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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

HIGH CROSS LODGE (No. 754).—The annual meeting of this lodge for the installation of its Worshipful Master was held on Wednesday evening at the Seven Sisters Tavern, Page Green, Tottenham, a pleasant retired hostelry, with all the surroundings of a beautiful country. Bro. George Townsend, W.M., presided, and, assisted by his officers, who all attended, raised Bro. Foan to the Third Degree. When this ceremony was completed he installed Bro. Barham as W.M. of the lodge for the ensuing year, and the following brethren were honoured by appointment to office:—Bros. W. Dance, S.W.; H. Stephens, J.W.; David Roberts, P.M., Treas.; T. Cunningham, P.M., Sec.; George Burford, S.D.; Johnson Farren, J.D.; W. T. Turner, I.G.; Peckham, Organist; Clements, D.C.; W. Steedman, P.M., W.S.; Bro. Tegg, Asst. W.S.; and Bro. James Very, Tyler. The charges were delivered by Bro. George Townsend, I.P.M., and then the new W.M. commenced his year's work by initiating in excellent style Mr. James Garrod, Station Master, Bruce Grove, Tottenham. Lodge was then closed, and the banquet, of a very liberal and elegant description, was provided by Bro. Oddy, the proprietor of the hotel, in the magnificent room which he has built adjoining the house. During the sitting of the lodge Bro. Thompson, P.M., and Prov. G. S.B. Middlesex, was actively engaged in obtaining members of the Social Masonic Charitable Association, which is composed of brethren of Nos. 754 and 1237, and which has up to the present time paid no less a sum than £300 to the different Masonic institutions. Bro. Maller, P.M., was also active in making a collection on behalf of the sufferers by the late hailstorm in the neighbourhood of Tottenham, and succeeded in securing £5 11s. 6d. for that object. The banquet was vigorously attacked, and about 80 brethren sat down to it. Among them were the W.M., and Bros. G. Townsend, W. Steedman, P.M.; Thos. Jones, P.M.; J. Waller, P.M.; J. Linzell, Cunningham, Maller, Roberts. Visitors: Bros. F. A. Pullen, 1567; John Hooke, 463; F. Jacob, 1567; J. Roddar, 1288; John Green, W.M. 27; S. Watkins, 212; W. Gilbert, P.G.J.W. Herts; C. L. Brooks, 1237; Josh. Driscoll, P.M. 30; G. Collier, 1237; G. H. Jaffa, 1579; James W. Berrie, 1293 and 1185; F. W. Greenwood, W. Sweetland, 1460; A. J. Barbier, 22; W. T. Barham, 319; W. T. Howe, P.G.P. Middlesex; E. Hart Smith, P.M. 165; George Tegg, 1519; H. Massey, ("Freemason"), and J. Bennett, 27. When the banquet was concluded, the W.M. proceeded with the list of toasts, and very briefly introduced those of "The Queen," "The G.M.," and "The Grand Officers" to the brethren's notice. Bro. Townsend, in proposing "The Health of the W.M.," said he had the privilege for the first time of introducing this toast, and he had no doubt they would be very pleased to receive it. He could assure the brethren it afforded him a great deal of pleasure in getting out of the position he had held for twelve months to find such a brother as the W.M. taking the position he (Bro. Townsend) once occupied. The brethren of the lodge who had seen the working of the W.M. that evening must feel convinced that he was the right man in the right place. Since the W.M. had belonged to the High Cross Lodge he had never but once omitted attendance to his duties when called upon, and he had been of a great deal of assistance to him (Bro. Townsend) while he was W.M. If he continued in the same course there was no brother of the High Cross Lodge who would regret having voted for him as W.M. The W.M., in reply, said it was with a certain amount of diffidence he rose to return thanks for the kind way in which the toast had been proposed and accepted. He could assure the brethren that he felt the honour they had done him very much indeed. It had been his ambition ever since he joined the lodge to occupy that position, and he had endeavoured to merit it whether he had been in office or out of office. He thought he could safely say he had never missed attending the lodge but once, and on that occasion it was through illness. He should endeavour while in the position of W.M. to perform the duties of that position properly, and he would take care that the warrant placed in his hands that evening should lose none of its lustre. In anything he could do for the High Cross Lodge, he was the brethren's humble servant. The W.M. then proposed "The I.P.M."

It was a very pleasing duty, all the brethren would admit, that Bro. Townsend had been one of the best W.M.'s of the High Cross Lodge, he had always attended to his duties punctually, and had performed them well. When a man did this what more could be expected of him. He would now present him with a P.M.'s jewel, and he sincerely hoped that Bro. Townsend might live many years to wear it. He (the W.M.) was sure he would need Bro. Townsend's assistance during his year of office; but he was certain that in whatsoever he should require it, it would be most cheerfully given. In presenting the jewel to Bro. Townsend he was sure it must be very gratifying to him to know it had been unanimously voted by the members of the lodge. (Hear, hear.) Bro. Townsend, in returning thanks, said he was happy to feel that the brethren thought he had deserved this jewel. It gave him a great deal of pleasure to receive such a compliment; but he could sincerely and conscientiously tell the brethren it was one of the highest pleasures that he had ever experienced in his life. This was a very large lodge, and if he had conducted to the comfort and pleasure of a large number, it must be gratifying to have that feeling at the end of one's year of office. It was a great pleasure to know, when going out of office, that you had the kind feelings of all the brethren. He had done what he could for the High Cross Lodge as regarded the working of it, and he was delighted to know that he had been assisted by the P.M. and officers of the lodge. He should ever feel grateful for the compliment the brethren had paid him by presenting him with the P.M.'s jewel he had just received. (Cheers.) The W.M. then proposed "The Initiate." Without new blood the Craft would soon stop. If they had not new blood they would die out and collapse. The brother they had that night initiated seemed a very likely member to work to the honourable position he (the W.M.) then held, and he would give it to him in terms of strong recommendation to attend the lodge regularly, and to put himself in a position to work zealously and he would soon get on. (Hear, hear.) Bro. Garrod responded. For many years it had been his wish to join the Craft, and he thanked the officers of the lodge for the kindness which they exhibited in his initiation. He was fully impressed with the seriousness of the affair, and he hoped not to abuse any secrets that had been told him that night. He had always had a vague idea that there was some amount of impressiveness in the ceremony, which idea had been correct; and he had also always had an idea of vagueness that Freemasons were a jolly sort of people. That vagueness was, however, now dispelled. Comparatively speaking he was among strangers, although he might say he did not feel at all so. This was his first appearance, but he hoped it would not be his last, and he hoped to continue his visits till he became "up" in the world of Freemasonry, and able to do the work of the lodge as well as the W.M. himself. (Hear, hear.) The W.M. afterwards proposed "The P.M.'s," who were a goodly array of brethren, who always came to the lodge when wanted to help the Master in the chair, and who came to see if they were wanted. The goodly array of P.M.'s showed the prosperity of the lodge, and it also showed that they were ready to assist the W.M. Without the P.M.'s he was afraid the W.M. would not be able to go on with his work. (Hear, hear.) Bro. George Townsend, the P.M., was first to respond, and in doing so he said that although he was always ready to assist the W.M. he thought that as there were so many P.M.'s in the lodge he should find very little to do. Bro. Jones having also replied, Bro. T. Cunningham, Secretary, added a few words which proved the prosperity of the lodge. As Secretary he had to send out about ninety summonses, to receive the fees, and to answer an enormous number of letters. But although this entailed a great deal of work he was pleased to perform it, as the success of the High Cross Lodge was very dear to him. Bro. Steedman in his reply announced that it was eighteen years that day when he was initiated in the High Cross Lodge, and every year since then he had been present at the installation of the W.M. Bro. Roberts said he was very proud to be among the list of P.M.'s, and it gave him great pleasure year after year, as he and his brethren became older, to meet them in such friendly intercourse. This annual meeting was always a red letter day in his calendar, and if he did not always come on other occasions, he did on this. When he stopped away it was through business, and Freemasonry told them that they were to attend to business first and Freemasonry afterwards. (Hear, hear.) Bro. Linzell followed. Taking a retrospective glance of the various duties which the other brethren and himself as P.M.'s had fulfilled in their offices, he thought they might look with pride on the progress the lodge had made in past years. Greater credit for this was due to the other P.M.'s than himself for their energy in laying the foundation of this lodge, which at the present time occupied such a high standing amongst metropolitan lodges. A visitor at the lodge on one occasion of an installation banquet thought it decent to cry out while this toast was being responded to, "Why do you spend so much money on your banquets? Why don't you consider your Charities?" The brethren of the lodge did not think this very decorous, for they at least knew they had treated this brother liberally (perhaps that was the cause of his so speaking), but they had just before that time founded a Masonic Charitable Association, which a greater portion if not all of the members of the lodge, had joined. Since then—the lodge having at that time two or three life governors, of the charities in it—had got thirty to forty life governors, all having fully paid up; and there were now many others coming on. That seemed to him as if they were doing something for the cause of charity, and something for the High Cross Lodge to obtain a reputation by. During the last two or three years the lodge had sent up many stewards, and each of them had taken with him something like £100. That was not a bad list although the lodge was a metropolitan lodge. They were

pleased to obtain for it some amount of éclat, and they did not wish to spend all the money on themselves. If they did they knew they must soon die out, and they would never gain a reputation for being hospitable if they did not think of helping those who could not help themselves. (Hear, hear.) Bro. Maller also replied and thanked the brethren for having contributed towards the relief of those persons who had suffered by the late hailstorm in the neighbourhood. Bro. Roberts, Treasurer, said the lodge would send a Steward their next year to the charities, and twenty guineas would be placed on his list to start with. The brother selected would most likely be the W.M. "The Visitors" was the next toast, for which Bro. W. T. Howe and Bro. Gilbert replied. The toast of "The Officers" followed, and having been replied to by each of those brethren seriatim, Bro. Cunningham proposed "The Press," for which Bro. Fowler and Bro. H. Massey ("Freemason"), responded, and the Tyler's toast concluded a most pleasant evening, which was rendered the more agreeable by some excellent singing by various brethren, and some good instrumental and vocal music by Bro. Peckham, Organist.

ROYAL OAK LODGE (No. 871).—An emergency meeting of this prosperous lodge was held on Thursday, 17th inst., at the White Swan Hotel, 217, High-street, Deptford, Bro. H. J. Tuson, W.M., presided. The ballots, taken separately, were declared to be unanimous in favour of Messrs. A. P. Blake, L. Michaels, W. White, and W. Abbott. The following candidates being in attendance were each introduced separately, and duly initiated into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry, namely, Messrs. Walter Abbot, William White, and Lipman Michaels, Bro. G. Andrews, P.M., D.C., giving the charge to the newly-initiated brethren. The work was done well. In consequence of the large number of candidates for initiation and for the other ceremonies it was decided to hold another emergency meeting on Thursday, September 28th, at seven p.m. Business ended, the lodge was closed and adjourned. There were present besides those named Bros. J. J. Pakes, S.W.; J. Baxter Langley, (W.M. 1423), J.W.; F. Walters, P.G. J.D. Middx., P.M., Sec.; H. J. Fisher, Organist; J. G. Vohmann, I.G.; C. Williams, R. Cox, A. Macers, G. Eve, L. Lemon, F. H. Burr, J. Rennie, R. J. Stringer, W. Simmons, R. Mason, J. Woollett, and others whose names we were unable to learn. Amongst the large number of visitors we noticed Bros. J. R. Croft, 1326; E. W. Fisher, 700; E. A. H. Morley, 1178; and some others. There being no banquet or any refreshment the members and friends separated directly the lodge was closed.

HERVEY LODGE (No. 1260).—Favoured by one of the finest days of the year, the members of this popular lodge, with their friends (consisting of both ladies and gentlemen), assembled at Bro. Benningfield's, the Crown Hotel, Broxbourne, on Wednesday, the 16th inst., to celebrate their annual summer excursion and banquet, and through the unwearied exertions of the officers and brethren who constituted the committee, one of the most thoroughly enjoyable day and evening's entertainments ever provided was satisfactorily brought to a conclusion. Most of the company arrived at the beautiful grounds attached to the above well-known hostelry by train from Liverpool-street about midday, and after partaking of a light luncheon, some of the party dispersed to the different places of amusement, such as the river for fishing and rowing, the meadows for archery, Aunt Sally, &c., whilst others enjoyed themselves at the fascinating games of croquet, billiards, &c., until 3.30, when the bell rang for dinner, at which (as the principal event of the day) it is of course needless to say hearty justice was done. After the cloth was cleared and the dessert (supplied from Bro. Benningfield's own grounds) placed on the table, the W.M. Bro. G. Harrison, proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, but prefaced his remarks by observing that in deference to the ladies he should make them as short as was consistent with the occasion, as he felt sure that it was not the length of a toast that ensured its approval, but the manner in which it was given and received. Suffice it to say that they were one and all heartily received, Bro. Dr. Egan, W.M. 858, and Bro. D. Davis, a distinguished Irish Mason, responding for the visitors. Before rising, the I.P.M., Bro. Dr. Jabez Hogg, begged permission to give a special toast to the renewed health of the worthy Secretary, Bro. G. King, jun., who has for some months been suffering from a fearful and dangerous illness, and in the course of his remarks observed that although he felt convinced that his toast would meet with the entire approbation of the company, yet, in consideration of the weak state in which Bro. King (although able to be present at the table) still is, he would not ask him to respond. The company then again dispersed over the grounds while the room was cleared for dancing, and after about two hours of this exhilarating exercise they caught the train for London, a special saloon carriage having been provided for them by the company, and this wound up a thoroughly enjoyable day.

DUKE OF CONNAUGHT LODGE (No. 1524).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, on 27th ult. The lodge was opened by Bro. Lee, P.M., in the temporary absence of the W.M., who was travelling a long distance to attend the lodge. The minutes of the preceding meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. Lee, P.M., proceeded to raise Bro. Ferrar and Bro. Broomfield, 188, to the degree of Master Mason. The W.M., Bro. Chapman, Prov. G. Steward Herts, having arrived, assumed the chair, and passed Bro. Dietrich to the degree of Fellow Craft. The officers present were Bros. Lister, S.W.; Shackleton, J.W.; Meyer, Treas.; Lee, P.M., Sec.; Brand, I.G.; Brasted, Harding, Smith, Philp, and others. The lodge having been closed, the brethren adjourned to a cold collation, after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured. The

proceedings were varied by some very excellent singing by Bros. Brasted, Ferrar, and Smyth. The Tyler's toast having been given, the brethren separated, after having spent a very pleasant evening. Visitors: Bros. L. Alexander, P.M. 188; Bromfield, 188; Pool, 764; Hallett, 781.

RADCLIFFE (Lancashire).—Lodge of Faith (No. 344).—The annual picnic in connection with the Lodge of Faith, No. 344, Radcliffe, of A. F. and A. Masons, took place on the 19th inst., when 33 of the brethren belonging to the lodge, including the W.M. and his principal officers, and their wives and friends, paid a visit to Bolton Abbey, near Skipton, Yorkshire. They started from Radcliffe by 10.26 a.m. train, and joined the Scotch mail at Bury, arriving at Skipton a little before noon. They partook of luncheon at the Black Horse Hotel, Skipton, and were then conveyed in wagonettes to Bolton Abbey, where they spent some hours wandering through the delightful scenery around the Abbey. A number of them went as far as "the Strid," a narrow passage between rocks, which takes its name from the fact of a person being able to stride across it, and see the waters rushing with great velocity through the aperture beneath. The party returned to the Black Horse Inn about six o'clock, and when dinner was partaken of they went to the railway station, and returned to their homes, arriving about ten o'clock the same night. The weather was everything that the most fastidious could desire, and the party thoroughly enjoyed the out.

DERBY.—Arboretum Lodge (No. 731).—The usual meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 9th inst., at the Masonic Hall, when the following members of the Craft were present:—Bros. R. Bennett, W.M.; J. C. Merry, I.P.M.; T. Cox, P.M.; F. Iliffe, P.M.; Marsden, P.M.; Pipes, W.M. 1085; J. Brown, S.W.; T. Merry, J.W.; G. T. Wright, P.M., acting as S.D.; Whittaker, J.D.; Knight, D.C.; Fraser, I.G.; Day, Tyler; and other brethren. The lodge having been opened in the First and Second Degrees, Bro. Kimpton advanced to the pedestal, and having passed the usual examination, was raised to the Degree of a Master Mason by the W.M., assisted by the I.P.M., in ancient and solemn form. After the usual business of the lodge, a presentation was made to Bro. G. T. Wright, P.M., P.P.S.G.D. of West Yorkshire and of Derbyshire. Some little time ago the members of the lodge expressed a wish to show their appreciation of the many good qualities of Bro. Wright as a Mason, and this feeling took a practical turn in defraying the expense of making a slight addition to the usefulness and appearance of his residence in the shape of a bay window, to which was added an illuminated address signed by the following brethren:—T. Cox, P.M., P.P.S.G.W.; H. Hillam, P.M., P.P.S.G.W.; J. Smith, P.M., P.P.S.G.W.; H. Burn, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W.; R. Bennett, W.M.; J. C. Merry, P.M., P.G.D.C.; G. H. Sheffield, S.D., P.P.G.S. of W.; J. Worsnop, P.P.G.P.; Bewton, P.P.G.P.; J. Brown, S.W.; T. Merry, J.W.; Whittaker, J.D.; W. Fraser, I.G.; and twenty other brethren. Bro. R. Bennett, W.M., made the presentation, and in doing so alluded to the many valuable services Bro. Wright had rendered, not only to the Arboretum Lodge, but to the province of Derbyshire, in connection with the charities of the Craft, by taking active part in providing the beautiful hall in which they were now assembled, and in many other ways. His usefulness to the Arboretum Lodge was well known, and it would therefore be unnecessary to say more than that he was ready at all times to cheerfully assist by every means in his power, in the working of the lodge, and he had the greatest possible pleasure in presenting him with this token of the high respect entertained for him by his brethren of the lodge. He trusted that he would long be spared to meet with them, and when he had passed away to the Grand Lodge above his children would have before them the evidence of the affection and esteem in which their father was held by his brethren in Masonry. Bro. Wright, in responding, did so with considerable emotion. He had no idea until the W.M. got up that anything of the kind would take place that evening, which, with the very feeling manner in which he had spoken of him, had made him powerless to express himself as he would wish to do. He felt that he did not deserve such kindness. What he had done in connection with Masonry was done as a Mason, and from the purest of motives, and if he had earned the good wishes of his brethren, he was more than repaid for any little trouble he may have been put to. He could only say that it was one of the greatest pleasures of his life to meet the brethren of the Arboretum Lodge, and work with them in that harmonious manner which he was glad to say had always characterised their proceedings. He thanked them very much for their good wishes, and he hoped that they and he would live long to meet together and enjoy the friendship and brotherly love which had produced the feeling exhibited on the present occasion. The brethren afterwards adjourned to the banqueting-hall, where an enjoyable evening terminated.

BARNES.—Rose of Denmark Lodge (No. 975).—The ordinary meeting of this lodge was held at the White Hart Hotel, on Friday, the 18th inst. Bro. E. Warren Clarke, W.M., presided, assisted by Bros. W. H. Lee, P.M. 1524, S.W.; W. R. Phillips, J.W.; C. A. Smith, P.M., Treas.; Hinton, P.M.; Edmands, P.M.; Kennedy, P.M. 720; Wigglesworth, S.D.; Garpar, J.D.; and a numerous assemblage of the brethren. Visitor: Bro. David Rose, P.M. 73, W.M. designate 1622. Bros. Revill and Masters were raised to the Third Degree, and Bro. Dennison passed to the F.C., after which the lodge was closed in due form. The brethren then adjourned to an excellent banquet, and after the cloth was removed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured. Bro. Rose, P.M., responded for "The Visitors," and complimented the W.M. and officers on the excellence of the working. Bro. Edmands responded for "The P.M.'s," and Bro. Lee for "The Officers." The Tyler's toast was then given, and the brethren separated, having spent a very enjoyable evening.

HAMPTON.—Lebanon Lodge (No. 1326).—The last regular meeting of the year was held on Saturday, August 19th, at the Red Lion Hotel, Hampton. Bro. Edwin Gilbert, W.M., presided. There were also present Bros. J. T. Moss, P.P.G.R. Middlesex, P.M.; W. Hammond, P.P.G.D. Middlesex, P.M.; H. A. Dubois, P.G.S.D. Middlesex, P.M.; F. Walters, P.G.J.D. Middlesex, &c. Sec.; J. W. Baldwin, P.A.G.P. Middlesex, P.M., I.G.; W. Hammond, P.M., J.D.; B. Sharp, P.M.; H. Gloster, J.W.; David Smith, W. T. Trehearn, J. Hernaman, C. Cucop, W. R. Vassila, S. Page, W. Priddy, and many others. Amongst the visitors were Bros. W. Simmons, J.W. 1559; F. F. Beard, 1423, and others. The work done was initiating Messrs. W. F. Venn, S. Page, and W. Priddy into Freemasonry; passing Bros. D. Smith and F. F. Beard, 1423, to the Second Degree. In every case each candidate for the degree was initiated separately, which arrangement (although entailing extra work on the W.M.) caused the beautiful ceremonies to lose none of their impressiveness. All the work was done in an able manner. On the motion of Bro. Frederick Walters, P.G. J.D. Middlesex, P.M., Sec., ten pounds were voted from lodge funds to the Female Annuity Fund of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, in the name of the W.M. of the lodge for the time being, the amount to be placed on the list of Bro. J. B. Shackleton, J.D., who represents the lodge at the forthcoming festival to be held in 1877 as its Steward. He unfortunately was absent from lodge through unavoidable circumstances. Also Bro. Edwin Gilbert, W.M., was unanimously elected to serve as Steward to represent the lodge at the forthcoming festival of the Boys' School in 1877. Several candidates were proposed for initiation. The lodge was closed, and adjourned till May, 1877, emergencies being excepted. Banquet followed.

Royal Arch.

OXFORD.—Alfred Chapter (No. 340).—The regular and festival meeting of this the senior chapter of the province was held on Tuesday, August 15th., when there were present Comps. S. P. Spiers, P.Z., as Z., in the absence of the First Principal; G. T. Prior, H.; J. T. Morland, J.; R. J. Spiers, P.Z.; E. Bevers, P.Z.; H. D'Almaine, P.Z.; E. G. Brunton, P.Z.; and others. The chapter having been opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed, Comp. Bruton, P.Z., then took the first chair, and exalted Bro. Arthur Davies, who had been previously elected. The installation of the Principals then followed, the ceremony being performed by Comp. Bruton, P.Z., in his usual able and impressive manner. The newly-installed First Principal, Comp. G. T. Prior, Z., then invested his officers and closed the chapter. A banquet was afterwards attended. The usual loyal toasts, &c., being given, a pleasant evening was concluded with the Janitor's toast. The following are the new officers for the ensuing year:—Comps. G. T. Prior, Z.; J. Juggins, P.Z.; J. T. Morland, H.; Walter Thompson, J.; F. G. Brunton, P.Z., D.C.; E. Bevers, P.Z., Treas.; J. R. B. Prior, E.; Jas. Jenkin, N.; Jules Bué, P.S.; S. Harris and W. Park, Stewards; W. Stephens, Janitor, G. Norwood, A.J.

Red Cross of Constantine.

A General Grand Conclave of this illustrious Order was held on Monday, the 21st inst., in Freemasons' Hall, George-street, Edinburgh, for the purpose of inaugurating the Grand Imperial Council of Scotland, and enthroning Col. Francis Burdett, M. Em. Grand Viceroy of the Order in England, as the first Grand Sovereign of Scotland. The members of the Grand Council of England and other English Representatives present were V. Ill. Sir Knights R. Wentworth Little, P.G.S.G. Grand Treasurer; H. C. Levander, Grand H.C.; J. Boyd, Grand Architect; Thomas W. White, Grand Hist.; George Kenning, Grand Assist. Rec.; W. T. Howe, G.S.B.; Dicketts, G. Usher, and Cuthbert E. Peek, Hon. P.S. and M.P.S. elect, University Conclave, No. 128, Cambridge. There was a large attendance of the Sir Knights from the several conclaves in Scotland, including Em. Sir Knts. R. S. Brown, M.P.S., Edinburgh Conclave, No. 4; J. Macpherson, M.P.S., St. Giles's Conclave, No. 103; G. W. Wheeler, M.P.S., Glasgow Conclave, No. 114; H. J. Shields, M.P.S., Lily of the Valley Conclave, No. 127; Dr. Beveridge, M.P.S., Bon Accord Conclave, No. 133; J. B. Mercer, P.S. No. 4; Lieut. M. Tracey, (P.S. No. 8) No. 4; Capt. Hunter (P.S. No. 42) No. 4.

Prior to the meeting of the Grand Conclave Colonel Burdett was affiliated as a member of the Edinburgh Conclave, No. 4, now No. 1 of Scotland. The knights having assumed their several stalls, a procession consisting of the English knights, preceded by Sir Knt. J. B. Mercer as G. Herald, entered the conclave, under the Arch of Steel, the acting G. Organist playing a solemn march. Sir Knt. Little then, as acting G. Sovereign, opened the General Grand Conclave of Scotland, assisted by Sir Knt. Levander, as G. Viceroy, and the other knights from England.

The Presiding officer having explained the object of the assemblage, requested Sir Knts. Dicketts and Peek, for England, and Brown and Mercer for Scotland, to introduce Col. Burdett as the G. Sovereign elect.

The acting G.H. Prelate, Sir Knt. T. W. White, then asked the G. Sovereign elect if he accepted the office to which he had been elected, and on receiving a formal assent the acting Grand Sovereign proceeded with the enthronement ceremony.

Sir Knt. Levander administered the oath of fidelity, and then invested Col. Burdett with the robe of state; the acting G.H.P. handed him the sceptre, and Sir Knt. J. Boyd, acting G. Chamberlain, the Sword of State, an address being delivered with each presentation by the presiding officer.

The G. Sovereign then announced that Sir Knt. Major W. Hamilton Ramsay (Senior Grand Warden Scotland) would be the first G. Viceroy of Scotland. (Applause).

Sir Knt. Ramsay then advanced to the altar, took his vow, was invested, and conducted to his seat.

The following Knights were appointed members of the Grand Council, and also took their vows, viz., Col. Francis Burdett, Sovereign; Major W. H. Ramsay, Viceroy; R. Beveridge, M.D., Sen. Genl. H. J. Shields, Jun. Genl.; the Rev. J. H. Tait, Prelate; Capt. Charles Hunter, Orator; G. W. Wheeler, Chancellor; J. Crichton, Treasurer; R. S. Brown, Recorder; J. Macpherson, Architect; Lieut. M. Tracey, Marshal; A. W. Rennie, Chamberlain; The appointments of Sir Knts. R. Beveridge, M.D. (Aberdeen City), Captain C. Hunter (Aberdeen County), and D. Murray Lyon (Ayrshire) as Intendant Generals, together with Sir Knts. J. Crombie, Examiner; D. Baker, Prefect; T. L. Shaw, Vice Chancellor; J. Carmichael, M.D., Assist. Treasurer; H. Edwards, Assist. Recorder; A. M. Bruce, Sword Bearer; A. Dalgliesh, J. Ingles, Dir. of Music; J. A. Mooney, Organist; Capt. W. H. Brown, Assist. Marshal; N. Minola, Vice Chamberlain; W. McMurdo, Herald; J. Walker, Herald; J. Tweed, Aide-de-Camp, as Grand Senators, were then announced, each officer advancing for investment with the crimson sash of his rank.

The G. Herald proclaimed the Grand Sovereign by his style and titles, and the knights then marched past the throne with banners displayed and swords drawn, saluting as they passed; during this period the Grand Organist played appropriate music. The Rev. J. H. Tait, G.H. Prelate, pronounced a blessing, and the ceremony concluded with an anthem. Sir Knt. Col. Burdett then thanked the members of the Grand Conclave of Scotland for the honour they had conferred upon him by electing him as their chief, and expressed his sincere hope that the Order would flourish extensively throughout the length and breadth of the land.

A vote of thanks to the English deputation was then passed by acclamation, and the Grand Conclave was closed in imperial form, and with solemn prayer. The knights then adjourned to the Windsor Hotel, where the inauguration banquet was served, and an evening of perfect harmony and enjoyment was passed by all present. We hope to be able to give a report of the very interesting speeches made by several distinguished knights in our next number.

We must not omit to state that the English Deputation, accompanied by Sir Knt. R. S. Brown, G. Recorder of Scotland, drove to Clerkington House, Haddington, the seat of R. Houston, Esq., a brother Mason, son-in-law to Colonel Burdett, and received a most hospitable reception in the old Scottish style, and after inspecting the extensive grounds, which are noted for their beauty, they carried off the gallant colonel to Edinburgh, behind four greys, in time for the opening ceremony at Freemasons' Hall, the distance accomplished being nearly forty miles through one of the most charming districts in Scotland.

LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

The monthly meeting of the lodge of Benevolence was held on Wednesday evening. Bro. John M. Clabon, P.G.D., President of the Board, occupied the chair; Bro. Joshua Nunn, P.G.S.B., Senior Vice-President, occupied the S.W. Chair; and Bro. Col. A. Lowry Cole, P.G.C., took the chair of the Junior Vice-President. The other brethren present were Bros. S. Rawson, Dr. Hogg, John Hervey, E. P. Albert, S. G. Foxall, C. A. Cottebrune, Raynham W. Stewart, Hyle Pullen, J. Wright, John Emmens, H. Bartlett, W. Stephens, Joseph Smith, Chas. F. Hogard, E. S. Taylor, W.M. 11; R. F. Gould, W.M. 92; W. Ramsay, W.M. 1539; F. Pendred, W.M. 33; H. Massey ("Freemason"); Lieut.-Col. H. S. Furney, W.M. 1615; Thomas Butt, W.M. 700; the Rev. H. Adair Pickard, I.P.M. 357; Geo. Hockley, W.M. 172; Dr. Erasmus Wilson, W.M. 2; Alex. Pilbeam, W.M. 45; John Bingemann, W.M. 1599; Capt. N. G. Philips, P.M. 1383; A. Durrant, W.M. 1385; R. Berridge, W.M. 21; James W. Gillard, W.M. 180; Thos. Dunkins, W.M. 72; G. Kelly King, W.M. 1541; D. Betts, W.M. 1351; Thomas Easley, W.M. 742; Peter De L. Long, P.M. 114; G. D. Roe, W.M. 1604; Edmond Coste, P.M. 1613; H. Potter, P.M. 261; J. H. Batty, P.M. 28; W. T. Wells, W.M. 174; Peter Wagner, W.M. 201; F. Egan, W.M. 858; Chas. Atkins, P.M. 27; W. A. Murli, W.M. 1489; James Bateman, W.M. 820; C. B. Barnett, W.M. 1382; W. Waygood, W.M. 141; N. Cobham, I.P.M. 957; W. Dodd, P.M. 1104; H. G. Buss, P.M. 27; and C. B. Payne, G. Tyler.

Grants of £240, made at former lodge meetings, were confirmed; and the brethren then proceeded with the new cases, of which many were those of widows. Two grants of £50 each, one grant of £40, one of £30, two of £20, four of £10, one of £5, and one of £3 were made; and the consideration of two cases on the list was deferred. The total grants made were £258.

At the Board of Masters the paper of business for Wednesday week at Grand Lodge was settled. Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, Past Grand Chaplain, gave notice of motion for the appointment of a committee to consider the subject of the thank offering for the Prince of Wales's safe return from India which was brought forward at last Grand Lodge; and he gave in the names of the proposed committee. In the event of his motion not being carried, he gives notice of an alternative motion for the gift of £6000 from Grand Lodge Funds for the purchase of three scholarships for the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys at Oxford, Cambridge, and London Universities. Bro. Jabez Hogg gave notice of an amendment to Bro. Simpson's original notice of motion to the same effect as Bro. Simpson's alternative resolution.

THE QUEEN AT EDINBURGH.

Though the Highlands are Her Majesty's favourite resort, the Scottish capital has not enjoyed an undue share of Royal visits. Since 1842, when the Queen stayed for some days at Dalkeith, the seat of the Duke of Buccleuch, Her Majesty has only on three occasions visited Edinburgh, and only on one of these occasions, the memorable Review of Scottish Volunteers in 1860, could the visit be looked upon as one of State. The citizens, therefore, by no means regard a Royal pageant as a thing of course, and the event of Thursday proves that it has for them a keen interest. They have welcomed their Sovereign with the same affectionate loyalty as is shown throughout the realm when the Queen comes among her people. The Magistrates had recommended a half holiday, thus preserving the frugal mind while bent on pleasure; but in the principal thoroughfares many of the shops were not opened at all, and Edinburgh, as a whole, seemed resolved to make a day of it. Unluckily, the day was not as the previous one, or as any other recent days of almost tropical brightness and brilliance. No ray of sunshine fell on the city the whole day long. Had this been the worst, sight-seers might have been thankful; but in place of scorching heat the day began with a fine penetrating rain, which continued for some hours. The Queen's habitual good fortune, however, awaited her. By 2 o'clock the mist, which hid the Old Town from the New, cleared well away. From Princes-street, and looking across the ravine, crag and tower, battlement and spire, could be seen once more, and from other points there came into view those near surroundings of sea and mountain which have made Edinburgh our ideal city.

The Memorial to the Prince Consort is erected in Charlotte-square, at the west end of George-street, a broad and handsome street running parallel with Prince's-street and just behind it. From Holyrood the Royal cortège entered George-street at St. Andrew's-square, which at the east end corresponds with Charlotte-square at the west end, forming a roadway in every way worthy of the city. In St. Andrew's-square is the monumental column built in honour of the first Lord Melville. Scotland is not chary of honours to her worthies. Edinburgh can point to some five and twenty statues; but it should be added that the statues are not entirely those of Scotchmen. The Melville column was gay with banners, and lines of streamers hanging from it were connected with tall Venetian masts in the gardens surrounding it. These masts, some of them 30 feet high, were repeated along the edge of the footway, and the street was as bright as it well could be made by banners, bannerets, shields, flowers, evergreens, and bands of crimson cloth, which form the simplest and also the most effective of house decorations. Down this fine street, too broad to need barricading, came the Royal party, driving in three open carriages, in time to reach the square punctually at four o'clock. The Queen looked in excellent health and spirits. In the carriage with her were Princess Beatrice and Prince Leopold, who was in Highland costume. Lord Elphinstone was the Lord-in-Waiting. The Home Secretary, Mr. Cross, was in one of the State carriages. The suite in attendance were the Dowager Lady Waterpark, the Hon. Horatio Stopford, Miss Bauer, Sir William Jenner, Major-General Ponsonby, Colonel Gardiner, and the Hon. A. Yorke. The Duke of Connaught was in command of the escort of the 7th Queen's Hussars, and rode by the side of his mother's carriage. At Holyrood a guard of honour was furnished by the 79th Highlanders, and the band of the 26th Cameronians played in front of the Palace. Before Her Majesty's departure part of the roadway was lined by Royal Artillerymen and 3000 Volunteers belonging to the Artillery Rifle Corps. Edinburgh possesses several smart and efficient corps, and those who turned out this day were most sturdy and soldierlike in look and bearing. A hundred blue jackets from Her Majesty's ship Favourite were stationed near Charlotte-square. George-street was lined by the 29th Cameronians, but the "thin red line" here and elsewhere was more than sufficient to restrain the crowd, who were as orderly and well-behaved as they were fervent in their loyalty. The chief pressure occurred at the entrance into Charlotte-square, where the Hussars with their well-trained horses were keeping back the crowd; but a well-arranged system of barriers prevented much of the usual surging and confusion. Before the Queen arrived the people had fallen or had been shaken into their places.

Inside the square is a green enclosure within iron railings, about half as large as Lincoln's-inn-fields. The trees are not high enough or numerous enough to hide the memorial, which is thus admirably placed on green sward, with ample space around it, as an equestrian should have. At one side of the square is a church—St. George's, and there are handsome public buildings and private residences at other sides. The site, therefore, is in every way a fitting one. Within the enclosure to-day some thousands of privileged spectators were admitted. Here, of course, the chief interest centred. The Body Guard of the Royal Company of Archers lined the entrance, standing at two paces interval, each man bow in hand, with three arrows in his quiver and a short gilt handed sword in his belt. The Duke of Buccleuch, who was in command, wore a handsome uniform of green and gold, with the blue riband of the Garter. Before the Archers were borne the old colours of the Corps, and among other officers who took command were the Duke of Roxburgh, Sir W. Gibson Craig, the Earls of Dalkeith and Stair, Sir J. S. Richardson, and the Earl of Rosebery. Soon after the Body Guard had been placed the members of the Edinburgh Town Council came in procession, headed by Lord Provost Falshaw, and preceded by four halberdiers in mediæval dresses, and by Mace and Sword-bearers. The Lord Provost was in scarlet and

ermine; the Bailies wore scarlet robes and ermine tippets, the Town Councillors scarves only. This procession introduced a blaze of colour, the only objection to which was that when massed it hindered the view of several hundred somewhat indignant spectators in the rear. It is hardly possible to supply a list of the many distinguished persons who were present, but among them, either in uniform or Court dress, were the Lord Justice-General, the Lord Justice Clerk, and the Lord Advocate, in his Court wig and robes; the Earl of Lauderdale, Hereditary Standard Bearer, and the Earl of Selkirk, Keeper of the Great Seal; and Mr. Wedderburne, Hereditary Royal Standard Bearer. On Her Majesty's arrival she was met by members of the Executive Committee, the Duke of Buccleuch, Sir John McNeill, Sir W. Gibson Craig, and Dr. Lyon Playfair, M.P., and a procession was formed to the dais erected in front of the memorial. In this procession besides the nobles and gentlemen already mentioned, the following took part:—The Marquis of Lothian, Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal; Sir H. J. Seton-Steuart, Hereditary Armour Bearer, Mr. Walker, of Bowland; Mr. J. Steell, the sculptor of the memorial; the Lord Provost and Sheriff Davidson.

Chairs of State had been prepared under the dais, but Her Majesty, with the Princess Beatrice and Prince Leopold, remained standing throughout the ceremony, and thus remained well in sight of most of the spectators. The formal proceedings then began. A prayer was offered by Dr. Milligan, one of the Deans of the Chapel Royal, who wore a black gown and bands, with a doctor's hood. At the conclusion of the prayer the band of the 79th Highlanders began the chorale "Gotha," composed by the late Prince Consort, and it was then sung by a choir of two hundred voices, led by Dr. Oakeley, Professor of Music in the University of Edinburgh. The piece was admirably given, and the Queen listened to it with the utmost interest. Mr. Cross then presented the members of the Executive Committee, and the Duke of Buccleuch, as their chairman, read the address to Her Majesty as follows:—

"The Executive Committee for the erection of the Scottish National Memorial to His Royal Highness the Prince Consort have to-day the high honour and gratification of presenting the Memorial in its completed form to your Majesty and to the people of Scotland. The subscribers to the Memorial numbered very many thousands of your Majesty's Scottish subjects. Contributions were received from every county and nearly every parish in Scotland. All classes of society, from the highest and wealthiest to the lowest and poorest, willingly combined according to their respective ability to render this Memorial a monument worthy of the occasion. It will be in your Majesty's recollection that the subscribers humbly submitted the design and the site to your Majesty's selection, and that the design furnished by Mr. John Steell (Royal Scottish Academician) and this site (which was loyally offered by the proprietors of Charlotte-square) received your Majesty's gracious approval. The labour intrusted to the Executive Committee is now concluded, and the finished work of the sculptor is before your Majesty. The Executive Committee trust and believe that it will be found to be a not unfitting tribute of a nation's affection and admiration of the Consort and an acceptable token of their love and loyalty to your Majesty's person and family. It is an auspicious coincidence that this day, the 17th of August, is the anniversary of the birth of Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, your Majesty's beloved mother. The memory of Her Royal Highness will ever be revered by the people of this country for the conspicuous virtues of Her Royal Highness's life, and especially for her admirable nature of their future Sovereign. The Executive Committee humbly request your Majesty to be graciously pleased to unveil the Memorial in the sight of the present assembly.—Edinburgh, Aug. 17, 1876."

The Queen made the following gracious reply:—

"I receive with pleasure your loyal address. I am well aware of the feeling in Scotland which promoted the raising of this National Memorial, and I assure you that I heartily appreciate the affection and admiration manifested in this country for my dear husband, as well as the loyalty and attachment to me which has ever been the characteristic of my Scotch subjects. I thank you heartily for the allusion you have made to my beloved mother on this day, the anniversary of her birth. Her frequent residence in this Royal city and its neighbourhood proved how much she loved the Scottish nation."

Neither the address nor the reply could be heard, of course, even by people in the enclosure, much less by the thousands of people who lined the square or were crowding every and balcony housetop, but when Her Majesty, after handing her home to the Duke of Buccleuch, spoke a few words to the Home Secretary, Mr. Cross, in his loudest voice, succeeded in making himself heard: "I have much pleasure in saying by Her Majesty's command that it is her desire the statue be now unveiled." The canvas covering which till now had concealed the statue was at once cleverly and quickly removed, amid cheers which were loud and long. The long delayed memorial was exposed to view, while the band played the "Coburg March," and a Royal salute, fired by signal from the Castle, proclaimed to all Edinburgh that the ceremony was complete. The choir here sung another choral, the words of which were written by the Rev. Gregory Smith, Vicar of Malvern, the music being by Professor Oakeley. Finally the Queen walked round the statue upon a wooden platform carpeted with crimson cloth. Her Majesty, who was escorted by the Duke of Buccleuch and the Lord Provost, was thus able to see the statue from every point of view, and to whom she expressed her entire satisfaction with the work. It is, indeed, a worthy addition to the art memorials in which, as I have said, the city is already so rich, and many of which are the work of the same venerable sculptor.

On completing the circuit of the memorial the Queen was escorted to her carriage and returned to Holyrood. Along

the whole length of Princes-street the crowds were as numerous and as warm in their greetings as they had been in George-street, and the decorations were hardly less elaborate and effective, but in its beauty unadorned Princes-street stands in little need of decoration.

Later in the day Her Majesty drove through the Queen's Park by what is known as the Queen's Drive, and visited Craigmillar Castle. It is only just to the authorities of Edinburgh to add that the arrangements made for the comfort and safety of the spectators who thronged the city were excellent, and the day passed off without serious accident. Her Majesty has shown in a marked manner her appreciation of what has been done and her desire to honour her faithful city. It is understood that the Lord Provost has received an intimation that he will be created a baronet. At Holyrood, during the day, the chief sculptor of the memorial, Mr. J. Steell, and Professor Oakeley were knighted. Thus, as a popular spectacle and in the honour rendered to sculpture and music, the Queen's visit herewith long be remembered in the civic annals.

WAR VICTIMS.—The Rev. Henry Jones, Secretary to the Turkish Missions Aid Society, writes to us from 18, Adam-street, Strand:—"Should any of your readers prefer sending relief to the multitude of homeless families, as well as to the sick and wounded, through the medium of the American missionaries (to whom a letter from your correspondent at Widin in your Saturday's issue justly calls attention), the committee of this society, which is in direct communication with the missionaries in that unhappy region, would be glad to forward any contributions sent to its secretary, the Rev. Henry Jones, at the above address. The missionaries would, doubtless, be thankful for such means of doing good, and would administer the relief faithfully and judiciously." The National Aid Society has been amalgamated with the Eastern War Sick and Wounded Relief Fund. Mr. Lewis Farley has received a letter from Dr. Humphrey Sandwith, dated Belgrade, Aug. 19:—"In answer to your letter of the 9th inst., I can assure you that all bona fide surgeons who have hitherto arrived have been commissioned and sent to the front in uniform. I have lately returned from a mission to the enemy, with which I was entrusted by the Servian Government to arrange for the absolute neutrality of all hospital doctors, attendants, &c. I have received the fullest assurance in writing from Rifast Pasha, Governor of Widin, that all such will be treated with the greatest humanity, so I think that surgeons will have nothing to fear in future. The Turks have previously hanged Dr. Leah with the red cross on his arm. The hospitals in Belgrade are now in want of nothing, but those in the interior are yet in a deplorable condition—i.e., most of them. Some of them are very fair. The army in the West is in perfect health, and there are but few wounded there; the army in the East is sending hundreds of wounded to the rear almost daily, and there is the place where most is needed. This morning several English surgeons are gone to that army. Hare, Attwood, Hume, Boyd, Sandwith, MacKellar. They are all in uniform and commissioned, and are under the command of Inspector-General Baron Mundy, a first-rate man, under whom the service is being rapidly organized. The Medical Department is still in need of instruments, stores, surgeons, and dressers. I scarcely think ladies would do here; there are enough Russian ladies in Belgrade, and the interior is too rough a place. Mr. MacCormac, principal surgeon during the Franco-German War, and Dr. Burnard Pitts, of St. Thomas's Hospital, have left London for the seat of war. The former, since his return to England, has been the senior surgeon at St. Thomas's Hospital. The Hyde Park Demonstration Committee formed for the purpose of expressing indignation at the atrocities perpetrated by the Turks in Bulgaria, have, in answer to invitations addressed by them to Mr. Edward A. Freeman and Mr. Samuel S. Marling, M.P., to attend a demonstration of working men, to be held in Hyde Park, received the following replies:—"The former, writing from Summuleaves, Wells, says,—"I am glad, indeed, to see any class of people, and especially working men, stirring in such a cause. A working men's meeting on the matter is one of the things which I most wish to see, but I greatly doubt whether a Hyde Park demonstration is the best form it can take." The latter gentleman, writing from Staney-park, Stroud, says as follows:—"I have left London and am unable to return to render any assistance to the demonstration. The atrocities perpetrated on the Bulgarians are an outrage on humanity, and I cannot but feel that our Government is much to blame for their indifference and want of care, because history might have taught them from the past conduct of the Turks that the utmost vigilance on their part was demanded to prevent outrages by the very circumstances of the case. I wish your meeting every success." Colonel Loyd Lindsay has left London for the seat of war in the East, taking surgical and medical appliances for the wounded Turks and Servians. Colonel Lindsay proceeds as Chief Commissioner of the National Society for Aid to the Sick and Wounded in War.

STONEHENGE.—"Druid" writes from Penzance—"On the 14th inst. I visited Stonehenge, and was much surprised at the way in which that most interesting relic has been mutilated, the lower portions of the stones being much disfigured. Upon arriving I found a party of ladies and two gentlemen (?); the latter were busy with chisel and hammer detaching portions of the ruins to keep as specimens, and regretting their inability to obtain large pieces in consequence of their being provided with a carpenter's, instead of a geological, hammer. Surely some steps might be taken to preserve this national monument from such selfish barbarism. With what feelings of indignation would the public regard the chipping off of portions of any of our cathedrals to adorn the private collections of individuals, and yet we have many cathedrals, and could better spare portions of them than of our one Stonehenge."

FREEMASONRY IN THE UNITED STATES.

Franklin Lodge, No. 134, Philadelphia, carried out most successfully another part of its extended programme for the celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of American Independence. On Sunday morning the brethren, headed by their W.M., Bro. John C. Kelley, and other officers, turned out in large numbers for the purpose of attending Divine service at old Christ Church, of which one of its members, the Rev. Bro. E. A. Foggo, D.D., is rector. Franklin Lodge was, by invitation, joined on this occasion by the Grand Master of Masons of Pennsylvania, Bro. Robert Clark; Senior Grand Warden, Bro. Michael Nisbet; Grand Marshal, Bro. George W. Wood, and other Grand Officers, and also by Concordia Lodge, No. 67, headed by their W.M., Bro. Arthur Thacker. The entire assemblage of Freemasons was both a brilliant and a large one, and that in spite of the unusual heat of the day—the thermometer reaching as high as 98° in the shade. The brethren of Franklin Lodge met at the Masonic Temple, and marched down to the church, their only insignia being a narrow blue ribbon, worn on the lapel of their coats. The brethren of Concordia Lodge met in the parish building adjoining the church.

The religious services were conducted by the rector, Bro. E. A. Foggo, D.D., of Franklin Lodge; Bro. James W. Robins, D.D., of Union Lodge, and Bro. Wm. H. Odenheimer, D.D., LL.D., of Franklin Lodge. The sermon was delivered by the Right Rev. Bro. William H. Odenheimer, Bishop of the Diocese of Northern New Jersey, and was a masterpiece, whether considered in the light of either pulpit or Masonic oratory. The Bishop took for his text the words from the Great Light: "And all ye are brethren," and discoursed from them lessons of the greatest interest and practical value. The preacher is evidently both a bright and a whole-souled Mason, and he gave forth no uncertain sound.

At the conclusion of Divine service the brethren of Franklin Lodge proceeded to Bro. Benjamin Franklin's grave, in the graveyard of Christ Church, at Fourth and Arch streets, when Bro. Robert Clark, Grand Master of Pennsylvania, at the request of Bro. J. C. Kelley, W. Master of Franklin Lodge, deposited on the grave of the philosopher and Mason an elegant wreath of immortelles, encircling a square and compasses, and inscribed with the letters "Franklin Lodge, No. 134."—"Keystone."

FREEMASONRY IN THE WEST.

The growth of Masonry in the West, like the growth of the West itself, is something marvellous. Illinois has more Masons than Pennsylvania; and Michigan, that in 1870 ranked as the thirteenth State in population, is today, with over 26,000 Masons, the seventh, if not the sixth, of American Grand Lodges in Masonic strength. Amid the solitudes, the trials, and the struggles of a frontier life and a new country, where society is neither crystallized nor stratified, and where the various institutions and customs, in which Eastern social life finds relaxation and relief, are measurably absent or deficient, Masonry supplies a need of human nature which nothing else can furnish. The Masonic stranger finds in the lodge-room congenial associates and friends. His solitary single-handed combat with nature and the forest is cheered by the consciousness that he is not alone. In sickness or in health Masonic ministrations are essential help or blessed comfort. Offering all these advantages to the worthy, is it strange that the unworthy should seek to profit by them; or is it strange or un-Masonic in us if by "sharp decisions," or a new practice, we should sometimes defend with excessive vigour what to us is so valuable? And amid the wild lawlessness so often found in a border life and among its rude but noble-hearted men, is it strange that our jurisprudence should seemingly pass; by sudden and, to some, shocking transitions,

"From grave to gay—from lively to severe?"

One Mason of smooth, decorous exterior is known, by his lodge, to have a bad heart; such a one, if charged with any Masonic offence, is likely to have a "short shrift" and summary punishment; but if, on the contrary, one who is wild and rough and lawless, is known to have an heart of honour in a breast overflowing with "the milk of human kindness," much, very much, is "pardoned in a spirit of liberty," and lodge verdicts fall harmless at his feet. We have, or think we have, more heart knowledge of our brethren than can be found in the older States; and to this more than to charities or proof, are often due the verdicts of lodges that look so queer, on paper, to Eastern Masons. But we flatter ourselves that substantial justice, not to mention a wise and true charity, is quite as often triumphant before our rude tribunals as in the more decorous but custom-bound courts of an older Masonry. And so we reverently observe the "landmarks" of Masonry by seeking to make our field fruitful of that Faith, Hope, and Charity which all landmarks were established to preserve, and without which the Landmarks is as worthless as a solitary boulder on a sandy barren.—"Keystone."

THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA.—During his recent stay at Ischl the Emperor of Austria saved the child of a poor woman from a violent death. As he was passing through the Rottenbach Gorges, a boy of 4 years old fell over a precipice, and, his clothes having caught on a projecting branch, was suspended over a torrent some 50 feet below. The Emperor, whose proficiency in all athletic sports is well known, jumped across the precipice, freed the boy from his perilous position, and took him back to his mother.—"Eastern Budget."

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THE EMPRESS OF INDIA.

Saturday's Government "Gazette" contains the following Viceregal Proclamation:—

"I hereby publish for the information of the Governors, Administrators, Princes, chief nobles, and peoples of this Empire, the subjoined Act passed by the Imperial Parliament of Great Britain and Ireland, on the 27th of April, 1876, together with a Royal Proclamation, dated at the Court of Windsor, the 28th of April, 1876, in the 39th year of Her Majesty's reign, transmitted to this Government by the most Honourable the Secretary of State for India in his Lordship's despatch No. 70, of the 13th of July, 1876.

"Moreover, I now publicly notify under this my hand and seal that it is my intention to hold at Delhi on the 1st of January, 1877, an Imperial Assemblage, for the purpose of proclaiming to the Queen's subjects throughout India the gracious sentiments which have induced Her Majesty to make to her Sovereign style and titles an addition specially intended to mark Her Majesty's interest in this great dependency of her Crown, and her Royal confidence in the loyalty and affection of the peoples and Princes of India.

"To this Assemblage I propose to invite the Governors, Lieutenant-Governors, and heads of Administrations from all parts of the Queen's Indian dominions, as well as those princes, chiefs, and nobles in whose persons the antiquity of the past is associated with the prosperity of the future, and who so worthily contribute to the splendour and stability of this great Empire.

"I shall forthwith issue such Orders in Council as may be suitable to the historical importance of the occasion, and in conformity with the desire which will be felt by all Her Majesty's subjects in India to manifest the affection which they cherish for their august Sovereign by public rejoicings and appropriate demonstrations of loyalty.

"Aug. 18." "LYTTON."
The Viceroy will make a public entry into Delhi on the day after Christmas Day. All public offices will be closed for a week. About 15,000 European and Native troops, mostly regiments moving in the ordinary course of relief, will be present. It is reported that the assembly will be on a very grand scale, and will be held on the open plain. Around the Viceroy's throne will be grouped a series of daises, representing the various Provinces, in a great semi-circle. The troops will be drawn up behind the throne. Races, ceremonial visits, and other entertainments will occupy the Christmas week.

AN APPEAL FROM BAVARIA.

The following appears in our contemporary, "The Times":—

Sir,—It will be a charity if you can find a place in your columns for the following.

On the night of August 13 the town of Brückenau, about 20 English miles from Kissingen, was almost totally destroyed by fire—that is to say, out of 250 houses upwards of 200 are not; out of a population of 1600, 1200 are now roofless, five are dead, and two missing.

The houses were only insured for about a fourth of their value, furniture and clothing not at all. Unfortunately, the fire was so quick, that the people had to fly in their shirts, shoeless. The harvest, already cut and stored, was entirely consumed. The people are now huddled in a room.

I shall never forget the scene that met my eyes on walking to the town the morning following. First, the telltale smoke, in sad contrast to the sunlit beauty of the verdant valley, then the hedges hung with bedding, then the carts and carriages, and the poor people themselves in groups in the adjoining meadows, the more fortunate guarding the wrecks of their property. The town itself was impassable from the fallen and still falling houses. I penetrated, however, far enough to see many despairing faces and streaming eyes.

From the above your readers may judge how widespread, how almost universal is the ruin, and as the people in these parts are very poor, how much they need help. We on the spot are doing what we can, and any money paid to the account of Sir John Kingston James, Marylebone branch, "Brückenau Fund," London and Westminster Bank, 4, Stratford-place, will be handed over by me to the Local Committee.

Anxiously hoping that this appeal may bring forth fruit, I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

J. KINGSTON JAMES.
Sinuthalhof, Brückenau, Bavaria, Aug. 16.

SOCIAL SCIENCE CONGRESS.—There is some doubt as to whether it will be possible to hold the Sanitary Exhibition in connexion with the Social Science Congress at Liverpool in October. Since the first Exhibition at the Leeds meeting in 1871, there has each year been greater interest taken in it, and its practical utility has been so recognized that each year the extent of the Exhibition has increased. Promises of objects for exhibition this year have been already numerous, but the difficulty is to find a place wherein the Exhibition can be held. The Assistant Secretary, who has been to Liverpool to make arrangements, reports that there is but one hall suitable, and that cannot be had. The extensive hall erected for Messrs. Moody and Sankey's services is well adapted, but it stands on Government ground, and the lease falls in on the 15th of September. It is intended to erect a new County Court on the site without delay, and by the time the Congress meets, which is October the 10th, the hall will probably be swept away. An application has been made to Her Majesty's Office of Works for the hall to stand till after the conference, and a formal refusal has been sent. We understand the Liverpool Corporation have taken the matter into consideration, and will probably memorialize Her Majesty's Office of Works.

HOLY GROUND.

"Our lodges are situated on Holy ground," consecrated and dedicated to a Holy God, and therefore should and must in every way be free from any influences tending to dishonour that holy name, and corrupt the Craft.

The holy to the holiest leads,
From thence our spirits rise,
And he that in God's statutes treads,
Shall meet Him in the skies.

Let us glance into the past, aided by that Holy Light, which must ever burn, shed its lustre, and adorn the Master's pedestal, a scene presents itself 3730 years since.

The fathers of the faithful and the friend of God met Abimelech with the chief captain of his host, was saluted by him. "God is with thee in all that thou dost;" and then called upon him to take a solemn obligation of friendship to him and his posterity, and "both" of them made a covenant, and we may imagine the scene at the well which Abraham digged. Beer Shaba, or the "well of the Oath," a consecrated spot here under the canopy of heaven, witnessed by the Most High above, and in the presence of the faithful servant of Abimelech. That Holy ground was consecrated by an act of brotherly love, and in passing I would say, "Let brotherly love continue."

Holy ground? Yes! and let no man taunt me when I adopt Freemasonry as my religion, and lay as a foundation stone to God, and love to my brother, with all my heart. To proceed.

These brethren separated, but Abraham having his property, the well restored to him, not only consecrated the spot by his fraternal bond to Abimelech, but we find him raising an evergreen monument to the everlasting God; as he plants the grove around the well, and makes it holy ground at Beer Shaba, giving all glory to the Most High.

Holy Ground! Now another scene, and we have before us a splendid subject for the poet and the owbis—the venerable brother, upwards of one hundred years old, with his only son Isaac and his servants in attendance; the patriarch riding on an ass, the group wending its way towards Moriah, and now as they get in sight of the mountain, the old man dismounts from the beast and leaves it in charge of the servants, who are told that he and the lad are going to the mountain to worship, and then return again to them.

The venerable sire, with no ordinary fidelity to the Most High, and with the most endearing affection for a fond and obedient son, first lays the wood on Isaac's shoulders, then takes the knife in one hand, and the fire in the other, and they commence the ascent. The lad wonders and seeks from his father to know where the lamb is for the sacrifice, but is told that God will provide Himself a lamb for a burnt offering, and they again ascend together.

Let us follow them, but take our shoes from off our feet, we are now on holy ground.

The patriarch has selected a spot and laid aside the fire and knife, and the young man has laid down his wood, and they together build an altar, it is finished and the wood is laid in order, but where is the lamb? a moment's surprise, and now the dear old man takes the only son of his bosom, the obedient beloved son, binds him and lays him on the altar, then follows a scene, upon which the angelic host looked with interest, and heaven's King with approbation. The knife is raised, another moment and it is plunged in the heart of the dear youth, but his hand is stayed, a voice is heard, hurt not the lad, the will is taken for the deed; the lad is loosed, and who can imagine the feelings of the two as they bow down in the presence of the Most High, on that holy ground, Jehovah, Jirah. 22 Genesis.

Holy Ground! Now let us turn our attention to witness the sweet singer of Israel, when the anger of God was kindled, the pestilence is raging, and the King bows down before the Most High in humility, his prayer and supplication is heard and the plague is stayed.

Holy Ground! We remind our brethren at the installation of an event of surpassing grandeur to any thing on record, the completion, dedication and consecration of the Temple of Jerusalem to God's worship and service, the grandeur of the building, the solemnity of the ceremonies and above all the visible manifestation over the mercy seat between the cherubims, impressed the well informed mind, with

The sacred awe that does not mow,
And all the silent heaven of love.

Holy Ground! Brethren of the clergy especially, and all who would have God honoured and revered as it becomes Freemasons—we have an application to make to this subject.

If the lodge is holy, the ceremonies have reference to God and are holy. Would you for a moment countenance the service of the Church of England, or any other, in a public house? No! Then we shudder to think that the divine principles of Masonry are to such an extent made a convenience to those who do dishonour to God and the Craft.

Holy Ground! Let us not trifle with the Most High! I feel delighted that so many interested in the prosperity of the Craft endorse my views. There are thousands of brethren, of the highest religious and moral reputation and standing, who are the greatest ornaments to Masonry, who are driven from the lodges by the excesses practised.

Let the world witness that our lodges are on holy ground, and in spite of all opposition Masonry will do honour to monarch and peasant, and shall go forward bright as the sun, fair as the moon, and terrible as an army with banners.

Notwithstanding the great heat, the deaths registered in London last week were 107 below the average. The mean temperature was 72 deg., which was 10.5 deg. in excess of the corresponding week for sixty years.

EXPECTED VISIT OF THE PRINCE OF WALES TO GLASGOW.

The following correspondence between the Lord Provost and the Prince of Wales regarding the visit of His Royal Highness to Glasgow was read by the Lord Provost at the meeting of the Glasgow Police Board.

At the first meeting of the magistrates after the Lord Provost's return from America it was arranged that His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales should be asked to honour the city by laying the foundation-stone of the new Post Office. The Lord Provost accordingly addressed to General Sir W. Knollys the following letter:—

"City Chambers,

"Glasgow, 10th August, 1876.

"Lieutenant-General Sir Wm. Knollys, K.C.B., Marlborough House, London.

"Sir,—The Government have finally approved of the plans of a new Post Office for Glasgow, and the requisite funds have been voted for its erection. The building, it is believed, will be one worthy of the city, and the arrangements are so far in progress that the foundation-stone may be laid in a few weeks. It has occurred to my colleagues in the magistracy and myself, that if His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales is to be in Scotland during the autumn, and would be graciously pleased, either in going to or returning from the Highlands, to lay the foundation-stone, he would put the community under great obligation, and, if possible, intensify the feeling of loyalty towards her Majesty and to the Royal family. I may be permitted to say that I am emboldened to address you on this subject, and to beg the favour of your bringing the matter under the notice of His Royal Highness, by the consideration that one of the last, if not the latest official act of his illustrious father, the Prince Consort, was to lay the foundation stone of the Post Office in Edinburgh. That city is no doubt the political capital of Scotland, but I venture to hope that the claims of Glasgow, in respect of population, enterprise, and commercial and manufacturing position, are sufficiently known to His Royal Highness to induce him to give to a request on behalf of its citizens the most favourable consideration that his other engagements will admit of. It will afford the entire community very high gratification to see His Royal Highness after his return from his auspicious visit to India, and I need scarcely say that the gratification will be very greatly enhanced if Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales shall be graciously pleased to accompany the Prince on the occasion. May I beg that you will do my brother magistrates and myself the favour of taking advantage of an early opportunity of bringing the matter under the notice of His Royal Highness, and letting me know the result.—I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient servant.

(Signed) "JAS. BAIN, Lord Provost."

To that communication the Lord Provost has received the following reply, which was submitted to the magistrates at their meeting:—

"Marlborough House,

"Pall Mall, S.W., August 16, 1876.

"My Lord Provost,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst., which I have submitted to the Prince of Wales, and received His Royal Highness's directions to inform you that it will afford His Royal Highness great satisfaction to be present at the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the new proposed Post Office at Glasgow. The Prince's present engagements in the North render it impossible at present for His Royal Highness to say when he shall be able to attend to perform the prescribed duties on such an occasion, but it will probably be towards the end of the first fortnight in October.—I have the honour to remain, my Lord Provost, very faithfully yours.

(Signed) "W. KNOLLYS.

"The Lord Provost of Glasgow."

This announcement, we feel assured, will be received with the greatest possible gratification by our readers. It is to be hoped that the Princess of Wales may be able to accompany her husband on this occasion, and to receive with him a right Royal welcome.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

SCIENCE AND ART EXAMINATION.

MAGNETISM AND ELECTRICITY.—First Class Advanced, H. G. Shaw; First Class Elementary, R. Bryant, W. R. Parker, C. D. Green; Second Class Elementary, W. Beaumont, W. Jones.

DRAWING.—Full Certificates, W. R. Parker, H. G. Shaw; Prize of Instruments, W. R. Parker.

PAPERS ON PRACTICAL GEOMETRY.—Heeley, White, Rose, Newman, Croydon, Haskins, Bryant, Parker, and Shaw.

PASSED IN MODEL DRAWING.—Heeley, Parker, and Booser.

PASSED IN FREEHAND.—W. Pawley.

PASSED IN PERSPECTIVE.—Parker and Shaw.

THE COSMOPOLITAN MASONIC CALENDAR, DIARY, AND POCKET BOOK FOR 1877.

A form has been forwarded to every London Craft lodge and R.A. chapter, respectfully requesting that the name and number, place, day and months of meeting, might be filled in and returned as speedily as possible, in order that corrections, where needed, may be made in the Diary and Pocket Book for 1877. As many lodges do not re-assemble until late in the year, a large number of the applications will not unfortunately reach the W.M. until too late for the publication. The publisher will therefore be very thankful to any W.M. or other officer, or members, who will favour him by forwarding the above information as early as possible to the office, 198, Fleet-street, London. A regular form will be sent, when required, on receipt of name and address.

LIGHT.

How necessary is light in our earthly architecture. How much effect and beauty depend on the modulations, as I may call them, of natural light, or the skilful arrangements of artificial light. But in that heavenly architecture there shall be perfect light, the lustrous yet undazzling—the continual, yet unwearying light of God's presence.

The effort of all good people on earth is to bring earth nearer to Heaven, and to reflect Heaven's light on earth. As God said, "Let there be light, and there was light," so it is ours, my brethren, as good men and Masons, to say and to act, "Let there be light," that God's light may shine forth upon earth, and be kindled here, to be intensified and perfected there. To know God in His word and in His works, is to walk in the light; to help others to do this is to be spreading the true light; to educate the poor and ignorant, to relieve the distressed, and to have large and sympathetic thoughts towards all men, this is to lift the dark clouds of ignorance, prejudice, and meanness, and to be preparing the light of Heaven.

"There no clouds nor passing vapour,
Dim the brightness of the air;
Endless noonday, glorious noonday,
From the sun of suns is there."

REV. A. H. ETTY.

THE MOSELLE.—Trèves is, perhaps, the most interesting town in Germany. It has old houses enough, though not so many as Nuremberg, or Augsburg, or Hanover. You may live in that fine old inn, comfortable withal, the Rothe Haus, once the old town hall, and see opposite to you St Mary's Church, an exquisite bit of Gothic, somewhat dwarfed by the huge mass of the sternly Romanesque cathedral. But the chief glory of Trèves is its Roman remains, more perfect and more numerous than those of any other Transalpine town, Orange only excepted. Then its library is full of rare editions, and has (what is a wonder in Germany) most courteous and patient gentlemen for librarian and sub-librarian. Moreover, its people have a genial cheeriness of face and manner which may be due to the Gallic mixture (for the Treviri were as much Gauls as the people of Rheims, with whom they are always classed by Latin writers), but which, at any rate, one usually looks for in vain in more Northern Germany. But Trèves just now is hard to get out of. You can get into it easily enough, either by way of Luxembourg or from Cologne direct, by a line which runs through the grandest part of the Upper Eifel. Once there, however, you will be told you must stay unless you retrace your steps, or put up with German post-wagons (often starting at unearthly hours, and by day fearfully hot), or hire a carriage as far down the Moselle as Cochen, between which place and Coblenz the little local steamer still plies. Our advice is to do neither; your drive down as far as Alf would be a hot and uninteresting one, and from Cochen downwards you will have plenty of opportunity of judging whether the Moselle is really finer than the Rhine or not. Better put up with the inevitable alteration in your plans; or, rather (after this warning), shape your plans on the supposition that the Moselle water, being now *zu klein*, is likely so to continue for the next six weeks at least. Determine, therefore, to console yourselves by getting a good peep at the Upper Eifel. If you have already seen Gerolstein Castle (no connexion with the Grand Duchess—she hails, we suppose, from the place of the same name in the Black Forest) from the line from Cologne, take your ticket only from Trèves to Kyllburg. Thence make your way to Oberkail—a burying place of one or two grand old families; thence to Manderscheid, where are two castles close together, with a legend, of course, about a quarrel between two brothers. On your way thither you will have climbed the Mosenburg, a huge extinct volcano, with four craters—one still a maar or tarn. You will, moreover, be within easy reach of four or five more of the largest and best of the Eifel maars (extinct craters full of water), including the Pulvermaar, so beautifully embosomed in beech woods. Thence walk or drive down to lovely Bertrich—a real German bathing place, almost unvisited by the Britisher. Here trace, at the "Cheese cellar," a curious sort of diminutive Fingal's Cave, the end of a lava current; and then go on your way rejoicing to Alf. If the drive from thence to Cochen, through old villages and over glorious hills, does not please you, you must, indeed, be hard to satisfy. At Cochen (as we said) you will still find a Coblenz boat—"Graphic."

Amongst the leaders of the Masonic fraternity and others who have already expressed their desire to become subscribers to the tales, poems, and Masonic papers by Bro. Emra Holmes, are the Earl of Carnarvon, Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Limerick, Great Prior of the Temple; the Earl of Stanhope; Lord Henniker; Lord Waveney, Prov. Grand Master, Suffolk; Sir Patrick Colquhoun, Q.C., LL.D.; and Sir Francis Doyle, Bart., Professor of Poetry, Oxford, &c. The work is dedicated by permission to Lord Stanhope. The book will be put to press as soon as a sufficient number of subscribers are obtained, for which purpose names will be thankfully received by Tweddell and Sons, publishers, Stokesley, Yorkshire, or at the Office of this paper—"Woodbridge Reporter." [Bro. Kenning will also gladly receive names of subscribers at the "Freemason" Office, 198, Fleet-street.]

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Dangerous diseases would not present themselves very often if timely attention were bestowed on the first feelings which betray a departure from health. How many life-long maladies spring from neglecting trifling symptoms? The pimple readily curable in the nursery becomes, through carelessness, the irremediable torment of after life. With a knowledge of the curative powers of Holloway's Ointment and Pills, and the facility and safety of their application, those who fail to use them for extirpating the first seeds of hereditary ailments will have to bear the punishment resulting from their folly. Holloway's remedy will remove eruptions of the skin, scorbutic disease, and scrofula, and heal every description of ulcer, sore, wound, or abrasion.—ADVT.

Masonic and General Tidings.

The Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress, with several of the younger members of their family, have left for Switzerland, "under Messrs. Thomas Cook and Son's arrangements."

The "Morning Post" understands that Sir Alexander Milne will be raised to the peerage, and will also have a special pension bestowed upon him in recognition of his long and meritorious services at Whitehall as a Lord of the Admiralty under successive Administrations.

The Princess of Wales and children returned to Marlborough House on Wednesday from Osborn Cottage, Isle of Wight.

THE COURT IN SCOTLAND.—According to present arrangements, the Prince and Princess of Wales, with the royal children, will arrive at Abergeldie Castle on Monday next. In consequence of Her Majesty being a good deal fatigued after her journey from Edinburgh, she did not pay her usual round of visits amongst her tenantry on Saturday. Her Majesty was not present at Craithie parish Church on Sunday, nor were any of the members of the Court. Service was conducted within the Castle.

The brethren of Pontefract and Castleford gave a banquet on Thursday week to Bro. Sheriff Breffit, at the Town Hall, Pontefract. The Mayor presided, supported by the Deputy Grand and Provincial Masters of Yorkshire, the Mayor of Wakefield and Barnsley, the Recorder of the Borough (Bro. R. N. Phillips), and a numerous body of brethren, who filled the ancient hall, which was gaily decorated for the occasion. The speeches of welcome to their worthy neighbour, the sheriff, were hearty and appropriate.

Messrs. Maskelyne and Cooke have resumed their entertainments at the Egyptian Hall, and, in spite of the heat and the holidays, are drawing good audiences—which, after all, is not to be wondered at when the quality of the performance is borne in mind.

Bro. H.R.H. Prince Leopold, R.W.P.G.M. Oxfordshire, has been elected President of the Royal Society of Literature in the room of the late Bishop Thirlwall.

The members of the Apollo Lodge, Oxford, with the sanction of H.R.H. Prince Leopold, Prov. G.M., are raising a subscription for the widow of the late Mr. Henry Kingsley, who is stated to have been left entirely unprovided for. Subscriptions will be received by Bro. J. E. C. Bodley, Danebank House, Congleton, Cheshire.

The Right Worshipful Bro. Charles H. Dallas, District Grand Master for Japan, has appointed Bro. William G. Sando, J.P.M., Rising Sun Lodge, No. 1401, who for several years was a member of the St. Mark's Lodge, No. 857, Deputy District Grand Master for Japan.

Lord Lytton had a narrow escape the other day. While riding to Mushobra, his horse shied and fell over the khud. Luckily the precipice is not very steep, but the Viceroy rolled about 100 feet down, though he escaped unhurt.

The "Athenæum" announces that Mr. J. H. Parker has two monographs in the press, one on the Forum Romanum and the Via Sacra, the other on the Colosseum. Both will be illustrated, the former having forty-five, the latter thirty-six plates. The work on the Colosseum will embody the results obtained through the recent excavations, which have thrown so much new light on the building. Mr. Parker, with a view to gaining further light on the subject, has visited Capua, Pozzuol, and other places, and took S. Cicconetti with him to make sketches, which are reproduced in the book.

The petition for Hotspur Lodge having been granted, the consecration will take place in Freemasons' Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on Thursday, 21st September.

CIVIC GIFT.—The Saddlers' Company, at their meeting on the 14th inst., gave a donation of £21 to the fund now being raised for the establishment of a Mission Hall, etc., for the benefit of the working classes residing in Old Ford, Bow, the East-end, &c.

The "Publishers' Circular" says the "Daily News" correspondent, whose statements about the Bulgarian atrocities have created so much discussion, is Mr. Pears, formerly Secretary of the Social Science Association. Mr. Pears is a lawyer, and is a member of an important firm established in Constantinople. Another gentleman is at present actually in Bulgaria carrying on the investigation on behalf of the "Daily News."

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales arrived at Brussels on Tuesday, and in the afternoon visited the Exhibition in company with the Queen of the Belgians. He returned to London, via Woolwich, on Thursday.

A meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Dorsetshire will be held on Thursday, the 14th prox, at half-past one o'clock, in the Town Hall, Shaftesbury. The banquet will be held at 4 p.m.

It is reported that Bro. the Right Hon. and Rev. Lord Plunket, Grand Chaplain of Ireland, Precentor of St. Patrick's Cathedral, is likely to be elected to the vacant bishopric of Meath.

W. Bro. Wm. Bulkeley Hughes of Plás Còch and Brynddu, &c., Anglesey, M.P. for the Carnarvon Boroughs, P.P.G.S. Warden for N. Wales and Shropshire, P.M. of 755, &c., has been appointed Deputy Provincial Grand Master of the province, in place of the late Lord Harlech.

Colonel Burdett, Provincial Grand Master for Middlesex, is now on a visit with his son-in-law, Bro. Davidson, D.P.G.M., Aberdeenshire, West.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

COLONIAL and FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month.

It is very necessary for our readers 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.

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.

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.

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.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

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

BIRTHS.

BALDWIN.—On the 14th inst., at Walmley, the wife of Capt. F. C. Baldwin, of a daughter.
EDWARDS.—On the 14th inst., at Portsdown-gardens, W., the wife of C. H. Edwards, Esq., of a son.
PENFOLD.—On the 21st inst., at Harlesden-green, the wife of W. Penfold, of a son.
SCOTT.—On the 20th inst., at Graylands, Grove Park, Chiswick, Mrs. W. D. Scott, of a daughter.
SEYMOUR.—On the 18th inst., at Whitley, Coventry, the wife of A. Seymour, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

ALLEN—JAMIESON.—On the 17th inst., at St. Paul's, Aberdeen, Benjamin Allen, of Bristol, to Mary Jane, daughter of the late G. Jamieson, of Drumgarth, Aberdeenshire.
BARBER—RICKELTON.—On the 9th inst., by licence, W. Barber, Esq., to Margaret, eldest daughter of W. Rickelton, Esq., both of Newcastle-on-Tyne.
LANCASTER—WALLIS.—On the 17th inst., at St. Peter's Church, Brighton, Sussex, by the Rev. Cave Brown, John Lancaster, of Manchester, to Ellen Wallis, of London. No cards.

DEATHS.

ABBOTT.—On the 19th inst., at Grasmere, Torquay, John Samuel Abbott, of London, in his 71st year.
BROWN.—On the 19th inst., at Brighton, David Brown, of Larkhall-rise, Clapham, in his 61st year.
CAVE.—On the 17th inst., at Powis-square, Brighton, Sussex, Eliza Boheme, wife of Henry Cave, Esq., of Purneah, Bengal, aged 40. Indian papers please copy.
EDWARDS.—On the 20th inst., at Pye Nest, Henry Lee Priestley, infant son of L. P. Edwards, Esq.
LEWIS.—On the 15th inst., at Walton-on-Thames, John Frederick Lewis, R.A., aged 72.
SAUNDERSON.—On the 20th inst., Marian Bertha, aged 49, wife of C. Saunderson, Esq., of Kilburn.
SAVAGE.—On the 18th inst., at Penn, Wolverhampton, Benjamin Savage, in his 68th year.
SMITH.—On the 19th inst., at Ivy Lodge, Fulham, Charles Smith, Esq., aged 83.
WOODARD.—On the 3rd May, in India, Alfred, son of Mr. Woodard, of Spring-street, Sussex-gardens, W.

COSMOPOLITAN MASONIC CALENDAR.

W. Masters and Secretaries are earnestly requested to forward to the publisher, at the Offices, 198, Fleet-street, E.C., particulars of the place, days, and months, of meeting of their respective lodges, chapters, and other Masonic bodies, for insertion in the issue of the Calendar for 1877.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, AUGUST 26, 1876.

THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO EDINBURGH.

Her Majesty the Queen has again favoured the loyal inhabitants of "Auld Reekie" with a Royal visit and a public ceremonial. The unveiling the statue to the lamented Prince Consort took place amid the most genial weather, and under the most auspicious circumstances. Everything went off well from first to last without a hitch, without a "contretemps," amid the loyalty of applauding thousands, and the gratification of a contented and industrious population. Edinburgh has received another happy work of art to adorn her classic streets and squares, and to point to some of the great characteristics of a remarkable nation, and we would fain hope that another link has been forged in that goodly chain of personal attachment and national devotion which will outlive the fleeting moments of time, and endure in full vigour and pristine sincerity to many, many generations. As Freemasons we rejoice to note all that tends to the promotion of loyal sympathy and patriotic cohesion, all that serves to extend the influences of good government and civilization, peace and order, law and civic contentment, all that would increase and confirm the real living national depth of personal attachment to the Sovereign of our native land, and bind all classes amongst us, the "most widely contrasted," in one firm array of trust and affection, of goodwill and well being. From the historic walls of Holyrood the Queen has sent through Mr. Cross, the Home Secretary, the following most complimentary letter to the Lord Provost of Edinburgh, a letter which will not only be perused with heartfelt pleasure by the inhabitants of the metropolis of North Britain, but by all classes of Her Majesty's subjects elsewhere:—

"Holyrood Palace, Aug. 18, 1876.

"My Lord Provost—I have the Queen's commands to express to your Lordship, and through your Lordship to the citizens of Edinburgh, how deeply Her Majesty values the welcome which she has just received in this city, and how fully she appreciates all the arrangements which have been made for her reception. The loyalty of her Scottish subjects, their affectionate remembrance of the Prince Consort, their love of order, and power of self-government, which have just been so clearly shown, are most gratifying to Her Majesty, and will, I can assure you, be ever remembered by her with feelings of the greatest satisfaction.

"I have the honour to be, my Lord Provost, your obedient servant,

"RICHARD ASSHETON CROSS.

"To the Right Hon. the Lord Provost of Edinburgh."

With this admirable letter we feel that little more remains to be said by us. Years hence, when another generation takes our place, those who come after us may well remember, as they gaze on such memorials of the great and the good, such artistic souvenirs of all that was highest in rank, most developed in intellect, noblest in service, and pre-eminent in worth, that we of this now passing epoch were always loyal and unswervingly attached to the throne of our country, and the constitution of our forefathers. Let them recognise gladly that we have bequeathed to them the solemn duty of treasuring, and the unceasing obligation of gallantly defending that priceless inheritance of national greatness and individual freedom, of legality and order, of toleration and freedom of conscience, which we received from our forefathers, and have handed on, unsullied and unaltered, nay, strengthened and expanded to them, as well for the honour and glory of Almighty God as for the onward progress of peace and goodwill, of monarchical institutions, of incorruptible government, of civil and religious liberty, of peace, progress, and humanity, among the toiling masses of mankind. Still as of old the philosopher and the poet, and the statesman, the patriot, the citizen, and the Freemason may say, in the noble words of two of our historic worthies:

Una etinim in mediis gens
Libertate proba et justo libramine rerum
Securum faustis degit sub legibus ævum.
Antiquosque colit mores et jura parentum
Ordine firma sua, sanoque intacta vigore
Servat adhuc hominumque fidem curamque
Deorum.

One favoured nation, whose impartial laws
Of sober freedom vindicate the cause.
Her simple manners midst surrounding crimes,
Proclaim the genuine worth of ancient times.
True to herself unconquerably bold,
The rights her valour gained she dares uphold,
Still with pure faith her promise dares fulfil,
Still bows submissive to the Almighty's will.

THE PROROGATION.

Parliament is prorogued, and our legislators are scattered in all directions. The Palace of Westminster is deserted, and the Speaker's occupation's gone. For a few short favouring months, legislators and leaders, orators and orations, queries and quandaries, interrogations and interludes, all will be forgotten, and we shall not, when we open the "Times" be either edified by the remarks of the leader of H.M.'s opposition, or the confidences of the First Lord of H.M.'s Treasury. We shall deeply miss Mr. Cross's good sense and Sir W. Harcourt's Herodian eloquence, we shall not listen to Mr. Gladstone or Mr. Henley, to Mr. Hardy or Mr. Goschen, to Sir Stafford Northcote or to Mr. Dodson, Mr. Lowe's last sarcasm, or Mr. Newdegate's last discovery. And then "inter lunas minores," we shall be deprived of the ore rotundo of gallant Major O'Gorman, the vivacity of Mr. Dillwyn, the questions of Bro. Captain Pim, and the sagacity of Mr. Pell, the energy of Mr. Butt, and the placidity of Mr. Walpole, and then last, not least, we shall miss the irrepressible Whalley.

Let laws, and learning, commerce die,

But let us keep our own Whalley,

We admit that the rhyme is indifferent, but it will do for the occasion. But still the solemn and serious fact is before us, that our great "talking house" is silent for a season, and that we must now rely for some time to come on stump orators, and M.P.'s doing the amiable and the condescending to their constituents. Luckily this deprivation cannot last for ever, and like men and Britons and Masons, we will resign ourselves to the grave trial. But from another point of view we feel that without treading on the forbidden zone of politics, this prorogation has a special interest for us all. We are not going to descend into the region of party cries or party considerations, ours is not, never has been, never will be, as a political banner. We know nothing, as Freemasons, happily, within the peaceful enclosures of our lodge rooms, of the shibboleths of faction or the war cries of contending camps. But every now and then there are certain points in our national history, which have a broader bearing and a wider interest for us all as citizens of our common country, than even the rallying countersigns of political coteries, or the question of particular leaders. There are some facts which are before us in the great broad beaten pathway of public life, which have a general interest for us all, as citizens, patriots, Englishmen, and Freemasons. For though we know nothing perforce of politics quâ politics, we still have all of us the duties of citizens to perform and the sympathies of citizens to avow, and which we can never properly, or even Masonically, forget or ignore. One of the greatest orators of the House of Commons, on which ever side he might happen to be seated, passes from the assembly which for a quarter of a century he has so greatly adorned, into the Upper House. Her Majesty's Premier, the chief of her "servants," the Right Hon. Benjamin Disraeli, loses that name so well known to all Englishmen of all ranks and parties in the State, and will henceforth be hailed amongst us as the Earl of Beaconsfield. Like another Great Commoner, only let us hope under happier auspices, he leaves now the bustle and angry conflicts of the Commons House of Parliament for the comparative quietude and less stirring atmosphere of the House of Lords. We need not, as we cannot,

follow the speculations of others as to why this announcement, unforeseen in itself, has been made at the end of a laborious session. There is one good reason patent to all. Mr. Disraeli is no longer young, he is in his 72nd year, and all have noticed with regret how often the brilliant orator has had to absent himself of late through ill-health from those pleasant gatherings where English members speak face to face with a friendly audience, and where English citizens contentedly applaud. And surely he has earned his rest and his honours. No more hard-working man; no more self-made statesman, ever emerged from the trials, and troubles, and opposition, and difficulties of a gallant career, than the writer of "Vivian Grey," he who gave us "Sybil," who offered us "Tancred," the pleasant author of "Lothair." And it says a great deal for the keen discernment and the warm heart, and the sound, practical good sense of our English people that he has always found from us all alike so much and so deservedly of public good will and support. It is no duty of ours to go further into detail, we have but properly and Masonically sketched a dim outline, because we cannot dwell on a political career, without trespassing on our normal position of political neutrality and political abstention. But this we may fairly say; we can all admire the eloquence and the genius of the man who has won for himself the entire living sympathy and hearty confidence of all classes of English people, and who we trust still, in his new sphere of duty and honour, freed from the overpowering labours of the House of Commons, late divisions and early hours, will yet continue to render signal service to his Queen and to his country, to the peace and progress of the world, and to those interests ever dear to us as Freemasons, the onward march of civilization, and enlightenment, order and law, peace and humanity, religion and right, toleration and truth.

EXCURSION TRAINS AND POPULAR HOLIDAYS.

Just now the season of excursion trains is at its height and glory, greatly to the bewilderment of perspiring station masters, and the blessings of weary porters. This is a feature of our times, special and prevailing, of which our forefathers knew nothing, and at which many wiseacres still shake their heads. Charitable and intelligent beings! As if poor John Nokes, who has been toiling for long months in heated rooms at his unceasing labour, with no rest, and no relaxation, is not the better for a glimpse of the country side, for fresh air, for a pure atmosphere, for the sea breeze? Why to many a day's outing is a day of absolute delight, and we will add one of needful hygiene. Can any one grudge it them. Or just as if Mary Walker, with those children of hers, who has been pining in a close alley for long and dusty months, does not derive great good for herself and hers from the scent of the new made hay, or a stroll on the Sussex downs? If some affect to wonder why we pent up Londoners will run off in our excursion trains for a day in the country, though we spend ten or twelve of the twenty-four hours in a railway carriage, let them cease from their marvelling when we say that the fatigue and the inconvenience put together are worth the fresh air and the rural ride and the vivifying ozone. But is just possible that this state of affairs may change for the better, and that in time the fact may dawn on the minds of some good friends of ours that our poor excursionists are really a little better than "dumb driven cattle," and deserve better accommodation and greater consideration. The time may yet be, when the duration of the journey may be materially shortened, and Brown, Jones, and Robinson, Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Jones, and Mrs. Robinson, and the little Browns, Jones, and Robinsons, may have more hours of country scenery or sea breezes to repay them for a hot and dusty railway journey, for long delays, and over-crowded trains. That the excursionists are entirely given to liquoring up, or that it is a question with them merely of liquoring up, we utterly deny. Such an averment is as unfounded as it is unfeeling. And so too as regards the popular holiday. The vulgar theory that the Bank Holiday has in-

creased drinking is a simple fallacy, and most unjust to the laborious classes of our great community. All who saw the crowds of working men last Bank Holiday walking happily about with their wives and children, will we feel sure, agree with us in repudiating any such unamiable view of matters, any such absolutely ignorant appreciation of how the day was spent by the thousands who gladly availed themselves of the fine weather and the grateful rest. We are very sorry to perceive that such superficial views on a most important question and such unacquaintance alike with the facts of the case and of the real feelings and habits of our toiling multitudes still prevail in any portion of the public press. Each holiday as it passes will be better spent and more judiciously made use of than the preceding one, and we fancy that if a just balance was struck that there are a good many of the so called higher classes who spent their Bank Holiday a great deal worse than did the working and industrial thousands of our metropolis, who certainly did not look on the Bank Holiday as merely an opportunity of drinking to excess. Such a statement is as unfair as it is positively absurd and untrue.

THE WAR IN SERBIA, AND THE CRUELITIES IN BULGARIA.

The struggle continues, and the cruelties have not yet ceased,—this seem to be the burden of all reports from the East. The Turkish government have declined to carry out their own assent to the Geneva Convention, which refusal necessarily places all the "Red Cross Champions" of humanity and kindly aid, in a very delicate and difficult position. Indeed, according to Dr. Sandwith's account in another place, the Turks have hung Dr. Leah, a benevolent medical man, with the Red Cross on his arm. The English press, with but few exceptions, fully recognises the seriousness of the situation, and the horrors of this internecine strife. We do not envy the feelings, nor do we admire the taste of any confrère who allows his pages to be occupied by low wit and vulgar chaff on so very distressing a subject. As it has been well said, if one tithe of the actual barbarities hourly committed could be realized by our English people, there would be a universal demand that our Ambassador should be withdrawn from Constantinople. The Red Cross of England, and her goodly banner cannot be stained by the outrages of Bashi Bazouks and Circassians, and we feel that we represent the feelings of our entire fraternity when we reprobate sternly the turning into indecent jests and offensive scurrility the sufferings even of Bulgarian "peasants," and the honour and chastity of Bulgarian women.

THE INSTALLATION ENGRAVING.

We have seen the first portion of this engraving, containing nearly 480 portraits, and greatly approve of it. Three-fourths of the plate, Bro. Harty tells us, will be ready in a month, and he is making strenuous exertions to have the engraving ready for Christmas. Among the likenesses which are very conspicuous in the portion now completed are Bros. the Marquis of Hamilton, the late Lord Mayor, Albert, Wright, Morrell, the late Richard Spencer, Dr. Meadows, Lieut.-Col. Birchall, Lieut.-Col. Randolph, H. Day, A. S. Tomkins, Sir James Ramsden, I. M. P. Montague, Magnus Ohren, H. A. Dubois, J. J. Gossett, J. Robins, cum multis aliis. Bro. Harty informs us that there is still room for about 80 or 100 portraits, and we will add that it seems a great pity not to fill up the still vacant space in an engraving which promises both to be an historical picture in itself, and remarkable as a work of art, and of the greatest interest to Freemasonry, as a lasting and most effective souvenir of an event to be remembered day.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES ACT, 1875.—Mr. William Sutton, of the London and Provincial Law Assurance Society and Fellow (by examination) of the Institute of Actuaries, has been appointed by the Treasury to the post of Actuary to the Friendly Societies' Registry. Mr. Sutton was formerly a Foundation Scholar of St. John's College, Cambridge, and graduated as a Wrangler in the Mathematical Tripos of 1865.

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.]

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I would feel greatly obliged if you or any of your well informed correspondents could give me a satisfactory answer to the following enquiries:—

1. Has the I.P.M., of a lodge when acting in the chair in the absence of the R.W.M. the same power and prerogative as if the R.W.M. were himself presiding.
2. Has the I.P.M. when acting as R.W.M. the right to call upon any well qualified officer or brother to work any of the degrees when he feels indisposed to perform the duty himself.

My reason for making the latter query is in consequence of an occurrence which took place a few weeks ago at an emergency meeting of our lodge, convened for initiation and raising.

Our R.W.M. was absent, and the I.P.M. took the chair. He performed the ceremony of initiation, and afterwards requested the J.W. to work the Third Degree. On his making this request the S.W. rose, and protested against the I.P.M. asking the J.W. to work the degree when he (the S.W.) was present and able to perform the ceremony. He objected to have his feelings so wounded, and shortly thereafter refused to act in his office, and left the lodge during the working of the degree.

I have carefully perused the laws of the Grand Lodge of Scotland (to which constitution our lodge belongs) and our own bye-laws, and can find no rule which warrants our S.W. in behaving as he did. I have all along been under the impression (so far as the working of Scotch lodges is concerned) that the R.W.M., or his substitute in his absence, has the prerogative of asking whom he pleases to work the degree, and of its being entirely a matter of courtesy whether he asks a P.M., S.W., J.W., or, in fact, any officer or brother, to oblige him by performing the ceremony. Our S.W., however, questions the R.W.M.'s right to do so, laying the question of courtesy aside altogether.

It is more than likely that the occurrence which I have just related will form a subject of discussion at our next regular meeting, which takes place on 4th September, and as I am somewhat interested in the matter I would esteem it a favour to have an opinion on the subject before that time.

Soliciting an insertion of this in your first issue, I remain yours fraternally,
18th, August, 1876. PISCATOR.

A GREATER BLUNDER.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

"Aristarchus" writes to the "Guardian" with reference to an advertisement which he found in that paper last week, containing the word chaperon instead of chaperon. This is, he says, "a modern vulgarism, which arose from pretentious ignorance. It is bad grammar. Chaperon (which originally meant a hood) is never feminine in French. And it is bad spelling. The correct pronunciation of the last syllable is oon, not one. And if chaperon had a feminine, the correct of such a term would have been chaperonne."

But "Aristarchus" has made a greater blunder. "Chaperon" is undoubtedly masculine, and originally meant a monarch's hood, a hood in falconry, the top of a wall, and several other things (see Boyer), and chaperonner meant to cap another heron. But to say that it ought to be pronounced "chaperoon" is too monstrous.

It is quite clear, that however well up "Aristarchus" may be in the "French of Stratford-atte-Bowe," the "French of Paris" is to him "unknown."

Yours obediently and fraternally,
INTERNATIONAL.

MASONIC PROFESSION AND PRACTICE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

"An Indian P.M.," while applauding "Zaphon," seems to me to shew a great amount of ignorance as to visiting brethren: that term is more frequently than otherwise misunderstood and misappropriated, and I think most Masons of any experience will agree with me that lodge hospitality is greatly abused. Now, to explain my meaning clearly I must express an opinion, from which possibly many may dissent, and that is that the refreshments following the proceedings of lodge meetings are for members only, except when a visiting brother (or brethren), that is to say, one who has availed himself of the privileges to which he is entitled, is invited to the banquet or supper, as the case may be. Nothing is to my mind so beneath the dignity of a Mason as to see him sit down to the feast uninvited. For instance, a certain number is guaranteed the caterer for supper, say 20 or 25. In a small lodge the probable number is generally known, and also who may be expected to visit, and it would be unfair for eight or ten men to come from a neighbouring lodge and expect to be invited to the banquet when there is generally neither room nor food sufficient for more than the members and those invited by circular; but I am sorry to say I know of plenty of brethren who think that because they can claim admission to the lodge and hear our sublime ritual that they must of course be invited to the banquet, and who wait about until the W.M., if he happen to be of a goodnatured turn, possibly says he will be happy to see all the brethren present at refreshment. But should he not feel disposed to accord to all this invitation, surely he should not be called inhospitable. Thus I think the

fee to which "An Indian P.M." alludes is quite fair in such a case. The members pay a subscription which is supposed to cover all expenses (alas! frequently too little), and if non-members are permitted to partake gratis whenever they choose to stay for the Fourth Degree it is manifestly unfair to the members. This brings me to the point where I think "An Indian P.M." at fault, when he says he finds it is the practice in this country to make the visiting brother, who though he be a foreigner, pay for what he eats and drinks. If not invited such may be the case as mentioned above, and quite right too, but for an invited visitor to pay is, I feel sure, very rarely the case, unless through the blundering of a Steward. The treatment which "An Indian P.M." received on the two occasions named was very shabby, let us also hope rare, but his suggestion as to the alteration of the toast of "The Visiting Brethren" to that of "The Brethren who don't belong to our Lodge" would never do, being too comprehensive, and more like the Tyler's toast than any other. I should feel "distressed" were I a visitor under such circumstances.

I should like to make a few remarks on the letter from "Zaphon" (in your number of the 12th inst.), who as a young Mason has, I think, hit the nail on the head, and forcibly shewn how Masonry may be prostituted to gluttony, and how charity may consequently suffer. "Zaphon" seems to have benefited by his experience, as his remarks on charity and temperance shewing a "dinner lodge" or "champagne banquet lodge" may no doubt be very wise, but it is nothing better than a select club of men who have taken their Masonic degrees. I have visited such lodges, but never yet found the working either carefully or solemnly performed. An undue haste and want of decorum characterised the proceedings, which have certainly been conducted peacefully and concluded harmoniously enough, but the real business of the evening had yet to come.

Surely you, sir, can bear out "Zaphon" in most of the well deserved satire on the Masonry he has seen, and exhort your readers to uphold that which tends to elevate the Order, and to censure all that causes "that most excellent virtue" to be forgotten in late hours, dissipation, and extravagance.

Yours fraternally,

E.F.

▲ LITTLE FRIENDLY GOSSIP ON SOME OF THE TOPICS OF THE DAY.

BY PHILANTHROPOS.

(Written Especially for the "Freemason.")

No. 2—EDUCATION.—Continued.

We have to deal to-day with the Denominational view, both what it is, and how it treats, and would treat, the educational question.

The Denominational view is, then, simply this, put into a few clear words, stripped of periphrase and paraphrase, divested of exaggeration and extravagance of thought and language.

A feature of the duty of the Christian commonwealth—the Church—is to educate the lambs of the flock. And by education is not merely to be understood the technical instruction or the intellectual culture of the young alone, but the development of the moral intelligence, the training of the undying portion of mortality for the higher truths and the noblest ends, for eternity as well as for time, for God as well as for man. Hence a religious instruction is also necessary as well as secular, because secular instruction by itself is partial, incomplete, unsound, inasmuch as it only affects and educates one portion of the complex being man, namely the intellectual, and leaves the sentimental, the psychological, the moral feeling untouched and untaught. In order to render this religious teaching effectual and complete, suited to the wants and destiny of man, mortal and immortal, at the same time, the Bible must form the basis of all true religious instruction, and then upon this good and sure foundation is raised a superstructure of catechetical and doctrinal teaching in respect of the abstract truths of religion, the practical duties of personal piety, the concurrent creeds of the Church, and the exposition of the claims and articles of the Denomination. The great majority of schools in England is denominational, the Church of England holding about seven-tenths of the education of the people in her hands, and until the creation of the School Boards, in which all distinctive doctrinal teaching is absolutely forbidden, there was a difficulty to contend with, as regards the conscientious scruples of the parents of those who were not Anglicans. But that case was met by what is called the "conscience clause," a formula of religious liberty and religious conviction which practically has always, except by the fanatic and wrongheaded, been gladly conceded and honestly upheld.

We speak with an experience of over a quarter of a century, and we can say this, that though it was openly averred and deliberately practised long before it was officially formulated, in a large school, with which we are most familiar, it never was once invoked, and all Nonconformist and Church children peaceably learnt and carefully repeated the words of the Church Catechism.

The denominational system with a conscience clause is that which is now carried on by different bodies of religionists in this country side by side with the Board School system.

Of course, with such views and on such principles as I have above stated, very concisely of course, the School Board "regime" could not be acceptable to those who prefer the denominational system, and it may appear to them, as it does appear to them seemingly, on these grounds subjectively an irreligious system, and if they like to use a hard word, as people too often hastily do in such matters, a "godless system." Subjectively it may so appear to them, but as I doubt whether it is

really so, at any rate rightly objectively, I will dwell a little longer on this point.

Admitting, if you will, that the Church or the religious body has a bona-fide moral right to educate the young of its flock, and that on the principles of religious liberty and the sanctity of the conscience such free course of action should be sanctioned and protected by the State, yet it does not follow, as some seem to think, that the State has not a right also to see that none of its subjects grow up in ignorance, to provide, if it so deems well, a remunerative or even gratuitous course of instruction also for all who will accept it. Nay, in our opinion, the State may go farther and say, "I stand in loco parentis to the 'wastrel,' the orphan, the destitute. I am bound to provide that none within my influence advance to maturity untaught and ignorant, and therefore I will compel all within the school age and under the half-time system in the great circles of labour to go to school."

Who can deny the abstract and concrete right of the state to say so?

It is in vain to appeal, as some do, to the parental authority. The parental authority is good and most sacred as far as it goes, but are there no cases where the State might interfere even with that, and where it does interfere even now?

If a parent cruelly neglects a child, or injures a child, or forgets the first duty of a parent towards a child, we know that there are wise provisions of our legislature by which the local, or municipal, or general authority of the State, as the case may be, steps in to coerce, to compel the recalcitrant parent to do his duty, and punishes him for disobedience to the law.

So if the parent absolutely neglects the education of a child, lets him run in riot and rags, and live in idleness and vice in the streets, takes no heed either of his intellectual or moral improvement, the State has a distinct right, for the safety of the State itself, for the welfare of society, and for the good both of the parent and the child, to step in and say, "That child ought to go somewhere to school, and shall go to school." Hence it is in vain for the objector to anything that tends to ameliorate and elevate to appeal to this supposed invasion of parental rights, the argument rests on a complete fallacy altogether, inasmuch as the State nowhere proposes to interfere with the high and solemn economy of parental authority, but only proposes to intervene where the welfare of the child is concerned, where the safety of the State is impaired, to correct an abuse, not to attack a privilege, to remedy a wrong, not to challenge a right.

In fact, let us conceive what a State would be, composed of purely ignorant people, which, if the parental-right upholder is correct, must be the case if the State does wrong, when the parent is drunken or degraded, ignorant or selfish, weak or wicked, in stepping in and firmly declaring "that poor, neglected, ill-used child shall be sent to school."

Neither can any one safely appeal to the denominational right in respect of education. Though the Church, as any body of Christians, or, as some claim, any section of "religionists," has a moral right to educate, it has not an exclusive right, inasmuch as the State which gives the laws and enforces them, which governs, and directs, and controls the social wants and the political existence of the people has a right to say, "salus populi suprema lex," and we lay it down that no child in the commonwealth shall grow up in ignorance."

If on denominational and religious grounds the right be not so direct as it is according to the denominational view, in the church or religious body, it is an absolute, though again not an exclusive right, arising from the actual authority of the state itself, whether as representing the ruler, as supreme in the State, or the ruled who delegate to others the duty of legislating for the entire community.

And here let me speak plainly. Just as I hold that there is a moral right in the church or denomination to educate its young, absolute but not exclusive, so I contend that the same law of duty and authority applies equally to the State. Any State that says, "I will alone educate, I forbid all religious bodies to found schools, appoint schoolmasters, instruct children, I will alone undertake this duty," any such State so acting does so, I venture to believe, in direct defiance of the individual conscience, assail the first principles of religious liberty, pave the way for the most deplorable of all conflicts as between the laws of a State and the conscience of the man, and despotically takes away from religion, above all, its noblest mission and its most conscientious duties.

In such a case the "religionist" has a cause of deep complaint, and has a sacred right of audience. For in such a dilemma every principle of individual, of parental, of denominational, of conscientious right is violated, as the fiercest of all struggles is initiated, and no State which so forgets the fundamental principles of all public peace, property, right, and safety, can long maintain such a prohibition, inasmuch as in the passage of time, conscience when truly complaining, when really injured, always, sooner or later, somehow or other, gets the better of the dogmata of politicians and the decrees of legislators.

The objection that the State cannot teach religion is perfectly true, inasmuch as the State has clearly no spiritual authority, and we do not exactly understand why any of us should expect the State to teach religion.

But in England the State leaves the matter of abstract and positive religious teaching to the locality as regards the Board Schools, only stating that as all classes are taxed to keep on these common schools they cannot allow distinctive doctrines to be taught in them. No doubt if such were the only system in operation all religionists would have a right to complain. But such a position of affairs is happily counterbalanced by the full play and entire liberty of denominational schools, covered by a conscience clause,

and I confess that, in my humble opinion, the grievance is infinitesimal; it is, in fact, making a "mountain out of a molehill."

But I will continue my considerations and lucubrations on this most interesting subject in another paper.

Reviews.

"Loge Francaise et Ecossaise de la Clemente Amitié, Fête anniversaire de la Reception de Frère Littré." Paris, 1876.

By the fraternal courtesy of the W.M. of "La Clemente Amitié" we have received the interesting account of its "fête de famille," held on the 9th of July, when about 800 Freemasons apparently assembled to do honour to the anniversary of Frère Littré, an eminent French litterateur and scientist (to use a new word), into Freemasonry, at an advanced period of his life, about 12 months ago.

The assembly may fairly be considered a good representative gathering of French Freemasons, as it included many able writers, senators, deputies, the distinguished Frère St. Jean, Caubet, and a large number of the leading French Freemasons. Bro. Littré was not able to be present, through illness, but sent his address, and Bros. Wyrobuoff and Jules Ferry delivered two orations, the latter improvised for the occasion, and all the addresses were warmly received, and drew down the vigorous applause of the audience. We have perused them to-day, and we wish honestly and manfully to point out the impression produced on our mind by these animated expositions of a system of teaching which seems just now to dominate many minds in France as well as Freemasonry in that country. We confess that the impression left upon us by their "paroles brulantes," especially of Bro. Ferry, is alike somewhat painful and depressing. We should not be honest if we did not say what we really think. We should not be true to Freemasonry and to ourselves if we did not humbly but earnestly seek to speak the truth, to avow what we sincerely hold without partiality and without flattery, without fear and without hesitation.

There is a great tendency in the world just now to say rather what will please others than what we ourselves believe, "ex animo," but Freemasons, of all men in the world, whose whole system is based equally upon a love of truth and a love of toleration, ought always, in our humble opinion, though, of course, moderately, temperately, and with proper consideration for others, to "say what they mean," and, above all, to "mean what they say." Far be from us that despicable cowardice, that characteristic of little minds and of grovelling ideas, which, biassed either by desire of public applause, or alarmed by fear of popular disapproval, ever conceals the faith it professes, or the opinion it holds, and tries to accommodate itself to each passing chimera, or each ephemeral delusion. The great defect of the public teaching of the hour is its want of heartfelt sincerity, that tendency to exalt a so-called erroneous and vulgar public opinion for that which truth would avow, honour uphold, and freedom of thought and conscience proclaim to mankind.

We said this at the outset that we have perused the official account of the proceedings and professions of memorable fête with somewhat of depression and pain. We repeat the statement. From an English point of view many of our able brethren in France, alike in Freemasonry and out of it, seem to us to be losing their way in the dreary mazes, so to speak, and the misty fogs of a hopeless rationalism of a deceptive positivism, of a melancholy "morale indépendante." Sorry we are to say so, but we must say so if we are to speak at all. We have read over Bro. Littré and Bro. Ferry's addresses, and we see at once where such intellectual brethren are tending, we may observe that Bro. Wyrobuoff mainly directed his remarks to the educational controversy in France, though he too is evidently in accord with the philosophical tenets of his eloquent confreres. Amid a beauty of word-painting, amid a flow of eloquence, amid much that is very true, and more that is most touching, amid a clearness of expression which is most attractive, a charm of language which is most effective, we yet cannot shut our eyes to the inevitable conclusion that the result at which they arrive is practical negativism, the denial of all supernaturalism, and the assertion of a pure humanitarianism without a Divine revelation, and without, as far as we see, any other belief than that in an "Anima mundi."

We are not willing in the slightest degree to appear even to exaggerate or misconstrue the words and theories of such able brethren, but we cannot understand them otherwise but as boldly asserting the utter independence of man in respect of his need of all those religious hopes and doctrines, and consolations, and promises, that present grace and future blessedness, which have so emancipated, so ennobled and consoled the generations which have come and gone, and which nevertheless believed in the one true Triune God, eternal, living, and unchanging.

We do not deny that the excesses of Ultramontanism may have led, as we see in France, to this state of scientific opposition, of moral shrinking back, of intellectual nihilism—we do not, for instance, fail to appreciate the fact that such teaching as pretentious miracles and pseudo apparitions, Marie Alacoque, and a rampant dogmatism, may probably have sapped the positive belief of thousands, and that such a state of affairs and irritation may, and will result in a depreciation and ridicule of all dogmatic declarations, and of all credence in supernatural truths. Such is the inevitable consequence of untruth, of hyper-mysticism, of the "fraus pia," of the lying miracle, of the false prophet, in this world of ours, always prone rather to mock than to credit, to reject than to accept.

We do not, however, wish to rest too much on this point, as the Ultramontanes may fairly say, "Well, contends a

you like amid non-Roman Catholic countries, amid so-called Protestant bodies, in the very midst of your refined and reformed Anglicanism, rationalism, and scepticism, doubt and disbelief, the axioms of the unorthodox sciolist and the arraignment of the illogical adversary are just as prevalent as in the most Roman Catholic countries, in what you politely term the hotbed of Ultramontanism." We do not deny the fact, but two causes, we believe, have led to this state of things: the excesses of Ultramontanism, and the violence of ultra-Calvinism (we are now speaking purely historically and uncontroversially), which have thrown many minds back in fear and doubt, in hesitation and dismay, too often only to land themselves on the bleak and dismal shore of positive unbelief, of a destructive negativism, of that substitution of humanity for religion, and of philosophy for truth, by which so many able intellects are captivated and enthralled.

At this very hour amongst us, when Bro. Ferry talks of a "dechainement de surnatural grossier et stupide," amid a salvo of applause, he may simply mean the excesses of those who have been urging on the faith and conscience of man the development of incredible and fictitious miracles, but when he adds, a little later, that "Le mysticisme et le théologisme contemporain repondent par l'embrigadement general de la sottise humaine," amid equally vivacious applause, we cannot possibly accept his word, without much qualification.

In all the eloquence, then, of those able brethren who spoke so fully at the fête of the "Clemente Amitié," we clearly discern, as we said before, the avowal, as we believe, of principles, however seemingly favourable to humanity, and progress, and enlightenment, and mental development, in our humble opinion really most antagonistic to the peace and happiness of mankind. No realm that we are aware of has ever long prospered which openly avowed a rejection of religion and of the Divine government of the world and of men, and simply sought to repose on "humanitarianism," whatever that may be.

There is no possibility for human laws to rest safely on purely social sanctions, and which are not built up as on a foundation-stone, sure and steadfast, namely, the divine moral law. There is no teaching which can tend really and truly to the personal elevation and present well-being and future happiness of man, his spiritual salvation, renewal, and final restoration, which is not in accordance with Divine and inspired revelation. To hold that humanity can suffice or intellect can purify us, to contend that philosophy can elevate and social morality can restrain, (there is no social morality possible which is not founded on the divine), to disavow dogma and ridicule supernaturalism, may indeed be a proof of acuteness of intellect and the criticism of scepticism, but they must end by relegating men to the heathenism of the Greeks and the Romans, and to the eventual oblivion of those untold blessings which Divine Providence and Christianity have ushered in for our suffering and toiling and dying race.

With all due deference to our able brethren in France, we in England from a practical and religious point of view, especially as Freemasons, cannot concur in a teaching which, as we regard it, is fraught with untold dangers to society, to civilisation, and to mankind, and which would apparently ridicule and reject, condemn and contradict, all that we have been taught to revere as essential—actually essential—for the welfare of individuals and nations, for the preservation of the family, the country, the altar, and most conducive the present amelioration and eventual happiness of us all, alike poor citizens of the world.

If we have in any degree ascribed to the teaching of this modern thought and action more than it will fairly bear—if we have in any way misapprehended the drift of the remarks, or misapplied the illustrations of those facile orators—we shall gladly be told so, but we fear that the humble view we have offered of a striking pamphlet is quite correct, and that we have in this another proof of the great conflict going on as between faith and intellect, between dogma and doubt, between authority and assertion, between religion and philosophy, with which we, as English Freemasons, have happily nothing to do, and from which we shall rigorously keep ourselves aloof. —W.F.A.

THE BRUSSELS EXHIBITION.

We are indebted to our contemporary, the "Times," for the following animated letter from Brussels:—

Our Royal Grand Master, the Prince of Wales, the Honorary President of the British Committee of the Exhibition, paid on Tuesday his promised visit to the Exhibition. His Royal Highness arrived from Paris on Monday afternoon, and became the King's guest at the Royal Palace opposite the Exhibition. The King came in from Laeken this morning, but was after all unable to accompany his Royal guest to the Exhibition in consequence of severe rheumatism in his knee. The King's strength was reserved for the task of presiding at a State dinner on Tuesday given in honour of His Royal Highness. The Prince drove over to the Exhibition soon after half-past two in the afternoon, and entered the building with the Queen of the Belgians upon his arm. There was a considerable gathering of the public, and among them a large proportion of English. The Comtesse De Namur and Captain Douny, Officer d'Ordinance, were in attendance; Bro. Lord Suffolk, Mr. Christopher Sykes, M.P., and Bro. F. Knollys were in the Prince's suite. The Royal party were received at the Exhibition by General Renard, Aide-de-Camp to the King, by M. Warocque, President of the Exhibition, and M. Evrard, a member of the Administration; Mr. Saville Lumley, Her Majesty's Envoy, and Mr. John Lumley, Attaché, were in attendance. These gentlemen immediately conducted the Royal party to the British Section, through the Royal apartments and a little grove where a simple machine for escape from fire—the inven-

tion of a Belgian named Leysen—attracted attention. His Royal Highness's interest in the saving of life and property from fire is well known, and it was no slight compliment that the Prince paid to the representative of the inventor. At the entrance to the British Section the Queen of the Belgians and the Prince of Wales were received by Lieutenant-Colonel Loyd Lindsay and Mr. Polydore De Keyser, members of the British Committee. Cheers were raised as the Royal party came in.

Colonel Lindsay, on his way to the Servian war as the trustee of the National Aid Society, with £20,000 at his disposal for the relief of the sick and wounded, arrived at Brussels in the morning and stayed one day, not only to receive His Royal Highness, but to study the unparalleled collection of ambulances and appliances for the relief of the wounded, which are to be seen here. Colonel Loyd Lindsay and his party go on to-night at eleven o'clock to Vienna, where their purchases of material will be largely guided by experience gained here. The ambulance of Mr. Emil Meyer, of Hanover, has been particularly suggestive to them. Mr. MacCormac, Surgeon-General to the fund, was presented to His Royal Highness, who then proceeded through the British Section. The lighthouse of Messrs. Chance was the first thing to attract notice, and then there were passed in rapid review Dr. Porter's splints, the Admiralty, Board of Trade, and Trinity House marine apparatus, the splendid boat of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution, the cumbersome and comparatively inconvenient ambulance waggon of our own War Department, the Royal Humane Society's apparatus, and the fire-escape of the National Society.

The Exhibition is particularly rich in contrivances for safety on railways, and two of these detained His Royal Highness longer than anything else. One is Saxby and Farmer's well-known set of signals, with which the Prince of Wales was already familiar. His Royal Highness, however, was gratified to learn that they are as much appreciated in Belgium as in our own country. A map of the Belgian railways exhibited is studded with little flags, showing where this system is in operation. An invention less known, but which deserves the attentive consideration of railway engineers, is Mr. Brocklebank's automatic coupling apparatus. This very simple contrivance may be set by a handle in the carriages themselves without the dangerous work of a man between the carriages. When it is set one push from the engine is enough to couple all the coaches or trucks of a train without jolting. The large number of accidents which happen to railway servants in coupling make this model a most important one; and if the system it illustrates can be practically carried out on a large scale, the attention which His Royal Highness's notice will have drawn to Mr. Brocklebank's invention will be valuable in results.

The Royal party passed into the larger grove, or "Le Grand Bosquet," as this lawn, shaded by tall elms, is called. Here the rain, which had been threatening all day, came on, and a specimen roof, exhibited by a Belgian firm, gave opportune shelter to the party. Soon after they had returned to the building, Siemens and Halske's railway signals were explained to his Royal Highness in German, and an ingenious safety lift for mines raised by a little bucket and a long rope was explained in French. M. Gotheke, the Austrian Minister, described the complete organization for the wounded of the Maltese and Teuton Knights of the Red Cross. The Prince congratulated M. Warocque upon his man-engine for mines. M. Errera, the Italian Consul General, showed the Milanese apparatus for cremation; M. Guenther and M. Alphonse Oppenheim explained the canalization of Dantzic, accomplished by a firm of Englishmen, Messrs. Aird. The Russian models for sanitary education were fully illustrated; they are most interesting, and will merit a fuller description. The Prince admired some of the foreign fire engines, and here it is painful to say that all the Liège fire engines have been bought up for the city of Moscow, so famous in the history of public fires. There is no doubt that English makers can beat the manufacturers of Liège, but they thought fit not to compete here and so lose a valuable connection.

The awards of the juries are not yet out, though all are understood to be decided except in the maritime class. The Prince left the Exhibition after nearly two hours' stay; and after repeatedly manifesting a warm interest in what he saw, His Royal Highness on leaving said to General Renard that the Exhibition as a whole was most successful, and that it could not have been better. As to the British Section His Royal Highness himself is President of the British Committee. He is understood to have said that he was well pleased with the exertions of the Executive in bringing about so creditable a representation of this country. The Prince left this city on Wednesday for Spa, and after one day goes to Ostend, whence the yacht Osborne is to convey him to Woolwich.

Multum in Parvo; or Masonic Notes and Queries.

"HERODIAN" OR "RHODIAN."

A correspondent of the "Pall Mall Gazette" writes as follows:—"Mr. Freeman must have forgot his 'Hamlet,' or he would not ask why Mr. Disraeli spoke of Sir W. Harcourt's overwrought invectives against the Turks as Herodian eloquence. Did not Hamlet tell the players with what scorn he had heard 'a rebustious periwig-pated fellow tear a passion to tatters'—adding, 'Oh! it outdoes Termagant, it out-Herods Herod!'" So far our correspondent. The truth is however, that what Mr. Disraeli said was not "Herodian," but "Rhodian eloquence." That Mr. Freeman would have understood perfectly well. Sir William Harcourt's long-drawn and profusely ornate peroration would have delighted an orator of the Rhodian school, and might even have pleased Cicero himself before he was taught better things at Athens.

BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, the 14th, the proceedings of the Congress of the British Archæological Association in Cornwall were formally opened by a visit paid by its members to Cothele, the ancient seat of the Edgcombe family, on the river Tamar, between Saltash and Calstock. Bro. Lord Mount-Edgcombe and several members of his family accompanied the party up the river from Plymouth, and on arriving at Cothele and having welcomed the Association to Cornish ground and to his own property, his lordship read a short paper on the historical associations of the place, showing how it was first acquired by one of the Edgcombes nearly five centuries ago by his marriage with the heiress of the Cotheles, and had been enlarged and remodelled by Sir Richard Edgcombe, a celebrated Lancastrian in the early period of Henry VII.'s reign. Lord Mount-Edgcombe traced the subsequent connexion of his family with the place down to a time subsequent to the building of Mount Edgcombe, when Cothele came gradually to be less and less inhabited. Still in the last century, as well as in the present, it has been honoured by Royal visits, and there was a tradition, though, perhaps, a doubtful one, that it had given shelter for a night to King Charles. Of late years one side of the quadrangle has been restored and refitted, and it is now the residence of the Dowager Lady Mount-Edgcombe. His lordship was followed by Mr. E. Loftus Brock, F.S.A., who read an essay on the architectural features of the house, in which he described its general character as exhibiting a sort of transition from the fortified castle of the Middle Ages to the Elizabethan mansion, at the same time pointing out those parts which were of earlier date and rougher materials. The old chapel, the halls, the Ladies' Chamber, the Priests' Room, and the old retainers' yard were then visited by the company, who also inspected the pictures, the tapestry, the old china, and ancient plate belonging to the house, as well as the collection of arms of various ages and countries which hung as trophies of the war or of the chase on the walls of the hall. Among these were some bull's hide shields, some exquisite Spanish rapiers, and some large Irish horns of brass, which it is supposed were used by chieftains in the sister island to terrify opponents. The timber roof of the hall and of other rooms were much admired, and also were sundry specimens of ancient lace, and the trappings of the horse ridden by one of the Edgcombe ladies, when a Maid of Honour to the "Virgin" Queen. A handsome luncheon in the old hall, to which about 100 guests sat down, and a hurried visit to the chapel built by Sir Richard Edgcombe by the river side as a thank-offering for his escape from the Yorkist party, were all that time and tide allowed before the trumpet summoned them to start on the return voyage down the river to Saltash, where the whole party took the train for Bodmin, reaching that town about seven o'clock. Dinner over, the Association was received by the Mayor and Corporation at the Guildhall, where Lord Mount-Edgcombe delivered his inaugural address as President. He dwelt on the contrast of Cornish scenery, Cornish legends, and early Cornish antiquity to those of the rest of England; and after warning his hearers against the fault of too hasty generalization, explained at some length the programme of the week, and the reason why Launceston, Tintagel, Lostwithiel, Restormel, Penzance, and St. Michael's Mount respectively were interesting to the antiquary, and concluded by paying a tribute of gratitude to late Poet Laureate and the late Rev. R. S. Hawker for the interest in the ancient history of Cornwall, and especially of King Arthur, which they had evoked by their poems. A vote of thanks to Lord Mount-Edgcombe for his address, as well as for his hospitality at Cothele, was passed with acclamation. A paper, by the Rev. William Jago, on the pre-historic and ecclesiastical antiquities of Bodmin, including its Priory of St. Petrock, its friary, its lazaret-house, and its noble parish church, brought the proceedings of the day to a conclusion.

The fine weather with which this year's Congress was inaugurated on the 14th, at Cothele, has lasted till now, and the sun shone, if the truth must be told, even a little too hotly and brilliantly on our expedition of Tuesday to Tintagel and Camelford. Under the guidance of the secretaries, Mr. Loftus Brock and Mr. George Bright, the members started on Tuesday morning, at nine, a party nearly a hundred strong, in omnibuses, breaks, and open carriages, for the headquarters of Arthurian romance—a locality which few, if any, had visited before. In the way thither they quitted the beaten tourists' track along the Cornish high road, in order to pass, by special invitation of Lady Molesworth, through her charming park of Penarrow, where they were able to bestow only a passing glance at the triple vallum and fosse, which is crossed by her carriage drive. At about noon they reached Llaneglos, where they inspected the parish church, under the guidance of the rector, the Rev. J. J. Wilkinson, and also two curious Cornish monoliths, of a Saxon, or, rather, perhaps a Celtic type, in the rectory garden, the inscriptions on which were interpreted by the Rev. William Jago. The whole party were then entertained at lunch by Mr. and Mrs. Wilkinson, under a marquee in the rectory grounds. Lunch being over, and the health of the Queen and of the Prince of Wales (as Duke of Cornwall) having been drunk with all honours, the bugle was sounded, and the party were off to Tintagel, or (as it is here always called) "Dundagel." At Tintagel Prebendary Kinsman was ready to explain the architecture and history of his church, parts of which, including the font, the northern doorway, and the southern transept, he claimed as of "Saxon, or at all events, pre-Norman architecture;" but his views were stoutly combated by at least one member of the Congress, who declared that he could see in their details nothing but early and rude Norman work. A lively discussion ensued, but the matter was left sub judice, and will probably be considered by the Congress more leisurely at one of its subsequent sittings. From the church

the party repaired, under the guidance of Messrs. Kinsman and Wilkinson, to

"Wild Dundagel by the Cornish sea."

—where the remains of the fortress were explored by the more adventurous of the number, including the ruined keep and fortifications, part natural and part artificial, which, if the local tradition be true, were the scene of the birth, childhood, and manhood of King Arthur, the noble and heroic Prince of the West, who for so many years withstood the progress of the Saxon arms within the Cornish peninsula. There was here also, as in the church, a strong difference of opinion as to whether the walls on the double headland are those of one or of two separate castles. A few weeks ago some excavations were made by permission of the authorities of the Duchy of Cornwall in order to settle this question, but they were subsequently obliged to be abandoned owing to difficulties in situ.

Carriages were in waiting to take the party to Camel-ford, where they were to be received by the Mayor and Corporation, and where we knew that refreshments awaited us. This quaint little town, or rather village, for it is scarcely more, though it returned two members to Parliament until placed in Schedule A by the first Reform Act, has a charter dating from the days of Richard, King of the Romans, and a silver mace and punch-bowl dating from the reign of Charles II. One of the aldermen having addressed to the company a few words of greeting, and having recounted some of the old recollections of a borough which has been represented in Parliament by a Pitt, by Henry Brougham, and by "Ossian" Macpherson, they remounted the carriages, and all returned to Bodmin in time to be present at the evening sitting at the Guild-hall, when papers were read by the Rev. Dr. Margoliouth, "On the etymology of certain words in the now obsolete language of Cornwall," and by Mr. T. Kerslake, of Bristol upon "The Early Saints of Cornwall." The chair, in the absence of Lord Mount Edgcumbe, was occupied by Mr. George Godwin, F.S.A.

The meeting of the Royal Archaeological Institute at Colchester has just closed. The attendance of members was not equal to that of the Canterbury meeting last year, as was only to be expected; but the antiquarian work done seems to have been fully up to the mark, especially in drawing out the local authorities, among whom we find many new names. Colchester itself, both in its history and in the architectural remains with which it is plentifully supplied, offered a subject of wide interest, and papers were read by Mr. Freeman on the history; by Mr. Lodge on Eudo Dapifer, the founder of St. John's Abbey; and by Mr. Acland on the Royal Grammar School; while the objects of interest in the neighbourhood were represented by Mr. Tucker's notes on the arms of the Petre family, by Mr. Hayward's paper on the Nunnery of Layer Marney; and by Mr. Chancellor on the Chapter of St. Peter at Bradwell. Castle Hedingham, the ancient seat of the Veres, and one of the finest Norman keeps in England, was visited on Wednesday, when Mr. Majendie, M.P., the present owner, himself described it to the members of the institute, and subsequently entertained them at luncheon in the great hall. On Thursday Colchester was perambulated, the Roman walls, with the successive reparations in the wars of the Middle Ages and of the Stuarts, forming the chief subject of interest. On Friday Layer Marney, with its beautiful brick manor house, and Maldon, with its triangular church tower, were the objects of an excursion. On Saturday Wivenhoe and St. Osyth were visited.

Colchester stands alone among English towns if we identify it with the Roman Camalodunum. Its walls are older than those of London, or at least they bound an older site, for both London and Colchester still stand where the Romans placed them, and in this respect are peculiar among our modern cities. But while London has far overflown the Roman boundaries, Colchester has shrunk, and the walls fit but loosely to the attenuated streets and diminutive churches. Mr. Freeman is reported to have said that these walls existed in the time of Boadicea, and that, unlike York, Lincoln, and Chester, they still surround the inhabited town.

MUSICAL FESTIVALS.—The Birmingham Triennial Musical Festival will be held on Tuesday, the 29th inst., and the three following days. A new cantata, by Mr. F. H. Cowen, entitled "The Corsair," will be performed on the opening day; a new oratorio, by Professor Macfarren, entitled "The Resurrection," on Wednesday morning; and a new sacred cantata, by Gade, entitled "Zion," on Wednesday evening; all the above having been composed expressly for this Festival. The programme also includes "The Holy Supper" (Friday), Wagner, the first time of performance in England; "Elijah," Hummel's "Alma Virgo," Mendelssohn's "Hear my Prayer," Gade's cantata, "The Crusaders," Spohr's "The Last Judgment," Beethoven's "Mass, No. 1 (in C)," and "St. Paul," besides various miscellaneous selections, including a "Symphony," by Mozart, the Overture to "William Tell," &c. The Marquis of Hertford is the President, and Bro. Sir Michael Costa will conduct. The principal vocalists will be Mdlle. Titiens, Madame Lemmens-Sherrington, Mdlle. Albani, Madame Patey, and Madame Trebelli-Bettini; Mr. Vernon Rigby, Signor Poli, Mr. Edward Lloyd, Mr. Santley, and Mr. Cecil Tovey. Mr. Stimpson will preside at the organ. We may add that the net proceeds of the Festival will be added to the funds of the Birmingham General Hospital. The Hereford Musical Festival will be held at the Cathedral and Shire-hall on the 12th, 13th, 14th, and 15th of September. The following artists have already been engaged:—Mdlle. Titiens, Madame Edith Wynne, Madame Trebelli-Bettini, Miss Enriquez, and Miss Bertha Griffiths; Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. W. H. Cummings, Mr. Lewis Thomas, and Mr. Maybrick. The conductor will be Mr. Townshend Smith.

WASTE AND WANT.—Francatelli used to say that he could feed a thousand families on the waste of London; and doubtless he was no way beyond the mark, especially if we regard the wicked, wanton destruction of food in our markets for lack of some means of rapid distribution. We were remarking last week on the aims and powers of the City Guilds, and here would certainly be a splendid opening for one or two of the great companies which are associated with the provisioning of London. Recently the Duke of Edinburgh was eulogizing the Fishmongers' Company for weekly destroying tons and tons of fish which are said to be unfit for food. How far more excellent would be the praise which could point out how a great City Guild had, by wholesome regulations and an effective organization, preserved and distributed to the people, who are in greatest need, tons of wholesome and delicious provision which would but for this timely interposition have been lost altogether? Not a week, not a day passes that we do not hear of quantities of fish, meat and vegetables, fruit and pastry, wasted, and only utilized for making manure; and the original waste and destruction at the markets are followed by almost equally wanton extravagance at hotels, clubs, and private houses. There is a soup kitchen not far from Leicester-square where the clean sacks full of broken bread which come from two West-end clubs are eagerly received and appreciated by the hungry applicants, who sniff from afar the odour of that great cauldron of stock made from the bones and ends of joints—the unconsidered trifles of the larder and the kitchen. In the matter of some of the cheaper kinds of vegetables and of fruit the costermongers continue to carry them through those poor outlying neighbourhoods where they find ready customers, but there is little chance of meat, fish, or poultry being distributed in a similar way. Even if they could be, there are people all round London who sell to know what it is to have a full meal, and there are scores of children who scarcely know the taste of wholesome meat at all.—"City Press."

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, September 1, 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, AUGUST 26.

Lodge 1541, Alexandra Palace, Alexandra Palace, N.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-square.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-rd.

MONDAY, AUGUST 28.

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, AUGUST 29.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.
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, Canonville-st., Bishopsgate.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatshaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30.

Lodge 898, Temperance-in-the-East, Newby-pl., Poplar.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Confidence, M.H., Basinghall-st.
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.
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.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.
Lewins, King's Arms Hot., Wood Green.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 31.

Gen. Com. Girls' School, at 4.

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., Milbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, 111, Chapside.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Marquis of Ripon, Albion Tav., Albany-rd., Dalston.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.
Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1.

Lodge 1275, Star, Ship Hot., Greenwich.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
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.
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, White Hart, King's-rd., 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.
Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday September 2, 1876.

MONDAY, AUGUST 28.

Lodge 148, Lights, M. Rooms, Warrington.
" 613, Unity, Palatine Buildings, Southport.
" 703, Clifton, Clifton Hot., Blackpool.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 29.

Lodge 897, Loyalty, Fleece Inn, St. Helen's.
" 986, Hesketh, Grapes Inn, Croston.
Chap. 721, Grosvenor, M.R., Chester.

MERCHANTS' L. OF I., M.H., LIVERPOOL.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30.

Lodge 86, Loyalty, M.H., Prescott.
" 484, Faith, Gerard's Arms, Ashton-in-Makerfield.
" 580, Harmony, Wheatshaf, Ormskirk.
" 758, Ellesmere, M.H., Runcorn.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 31.

Lodge 950, Hesketh, Royal Hot., Fleetwood.
" 1032, Townley Parker, Howard's A., White-le-Wds.
" 1070, Starkie, Black Horse Hot., Kirkham.
" 1313, Fermor, M.H., Southport.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1.

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

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, September 2, 1876.

All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, AUGUST 28.

Lodge 103, Union & Crown, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.
" 292, St. John, Bishop-st., Rothesay.
Chap. 122, Thetis, 35, St. James-st., S.S., Glasgow.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30.

Chap. 73, Caledonian of Unity, 213, Buchanan-st.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 31.

Lodge 167, Free Operative, M.H., Biggar.
" 570, Kenmuir, Balgray Hall, Springburn.
Chap. 117, Govan, Portland Buildings, Govan.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1.

Lodge 7, Hamilton Kilwinning, M.H., Hamilton.
" 114, Royal Arch, M.H., Cambuslang.
" 116, Royal Arch, Council Hall, Rutherglen.
" 135, St. James, Crown Inn, Tarbolton.
" 175, St. John, St. John's Hall, Greenock.
" 217, Cumberland, Kilwinning, Port Glasgow.
" 242, Houston, Cross Keys Hot., Johnstone.
" 275, Shamrock & Thistle, 22, Struthers-st., Glsgw.
" 335, Argyle, Drill Hall, Dunoon.
" 360, Commercial, 30, Hope-street, Glasgow.
" 408, Clyde, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
" 459, Kelburne, Cumbræ Hot., Millport.
" 512, Thorntree, School House, Thornliebank.
" 551, Clydesdale, Royal Hot., Lanark.
Chap. 112, Paisley, St. Mirren's hall, Paisley.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2.

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

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, September 2, 1876.

MONDAY, AUGUST 28.

Lodge 349, St. Clair, F.M.H., 98, George-st.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1.

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

YOUNG GENTLEMEN'S ACADEMY, QUAI DU LEMAN, GENEVA.

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