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## REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

## Craft Masonry.

**LODGE OF UNITED STRENGTH (No. 228).**—The second meeting of the season of this old lodge was held, not at "The Gate," the home of the lodge in Old Clerkenwell, but at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, the cause of the temporary change being that the old place is under renovation. Bro. Griggs, the W.M., presided, supported by I.P.M. John While, ("Freemason") and Past Masters Joseph Crump, Sec.; Winsland, Treas.; James Terry; Colston Davies, and Hill-house. The officers were Bros. Hill, S.W.; Snare, J.W.; Halford, S.D.; Percy, J.D.; and Todd, I.G. The first business after the passing of the minutes was the raising of Bros. the Rev. — Dawson (rector of St. John's, Clerkenwell), Sandy, Phillip Woodman, J. Woodman, and Knight. It is unnecessary, and it would be out of place, to comment at length upon the work of a brother who has done so well as Bro. Griggs, but it must be said that well as he ever has done in his mother lodge, on this occasion he rose above himself, and gave the degree in a manner worthy of more than credit—and the repetition of the ceremony did not tire and pall upon the attention. The solemnity was greatly heightened by the melodious organ music at the hands of Bro. Hart. The officers also were excellent in their work, and their brethren watched the work with pride and pleasure. The lodge was then resumed, and Bro. Moulsey was tested and afterwards passed. Again was the lodge resumed, and Mr. Joseph Reynolds Green, of Bedford, was initiated, thus adding to the large contingent who have come from the birthplace of the famed dreamer to receive the light of the Craft in the metropolis, where many of them transact business. The lodge had then to discuss a question which none approached without regret—that of removing from the famed Gate, which has been found too small to accommodate the large body of brethren who assemble under the banner of the lodge. Bro. Terry had placed a motion on the paper that that lodge should remove to the hall in Great Queen-street, and well expressed the obligations the brethren had been under to Bro. Gay, the host of the Gate, and said that the brother had done wonders with the circumscribed means at his disposal in having the place so constantly in the hands of the workmen. Bro. Terry gave the results of his inquiries at various houses, and left the lodge to say which place the members would select. Bro. While urged that the lodge, if it could not meet at the Old Gate, should continue to meet in or near that neighbourhood, and, availing himself of the information conveyed by Bro. Terry, moved that the lodge should accept the Guildhall Tavern, City, as a meeting house, a place which was not far from the Moorgate-street Station, and would be more readily accessible than any other. Bro. Halford seconded this, and on Bro. Gay saying, in answer to questions put by the brethren, that the numbers of 228 were too great for the Gate, the motion became the substantive one, and was carried without a dissentient hand being held up against it. The lodge voted two guineas for the "old people's Christmas treat," and was then in due form closed. Over wine and biscuits, there being no banquet, some pleasant little speeches were made, and good natured badinage was indulged in, and Bros. Maples, P.M. 144; R. C. Davis, 1278; J. Defries, S.W. 45; and the Rev. — Wilson, 625, Glossop, in their speeches, spoke of the warm pleasure of witnessing the good work and sociable feeling prevailing among the brethren.

**THE WILLIAM PRESTON LODGE (No. 766).**—The installation meeting of this, a "banner" lodge, was held on Thursday, the 23rd ult., at Cannon-street Hotel. The lodge was opened by W.M. Pringle, with Bro. Newton, jun., in the Senior Warden's chair, and Bro. Newton, sen., the W.M. elect, in the Junior Warden's chair. It should here be stated that the S.W. had requested the brethren to give the votes they would have given to him to his father, who is his son's junior in Masonry, and Bro. Newton, sen., had consequently been elected over his son's head. This explanation is needed, not that the S.W. had any prescriptive right to election, but as illustrative of the kindly feeling shown by a son in standing aside from a position he would have won

upon his merits, in order that his father might become a ruler in the Craft. There were also present Past Masters Captain Kain, B. Abbott, W. J. Miller, George Newman, Augustus Braun, and W. Worrall (Sec.). The visitors included Bros. Francis, P.M. 851, P.P.G.S. of Surrey; Benham, P.M. 1339; Garrod, P.M. 177; J. While ("Freemason"), P.M. 228; Phillips, 1540; Carlton, 1295; Margeson, 90; Brown, 140; Tribbel, 1287; Harris, 1589; and W. T. Rickwood, 192. The minutes of the last lodge meeting were read and confirmed, and then Past Master Miller having taken the chair of W.M., raised Bros. Brierley and George Castle. The new candidate for the Master's chair having been presented in due form, and having answered the questions prescribed by the Book of Constitutions, Past Master Braun taking the chair as Installing Master, all under the rank of Installed Masters were dismissed when the pledge to the Fellow Crafts had been made, and the lodge had been raised to the Third Degree for the duly constituted Board of Past Masters, the usual ceremony was enacted, and according to ancient forms, Bro. Newton was placed in the chair by Bro. Braun. The body of Masters was closed, and the proclamations were made by Bro. Braun with considerable elocutionary power, and the addresses were listened to with rapt attention, the satisfaction of the brethren being shown by the great applause which followed the conclusion. In the course of investing the officers the W.M. called upon Bro. Newton, jun., the Past Senior Warden, to take upon himself that position a second time, but the brother, in a continued spirit of self-sacrifice, said he had no desire to prevent the other brethren from obtaining the promotion to which they had a right to look, and he would for the present retire from office, trusting to the remembrance of the lodge that he was eligible for the Master's chair at a future election. The generous nature of the feelings which had dictated this course of action appeared to be fully appreciated by the members. The officers appointed and invested were S. D. Ewens to the S.W. chair; Dr. Cutmore to the J.W. chair; E. Kidman, as S.D.; W. Drake, as J.D.; W. Drake, as I.G.; and P. Steinman, D.C. P.M. Captain Kain was invested as Treasurer; P.M. W. Worrall, as Secretary; and P.M. Newman as Wine Steward. The lodge agreed, on the motion of Bro. Braun, to grant a warrant for a lodge of instruction. The ballot having been taken for four gentlemen, a fine Past Master's jewel was placed upon the breast of Bro. Pringle, as a token of esteem on his leaving the chair of the lodge. "Work" was finished in the usual manner. The brethren sat down to an excellent and well-served banquet. The usual loyal toasts were given, and then Bro. Pringle, the I.P.M., proposed the toast of "The W.M.," remarking upon the filial manner in which Bro. Newton, jun., had retired so as to enable his father and brother to take the chair. The W.M., in responding to the toast, which was accepted with all heartiness, said he found himself in a very peculiar position, and one which he scarcely expected to occupy—one, too, which he felt he should not have occupied on his own merit. He had frequently, in addressing the William Preston Lodge, expressed his deep regret that he had not joined Freemasonry earlier in life, for he now felt that he had missed a great deal of enjoyment which he might have had if he had sought its light 7 years ago, for he might have spent some of his years with increased profit and pleasure. He could hardly express the peculiar feelings he experienced on that occasion. The lodge had been kind enough to place him in that high position, but it was a position which he did not deserve. No one more than he desired to forward the interests of the lodge, and if he could not come up to the brilliant Master-ship of the Past Masters who had gone before, of Bros. Miller, Newman, Braun, Worrall, and others, it would not be from want of will, but from the loss of those opportunities which never returned. He warmly thanked the brethren for their kindness, and assured them that he would do his best to discharge the duties they had entrusted to his hands. He then proposed "The Visitors," and Bros. Francis and While responded. "The Past Masters" were then toasted, and Bro. Pringle responded, and spoke in admiration of the working P.M.'s, to whose body he was now relegated, and thanked Bros. Miller and Braun for their work. "The Officers" was the next toast given, and Bros. Kain and Worrall responded. After an evening of perfect harmony, the proceedings closed with the Tyler's toast. In the course of the evening Bro. P. M. Braun asked for advice for the following case, which is a worthy one for Masonic charity. The writer says: I am the widow of Bro. —, who was by profession an artist, that is a portrait, landscape, and miniature painter; he was editor and proprietor of the National Portrait Gallery of Distinguished Americans, and at the time of his death was collecting material for another illustrated work, some of the illustrations being at that time already engraved. My husband was G.S. of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York for 29 years, and during that time and before was Master of a subordinate lodge; he was founder of the Lodge of Strict Observance, he originated and promoted the Representative System in the United States and with other countries, and was himself Representative for the Grand Lodges of France, Saxony, and Brazil to the Grand Lodge of New York. He occupied other positions of honour in the fraternity, which may be known by the medals which I have. I hope what I have written will prove to you that my husband was an honoured member of the fraternity to whom I appeal for aid; by various misfortunes I have lost everything; I have never received a farthing from any one, and nothing but the most extreme need would have induced me to ask for aid. I am sixty-four years of age, and much disabled by rheumatism.

**WHITTINGTON LODGE (No. 862)** held its usual meeting on Monday, the 20th ult., at Anderson's Hotel. Present: Bros. T. Kingston, W.M.; C. Walker,

S.W.; A. Moore, J.W.; J. Walmsley, S.D.; W. A. Blakemore, J.D.; C. E. Packer, I.G.; W. J. H. Jones, P.M. 862; J. Weaver, P.M. 862 and 1319, P.P.G. Org. Middlesex, Sec. and Treas. of the Benevolent Fund; Farebrother, Godden, Bolton, Tate, Roberts, Sedgwick, Brothers, Ward, Brown, Holland, Coll, Collinson, Ross, Boxer, Cox, and several others, also many visitors of distinction. Bro. Kingston, W.M., initiated Mr. G. Mackaness into the First Degree. The report of the Auditors was received with acclamation, it shewing the lodge to be free of all liabilities and a balance in hand. The new bye-laws were read; one in particular appeared to us to be a very satisfactory one, namely, "Should the W.M. expend during his year of office more than the income of the lodge he shall be held personally responsible for the excess." Bro. J. Weaver then occupied the chair, and installed Bro. C. Walker as W.M. for the ensuing year; the ceremony was given in its entirety. The three addresses were listened to by the brethren most attentively, at the conclusion of which Bro. Weaver received great applause. He then delivered an extempore speech respecting the management of this lodge, also charging the brethren to be very careful whom they introduced into Masonry, and not to introduce a person unless he was well-known to be true and trustworthy by experience. The W.M. then invested his officers as follows:—Bros. A. Moore, S.W.; J. Walmsley, J.W.; W. A. Blakemore, S.D.; C. E. Packer, J.D.; S. Godden, I.G.; A. J. Bolton, D.C.; J. Farebrother, W.S. The newly-installed Master then initiated Messrs. T. F. Lee and G. Maxwell into the First Degree in such a masterly manner that he does great credit to his tutor, Bro. Weaver, the ceremony being given very impressively. The W.M. then stated he had a very pleasing duty to perform, but he wished it had fallen into abler hands, as he felt he could not do justice to the task he had to perform. It was to present a piece of plate to a worthy and distinguished brother who had safely conducted the lodge through most difficult and trying circumstances; it had been subscribed for by the members of the lodge, and it consisted of a sterling silver tea service and an illuminated testimonial. The W.M. then called Bro. Weaver, who on approaching the W.M. was presented with the service and testimonial. The testimonial had been illuminated by one of the brethren as a labour of love, and ran thus: "Presented to Bro. James Weaver, P.M. and Secretary, as a token of their high esteem and regard, also to mark their appreciation of the ability and firmness he displayed in the conduct of the affairs of the lodge under most difficult and trying circumstances. November 20th, 1876." The inscription on the service was as follows:—"November 20th, 1876. Presented to Bro. James Weaver by the brethren of the Whittington Lodge, No. 862." Bro. Weaver was so thoroughly astonished that he could not give utterance to his thoughts beyond saying, "Brethren, I thank you;" a little later on he expressed himself more fully. Bro. Jones, P.M., proposed, seconded by Bro. Kingston, P.M., and carried by acclamation, "That a vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes for the able and impressive manner in which Bro. Weaver had installed the W.M." Three gentlemen were proposed for initiation at the next meeting. Letters of apology were received from the Grand Secretary, Col. Burdett, P.G.M. Middlesex, and others, regretting their inability to be present. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet room, where a most enjoyable evening was spent; the banquet being one of the best Bro. Clemow could put on the table. The usual toasts were observed, and a Past Master's jewel, a very handsome one, was presented to the retiring Master, Bro. T. Kingston. The brethren then separated, having passed one of those evenings that one remembers with the greatest pleasure.

**CITY OF LONDON LODGE (No. 901).**—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, Nov. 20th. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The W.M. then initiated Mr. Arthur Wellington Smith, and passed Bro. Micklefield to the Degree of Fellow Craft. He then raised Bro. W. T. Trehearn, of Lebanon Lodge, 1326, to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. This being the evening for the election of W.M. for the ensuing year, the ballot was taken, and it was unanimous for Bro. Geo. Porter. It was proposed by the P.M., Bro. Lawrence, seconded by Bro. Lewis, P.M., and carried unanimously, that a jewel be presented to Bro. H. D'Arcy, the retiring W.M., as a slight acknowledgment of his efficient services during his term of office. The W.M., in a suitable speech, returned thanks, and the brethren then adjourned to the banquet, and a most enjoyable evening was spent.

**CITY OF WESTMINSTER LODGE (No. 1563).**—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, 23rd November, at the Regent Masonic Hall. Bro. B. H. Swallow, W.M., presided, and every officer was present—the Rev. P. M. Holden, S.W.; E. White, J.W.; C. A. Cottebrune, Treas.; E. J. Scott, Sec.; Benj. Phillips, S.D.; Benj. Turner, J.D.; J. G. Shand, D.C.; C. K. K. Bishop, Org.; W. C. Parsons, I.G.; and J. Wilkinson, Steward. There were also numerous lay members of the lodge, and the following visitors:—A. Bassington, S.D. 205; Rev. T. Robinson, P.M. 709; J. Swallow, 382; J. L. Baker, S.W. 1305; F. Honeyman, W.M. 1258; R. Payne, S.D. 1328; W. F. Ferguson, P.M. 177; R. Lonsdale, P.M. 382; G. Bubb, P.M. 180; J. Mason, P.M. 1567; M. Draper, W.M. 1305; James Mander, P.M. 1201; James L. Thomas, P.M. 142; Geo. Fowler, J.W. 1305; Frank Ridley, 1314; Joseph Smith, P.G.P.; W. Coombs, P.M. 382; J. Sadler, P.M. 795; E. Farwig, I.G. 180; Louis Beck, S.D. 1559; Alex. Cameron, P.M. 180; Henry Rust, P.M. 733; Thos. Lamb, 1567; J. Barney, P.M. 1567; W. Porter, W.M. 1269; Thomas Bull, P.M. 145; Raynham W. Stewart, P.G.D.; W. Watson, P.G.S.; James Terry, P.G.D.C. Herts; Col. J. Peters, W.M.

1460; Henbach, 1410; G. W. Saul, 1201; W. W. Harvey, John Palmer, P.M. 27; A. J. Ircton, 1348; W. Stephens, P.M. 1365; E. D. Willey, 9; W. P. Gardner, 1297; W. Mann, P.M. 144; W. Hilton, P.M. 780; J. Brockett Sorrell, P.M. 176; David Haslett, J.W. 145; W. Batley, P.M. 749; W. J. Murlis, W.M. 1642; Herbert Dicketts, P.G.S.; Hyde Pullen, P.G.S.B.; Henry Fenn, P.M. 49; the Rev. E. H. Brette, D.D., P.M. 1460; James Kench, P.M. 538; John C. Cox, P.M. 1257; Joseph Wright, P.G. Purst.; J. L. Coulton, P.M. 382; L. B. Pillin, J.W. 780; H. Massey ("Freemason"); C. Burmeister, W.M. 338; C. J. W. Davies, P.M. 382; J. W. Robinson, S.W. 1287; B. Brayshaw, W.M. 147; John Boyd, P.G.P., G.S.; Thomas Dayson, 582; Walter Mitchell, J.W. 1558; J. Callaghan, 177; V. Burrell, 382; W. J. Deighton, 1351. Bros. J. Dancer, 1446; A. Flatly, 205; and F. H. Tate, 795, were elected joining members. Bro. James H. Hammond was raised, and Bros. Hardwicke, Stilwell, Solomon, Linging, and Inge were passed. The ceremonies were performed by the W.M., Bro. Swallow, who afterwards installed the Rev. Philip Melancthon Holden, S.W. and W.M. elect, in the presence of a Board of Installed Masters, numbering 48. The officers appointed were Bros. Swallow, I.P.M.; White, S.W.; Phillips, J.W.; C. A. Cottebrune, Treas.; Scott, Sec.; Turner, S.D.; Parsons, J.D.; Shand, I.G.; Hutchinson, D.C.; Willis, W.S.; Bishop, A.W.S., and Potter, Tyler. Bro. Swallow concluded the ceremony by delivering the addresses to the W.M., Wardens, and brethren. Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet, which was succeeded by the proposition of the usual toasts. After proposing "The Queen and the Craft," the W.M. proposed "The M.W.G.M.," and said that when the brethren considered the graceful manner in which the Prince of Wales accepted the dignity of Grand Master when it was offered to him, and when they further considered the great attention which he had paid, more perhaps than could be expected of one in his exalted position, to the duties of the office, he having so much to do, and when they further considered his great courtesy, his gentlemanly bearing towards all with whom he came in contact, justifying his character as "the first gentleman in Europe," they ought to be proud of having him as Grand Master. He might inform the brethren that H.R.H. expressed himself to Sir Albert Woods as greatly pleased with the installation ceremony at the Albert Hall. The W.M. next proposed "The Pro Grand Master," than whom no one more deserved to be in that position than the Earl of Carnarvon, or would more command the respect of the Craft. His lordship could go into a lodge and perform all the ceremonies. It was a great thing for Freemasons to have for a Pro Grand Master a brother who brought a great mind to the work, as it showed them there was something in Masonry, its system and symbols, worthy of being sought after and enquired into. Speaking of Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, the W.M. said the D.G.M. went here and there in Masonry, consecrating this and that lodge and chapter, and doing all he could to win the good opinion of the Craft. Upon one occasion he had the pleasure of sitting next to his lordship, and he must say he never sat next to a pleasanter gentleman in the whole course of his life, making one feel quite at home in his presence; with the happy knack of saying the right thing in the right place. The other Grand Officers were distinguished by their merit and ability, and gave to Freemasonry a great deal of its prestige in the eyes of the world. Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, P.G.D., responded, remarking that the Grand Officers were always ready to do the best they could for the interests of the Craft at large. Bro. Swallow, I.P.M., proposed "The W.M." The brethren had heard that the Prince of Wales was very much pleased with his reception at the Albert Hall; and the W.M. was no doubt much pleased with the reception he had just met with in the City of Westminster Lodge. If he was not, he ought to be. He (Bro. Swallow) was sure no worthier brother could go on to the chair. He had been S.W. of the lodge, and he had performed his duties admirably. It was by the brethren's unanimous vote he became W.M. He would do his duty as far as lay in his power while W.M., and would do nothing that could offend Grand Lodge or this lodge. He (Bro. Swallow) had had many pleasant evenings with him, and he trusted that his year of office would be a happy and prosperous one. The W.M. in reply said that he only wished he had the power of expressing his feelings as he desired, but they must take the will for the deed. He thanked them most heartily and warmly for the cordiality with which they had responded to the toast proposed by the I.P.M. He could assure them that in his wildest dreams at his initiation, he never could have supposed he should have been placed in the chair with so many pleasing and flattering expressions. He was very glad to have got into the chair, and he would do his utmost to maintain the good character which the City of Westminster Lodge had gained during the last twelve months. If he failed it would not be for want of bringing to bear all the power and ability he possibly could, both in working the three degrees in lodge, but in working the Fourth Degree. In conclusion, he could only say the brethren beggared him in thanks. The W.M. next proposed "The Visitors," seventy of whom were present. Bro. Joseph Smith, P.G.P., replied. The W.M. then gave "The Health of Past Master Swallow," and presented him with a valuable P.M.'s jewel. Bro. Swallow was one of the founders of the lodge, and he had done his utmost to make it prosperous, in which attempt he had been entirely successful. Bro. Swallow in acknowledging the toast said he had had many difficulties to go through in connection with this lodge, but the greatest difficulty was to return thanks for the brethren's kindness. However, he should be very short in his speech, for he scarcely knew

what to say. He did not know that he deserved all that had been said in his favour; but if he did, he was both surprised and pleased. What he had done for the lodge he looked upon as nothing more than other Masons would have done. He certainly strove very hard for the warrant. He got his power from Marlborough House, and obtained the warrant after nine months' trying. He persevered, and his success encouraged him to say to others that when they began anything they should go on with it, and they would succeed. He had determined to start this lodge, and to make it a success. The charities had been well cared for. As regarded the jewel presented to him, it was a proof that what he had done had given the brethren satisfaction, and he should wear it with some feeling of pomp and vanity. He hoped to see the lodge make still further progress. To the toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary," Bro. Scott replied, and the S.W. responded to that of "The Officers." Bro. James Terry acknowledged the toast of "The Charities," and after expressing his regret at Bro. Little's absence, and thanking the W.M. and the brethren for their sympathy with him in his illness, said it was not more than he deserved. On behalf of Bro. Little, he thanked the body for its support of the Girls' School. Bro. Terry then reviewed the work of all the institutions, and pointed out to the brethren the great progress they had made, not only in the amount of subscriptions received by them, but in the increase of the benefits they conferred. The brethren shortly afterwards separated, having enjoyed a delightful evening, which was made additionally pleasant by some good singing by Bros. Knight Smith, J. Wm. Cattle, and Frank Percival.

**ST. DUNSTAN'S LODGE (No. 1589).**—The last meeting of this local lodge was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Friday, the 17th ult. Bro. J. C. Dwarber, P.M. 55, W.M., presided, supported by Bros. Wellsman, S.W.; Dalwood, J.W.; A. Tisley, Sec.; J. H. Dodson, S.D.; Bull, acting J.D.; T. A. Woodbridge, I.G.; R. W. Williams, P.G.O. Middlesex, Org.; Gilbert, P.G.T. Middlesex, Tyler. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M., assisted by his officers, raised Bro. Platts, passed Bro. J. W. Lewis, and initiated Mr. G. A. Pearce. The three arduous and impressive ceremonies were most excellently well performed by the W.M. A notice of motion having been given by Bro. Dalwood, P.M. 860, J.W., that the sum of ten pounds should be voted towards the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, the lodge was closed in ancient form, and the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet, well served by Bro. Clemow. Upon the removal of the cloth the customary loyal and Craft toasts were given from the chair and warmly received. In giving the toast of the evening, viz., "The Initiate," the W.M. stated that as the St. Dunstan's was a local lodge, they were pleased to welcome amongst them that evening a resident in the district in the person of their newly-admitted brother. He (the W.M.) had an objection to large lodges, because very often there were many party and other influences at work, and in consequence perfect harmony was impossible. This would, he hoped, never be the case in No. 1589, and that possibly their initiate that evening had taken a very wise step in joining a new lodge in preference to an old one. In conclusion, he hoped that he, Bro. Pearce, would become a worthy and deserving brother, and would always regard it as one of the happiest days of his life when he became a Mason. The initiate, in reply, stated that he had had a very great desire to join Freemasonry for some years past, but until recently had lacked the opportunity. He was exceedingly impressed with the ceremony, and hoped that as long as he remained a member of the lodge he should discharge the great obligations he had entered into satisfactorily. The S.W., in proposing "The Health of the W.M.," said it was to him a great pleasure in having the honour to do so. The capabilities of the W.M. that day had been severely tried, because he had had to work the three arduous ceremonies unassisted by any I.P.M., but he had, nevertheless, carried them out to the extreme satisfaction of every one. In conclusion, he said it was an honour to the St. Dunstan's Lodge in having such a Master, whose courtesy and Masonic ability, combined with his happy and pleasant manner, had endeared him to all he came in contact with. The W.M., in his response, said he was extremely obliged to the S.W. for speaking so kindly of him, but he could not take credit for all the good things therein expressed. The Master of a new lodge having no P.M.'s to support him, and the younger officers being not always at his elbow, had always a heavy task to discharge, but there was only one way to get through it, and that was by calling the lodge early and exercising personal punctuality. Hitherto his health had enabled him to pull through notwithstanding the difficulties under which he laboured in the lodge, and he hoped to be able to instal his successor. In giving "The Health of the Visitors," the W.M. said it was a toast that always afforded him a great pleasure to propose. On behalf of the lodge he wished to assure them that they were heartily welcome, and at the same time he remarked for the information of the initiate that by visiting various lodges the brethren had an opportunity of becoming conversant with the rituals and of contrasting the different styles. This toast having been duly drunk, Bros. Walls, S.D. Kennington, Dawson, 749, Dodman, 879, and Harwar, St. Clement Danes, severally acknowledged the honour that had been paid them, and complimented the W.M. personally, and the lodge generally, for the excellent "working." "The Health of the Treasurer and Secretary" followed, in which the W.M. expressed his very great obligations to the latter brother in particular, whose zeal and assiduity, he said, had been unremitting since the foundation of the lodge. In the unavoidable absence of the Treasurer, Bro. Tisley, the Secretary, replied. He said that the Treasurer had to attend the Lodge of Grand Stewards on the same night as the St. Dunstan's met, but

although not present in body he was there in mind. Upon his own behalf he could only say that he was exceedingly pleased at being Secretary to so good a lodge as No. 1589, and if there was anything more he could do to further its prosperity he should be only too happy to do it. In proposing "The Health of the Officers," the W.M. expressed himself highly pleased with them, and particularly complimented the lodge upon having two old Past Masters in the S. and J.W.'s chairs, namely, Bros. Wellsman and Dalwood, who were most excellent officers. The S.W., in reply, modestly said he could only regard himself as acting in the capacity of lieutenant to the W.M., under whose command it was a pleasure to serve. He was pleased that he, the S.W., was—although in a small degree—one of the promoters of the lodge, and it was exceedingly gratifying to him to find that it was progressing so very satisfactorily. The J.W. said he could endorse every word that Bro. Wellsman had spoken, and he further believed that the St. Dunstan's has a representative lodge would shortly equal any lodge in the City of London. In conclusion, as a P.M. of some years standing, he could vouch that the working of the ceremonies as performed by the W.M. could not be surpassed. During the evening instrumental, vocal, and poetical selections were given by Bros. Williams, Harwar, Dawson, Walls, Esson, and others. The proceedings terminated at 10, and the brethren adjourned until the third Friday in January.

**WEST SMITHFIELD LODGE (No. 1623).**—The first regular meeting since its consecration was held on Thursday, 18th ult., at the New Market Hotel, King Street, West Smithfield. Bro. Joseph Smith, P.G.P., W.M., opened the lodge, supported by every officer of the lodge, punctually at 3 o'clock. The minutes of the Consecration and two emergency meetings were read, put separately and all unanimously confirmed. The work, which was well and ably done, was passing (one at a time) Bros. T. M. Butt, W. Delafous, and W. Snow to the Second Degree, after which Mr. R. Leggett was introduced and initiated into Freemasonry. Some propositions for initiations and joining were given in. The lodge was closed and adjourned to Thursday, 18th January, to meet at half past two. There were present besides W.M., Bros. T. W. Adams, S.W.; G. J. Elliot, J.W.; E. Mallett, Assistant Secretary, who acted for Bro. F. Walters, G.J.D. Middlesex, P.M., Secretary, absent through ill health, W.T. Howes, P.M.; S. D.; J. Johnson, J.D.; G. S. Wintle, P.M., I.G. The visitors were Bro. W. Sugg, P.M., 33, &c.; H. Faija, J.D. 1540; J. Swasey jun. 1423, and more whose names we could not ascertain. It was decided that a lodge of instruction be held in connection with the lodge, and which gave its sanction to its being held under the lodge warrant. A good banquet was provided, and was well appreciated by all who were present. The usual toasts were given and responded to. Songs and some good recitations passed away an agreeable evening very well spent. After wishing each other the compliments of the approaching year, the members separated.

**OXFORD.—Apollo University Lodge (No. 357).**—A meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 28th ult., in the handsome hall adjoining the Clarendon Hotel. The W.M., the R.W. Bro. H.R.H. Prince Leopold, K.G., Prov. G.M. Oxon, fully intended to have been present, but was unfortunately prevented at the last moment from attending, in consequence of an attack of rheumatism in the knee, from which he has previously suffered. In his absence, Bro. the Rev. R. W. M. Pope, M.A., of Worcester College, Prov. G. Chap. Oxon, the W. Deputy Master, presided. There was a large attendance of members of the lodge and provincial officers, together with several visitors, including representatives of Grand Lodge, of the Isaac Newton Lodge, Cambridge, of the other local lodges, and of some English lodges abroad, nearly one hundred brethren being present. There were eight initiations, viz., Messrs. Dunn-Gardner, Cooper, Portal, Scratchley, Bright-Smith, Eyre, Kettle and Jones, and nine passings, viz., Bros. Brown, Lloyd, Murray-Anderson, Moore, Frankerd, Radcliffe, Simpson, Savory, and Harter, which is significant evidence of the flourishing state of the Craft in the University. The brethren then proceeded to the election of a W.M. to preside over them at the expiration of Prince Leopold's year of office, when their choice fell upon Bro. Col. the Hon. W. E. Sackville-West, M.A., of Christ Church, and Dean and Bursar of Keble College, who at present holds the office of J.W. He will be formally installed at the annual festival next term, when he will appoint his officers for the year. On the proposition of the W. Deputy Master, seconded by P.M. the Rev. H. A. Pickard, M.A., of Christ Church, P.G.C., P.M. Reginald Bird, M.A., and Fellow of Magdalen College, D. Prov. G.M. Oxon, was unanimously re-elected Treasurer for the ensuing year. Bro. G. Norwood was again elected Tyler. Full Masonic mourning was worn, in consequence of the death of P.M. T. H. G. Wyndham, M.A., late Fellow and tutor of Merton College. At the conclusion of the business the brethren adjourned to the Clarendon Assembly Room adjoining the lodge, where a handsome banquet was served, the chair being occupied by the W.D.M., who proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts in graceful and felicitous terms. The proceedings were of a very festive and enjoyable character, and some excellent speeches bearing upon the well-being of the Craft were delivered in response to the personal healths included in the list. Among the visitors present was Bro. the Hon. J. Hyde Harris, District G.M. of Otago, New Zealand.

**HAMPTON.—Hemming Lodge (No. 1512).**—A strong meeting of this prosperous lodge was held at the Lion Hotel on the 16th ult. There were present amongst others Bros. J. Hurst, W.M.; J. Hammond, P.M. (Jordan), S.W.; S. Hill, P.M. (Canonbury and Bedford), J.W.; E. Hopwood, P.M. (Faith), I.P.M. and Treas.; W. Hammond, P.M. (Jordan, Lebanon, and Hemming), Sec.; Fox, S.D.; Jessett, J.D.; Hiscox, acting I.G.; Walls, D.C.; Kent.

A.W.S.; B. Sharp, P.M.; Gilbert, P.G. Tyler, Tyler. Bro. Wilson, P.M. (Etonian), was a visitor. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M., assisted by his officers, initiated Mr. Julius Schmitz into the mysteries of the Order, the ceremony being well performed. The I.P.M., having by permission of the W.M. assumed the chair, then raised Bros. Dr. Hill, Finch, Murphy, and Errington to the degree of M.M.'s effectively. Several minor matters having been disposed of, the lodge was closed in ancient form, and the brethren adjourned to a collation, which was well catered for by Bro. Murphy. Upon the removal of the cloth the W.M. gave the following toasts, neatly prefaced by a few apropos remarks: "The Queen and Craft," "The M.W.G.M.," "The Pro and Deputy G. Masters, and the rest of the G. Officers, Past and Present," "The M.W.P.G.M., Colonel Burdett," "The Deputy P.G.M., Sir George Elliott, and the rest of the Provincial Grand Officers of Middlesex, Past and Present." This toast was coupled with the name of Bro. W. Hammond, P.P.G.D., who in reply expressed his thanks upon behalf of the distinguished brethren holding present and past Grand rank in the important Masonic Province of Middlesex. The I.P.M., in proposing "The Health of the W.M.," passed some very high encomiums upon the manner in which Bro. Hurst had performed for the first time as W.M. the ceremony of initiation, which effort, he (Bro. Hopwood) said, was worthy of an old P.M. In conclusion he stated that he was convinced from what he had witnessed that night that the Hemming Lodge would have no occasion to regret having elected Bro. Hurst to fulfil the duties of W.M. This toast having been well received, the W.M. briefly responded. In the course of his reply he said he was so impressed with the grand position which the brethren so interestedly with him would he was determined to spare neither time nor trouble in perfecting himself in its manifold and arduous duties. "The Health of the Initiate" followed. In proposing this toast the W.M. congratulated Bro. Schmitz upon having become a member of the Craft whose proud and excellent motto was "Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth." He was sorry that the newly-admitted brother's profession would not allow of his coming very often among them, but he was sure that he would always look back with interest to the night when he was received into the ranks of the Hemming Lodge. Bro. Schmitz having suitably acknowledged the toast, the W.M. gave "The Visitors," coupled with the name of Bro. Wilson, P.M. Etonian, who had, he said, on so many occasions contributed his valuable services towards the "working" of the various ceremonies in No. 1512. This toast having been duly honoured, Bro. Wilson replied by stating that he was always ready to assist any W.M. who might have occasion to command his humble services in the Masonic ritual. He had attended the Hemming many times, and had invariably been most courteously received. In conclusion he said that whilst he continued to have the honour of an invitation to the lodge he should always feel great pleasure in aiding, to the best of his ability, the officers in the carrying out of their respective duties. "The Health of the Past Masters" followed, and was briefly responded to by Bros. Hopwood and W. Hammond. The S.W., Bro. J. Hammond, who was upon the point of leaving, requested permission to say a few words, which were to the effect that he had to apologise for not being present at the last meeting, when the W.M. had been pleased to appoint him S.W. He could only say that he was exceedingly gratified at the great honour bestowed, and hoped to merit, by attention and zeal in the discharge of his duties, the good opinion of his brethren, so that when the proper time arrived for him to solicit their suffrages for the highest position the lodge could bestow, he should be deemed sufficiently worthy for the distinction. In proposing "The Health of the Treasurer and Secretary," the W.M. personally expressed his thanks to Bros. Hopwood and Hammond for the great assistance they had rendered him during the whole course of his connection with the lodge, and he believed that both the funds and general business of the lodge would be well looked after by those worthy officers. This toast having been received with excellent "fire," Bros. Hopwood, Treas., and W. Hammond, Sec., responded. The former said he was exceedingly pleased at holding the office of Treasurer to the lodge, more especially as the funds were in so flourishing a condition. He should endeavour to discharge the duties to the best of his ability, and hoped that at the conclusion of the W.M.'s year of office, he (the Treasurer), would be able to report to the brethren that he had a very handsome balance in hand. The Secretary briefly responded by stating that he also, in conjunction with the last speaker, fully appreciated the honour that had been conferred upon him, and hoped that he should always deserve such kind encomiums as he had that evening received from the W.M. In introducing "The Health of the Officers," the W.M. stated that he was pleased at being able to bear testimony to the admirable way in which the details of the lodge had been discharged by the brethren holding office, or by their substitutes, and in conclusion he expressed an opinion that the present working staff was an excellent one. This toast having been duly honoured, Bros. Hill, Jessett, Walls, and Kent replied on behalf of themselves and their absent colleagues. "The Masonic Charities" followed, coupled with the name of Bro. W. Hammond, and gave that brother an opportunity of making a powerful appeal upon behalf of those excellent institutions. He particularly called attention to the proposed expenditure by Grand Lodge of £6000, as a memorial of the M.W.G.M.'s safe return from his Indian progress, which sum, he thought, might be devoted to the building of preparatory establishments or nurseries for the joint schools, which would, he believed, be a better way of spending the money than the scheme proposed at the last Grand Lodge meeting, inasmuch as there were many more applicants for the benefits of the schools than could be possibly accommodated. In

conclusion he reminded the brethren that Bro. Ockenden, who unfortunately was absent in consequence of indisposition, had been elected to represent the Hemming Lodge as Steward at the next festival of the R.M.B.I., and he hoped that the funds of the lodge in February would permit of a handsome sum being voted to head their Steward's list, which amount would, he trusted, be supplemented by many private contributions. In the intervals of the toasts and replies Bros. Hurst, W. Hammond, Jessett, Walls, Schmitz, Knowles, and others, musically entertained the brethren. The Tyler's toast at eleven closed the proceedings, and the brethren adjourned until the third Thursday in January next.

### Ancient and Accepted Rite.

OXFORD.—University Chapter of Sovereign Princes, Rose Croix of H.R.D.M.—The anniversary meeting of the above chapter was held in the Apollo Lodge, on Monday, 27th ult., when among the brethren present were the following members of the Supreme Grand Council—Capt. N. G. Philips, 33°; Major Shadwell Clerke, 33°; and Dr. Hamilton, 33°; and the following Deputy Inspectors General of Districts—The Earl of Limerick, 33°; and the Rev. Arthur Bruce Fraser, 33°. The visitors included Bros. R. J. Spiers, 32°; Col. Sargent, C. B., 18°; F. Symonds, 18°; G. Taunton, 18°; S. P. Spiers, 18°; W. Thompson, 18°; C. Bishop, 18°; &c. Among the members of the chapter who attended were the Rev. T. F. Ravenshaw, M.A., of Oriel Coll., 32°; the M.W.S. Col. the Hon. W. E. Sackville-West, M.A., of Christ Church and Keble Coll., 31°; the Rev. Dr. Whitmarsh, of the same College, 31°; Bro. Edward Chapman, of Magdalen Coll., 18°; Bro. H. R. Cooper-Smith, B.A., of Magdalen Coll., 18°; Bro. A. Symonds, of Brasenose Coll., 18°; Bro. F. B. de S. La Terriere, of Magdalen Coll., 18°; and Bro. J. Cavan, of Christ Church, 18°. The following candidates were perfected, the ceremony being admirably performed by the M.W.S., Col. the Hon. Sackville-West, viz.:—Bro. the Rev. H. Deane, B.D., of St. John's Coll., and the Apollo University Lodge, 357, proposed by the M.W.S., and seconded by Bro. Williamson; Bro. W. N. Glencross, of Exeter Coll., and the Apollo University Lodge, 357, proposed by the M.W.S., and seconded by Bro. Williamson; and Bro. O. O'Fahertie Wilde, of Magdalen Coll., and Lodge 357. It was intended to have installed the M.W.S. elect (Bro. H.R.H. Prince Leopold, 30°) as M.W.S. for the ensuing year, but in consequence of his unavoidable absence through indisposition, the ceremony, together with the appointment of officers, was postponed until the next meeting. At the termination of the business a banquet was held at the Clarendon Hotel. The M.W.S. presided, and the proceedings were of a very gratifying and successful character.

### EMULATION LODGE OF IMPROVEMENT.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. JOHN HERVEY, G. SECRETARY.

[The following appeared in our Second Edition of last week.]

The annual festival of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement was held on Friday, 24th ult., at Freemasons' Hall. There was an immense gathering on the occasion, some 600 brethren being present, many of whom were members of the lodge. Bro. John Hervey, Grand Secretary, presided, as W.M. The officers were: Bros. J. C. Parkinson, P.G.D., S.W.; C. A. Murton, P.G.D., J.W.; W. Smallpeice, Secretary; C. C. Dumas, P.A.G.D.C., S.D.; J. A. Rucker, P.G.D., J.D., and R. Gray, P.G.D., I.C. Bro. Thos. Fenn, P.A.G.D.C., was P.M. Among the other brethren were, the Rev. C. J. Martyn P.G.C.; Joshua Nunn, P.G.S.B.; the Earl of Donoughmore, S.G.W.; John Derby Allcroft; Rev. P. H. Ernest Brette, D.D.; the Earl of Limerick, Prov. G.M. Bristol; John Symonds, P.G.D.; F. Pattison, P.G.D.; Capt. Platt, P.G.D. &c. J. McIntyre, G.C., Grand Registrar; R. J. Spiers, P.G.S.B.; S. Rosenthal; Sir Albert W. Woods (Garter), G.D.C.; F. Davison; H. Grissell, P.G.D.; Rev. J. Edmund Cox, D.D.; the Hon. W. Warren Vernon, J.G.W.; T. W. Boord, M.P., G.D.; Colonel Burdett, Prov. G. M. Middlesex; J. B. Monckton, P.G.D.; S. Foxall, A.G.P.; Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C.; Dr. Woodman, P.G.S.B.; S. Rawson, P. Dist. G.M. for China; Dr. Hamilton, Dist. G.M. for Jamaica; Col. Creation, P.G.D.; E. J. Barron, G.D.; Saml. Tomkins, G.Treas.; Dr. Jabez Hogg, P.G.D.; Hyde Pullen, P.G.S.B.; H. J. P. Dumas, P.A.G.D.C.; E. P. Albert, P.G.P.; J. M. Case, P.G.D.; George Kenning, J. C. Bailey (late Editor "Voice of Masonry," Chicago); Capt. Philips, Major Shadwell Clerke, Peter de L. Long, A. H. Diaper, H. Muggeridge, F. D. R. Copestick, W. E. Gompertz, J. L. Thomas, John Boyd, Fredk. Binckes, C. Hutton Gregory, Wm. Scott, E. Moody, Baxter, E. J. Harty, J. Terry, E. M. Haigh, T. S. Carter, R. Freeman, J. Griffiths, P.P.G. Supt. of Works Monmouthshire; Glover, Jonas, J. S. Adam, P.P.G. Deacon Monmouthshire; W. Smith, H. Thompson, H. Greene, J. While, H. Massey ("Freemason"), W. O. Goldsmith ("Freemason").

The following brethren were Stewards of the festival: R.W. Bros. Lieut.-Col. Francis Burdett, Prov. G.M. Middlesex; the Right Hon. the Earl of Donoughmore, S.G.W.; the Hon. Wm. Warren Vernon, J.G.W.; Fredk. Pattison, P.G.W.; John Havers, P.G.W.; Captain Wm. Platt, P.G.W.; Sir Albert Woods (Garter) P.G.W.; V.W. Bros. the Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G. Ch.; Samuel Tomkins, G. Treas.; &c. J. McIntyre, G. Reg.; J. B. Monckton, Pres. B.G.P.; Ernest E. Wendt, G. Sec. G.C.;

Bros. Lieut.-Colonel T. Birchall, S.G.D.; T. W. Boord, M.P., S.G.D.; E. J. Barron, J.G.D.; J. M. Case, J.G.D.; Lieutenant-Colonel J. Creation, P.G.D.; Benjamin Head, F.G.D.; George Plucknett, P.G.D.; E. S. Snell, P.G.D.; Jabez Hogg, P.G.D.; Henry Grissell, P.G.D.; S. L. Tomkins, P.G.D.; J. Cooper Foster, P.G.D.; W. Brackstone Baker, P.G.D.; J. E. Saunders, P.G.D.; C. A. Murton, P.G.D.; H. J. P. Dumas, P.G.D.; F. A. Philbrick, P.G.D.; J. A. Rucker, P.G.D.; J. C. Parkinson, P.G.D.; C. W. Hutton, P.G.D.; T. Fenn, P.G.D.; J. Gibson, Dep. M. 259; R. Grey, P.G.D.; J. Symonds, P.A.G.D.C.; N. Bradford, P.A.G.D.C.; C. C. Dumas, P.A.G.D.C.; J. Whichcord, P.A.G.D.C.; W. F. Nettleship, G.S.B.; R. J. Spiers, P.G.S.B.; Hyde Pullen, P.G.S.B.; J. Nunn, P.G.S.B.; W. R. Woodman, P.G.S.B.; W. R. Bacon, P.M. 222; W. Beattie, S.W. 142; D. Betts, P.M. 1351; C. Birch, W.M. 256; H. Bishop, W.M. 66; J. Clever, P.M. 12; A. G. Cocke, W.M. 22; R. R. Davis, P.M. 256; C. H. Diaper, W.M. 5; A. Durrant, P.M. 1185; Montague Gosset, P.M. 66; J. J. Gosset, P.M. 66; F. Huggings, P.M. 18; J. W. Lambert, S.W. 142; W. S. Lee, 1201; E. Legg, W.M. 861; P. de L. Long, V. Pres. Board of Gen. Purposes; E. March, P.M. Grand Stewards' Lodge; E. Vaughan Morgan, P.M. 69; J. Muzio, S.W. 1150; W. R. Oliver, P.M. 330; A. A. Richards, P.G.S., P.M. 865, P. Prov. G.J.W. Middlesex; F. Robinson, P.M. 259; G. J. Row, P.M. 1185; W. Smallpeice, P.M. 1395; Sec.; G. B. Smallpeice, P.M. 370; J. Verity, W.M. 1348; G. E. Wainwright, P.M. 370; T. W. Whitmarsh, W.M. 1150; Erasmus Wilson, P.G.S.; S. B. Wilson, P.M. 59.

Bro. Parkinson had been opened in the Three Degrees, Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon, was announced. On entering he was received with hearty applause, and Bro. Hervey resigned to him the seat and gavel of W.M.

By direction of Sir Albert Woods the customary salutes were given. After a short pause a magnificent silver inkstand was brought in, and placed on the reporters' table. This inkstand was intended to be presented to Bro. Hervey, who has been 30 years Treasurer of the lodge.

The testimonial consisted of a handsome silver inkstand, mounted in malachite and marble, and was designed expressly for the occasion by Bro. John Gibson, an architect well-known for his taste in decorative art. The execution of the design was by Messrs. Mappin and Webb.

The Earl of Carnarvon, who arrived shortly after the business was commenced, was loudly cheered on taking the chair. He said: Brethren—I think that I owe you perhaps an apology for interrupting, in the very midst of your interesting proceedings, this lodge, but my excuse is twofold. First of all I have extricated myself with extreme difficulty this evening from the trouble of public business, I have with difficulty snatched some ten minutes to find myself here this evening (hear, hear), and my time is so limited that after having accomplished the task which I have undertaken, I shall with great reluctance bid you farewell. And, secondly, I was desirous to be present here this evening from my high personal esteem and regard for you, our Bro. Hervey (cheers), and for the deep interest which I take in the proceedings in this hall (hear, hear). Brethren, we have met together for a doubly interesting purpose, and the great assemblage which you witness is a proof of the feelings which you entertain for our Bro. Hervey. There are few Masons in the Craft who could command such an attendance as that which I witness to-day; there are very few Masons indeed who will not be proud of the honour which such an attendance implies (cheers). Brethren, it has been my fortune to be constantly placed in business relations with your Bro. Hervey. I have known his workmanship; I have known the principles which masonically have guided him in all the advice that he has offered, in all the works that he has done. It is needless for me to say that I entertain the deepest regard for him in these capacities, and let me go further and say that I have known him now long enough to feel not only a respect for him in all our business relations, but a strong personal regard and friendship for him in the more intimate duties which Masonic life has brought about (hear). But, brethren, it is not this evening in his capacity as Grand Secretary that you have met to do him honour, and to present him with that beautiful testimonial which we have all admired. It is in his capacity as the Treasurer of the Lodge of Emulation, an office which he has held now for the almost unexampled period of, I think, some 30 years, 30 years of usefulness, 30 years of devotion to the Craft, 30 years of unblemished credit and high honour amongst his brother Masons. (Cheers.) Brethren, it is in this capacity you have met to honour him; it is in remembrance of these great services that you to-night offer him a tribute in that beautiful memorial. And, brethren, let me say, lastly, that if there be any body of Masons from whom any one may be proud to receive such an honour as this, it is the Lodge of Emulation. It is the pattern of our working—of our Masonic working. It is the motto which it boasts to set to all other parts of the Craft, and he who has held for 30 years high office and honour in that lodge stands upon a different footing from almost any Mason that I know, and the honour which that lodge does him to-night will be amongst his most vivid recollections, to the very last hour of his life. Brethren, beautiful as that testimonial is, I think the honour which this lodge does our Bro. Hervey in thus publicly marking its sense of his high character and abilities, is even a more gratifying and a higher tribute to his worth than that testimonial in silver and gold that is before us. (Hear.) Brethren, this is a time when many testimonials are given to many persons, and with many objects. We all have



experience of them; and sometimes those testimonials are given somewhat indiscriminately. But this testimonial at least is given with the fullest discrimination of character, after the longest trial and ordeal to which a Mason can well be subjected. It is given with the unanimity of the lodge,—the unanimity, I will say, not merely of the lodge, but of all those numberless members outside the lodge who watch the proceedings of the Lodge of Emulation, who respect those proceedings, and who know how high a position the Treasurer of that lodge, who has held office for 30 years, must in the nature of things hold. Brethren, I have been requested to be this evening, even in this informal manner, coming as I do for a short ten minutes among you, the channel of communication between you and our Bro. Hervey. I wish that I could have found words better and worthier for the occasion; but, and our Bro. Hervey will at least feel this, that my words are words of absolute sincerity and truth (Hear, hear, and applause), and that when I present him in your name with that magnificent testimonial of your esteem he will believe me when I say that never was a testimonial given to any Mason who more deserved it than himself, and never was given with a heartier feeling of admiration, of esteem, and of affectionate regard by every single member of the lodge, and outside that lodge by every single member who knows and esteems our Bro. Hervey. (Hear, hear.) Brethren, therefore, in your name, and without further preface, I will venture to place in the hands of our Bro. Hervey—metaphorically, for physically he cannot grasp it—the testimonial by which you desire to record your appreciation of him. (Great cheering.)

Grand Secretary, in acknowledging the gift, said: My lord and brethren, I acknowledge with pleasure to the Stewards who have presented me with the elegant gift which you see on the table, and offer my sincere thanks to the noble lord, the Pro Grand Master, for the too flattering terms in which he has presented it. My lord, I cannot but feel deeply gratified to have received this testimonial through your hands. Much as I esteem the Lodge of Emulation, I do not know any member by whom I could have wished to have had it presented to me more willingly than by your lordship. I can assure you I feel it a very high honour you have done me by coming here for the few minutes you have been able to spare, and I thank you. My lord, I am sure I might also convey the thanks of the lodge for your coming away from those duties which we know absorb your lordship's whole time and anxiety, and from which it is difficult to tear yourself even for the few moments you have come here. The brethren will, I am sure, permit me to limit my speech to a short acknowledgment, and to thank them for the gift, and to thank his lordship for the kind and gracious manner in which he has presented it in the name of this lodge. (Cheers.)

The Pro Grand Master then rose and said: Brethren, as public business scarcely allowed me to come here, so it now claims me a most unwilling victim. But under the circumstances I have no option. I shall reinstate now in this chair our Bro. Hervey. I beg you to believe with how much regret, having accomplished this, to me, most pleasant duty, I now retire, and how sincerely I wish the conclusion to your evening may be in every way worthy of its commencement and worthy of the cause which has brought you together.

His lordship was then conducted out of the lodge amidst the same enthusiastic applause which marked his entry, and the work of the evening proceeded.

The following Sections were worked by Past Grand Officers:—

#### FIRST LECTURE.

4th Section by W. Bro. J. C. Parkinson, P.G.D.  
5th " " " C. A. Murton, P.G.D.  
6th " " " C. C. Dumas, P.A.G.D.C.  
7th " " " J. A. Rucker, P.G.D.

#### SECOND LECTURE.

2nd Section by W. Bro. R. Grey, P.G.D.  
3rd " " " H. J. P. Dumas, P.G.D.  
4th " " " Hyde Pullen, P.G.S.B.  
5th " " " I. Fenn, P.G.D.

When the work had been finished propositions for joining the lodge were taken and the numbers were very large.

The Earl of Limerick afterwards rose, and said he trusted that the brethren and the W.M. would allow him to move a vote of thanks to the brethren who had taken part in the lectures. He must express the great pleasure it had given him to see the lectures so admirably worked. In the Lodge of Emulation good working was looked for, but he had never expected to see such accurate knowledge of the lectures as he had seen that evening.

Col. Burdett seconded the motion, and said he was much gratified by what he had witnessed. He agreed with what the Prov. Grand Master had said, and he would take that opportunity of thanking the brethren who had done the work for their performances that evening.

The motion was put and carried unanimously.

Bro. Hervey said, I thank you, Lord Limerick, Colonel Burdett, and brethren, on behalf of the brethren who have taken part in the work this evening, for your kind appreciation of their exertions. I, as an old Mason, certainly feel proud that the Emulation still keeps up its character in the way it has done, and I think that if brethren imagine for one moment that the Past Grand Officers of England are rather ornamental than useful, they will be agreeably surprised this evening to find that there are so many Past Grand Officers who can still work in the manner the officers have worked this evening. I thank you most sincerely for the compliment you have paid the workers this evening, and I trust that those who are present will go away convinced that the Emulation Lodge

can turn out some good pupils, and that to some extent they do their work properly. (Applause.)

The lodge was thereupon closed in the three degrees, and the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet at Freemasons' Tavern, which was presided over by the Earl of Limerick.

The toasts of "The Queen and Craft" having been duly honoured, the W.M. rose and proposed the next toast, namely, "The Health of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master of England. He said the brethren all knew the interest His Royal Highness took in the Craft, and that he was always ready to be amongst them, unless the pressing exigencies of his high position compelled him to be elsewhere. He might point out in support of the statement that it was only at the beginning of this week that His Royal Highness was taking part in the important duty of installing the Provincial Grand Master of Norfolk. (Hear.) They all joined in the thankfulness at his safe return to his country, and he had no doubt that in a short time the Craft would perpetuate in some substantial form its thankfulness at that return. (Applause.) The W.M. next proposed "The Pro Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master and the rest of the Grand Officers Past and Present." They must all have regretted that the Pro Grand Master could not remain longer with them to-night, at the same time they must be pleased that he should have been present earlier in the evening to perform the duty of presenting the testimonial to their worthy Bro. Hervey. They would also be prepared to recognise the ability with which the D.G.M., Lord Skelmersdale, performed his duties, not only in that office, but as Prov. G. Master of one of the largest provinces in the country. (Hear, hear.) They had also to thank the Pro Grand Master for the position they occupied (cheers) in consequence of the accuracy with which they discharged the important duties they had undertaken. They had also amongst them a brother who was junior of some of the Grand Officers, yet promised to emulate them in zeal and diligence. He alluded to Bro. Lord Donoughmore, S.G.W., whose name he coupled with the toast. (Cheers.)

Bro. Lord Donoughmore, in reply, said he must naturally be very much flattered and gratified at the concluding observations of the last speaker, but he felt it would be more in accordance with the feelings of the brethren if he addressed himself now to the preliminary subjects which had been dealt with. He felt he could say something peculiarly useful upon those points, because he happened to know from personal experience that the regret which had been felt at the inability of the Pro Grand Master to remain longer than he did was a matter of the greatest regret. He had frequently expressed during the past three or four days his regret that the pressure of business would render it impossible to remain longer than to present the testimonial, and it was very gratifying to the Earl of Carnarvon that he had been enabled to do this. The other Grand Officers were ever most efficient, and he had this evening from some of them obtained much valuable instruction. Personally he could only say that he felt very proud that his name had been associated with the toast. (Cheers.)

The Chairman in proposing the toast of the evening, said: Brethren, I have to propose to you, "Success to the Emulation Lodge of Improvement," connected with the name of our Bro. Hervey. (Applause.) I think, brethren, it is impossible to overestimate the influence which the Emulation Lodge has had throughout the Craft. Its influence is felt far and wide in promoting accuracy of ritual, and its name is known not only throughout the United Kingdom but far and wide wherever the name of Masonry is known, and I might also say that hardly less known than the Lodge of Emulation is the name of our Bro. Hervey. (Hear, hear.) It is difficult, brethren, to speak of a brother in his presence; either one says things which appear merely coming from the lip and not from the heart; or else one goes at too great a length into those qualities which we know one possessed, but which, we cannot adequately do justice to in a speech. I will only say this, that I believe that in drinking his health, and coupling with that, success to the Emulation Lodge of Improvement; we drink to the health of the eminent Mason and the noble and true-hearted gentleman. (Applause.)

The toast having been drunk with the greatest enthusiasm,

Bro. Hervey rose to reply. He said: I mentioned to Col. Burdett just now that I thought I must be a very modest man, or I should be altogether spoiled; and I now feel it, my lord, because after the eulogies which the Pro Grand Master was good enough to pass upon me in the lodge, and you, sir, have now endorsed in your speech in proposing "Success to the Emulation Lodge," I feel that associating my name as you have done with it, and in the terms which you have used, are really too flattering and too eulogistic, at any rate, for anybody who is, like myself, a modest man. With regard to the toast you have proposed, "Success to the Emulation Lodge," I am proud always to be associated with that toast, because I believe the Emulation Lodge does good service to the Craft, and it shows, brethren, what is necessary to be done as far as regards the ritual of the Craft; it shows that they must study if they wish to carry out the duties which they have undertaken to perform: and I think no brother ought to undertake duties which he is not prepared to perform. If those duties are not worth studying for, if a brother wishes to bring his lodge to a dead lock, then let him take the office and not perform the duties; but if he wishes to sustain the credit of the Craft, then he ought to study at any rate for the office of which he undertakes to fulfil the duties, so that the Master may not be at fault and that the lodge may not be damaged by his teaching. So I thank you most cordially in the name of the Emulation

Lodge of Improvement for the kind manner in which you have proposed its success. I am sure all those who worked to-night are desirous of rendering all they can to its success; I am sure that there will be no lack on their part to undertake any duties which they might be called upon to perform to support its credit and to increase its renown—according to you, my lord, it is not necessary—but to support it there must be something more done than merely eulogising it as to what it does; and that is done by men who now take the burden of the day—by such men as Bro. Fenn. (Great applause.) I am proud to think you recognize the services Bro. Fenn has rendered to this lodge; I am glad to find by the cheers which just now issued all round the room that these services are appreciated. There is, my lord, another brother, the Secretary (applause), who has carried out duties which are very onerous, because the duties of Secretary to a lodge like this are not performed like the duties of an ordinary lodge; they necessitate attendance on 51 or 52 meetings a year, and they also necessitate a great amount of attention and accuracy in the accounts of the lodge (applause). Now, sir, these are the officers upon whom the credit of the lodge now depends, as to myself I cannot now give that patient attention to the duties of the lodge which I formerly did, but the brethren are kind enough to make allowance for my constant absences, and although I am Treasurer in name, sir, I am not Treasurer in fact. I thank you most cordially for having coupled my name with this toast; I thank you on the part of the lodge for having come here to preside, and I trust many years to come whatever the position of the lodge may be, whether the number of its members be great or small, we shall maintain the same character for work as we now possess.

Bro. Col. Burdett proposed "The Health of the Earl of Limerick," who, he said, took every opportunity of coming amongst the brethren and advancing the interests of the fraternity. He was so often amongst the brethren that they almost knew him personally, and he called upon the brethren to drink to the honour of one who was always ready to lend assistance wherever his services might be required.

Bro. the Earl of Limerick thanked the brethren very heartily for the way they had received the toast. He assured them he esteemed it a very great honour to be present to-night, and see the working of the Emulation Lodge. He regretted that the post he now occupied was not filled by the Pro Grand Master, but he was glad to do anything to join in bearing testimony to the work of Bro. Hervey.

Bro. Tomkins, Grand Treasurer, gave "The Lodge of Union," and said he was sure that nothing would please that lodge more than to observe the prosperity of the Emulation, and to observe the mark of respect which had that day been shown towards an eminent Mason (cheers). He had great pleasure in coupling with the toast the name of Bro. Birch, W.M.

Bro. Birch acknowledged the compliment, and said it was given to but few lodges to have so strong a child as the Lodge of Emulation. (Cheers.)

Bro. Hervey apologised for again addressing the brethren, but he was sure they could all wish "Success to Sister Lodges of Instruction," who, like themselves, were doing the most they could to place the working of the Craft in this great metropolis upon a satisfactory footing, by which means, and by teaching members of the various lodges how to perform their duties, the interest of the Craft must in the result be advanced. (Cheers.)

Bro. Muggeridge replied, and expressed the pleasure he had experienced in witnessing the work to-night, and also at the excellent Masonic feeling which generally existed amongst lodges of instruction. (Cheers.)

The Rev. J. E. Cox, D.D., P.G.C., proposed "Success to the Masonic Institutions." They had heard in the working of the lodge a definition of faith, hope, and charity, and he wished that could be circulated throughout the length and breadth of the world, that those outside the Craft might be able to read, mark, and digest the beautiful precepts which were thereby inculcated. To his mind, if spread abroad they would do more good than many hundred sermons preached Sunday after Sunday, and certainly they would be the means of showing those who were the avowed enemies of the Craft under the pretext of favouring religion, that they knew nothing of the great principles or truths on which the Order was founded. After passing a high eulogy on the Charitable Institutions of the Order the rev. brother concluded by proposing "Success to them."

Bro. Terry replied. He saw congregated around the table that evening some of the most distinguished supporters of the Masonic Charities. As they had had such excellent support he might venture to assert that they deserved as much support as could be extended to them. When he mentioned one fact that during the past year the largest sum that had ever yet been contributed had been raised in support of the three Masonic Institutions, he thought that was evidence sufficient to show that the Craft of the present day were capable of performing their duties. With respect to the Benevolent Institution with which he was more immediately connected he might mention that H.R.H. Prince Leopold, P.G.M. of Oxfordshire, would preside at its festival in February next. (Applause.) On that occasion if any of the brethren or the Grand Officers wished to avail themselves of the privilege and opportunity of accepting the position of Steward, and supporting His Royal Highness, he would advise them to do so. An enormous increase in the Institutions had accrued during the last four or five years, and the large demand made upon their funds justified the brethren in supporting them very liberally.

The Earl of Donoughmore then proposed "The Health of the Brethren who had worked the Sections," expressing the gratification he had felt at what he had witnessed, and

coupled the names of Bro. Parkinson and Bro. Fenn with the toast.

Bro. Parkinson, in reply, said he was very glad to have rendered a service that evening, and that all the working brethren were thankful for the recognition accorded to them. They would always refer with pride and satisfaction to the proceedings of that evening, and they rejoiced that they had the opportunity not only of assisting at that magnificent demonstration, but testifying by their attendance to the personal esteem and regard for the unobtrusive excellences of the Grand Secretary.

The toast of "The Stewards" was then proposed, to which Bro. Smallpeice responded, and the proceedings terminated with the Tyler's toast.

#### LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE OF NEW MASONIC BUILDINGS AT CHACEWATER.

"Boscawen" Lodge (No 669), Chacewater, was constituted just nineteen years ago (1857), and notwithstanding that the staple industry of the locality has greatly depreciated since that time, Masonry has continued to flourish. Indeed, looking at all the circumstances, its progress has been more than one might have reasonably expected, and is therefore an apt and happy illustration of the truth of those lines so well known to Freemasons:—

"Thus, midst the ruin of revolving years,  
Unhurt, unchanged, Freemasonry appears;  
Its towers and monuments may fade away,  
Its truth and social life never shall decay."

As the immediate consequence of the prosperity of the lodge room in which the meetings have hitherto been held has at length been found to be altogether inadequate to the requirements, and in some respects very inconvenient. The lodge is, in fact, the largest in the county, there being 152 members on the roll. The old building was situated at the rear of Bro. Nicholas Paull's "Britannia" Hotel, and in addition to being utilised by the members of the Masonic Craft, was also used by the Oddfellows of the district. Not only was its dimensions too small, but there was another grievance—the Freemasons thought it would be to their advantage to have a room exclusively for themselves. When the building now in course of erection is finished not only will their wishes be realised, but the inhabitants generally will have reason to feel thankful, for the reason that in conjunction with the Masonic room there will be another room which will be let for general purposes—concerts, entertainments, and the like. The dimensions of the structure are 50 feet by 25 feet—ground plan. It will consist of a lobby and the room last referred to on the ground floor, whilst the upper portion will consist of a lavatory, and a room entirely for the use of the Freemasons, which will be 37 feet long and 24 feet wide. The contractors are Messrs. Truran, of Blackwater, and the whole work will be under the supervision of Bro. C. Rapson, W.M., architect.

Monday last was the day appointed to lay the foundation stone, and a large number of brethren were present to witness and take part in the interesting ceremony. Among the members of the lodge present were Bros. C. Rapson, W.M.; Lee, S.W.; Pascoe, J.W.; W. T. Davey, P.M.; G. L. Church, P.M.; Chap; S. G. Moyle, P.M.; J. Ninness, P.M., Treasurer; W. Bray, P.M.; J. Paull, P.M., Secretary; J. Edwards, Assist. Sec; J. Hall, P.M.; S. Michell, P.M.; Holman, P.M.; J. Chegwidden, P.M.; Jackson, S.D.; J. F. Hooper, J.D.; J. H. Hodges; Lean, Tyler; O. Matthews, P.M.; W. G. Jeffrey; C. Chappell; W. Opie; J. Penrose; P. Skewes; W. M. Matthews, and J. Buckingham. Among the visiting brethren were Bros. E. T. Carlyon, P.M., P.G. Sec., J. Tregoning, 331, and T. Michell (Tregullow Lodge). The proceedings commenced with a procession made up in the usual order.

Having arrived on the spot where the building is in course of erection—which is the same as that where the old lodge room stood with the addition of extra ground—the ceremony of laying the foundation stone commenced with Bro G. L. Church invoking the blessing of the Great Architect of the Universe on their labours. The work was then proceeded with, those taking part therein being Bros. Hall, W. T. Davey, J. Holman, S. Moyle (who took the leading part in the ceremony and who, in return for the generous way in which he first acted in order to secure a site for the building, was presented by the W.M. with a silver trowel), Paul, Ninness, and Church. Bro. Hugoe was to have taken part in the proceedings, but was unavoidably prevented from attending through professional engagements. The stone having been declared by Bro. Moyle "to be duly laid," Bro. the Rev. G. L. Church delivered a brief but very impressive address on the principles of Freemasonry. He commenced by referring to its antiquity, and remarked that Masonry could be traced from the erection of the temple by King Solomon. He had not the slightest doubt that it existed anterior to that, as he gathered from a little publication he was then taking in (which contained an account of what was being done in Palestine to find out the foundation stone of Solomon's temple) that already stones had been discovered with Freemasons' marks upon them. There could be no doubt that Freemasonry dated from an early period, and it was, in fact, one of the oldest civil associations of the universe. Coming to its objects the speaker said that primarily Freemasons were made use of simply for the purpose of constructing and making buildings, especially cathedrals, churches, and other places of public meeting. They were then called operative Masons, but they were so useful and valuable as a body that they enrolled themselves under one great charter about 160 or 170 years ago in England and became speculative Masons; that was to say, they ceased to be operative Masons. The principle was pure and holy.

They never opened a lodge without having before them an open Bible, and they dared not admit into their lodges an infidel or atheist. In short, a man must believe in God or he could not become a Freemason. That was their fundamental principle. Then they fostered, enlarged, and taught those great principles, which entered into the heart of man in all civilized states. First they were taught to remember their duty to God, then their duty to their neighbours, and also their duty to themselves. He had said that they never opened their lodge without first opening God's blessed word; he had said next that their next bounden duty was to do to their neighbours as they would have them do unto themselves; and, in the third place, they had a most important duty—their duty to themselves to conduct themselves in such a manner as to be an example to those who were not members of the Craft. Time would not permit of his enlarging upon the blessings of Freemasonry, but he must speak of the one corner stone that was used every day—he meant charity; charity to their own brethren first, and charity to strangers afterwards. He did not think—nay, he would go further—he must say that their was not a civil society in England which did so much for the fatherless and widows as did Freemasons. They had asylums for the aged, schools for the young, and homes for those who stood in need of them. Such, then, being the principles of Freemasonry could they wonder at its being so largely extended? In former days it was a secret society, and they were proud of their secrets. A Mason would not be a Mason if it were not for those secrets. In conclusion, Bro. Church congratulated Bro. Moyle upon having had the honour of laying the foundation stone of the new lodge at Chacewater. They were at present the highest in numbers in the whole province of Cornwall, and he was vain enough to tell them that he had the honour of holding one of the highest offices in the province, for which honour he was indebted to his predecessors and those who had worked to maintain the honour and integrity of that lodge. He hoped that this was the first of many meetings to be held on that spot.

The brethren then adjourned to their quarters (pro tem.) at the "Britannia" Hotel, where a banquet was provided, which was served up in such a manner as to reflect the highest credit on the host, Bro. Paull, who, with his staff, was unremitting in his efforts to secure the comfort of the brethren. The chair was occupied by Bro. C. Rapson, W.M.

The preliminary toasts having been disposed of, the Chairman proposed "The Health of the Earl of Mount Edgumbe (Provincial Grand Master), and the other Officers of the Grand Lodge of Cornwall."

Bro. E. T. Carlyon, whose name had been coupled with the toast, first rose to reply. He observed that he was most highly gratified with what he had seen there that day, and from what he had heard he had no doubt that they would have a nice lodge-room, and one suitable for all their purposes. He felt sure, too, that the Earl of Mount Edgumbe would be highly gratified to hear what had taken place at Chacewater that day, because he knew full well that his lordship took the deepest interest in all that tended to the good of Freemasonry, all that enabled it to develop itself in a healthy manner, and he was quite sure that what they had that day inaugurated would tend materially to that end. (Applause.) He believed they had commenced that day a really good work, and he must say he was also highly gratified to hear the address of his dearly-beloved Bro. Church. He could truly say that he never heard a better address on a similar occasion. (Loud applause.) He never heard, Bro. Church deliver himself so well, and perform an onerous duty so well as he did that day (Hear, hear.) He looked forward with interest to the time when they might come and meet them in their new lodge-room and take part in the ceremony of consecrating the building. Further, he was certain that Lord Mount Edgumbe would come on that occasion with the greatest possible pleasure. (Applause.)

Bro. Church, who had been called upon, also returned thanks, and in the course of an excellent speech, he said that he must admit that he really felt proud of the offices he had held—first as Provincial Grand Chaplain, and then as Senior Grand Warden. This honour was due to the lodge and not to him personally, inasmuch as it was an honour that became him as one of the old members of "Boscawen" Lodge to deserve. They wanted to let everybody outside know that Freemasonry was not an ephemeral or nonsensical institution, but was in fact the oldest in the land, and was attended with the greatest blessings to all connected with it. (Applause.) As he had before remarked that day, it was an institution founded on the principle of God's Word, and therefore its progress was not to be wondered at.

Bro. W. P. Davey gave "The Health of the W.M., Bro. Rapson," whom he warmly eulogised.

Bro. Rapson, in returning thanks, remarked that he was always willing to do his utmost for the benefit of Freemasonry, for the reason that he felt that it was a good and noble institution. Since he was first initiated in that lodge—about ten years ago—he had always made it a practice to attend the meetings if possible, as he was of opinion that the more they were educated in its principles, the more they would appreciate it.

The toast of "The Visitors" was proposed by Bro. John Paull, and responded to by Bros. E. T. Carlyon, Michell, and John Tregoning. The latter observed that it afforded him very great pleasure to be present. There was only one thing he had to regret in Masonry, and that was that he did not become a brother earlier in life.

Bro. Church then gave "The Senior Past Master of the Lodge, Bro. Samuel Moyle," and in doing so the rev. gentleman said that very many years ago Bro. Moyle used his influence to encourage Masonry, and he

had been mainly instrumental in giving them a site on which to erect their lodge-rooms. (Applause.) Bro. Moyle had always been anxious to have a lodge-room, and he (Bro. Church) had not the slightest hesitation in saying that the brethren greatly appreciated the offer, which was one that could not be exceeded in the county of Cornwall; and as he felt sanguine it would be a benefit to the members of the Craft, so he trusted it would be profitable to Bro. Moyle from a pecuniary point of view. (Applause.)

Bro. Moyle, in response, said he felt rather proud when he remembered that he was the first to introduce Freemasonry at Chacewater. That was 19 years ago, and up to the present time 125 members had enrolled themselves. Then, too, he was happy to say he was in a position to provide accommodation for the brethren, and it was still more gratifying to him to know that that day he had laid down the corner stone of a second lodge-room. (Applause.) He trusted that, in passing the building over to Bro. Rapson—who was both skilful and energetic—it would be carried out in a satisfactory manner, agreeable to himself and to the members generally. (Applause.)

Bro. Lee, in suitable terms, proposed "The Building Committee," and

Bro. Church, in returning thanks, expressed a hope that they would pull together harmoniously, and do their utmost to make the temple, they were now erecting an honour to the Craft generally as well as to themselves.

Bro. Ninness said he had always taken the deepest interest in the movement they had in hand, and he sincerely hoped the work would be brought to a satisfactory conclusion. They had had some difficulties placed in the way, but they had been overcome because their hearts were in the matter. They felt determined to succeed if they could, and from what had taken place that day it would seem as if they were to succeed in raising a building suitable for the purposes of the lodge. He took a profound interest in Freemasonry, and would be second to none in the opinion he held of it. Bro. Ninness dilated on its great object—charity, and spoke of the great influence Freemasonry exercised over men's actions. He concluded with some remarks respecting the furnishing of the lodge-room, and mentioned that three or four most important jewels had already been offered.

Bro. Rapson also briefly replied; and one or two other toasts terminated a very pleasant gathering.

#### UNITED GRAND LODGE.

The following is the Agenda of the business of Grand Lodge for Wednesday, 6th December, 1876:—

The minutes of the Quarterly Communication of the 6th September, 1876, for confirmation.

Nomination of a Grand Master for the ensuing year.

Appointment of a President of the Lodge of Benevolence.

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

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

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

A brother of the Lodge of Loyalty, No. 243, Guernsey .....	£50 0 0
A brother of the Royal Navy Lodge, No. 429, Ramsgate .....	50 0 0
A brother of the Athol Lodge, No. 74, Birmingham .....	100 0 3
The widow of a brother of the Worcester Lodge, No. 280, Worcester .....	50 0 0
A brother of the Cleveland Lodge, No. 543, Stokesley .....	50 0 0
The widow of a brother of the Lodge of Unions, No. 256, London .....	100 0 0
A brother of the Globe Lodge, No. 23, London .....	50 0 0

The Report of the Board of General Purposes to the United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England:—

The Board of General Purposes have to report that their attention has been called to several instances of the issue of circulars on the part of proposed new lodges prior to consecration, inviting members of the Craft to become joining members of such lodges.

The Board have the special directions of the Pro Grand Master to make it known that such proceedings meet with his Lordship's entire disapproval, and entail the risk of the withdrawal of the warrant.

(Signed) JOHN B. MONCKTON, President.

To the report is subjoined a statement of the Grand Lodge accounts at the last meeting of the Finance Committee, held on Friday, the 17th day of November instant, showing a balance in the hands of the Grand Treasurer of £4086 15s. 10d., and in the hands of the Grand Secretary for petty cash £75, and for servants' wages £96 15s.

Appeals:—

(1.) Appeal of the Sussex Lodge, No. 354, Kingston, Jamaica, against the judgment of the District Grand Lodge of East Jamaica, directing the lodge to rescind its minute of the 28th of July, 1875, accepting the resignation of Bro. Louis F. Mackinnon until certain charges alleged against him had been inquired into.

(2.) Appeal of the British Lodge, No. 334, Cape Town, against the judgment of the District Grand Lodge of South Africa, directing the installation of Bro. J. W. Atwell as W.M. to be proceeded with immediately on his return to the colony, and that his Mastership should date from the 24th June last.

Notice of motion by Bro. Frederick Binckes, Past G. Steward, P.M. Grand Stewards' Lodge:—

"That this Grand Lodge desires to return its humble and hearty thanks to the Almighty Architect of the

Universe for the safe return to his native land, from his Indian visit, of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Most Worshipful Grand Master, and in memory of that happy event determines to devote the sum of £6000 in the manner following:—

- £2000 to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.
  - £2000 to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.
  - £2000 to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows.
- To be applied in such manner as the Managing Committees of the respective institutions may deem most beneficial to the interest of the institutions, after consultation with the special committee appointed by Grand Lodge at the Quarterly Communication in September last."
- List of Lodges for which warrants have been granted by the M.W. Grand Master since the last Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge:—
- 1639.—Watling Street Lodge, Stony Stratford, Bucks.
  - 1640.—Amatole Lodge, Alice, Victoria East, Cape of Good Hope.
  - 1641.—Crichton Lodge, Camberwell.
  - 1642.—Earl of Carnarvon Lodge, Notting Hill.
  - 1643.—Perseverance Lodge, Hebburn-on-Tyne, Durham.
  - 1644.—Alma-Mater Lodge, Birmingham.
  - 1645.—Colne Valley Lodge, Slaithwaite, Yorkshire.
  - 1646.—Sir Donald McLean Lodge, Raleigh, Taranaki, Zealand.
  - 1647.—Star of the North Lodge, Whangarei, Auckland, New Zealand.
  - 1648.—Prince of Wales Lodge, Bradford, Yorkshire.
  - 1649.—Berar Lodge, Budnaira in Berar, Bombay.
  - 1650.—Rose of Raby Lodge, Staindrop, Durham.
  - 1651.—Lodge of Progress, Southbridge, New Zealand.

### PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND

The Annual General Communication of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Leicestershire and Rutland took place at Freemasons' Hall, Leicester, on Wednesday the 22nd ult., the R.W. Provincial Grand Master, the Right Hon. the Earl Ferrers, presiding, supported by the R.W.P.P.G.M., W. Bro. Kelly, W. Bro. the Rev. W. Langley, P.P.S.G.W., acting as D.P.G.M., and many present and past Provincial Grand Officers, together with representatives from every Lodge in the province. Amongst the visitors were Bros. J. Terry, Sec. R.M.B. Institution, and Richard Allen, P.P.S.G.W., Notts., one of the founders of the John of Gaunt Lodge, Leicester.

The John of Gaunt Lodge having been previously opened, the Provincial Grand Lodge entered, the R.W.P.G.M. being received with the customary honours, and the usual business of Provincial Grand Lodge was transacted.

The reply of the M.W.G.M., the Prince of Wales, to the Provincial Grand Master, officers, and brethren of this province, thanking them for their address of welcome, and for their congratulations on His Royal Highness's safe return from India, was read.

A very favourable Report of the Committee of General Purposes, on the condition of the Provincial Funds, the state of Masonry in the province, and the increase in the number of members during the past year, was presented, after which the proposed bye-laws for the establishment of a Provincial Benevolent Fund, and the formation of a Charity Committee; and certain amendments of existing Provincial Bye-laws, proposed at the previous meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge, were read and confirmed.

Bro. W. Beaumont Smith, P.M., was unanimously re-elected to the office of Provincial Grand Treasurer, a post which he has most ably filled for several years past.

The investment by the R.W. Prov. Grand Master, of his Provincial Grand Officers for the ensuing year then took place.

A further sum was transferred from the General Fund of Provincial Grand Lodge as a foundation for the intended Provincial Benevolent Fund.

Adopting a recommendation of the Committee of General Purposes, it was resolved that the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys should be the Charity to receive the special support of the province during the ensuing year, and Bro. S. S. Partridge was appointed to represent the Provincial Grand Lodge at the next Boys' School Festival, the sum of ten guineas being at the same time voted as a donation to the Charity.

Apologies for absence from the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Sir H. St. John Holford, who was in Scotland, and from several other Provincial Grand Officers, having been read, the Provincial Grand Lodge was closed in due form,

and the proceedings terminated with a banquet, at which the R.W. Provincial Grand Master presided.

### ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The General Committee of Subscribers to this Institution met on Thursday afternoon at the Library, Freemasons' Hall, Bro. Thos. W. White in the chair. There were likewise present Bros. F. Adlard, H. Potter, Major Finney, H. G. Warren, H. Browse, H. Massey ("Freemason"), A. H. Tattershall, Jesse Turner, F. G. Baker, Lieut.-Col. Peters, Robt. B. Webster, Thos. Massa, and R. W. Little, Sec.

There was a long list of minutes of committees, held between the last meeting of the General Committee and the present, read, consisting of the House and Audit Committees, and the Special and Building Committees, and the Court as to the office of Collector.

One petition for the purchase of a child into the school was rejected, the stepfather, who petitioned, and the mother being in a position to support the child. A sister of this girl is already in the school by election.

Seven petitions were received and passed.

The report of the Special Committee on the duties and office of Collector to the Institution was read by the Secretary and received. The Committee confirmed the report, and appointed the Junior Clerk's salary at £50 in accordance with the recommendation in the report.

Notice of motion was given for raising the Senior Clerk's salary to £140 a year, and fixing the Junior Clerk's at £50.

Bro. H. G. Warren suggested an increase in the amount of the securities, on account of the very large increase in the amount of subscriptions.

This was supported by Bro. Jessie Turner and several brethren, and a discussion thereupon ensued.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the proceedings.

### LONDON MASONIC CLUB COMPANY (LIMITED).

A Meeting of the Shareholders was held on the 29th November 1876, at the London Masonic Club, Queen Victoria Street, Bro. T. J. Smith, the Chairman of the Board of Directors, presiding.

The Secretary having read the notice convening the meeting.

The Chairman then proposed the adoption of the Report and Balance Sheet. The Report stated that "After very considerable difficulty the Directors succeeded in obtaining premises at No. 101, Queen Victoria Street, which, being in course of erection, could be completed in a manner to adapt them for the purposes of a Club."

"The Club was opened on the 26th July last under the presidency of the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, and from that time to this it has been well attended, and its comforts appreciated by its Members."

"The Directors in the first instance allotted only such a number of shares as in their opinion would be sufficient to test the willingness of their brother Masons to support a Masonic Club in London, but having met with so much encouragement and support from the Freemasons in London and the Provinces, they felt quite justified in extending their operations, and in trusting to their Masonic brethren to subscribe for any further shares which it might become desirable to issue."

"The Directors now contemplate a further issue of 1,000 shares to enable them to clear off outstanding liabilities."

"Since the Balance Sheet has been made out, the Directors and a few of the Members of the Club have subscribed for 250 shares, and it is anticipated that before long the remaining shares will be taken up by the Members."

"The present income of the Club from subscriptions and profits upon provisions, is at the rate of £2,485 4s. per annum, and if the subscriptions increase as they have done during the last six weeks, there will be an additional income of £1,250 by the 30th of next September, which without allowing for any increase on the profits from the sale of provisions, will yield an annual sum of £3,735 4s. The working expenses of the Club including servants wages, rent, taxes, coal, gas, &c., are estimated to amount to £3,000 per annum—thus leaving a sum of £735 4s. profit, which would be sufficient to pay 7½ per cent. on the whole of the required capital, and leave a surplus for a Reserve Fund."

After the usual vote of thanks to the Chairman, the meeting closed.

A report of the benefit of the Printers' Dramatic Pension Fund has lately been issued by the Committee of Management, which shews a very successful termination of their labours. It appears that after paying all expenses, there is a clear balance of £100. The success obtained was mainly owing to the untiring and invaluable exertions of Bro. George J. Dawson,

### CHARLES HARBORD, BARON SUFFIELD.

This nobleman, who has just been installed as Grand Master of the Freemasons of the Province of Norfolk, is a son of the third Baron Suffield, the title having been created in 1786. He was born at Gunton Park, Norfolk, in 1830, and married in 1854 the daughter of the late Henry Baring, Esq. (in 1873 Lady Suffield was appointed a lady of the bedchamber to the Princess of Wales), and succeeded to the title on the death of his half-brother in 1853. He formerly held a commission in the 7th Dragoons, but retired in 1852, and is now Lieutenant-Colonel 13th Norfolk Rifle Volunteers, and Lieutenant-Colonel of the Norfolk Artillery Militia. He is a Deputy-Lieutenant of the county of Norfolk, was a Lord in Waiting to Her Majesty the Queen from 1868 to 1872, and is now Lord of the Bedchamber to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. His lordship's heir is his eldest son, Charles, who was born in June, 1855, and is a Lieutenant in the Scots Fusilier Guards. The first peer, who represented Norwich in Parliament for some years, was son of Sir William Mordey, Bart., K.B., who in 1842 relinquished his paternal surname for that of his maternal grandfather, Harbord.—"Graphic."

### Masonic and General Tidings.

The Winter Half-yearly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales will be held on Tuesday next at Freemasons' Tavern, Great-Queen-street. Grand Lodge will be opened at 5 p.m., the banquet to be provided at 7 o'clock.

The Lord Chancellor has ordered that the County Courts are to be closed on Dec. 26 and 27.

The William Preston Lodge of Instruction, No. 766, (the sanction for which was unanimously granted a short time back), meets every Friday evening, at eight o'clock, at the Feathers Tavern, Upper George-street, Edgware-road.

THE FREEMASONS' TAVERN.—The management of this well-known establishment, in Great Queen-street, has, within the past few weeks, changed hands, and promise, under the present spirited and liberal directorship, not only to hold its own, but largely extend the field of operation. We note, apart from its Masonic gatherings, four hundred members and friends of the Licensed Victuallers' Protection Society, assembled on Wednesday, and upwards of five hundred of the Scottish Corporation, under the Chairmanship of the Marquis of Hartington, R.W. Provincial Grand Master for Derbyshire, availed themselves, on Thursday, of the admirable accommodation the Freemasons' Tavern affords. Under the able management of Bro. E. Dawkins, the comfort and convenience of visitors and brethren will receive the attention that justifies the fullest confidence.

Sermons were preached on Sunday last on behalf of the Poor Clergy Relief Corporation, in the Parish Church, Streatham, that in the morning by Bro. the Rev. Dr. Cox, and in the afternoon by Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, Past Grand Chaplains.

An express train conveying a large number of brethren from Manchester, to attend the Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons, meeting at Gainsborough, on Wednesday last, while passing through Worksop, at the rate of 50 miles an hour, the crank of the engine broke, and, after going a short distance, some of the wheels left the line, but, most fortunately, the pitching stones at the crossing where this took place turned the engine again on to the line, and it ran as far as Norton-wood, a distance of two miles. Another engine from Worksop took the passengers to their destination. The line was blocked for several hours before the break-down gang from Retford could remove the disabled engine.

Bros. B. Head and W. Pass have consented to act as trustees of the fund now being raised for T. J. Mace.

The next meeting of the United Strength Lodge, No. 228, will be held on Tuesday, the 12th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street. After this meeting, the lodge will be held regularly at the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street.

A Grand Evening Concert will be given on Thursday week, the 14th inst., at the Bow and Bromley Institute, in aid of the three Masonic Charitable Institutions. The concert, it is announced, will be under the immediate patronage of the three Secretaries, Bros. F. Binckes, R. Wentworth Little and Terry. Several acknowledged eminent artists have promised to appear.

Subscriptions are invited towards a fund which is being raised to enable an old Masonic pupil to enter Holy Orders. He was silver medalist and Maybury prizeman of the Boys' School, and after leaving studied at King's College for three years, gaining several first-class certificates and the College prize for Divinity, and was elected an associate of that college.

MARK MASONRY.—A lodge of Mark Masons will shortly be opened in Chester.

Bro. Colonel Stillwell has resigned the command of the First City of London Engineers, an office held by him for many years.

We ("Whitehall Review") are informed that Lord Charles Beresford has no intention of retiring from the representation of Waterford, despite all that has been said to the contrary.

Tuesdays "Gazette" announces that her Majesty in Council has been pleased to declare the Most Noble John Winston, Duke of Marlborough, Lieutenant-General and General-Governor of that part of the United Kingdom called Ireland.



## THE CONGRESS OF LAUSANNE.

REPORT BY THE GRAND COLLEGE OF RITES TO THE COUNCIL OF THE ORDER UPON THE LAUSANNE CONGRESS.

Translated from the last Bulletin of the Grand Orient of France by Dr. J. T. LOTH, Representative of the Grand Orient of France at the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

Very dear Brethren,

At your meeting of 11th December, 1875, you sent the memorandum, published by the Supreme Council of the Scottish Rite, under No. 45 (3rd quarter of 1875), for examination by the Grand College of Rites.

That collection contains the treaty of union, alliance and confederation of the Supreme Councils of the Scottish Rite, assembled to the number of eleven in a Congress at Lausanne, on the 6th September, 1875.

The 18th article of this document, to which the Council of the Order specially calls the attention of the Grand College, regulates the relations existing between the Supreme Councils on the one hand, and the various Masonic bodies and brethren subject to other authorities on the other.

It runs thus:—

Art 18.—1. The confederate Supreme Councils are empowered, after due declaration made, to continue friendly relations with certain Masonic bodies, even though these be not regularly recognised, provided they have been established prior to the present convention.

2. This understanding between a Confederate Supreme Council and other Masonic bodies established within its jurisdiction, is in no wise binding on the other members of the Confederation.

3. All Masonic bodies foreign to the Scottish Institution, not recognising the Supreme Council of their country, are not admitted to relations of any kind with the Confederate Supreme Councils.

4. Degrees similar to those of the Scottish Institution, above the Master's grade, conferred by a local Masonic body, are not recognised by the Confederate Supreme Councils. Consequently brethren dependent upon another Masonic power are only admitted into Scotch lodges up to and inclusive of the grade of Master, and only within the limit of jurisdiction of each of the Confederate Supreme Councils.

5. Masons belonging to bodies not regularly recognised can only enjoy the privileges reserved for members forming part of the confederation by placing themselves under the authority of the Scotch Supreme Council, constituted for the territory wherein they are settled, and by obtaining due recognition of their Masonic title from the Third Degree upwards.

Thus you see, very dear brethren, not only is the Grand Orient of France denied the right to confer the high degrees of Scottish Masonry, and its Masons the legitimacy of their possession of these degrees, but besides this limits are traced beyond which even their Master's degree may be disputed, and that, forsooth, if it is agreed to maintain friendly relations with the Grand Orient, always, however, after declaration previously made, care is taken to stipulate that other members of the confederation are in no wise committed thereto.

We are shocked by such aggression, and may well ask, on reading the resolutions of the Lausanne Congress—which is the greater—the ignorance, from a historic point of view, displayed by the movers or the unbrotherly spirit that inspired those resolutions?

Perhaps, brethren, it would be becoming in the Grand Orient of France, strong in its right, to reply to this manifesto of the Lausanne Congress simply by a disdainful silence. But we cannot hide from ourselves that the resolutions brought forward, and which have been published and made known to Freemasonry at large, have excited our lodges and our Masons, who see in them an infringement of their rights, and look to you for measures of protection. On the other hand it must indeed be acknowledged that present Masonic generations, too indifferent to our history, have not perhaps a sufficiently exact notion of the origin and affiliation of the Scottish Rite, and might allow themselves to be assailed by doubt in presence of the bold affirmations of the Lausanne Congress. It is, therefore, of importance to reduce to their just value the pretensions of the Confederate Supreme Councils, and with this object the Grand College of Rites asks your authority to publish the historical abstract annexed to this report, and for which we are indebted to one of its members, Bro. Brémont. That publication will, we hope, suffice to show how little foundation there is for the claim advanced by the Supreme Council of France to the exclusive possession of the Scottish Rite in France.

The mission entrusted to us by the Council of the Order would be imperfectly fulfilled were we to limit ourselves to the publication of that document, and we deem it not out of place here to recall to mind the state of affairs in France, from a Masonic point of view, prior to the appearance of the Lausanne Congress manifesto. To this end it is advisable to sum up the organisation of the Grand Orient of France. Art. 2 of its General Statutes prescribes:—

"Masonry comprehends lodge meetings of different degrees, under the denominations of lodges, chapters, and councils. The Central Power has, moreover, a superior lodge meeting, which under the title of Grand College of Rites, Supreme Council for France and the French possessions, has alone the right of initiating to the highest degrees of Masonry."

In accordance with the terms of this article and the universality of our legislation, the lodges of the Grand Orient confer the three First Degrees (App., Comp., and Master); the chapters confer the grades of Capitulary (Chapter) Masonry, from the 4th to the 18th Degrees (Rose Croix); the councils confer the philosophic grades, from the 19th to the 30th Degrees (Kn., Kad.); finally, the

Grand College of Rites initiates to the 31st, 32nd, and 33rd and last degree of Scottish Masonry.

On its side, the Supreme Council of France practises the same rite, possesses lodges of identical degrees; and Masons dependent on both powers have between themselves cordial and fraternal relations conformable, in all respects, to the principles of Freemasonry. Thrown in this midst, Art. 18 of the Lausanne treaty tends to disturb it and to upset everything by attacking at one and the same time the rights of the Grand Orient of France, which would thus be pointed out as an usurper of the Scottish Rite; the propriety of its philosophical and chapter lodges; and finally the legitimacy of the titles of Masons dependent on it. We know not whether the Supreme Council of France, while participating in this treaty, and perhaps calling it into existence, has well understood all its gravity; but we regret that it has not hesitated to revive a quarrel which might have been considered as extinct, and which can in no way serve the interests of Freemasonry. However, this we do know, that some among its most authoritative members deplore, in common with us, this unseasonable attack, and heartily wish for conciliation and peace.

Perhaps, after all, we need not too much complain, but should even congratulate ourselves upon the possible solution, once and for all, of this vexed question of Scottish Masonry, which ever and anon recurs to bring disunion among men who ought only to be animated by the same Masonic sentiments. It was incumbent on the Grand College of Rites to inquire into the motives and object which determined the Confederate Supreme Councils to vote resolutions so little in harmony with historical facts, and so contrary to the spirit of fraternity.

These motives are plainly set forth in the text of the above-mentioned article; they consist of the Supreme Council's claim to priority in possession of the high degrees in France; claims which the Grand Orient, history in hand, has several times made good. As for the object, it is not less clearly defined in the official circular accompanying the treaty in question.

We read in this document (page 13 of the Memorandum): "We are convinced that the Supreme Councils now represented at Lausanne will adhere to the treaty of confederation; under these conditions Scottish Masonry, freely obeying one only law, and so to speak one only will, becomes an immense power."

"It alone, perhaps, is at this day in a position, by its universal organisation, to struggle advantageously against the anti-liberal spirit which menaces the legitimate conquests of modern society. An approaching convention will hold its sittings at Rome in 1878. It will certainly bring together the delegates of all the regular Supreme Councils; and should there, at that time, still exist differences of opinion, details to be settled between the Scottish powers, that convention will generalise the intimate union."

Now let us examine the consequences of these data. Up to this day Masonic dependencies have had, together with aspirations in common, an essential character of national institutions; each was justly jealous and proud of them. None had dreamt of separating the Masonic idea from the patriotic; not one of them had wished to accept laws and regulations promulgated on foreign soil; their mutual relations, though based on a communion of brotherly sentiments, were limited to a reciprocal acknowledgment of regular Masonic powers, affirmed by the interchange of accredited representatives in the name of bonds of amity by the interchange of friendly and fraternal correspondence.

Such national doctrine is affirmed by the Grand Orient of France, which, declaring itself to be French before all, has inscribed in its Constitution, Art. 2:—Freemasonry reminds all its adepts that one of their first duties, as Masons and as citizens, is to respect the laws of the country in which they dwell. The Grand Orient draws up or modifies its regulations, free from all care and untrammelled by outside pressure, and without any other pre-occupation than that of respecting the civil and political laws of its own country. On the soil of France it only recognizes as Masonic laws laws thus freely voted by the representatives of its lodges; it could not accept as such those elaborated and decreed in other lands by delegates of foreign dependencies, and which, if not to-day, perchance to-morrow, will be in contradiction with its tradition and its fundamental law.

Well now! for this eminently national doctrine the representatives of the Supreme Councils at the Congress of Lausanne appear desirous of substituting a cosmopolitan Masonic parliament, composed of delegates from different nations, voting, by a majority, laws which French Masons would be held to obey.

It is sought, in other words, to subject all dependencies to one uniform law, to a will which would thus have at its service an immense power. We are not inventing, we quote. Is that not simply, very dear brethren, the doctrine of the Jesuits which it is sought to impose upon French Freemasonry? Does not that mean the creation of a kind of Masonic pontificate, the head whereof is not yet named, but who would belong, perhaps, to a foreign nation, having its ideas, its sentiments, and who would defend its character, opinions, and interests, political or otherwise, and to whom all the Masonic groups of the globe should owe obedience, under pain of excommunication. The Grand Orient of France is too proud of its independence, too careful of its dignity, too full of respect for true Masonic principles, too faithful, in short, to the sentiments of fraternity, to follow the Confederate Supreme Councils in that path. Already, you have seen, they fulminate interdicts from which the Masons of the Grand Orient of France especially will only be released by making the amende honorable to the Masonic Papacy dreamed of by the delegates of the Lausanne Congress; for, indeed, it is nothing but a dream, that strange combination of a

few Masons, misguided by we know not what pre-occupations, which, moreover, we shall not be the first to disavow. In fact, several Supreme Councils, among those even who formed, or who were called to form, part of the Lausanne Congress, have made serious reservations with regard to the resolutions passed by that Congress.

We only mention these facts to show the value and importance of this pompously-styled Congress of Lausanne, and we think that this attempt at confiscating the high degrees, and this experiment of diverting Masonry from its proper channel by turning it aside from its objects for the purpose of leading it towards perilous destinies, ought to be pointed out by the Grand Orient of France to all the Masonic powers of the world, as sources of trouble and discredit to our great family. Silence, moreover, in such a case would be tantamount to the acceptance of an accomplished fact—namely forfeiture.

Such are the general considerations suggested to the Grand College of Rites by the question you have submitted to its examination. If, then, it were allowed, the Grand College, after having demonstrated the grievous effects of the Lausanne treaty, and established truth in this question of Scottish Masonry, to clothe its opinion in the garb of a proposition, we would propose for the decision of the Council of the Order:—

1. That all official relations shall cease between the Grand Orient of France and the Supreme Councils persisting in the resolutions passed at Lausanne.

2. That, in particular, all relations between the Grand Orient of France and the Supreme Council of France, as well as between their respective lodges, do cease from this day, and shall continue so to cease until the said Supreme Council make authentic declaration that, so far as it is concerned, the resolutions passed at the Lausanne Congress do not apply to the Grand Orient of France, acknowledging the latter to be in legitimate possession of the Scottish Rite, and the consequent right of conferring its degrees from the 1st up to and inclusive of the 33rd.

3. That, this notwithstanding, Masons of our dependency remain free to frequent the lodges of the Supreme Council. That our lodges of all degrees be authorised, and, where needful, invited fraternally to receive Masons of the Supreme Council, official relations alone being prohibited between the lodges of both dependencies. That those of our brethren who may find the degrees they hold disputed by a lodge of the Supreme Council of France, or who may be only admitted thereto upon sufferance, shall give information of same to the Grand Orient of France, when the matter shall be taken into due consideration. The Grand Orient of France, whilst maintaining its priority in possession of the Scottish Rite, does not dispute the Supreme Council's right to confer the degrees thereof; it accepts this Masonic power as a de facto government, and we shall not be contradicted when we say, that a fraternal hand has always been stretched to it. For many years these two Masonic powers lived at peace, devoting themselves, in their respective spheres, to the propagation of the principles of our institution. Why should this accord, which made the force of Masonry in France, be thus disturbed by vain questions of rites and degrees? But perhaps this conflict, afflicting, yet unsought by us, will result in a solution of a nature to satisfy all minds, and which will revive harmony between men whose all absorbing care in these days, and in face of the attacks directed against Freemasonry, should be to unite their efforts with the view of increasing its prosperity. Such is, we feel convinced, the sincere desire of all French Masons, and particularly of the Grand College of Rites, which body is full of confidence in the measures to be taken by the Council of the Order for the attainment of that object.

[A summary of this appeared in the "Masonic Magazine" for November. A translation of the "History of Freemasonry in France" also appears in the November, December, and January numbers.—ED.]

## CONSECRATION OF THE KENNARD CHAPTER AT PONTYPOOL.

On Monday, 13th November, the Kennard Chapter was consecrated at Pontypool. The ceremony was most ably performed by Captain S. G. Homfray, P.G. Standard Bearer of England and P.G.H. of Monmouthshire, assisted by Bros. L. A. Homfray, P.Z. and P. Prov. J. of Monmouthshire, as H., and Captain A. T. Perkins, H. of Avalon Chapter, Wells, and P.G.S.B. of Monmouthshire, as J. The attendance was very good. Comp. Captain Homfray afterwards installed Comp. H. Griffiths as M.E.Z., and Comp. Waite as J., but in consequence of the illness of Comp. Lloyd, his installation as H. was deferred to the next meeting. Over a dozen members were proposed for exaltation, and the chapter was closed in harmony. The companions afterwards adjourned to a banquet at the Crown Hotel, and spent a very pleasant evening.

The "Graphic" of last week might well be termed a Masonic number, containing, as it did, a full page illustration of the Installation of Lord Suffield by H.R.H., the M.W.G.M., a portrait of the former and an engraving of the third figure of the Knights Templar Lancers at the Masonic ball at Cambridge. It also gave a biography of Lord Suffield, which we copy in another column.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Much watchfulness must be exercised as winter advances and the earliest evidences of ill-health must be immediately checked and removed, or a slight illness may result in a serious malady. Relaxed and sore throat, Diphtheria, Quinsy, Throat Cough, Chronic Cough, Bronchitis, and most other pulmonary affections will be relieved by rubbing this cooling Ointment into the skin as near as practicable to the seat of the mischief. This treatment so simple and effective is admirably adapted for the removal of these diseases during infancy and youth. Old Asthmatic Invalids will derive marvellous relief from the use of Holloway's remedies, which have brought round many sufferers and re-established health after every other means had signally failed.—ADV.

## 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.

## REMITTANCES RECEIVED.

	£	s.	d.
Austen, A. E., The Cape (P.O.O.)	2	9	6
Austin, W. W., Indiana (P.O.O.)	1	17	4
Collins, B., India (Cheque)	1	0	0
Davey, H., San Francisco (P.O.O.)	2	2	0
Firmin, W. R., Victoria (P.O.O.)	0	7	6
Jones, F., New York (Draft)	5	7	6
Peacock, J. R., California, (P.O.O.)	1	4	3
Sly, F., Victoria (P.O.O.)	1	0	0
Smith, D., Africa (P.O.O.)	1	4	0

## TO OUR READERS.

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

## NEW POSTAL RATES.

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

## 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.

ADVERTISEMENTS should reach the Office, 198 Fleet Street, London, not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday, to insure insertion in the following Saturday's number. The Rates for Advertisements may be had on application at the Office.

## Answers to Correspondents.

In answer to "Cape of Good Hope" we would say:—  
1. On the right of the W.M., though there is no fixed rule. In G. Lodge the G. Chaplain sits on the left of the G.M.  
2. The question has been answered by the G.S. It is a matter for the lodge bye-laws. 3. We think not. 4. We doubt the possibility of any such bye-law being enforced. No one can be compelled to vote.

P.M.—We know of none of any official authority or value.

The following stand over:—Reports of lodges 209, 379, 425, 477, 1069, 1196, 1386, 1502, 1531, 1536, 1597; Lodges of Instruction, 579, Victoria Metropolitan, Leopold. Southwark, Upper Norwood, Carnarvon (Havant); Chapters 340, 862, 446; Mark Lodge 109; Scotch lodges, 0, 34, 73, 175, 195, 307, 317, 347, 371. Provincial Grand Mark Lodge of Devon.

"Admission of Candidates" and Bro. Thomson's letter in our next.

## Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

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

## BIRTHS

BRITTON.—On the 24th ult., at 21, Wingate-road, Hammersmith, the wife of A. T. Britton, Esq., of a daughter.

DAVIS.—On the 1st ult., at Shahjahanpur, India, the wife of Dr. J. N. Davis, of a daughter.

JACKSON.—On the 13th ult., at Lancaster, the wife of Bro. T. Jackson, of a son.

LEVY.—On the 22nd ult., at Commercial-road East, the wife of L. Levy, of a son.

MAUDSLAY.—On the 27th ult., at Upton Grove, Tetbury, the wife of H. C. Maudslay, of a son.

## MARRIAGES.

PARSONS—CAMPBELL.—On Sept. 27, at Christchurch, N.Z. Frederick James, son of the late Commander W. Parsons, R.N., of Parkstone, Dorsetshire, to Elizabeth Helen daughter of the late J. Campbell, Esq.

## DEATHS.

HAYWOOD.—On the 25th ult., George Haywood, of Derby, aged 45.

MELLON.—On the 25th ult., Bro. Henry Mellon, after great suffering.

MORPHEW.—On the 22nd ult., at King-street, Covent Garden, Lucinda Ann, wife of Bro. W. T. Morphey, aged 42.

PAGET.—On the 27th ult., at Aldersgate-street, Thomas Paget, aged 34.

VARLEY.—On the 21st ult., at Aldershot, Staff-Veterinary Surgeon William Varley, aged 45.

WILLIAMS.—On the 26th ult., at Wrexham, George Harvey Williams, M.D., aged 57.

WILLIS.—On the 28th ult., at Chichester-terrace, Brighton, Henry Willis, Esq., aged 67.

WYLIE.—On the 27th ult., Bro. Thomas Wylie, P.P.G.R. West Lancashire, at the Hermitage, Southport.

## The Freemason.

SATURDAY, DEC. 2, 1876.

## PRINCE LEOPOLD IN WILTSHIRE.

Our brethren will have read with pleasure the account of our Royal brother's visit to the Provincial Grand Lodge of Wiltshire, under its noble and worthy chief, Lord Methuen, and his able and genial address will have gratified the Craft in general as much as it did the brethren of Wiltshire in particular. It is very agreeable to all loyal Freemasons to note how the members of our Royal Family are "not ashamed" to call us "brethren," to take part in our assemblies, and, in the words of our old song, do not disdain "our mysteries to put a good grace on." May this happy state of things long continue, and be the "decus columenque" of English Freemasonry. We hope our exalted brethren will believe that they do not and cannot give us more pleasure in coming among us, sympathizing with our labours, and sharing in our social gatherings, than we do in seeing them in the midst of our loyal assemblies. We receive them, and ever shall receive them, with that becoming pride and gratification which are, so to say, innate in the bosom of every faithful Craftsman.

## THE EMULATION FESTIVAL.

The Annual Festival of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, which was held in the Grand Lodge Hall on Friday week, was presided over by the M.W. Pro G. Master, the Earl of Carnarvon, supported by the Earl of Limerick, the Earl of Donoughmore, forty of the most distinguished Grand Officers, present and past, and nearly 600 members of the Craft. One of the most interesting features connected with the meeting was the presentation of a silver inkstand to our worthy and distinguished G. Secretary, who has acted as Treasurer of the Emulation Lodge for 30 years. The admirable remarks of Lord Carnarvon, cheered as they were by the large assemblage, must have been peculiarly gratifying to Bro. Hervey, and we will add, that there is no brother in our Order who more truly deserves the regard and attachment and respect of all who know him. The sections were worked by eight Past Grand Officers, who were in past years active members of the lodge, and it was universally admitted that on no former occasion was the work so correctly and so admirably delivered. The sanction and support thus given to this celebrated lodge of improvement by the Pro Grand Master and other leading members of Grand Lodge undoubtedly places it at the head of all Lodges of Instruction, and goes far to authorize its mode of working as the model which should be universally adopted. This distinguished lodge has for some years—under the highest patronage—been extending its influence, and we trust it may ultimately be the means of establishing a uniformity of working throughout the Craft. We say all this, not dogmatically, as we are quite aware that a good deal may be said on archaeological grounds for the existence of slight discrepancies of independent rituals, and we by no means forget the services of instructors like our Bro. Mugeridge, who vary a little from the admirable system of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement. But we feel warranted in asserting that the Emulation working may well be adopted now as the general expression of the ritual and ceremonial of our English Craft.

## FREEMASONRY IN BELGIUM.

In consequence of the statement in the "*Unita Cattolica*," that in Belgium all acknowledgment of belief in the G.A.O.T.U. has been already officially suppressed and erased from the Constitution, we have taken means to ascertain the facts of the case, as we think the sooner we know the exact state of things the better. We are enabled to state that though it is true that some lodges by majorities have determined to commit

this act of suicidal folly, all the lodges have not yet made their return, and the Grand Orient of Belgium has not yet, therefore, come to an official decision on the subject.

## ANOTHER RELIGIOUS MASONIC PERSECUTION.

"Le Messenger d'Athenes" tells us in a recent number that a certain Mr. Arsène Pandis, a priest at Corfu, was about to commence a polemical warfare against the Corfiote and Greek Masons, first of all by publishing in the Greek language Mgr. Dupanloup's famous "*Etude*." The editor does not say whether this tolerant priest is a member of the Greek or the Roman Church. We presume the former, and if so we shall deeply regret to learn that this rage of fanaticism is extending amongst that otherwise tolerant body, the orthodox Greek Church. Let us hope that Mr. Arsène Pandis will be more happily advised, and prove once again in the history of man that "second thoughts are best."

## THE LAST LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

At the last meeting of this important organization of our Order, and which was very numerously attended, various grants of £175 were confirmed, as will be seen by our special report, and new grants were made to the amount of £554. There were 32 cases on the list, two of which were dismissed, or rather one was deferred, and the other dismissed. We shall recur to this report in our next, as the subject, for many reasons, is becoming one which deserves the anxious consideration of the Craft.

## THE LONDON CABMEN.

A very important portion of our Metropolitan community is that which is represented by the London Cabmen. When we remember the extent of locomotion, and the number of passengers, ministered to by our friend "Cabbie," we shall all feel, not only how much our comfort as a community depends on this influential section of our great aggregation, but how important it is for the safety and security of society and property that our licensed cabmen should be alike respectable, sober, and law-observing. Now without saying to-day that no improvement is needed in the cab-life and cab condition of London, for that would be a mistaken optimism, we think it may be affirmed that matters are gradually improving in all that pertains to the cab system, and that we may hope ere long to see among us still more decided symptoms of permanent amelioration. The Chief Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, Col. Henderson, C.B., addressed a crowded meeting of Cabmen and their wives at the fourth anniversary of the London Cabmen's Mission, on Monday, 20th ult., and we take the following interesting extract from the "*Times*" of his speech, which we think is alike deserving of note and comment, and is suggestive, in our humble opinion, of many most welcome and gratifying considerations: "Colonel Henderson, C.B., speaking on Monday night, at the fourth anniversary of the London Cabmen's Mission, to a crowded audience of Cabmen and their wives, said he hoped the change which had lately been made in their licences in order to save them trouble would be duly appreciated. Six hundred notices of renewal of licences had been up to the present time dispatched to cabmen, and 90 per cent. of those were upon clear licences. With respect to the sobriety of cabmen, he said that, though drunkenness among the body was not on the increase, still, it was not on the decrease, as there were 13,000 cases of drunkenness last year; but he hoped before long to see such a long list greatly diminished, as there was undoubtedly a steady and gradual improvement among the men. With regard to the cabs themselves, he would just mention what an eminent French engineer said who came over to this country to report upon the comparative merits of the railways of France and England. That gentleman said that the Metropolitan Railway of London was as superior to anything of the same kind in France



as was the English Hansom cab to vehicles which were used for a similar purpose in his country. Although they had received such high commendation, yet, nevertheless, 3500 cabs were condemned last year. There was one point to which he wished to draw particular attention, and that was the marvellous improvement which had occurred in the return of lost property, since an alteration in a clause of the lost property rules for cabs. In 1870 only 3500 articles which had been left in cabs had been brought to Scotland-yard, whereas during the past twelve months 16,000 were deposited at the same place. The present hackney carriage regulations, he thought, were just both to cabmen and the public. One circumstance had recently occurred which showed the appreciation in which cabmen's honesty was now held by the public. Two persons were the other day disputing about the ownership of a diamond necklace valued at £1000. As the disputants could not agree, one of them threw the necklace into a cab, the driver of which immediately took it to Scotland-yard, for which act of honesty Colonel Henderson hoped he would be handsomely rewarded. In conclusion the Chief Commissioner earnestly hoped that the Mission would long prosper, as it was doing a great amount of good among the cabmen of London." These simple yet striking words require no comment of ours. They will speak home to the minds of us all. May the good work thus happily begun be continued and expanded; until the Chief Commissioner can report a still greater and more enduring reformation, alike in the condition of our cab system and the general morale of the Cabmen. On the whole we are inclined to think that though there are some sad exceptions every now and then, "Cabbie" is often more "sinned against than sinning," and we ought, we think, always to seek to mete out to him that justice and liberality and fair play which we like ourselves, but which we sometimes forget is due from us all to the humblest of our fellow creatures.

### 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.]

#### WIDOWS OF FREEMASONS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

If "West York" (page 514, Nov. 18th, "Freemason") will only ask what is generally done about "widows of Freemasons marrying non-Masons" in connection with other bodies, he will find that in the military service in India a widow or a daughter of an officer loses her pension on marriage; and in other services do the same, so that there seems to be no hardship in the case referred to. And as to the "son of a deceased Freemason," if "West York" can clearly prove that the widow of a Mason married before the boy was elected to the Boys' School, then he ought not to have the privileges of a free education.

Believe me, yours fraternally,

AUGUSTUS A. BAGSHAW.  
P.M. and Z. 1235.

#### BRO. JOHN CONSTABLE'S DRAWING FOR THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

For several years now I have annually alluded to Bro. John Constable's system of shilling tickets in support of our "Great Masonic Charities," as they are truly called. For 1877 the programme is a more extensive one than any of the preceding ones, as it is intended to render the ensuing year memorable by the raising of one thousand pounds through the excellent medium noted. It is a bold project, but I believe it will be done, and in a few years will not be considered much to do, though just now it is looked upon by many as quite impracticable. Bro. Constable is the originator of shilling tickets for drawings for Life Governorships in our Masonic Charities, and deserves even more support than he has yet received. We cannot understand how there can be any objections to such a scheme, for, as you have pointed out in times past, it is after all but a kind of Masonic "Art Union," if I may so express it, and each shilling goes to swell the amount until ten guineas are obtained, when a Life Governor is balloted for, just as if it were an engraving, and the happy and successful number (a brother, or a lady, or a non-Mason, or a lodge), has the ten guineas paid in his or her name to the society in question. If a brother or a non-Mason, the amount thus obtained would confer two votes at every election for life. In the event of the winner being a lady the extra privileges would be granted, as in the case of ordinary donations, and of course should a lodge be the owner of the successful number, only one vote at each be secured. I cannot, for the life of me, under-

stand the opposition which this capital scheme has received in some quarters, unless, indeed, it is, as I proved it to be last week in one case, an attempt to hide the sheer greed and selfishness of the objectors. Then, again, others stupidly talk as if Bro. Constable was to make his fortune out of the transaction! Once for all let me say, that as in all the former Stewardships (and as, in fact, in all Stewardships), the full amount paid to our friend and brother will be paid to the Secretary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, without any deductions whatever, the expenses being defrayed by Bro. Constable himself. I have promised Bro. Constable to raise one hundred guineas to assist him in his truly Masonic work, and as the money is coming in I pay the sums at once over to him. The contributions are placed in the Consolidated Bank, to bear interest until the festival, and in the event of Bro. Constable's decease, which I pray may be long distant, the Secretary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys has authority to draw the amount, to use in accordance with the purposes intended. In conclusion I have but to say if any brother is deserving of our aid, and has started a plan worthy of acceptance, to collect the odd shillings on behalf of our Charities, that brother is John Constable.

W. J. HUGHAN.

#### ITALIAN FREEMASONRY.

To Bro. George Kenning, Publisher "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Though I quite agree with all that has been said in the "Freemason" about the foolish attack recently made by the "Unita Cattolica" on English Freemasonry, and its utter insensibility to the claims of truth, and quite concur in all your remarks about an eminent member of your English Order—Bro. Parkinson—I yet think that there is some ground to be very apprehensive as to the present position and future condition of Italian Freemasonry. Certain facts, I apprehend, are incontestable, namely, firstly, that Italian Freemasonry mixes itself up far too much with politics; secondly, that men of very advanced views on religious matters, to say nothing more, are prominent personages in it; and thirdly, that there is a great tendency in a large portion of it, at any rate, towards what may be termed, without offence, polished Hea-

thenism. Without at all approving of the complaints of the Ultramontane party, many of which are chimerical, or childish apprehensions or unscrupulous allegations, yet I fear it must be confessed by an impartial English Freemason that there is quite sufficient to excite alarm and justify anxiety.

There seems to be a wish to imitate in a portion of Italy the foolish proceedings of the Grand Orient of France, and to expunge from the constitution and the ritual all acknowledgment of the Most High. As regards politics, it often happens that at the meeting of the lodges the candidature of men of the most advanced type, ultra-republican, is advocated.

Thus, for instance, "Il Picciolo" of Naples, of 20th November, tells us that the brethren (fratelli) of the Masonic Lodge Unita e Liberta held a meeting the day before, and determined to support the political candidature of Signor Biondi Luigi.

Even the profane paper remarks, whose editor is "neither a Mason nor the son of a Mason." "We do not understand this Masonic lodge interfering in politics; if it does so it is quite clear that it has two professions of Masonic principles, one for the world without, one for the initiates within." We fear that the little incident mentioned at Naples has been reproduced "ad infinitum" up and down Italy.

Of a well-known official of one of the Italian Grand Lodges it is credibly stated that his reply to a Masonic letter recently was, "I cannot attend to Masonic business until after the elections."

Now all this and a good deal more requires attention and surveillance, and if any of your correspondents could give us an actual account of Italian Freemasonry, especially as regards the points I have mentioned, about which I apprehend there is really no doubt, it might do a deal of good.

There is no reason why Freemasonry, and English Freemasonry above all, should not flourish in Italy, inasmuch as the Italian mind is very favourable in itself alike to toleration and freedom of conscience, to culture and refinement, to the elevating studies of art, science, and literature, to the ennobling and sanctifying claims of morality and religion. It is because I wish well, like our estimable Bro. J. C. Parkinson, to Italian Freemasonry that I pen these friendly lines to-day—and because the facts I state are, I fear, however veiled over, only too well-known to those who are "behind the scenes" in Italy.

I am, dear Bro. Kenning, yours fraternally,

A SUBSCRIBER FROM THE BEGINNING.

#### THE HERVEY LODGE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I think the Hervey Lodge committed an egregious error in departing from the rules of the Craft, and afterwards exposing the error in a court of justice. Doubtless at the initiation the candidate was told before shewing him their charter or warrant of constitution, that during the evening he would be called upon for the fee, and had he been applied to at the time and refused (which I much doubt, if told, it would prevent him passing in the next degree) the lodge should then have declined to pass him, and the world be no wiser. The suggestion of the D.G.M. of Bath, that the initiation fees be previously demanded, is diametrically opposed to the custom of the Craft, and our greatest virtue—honour.

The discussion cannot fail to convince the fraternity that the rules as laid down require adhering to.

Yours fraternally,

A SOUTH LINCOLN J.W.

#### SPECIAL GRAND LODGE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In reference to a notice in your paper of the 25th November, of the Pro Grand Master calling a special Grand Lodge on Bro. Simpson's notice of motion, for commemorating the return of our Grand Master, the Prince of Wales, from India, I trust that all M.M.'s will have an opportunity of seeing our beloved Grand Master. I and many hundred others have never had that honour, and I hope that Bro. Simpson will take it into consideration, that we should like to be present to do honour to him upon so auspicious an occasion, and, if I might make a suggestion, why not make the Alexandra or Crystal Palace the centre of attraction, and let us receive our Royal Master there, when all M.M.'s that like to come would have an opportunity of seeing him; and by issuing tickets at 10s. each, it would amply pay all expenses, and not encroach on the funds of the Grand Lodge. Trusting that some abler pen than mine will take the matter up, for if held at the Albert Hall, the space being so limited there, it will be only the P.G.M.'s, P.M.'s, and those high in office, will have the privilege, whilst we of the lower grade will be left out in the cold.

Trusting you will favour me by inserting this letter in your valuable paper,

I beg to remain, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

M.M.

Duke of Connaught, 1558.

[The favour which our good brother asks for is an utter impossibility.—Ed.]

#### THE ORDER OF THE TEMPLE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

As many knights who have a right to attend the Special Convent General, which has been summoned by special direction of H.R.H. the Grand Master for the 8th inst., are unaware why such Convent General has been convened, may I through you state that the "vexed question" of past rank, &c., is the business which will be discussed.

Yours fraternally,

J. E. C.

#### CANDIDATES FOR INITIATION.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Sir,—

Having for a long time past entertained the ardent desire of becoming a Freemason, I should esteem it a great favour if you would kindly inform me in your next issue as to the steps necessary to being admitted a Member of the Craft.

By doing so, you will greatly oblige, Sir,

Yours respectfully,

J. K. 22.

[In answer to this, one of many similar letters, we have lately received, we can only say that the applicant must apply to some friend who is a Mason who can recommend him to his own lodge. There is no general system of Masonic recommendation or initiation.—Ed.]

#### NEWGATE.

The following most sensible letter appears in the "Times" of Saturday:—

To the Editor of the "Times."

Sir,—Anticipating a hope which I fear will not be realized—namely, that during my year of office I should not have to be present at an execution, a duty which I am sure all the officials concerned consider a most painful one, and the desire to be present by those not concerned, in my opinion, being a morbid one, affording no reflective satisfaction, I shall feel obliged by your inserting the notice that during my year of office, it is not my intention on any occasion to avail myself of the privilege (if it be one) of issuing tickets to Newgate on such occasions.

Of course, the recognised members of the London Press will, as usual, be present.

Apologizing for troubling you, I am, yours faithfully,

W. Q. EAST,

Sheriff of London and Middlesex.  
Central Criminal Court, City of London, Nov. 24.

#### ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

A Special General Court of the Governors and Subscribers to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls was held on Monday in the Board Room, Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Lieut.-Colonel Creaton, V.P., presided, and there were also present Bros. Raynham W. Stewart, S. Rawson, Joseph Smith, H. G. Warren, Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, Hyde Pullen, Dr. Woodman, Henry Venn, Capt. J. Wordsworth, H. A. Dubois, Thos. W. White, Herbert Dicketts, John Boyd, Geo. M. E. Snow, E. Harris, H. Massey ("Freemason"), John M. Stedwell, F. W. Ramsay, M.D., C. A. Lee, George Powell, D. W. Pearse, Major E. H. Finney, Thos. Massa, C. R. Clasey, Thos. Cubitt, J. H. Stead, Thos. Kingston, D. Nicols, James Terry, E. Letchworth, W. Barrett, Thomas Meggy, J. Baxter Langley, Henry W. Hunt, Eugene H. Thielay, J. Marsh, and R. W. Little (Secretary).

The meeting was called in compliance with a requisition signed by Lieut.-Col. John Creaton P.G.D., Vice-Patron and Trustee, "To receive, the Report of the Special Committee upon the

Collectorship of the Institution, and to decide thereon."

The report of the Special Committee appointed by the Quarterly General Court, on the 14th October, 1876, was as follows:—

"To investigate and report upon the subject of the Collectorship to a Special General Court.

"Pursuant to the resolution of the Quarterly General Court, the Special Committee held its first meeting at Freemasons' Hall, on Saturday, the 4th of November, 1876, when Bro. Lieut.-Colonel Creaton, Vice-Patron and Trustee, was voted to the chair, all the members of the committee being present. The subject submitted to the committee having been fully discussed, Bro. Joseph Smith proposed, 'That a Collector be appointed, and that he be paid commission on the amounts he receives.' Bro. W. Hale seconded the proposition, to which the following amendment was moved by Bro. S. Rawson, 'That a person be employed in the office to assist the Secretary in collecting subscriptions and donations.' Bro. R. W. Stewart seconded the amendment, which, on being put, was carried by 5 to 4 votes, and was then adopted as a substantive resolution by the same majority.

"The second meeting of the Committee was held at Freemasons' Hall, on Saturday, the 11th November, when, owing to Colonel Creaton's absence through an accident, Bro. S. Rawson was voted to the chair. Bro. J. Symonds proposed, 'That the Secretary having stated, in reply to a question put to him, that he was willing, if provided with further assistance in the office, to undertake the collection of donations and subscriptions as part of his ordinary duties, to undertake the same.' Bro. Stewart seconded the proposition, which was carried by 4 votes to 3, there being seven members present. Bro. Symonds proposed, 'That in the event of the above recommendation being agreed to, the Secretary be allowed an additional clerk.' The proposition was seconded by Bro. Dr. Ramsay, and carried by 3 to 2 votes.

"The Committee held its third meeting at Freemasons' Hall, on Saturday, the 18th of November, when Colonel Creaton presided, five members being present. Bro. Symonds moved, 'That it is the opinion of this Committee that the several resolutions passed at the two preceding meetings on the 4th and 11th of November be recommended to a Special General Court for adoption.' Bro. Stewart seconded the proposition, which was carried unanimously.

"The Chairman, as a Trustee, convened a Special General Court, to meet at 12 o'clock noon, on Monday, the 27th November.

"J. CREATON, Chairman."

Bro. John Symonds, after this report had been agreed to be taken as read, said that in moving to agree with the Committee in their report he thought it well to state that the recommendations in that report having been only agreed to by a majority of one, it was thought more courteous to the minority that the committee should simply make the report a resumé of the proceedings, leaving the argument for or against the recommendations to be stated in the speeches at the Special Court. It would, therefore, be his duty to state completely, and yet as briefly as he could, the reasons which induced him and those who concurred with him in making those recommendations. In the first place, let it be understood that they did not propose to abolish the Collector; they simply proposed that the Secretary, who was already the collector of the greater portion of the contributions, should become the collector of the whole. There was an increasing tendency on the part of the brethren to make the Secretary the collector of their contributions, instead of employing an officer who was called the Collector. In the four years ending 1872 there was a sum of £21,004 collected, of which £7,155 was paid to the Secretary, and £13,849 to the Collector. But in the 3½ years ending September, 1876, of £33,009 collected, £18,144 was paid to the Secretary, and only £14,865 to the Collector; so that out of a yearly average during the last 3½ years of £8800 collected, £4836 was collected by the Secretary, and only £3964 by the Collector (hear, hear). He thought this tendency to send the amounts direct to the Secretary would go on increasing; and if so, and the brethren adopted Bro. Joseph

Smith's view, there would probably be this curious, and to the so-called Collector, who was to be paid only on what he received, this unpleasant anomaly, that whilst the prospects of the Institution might continually increase, his emoluments might continually diminish. But there was this further great difficulty, how were they to define what the Collector was to receive, and what he was not to receive? When Bro. Joseph Smith at the first meeting of the Special Committee, after a considerable amount of conversational discussion, formally moved that a Collector be appointed, and that he be paid a commission on the amount he received, he (Bro. Symonds) drew his attention to these difficulties; but as he (Bro. Symonds) did not think Bro. Smith clearly apprehended the point he (Bro. Symonds) raised, he ventured to present in the form of three short enquiries, and had sent them to Bro. Smith in a brief note which he would venture to read:—

"3, Ingram Court, 25th Nov.

"Dear Bro. Joseph Smith,—

"I am afraid I did not succeed in committee in putting so clearly before you as I could have wished the difficulties which to my mind attend the appointment of a Collector 'to be paid only upon what he receives.'

"I therefore venture to submit for your consideration the three enquiries annexed, that you may, if you think fit, answer them at the meeting on Monday.

"Yours faithfully and fraternally,

"JOHN SYMONDS.

"Joseph Smith, Esq., P.G.P., &c., &c., &c.

"If a Collector be appointed, distinct from the Secretary, to be paid commission only upon what he receives:—

"Is it contemplated that he should have free access to correspondence and Stewards' lists (country as well as London), so that he may ascertain the names of brethren who may announce an intention to contribute, and may at once write to or call on them?

"Or is he only to apply to brethren whose names are given to him by the Secretary?

"If he apply for a subscription or donation (writing or calling, perhaps, several times), and it is afterwards paid at the office, is it contemplated that he should receive commission thereon?" Now, they could not get Bro. Smith clearly to define where the line should be drawn; he said it was a matter of detail; and if he once agreed to the detail that the Collector should be paid only on what he received, the mode of settling what he should receive could be settled afterwards. There he (Bro. Symonds) joined issue with him; he thought the settlement of the point was of the very essence of the question, and if they did not adopt it the Collector would be continually endeavouring, if they did not endeavour to settle that point before the election of the Collector, to circumvent, if he might say so, the Secretary, and get all the honour in his own hands. He would mention, by the way, that Bro. Smith, in the course of conversation, proposed to limit the collection to London, leaving out the country; but on his (Bro. Symonds) asking whether that did not seem to imply that the brethren in London were of an inferior grade to those living in the country, requiring a special officer to look after them, Bro. Smith withdrew the limitation, and the resolution now stood as in the report.

Bro. Joseph Smith observed that this was a resumé of all that was done on the committee, and it was not necessary for Bro. Symonds to go into that.

Bro. Symonds said that the statement he was making would serve to elucidate the proceedings of the committee. He had already said he thought that detail was of the very essence of the question; detail in point of fact was the principle. That was the point. He thought Bro. Smith did not clearly understand where the difficulty rested—that the Collector was to be paid only on what he received. The difficulty had arisen in the Boys' School. Bro. Harris had been paid after a fashion. There also had been some difficulties about whether he was to be paid on what he received. He endeavoured to get all he could in his hands. Let him give a case which suggested the point. A brother not long since wrote to Bro. Binckes asking what amount was

required to be paid to make him a Vice-President. Bro. Binckes wrote in reply stating that the further payment would be 40 guineas. Not hearing from him after this, Bro. Binckes called on him to know whether he had received the letter. The brother said he had; but that he would like to give the subject further consideration—would Bro. Binckes call again after a short interval? After an interval Bro. Binckes accordingly called again. The brother said he was still unsettled, and he must think over it a little further. Afterwards the brother wrote saying that he had decided to give the 40 guineas. Bro. Harris got wind of the fact; called on the brother; sent in his card as Collector; and received the subscription in a cheque payable to Bro. Binckes or order. Did he (Bro. Symonds) blame Bro. Harris for that? No; he thought it was only natural he should in the position he occupied follow the course he pursued. If he (Bro. Symonds) had been in Bro. Harris's position he should have done the same thing. If the brethren were to put him in the Collector's place to be paid on the amounts he received he should feel it his duty to himself and his family by every possible means on every possible occasion to intercept every possible donation on its way to the Secretary. (Laughter.) Now, that would be the continual result of their appointing a Collector in the mode proposed. Did he blame Bro. Binckes for not allowing the Collector to have the means to prevent the subscription coming direct to the office? Did he blame Bro. Binckes for not letting the Collector have the information that would enable him to do so? He did not blame him; and he did not think the brethren ought to blame the Secretary of the Girls' School for doing all he could also to circumvent the Collector in getting his emoluments. If, therefore, Bro. Joseph Smith passed his resolution with regard to the duties of the Collector, the General Committee, of which Bro. Joseph Smith himself was a member, ought so clearly to define what the Collector was to receive and what he was not to receive, that there would be no chance of the Secretary subjecting himself to a charge or suspicion of, on his own motive, interfering with the Collector's emoluments. But he, Bro. Symonds, still believed that the best way, better for the Institution, would be to make the Secretary the Collector. The Secretary was now the Collector of the greater part of the subscriptions; let the Collector get in the remainder, and allow him a certain sum. It was not intended that the additional clerk, whom they proposed to give to the Secretary, should be the Collector. It was contemplated by himself, Bro. Symonds, and, he believed, all those who concurred with him, that the entire responsibility should be thrown on the Secretary, who might for the subscription send his head clerk or junior clerk, or go himself. Then again, the Secretary, he might say, had expressed not only his willingness to take that responsibility, but he believed that there would be less loss by lapse of subscriptions than there was at present. This plan admitted of easy trial. The Special Committee, after considering the question of appointing a permanent Collector, thought the plan of having a clerk might be tried. If, after a short period, even a twelve-month, this plan was not found to succeed, they would give the junior clerk the stipulated notice, and they would then proceed to appoint a Collector. But if they appointed a Collector as a permanent official they would hardly, except for gross misconduct, discharge him from his office until he thought fit to retire. Having made this statement he, Bro. Symonds, did not think he had omitted anything. He thought he had stated all the reasons that occurred to him in favour of the amalgamation of the offices of Secretary and Collector. He hoped that those who justifiably sought to reject the report would not succeed, but if they did he trusted they would give him and those who concurred with him, credit for having done what they believed to be their duty, and that they were actuated by an honest desire to promote the best interests of the Institution (hear, hear). He begged to conclude by moving that the Court agree with the Special Committee in their report, and that it be referred to the General Committee for execution.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart seconded the motion, and said he must endorse every word that had fallen from Bro. Symonds. He did so after having carefully investigated the matter with Bro. Symonds. There was just cause of complaint on the part of the country subscribers who contributed their money with the belief that it would be paid to the Secretary, and that no commission would be deducted. He knew, however, that commission was allowed on it to the disgust of the country brethren. To use a vulgar phrase, it was doubly sweated; a commission was paid on the collection in the country, and another to the London Collector. He (Bro. Stewart) also desired to have credit for wishing to serve the Institution. He thought that if the money was paid to the Secretary they would save a large amount of money, and by that saving they would be enabled to put three additional children in the Institution, instead of squandering it away. No doubt Bro. Smith had the same idea of benefiting the Institution that he had. It was not likely they would be able to get a Collector to do the London work because it would not be worth his while; and if they got a man who collected for other institutions he could not do his duty to all. Let them try the proposed scheme for a twelvemonth, and see whether it would answer.

Bro. Joseph Smith, in moving his amendment for continuing the office of Collector, said he hoped they would not think he was actuated by a desire to raise a factious opposition. (No, no.) They were all anxious to do the best they could for the Institution, and if they believed their views were right there was no harm in stating their views in opposition. (Hear, hear.) He had never taken an active part in the management of the Boys' or the Girls' School; he devoted his time to the Benevolent Institution. The Boys' and Girls' Schools were so well managed they could take care of themselves without him. But when he did take part in it, it was when he thought the brethren were going to sell the Institution, and he then made a motion, which after all turned out to be the right course, and he had a committee appointed. At a former meeting there was a feeling in favour of doing away with the Collector, and he had a committee appointed. They met, and consisted of nine brethren. After their deliberation, they were just as near a result as before. At the meeting of the Committee there were four on each side, and the Chairman gave his casting vote. At the next meeting there were seven; there were three on one side and three on the other; and the Chairman again gave his casting vote. It was a new feature to do away with the Collector, and he did not think they would get the same amount of money by the new proposition. He had moved that a Collector be appointed, and paid only on such sums as he collected. This was the principle the brethren had to decide. He had a great objection to giving a Collector commission on what he did not receive, and he thought the brethren in the country had good ground for complaint when a Collector was so paid. He did not care what poundage they gave a Collector; and he did not care if they had another clerk in the office. If they wanted him let them have him; but if they had a Secretary or clerk, unless they gave him an inducement in the shape of a commission he would not try to collect the money. The clerk might be sent out on a fine day to collect, and might think it a good opportunity for taking a holiday. The payment of subscriptions was not like the payment of taxes. If brethren promised subscriptions to Stewards you might wait a long time before the brethren promising sent the subscription to the office. If a Collector called on them they would pay. He did not stand alone in his opinion; he had canvassed, and found several brethren entertained the same views. He thought the Charities would lose by the proposed plan.

Bro. H. G. Warren seconded the amendment. He was one of the minority in the Special Committee who voted for a Collector. When he entered on his duties he expected they were to enquire into something, and take evidence upon it. The resolutions which were come to were without the slightest attempt to get at any evidence whatever. (Cries of dissent.) (Order,

order.) Bro. Symonds had gone into a statement of what took place at the Committee, and he, Bro. Warren, had a perfect right to do the same. The only tittle of evidence was a statement by the Secretary, which he thought would astonish the brethren as much as it had astonished him, Bro. Warren, that they had 150 annual subscribers, and it had not been usual to look up the subscriber of one year for his subscription for the next year. With the embryo life subscribers it became a rule in some lodges that before they took office they should become Life Governors of the Charities, and consequently those who had subscribed for one year were, in the course of three or four years, life subscribers. But surely out of the number of Stewards they had, they ought to have more than 150 annual subscribers. They ought to have had evidence of that; and he would like to have asked Bro. Muggeridge how often he had to call upon them. Nothing of the kind took place. He would pass that over. As regarded the payment of commission, he perfectly agreed, as he believed every one present did, that they should not pay for work not done; they should fix a sum to be paid as commission on money collected, and pay no more. He would not put the Stewards' Lists into the hands of the Collector in the first instance. It had been usual not to let the Collector have those lists until after the first meeting of the Stewards at least. It was so when he was a Steward; but this was not a matter of so much importance as that they would find it difficult to place it all in one man's hands, unless they did it by making the Secretary the manager, and the sole manager, of the Institution. (A Voice: "So he ought to be.") That was a matter of opinion; he was not going to discuss that. He did not see the difficulty discovered by Bro. Raynham Stewart of getting a Collector, or that they could not get rid of a Collector with as much ease as they could get rid of a clerk. It did not matter what the title of the officer was; they could dismiss one as well as the other. There was a difficulty as regarded payment, and this belonged solely to the General Committee; but as it was raised at the Special Committee he would not be much out of order if he stated that there was a proposition to pay not only a salary, but commission. (A Voice: "No; it was abandoned.") It was not abandoned; it was only abandoned in so far as he stated that this being a matter for the General Committee they could not go into it; and the brethren said they should not press it. (A Voice: "It was abandoned.") Then he was perfectly satisfied with that. He was of opinion with Bro. Smith that if they sent out clerks to collect money in which they had no interest they would not find the same amount come in as they did when they had a Collector.

Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford said that this was a matter which agitated the provinces in past years very considerably, as he knew perfectly well when acting officially for a large and important province. He had listened most attentively to what Bro. Symonds had said, and he felt that after that very lucid and clear statement he was bound to give his support to the Committee. He had said to Bro. Joseph Smith on more than one occasion that he for one should be quite prepared to consider the question of the employment of a Collector as regarded the London brethren, if they so wished it, and it would be convenient for them. But as there were many difficulties in the way, he thought they were going to do the right thing by taking steps to prevent an abuse which had existed for years, and had prevented worthy brethren from becoming Life Governors because they would not pay a percentage for what the Collector had not done; they would not pay money, that is, to the institution for work never executed. The proposed plan, he believed, was not only the most business-like and straightforward, but would give large additional subscriptions from the provinces. He would mention a case, a true case, which a brother at the end of the table would confirm. In a province with which he was connected they sent up some years ago £2000 for the Girls' School, and on that they had to pay the Collector a sum which would amount to two life governorships, and not a sixpence of the whole subscription had passed

through the hands of the Collector. He would ask if that was not an abuse? He believed the proposal made by the Special Committee would prevent such an abuse; and as Freemasons did not like anything which was an abuse, he hoped that the brethren would give their hearty support to the Committee. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. G. M. E. Snow attacked the existing system, and contrasted it with that of the Merchant Seamen's Orphan Asylum and the Licensed Victuallers'.

Bro. Dr. Ramsay supported the original motion.

Bro. George Powell asked the Chairman whether the new plan was to be permanent or tentative.

The Chairman said tentative.

Bro. George Powell said he thought it was worth a trial. He also said he deduced from what Bro. Warren had said, that some of the opposing brethren had not been treated quite with courtesy on the Committee, and Bro. Symonds seemed to imply that the opposing brethren had not the interests of the Institution at heart. (No.)

Bro. Henry Venn thought the opinion of the Committee was very evenly balanced; but he believed that after the long experience they had had of a Collector, they could not do better than give a trial to the new feature.

Bro. Symonds, in replying upon the different arguments, said that with regard to want of courtesy that had never been suggested, and he had never meant to say that brethren not entertaining his own views were not solicitous for the welfare of the Institution. Bro. Smith had said several times in the course of his speech that they were going to do away with the Collector. They did not propose to do away with the Collector. They proposed to make the Secretary the Collector, as he was now the Collector of the larger portion of the subscriptions. The Committee were precluded from going into an enquiry on the subject by Bro. Smith proposing that a Collector should be appointed. They were rather in a hurry. Bro. Smith was taking his observation about going into detail in very good part, and he (Bro. Symonds) did not intend certainly to deceive him, and he thought it desirable that Bro. Smith should define what he meant. If they adopted what Bro. Smith proposed by his amendment, if a Collector was to be paid only on what he received, and he applied several times for a subscription, and that subscription was after all paid to the office, they would be bound by the resolution, and could not give him a sixpence commission. There seemed to be an impression that if the subscriptions were collected by the Secretary personally, or through his clerks, there would not be an inducement to them to get the subscriptions in if there was no commission paid. Bro. Little had never been paid by commission; Bro. Binckes was so paid at one time, and a certain small salary as well. That was afterwards altered, and a suitable salary was paid to him.

The amendment of Bro. Joseph Smith was then put and negatived, and the original motion of Bro. John Symonds was afterwards put and carried by a large majority.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the proceedings.

#### CONSECRATION OF THE ERA CHAPTER, No. 1423.

On Saturday last, November 25th, at the King's Arms Hotel, Hampton Court, a seventh chapter was added to the Royal Arch Masonic roll of Middlesex. The interesting ceremonies of consecration and installation were exceedingly well performed by the M.E.P.G.S. of Middlesex, Comp. Col. Francis Burdett, aided by Comps. J. Boyd, R. W. Little, P.G.H., and H. G. Buss, P.G.T. of Middlesex. The chapter was opened by the M.E.P.G.S., assisted by Comps. Boyd, acting H.; Little, acting J. Amongst the numerous and brilliant gathering present were Comps. Stedwell, P.G.J. of Middlesex; Roebuck, P.P.G.H. of Middlesex; Cubitt, P.Z., P.S.E. of Middlesex; Woodman, P.Z., P.G. D.C. of England, and P.P. First A.G.S. of Middlesex; Laxton, P.Z., P.G.R. of Middlesex; W. Hammond, P. Second A.G.S. of Middle-



sex, M.E.Z. 185; Thiellay, P.Z., P.G.D.C. of Middlesex; Sabine, P.Z., &c., M.E.Z. designate 1423; Mason, P.Z.; B. Sharp, P.Z. 84, &c.; Keily, P.Z. 214; Levander, P.Z. Burdett; Pearce, P.Z. 1293; Dr. Davison, M.E.Z. of 404 and 1293; J. Wright, H. 946; E. Hopwood, J. 1326; Dr. Ernest Brette, N. Royal Middlesex; Baxter Langley, Third Principal designate 1423; Dunham, 70; Baldwin, 73; T. C. Walls, 185; and Shackleton, 1326. The founders having stated that they fully approved of the companions, mentioned in the warrant, to be the Principals, viz., Comps. Sabine, as M.E.Z.; Thiellay, as H.; and B. Langley, as J., the chapter was formally consecrated.

That impressive ceremonial being ended, the installation of the Principals was immediately proceeded with, and carried out most effectively and efficiently.

The only officers of the new chapter invested were Comps. Mason, as N., and W. Hammond, as D.C.

The M.E.Z. appointed Comps. F. Walters, P.Z., &c., &c., as S.E., and Wilkins, P.Z., as P.S., and stated that the other appointments would be made at the first regular meeting.

The names of several joining companions having been read, the chapter was duly closed, and the Provincial Grand Convocation opened by the M.E.P.G.S., Comp. Colonel F. Burdett, assisted by Comps. R. W. Little, P.G.H., and Stedwell, P.G.J.

The other officers of P.G.C. present were, Comps. Buss, Treas.; Cubitt, S.E.; Laxton, R.; W. Hammond, 2nd A.S.; Sabine, S.B.; Thiellay, D.C. The minutes of the previous Provincial Grand Convocation having been read and confirmed, the M.E.P.G.S. invested his officers for the year ensuing as follows: Comps. Dr. Davison, H.; Boyd, J.; Little, S.E.; Levander, N.; Buss, Treas. (unanimously re-elected); Pearce, R.; Sabine, P.S.; W. Hammond, P.A.S.; Dr. E. Brett, 2nd A.S.; Holden, (by deputy), S.B.; Keily, Std. Br.; Mason, Org.; J. Wright, D.C.; Gilbert, Janitor.

The report of the auditors having been postponed the P.G.C. was closed, and the companions adjourned to an excellent banquet. Upon the removal of the cloth the usual loyal and R.A. toasts were briefly given by the M.E.P.G.S., and warmly received.

The toast of "The G.O.'s of England was acknowledged by Comp. Woodham, P.G.D.C., in a few well-chosen words.

"The Health of the P.G.S. of Middlesex" was proposed by Comp. Roebuck. In the course of his remarks he said that the name of their M.E.G.S. was not only deservedly honoured in Middlesex, but in every other province in the kingdom. He was pleased to see him in such excellent health and spirits, and he fervently hoped that he would be spared many years to rule over the convocations and lodges of the important Masonic province of Middlesex.

The M.E.P.G.S., in reply, stated that he was exceedingly gratified that Royal Arch Masonry was slowly gaining strength in the province, but he thought that many other lodges in Middlesex might bestir themselves, and establish chapters for the advancement of the degree. He then said that he was greatly indebted to many distinguished companions present for the able assistance that they had rendered him since he had had the honour of being appointed P.G.S. He hoped that they would always support him in paying allegiance to the S.G.C. of England, and in conclusion he expressed himself greatly pleased and proud at holding the position he occupied in the province, and also that it had afforded him very great pleasure at being able to preside on that particular occasion.

"The Health of the Second and Third Provincial Grand Principals" followed.

Comp. Dr. Davison, in the course of an able reply, expressed his thanks to the M.E.G.S. for having done him the honour of appointing him to the high position of H. in the P.G. Chapter, and hoped that he should discharge his duties to the satisfaction of all.

Comp. Boyd, Third Principal, in answer to repeated calls, made an amusing speech. He said that he thought the observations of the prophet might have sufficed for the present, but as they had so warmly called upon him to say a

few words, he would endeavour to get out of the difficulty as speedily as possible. He then went on to tell them that he was exceedingly gratified with the rank that had that day been conferred upon him by their M.E.G.S., and that he would try in every way to merit the distinction, and respectfully hoped that the appointment would meet with the approbation of the companions of the province, and concluded his speech by stating that he admired the Craft, but was proud of Royal Arch Masonry.

"The Health of the Subordinate Officers" followed.

In concluding his remarks in connection with this toast, the M.E.P.G.S. said he wished them all long life, good health, and prosperity.

Comp. Little, S.E., in the course of his response said that he was glad that that day had given another chapter to the Royal Arch roll of Middlesex, which now numbered seven. When the Grand Chapter of the province was first formed there were but three chapters, and he hoped that the good work would continue to progress. In conclusion, after returning thanks for "The Present and Past Grand Officers," he stated that he had great pleasure in informing them that the funds of the P.G. Chapter were in a highly satisfactory condition.

The toast of the evening, viz., "The Era Chapter," gave the M.E.P.G.S. an opportunity of indulging in an excellent speech. He said that to a certain extent the Grand Chapter of the province had met under the auspices of the promoters of the Era, and he personally was proud at being able to preside on the occasion. He was sure that under the direction of so able and experienced a chief as Comp. Sabine, supported by those excellent Comps. Thiellay and Langley, the chapter must flourish. It was very gratifying to him to see such worthy companions inaugurating a new era in the history of their lodge by founding an "Era" Chapter. (Laughter.) In conclusion he sincerely hoped that the chapter that had that day been formally consecrated would soon become one of the most flourishing in the Province of Middlesex.

In the unavoidable absence of Comp. Sabine, M.E.Z. Comp. Thiellay made a neat reply, in which he stated that under the auspices of Comp. Sabine, the First Principal, he felt confident that the Era Chapter must prosper, and concluded by saying that he hoped the P.G. Chapter would never have occasion to regret having enrolled under its distinguished banner No. 1423.

The M.E.P.G.S. then proposed, in very complimentary terms, "The Health of Comp. Walls," for services rendered during the evening's proceedings, which honour was briefly acknowledged by the companion mentioned.

The companions shortly afterwards separated.

#### PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF EAST LANCASHIRE.

The half-yearly meeting of the above Provincial Grand Lodge was held in the Commissioners' Rooms, Middleton, on Wednesday, the 22nd November, under the auspices of the Imperial George Lodge, No. 78. There was a large attendance of the brethren from all parts of the province, amongst whom were Bros. Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie, R.W. Prov. G. Master; J. L. Hine, P. Prov. G. Warden, as Dep. Prov. G. Master; Wm. Harrison, Prov. S.G. Warden; Thomas Rose, Prov. J.G. Warden; R. H. Hutchinson, P. Prov. G. Warden; C. R. N. Beswicke-Royds, P. Prov. G. Warden; James A. Birch, P. Prov. G. Warden; Rev. Alfred Salts, LL.D., Prov. G. Chaplain; Rev. S. Y. B. Bradshaw, Prov. G. Chaplain; T. J. Hooper, Prov. G. Treas.; John Barker, P. Prov. G. Treas.; Saml. Cheetham, P. Prov. G. Treas.; Saml. Statham, P. Prov. G. Treas.; Charles Heywood, P. Prov. G. Registrar; John Tunnah, Prov. G. Sec.; Albert Wolstenholm, Prov. J.G. Deacon; W. H. Prince, P. Prov. G. Deacon; Jno. S. Vevers, P. Prov. G. Deacon; G. P. Brockbank, P. Prov. G. Deacon; Wm. Slater, P. Prov. G. Deacon; Isaac W. Petty, P. Prov. G. Deacon; John Pilling, Prov. G. Supt. of Works; C. M. Jones, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; Robert Whittaker, P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; J. H. Sillitoe, Prov. G. Assist. Dir. of Cers.; Thos. Grime, P. Prov. G. Assist. Dir. of Cers.; James Mills, Prov. G. Sword Bearer; Henry Maiden, P. Prov. G. Sword Bearer; William Barlow, P. Prov. G. Sword Bearer; Thos. Taylor, P. Prov. G. Sword Bearer; Thos. Hargreaves, Prov. G. Org.; Edwin Halliwell, P. Prov. G. Org.; W. H. Cunliffe, Prov. G. Purst.; Westry Penn, Prov. G. Assist. Purst.; also Bros. Rev. H. Bethell Jones, Prov. G. Chaplain West Lancashire; G. D. Pochin, Prov. G. Reg. West Lancashire; Joseph Travis, Prov. G. Org. Cheshire; and representa-

tives from the whole of the eighty-two lodges in the province.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was opened in due form and with prayer at half-past one o'clock in the afternoon.

The Provincial Grand Secretary read letters of apology from absent Provincial Grand Officers, including one from Bro. George Mellor, Dep. Prov. G. Master, who was prevented from being present by indisposition.

The minutes of the last meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge (printed copies of which had been circulated in the province) were, by the consent of the meeting, taken as read, and were thereupon confirmed.

Bro. Hine, Chairman of the Charity Committee, read the minutes of proceedings of the committee, which included several recommendations of grants of benevolence from the Prov. G. Lodge fund. The proceedings of the committee were confirmed, and their recommendations adopted by Prov. G. Lodge.

The following brethren were appointed Auditors of the Prov. G. Treasurer's accounts, viz., Bros. David Reid, W.M. 78; Robt. Caldwell, W.M. 1011; and Francis R. Hollins, W.M. 581.

The R.W. Prov. G. Master intimated that he was open to receive suggestions as to the place for holding the next regular meeting of Prov. G. Lodge, and applications were made for such meeting to be held at Bury, Denton, Todmorden, and Haslingden respectively. At a subsequent part of the day's proceedings the R.W. Prov. G. Master announced that he had determined to hold such meeting at Todmorden in May next.

A resolution was passed to the effect that it is desirable to erect an illuminated window in Heaton Mersey Church, to the memory of the late Bro. W. Romaine Callender, M.P., Deputy Prov. G. Master, by subscriptions from the lodges and brethren of the province, and a committee was appointed to carry the project into effect.

Bro. Hine, Chairman of the Charity Committee, gave notice that at the next meeting of the Prov. G. Lodge he would propose that grants be made from the Prov. G. Lodge fund in aid of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows, and the Royal Masonic Institutions for Girls and Boys.

It was announced at the meeting that the total amount of subscriptions and donations in aid of the East Lancashire Systematic Masonic Educational and Benevolent Institution received up to this time amounted to £1607 6s.

All business being concluded the Prov. G. Lodge was closed in due form and with prayer at three o'clock in the afternoon. The brethren then moved in procession to the Co-operative Hall, where the banquet was celebrated under the presidency of the R.W. Prov. G. Master, supported by a numerous assemblage of Prov. G. Officers and brethren.

#### Obituary.

##### BRO. THE DUKE DE SALDANHA.

THE death of that distinguished Mason is announced, His Excellency Marshal the Duke of Saldanha, Portuguese Ambassador at this Court, a member of the 33rd Degree in Portugal, and one of the Chiefs of Portuguese Masonry.

We need not here allude to his biography generally, as it has been given in the "Times" and other of our contemporaries. It is in the Duke of Saldanha's capacity as a Mason that we find the key to the "Times" reference to his being the representative of the secret societies. The English officers during the Peninsular War had widely spread Masonry and protected the lodges, while they saved from the clutches of the Inquisition the Masons condemned to the flames of the Auto da Fé. One of those so saved was the famous Hippolito José da Costa. These men maintained liberalism in Portugal and Brazil, and Saldanha had joined the ranks of the Craft. He was additionally obnoxious to the clerical party as being a grandson and representative of the great statesman the Marquis de Pombal, who expelled the Jesuits from Portugal.

The "Times" and "Pall Mall Gazette" have not explained this part of Saldanha's life. Saldanha, then Count de Saldanha, was not living in England, but in Paris. Although Emperor Don Pedro was a Mason, the parties around him were indisposed to Saldanha as the head of the Constitutionals and Masons. The Portuguese Masons had been received with great kindness by the brethren in Plymouth, and none the less by those in France on their removal thither. Thus it resulted that in Paris a great point of union for these unfavoured leaders was the distinguished R. C. Chapter of St. Louis de Martinique, in which Saldanha took an active part. As the main body were stationed by the French Government at a distance from the Spanish frontier, the Dunkirk Lodges became their protectors. Thus was formed among the Portuguese and Anglo-Portuguese what was called the northern party, including Bro. Saldanha, General Count Villafior (afterwards Duke of Perceira), Bro. General Cabrera, Bro. Colonel Henry Clarke, Count de Falkenberg, Bro. General Sir Thomas Stubbs, (afterwards Baron Villa Nova de Gaya), Bro. Lionel Tavares Cabral, (afterwards Minister), Bro. Julio Gomez de Silva Sanchez (afterwards Prime Minister), and others.

Bro. the Duke of Saldanha leaves the Duchess, an English lady, to mourn his loss, in company with so many who had benefited by his services.

We cannot go into the political history of the Duke of Saldanha, as that belongs to other biographers. We are only Freemasons.

The "Graphic" has the following:—"His Excellency the Portuguese Ambassador at the English Court died on Tuesday, at his residence in London. He was born about 1790, and was therefore about eighty-six years of age. The Duke had taken an active part in public affairs in Portugal during the last fifty years. He was Minister for Foreign Affairs under King John VI., and took a prominent part in opposing the usurpation of Don Miguel. After

the failure of that opposition he retired to England, where he remained till 1834, when he returned to Portugal, and became one of the chief counsellors of Don Pedro in his war against Don Miguel, in which he acted as General and Chief of the Staff, and signed, with Don Pedro, the decisive capitulation of Evora. The Duke afterwards became Minister of War and President of the Council; but after his retirement from office he, in 1836, was concerned in an unsuccessful reactionary movement, and was again exiled to England, where he remained until 1846, when another revolution brought him back to power. From this he was dispossessed in 1849 by the second dictatorship of Costa Cabral, whom the Duke in turn overthrew in 1851, and remained in office during the minority of Don Pedro V., until 1856. In May, 1870, he headed a military outbreak, which resulted in a new Ministry being formed under his presidency. He retained office until February, 1871, and has for some years represented his country at the British Court."

#### BRO. HENRY MELLON.

We learn with sincere regret of the death of Bro. Henry Mellon, which sad event took place on Saturday last. He was for many years connected successfully with the theatrical profession, but had, previous to his death, retired from the stage some little time, owing to his very indifferent health. Bro. Mellon's sufferings were very acute, but we are informed he bore them with great patience. He has left a sorrowing widow to mourn his loss.

#### MASONIC BALL AT CAMBRIDGE.

This ball was given by the Isaac Newton University Lodge of Freemasons, under the presidency of the Rev. J. W. Cartmell, Fellow of Christ's, W.M., the list of stewards being headed by the Earl of Hardwicke, P.G.M., and Bro. G. Ainslie, P.M., being Hon. Secretary. The Lodge was founded in 1861, the Duke of St. Albans being the first Master, and since that period the chair has been occupied by many distinguished members of the University, and several hundred members have been initiated. The first quadrille was danced by all the brethren in Craft aprons, those entitled to provincial rank wearing the distinguishing purple and gold. The members of the higher degrees afterwards assumed their respective dresses, separate sets of Lancers being allotted to the Mark Masters and Royal Ark Mariners, the Royal Arch, the Rose Croix, the Knights Templar, and the Knights of Malta.

The engraving represents the third figure of the Knight Templars' Lancers, when the knights cross their swords over their partners' heads. The dress is a white tunic and mantle, with a red cross. The head of the order in England is the Prince of Wales, and the engraving will remind its members of the Prince's reception as Grand Master, when he was received under the "Arch of Steel" by more than 400 knights. The Earl of Limerick is second in command, and Sir Patrick Colquhoun, Q.C., Grand Chancellor. The Cambridge Preceptory is presided over by Professor Kalley Miller, and among the Past Preceptors are the Rev. Dr. Bryan Walker, the Rev. A. B. Frazer, and the Rev. J. F. Hardy, of Alpine fame. The dress of the Knights of Malta is a scarlet tunic and black mantle, each of which bears the white cross of the order.—"Graphic."

#### ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.—

Bro. Constable's tickets, entitling the holder to a chance in the drawing for Life Governorships of the above Institution, are now ready, price one shilling each. To be had of Bro. J. Constable, 13, Sise Lane, Cannon-street, London, E.C.

#### METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, December 8, 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, DECEMBER 2.

Gen. Com. Boys' School at 4.  
Lodge 142, St. Thomas's, Cannon-st. Hot.  
" 1572, Carnarvon, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.  
" 1622, Rose, Surrey M.H.  
Chap. 375, Rose of Denmark, Star and Garter, Kew-bdg.

#### LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

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

#### MONDAY, DECEMBER 4.

Lodge 12, Fortitude & Old Cumberland, Ship & Turtle.  
" 25, Robert Burns, F.M.II.  
" 69, Unity.  
" 72, Royal Jubilee, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.  
" 83, United of Prudence, Albion, Aldersgate-st.  
" 144, St. Luke's, M.H., Mason's Avenue.  
" 188, Joppa, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.  
" 256, Unions, F.M.H.  
" 1319, Asaph, F.M.H.  
" 1625, Tredegar, Royal Hot., Mile End-rd.  
Chap. 91, Regularity, F.M.H.  
" 1056, Victoria, M.H., Masons' Avenue.  
Red Cross Con., Premier, 68, Regent-st., W.

#### 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.  
Upper Norwood, White Hart Hot., Church-rd.  
Marquis of Ripon, Pembury Tav., Amherst-rd., Hackney.

#### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5.

Lodge 7, Royal York of Perseverance, F.M.H.  
" 18, Old Dundee.  
" 101, Temple, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.  
" 172, Old Concord, F.M.H.  
" 217, Stability, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.  
" 765, St. James's, Bridge House Hot.  
" 1257, Grosvenor, Caledonian Hot., Adelphi.  
" 1259, Duke of Edinburgh, C. of G. Hope Tav., E  
" 1261, Golden Rule, Regent M.H., Regent-st.  
" 1298, R. Standard, Wellington Club, Upper-st., N  
" 1381, Kennington, Surrey Tav., Kennington Oval  
" 1383, Friends in Council, 33, Golden-sq.  
" 1472, Henley, Three Crowns Hot., Woolwich.  
Chap. 145, Prudent Brethren, F.M.H.  
" 169, Temperance, White Swan, High-st., Deptford

#### 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, Hercules Tav., Aldersgate-st.  
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.  
Constitutional, Wheatheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.  
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.  
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.  
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone.  
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.  
St. John of Wapping, Gun Hot., High-st., Wapping.  
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.

#### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6.

Quar. Com. Grand Lodge, at 6 for 7.  
Lodge 511, Zetland, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.  
" 1585, Royal Commemoration, Star & Garter, Putney.

#### 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.  
Mount Edgumbe, 19, Jermyn-st., St. James's.  
Peckham, Malsmore 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.  
Lewis, King's Arms Hot., Wood Green.  
Langthorne, Swan Hot., Stratford.

#### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7.

Lodge 10, Westminster and Keystone, F.M.H.  
" 27, Egyptian, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.  
" 45, Strong Man, M.H., Masons' Avenue.  
" 92, Moira.  
" 192, Lion and Lamb, Cannon-st. Hot.  
" 227, Ionic, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.  
" 231, St. Andrew's, F.M.H.  
" 538, La Tolerance, F.M.H.  
" 558, Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.  
" 822, Victoria Rifles, F.M.H.  
" 1178, Perfect Ashlar, Bridge House Hot.  
" 1351, St. Clement Danes, 265, Strand.  
" 1445, Prince Leopold, Sandringham-rd., Kingsland.  
" 1539, Surrey Masonic Hall, S.M.H.  
Chap. 2, St. James's, F.M.H.  
" 9, Moriah, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.  
" 174, Sincerity, Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars.

#### 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, Cheapside.  
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.  
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.  
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.  
Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.

#### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8.

Lodge 134, Caledonian, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.  
" 157, Bedford, F.M.H.  
" 177, Domestic, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.  
" 1275, Star, Ship Hot., Greenwich.  
" 1420, Earl Spencer, New Wandsworth.  
Precep. 26, Faith and Fidelity, Cannon-st. Hot.

#### LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.  
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.  
Belgrave, Constitution, Bedford-st., Covent Garden.  
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 Courts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.  
Royal Standard, The Castle, Holloway-rd.

Ranelagh, Clarendon Hot., Hammersmith.  
Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.  
St. George's, Globe Tav., Greenwich.  
Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.  
William Preston, Upper George-st., Edware-rd.

#### MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, December 9, 1876.

#### MONDAY, DECEMBER 4.

Lodge 112, Unanimity, Bull Hot., Church-st., Preston.  
" 1045, Stamford, T.H., Altrincham.  
" 1051, Rowley, M.R., Athenæum, Lancaster.  
" 1264, Neptune, M.H., Liverpool.  
" 1380, Skelmersdale, Queen's Hot., Waterloo.  
Everton L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.  
Skelmersdale Red Cross Con., 77, M.H., Liverpool.

#### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5.

Lodge 178, Antiquity, Royal Hot., Wigan.  
" 673, St. John's, M.H., Liverpool.  
" 995, Furness, M.T., Ulverston.  
" 1384, Equity, Walker's Com. Hot., Widnes.  
" 1476, Blackpool, Clifton Arms Hot., Blackpool.  
Chap. 203, St. John of Jerusalem, M.H., Liverpool.  
Mark Lodge 161, Walton, Schl. Rm., Croylands-st., Lpool.  
Merchants' L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

#### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6.

Lodge 730, Ellesmere, Royal Oak Hot., Chorley.  
" 1013, Royal Victoria, M.H., Liverpool.  
" 1061, Triumph, M.H., Lytham.  
" 1335, Lindsay, 20, King-st., Wigan.  
" 1354, Marquis of Lorne, M.R., Leigh.  
" 1403, W. Lancashire, Com. Hot., Ormskirk.  
Chap. 477, Fidelity, 55, Argyle-st., Birkenhead.  
De Grey and Ripon L. of I., N. Hill-st., Liverpool.  
Downshire L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.  
Harmonic L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

#### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7.

Lodge 249, Mariners, M.H., Liverpool.  
" 1473, Bootle, Assembly Rooms, Bootle.  
Chap. 758, Bridgewater, M.H., Runcorn.  
St. John L. of I., M.H., Runcorn.  
St. John's L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

#### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8.

Lodge 155, Perseverance, M.H., Liverpool.  
" 1289, Rock, Bedford House, Rock Ferry.

#### MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, December 9, 1876.  
All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

#### MONDAY, DECEMBER 4.

Lodge 20, St. John, M.H., Lesmahagow.  
" 124, Kilwinning, Union Tav., Ayr.  
" 129, St. Mirren, 5, Moss-st., Paisley.  
" 138, Operative, Blue Bell Hot., Ayr.  
" 237, St. John, Masonic Arms, Girvan.  
" 332, Union, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.  
" 581, Plantation, Craigiehall-st., S.S., Glasgow.  
Chap. 53, Dumbarton, Elephant Hot., Dumbarton.  
" 119, Rosslyn, 25, Robertson-st.

#### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5.

Lodge 33, St. John, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.  
" 68, Doric Kilwinning, 44, Church-st., Port Glsqw.  
" 73, Thistle and Rose, 213, Buchanan-st., Glsqw.  
" 87, Thistle, 30, Cathedral-st., Glasgow.  
" 173, St. John Kilwinning, M.H., Largs.  
" 177, St. James, Old Monkland, M.H., Coatbridge.  
" 406, St. John Dalziel, M.H., Motherwell.  
" 433, St. Thomas, Eglinton Hot. Dalmellington.  
" 437, Govandale, M.H., Portland Buildings, Govan.  
" 442, Neptune, M.H., Princes Lane, Ardrossan.  
" 497, St. John, Brewery Lesser Hall, Catrine.

#### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6.

Lodge 0, Mother Kilwinning, M.H., Kilwinning.  
" 4, Glasgow Kilwinning, 162, Kent-rd., Glasgw.  
" 21, Old St. John, M.H., Lanark.  
" 86, Navigation, Navigation Arms Hot., Troon.  
" 117, St. Mary, M.H., Douglas-st., Partick.  
" 126, St. Andrew, George Hot., Kilmarnock.  
" 128, St. John, M.H., Shettleston.  
" 160, St. John, M.H., Airdrie.  
" 198, Royal Arch, King's Arms Hot., Maybole.  
" 202, St. Clement, Com. H., Croft-st., Kilmarnock.  
" 233, Hamilton, Spalding's Hot., Hamilton.  
" 331, St. Peter, Portland Arms, Galston.  
" 354, Caledonian Railway, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow.  
" 571, Dramatic, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow (3p.m.)  
Chap. 87, Shamrock and Thistle, 12, Trongate, Glasgw

#### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7.

Lodge 11, St. John, King's Arms, Maybole.  
" 22, St. John Kilwinning, George H., Kilmarnock.  
" 27, St. Mungo, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.  
" 149, St. Andrew, Masons' Arms, Irvine.  
" 157, St. John Kilwinning, M.H., Beith.  
" 165, Royal Arch, King's Arms, Ayr.  
" 290, Blair, White Hart Hot., Dalry.  
" 320, St. John, R.A., M.H., Saltcoats & Ardrossan.  
" 370, Renfrew County Kilw., 8, High-st., Paisley.  
" 465, St. Andrew, 69, Garngad-rd., Glasgow, (7.30.  
" 547, Stewart, M.H., Kilsyth.

#### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8.

Lodge 18, Dumbarton, M.H., Church-st., Dumbarton.  
" 147, Cadder Argyle, M.H., Chryston.  
" 153, Royal Arch, M.H., Cogan-st., Pollokshaws.  
" 170, Leven St. John, Black Bull Inn, Renton.  
" 427, St. Clair, M.H., Cambusnethan.  
Chap. 144, St. Rollox, 69, Garngad-rd., Glasgow.

### MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, December 9, 1876.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4.  
Lodge 429, St. Kentigern, Royal Hot., Penicik.  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5.  
Lodge 5, Canongate and Leith, 86, Constitution-st.  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7.  
Lodge 97, St. James, M.H., Writers'-ct.  
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8.  
Chap. 56, Canongate Kilwinning, M.H., St. John-st.

### TO BUILDERS.

THE BUILDING COMMITTEE OF THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS invite Tenders for erecting a NEW LAUNDRY at the premises, Battersea Rise. Forms of Tender may be obtained from the Secretary, at the Office of the Institution, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, W.C., and the drawings and specification may be seen at the Office of the Surveyor, Mr. Massa, 4, Dowgate Hill, Cannon-street, E.C. The quantities and particulars may be obtained on payment of £5 to the Secretary, which will be returned on receipt of a bona-fide Tender. No Tender will be received unless on the printed form issued. The Tenders are to be sent to the Office, Freemasons' Hall, not later than 12 o'clock on Thursday, the 21st day of December, 1876.

The works are to be commenced in May next, and the Contractor will have to name in his Tender two substantial sureties to enter with himself, into a bond of £1000 penalty for the due and proper execution of the Works. The Committee does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any Tender, nor to pay any expenses attending the same.

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Single Rooms from 3½ to 5 Guineas.  
Double Rooms from 6 to 9 Guineas.  
Private Sitting Rooms from 3 Guineas. Per day from Half-guinea.  
Charges for Visitors, Luncheon 2s. 6d. Dinner 5s. Supper à la Carte.

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