540, to Mary, daughter of the Rev. Charles Brereton, B.C.L., Rector of St. Mary's, Rural Dean, and Chaplain of the lodge.

DEATHS.

JONES.—On the 6th inst., at Liverpool, aged 14, Constance Charlton, daughter of J. C. Jones.

HOOPER.—On the 19th March, at Yokohama, Henry John Hooper, aged 47.

COLEMAN.—On the 7th inst., at Surbiton, Kingston-on-Thames, Matthew Trollope Coleman, in his 65th year.

MAUND.—On the 6th inst., at Boulogne, John Maund, Esq., late of Ty Maur, Breconshire.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, MAY 13, 1876.

WELCOME HOME AGAIN.

"Home, Sweet Home" are the words of an old strain much cherished among us, and midst "pleasures and palaces," after all, we will add, "there is no place like home." And so to day, the entire Craft welcomes back its Grand Master to his "ain fireside," after many eventful scenes, many great dangers, and many long travels. His Royal progress has been a triumphant one. He has seen Athens and the Pyramids, he has visited the stout fortress of Aden, and the crumbling palaces of Goa. He has made a pilgrimage to all the most memorable of Indian localities, he has sojourned at Malta, greeted old Gib, been refreshed by Cadiz, wondered at Seville, loitered amid the silence of the Escorial, was pleased with Cordova, and fêted at Madrid, and having been welcomed at Lisbon and Cintra, and charmed with the Tagus (who is not?) he has safely traversed the Bay of Biscay, and has landed on the friendly beach of Portsmouth. His wife and children have met him off the Isle of Wight, and now he is well and happy, and genial and frank as ever, surrounded by the loving hearts of a loyal people, and cheered by the friendly sympathy of rejoicing millions. He has had an "outing" as they say, and no mistake. He is now one of the greatest of travellers, as he is one of the coolest of sportsmen, the kindest of companions, and the most pleasant of guests. A correspondent of the "*Journal des Debats*" says, he is a "man of iron," and tires every one else out, and is never tired himself, sees everything, notes everything. So much the better we say, and we rejoice to think that this voyage of the Prince of Wales has been one of great success, and of greater happiness to all concerned, from first to last. That some anxieties may have been felt for him amid the perils of the jungle and the climate of distant Hindostan is probably true, that those nearest and dearest to him may have grudged his long absence, and eagerly counted the hours of his return, is also undoubted, but still, through all and in all, a gracious Providence has protected his goodly progress, and we hail him once again with the proud loyalty of Englishmen. We trust that some arrangements may be made by which the Craft at large may be enabled to welcome home again its Royal Grand Master, as we feel sure that nothing would conduce more to call forth in most marked measure the deep attachment of our great and united Order to its royal head than some such advisable and seasonable festivity. For that admirable lady the august consort of the Prince of Wales, the feeling of the Craft has been, during the Prince of Wales's absence, as on his happy return, one of inexpressible sympathy. For her virtues, as well as for her graces, her kindness of disposition, and her admirable discharge of every duty connected with her exalted position, as Freemasons we share with a grateful and gratified community, the one prevailing feeling of loyal appreciation and devotion. To the Queen the safe return of our Royal Grand Master will be a subject of heartfelt and affectionate gratification, for her as well for all of the Royal family. The members of our Royal House have lately been much scattered, though soon now to be gathered together happily again, and for them, one and all, as patriotic Englishmen and true Freemasons, we all have and must have the thorough English sentiments of attachment and affection! It is most gratifying to every loyal Englishman to see and to know how in their several stations and high vocations our Royal Family are seeking so zealously to do their duty and be useful as members of the great body politic in their time and generation. Feeling that in venturing to say what we have said, however feebly, we are but expressing the uppermost opinion of every English Freemason; believing that we are, as it were, but re-echoing the hearty good wishes and devoted aspirations of our goodly and rejoicing Craft, we beg most respectfully and yet most fraternally to tender to our Royal Grand Master, in the humble pages of the "*Freemason*," a Masonic and heartfelt "Welcome Home" again.

We shall recur to our Royal Grand Master's reception at home in our next.

NO POLITICS.

We published in our last impression a letter which appeared in our contemporary, the "*Daily News*," with reference to a very foolish act, as regards our Masonic confraternity. Since then we have seen letters many and articles many on the same subject, and we feel bound not altogether to pass the matter over silently, for fear of any possible misconstruction. It seems that a Conservative association has had the extreme bad taste, to say the least of it, to send a form of petition to some lodges in reference to a purely political measure, which is called the Royal Titles Bill. We can only suppose that the secretaries, Messrs. Gorst and Neville, acted without consideration and somewhat hastily, and must we not say most indiscreetly? That they deliberately intended to insult the Masonic brotherhood we do not for a moment suppose, and we cannot believe; and we would fain hope that this was on their part a hasty step, unadvisedly taken, and without giving much thought to the evident solecism in propriety and good taste they were committing. We must all be struck with one fact which this regrettable incident evidences, viz., the great ignorance which prevails as to the true position and real principles of Freemasonry in this country. To suppose that because the Prince of Wales is at our head we should therefore depart one jot or tittle from our avowed neutrality on all political questions is practically to exhibit a very low opinion alike of the professions and practice of Freemasons. For if there is one thing which distinguishes us as a body it is our absolute abstention from anything that savours of political feelings or political opinions. We have in our Order members of various views on political questions, some perhaps as contrasted and as antagonistic as well may be outside of the lodge; but within the lodge, inside the pale of Masonry, we know nothing, absolutely nothing, of the divergent aspirations of statesmen or parties, we close our ears to the war cries of faction, we ignore the "Shibboleths" of partizan hosts. We are patriot citizens of our great country, but nothing more, and in respect of politics, our feelings and our flags are alike colourless, and altogether of a neutral tint. Indeed, it is one of the great boasts of Freemasonry, that in the lodge the cries of party are unheard, and the din of worldly politics never intrudes. It must, then, be a matter of mingled surprise and regret to us all, not only that such ignorance should prevail as to our real and distinct position in such a matter, but that any such ill-timed and ill-advised circular should have been forwarded to any of our lodges. We do not wish to make too much of the matter, we somehow believe that the proceeding, properly complained of, has arisen from haste, inadvertence, and a culpable carelessness, as no one can doubt, knowing Freemasonry at all, what must be the response from any lodge in England, and in Great Britain, to this untoward circular. One more remark we will make. It is curious enough that such a step should have been taken in the face of our Royal Grand Master's emphatic warning to the Craft not to meddle with politics, and, therefore, we feel sure that it is just one of those mistakes which will occur in the "best regulated families," and which we had better at once forget, and relegate to the "limbo" of all those little follies which men often commit, either through ignorance, through excitement, or through want of consideration, which in their calmer moments they regret, and which it is our duty, especially as Freemasons, kindly to condone and good humouredly to forget.

THE PROPOSED MASONIC LIBRARY AT SHEFFIELD.

We set before our readers in our last impression, by the kind communication of our energetic Bro. S. B. Ellis, Sheffield, the proposal—a very promising one, by the way—of a Joint Masonic Library for the three Craft lodges at Sheffield. For the announcement of such an effort we were glad to afford room in our overcrowded pages.

and we hail such a movement heartily and warmly. So far all seems to be most successful, and cheering alike for the present and with a happy augury for the future. "Sheffield blades" to use a Yorkshire term, generally succeed in what they heartily undertake, and we have no doubt, that our good brethren there, from what we remember of them, and many kind friends we had once among them—good Masons one and all—will demonstrate to others that the old Masonic fire still burns among them clear and strong. We commend, then most sincerely the scheme itself to the attention of our Order, and to the active support of those who will be so materially and Masonically benefitted by it. For of this one thing we may all be certain, Freemasonry has now assumed an intellectual position, which must be one of advance, and of active study. The days of apathy, indifference, levity, unconcern, all are gone, and in their stead we have to deal with the demands of a young, an ardent, an enquiring generation. It has been too long assumed that Freemasonry has no literature, whereas Freemasonry has a most extensive literature, and far too many of our older school, good Masons though they were, contented themselves, so to say, with the framework of Masonry, without seeking to master the spiritual teaching and the living soul within. Hence we always gladly welcome any effort which is made to emerge from the somewhat dull and monotonous level of mere lodge routine, and to incite to study, and to offer a premium to a Masonic and laudable desire for information and instruction on all that appertains to the archæology and literature of Freemasonry. It is a great reproach to us in England that we have so few lodge libraries. Let us trust that this will soon be among the shortcomings of the past, and will be atoned for by the efforts of the present generation of Freemasons. The Sheffield brethren have most wisely resolved to remedy this want, and to remove this blot in our Masonic system, by setting on foot a library open to all the lodges in that great and important town. We have looked over the provisional catalogue, and a very good one it is. Indeed to most of our brethren Masonic bibliography is an unknown country, and few are aware that Kloss's list of Masonic works, thirty years and more ago, wonderful as it is, is far from complete, and yet that it contains nearly 6000 works on Freemasonry and cognate subjects. Now, we must not expect too much at first from such a meritorious effort, nor shut our eyes to its attendant difficulties. Many prejudices have to be overcome, and many mistaken views changed, before we shall see anything like a general taste for Masonic literature amongst us. But for a first attempt, for a new scheme, the present proposal is a most successful one, and deserves the recognition and support of all who value Freemasonry for what it is, and who can find, whether in its history, or its symbolism, or its didactic expositions, much alike to improve the mind, to gratify the sympathies, to interest the intellect, and to warm the heart! We think, that Bro. S. B. Ellis and his associate Secretary and his co-workers in this judicious movement, deserve the commendation of all who wish well to the cultivation of intellectual studies and Masonic literature in our good and friendly Order.

THE TRIUMPH OF INTOLERANCE.

Just now intolerance is very vivacious, and is too often, alas! triumphant for the moment, so far, indeed, as this world deems it to be a triumph. We have read, not without emotion, in the to us ever sacred cause of true religion, an incident which has lately taken place at Halifax, in Yorkshire, and which appeared in the pages of our last impression. It seems that Permanent Sergeant Nale, of the 2nd West Yorkshire Yeomanry Cavalry, a fine regiment, and commanded by our gallant and esteemed Bro. Sir H. Edwards, Bart., P.G.M. for West Yorkshire, has lately died at Halifax, being a Roman Catholic. He was buried, after military honours, in the cemetery by Father Geary, Roman Catholic priest, who announced in the chapel it is alleged that "deceased had been a Freemason, but in order to die in the faith of the Roman Catholic Church he had previous to his death, renounced his connec-

tion with Freemasonry." We feel sure that all our brethren will read this announcement with equal surprise and pain, not to say indignation. But the first question that occurs to us all is, is the statement true? The recorded cases of death-bed renunciation are always doubtful, and, as we know, very frequently invented for the occasion! Remembering the Chatham case, we hesitate a good deal at receiving the exact accuracy of this somewhat startling announcement. But assuming it to be a fact, what a mournful commentary it is on the very religion we all of us in common profess. We say nothing here of the principle of insubordination here set up before the rest of the regiment of yeomanry, the "imperium in imperio," the oblique censure thus cast on the commanding officer and all others who are Freemasons. What has Freemasonry perpetrated, what have Freemasons done that it and they should be made the "fulcrum" of intolerance and the sport of bigotry? Have we not enough evidences in the world of the unchanged fanaticism of humanity without invoking the holy name of religion, and the solemn moments of the death-bed to sanction and consecrate as it were the dictates of a retrograde barbarism? When in 1738 Pope Clement first launched his fiery anathema against the Order, he laid the foundation for all that hopeless intolerance and inane violence in which the Church of Rome has thought proper ever since to indulge in respect of Freemasons and Freemasonry. Just now Roman Catholics, that is, the Ultramontane party, are in a state of "monomania" as regards Freemasonry. And though many Roman Catholics are in our ranks it has become for them a matter, no doubt, of much conscientious difficulty, in face of the Bulls of their Popes now reproduced and revived by their chief authorities, and the course taken by Roman Catholic priests nearly everywhere. But it appears to us that it is idle to protest against such proceedings, deeply as we sympathize with our Roman Catholic brother Freemasons, and we have, as it also appears to us, but one course to pursue—to express our honest indignation at such irregular proceedings, and at such unwarrantable bigotry. We have this one consolation, that in so acting Rome is so outraging the feelings of our common humanity that sooner or later there must be a reaction, even in the minds of her most devoted children. During the last few years, animated by the spirit of Dominic, and rivalling the "animus" of Torquemada, the Roman Catholic Church has insulted the living and outraged the dead, as our own columns have clearly shown on incontestable authority; and at this very moment the clergy of her Church spare no efforts to ridicule, to denounce, and to insult Freemasons and Freemasonry. Be it so. We are not afraid of the issue, and we do not shrink from the struggle. On one side are the great principles of toleration, charity, justice, and goodwill to our brethren, moral right, and liberty of conscience; on the other hand, that unbridled fanaticism and that unhesitating animosity which encouraged the massacre of St. Bartholomew, which lighted the fires of Smithfield, which has violated decency and disgraced humanity, and has made the name of religion a stumbling block and a scorn to the sceptic and unbeliever. It may perhaps be not generally known, but under the Bull of Clement, 1738, on which Rome is still professedly acting, Freemasons are to be treated as stubborn heretics, to be summoned before the Inquisition, and handed over to the secular arm to be burnt. Such being the actual and official position of the Roman Curia in this deliberate persecution of Freemasons, we will next week consider what is the moral right by which the Church of Rome professes to issue such edicts, to follow such a degrading course, both of teaching and action.

GIRLS' SCHOOL.

The anniversary festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls took place on Wednesday, the 10th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, under the presidency of Bro. Sir Henry Edwards, Bart., P.G.M. for West Yorkshire, when the goodly amount of £8214 11s. was announced, with twelve lists to come. We shall recur to the subject in our next.

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.]

BRO. "LUX," AND OFFICERS' JEWELS OF THE "YORK SYSTEM."

To the Editor of The Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I have been much interested in reading the letter by "Lux" respecting officers' jewels belonging to a lodge "constituted 1765 under the old York regime."

Will he kindly inform me where the lodge was held A.D. 1765, its present number, and the title of the proper Grand Lodge which constituted the lodge in question?

I shall esteem it a favour by his so doing, especially if by "the old York system" he means the "Grand Lodge of all England," formerly held in the city of York, but long ago extinct.

Unless such is meant of course the title of "York system" is wrongly used, and so I await an explanation from our Bro. "Lux," at his convenience.

WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN.

WHAT NEXT, INDEED?

To the Editor of the Freemason.

New York, April 10, 1876.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I wrote you a few days since respecting an article in your issue of the 11th March, entitled, "What Next, Indeed?" and having just received the enclosed verbatim copy of a letter which is so peculiarly applicable to the subject under discussion I venture again to trespass on your attention. Its history is as follows:—The R.W.M. of a lodge in your city lately sent me three comical photographs, representing the "Admission," "Initiation," and "Ordeal" of a candidate. These I sent to the fair daughter of one of the office-bearers of Montgomery Lodge, No. 69, New York, with a note expressive of my desire to enlighten her as to the mysteries of our Craft and of admiration of her earnest zeal in the acquirement of such knowledge.

What was my astonishment on reading her reply I must ask you to imagine. Suffice it to say that the worst fears of Past Master Dobbin are now fully realised, and Freemasonry may now be considered as a thing of the past. In the midst of such utter demoralization it will be gratifying to Bro. Simmonds to know that my fair correspondent declares his namesake here able to "work the Third" better than any man in the United States. This eminent brother is also an office bearer in Montgomery Lodge, now for ever famous or infamous as having been the means of destroying our ancient Craft. I am told that, having a peculiar knack of twisting his thumb in and out of joint, he has not only betrayed this well-known sign, but divulged our most secret words, "Tit," "Tat," "Toe."

The game is now up; let us invite our fair friends to reunions where such signs and such words may frankly be stated; their curiosity will thus be fully satisfied, and their aid in the support of Freemasonry be gratefully given.

I am, &c.,

ST. MARY'S CHAPEL, No. 1.

[COPY.]

New York.

My dear Mr. —

Allow me to thank you very sincerely for the pictures you sent me. But do you imagine that I did not know all about it before? When I visited Montgomery Lodge I looked in every corner for the gridiron and the red-hot poker with which the Masons are branded, although I suppose the poker is only heated when you work the First. You seem highly interested in my "thirst for knowledge," and I can appreciate your feelings.

You say one word begins with an "L" and ends with an "E." Is it Love? There is no secret in Masonry but the peculiar mode of saying "Tit-Tat-Toe." I shall put the pictures in my album, and would consider it a great favour if you would send me your photograph. I kept my eyes open at the installation, and saw the peculiar turn of the thumb, the nail pointing outwards and the fingers extended, and now I can do it as well as yourself. I know all about the "Inner Temple of Truth," the "attentive ear," "instructive tongue," and the three pillars "Beauty," "Wisdom," and "Strength," and the G.A.O.T.U., and the "Grand Honours." I hear that Mr. G. Simons can "work the Third" better than any other man in the United States.

With kind regards for all, believe me,

Yours very truly,

"LILLIE."

DISCONTINUANCE OF THE FREEMASON.

To the Editor of The Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I have perused with interest a forcible leading article in your issue of 22nd April, headed, "Discontinuance of the 'Freemason.'" At the close mention is made of the "Anglo-Saxon brotherhood." I perceive, Sir, at the present day, a tendency in journalism to ignore plain Saxon English, and to introduce words of Greek and Latin origin. Indeed, we seem travelling out of English altogether. Moreover, actual Latin and Greek words are thrust in continually. No doubt the majority of readers of the "Freemason" are good classical scholars. But in some cases it may not be so. I notice in your leading article as above "tendencies of our excellent clientele." What is this last word? Is it French? and what does it mean? Further on, I find "sub sigillo confessionis." Again "proh pudor," which is a Latin phrase denoting exclamation and astonishment with scorn; it is found in several Latin authors; for instance, Martial X. 68-6. The word "opine," too, is used in the article—o

Latin origin and scarcely suitable in popular journalism for ordinary people.

Your obedient servant fraternally,
A STICKLER FOR PLAIN ENGLISH.

4th May, 1876.

[We are sorry that our correspondent dislikes Latin? But it is not our fault. We will allude to the subject next week or week after.—ED.]

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

So many exaggerated statements with reference to "extravagance" and "recklessness" in connection with the expenditure of this Institution have been circulated during the past year that I think it only due to the Committees and Executive to publish for the information of all who continue to take a kindly interest in our welfare, the details of cost for the year 1875:—

	TOTAL.	PER BOY.
Establishment Charges...	£5817 5 4	£34 8 5
Office Expenditure.....	1024 16 5	6 1 3½
	£6842 1 9	£40 9 8½

The average number of boys in the establishment in 1875 was 169, as compared with 156 in 1874, in which year—

	TOTAL.	PER BOY.
Establishment Charges...	£5880 18 10	£37 13 11½
Office Expenditure.....	959 10 10	6 3 0
	£6840 9 8	£43 16 11½

The result proves the maintenance, &c., of 13 additional boys, at an additional cost of £1 12s. 1d. only, and a reduction in the cost per boy per annum of £3 7s. 3d. The same basis of calculation has been adopted as in former years, it being open to any one to make such additions as in his opinion ought to be included.

Trusting that the Governors and subscribers may consider this statement as re-assuring and satisfactory,

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

REGALIA.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

"R.W.O." asks, "How is it that (say) ninety-nine out of every hundred Past Masters wear a gold or gilt jewel, when the Constitutions distinctly say it shall be in silver, &c.?"

Allow me to say that he and "Ad Rem" are confounding presentation jewels with the regulation jewels. If he should become eligible to attend Grand Lodge, he will find that he will be required to wear his silver regulation jewel. With respect to the gold jewels (in most cases presented to the P.M. by the members of the lodge), he will find they are sanctioned by the Book of Constitutions, viz.:—"No jewel shall be worn in lodge other than those specified for the officers, except such honorary or other jewels as shall be consistent with those degrees recognised by the Grand Lodge as part of ancient Freemasonry."

Yours fraternally,

MAGNUS OHREN,
Past Grand Jun. Warden for Surrey.

Multum in Parvo; or Masonic Notes and Queries.

Can any brother put me in the way of obtaining a copy of Bro. HUGHAN'S "Memorials of the Masonic Union of 1813?" Also a copy of Bro. HUGHAN'S "Constitutions of the Freemasons of 1869?"

If so, I shall feel very much obliged, as they are wanted for the Sheffield Masonic Library, and I am prepared to pay a fair price for them, or reciprocate in any way desired the favour of receiving copies to complete our set of that well-known brother's Masonic works.

S. B. ELLIS, Hon. Sec.

Brocco Bank, Sheffield.

CONSECRATION OF THE MERLIN LODGE (No. 1578) AT PONTYPRIDD.

On Thursday, 27th ult., there was a large gathering of Masonic brethren at the New Inn Hotel, Pontypridd, on the occasion of the consecration of the Merlin Lodge of the Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons (No. 1578). Upwards of 100 of the brethren from all parts of the eastern district assembled and took part in the proceedings. Some disappointment was created by the fact that the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Theodore Mansel Talbot, was unable to be present through a severe attack of illness with which he was seized on his last day in the hunting field. In his absence, the ceremony of consecration was performed by Bro. E. J. Morris, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master.

Among those present were:—Bros. E. J. Morris, D.P.G.M.; J. C. Parkinson, J.P., P.G.D. England, P.D.G.M. Middlesex; the Rev. A. H. Truman, P.M., P.P.G.C. Somerset, No. 671; W. Hall, P.P.S.G.W.; Evan Thomas, 679, P.G.D.C.; William Morris, 679, P.P.G.S.D.; William Hodges, 679, P.P.G.S.; E. J. Thomas, 36, P.P.G.D.C.; S. Weichert, 36, P.M., W.M.; W. G. Davies, 364, P.P.G.S.W.; and D. Hopkins, 960, W.M. 960; Past Masters:—Brothers W. Whittington, 364, S.G.W.; W. J. Morgan, 476, P.P.J.G.W.; E. Roberts, 192; Rowland Thomas, 364, P.M.; J. Robertson, 679; W. H. Davies, 960, P.P.J.G.D.; W. J. Thomas, 679; Henry Green, 364, P.G.D.; Charles Taylor, 110, P.C.J.D.; Evan Jones, 679; S. Cooper, 36, P.P.S.G.O.;

J. Hurman, 960, P.P.S.G.O.; W. Parton Garrett, W.M. 364; T. G. Glass, 36, P.P.G.P.; G. H. White, 679; Charles Wilkins, 110; Samuel Hern, 960; D. Rees Lewis, 110; Evan Jones, 679; Wm. Taylor, 36; W. Little, 679; H. Stair, 364; J. Williams, 36; T. Goodfellow, 110; and brethren representing nearly every lodge in the province.

The brethren assembled in the ante-room, and then walked in procession to the lodge-room. The lodge-room was opened in the usual Masonic form by Bro. S. Weichert, the W.M. of the Glamorgan Lodge, No. 36, assisted by the W.M. of the Bute Lodge, No. 960, and their officers. The Worshipful the Dep. Prov. G.M. and the officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge entered the lodge in procession, marshalled by the Prov. and P. Prov. Directors of Ceremonies.

The chair of the lodge having been taken by the W. the Dep. Prov. G.M., the ceremony of consecration proceeded.

Bro. Morris, in a few preliminary remarks, spoke of the solemn nature of the ceremony they were met to celebrate, and expressed the great regret with which they would hear of the illness of the Provincial Grand Master, which had entirely incapacitated him from being present on that occasion.

The hymn was then sung.—

"Hail! Eternal, by whose aid."

The petition to the Grand Master for the formation of the Merlin Lodge was then read, together with the warrant authorising its creation. The officers appointed under the warrant were as follows:—Bros. John Edwards Price, W.M.; Matthew Wayne Morgan, S.W.; and George John Alexander, J.W.

The Deputy Provincial Grand Master then called upon the Provincial Grand Chaplain, Bro. the Rev. A. H. Truman, to deliver an address on the advantages of Freemasonry.

Bro. Truman spoke of the high and holy duties of Freemasonry, and said they were founded upon the three great principles which would be found in the Bible, namely, to fear God, to honour the Queen, and to love the brotherhood. The brotherhood included members of every religious denomination, and of every shade of political party, but these considerations were never allowed to weigh in the conduct of Masonic lodges. He said that Masonry must have something ennobling in it, or it would not increase as it had done and was doing concurrently with the growth of religious feeling in the country.

At the conclusion of the rev. brother's remarks, the brethren sang the hymn:—

"To heaven's high Architect all praise."

The ceremony of consecration was then proceeded with, the corn, wine, oil, and salt being carried round the lodge in the usual Masonic form. The Deputy Prov. Grand Master having declared the lodge duly consecrated, the brethren then sang

"Now the evening's shadows closing."

The Deputy Prov. Grand Master then called upon Bro. Parkinson to present the Worshipful Master designate for installation, which Bro. Parkinson then did in graceful and felicitous terms.

A Board of Installation was then formed, at which there were present thirty Worshipful and Past Masters, and Bro. Price was inducted in the Master's chair according to ancient custom, the ceremony being most ably conducted by the Worshipful the Deputy Provincial G.M.

On the re-assembling of the brethren Bro. Parkinson delivered the customary address in a most impressive manner, after which the lodge was reduced to the usual form, and the Worshipful Master proceeded to invest his officers, paying to each an appropriate and graceful compliment on accession to office. The following are the officers:—Bros. Matthew Wayne Morgan, S.W.; George John Alexander, J.W.; William Williams, Treasurer; Harry Cousins, Secretary; Robert William Tolfree, Senior Deacon; Israel Williams, Junior Deacon; A. A. M'Lucas, Director of Ceremonies; John Walter Morgan, Organist; John Jones, Inner Guard; George Frederick Down and James Jepson, Stewards.

On the motion of the W.M., seconded by the J.W., a hearty vote of thanks was awarded to the Dep. Prov. G.M., a vote of sympathy to the Prov. G.M. on his illness and votes of thanks to the distinguished brethren who had assisted in the ceremony. Motions were also made by the Master and S.W. for the election of the R.W. Prov. G.M., Bro. Talbot, and the W. Dep. Prov. G.M., Bro. Morris, as honorary members of the lodge. Eighteen of the leading gentlemen in the neighbourhood were then proposed for initiation at the first lodge meeting in May, and two brethren for joining. The lodge was afterwards closed in due form. The musical arrangements were ably conducted by Bro. Atkins, Mus. Doc. Oxon, P.G.O., and the lodge-room was elaborately decorated with flags and flowers, lent by Bro. Hurman, P.M. 960, and Bro. Meredith, 110.

THE BANQUET.

In the evening a grand banquet took place at the New Inn, Pontypridd, to which nearly 100 brethren sat down. The banquet was served in a manner to reflect the greatest credit upon Mrs. Cousins, especially as a much larger number of brethren attended than was originally expected.

After the cloth had been cleared, the W.M., who occupied the chair, gave the toasts of "The Queen," "The Craft," and "The Most Worshipful Grand Master the Prince of Wales," in eloquent terms.

In giving the toast of "The Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master," the W.M. dealt in feeling terms upon the illness which had prevented Bro. Talbot from being present that day. He hoped that he would soon be restored to health. The toast was drunk with the greatest enthusiasm.

The Worshipful Master then proposed "The Health of the Deputy Provincial Grand Master (Bro. E. J. Morris),"

and in doing so spoke of his long connection with, and services to, the province. He dwelt upon the assistance which Bro. Morris had given towards the formation of a lodge in Pontypridd, which had resulted in the Merlin Lodge, which had been consecrated that day. (Hear, hear.) He also dwelt upon the encouragement which Bro. Morris had given towards the formation of the new lodge. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. Morris, in replying, said that nearly all the consecration ceremonies in the province had been hitherto performed by the P. Grand Master in a manner which led every one to admire his knowledge of Masonic ceremonies. He said that although the brethren might have sanctioned his working of the consecration ceremony, they would have had a greater treat had Bro. Talbot been present. He had striven joyfully to perform his duty, and when it came to his retirement he hoped that he would be followed by the good wishes of all the members of the several lodges. He had several times lately thought of giving way after a long period of service—(cries of "No, no")—and of retiring into private life. If he ultimately took this step he hoped they would think only of what he had done, and take little notice of his shortcomings. (Hear, hear.) He had been able to place upon undying record that South Wales had become a large charity-giving province. Twelve years ago they were giving some £40 or £50 a year, and during the last year their subscriptions had amounted to between £400 and £500. (Hear, hear.)

The W.M. then gave the toast of "The Visitors," coupling with it the name of Bro. J. C. Parkinson, of whose reputation as a gentleman and a distinguished Mason he spoke most eulogistically.

Bro. J. C. Parkinson, in replying, said the manner in which the D.P.G.M. had treated his Masonic career might well make him bashful in the task before him. He wished them to welcome him, not as a stranger, but as the P.M. of an adjoining lodge, and as a friend, and as a neighbour. (Hear, hear.) He had assisted at many consecrations, but he had seldom, if ever, been at any where greater premise was shown than in the beginning of the Merlin Lodge. (Hear, hear.) They were not only strong in themselves, but the proposed recruits were among the best class of intellectual bread-winners. In conclusion, he wished the members of the Merlin Lodge God speed upon their voyage, and hoped he would be present on many occasions to see their progress.

Bro. the Rev. Mr. Truman also returned thanks for the visitors in a humorous speech, which was greatly relished.

Bro. E. J. Morris then proposed the toast of "The W.M. of the Merlin Lodge," which was given with full Masonic honours.

The W.M. returned thanks in fitting and feeling terms.

The other toasts were—"The Provincial Grand Officers," "The Lodges of the Province," and "The Masonic Charities and the Officers."

The speeches were interspersed with some excellent songs by Bros. Cousins, Soper, Jones, Hurman, Titus, Lewis, and Elliott; and the brethren separated soon after ten, after having spent a most pleasant day, and one worthy to be marked by the whitest of white stones in the annals of Freemasonry in South Wales.

Bro. E. J. Morris had been at great trouble to make up a very elaborate and unique Shakespearean programme or dinner carte, which was put before the brethren at the banquet.

MASONIC FEMALE ORPHAN SCHOOL, DUBLIN.

The Exhibition Palace has recently been the scene of many very brilliant reunions, but we doubt very much whether it has ever presented a more festive appearance than it did on the 28th ult., on the occasion of the presentation of the prizes to the pupils of the Masonic Female Orphan School. The brethren have from year to year shown their deep interest in the welfare of the institution by attending the ceremony in very large numbers; yet on no previous similar occasion has there been so vast an assemblage present, for not only was the great concert hall filled to overflowing, but even a larger number than were accommodated within it were unable to obtain seats. At the conclusion of the formal business in the concert room, the prizes were distributed to the successful pupils by Lady G. Hamilton. The arrangements in the grand concert hall were excellent, and reflected much credit on the following brethren who acted as Stewards:—George Bell, Dr. G. Beatty, Isaac Cole, John D. Elliott, Thomas Fitzgerald, Henry E. Flavelle, Charles Foot, Robert Furlong, John F. Goodman, George Grice, Walter Gyles, George Harvey, George Henderson, John V. Legge, Isaac Molloy, Fletcher Moore, Wm. Peebles, John P. Ryan, J. H. Woodworth, J. J. L. Robinson, Wm. Roper, Robert W. Symmes, W. T. Welland, George Westby, James H. North, and Dr. Bennett.

Prior to the opening of the proceedings the occupants of the hall had the pleasure of listening to the performance of the following selections on the great organ by Bro. Charles O. Grandison, Grand Organist:—Introduction to sacred cantata "God is Love," Mrs. J. Robinson; andante in G, Batiſte; prelude and fugue, (C minor, Mendelssohn; "Beauty's praise," Weber; "Ave Maria," Schubert; Cornelius's March, Mendelssohn.

His Grace the Duke of Abercorn arrived at about half-past eight o'clock, and was received by Bro. Shekleton, Deputy Grand Master, and other office-bearers. His Grace was accompanied by Lady Georgiana Hamilton, Lord Ernest Hamilton, Lord Frederick Hamilton, Mr. Gustavus, Lady Fanny and the Misses Lambert, and Colonel and Mrs. Bernard. At nine o'clock the procession was formed, and the M.W. Grand Master, his Grace the Duke of Abercorn, was conducted from the Leinster Hall to the Grand Concert Hall.

The Grand Master having taken his seat on the throne, the pupils of the school, followed by the pupils of the boys' school, entered the room, and occupied the seats provided for them in front of the platform.

The M.W. Grand Master having been saluted according to ancient custom, two verses of the 100th psalm were sung.

Dr. Elrington, Q.C., hon. sec., having read the report, His Grace the Duke of Abercorn, Grand Master, who, on rising, was received with loud and prolonged applause, said:—Ladies and Brethren,—From the report which we have just heard we may congratulate ourselves upon the success which has attended the Female Masonic Orphan School. From the report we hear that at no time has the institution been in a more prosperous state than it is at the present moment, and that the number of pupils that it is enabled to support has of late years been increased by a very great amount. Among the cheering results which we may look to with satisfaction it is most gratifying to know that in no one case has any pupil brought disgrace upon the institution (cheers), also that the situations in which they are placed on leaving school are such as are suitable for persons in the better and more educated classes. Of all the enormous and important benefits which the brotherhood of Freemasonry has conferred upon mankind there is none more useful or more interesting than that by which it is enabled to support the orphans of its members, and to give them an education and a teaching which shall show them those high social and moral duties of which Freemasonry is the earnest and incessant exponent. Ladies and brethren, on behalf of those children who have already benefited by this institution, and on behalf of those who, we hope, in future will also have the advantage of benefiting by it, I thank you for your presence here to-night, and for the interest you have shown in the objects of the institution. (Applause.)

The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor then moved the following resolution:—"That the report now read be adopted, printed, and circulated, and that the thanks of this meeting are due to the members of the several committees of the institution, and also to the medical officers of the school, for the zealous and efficient manner in which they have discharged the duties devolving upon them, and for the lively interest they take in everything conducive to the prosperity and progress of the pupils of the Masonic Female Orphan School." He said—It affords me no ordinary pleasure to propose the resolution which has just been handed to me. The marked care bestowed on these little orphans is the strongest proof of the efficient manner the committee and medical officers have discharged their duties and looked after their welfare. What greater evidence could be produced of the reality of our motto, "Love and good will" to all men, than the brotherly succour to these little ones left alone in the world. The gratification I feel, is enhanced to a great extent by the opportunity afforded me of addressing your Grace as Grand Master of our Order in Ireland, who, from your elevated position, have ever laboured to promote peace, love, and harmony in this country. I firmly hope your Grace may be long spared to represent her Gracious Majesty, and to continue your unceasing efforts to further the prosperity of Ireland. (Applause.)

The Right Hon. the Vice-Chancellor seconded the resolution, which was adopted.

The female pupils performed the following pianoforte music:—Duet, A. M. Copeland, P. Shegog, "Grand Caprice Hongrois," Ketterer; solo, G. Harte, "Les Couriers," Ritter; solo, G. Gill, "Pasquinade," Gottschale; duet, K. Baker and M. Burdge, "Chanson Napolitaine," Forbes; solo, Miss Williams (pupil teacher), "Fantasia, Irish Airs," Thalberg.

The National Anthem was then sung, the solo parts being rendered by the female pupils.

The procession having been reformed, the Grand Master was conducted to the dais in the Glass Building, where the distribution of prizes by Lady Georgiana Hamilton took place.

At the conclusion of the distribution of prizes, an address to Bro. Samuel B. Oldham from the Committee of the Boys' School, was read by Bro. George Hill Major, and a similar address to Bro. Oldham from the Committee of the Girls' School was read by Dr. J. F. Elrington. An address from the pupils of the Girls' School was also presented to Bro. Oldham.

Deputy Grand Master R. W. Shekleton, on behalf of the governors of the school, tendered their thanks to his Grace the Duke of Abercorn for attending on that occasion.

His Grace the Duke of Abercorn briefly acknowledged the compliment.

The greater number of the visitors remained for a considerable time to enjoy the promenade and the fine music of the band of the Lancers.

THE MASONIC BALL IN LIVERPOOL.—The success attending the recent Annual Masonic Ball in Liverpool, in aid of the funds of West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution, has only once been exceeded, and then under very exceptional circumstances, when the attractions of Royal decorations and increased dancing space were added to the claims of the charity. For the unprecedented success which has crowned the annual festive gathering of the fraternity in 1876 the "lion's share" of the credit is due to Bro. Henry Nelson, P.M. 673 and 1505, the Honorary Secretary for the ball, who spared neither pains nor expense in making the result so creditable to the Masons of Liverpool, and so helpful to the noble institution which is the boast and pride of the Province of West Lancashire. At the final meeting of the committee, Bro. Nelson handed over the handsome sum of £251 18s., as the contribution resulting for the ball in aid of the "West Lancashire," and he well-deserved the hearty recognition which his labours received at the hands of the committee, as it well merits the applause of the brethren outside the role of the committee.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The 88th anniversary festival of this Institution was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Tavern. The festival was a decided success, for the brethren mustered in large numbers, and the subscription list was enormous. About 300 brethren sat down to a banquet, headed by Sir Henry Edwards, Bart., Deputy Lieutenant, and provincial Grand Master of West Yorkshire. He was supported by the following brethren:—Rev. C. J. Martyn, S. Tomkins, J. A. Rucker, Percy Leith, Dr. Jabez Hogg, Robert Grey, Joshua Nunn, E. P. Albert, T. Cubitt, S. Foxall, Colonel Burdett, Colonel Adair, John Hervey, Colonel Creaton, Benjamin Head, W. E. Gumbleton, Hyde Pullen, A. J. Duff Filer, John Johnasson, W. Winn, J. G. Chancellor, T. W. Tew, Isaac Booth, W. Paas, W. Peters, A. H. Tattershall, R. J. Boyall, C. F. Hogard, H. C. Levander, Griffiths Smith, Priestley Churchill Edwards, Peter Matthews, Dr. Barringer, C. A. Cottbune, H. C. Tombs, A. Schmitt, George Kenning, Hormusjee Jamsetjee Rustomjee, T. W. White, James Terry, Herbert Dicketts, E. Haigh, John Boyd, W. Hilton, W. T. Howe, Charles Horsley, J. T. Moss, Joseph Smith, and Charles Atkins. About 200 ladies were also present.

After the banquet had been partaken of, grace was sung by the musical brethren and a choir of boys, and the toasts were then proposed.

In giving the toast of "The Queen," the Chairman said Her Majesty was the daughter of an illustrious Mason. Three of her Royal sons were members of the Craft, and had already distinguished themselves in the country to which they belonged. The Queen had an additional claim on the affections of her subjects, especially Freemasons, as she was the patroness of one of the most charitable institutions of the Order. Her bright example in her public life as well as in her social and domestic position had been the best examples to her subjects.

The Chairman next gave "The M.W.G.M. the Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, and the other members of the Royal Family." He said the Prince of Wales was patron and President of the Institution, the Princess of Wales was patroness, and the other members of the Royal Family supported it. It had been the good fortune of English Freemasonry for nearly a century to be in the closest alliance with the Royal House of Brunswick, and the fact that so illustrious and beloved a Prince as the Heir Apparent to these realms was their Head Master strengthened that alliance he hoped into a bond that would never be broken. They were then on the very eve of the Prince's return from the East to his native land. To-morrow he would be greeted by millions of his countrymen with enthusiasm. As Masons, let them hail his return with joy, with loyalty, and affection.

The Chairman then gave "The Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon," and spoke in high terms of his distinction as a University man, as a Freemason, and a statesman. He occupied a distinguished position now, and was ever to the front either in politics or Masonry.

The Chairman next gave "Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers." Lord Skelmersdale, he said, was well known, not only in his own province and in the north, but also in the south of England, with the Masons of which localities he had become acquainted by his working and readiness to preside on all occasions when his services were required. He coupled the name of Bro. Colonel Burdett with the toast.

Colonel Burdett, Prov. G.M. for Middlesex, responded. He said he had so often had to respond to this toast that he believed he had nothing more to say. But, although he had little to say, it gave him great pleasure again to stand up and respond for the Grand Officers. With respect to those brethren, he was sure every brother would appreciate the services of every officer that had been appointed. No one had ever been able to find fault with them. He did not wish to take up more time than was necessary, but he thought he should be very remiss indeed if he did not take this opportunity of expressing his high appreciation and approba-

tion of the way in which the chair had been filled that evening. (Great cheering.) He was sure when he mentioned that subject it would be received in the most enthusiastic manner. There was no brother more ready to support the charities in every possible way than Sir Henry Edwards, their present chairman. (Hear, hear.) He (Bro. Col. Burdett) was fortunate in being able to be present at the Girls' School to support Sir Henry Edwards on the previous Monday when he distributed the prizes; and he hoped he should have many more opportunities of supporting him. He was very much pleased on that occasion with every thing he saw there; indeed, he might say he was as much pleased as ever he had been in his life. There had hardly been any institution which had gained so much appreciation, and he was very glad of it, for it was deserving of everything good that could be thought of or done for it. In now mentioning the subject of the Girls' School, he had the greatest pleasure in introducing to the notice of the brethren the "Chairman of the evening," Sir Henry Edwards, and he trusted the brethren would honour the toast most enthusiastically.

The toast having been duly honoured.

The Chairman said that until he rose to propose the last toast he had not had the least idea that his friend and Bro. Col. Burdett was about to follow him, and he could only tell him this—that what he had said of him had been very kind, and to him he felt greatly obliged. He then said—Brethren, it is now my pleasing duty to ask you to drink "Prosperity to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls." Masonic education means the moral, social, and intellectual development of our orphan girls, and is well worthy of the Craft's deepest interest and most anxious consideration. For a considerable time the executive of this festival was in hopes to have been enabled to announce that H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught would kindly preside, but in consequence of a strong doubt being expressed that H.R.H. would not be in England on this day, other arrangements had to be made. We greatly regret his unavoidable absence, for we know with what tact and ability he would have fulfilled the duties of this chair. This is the first occasion upon which I have occupied the chair at Freemasons' Hall at a gathering of the Craft, and the province of West Yorkshire cannot but feel highly gratified by the circumstance that I should have been solicited to accept the presidency for this day. The history of this Institution has in past years been so often and forcibly placed before the Craft by my distinguished predecessors in this chair, that it is unnecessary for me to dilate at any great length, or to say much, on the wisdom of Freemasons in founding this school at St. John's Hill, Battersea Rise. The benevolence of the brethren on previous occasions has always met the requirements of their day. But the progress which the Craft has since made, and the condition of the brethren as regards numbers and wealth has so completely changed, even within the last fifty years, that the capabilities of the original school house have long ago been outstripped by the increasing demands of applicants for admission to the benefits of this charity. At the last quarterly general court, out of a list of forty three candidates, eleven girls were elected. I understand that it will now require at least £8,479 to provide for the yearly maintenance of the buildings and for the education of over 200 girls. I doubt not, whatever, this sum will be forthcoming, and that even in these difficult and expensive times you will feel that you have not done your duty as benevolent Craftsmen if your efforts fall below the requirements of the institution. The funded property is represented by £36,500 invested in consols, and, in my opinion, this is a most gratifying financial feature, and, in addition, between £29 and £30,000 has been expended upon the grounds and buildings at St. John's Hill. Brethren, you may well be proud of the results hitherto achieved by former liberality and pecuniary efforts, and may point to the fact that this is the 88th anniversary festival, that since the foundation of the charity 1,062 girls have been maintained, clothed, and educated within the school walls, and that at the present time 152 girls are domiciled in the institution, receiving the benefits of the charity, and as soon

as the present alterations are completed this number will be increased to over 200. The liberal education provided in this school could not but brighten and increase the future prospects of the inmates. They thereby hold the key in their own hands which will open the door to any employment, and tend to produce in them habits of industry, and the practice of every social, moral, and religious duty conducive, not merely to their temporal welfare, but to their eternal happiness in the Grand Lodge above. To our hands then is entrusted the noble and sacred charge of the maintenance and future welfare of our Girls' School. The brethren will not, I feel sure, be slow in coming forward on this occasion with liberal hands in support of this charity. This institution is deservedly popular amongst you. I desire that it should prosper on the basis upon which it was originally established. I, for my part, knowing generally the thriving condition of the Craft, and its increasing numbers, as also their advance in social position, in industry, and in wealth—think that the annual lists should shew a greater number of contributors from the general ranks of the Craft instead of from a few of its prominent members. Though this school is 88 years old, yet I trust its usefulness is only in its infancy, and that it will be extended beyond its present capabilities and may eventually be able to receive every candidate that may be presented at the biennial elections. It depends upon your voluntary exertions whether all the applicants shall be successful candidates or not. It requires no unusual effort, no great pecuniary sacrifices. The numerous advantages which this charity confers upon our orphan girls should give it a strong claim upon your sympathies. Its future success depends upon your response to this appeal, and I confidently hope for the honour of the Craft, and for the sake of the orphan girls that the announcement you will enable the Secretary, Bro. Little, to make to-night will be more generous and complete than has been recorded at any other previous anniversary festival. He (the chairman) had been much pleased with a visit he paid to the Girls' School on Monday last. He had the honour on that occasion, in company with Lady Edwards, to present the prizes to those pupils who had gained them up to last Christmas. It was the first time he had ever visited the Institution, and he found there everything satisfactory and complete. As regarded all the arrangements for the comfort and welfare of the pupils there could be no doubt whatever that the advantages to be derived from such an institution were unparalleled. They were taught the construction of English grammar and English literature; and the last examination proved how many had attained to excellence in various languages, music, drawing and needlework. He was astonished at the pronunciation of these young girls in French and German; so much so that he enquired of the head governess, Miss Davis, on the spot whether they had dwelt for any time on the continent. When he found that they had not he was the more astonished. Their musical performances were marvellous. There were thirty hands on the pianofortes at one time; they had no leader; and he would defy the most accomplished musician to detect any fault. Lady Edwards concurred with him in saying that it was marvellous. The calisthenic exercises also surprised him; and their precision could not be objected to by the most accomplished military men. In support of this statement he would refer to Col. Burdett. Above all there was a gentleness of manner in the whole behaviour of the pupils that was the greatest treat of all. He would advise every brother to go to the school and spend a day there. There was no place in England he would sooner go to for a day's enjoyment. He most heartily commended the institution to the support of the brethren, and in proposing "Success to the Institution" he would call on Bro. S. L. Tomkins, to reply. (Cheers.)

When the toast had been received,

Bro. S. L. Tomkins said it was with mingled feelings of regret and pleasure that he responded; of regret because the Grand Treasurer, who was the Treasurer of the institution was unable to be present; and of pleasure that he should be called

upon to answer for him. He was proud to be associated with this noble institution, which all Masons thought was the greatest honour to the Craft. It had been most successful, and most favoured. All Masons would allow that they had the greatest affection for this institution from the natural feeling that they had to help the helpless and assist the fatherless. There the Girls' School commended itself to the sympathy and affection of the brethren in a way that the other institutions did not. In his own person he had seen how successful this institution had been in its management, and also what great affection the inmates had for the matron and those who were set over them. He thought the school was a model for all similar institutions, and that many, many other institutions, where the money was wasted, and where the children were not properly looked after and brought up might, well take a lesson from the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. He hoped that the efforts of the brethren would be even more successful and powerful than they had ever been before.

Bro. Thomas W. White, as Bro. Little, the Secretary, was suffering from ill health, then announced the following subscriptions:—

	£	s.	d.
Grand Stewards' Lodge, Bros. Edwin March	30	9	0
2 W. Hope, M.D. ...	45	13	6
4 A. C. Veley ...	16	16	0
5 John Hampton Hale ...	50	8	0
7 R. C. Mansfield ...	17	6	6
8 W. H. Price Cooke ...	13	13	0
10 D. H. Pearson ...	80	15	0
11 Henry Potter ...	50	0	0
12 Alfred H. Lilley ...	97	13	0
12 (Chapter) Joseph Clever ...	54	12	0
12 (Chapter) D. Nicols ...	27	6	0
18 Herbert J. Huggins ...	39	18	0
19 E. B. Grabham ...	70	7	0
21 Griffiths Smith ...	81	18	0
22 T. Fairweather ...	49	7	0
23 E. C. Mather ...	15	15	0
28 J. G. Shearman ...	42	0	0
29 J. E. Middleton ...	14	14	0
33 W. Clouston ...	43	1	0
34 John Butler ...	45	3	0
46 Alfred Richards ...	66	3	0
49 W. Bailey ...	36	15	0
49 John S. Mercer ...	86	2	0
55 G. M. Snow ...	175	0	0
58 Thos. Reynolds, jun. ...	64	1	0
60 Capt. J. Wordsworth ...	10	10	0
73 Wm. Klingenstein ...	38	17	0
79 Richard Boncey ...	21	0	0
91 Watson Surr ...	39	18	0
92 Josiah Houle ...	23	2	0
99 Wm. Leask ...	73	10	0
134 H. G. A. Milford ...	16	5	6
140 Chas. Jardine ...	70	7	0
143 J. H. Matthews ...	68	15	6
162 N. J. Fenner ...	30	9	0
165 W. G. Lemon (not closed) ...	56	12	0
172 S. Hockley ...	48	16	6
174 John Appleby ...	89	14	0
176 (Chapter) J. B. Sorrell and W. S. Wy-			
man ...	54	19	0
179 Z. D. Berry ...	18	18	0
180 W. C. Parsons ...	10	10	0
181 Henry D. Wood ...	31	10	0
205 Charles F. Hogard ...	36	15	0
206 Samuel Gamman ...	57	15	0
227 A. J. Thomas ...	30	0	0
228 Robert Griggs ...	70	7	0
235 E. H. Hewett ...	50	0	0
238 Edwin Simpson Baikie ...	40	10	6
256 R. R. Davis ...	39	7	6
259 Herbert A. Rigg ...	39	7	0
435 Wm. C. Phillips ...	25	4	0
511 A. Barfield ...	42	0	0
534 Wm. G. Moore ...	24	3	0
538 James Kench ...	63	0	0
554 John J. Berry ...	100	16	0
657 John Johnasson ...	254	2	0
733 Robert Helsdon ...	126	0	0
742 Wm. W. Baxter ...	25	14	6
749 J. Painter ...	35	7	0
820 Wm. H. Myers ...	73	10	0
822 H. Northcott ...	32	0	6
862 Thomas Kingston ...	29	8	0
902 R. N. Field ...	47	5	0
905 Alexander Peebles ...	12	12	0
1056 (Chapter) Charles Atkins ...	63	15	6
1118 George B. Brodie ...	26	15	0
1150 T. G. Bullen ...	69	6	0
1155 Henry Moore ...	79	16	0
1178 George F. Grace ...	45	3	0
1216 George Waterall ...	51	9	0
1257 John C. Cox ...	31	10	0
1260 J. H. Southwood ...	87	3	0
1261 Walter Emden ...	21	10	6
1288 Robt. V. Davies ...	26	5	0
1305 H. G. Ashwell ...	26	5	0
1329 J. H. Vockins ...	10	10	0
1348 A. J. Ireton ...	100	0	0
1351 W. Hilton ...	61	19	0
1366 Charles G. Hill ...	26	5	0
1383 Col. Alex. W. Adair ...	100	0	0

	£	s.	d.
1420 Joseph W. Hiscox ...	74	11	0
1421 C. W. Ashdown ...	32	11	0
1446 Chas. F. Poupard ...	64	1	0
1489 T. Hastings Miller ...	31	10	0
1537 R. G. Clutton ...	102	7	6
1538 Alfred Tisley ...	18	18	0
1539 Mark S. Larham ...	115	10	0
1540 Henry Faija ...	33	12	0
1558 Walter Mitchell ...	14	1	6
1563 B. H. Swallow ...	65	0	0
BERKS AND BUCKS.			
1501 John Palmer ...	141	15	0
CHESHIRE.			
425 Horatio Lloyd ...	26	5	0
Capt. H. A. Bennett ...	10	10	0
287 John Hanson ...	10	10	0
537 Wm. S. Sutton ...	10	10	0
W. Marwood ...	15	15	0
DEVONSHIRE.			
164 W. H. Haycock ...	5	15	6
HANTS AND ISLE OF WIGHT.			
319 T. J. D. Rawlins ...	21	0	0
KENT.			
829 W. Hamilton ...	29	8	0
1206 H. J. Emmerson ...	10	10	0
1208 H. M. Baker ...	26	5	0
1464 J. A. Farnfield ...	44	2	0
1531 Geo. J. Guest ...	24	17	6
EAST LANCASHIRE.			
221 Egerton C. Gilbert ...	6	6	0
221 J. W. Greenhalgh ...	5	5	0
WEST LANCASHIRE.			
1086 J. C. Sims ...	6	11	0
LINCOLNSHIRE.			
1294 John Sutcliffe, Jack Sutcliffe ...			
R. J. Boyall (Province) ...			
1232 Rev. D. Ace, D.D. ...			
792 Jas. Robinson, Wm. Marshall ...			
838 Jas. Fergusson ...			
1294 Joseph Chapman ...			
F. Long ...			
Total			
	£543	14	0
MIDDLESEX.			
R. Wentworth Little ...	171	10	0
1460 Rev. P. H. E. Brette ...	97	13	0
1326 W. Prattent ...			
1293 (Chapter) T. Massa ...	31	10	0
1194 (Chapter) C. Horsley ...	26	5	0
778 Major Harding ...	13	13	0
1194 Robert A. Steel ...	36	15	0
1237 Chas. S. Browne ...	70	7	0
1238 Alfred G. Weeks ...	36	3	0
1293 David W. Pearse ...	73	10	0
1309 C. G. Rushworth ...	11	11	0
1423 John Faulkner ...	21	10	6
1567 John Mason ...	42	0	0
1579 Edward Letchworth ...	16	4	6
1597 J. M. Levick ...	10	10	0
T. J. Sabine ...	52	10	0
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.			
1434 John Hack ...	42	0	0
N. WALES AND SHROPSHIRE.			
1124 E. Wood ...	11	11	0
OXFORDSHIRE.			
478 R. H. C. Smith ...			
357 Rev. R. W. Pope and Fentham Hodges ...	50	0	0
SOMERSETSHIRE.			
1199 C. L. F. Edwards ...	31	10	0
SOUTH WALES (East Division)			
J. B. Phillips (Province) ...	115	10	0
STAFFORDSHIRE.			
546 J. Webberley ...	115	10	0
SUFFOLK.			
1124 Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G.C., ...	26	5	0
SURREY.			
1046 J. L. Lorimer ...	10	10	0
452 H. J. Strong ...	10	10	0
WARWICKSHIRE.			
938 Thomas Howkins ...	262	10	0
WILTSHIRE.			
Henry C. Tombs (Province) ...	115	12	0
WEST YORKSHIRE.			
Sir Henry Edwards, Bart., Chairman ...	52	10	0
Prov. G. Lodge, Bro. H. Smith ...	105	0	0
Bentley Shaw, P.G.D. ...	10	10	0
T. W. Tew, J.P., D.P.G.M. ...			
J. Batley ...			
Henry Day, J.P. ...			
Thomas Hill ...			
Rev. E. B. Chalmer ...			
W. H. B. Tomlinson ...			
Henry Smith ...			
T. Collinson ...			
J. Wordsworth ...			
Rev. E. Sewell ...			
139 J. A. A. Andrews ...			
139 Charles Dixon, jun. ...			
139 Dr. F. Griffiths ...			
139 Wm. Jervis ...			
139 J. C. Shaw ...			
154 J. C. Cadman ...			
275 G. F. C. Hoerle ...			
275 J. Lowerthal ...			
275 Wright Mellor ...			
275 Thos. Ruddock ...			
290 Wm. Harrop ...			
296 John Ridal ...			
302 Hanson Farrar ...			
304 Robert Craig ...			
337 John Hirst, jun. ...			
837 Charles Pegler ...			

MAY 13, 1876.

974	Wm. Firth	...	...	...	...
1102	John Barker	...	...	...	...
1221	Wm. Glover	...	...	...	...
1221	T. H. Good	...	...	...	...
1542	Thos. J. Kassell	...	...	...	...
1542	W. W. Macvay	...	...	...	...
1542	John Simpson	...	...	...	...
	Total	...	...	707	16 0
	CHANNEL ISLANDS.—JERSEY.				
	The Province, A. Schmitt	...	...	105	0 0
	FOREIGN STATIONS.—PUNJAB.				
	The Province, G. Davies	...	...	10	10 0
	RED CROSS ORDER.				
	Grand Council, H. C. Levander	...	...	119	13 0
128	A. J. Brogden	...	...	52	10 0
	W. Williams	...	...	42	0 0
	ROYAL ORDER OF SCOTLAND.				
	G. P. Brockbank	...	...	21	0 0
	KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.				
	Holy Palestine Preceptory, Rev. P. M.				
	Holden	...	...	10	10 0
	Girls' School General Committee Club,				
	H. W. Hemsworth	...	...	15	15 0
	Total	...	...	£8214	11 0

With 12 lists to come in.

The announcement of this total was received with loud applause.

Col. Adair then proposed "The other Masonic Institutions." Having been 25 years a Mason, and more than half that time a Life Governor of all the charities, he had been able to watch the very great progress in their organisation and administration. Those who were old Masons would agree with him as to the excellent manner in which the work of those institutions had been done, and the organisation and administration had been carried out in the last quarter of a century. Those who were young Masons, if they chose to study the records of the Craft, would also agree with him in what he had stated. Not only was the state of those charities such as must conduce to the happiness of Masonic hearts, but when the outside world asked what Masonry meant, they might be directed to the Masonic Institutions for an answer. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. James Terry responded, and congratulated Bro. Little on the magnificent achievement of that evening. He apologised for the absence of Bro. Binckes, and reminded the brethren that the two festivals already held—that of the Benevolent Institution and that of the Girls' School—had resulted in a total list of subscriptions of nearly £15,000. He appealed strongly for support for his own institution, but said he would leave it entirely in the hands of the brethren. At the same time, the brethren should remember that the aged Masons who had in days gone by done service to the Craft were entitled to the brethren's sympathy as much as the rising and younger generation. (Cheers.)

The Rev. C. J. Martyn proposed "The Stewards of the Day," to which Bro. Joseph Smith, P.G.P., responded; and the brethren then adjourned to the Temple, where they joined the ladies in listening to a concert.

During the evening a selection of vocal music was performed, under the direction of Bro. Chaplin Henry, by Madame Thaddeus Wells, Miss Bessie Stroud, Miss Marion Severn, Master Pitt, Master Pounds, Bro. Lester, Bro. G. T. Carter, Bro. Phillips, Bro. Farmer, Bro. Chaplin Henry, Mr. Arthur Matthison, and the bijou choir of boys' voices. At the pianoforte Bros. F. H. Cozens and Fountain Meen presided. Mr. Arthur Matthison also told one of his celebrated sea stories.

Bro. James Hayho was toastmaster.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. ALDERMAN J. P. BULL, P.M. AND STEWARD, 540.

No brother who has been so fortunate as to be invited to an anniversary banquet of the Stuart Lodge, Bedford, No. 540, can have failed to be struck with the admirable manner in which every detail has been carried out and the hospitable gatherings been made the very perfection of Masonic festivities. The agency by which this has been brought about may perhaps have remained unseen, but if so, it has not been unknown, nor has it been thought proper that it should longer remain unrecognized. Accordingly, on Wednesday, April 26, the last lodge before the summer recess, there was a large gathering of brethren and visitors assembled for the purpose of making some suitable recognition of the great zeal and assiduity displayed by Bro. Alderman J. P. Bull, P.M. and Steward 540, &c. The W.M. (Capt. Green) was unfortunately prevented from being in his accustomed place by that other "mystic tie," the claims of which are sometimes held to be superior to even the urgent call to the

duties of the Craft; the W.M.'s absence being explained by the fact of his marriage on the succeeding day to the daughter of the worthy Chaplain of the lodge (the Rev. Chas. Brereton, B.C.L., Rector of St. Mary's, and Rural Dean). The chair was assumed by the I.P.M., Bro. Lester, when the votes for the Masonic Charities were relegated to the hands of Bro. Secretary, after which Bro. Kilpin was passed to the Second Degree. At the conclusion of the ceremony the lodge was resumed in the First Degree, when Bro. William Joseph Nash, J.P., the senior Past Master (by request of the W.M.), presented Bro. Bull with a Past Master's jewel, in recognition of his valuable and willing services as W.M., P.M., and Steward of the Stuart Lodge. In the course of a most excellent speech Bro. Nash spoke in the warmest terms of Bro. Bull's twenty-eight years' connection with the lodge; of the able manner in which he had filled every office to which he had been appointed in regular ascent, from Steward to W.M., (retaining the former office from sheer love of work for work's sake for very many years); of his willingness at all times to render aid, and impart instruction to all who were desirous of receiving it; of the excellent lectures he had given; of his hospitality to the lodge (referring doubtless to the fact of Bro. Bull, when mayor of the borough, having given a banquet to the brethren of the lodge, as he also did on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of his initiation); in conclusion, Bro. Nash referred to the self-denying manner in which, year by year, at their anniversary, Bro. Bull, still retaining his Stewardship, gave up in the most self-denying manner his own comfort to promote the enjoyment of his brethren and their visitors. Bro. Bull having returned thanks to Bro. Nash and the brethren in most feeling terms for this mark of their appreciation and esteem, and the lodge having been closed in due form and perfect harmony, the brethren partook of one of those excellent suppers for which Bro. Wicks is justly famed. The jewel, which is an excellent specimen of workmanship, is of 18 carat gold. On the ribbon from which it is suspended is a golden scroll with the name and number of the lodge, whilst the date of Mastership is on the bar at the top. On the back of the square is engraved the inscription:—"Presented by the Stuart Lodge, 540, to Bro. John Richard Bull, in fraternal acknowledgment of his services as W.M., P.M., and Steward. April 26th, 1876." May every lodge possess as deserving a brother, and may his deserts be as properly recognized.

Obituary.

BRO. T. COOMBS, PROV. G. SEC., DORSET.

With deep regret we announce the death of Bro. T. Coombs, one of the oldest solicitors of Dorset, which took place at his residence, South-street, on Sunday, 30th ult., after a protracted and somewhat painful illness, in his 88th year. Deceased had been in a failing state of health for more than a twelvemonth, and at times he was unable to leave his home for months together. He was well-known throughout the county, having held various public appointments. For many years in succession he held the post of Under-Sheriff, and was also Hon. Secretary of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Freemasons of Dorset, which he recently resigned. He was likewise clerk to the magistrates of the Dorsetshire division and also the highway clerk. Deceased always warmly identified himself with the Volunteer movement, having officiated for many years as hon. secretary of the Dorset Volunteer Association, in addition to which, up to a very recent date, he held the command of the Dorsetshire Rifle Corps, succeeding Captain Kindersley, on his resignation. He was likewise much interested in all local matters, and, in addition to having been twice chosen as mayor, was an alderman of the borough at the time of his death. He was steward for several large properties, and was always kind and courteous to the tenantry, by whom, in common with many others, his loss will be deeply felt. He has left a widow, two daughters, and a son (Mr. T. Coombs, jun.), by whom he will be succeeded in business, the latter having only recently concluded his studies in London, where he passed a most successful examination. The remains of the lamented gentleman were interred in the cemetery on Wednesday afternoon, in the presence of a large number of spectators. The funeral was of a private character, though several Freemasons, members of the Town Council, and professional friends attended at the cemetery to testify their respect for the deceased. The service was conducted by the Rev. E. W. Pears, rector of St. Peter's, and during the interment many of the principal places of business in the town were closed.

BRO. WILLIAM KERR.

Death for some time has been laying his hand heavily on the old men in Galashiels, and again another link is broken that bound together the past and the present in the death of William Kerr, Church-street, well known in the town and neighbourhood as "the doctor's man." His death was very sudden, he having taken ill on Saturday night and died on Sunday morning. He was 73 years of age. Long before the days of railways, or even many stage coaches, William Kerr rode the post between Jedburgh and St. Boswell's Green, while Alexander Camming rode the post between St. Boswell's Green and Galashiels. In these days the mail bags were nearly all carried on horseback. After that he was an hostler at the present Commercial Hotel, which is known all over Scotland, and was there when the present proprietor, Mr. Maxwell, was born. After that he tried business upon his own account at Clovenfords, where he displayed on his sign board the fox and the hounds. He next opened a public house near by the Corn Mill, in the house occupied by Mr. Melrose. But he was too honest and too good-hearted; he possessed too much of the dove and too little of the serpent to be a successful man of business; and as a matter of course he

did not succeed. After that he entered the service of the late lamented Dr. John Weir, who was then full of life and hope, and had attained to the very height of his profession and an extensive practice, when he was carried off in the prime of life. Bro. Kerr then went to Dr. G. Macdougall, Old Town, then a comparatively young man, but who afterwards, by his study and indomitable perseverance, rose to the highest pinnacle of his profession, and had a practice extending over both town and country. It was while in the service of Dr. Macdougall that Bro. Kerr was known in town and country as "the doctor's man," and it may truly be said that two more genial-hearted men never sat in the same vehicle. The doctor's face was always radiant with smiles, which were clearly reflected in the face of his man Willie. In all but professional matters Willie was the doctor's right hand man, and whatever orders were committed by the doctor to Willie were carried out to the letter. He was a man of truth, honesty, and integrity, and was in the service of the doctor and his family for over twenty years, and when no longer able to work they bestowed on him an annual income to help to lighten the burden of his declining years. Willie Kerr was made a Freemason on the 14th of April, 1829, so that he has been for nearly fifty years a member of the Craft, and during that time has taken a lively interest in all its concerns. He was made a brother of the Craft, we believe, in the house now occupied by Mr. Stalker, which was then a hotel, so that his death occurred only a few yards from the spot where he first saw Masonic light. He had taken a great interest in the work of excavation for the new Masonic Hall, and was looking forward with pleasure to the laying of the foundation stone with Masonic honours on the 12th of May; but death has closed his earthly pilgrimage, and he has now passed the river of death, and it is to be hoped that he has joined the Grand Lodge above, where he will reap the joys of a well-spent life. Since the death of Bro. William Wood, he has held the honourable office of Bible-bearer in the lodge, to which office he was annually elected. On all important occasions Bro. Kerr was never absent from a lodge meeting, and the excellent songs which he sung on convivial occasions always brought forth rounds of applause. He was the oldest member of the lodge. From his sudden and unexpected death, there was no time to make arrangements for a Masonic funeral, but a few of the brethren met in the house of the deceased, and from there accompanied his remains to the grave, in full Masonic costume, but without jewels. Peace to his ashes, is the sincere prayer of the large circle of friends who knew him.

Masonic and General Tidings.

WORKING MEN'S COLLEGE.—A series of readings were recently given by Bro. Emra Holmes, in the Lecture Hall, Tower-street, Ipswich, in connection with the Working Men's College. Dr. Christian, the Principal, presided. Bro. Holmes's popularity does not appear to wane, as evidenced by the crowded and appreciative audience who listened to his readings during the evening, but from the character of the programme we should imagine it has increased 50 per cent. Bro. Holmes commenced by reading Milton's "Satan's Address to his Peers." This imaginary address by Satan to his followers in heaven was well rendered. "The Private of the Buffs" came next, which enumerated some Chinese experiences. "Out of the hurly burly," by Max Adler, was the next on the programme. The perils of a satirical editor were humorously hit off. The rowdiness of American journalism was in this reading very cleverly satirised, and in Bro. Holmes's hands found an able executant. "Hohenlinden" (Campbell) was given in graphic style. "The Marionette Man," by Tom Hood, was a piece in which Bro. Holmes's powers of mimicry were fully brought into play. This terminating the first part, Miss Butcher gave a selection on the pianoforte kindly lent by Messrs. Whight and Mann. Resuming the programme, Bro. Holmes gave "Only a Christmas Rose," from the "Masonic Magazine." An extract from Pickwick next convulsed the audience with laughter, the part selected being "Bob Sawyer's evening party." "A Night in Parliament," a piece abounding in satire, humour, irony, which was well relished by the audience, brought the programme to an end. A unanimous vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Holmes.

An engraving of the first church built in England will appear in the "Masonic Magazine" for June.

On Wednesday evening there was a demonstration in honour of Bro. H. E. Adair, who for twenty-seven years has represented Ipswich in Parliament. The hon. gentleman was presented with a magnificent candelabra. There was a large meeting, which was addressed by Lord Waveney, R.W.P.G.M. Suffolk, Mr. Colman, M.P., Mr. H. W. West, and other gentlemen. Mr. R. C. Ransome presided.

The plans of Sir Gilbert Scott for the restoration of the exterior of the octagon and lantern of Ely Cathedral have been provisionally approved. The work will involve an outlay of about £3,000.

We believe that it has been arranged that the summer half-yearly communication of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Leicestershire and Rutland should be held at Melton Mowbray, under the banner of the Rutland Lodge, No. 1130, on Monday, 29th May.

A new establishment in connection with the People's Café Company has been opened in Ludgate-circus-buildings.

Bro. Alderman and Sheriff Knight will preside at the 12th annual meeting of the Alexandra Orphanage to be held at the London Tavern on the 18th inst.

Bro. the Rev. J. E. Cox, D.D., F.S.A., Past Grand Chaplain, has just published the annals of St. Helen's Church, Bishopsgate.

Bro. Sir John Bennett has become honorary member of the West Kent Bicycle Club.

Bro. J. C. Parkinson, J.P., will distribute the prizes to be given by the Needle-makers' Company at Redditch on the 4th August.

A meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Norths and Hunts will be held on the 1st of June, at St. Peter's College, Peterborough, his Grace the Duke of Manchester, R.W.P.G.M., presiding.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, May 19, 1876.

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

SATURDAY, MAY 13.

- Lodge 173, Phoenix, F.M.H.
 " 176, Caveac, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
 " 1328, Granite, F.M.H.
 " 1361, United Service, Greyhound Hot., Richmond.
 " 1423, Era, King's Arms Hot., Hampton-court.
 Chap. 1293, Burdett, Mitre Hot., Hampton-court.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
 Percy, 113, Southgate-rd., N.
 Manchester, 179, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
 Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross Road.

MONDAY, MAY 15.

- Lodge 1, Grand Master's, F.M. Tav.
 " 8, British, F.M.H.
 " 21, Emulation, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
 " 58, Felicity, London Tav., Bishopsgate-st.
 " 720, Panmure, Balham Hot., Balham.
 " 1159, Marquis of Dalhousie, F.M.H.
 " 1201, Eclectic, F.M.H.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
 Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
 Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. 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.
 Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
 Sydney, White Hart Ho., Church-rd., Upper Norwood.

TUESDAY, MAY 16.

- Board of Gen. Purposes, at 3.
 Lodge 165, Honour and Generosity, London Tav.
 " 194, St. Paul's, Terminus Hot., Cannon-st.
 " 704, Camden, Bull and Gate, Kentish Town.
 " 857, St. Mark's, Surrey M.H.
 Chap. 19, Mount Sinai, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.

LODGES OF 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, 1, Camomile-st., Bishopsgate.
 St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
 Constitutional, Wheatheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
 Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
 Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
 Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8.
 Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
 Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17.

- Lodge 190, Oak, F.M.H.
 " 619, Beadon, Greyhound Tav., Dulwich.
 " 700, Nelson, M.H., William-st., Woolwich.
 " 1044, Wandsworth, Spread Eagle, Wandsworth.
 " 1382, Corinthian, George Inn, Cubitt Town.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
 Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
 New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
 Royal Union, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
 Confidence, M.H., Basinghall-st.
 Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
 Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
 Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
 Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
 Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
 United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
 Mount Edgumbe, 19, Jermyn-street, St. James's.
 Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.
 Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.

THURSDAY, MAY 18.

- House Com. Girls' School, at 4.
 Lodge 55, Constitutional, London Tav., Bishopsgate-st.
 " 169, Temperance, White Swan, High-st., Deptford.
 " 813, New Concord, Rosemary Branch, Hoxton.
 " 1227, Upton, Spotted Dog Tav., Upton.
 " 1278, Burdett Coutts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
 " 1365, Clapton, White Hart Tav., Clapton.
 Chap. 733, Westbourne, Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
 " 742, Crystal Palace, Clarendon Hot., Anerley.
 " 834, Andrew, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
 Mark Lodge, 7, Carnarvon, Mitre Hot., Hampton-court.
 Preceptory E., Observance, 14, Bedford-row.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
 Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.

Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
 Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
 Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank.
 Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
 The Great City, 111, Cheapside.
 High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
 Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
 Marquis of Ripon, Albion Tav., Albion-rd., Dalston.
 Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.

FRIDAY, MAY 19.

- Annual Meeting and Election, R.M.B.I., at 12.
 House Com. Boys' School, at 4.
 Lodge 6, Friendship, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.
 " 143, Middlesex, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
 Preceptory, 48, Kemeys Tynte, 33, Golden-square.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
 St. George's, Globe Tav., Royal-hill, Greenwich.
 Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
 Belgrave, Lyceum Tav., 354, Strand.
 Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
 Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
 Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
 Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
 Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
 Metropolitan, Pentonville-road.
 United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
 St. James's, New Tanners' 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 Hot., Buckhurst-hill.
 Burdett Coutts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
 Royal Standard, Finsbury Park Tav., Holloway.
 Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.
 Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday May 20, 1876.

MONDAY, MAY 15.

- Lodge 721, Independence, M.R., Eastgate Row, Chester.
 " 1502, Israel, M.H., Liverpool.
 Chap. 995, Furness, M.T., Ulverston.
 " 1051, Rowley, M.R., Lancaster.
 Everton L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, MAY 16.

- Lodge 677, Alliance, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 1225, Hindpool, Hartington Hot., Brw.-in-Furness.
 " 1276, Warren, Seacombe Hot., Seacombe.
 " 1570, Prince Arthur, N. Hill-st., Liverpool.
 Chap. 605, De Tabley, Seacombe Hot.
 Merchants' L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17.

- Lodge 823, Everton, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 1086, Walton, St. Lawrence's, Soho, Kirkdale.
 " 1345, Victoria, Cross Keys, Eccles.
 " 1353, Duke of Lancaster, Athenaeum, Lancaster.
 Chap. 580, Unity, Wheatheaf, Ormskirk.
 De Grey and Ripon L. of I., 80, North Hill-st., Liverpool.
 Downshire L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, MAY 18.

- Lodge 203, Ancient Union, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 343, Concord, Militia Mess Rooms, Preston.
 " 425, Cestrian, M.R., Easgate-row, Chester.
 " 605, Combermere, Seacombe Hot., Seacombe.
 " 1299, Pembroke, Rawlinson's Hot., West Derby.
 Chap. 249, Mariners, M.H., Liverpool.
 St. John's L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, MAY 19.

Duke of Edinburgh L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, May 20, 1876.

All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, MAY 15.

- Lodge 332, Union, 170, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 " 581, Plantation, Craigiehall-st., Glasgow.

TUESDAY, MAY 16.

- Lodge 73, Thistle and Rose, 170, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 " 87, Thistle, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
 " 556, Clydesdale, Rose-st., Glasgow.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17.

- Lodge 117, St. Mary, M.H., Partick.
 " 571, Dramatic, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 Chap. 150, Shettleston, M.H., Shettleston.

THURSDAY, MAY 18.

- Lodge 22, St. John Kilwinning, George Hot., Kilmarnock.
 " 27, St. Mungo, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 " 465, St. Andrew, M.H., Garngad-rd.

FRIDAY, MAY 19.

- Lodge 31, St. Mary's Coltness, Scott's Hall, Wishaw.
 " 306, St. Thomas, 90, Wellgate-st., Larkhall.
 " 321, St. Andrews, Public Hall, Alexandria.
 " 360, Commercial, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
 " 471, St. John, Stane Inn, Shotts.
 " 551, Clydesdale, Royal Hot., Larkhall.

SATURDAY, MAY 20.

- Lodge 524, St. Andrew, M.H., Kilbride.
 " 544, St. Andrew, M.H., Coatbridge.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, May 20, 1876.

MONDAY, MAY 15.

Lodge 44, St. Luke, F.M.H., George-st.

TUESDAY, MAY 16.

Lodge 36, St. David, Ship Hot., East Register-st.
 " 405, Rifle, F.M.H., George-st.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17.

Lodge 160, Roman Eagle, Iona Hot., Nicholson-st.

THURSDAY, MAY 18.

Lodge 48, St. Andrew, F.M.H., George-st.
 " 226, Portobello, Royal Hot., Bath-st.
 Chap. 152, Perseverance, 186, Constitution-st.

FRIDAY, MAY 19.

Chap. 83, St. Andrew, F.M.H., George-st.

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The next election of members will be held on the 17th Upwards of 500 Brethren having already joined, an entrance fee will be imposed as soon as the Club is opened.

Forms of Application for Membership may be obtained from the Secretary, at the Offices of the London Masonic Club Company (Limited), 37, Queen Victoria-street, E.C.

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WANTED, by an elderly Man, a situation as Timekeeper or Overseer. Satisfactory references.—Address A.B., Office of this paper, 198, Fleet-st.

RETURN of the PRINCE of WALES.—Commemorative BUST, Cabinet Size, of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W. Grand Master, with insignia of office, by Bro. Hamilton Stewart, 780, will be ready in a few days.