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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

FAITH LODGE (No. 141).—A meeting of this old lodge was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Tuesday, the 28th ult. There were present at the opening of the lodge Bros. M. Davis, W.M.; E. Mallett, S.W.; E. Hopwood, P.M. 131, 1512, acting J.W.; Waygood, I.P.M.; Stuart, P.M., Sec.; Peavor, P.M.; Themans, P.M.; Gumball, S.D.; Walls, A.D.C., acting I.G.; Longstaffe, Tyler. Later on the staff of officers were supplemented by Bros. Taylor, P.M.; Carter, Treas.; Dairey, J.W.; Byc, J.D.; Whitby, I.G.; Morrison, A.W.S.; Heaphy, D.C. The minutes of the installation meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M. passed Bro. Travers, and raised Bro. Rothenburg. The ceremonies were exceedingly well performed. At the conclusion of the latter ceremony another candidate for passing arrived in the person of Bro. Stokes, who, notwithstanding his want of punctuality, had the good fortune to receive his degree. The W.M.'s labours were still further protracted by his having to initiate Mr. Allen into Craft mysteries, which "work" having been satisfactorily carried out, Bro. Taylor, P.M., brought forward a notice of motion given by him at the last meeting, that the initiation fee should be increased to ten guineas, and the joining fee to five guineas, and that the annual subscription should be raised to three guineas. In speaking upon his proposition, Bro. Taylor stated that as there appeared to be a divided opinion upon the latter motion he was willing to withdraw it, although he wished the lodge to understand that the increased subscription was only intended to affect members joining in and after January, 1877. He then went on to state that in the brief course of three or four years the lodge had drifted from a highly prosperous to a very precarious state, and concluded by saying that as the subject was so important it was necessary that it should be fully and freely discussed, and he should therefore reserve his other remarks in support of the motion until any brethren who desired to speak upon the matter had finished. Bro. Hopwood, P.M., in seconding the proposition, said that when he joined the lodge some nineteen years ago, at a low fee, there were only thirty or forty members belonging to it, but the funds were comparatively in good condition. At the present time, and with higher fees, they were three times as strong, but the balance, according to the last audit, was on the wrong side. In conclusion, Bro. Hopwood gave as his opinion that as Freemasonry had of late years made such gigantic strides by the influx of new members the Faith would find plenty of persons willing to pay ten guineas in order to have the honour of becoming members of so old and popular a lodge as No. 141. The proposition having been fully discussed pro and con by Bros. Carter, Walls, Pilbrow, and others, Bro. Taylor, P.M., again addressed the brethren at length. He said he thought that 120 members, which number constituted, he believed, their present strength, was large enough for any lodge. If their numbers increased too rapidly there would not be sufficient room, either in the lodge or in the banquet hall, to accommodate them properly, and he further said that large lodges were not to be admired. Bro. Walls had said that "quality, not quantity," was the Masonic desideratum, and he (Bro. Taylor), quite agreed with him. If the fees were increased, and the house-bills economised, the lodge would be able to support the three great Craft charities to a larger extent than it had of late years done. They must also not forget that there was a very great difference in the value of money now than there was formerly, and in conclusion the speaker forcibly said that the members then present by supporting his motion, would be doing justice not only to the lodge, but to the fraternity at large. The motion having been formally put by the W.M., was carried by a very large majority. The lodge was shortly afterwards closed, and the brethren adjourned to the last Tuesday in January next. The visitors were Bros. Pitt, 463, and Whelon, 1035. There was no banquet.

CAVEAC LODGE (No. 176).—This lodge met at the "Albion," Aldersgate-st., London, on Saturday, the 9th inst. Present:—Bros. W. Goss, W.M.; P. A. Nairne, P.M., as S.W.; J. B. Sorrell, J.W.; Stansfield, S.D.; Neumegen, J.D.; Thorpe, I.G.; C. Dovey, P.M. and Sec.; C. Browne, P.M. and D.C.; P. Browne, P.M. and Treas.; Sorrell, I.P.M.; Besley, P.M., and Lemann, P.M.; Lamb, Kirkness, Griffiths, Morrice, Jones, Akenhead, Payne, Moore, Boyson, and others. Visitors:—W. Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, P. G. Chaplain; James Stevens, P.M. 1426;

A. H. Lilley, P.M. 12; John Constable, P.M. 185; Edward Clarke, P.M. 134, and Alfred Grubb, 73, I.C. Lodge was opened, passed into Second Degree, and Bro. Bayson most ably passed to the degree of F.C. Several matters of lodge business having been attended to, the brethren subsequently assembled at banquet, which was most excellently served and was admirably presided over by the W.M., whose brief but apt and forcible introduction of the several loyal and principal Masonic toasts evinced a more than exceptional ability for the position of chairman. For Grand Lodge Officers, the Past Grand Chaplain, Bro. Simpson, responded, congratulating the lodge on its progress and working, and, referring to the Special Grand Lodge about to be called for the purpose of considering the best means for commemorating the return of the M.W. Grand Master, hoped that all divergence of opinion might give way to an unanimous acceptance of whatever decision might then be arrived at, he being quite assured that the object of each and all who took interest in the matter was a full and perfect accord throughout the Craft that the honour proposed might be acceptable to the Chief of the Order. The W. Master's health having been drank with enthusiastic response to the fair laudation with which the toast had been given, the W.M. replied in appropriate terms of acknowledgment, and gave the toast of "The Visitors." Bros. Lilley and Clarke replied, and Bro. Stevens, in obedience to the general request, also responded. He stated that he had accompanied Bro. Simpson from "The Great City" Lodge, then holding its meeting at Cannon-street Hotel, for the purpose of representing that lodge, and conveying to the W.M. and brethren of the "Caveac" expressions of cordial greeting and hearty good wishes. The reception he had that evening experienced at their hands was not only gratifying to himself personally, but would be greatly appreciated by the lodge he represented; and he ventured to suggest the practicability as well as policy of lodges, whose dates of meeting were concurrent, being represented by one or more members from the respective lodges in session. It would serve to cement the bond of union and good fellowship which they as Freemasons desired to encourage, and would enable them to keep up that association, the one with the other, which the circumstance of their being in different places at the same moment at present rendered almost, and in any other way, impossible. He thought it probable he might yet again meet the members of "The Great City" Lodge before they separated on that evening, and, if so, he would through the W.M. of that lodge notify to them the cordial reception they had accorded to him as their representative on this occasion. "The Healths of Bros. Dovey, Sec.; and Brown, Treas., were drank, and the charity box circulated. A "whip round," in accordance with annual custom, was made for the purpose of affording a "Cheery Christmas" to the worthy Tyler, who, after the services of "The Officers" had been recognised, gave the "final toast," and so brought an agreeable and thoroughly practical Masonic meeting to a highly satisfactory termination.

LEWIS LODGE (No. 1185).—At an emergency meeting a large number of the members of this lodge assembled at the King's Arms Hotel, Wood Green, on Saturday, 2d inst., pursuant to summons, for the purpose of passing a vote of sympathy with the widow and family of their late Treasurer, W. Bro. S. May, who was also one of the founders of this lodge, and to elect a Treasurer in his stead. Bro. Turner, W.M. presided, supported by the following Past Masters of the lodge, viz., Bros. Cover, Leared (Sec.) Edwards, Row, and Durrant, together with the officers, Bros. Shipwright, S.W.; Sayer, J.W.; Bone, S.D.; Berrie, J.D.; and Hooper, I.G. The lodge having been opened in due form with solemn prayer, there were four passings and two initiations taken first, in order to give the brethren full time to assemble, after which Bro. Turner, W.M., addressed the brethren as follows:—Brethren, I have called this lodge of emergency together for a special purpose, one which I have not the slightest doubt will recommend itself to every member—that of sympathising with the widow and family of our late much respected and lamented Bro. May, who was one of the founders of this lodge, and who has been our Treasurer from the very first; and you, brethren, know how efficiently he discharged the duties of that office. Taking into account the very kind interest which Bro. May has always taken in the welfare and happiness of this lodge, the truly Masonic spirit displayed by him on all occasions, and the deep and sincere interest which he has always taken in our noble charities—of which we are all justly proud—I have not the slightest fear but that the resolution about to be proposed by Bro. Cover—one of the founders, and now senior Past Master of this lodge, will receive your entire approbation. Bro. May was with us at our last meeting, having left, I might almost say, his death bed on purpose to be present, but was too ill to remain long. For my own part I shall ever remember the kind and hearty manner in which on that occasion he congratulated me on my installation as Master of this lodge. I shall now without further comment ask Bro. Cover to read his proposed resolution. W. Bro. Cover having addressed a few well-chosen remarks as to the high esteem in which Bro. May was held—not only by this lodge, but generally, and pointing out that of the founders there are now but two, himself and Bro. Leared, P.M. (Sec.), left as subscribing members—proposed a vote of sympathy with the widow and family of their late Bro. May, for their great and irreparable loss. This having been seconded by Bro. Leared, met with the unanimous approbation of the lodge. W. Bro. Durrant, I.P.M., was elected as Treasurer in the room of Bro. May, deceased. This having concluded the business of the evening the lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren separated, there being no banquet on this melancholy occasion.

THE GREAT CITY LODGE (No. 1426).—The regular meeting of The Great City Lodge was held on

Saturday evening, Dec. 9th, at the Cannon-street Hotel, and was well attended. Bro. John Seex, W.M., presided. There were also present Bros. R. Stan-nay, S.W.; J. Freeman, J.W.; R. J. Simpson, Chap.; N. B. Headon, Treas.; E. Moody, Sec.; Blockie, S.D.; Catchpole, J.D.; J. Jenkins, Org.; Hamer, I.G., and Kibble and Hook, Stewards. The lodge having been opened and the minutes read and confirmed, the lodge was opened in the Second Degree, when Bros. Shaw and Cartwright were raised to the Sublime Degree. The next business was the passing of Bro. Libersart to the Second Degree. The lodge was then resumed to the First Degree, and after a ballot Mr. Louis Charles Brocks was introduced and impressively initiated into the mysteries of ancient Freemasonry, the whole of the three ceremonies being well rendered by the W.M. The next business was the discussion of a notice of motion, given by Bro. Townend, I.P.M., for the alteration of one of the rules which pressed hardly upon any one wishing to resign the lodge, but the discussion terminated in the notice of motion being negatived. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment. At its close the W.M. gave "The Queen and the Craft," which was duly honoured. The W.M. said the next toast was "The Health of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, the Prince of Wales," and remarked that there was no place where that toast was received more heartily, or shown a greater amount of honour than in The Great City Lodge. The toast was received with hearty enthusiasm and the Masonic honours. The W.M. said the next toast he had to propose he was sure would be received with the same welcome as the former ones, as it was "The Health of the Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon, the Deputy Grand Master, Lord Skelmersdale, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Past and Present." He was sure that they would give the toast a hearty welcome, as they were not merely ornamental but useful members of the Craft, which they had lately proved by the efficient manner in which they had done the work at the Lodge of Emulation, and he had no doubt but that it would stimulate every Mason to perform his duties to the Craft. The toast was well received. Bro. Townend, I.P.M., said he was authorised to introduce a toast to their notice, which he was sure would be received with acclamation by the brethren, as it was "The Health of the W.M." For himself he regretted that he was not present to hear him work the ritual that night, but he knew from experience what he could do, and the excellent manner in which that ritual was rendered by him, and he was kind and genial to all who came in contact with him, either as a Mason or an individual. He, therefore, asked them to drink The health of the W.M. in the usual cordial manner of The Great City Lodge. The W.M., in reply, said while the honour was conferred upon him of being the W.M. of The Great City Lodge he felt the great responsibility imposed upon him of carrying out the duties of the chair. The observations of their I.P.M. exceeded anything he deserved, and his desire was to perform his duties, which would be a sufficient reward to him without being overloaded with praise. He was glad to possess their good wishes, hoping to do his duty with some credit to himself, and he trusted to the satisfaction of the members of the lodge. The W.M. said he was sure the next toast would be received in a fraternal spirit, as it was one that mainly affected the vitality of the Craft. There had been no meeting of The Great City Lodge without the W.M. having with great pleasure to refer to the subject of instruction. The brother who had that night been initiated was well known to a brother in the lodge by whom he had been proposed, and they received him with a hearty welcome. They always received a new brother with honour, respect, and esteem, and above all with that friendship which one member of the Craft should bear to another. With those few remarks he asked them to drink "The Health of their Newly-Initiated Brother Brocks." Bro. Brocks said he was greatly pleased at the manner he had been received amongst them, and hoped to belong to them for many years. The W.M. said he had then to bring under their notice a toast, which was the health of those brethren who had already reaped the honours of the occupation of the chair in that young lodge. Their Immediate Past Master, Bro. Townend, had had a very successful year; he had been well received and worked heartily for the benefit of the lodge. As to their senior Past Master, Bro. Headon, the less that was said as to his position in the lodge the greater honour would it confer upon him. He gave "The Health of the Past Masters of the Lodge." Bro. Townend, I.P.M., said that he was obliged that the W.M. had spoken of him, as he had done his duty to the best of his ability, although he had learned another ritual different from that worked in the lodge. He knew Bro. Headon's abilities as a Mason, and he only wished that he was able to work the ceremonies as he was. He assured them that at all times he was ready and willing to advance the interests of The Great City Lodge, as he always had them at heart, and he should always be willing to impart any knowledge to the younger brethren who aspired to the chair. The W. Master next gave a toast which he said was more welcome than any other to the W. Master of The Grand City Lodge, as it was The Health of their Visiting Brethren, and having enumerated those present asked the brethren to do honour to the toast. Bro. Roberts, of Lodge No. 1594, returned thanks. The W. Master in giving "The Health of the Treasurer and Secretary of the Lodge, Bros. Headon and Moody," said he looked upon that as the most important toast of the evening, for the services they rendered to the Lodge were most important and required great discrimination on their part. He was sure all the members were greatly indebted to Bro. Moody for the manner in which he carried out his duties as Secretary, for as it was a very large lodge he undoubtedly held a most responsible position, and he was sure that although he had only made

a few remarks the toast itself would ensure its hearty reception. Bro. Headon said he rose with great pleasure to return thanks for the very kind manner in which they had received the toast of Treasurer, and hoped he might have a large sum at the banker's, which he had not at the present time, for it was then very small. The Secretary, thanked the brethren for the cordial feeling that they had shown towards him that evening, which was most gratifying to him. Any hard work he had to perform would be a pleasure so long as the brethren were satisfied with him. Some other toasts were given, and the Tyler's toast brought a very harmonious meeting to a close.

IVY LODGE (No. 1441).—The last regular meeting of this young and flourishing lodge was held at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, on Tuesday, the 28th ult. Bro. J. J. Cantle, the P.M., presided, supported by P.M.'s Noke, Smith, Mattocks, Cottebrune, and Terry (the two latter being hon. members of the lodge), and numerous visitors, amongst whom we noticed Bros. Fabian, P.G.S.W. Hants; White, P.M. 22; Eames, P.M. 22; Frampton, P.M. 142; Hillhouse, P.M. 228; Parsons, P.M. 749, and others. The minutes of the previous meeting having been duly read and confirmed, the W.M. raised Bros. Coldwells and Arnold to the Degree of M.M. Bro. Bowley was afterwards passed into Fellow Craft. Messrs. E. W. Catling and W. G. Reynolds were balloted for, and, being unanimously approved, admitted into the mysteries of our ancient Craft. It is almost needless to say that the whole of the ceremonies were rendered in a most effective and impressive manner. Bro. J. W. St. John Hunt, of the Grey Friars Lodge, No. 1101, having been duly balloted for, was admitted as a joining member. A very pleasant episode followed. The W.M., after passing a very high encomium upon Bro. C. S. Jolly, P.M. 87, the Hon. Sec., and one of the founders of the lodge, whom he stated had from the very first worked hard for its success, presented him with a very handsome emblem, combining a Past Master and Secretary's jewel, which had been unanimously voted at a previous meeting as a slight acknowledgment of his services, and bore a suitable inscription. Bro. Jolly, in responding, thanked the W.M. and brethren, and said the work had been with him "a labour of love," and that as long as he possessed health and strength Ivy Lodge should have such hearty services as he could give. After some minor business was concluded, the lodge was closed in ancient form, and the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet presided over by the W.M., and a very enjoyable evening was spent, an interesting feature being the introduction of two talented young ladies, Misses Lucy Steward and Claremont, whose singing was generally admired. We must not omit to notice that the well-known trio, Calcott's "Red Cross Knight," was admirably rendered by these ladies in conjunction with the W.M. A recitation by one of the initiates, Bro. Reynolds, was excellently delivered and much admired. Bro. Knight Smith presided at the piano-forte with his usual ability. The usual toasts were duly honoured. Bro. Cottebrune, who paid a high compliment to the working of the W.M., whom he had the pleasure of introducing into Freemasonry, responded to "The Grand Officers" toast. In response to the toast of "The Initiates," both the newly-made brethren made excellent speeches. Bro. Terry replied to the toast of "The Masonic Charities" at length, giving the brethren considerable information as to each of the three great institutions, and the progress which had been made during the last few years, closing with an eloquent appeal on behalf of the Aged Masons' Institution. We understand, by the bye, that the W.M. intends acting as Steward at the next festival, when it is hoped that H.R.H. Prince Leopold may be well enough to preside, and from what we know of the Ivy Lodge, we are convinced that the W.M. will be able to present a good list. The Charities first appears to be the maxim of this lodge—a tithe of all the receipts are put by for this purpose. To the toast of "The Visitors," coupled with the name of Bro. Fabian, that brother, as the hour was getting late, only responded in a short telling speech, concluded with the hope that the Ivy Lodge might long flourish in connection with the "grand old" oak, Freemasonry. The Tyler's toast closed a very pleasant evening's proceedings.

BATH.—Royal Cumberland Lodge (No. 41).—This old lodge held a regular meeting on Thursday, Dec. 7th, and was opened by Bro. Brown, W.M., at 7.30. He was supported by the following: Bros. Clark, I.P.M.; Cooper, P.M.; Captain Floyd, P.M.; Carey, P.M.; Mitchell, P.M.; Wilton, P.M. and Dir. of Cers.; Ashley, P.M. and Treas.; Dr. Hopkins, P.M. 43 and 958; Hunt, as S.W.; Falkner, J.W.; C. Wilkinson, Sec.; Braham, S.D.; Robinson, as J.D.; Radway, Steward; Gummer, I.G.; Bigwood, Tyler, and many members. There were also present as visitors Bros. Moutrie, P.M. 906; Mundy, 906; Freeman, Fuller, and Reynolds. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge having been opened in the Third Degree, Bro. Dr. Hopkins took the chair by request of the W.M., and raised Bro. Yeomans to the degree of M.M., explaining the working tools, giving the charge and an elaborate lecture on the degree, which was listened to with great attention. The lodge was then brought down to the First Degree by Bro. Brown, W.M. In accordance with previous notice, on the proposition of Bro. Ashley, seconded by Bro. Dr. Hopkins, after some discussion, an alteration was made in the rate of subscription, reducing it by one half to members who reside at a greater distance from Bath than 50 miles, provided that they also belong to another lodge; but any such non-residents holding office in Lodge 41 must pay the full subscription. A donation of ten guineas was voted to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, to be placed on the list of Bro. General Doherty, who proposes to attend as Steward at the next annual festival. A letter from Bro. Davis was read in grateful acknowledgment of the kind sympathy expressed

towards him by formal resolution during his recent long illness. Several candidates for initiation were proposed. The lodge was closed at 10 p.m.

PRESCOT.—Lodge of Loyalty (No. 86).—This fine old lodge, which has been considerably over 100 years in existence, celebrated its anniversary installation on Wednesday, the 29th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Prescott, near Liverpool. There was a larger muster than any seen at the meetings for a long time, and the admirable manner in which the day's proceedings were carried out must have given entire satisfaction. Bro. W. Tyrer, W.M., presided at the opening of the business, which commenced shortly after three o'clock, and amongst others present were Bros. J. T. Hall, P.M.; H. Scott, P.M.; J. W. Fowler, P.G.A.D.C., P.M.; Reginald Young, P.M.; J. W. R. Fowler, P.M.; Dr. S. Morris, P.M.; John Vaughan, S.W. (W.M. elect); H. Vaughan, J.W.; F. Smith, Sec.; A. Tebbutt, S.D.; R. Reynolds, J.D.; A. Fraser, Steward; R. G. Elstone, J.S.; R. C. Carter, R. Betley, J. Matthews, A. Robertson, A. Borthurst, W. Jameson, and W. H. Husband. The visitors present included Bros. Dr. Stephens, P.M. 32; P. M. Pankurst, 1384; J. B. Rumney, P. L. Fryer, 292; W. J. Dunn, 756; Calvert, C. Campion, and others. After the lodge had been duly opened, and the minutes of previous meeting confirmed, the chair was taken by Bro. J. W. J. Fowler, P.M., P.P.G.A.D.C., who installed Bro. John Vaughan as the W.M. of the "Loyalty" in a most satisfactory manner. The newly-installed W.M. afterwards invested the following as his officers:—Bros. Henry Vaughan, S.W.; A. Tebbutt, J.W.; W. Tyrer, I.P.M., Treas.; R. S. Reynolds, Sec.; N. B. Jackson, S.D.; A. Fraser, J.D.; R. G. Elstone, I.G.; and R. C. Carter and J. Matthews, Stewards. Attention was called to the death of Bro. T. Wylie, P.P.G. Registrar, one of the P.M.'s of the lodge, and it was unanimously agreed that a letter of condolence should be sent to his widow by the members of the lodge. At the conclusion of the business the brethren dined at the Crown Hotel, where an excellent banquet was provided. The W.M., Bro. J. Vaughan, presided, and he was supported by a very large number of excellent brethren. After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts had been given by the W.M. in exceedingly pointed and pithy terms (Bros. Leather and Fowler responding for the P.G. Officers), Bro. W. Tyrer, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M.," which was received most enthusiastically. Referring at some length to the history of some local lodges, Bro. Vaughan said that in 1807 there were 35 lodges in Lancashire, of which only four were in Liverpool, namely, The Sea Captains' Lodge, No. 115, which met at the Shakespeare Tavern, Sir Thomas's-buildings, every other Thursday; the Merchants, (then No. 344) meeting at the Star and Garter Tavern, on the first and third Thursday; the Mariners' Lodge (then 362, now 249), also meeting at the Shakespeare Tavern, Sir Thomas's-buildings, on the 1st and 3rd Thursday; and the Lodge of Sincerity (then 518, now 292) held at the York Hotel, Williamson-square, on the 1st and third Tuesday. In Manchester there were 9 lodges; Warrington, Wigan, Ormskirk, Oldham, Middleton, Prescott, Colne, Leigh, Haslingden, Ashton, and Staley-bridge each had one, and Rochdale, Burnley, Preston, and Lancaster each had two. Of the Liverpool ones three out of the four then in existence still survive, but the Sea Captains' (then No. 115) has disappeared from the roll. Of the nine held in Manchester at the time six have become defunct, and in their case unity does not appear to have been strength, for three of the dead lodges were called Unity, Union, and Unanimity, and there are now in Liverpool and the immediate neighbourhood as many lodges as existed in the whole of the county of Lancaster, North, East, South, and West, at the time he spoke of. Of the thirty-five lodges in existence at the beginning of the century 15 have disappeared from the roll altogether; some very curious changes have taken place, too, in the numbers of several of the lodges. The Ormskirk Lodge of Harmony, now 580, was at the beginning of the century 403, and a Bury lodge which was then 37 is now 42. He merely mentioned these facts to show the progress the Order was making, and to prove that there was a considerable amount of interesting matter for inquiry. Various other toasts followed, and during the evening Bro. J. T. Hall, P.M., in name of the members of the lodge, presented a most magnificent Past Master's jewel to Bro. W. Tyrer, I.P.M., in recognition of his valuable services to the lodge, especially during his year of office.

DOVER.—Peace and Harmony Lodge (No. 199).—The December meeting took place on the 4th inst., Bro. J. Bordeaux, W.M., presided, and there was an extra large attendance of brethren. Mr. George Saville, of Buckland, near Dover, and Mr. H. Cromwell Marsh, of Dover, were very impressively initiated by the W.M. The latter is eldest son of Bro. Charles Marsh, a member of Holmesdale Lodge, No. 874, Tunbridge Wells, and one of its founders. He is one of the oldest Masons in England, having been initiated in the Royal Cumberland Lodge, Bath, 6th of August, 1819, and was P.M. of the lodge, and P.Z. of the Royal Arch Chapter, to both of which he was a subscribing member over twenty years. He is also an honorary member of the Zetland Royal Arch Chapter, Sydney, N.S.W., being present at its inauguration in 1855. He also held the office of P.S.D. of the Lodge of Somerset. We may add that he is 88 years of age, and has been totally blind over twenty years.

WINDSOR.—Etonian Lodge of St. John (No. 209).—The second meeting of the session was held at the Masonic Hall, Windsor, on the 7th ult. Present: Bros. W. R. Denne, W.M.; Wilson, P.M., Treas., acting S.W.; Hume, J.W.; Carter, I.P.M., P.G.D.C., Sec.; Roberts, S.D.; Schiemann, J.D.; Nichols, I.G.; Strange, P.W., P.P.G.C.D., Dir. of Cers.; Dixon, P.M., P.P.G.D.C.; McIlwham, P.M.; Bryett, P.M.; Stedwell, P.M.;

Cousins, G. Woods, Mitchiner, Legg, Blizard, Prince, Day, Clay, Duffield, Evans, Spindler, Webster, and others. Visitors: Bros. Tolley, P.M. 771, P.P.G.S.D.; Hopwood, P.M. 141; Powell, P.M. 771; Bingham, P.M. 771; Willett, 771; Cantrell, W.M. 1501; and others. Bro. Mitchiner was raised to the Degree of Master Mason by Bro. J. O. Carter, I.P.M. Bro. Radcliffe was passed to the Degree of Fellow Craft by the W.M., and Messrs. Pitts and Miller initiated into Freemasonry by Bro. Dixon, P.M. The sum of ten guineas was voted to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. Two candidates for initiation and two for joining having been proposed, the lodge was, after some routine business, closed in due form. Bro. J. Carter, I.P.M., will serve as Steward at the next festival in aid of the Boys' School.

The third meeting of the season was held on the 5th inst. at the Masonic Hall, Windsor. The W.M., Bro. W. R. Denne, presided, supported by Bros. Wilson, P.M., acting S.W.; Hume, J.W.; Carter, I.P.M., P.G.D.C. Berks and Bucks, Sec.; Roberts, S.D.; Schiemann, J.D.; Dixon, P.M., P.D.C.; McIlwham, P.M.; Evans, Pears, Webster, Cousins, Legg, Mitchiner, Radcliffe, Miller, Pitt, and others. Visitors: Bros. Tolley, P.M. 771; Hopwood, P.M. 141; Powell, P.M. 771; Tagg; and others. Bro. Radcliffe was raised to the Degree of Master Mason by the W.M. Bros. Pitt and Miller were passed to the Second Degree by Bro. McIlwham, P.M., and Messrs. Robinson and Larkin initiated by Bro. Wilson, P.M. The election of W.M. for the ensuing year was then proceeded with, and resulted in the unanimous election of Bro. Hume, J.W. Bro. Wilson, P.M., was unanimously re-elected Treasurer. A Past Master's jewel was voted to Bro. Denne, W.M., to be presented at the next lodge meeting. After the annual votes to the local charities had been passed, the lodge, after some further business, was closed in due form.

SHEFFIELD.—Royal Brunswick Lodge (No. 296).—The Royal Brunswick Lodge held its annual installation meeting on Monday, the 11th inst., the Worshipful Master, Bro. Henry Ecroyd, occupying the chair. The lodge met in the famous "Cutler's Hall," owing to the Masonic premises in Surrey Street being still in process of reconstruction. The muster of Royal Brunswick members was large; the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Tew, and many brethren from the sister lodges of Sheffield, and from other towns, were also present. The minutes of the last lodge, and of an emergency lodge, having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for Bro. the Rev. Canon Blakeney as a joining member, and this highly-esteemed brother (Canon of York, and Vicar of St. Paul's, Sheffield), was declared duly elected. The business of the evening was then proceeded with, and Bro. John Ridal, S.W., and W.M. elect, was presented and obligated in due form. Brethren below the chair were asked to withdraw, and a Board of Installed Masters (twenty-one in number) was opened, during which Bro. Ridal was duly placed in the chair of K.S. The brethren having been readmitted they saluted the new W.M. in ancient style, after which he proceeded to appoint his officers for the ensuing year as follows:—Bros. Henry Ecroyd, I.P.M.; Walter Nicholson, S.W.; Robert Schott, J.W.; Dr. M. de Bartolome, Treas.; George Cubley, Sec.; William Skinner, (M.R.C.S.), S.D.; John Marples, J.D.; Thomas Harrison, D.C.; Clement Carr, I.G.; Moses Hartley and Walter Parkin, Stewards; Samuel Suckley, Organist; and Hessey, Tyler. The important duties of Charity Steward were again intrusted to our zealous Bro. Robert Arnison, (P.M., and P.P.G.S.B., West Yorks.) The installing officer of the evening was Bro. Ensor Drury, (P.M., and P.P.G.W., West Yorks), who performed the impressive ceremonies in his well-known masterly style. Our much esteemed Bro. William Longden was also present, and assisted in the installation ceremony. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to banquet under the presidency of Bro. Ridal, who proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, and had his own proposed, to which he responded, thanking his brethren for their hearty expression of fraternal regard and good-will. Amongst the visitors present were Bros. T. W. Tew, Deputy Prov. Grand Master for West Yorks.; Major Ryan, Royal Artillery, Grand Steward of Scotland; Clement Hamill Perrott, Prov. Grand Organist, W.M., of the Phoenix Lodge, Rotherham; Hale, W.M. of the Scarsdale Lodge, Chesterfield; Samuel Bramhall Ellis, W.M., of the Wentworth Lodge, Sheffield; William Jervis, W.M. elect of the Britannia Lodge, Sheffield, and others.

OXFORD.—The Alfred Lodge (No. 340).—A meeting of this, the oldest of the Oxford Lodges was held on the 5th inst. in the Masonic Hall, Alfred St., the chief business being to elect a W.M. and other officers for the ensuing year. The W.M. (Bro. Jules Bué, M. A. of Magdalene College (P.S.G.W.)) presided, and there was a large attendance of the brethren, about 80 being present. After the raising of Bro. Lamborne, the election of the new W.M. was proceeded with, when the choice of the brethren fell upon Bro. John Pratt P.S.G.W., the S.W. of the Lodge. Bro. H. Houghton, P.M., was re-elected as Treasurer; Bros. E. Horn and S. Harris were again chosen as Stewards; and Bros. Stephens and Norwood as Tylers. The present W.M. was appointed a member of the Charity Committee, and Bros. Sheard, Park, Horn, Jenkins, and Harris were appointed as additional members of the Audit Committee. The anniversary festival was fixed for Tuesday, Jan. 2nd, and the audit meeting for the previous Thursday. The W.M. announced his intention of acting as Steward at the forthcoming Benevolent Institution Festival. At the conclusion of the business an adjournment was made to the banqueting room, where under the genial presidency of the W.M., an enjoyable evening was spent.

BATH.—Lodge of Honour (No. 379).—The chief meeting of the year for installation of new officers

was held at the Masonic Hall on Monday, Dec. 11th, at 3 p.m. Bro. G. Cook, W.M., opened the lodge punctually, supported by Bro. Dr. Hopkins as I.P.M.; H. Gore, S.W.; H. C. Hopkins, J.W.; Dickenson, Secretary; Robinson as J.D.; Gummer as I.G.; Gazzard, Tyler. The presence in the ante-room was then announced of W. Bro. Else, D.P.G.M., who was at once admitted, and received with the usual salute. He was accompanied by the following: Major Ramsay, District Grand Master of the Punjab, India; Cooper, P.M. 41; Brown, W.M. 41; R. Cook, P.M. 379; Capt. Peel Floyd, P.M. 41; General Doherty, P.M. 53 and 906; Davis, P.M. 379; Marshall, P.M. 53; Dr. Tunstall, P.M. 53; Bush, P.M. 1363; Payton P.M. 284; Sumson, P.M. 855; Phillips, P.M. 626, and others. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the lodge was opened in the 2nd Degree. Bro. Dr. Hopkins took the chair, and examined Bros. Johnston and Baldwin, after which they were entrusted and dismissed for preparation. The lodge was opened in the 3rd Degree, the candidates were re-admitted, and raised to the rank of M.M. Bro. Cooper acted as Chaplain. The symbolism of the working tools was explained by Bro. Bush. The ceremony was concluded by Bro. Dr. Hopkins giving the charge. Bro. Cook again took the chair, and resumed the lodge in the 2nd Degree. He then invited the D.P.G.M. to preside and instal his successor. After the usual preliminary proceedings, the lodge was again opened in the 3rd degree, the brethren who had not passed the chair retired, a Board of Installed Masters was constituted, and Bro. Gore was installed as W.M. for the ensuing year. On the return of the brethren, the customary proceedings were efficiently carried out, and the following were invested as the new officers:—G. H. Cook, I.P.M.; H. C. Hopkins, S.W.; Dickenson, J.W.; Davis, P.M., Secretary; Smyth, S.D.; Johnston, J.D.; Baldwin, I.G.; Gazzard, Tyler. Votes of thanks were passed to the D.P.G.M. for his able assistance as Installing Master; to Bro. Dr. Hopkins for having worked the ceremony of raising; to Major Ramsay and other visitors for the sanction of their presence. Several gentlemen were proposed as candidates for initiation, other business was transacted, and the lodge was closed at 6 o'clock. About twenty brethren adjourned to the Castle Hotel for the annual banquet. This is a small lodge, and during the past year it has suffered severely from the hand of death, but there appears every promise of fresh vigour and of increased numbers.

OXFORD.—Churchill Lodge (No. 478).—A meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, Alfred-street, on the 4th inst., when there was a large attendance of members of the lodge and visitors. The W.M., Bro. H. O. Wakeman, B.A., fellow of All Souls' College, P.P.J.G.W., presided, and was supported among others by the Dep. Prov. G.M., Bro. R. Bird, M.A., (Fellow of Magdalen College); and Bros. J. H. Jukes, P.M. 892, and Past Prov. G.J.W. of Herefordshire; W. F. Smith, P.M. of the Isaac Newton Lodge, 859, Cambridge; H. R. Cooper Smith, B.A., Magdalen College, P.M.; W. Thompson, P.M. 340; W. Peppercorn, Prov. G.R.; W. Parratt, B. Mus., of Magdalen College, Prov. G. Organist; Rev. L. K. Hilton, M.A., Chaplain of 357; Rev. H. Deane, B.D., Chaplain of 340; and others. The W.M. having held a Lodge of Instruction in the First Degree, the attention of the brethren was called to the claims of the Benevolent Institution, at the forthcoming annual festival of which the Prov. G.M. Oxon (H.R.H. Prince Leopold) will preside, a call that was duly responded to later on. The W.M. stated that he would act as one of the Stewards on that occasion. After various matters affecting the well-being of the lodge had been discussed, the brethren sat down to a banquet. The W.M. occupied the chair, and the proceedings were of a particularly festive and harmonious character. Col. Sargent, C.B., of the Melita Lodge, No. 437, who commands the military depot of this district, has been elected a joining member of the lodge.

SOUTHEND.—Priory Lodge (No. 1000).—The regular monthly meeting of this flourishing lodge was held at the Middleton Hotel, Southend, on Thursday, the 30th ult. The W.M., Bro. E. E. Phillips was supported by the following officers and brethren, viz.:—Bros. A. Lucking, P.M. 160, Prov. A.G.D.C., I.P.M.; Rev. S. R. Wigram, G. Chap., S.W.; F. D. Grayson, acting J.W.; J. A. Wardell, P.M. 160 and 1000 P.P.G.D., Organist, Sec.; J. R. Hemmann, P.M., P.P.G.D., Organist; G. F. Jones, acting S.D.; W. P. Belliss, J.D.; J. C. Johnstone, P.M., 20 (I.C.), acting I.G.; H. Rowley, P.M., P.P.G.D.; H. Luker, W. H. Lockey, W. D. Merritt; W. Waterhouse; F. Cantor, W. H. Norman, H. Hicks, B. J. Mackie, Rev. H. J. Hatch, W.M. 160, P.P.G. Chap.; F. J. Jillings, S.W. 160; W. Wallis; D. English, P. Benton, jun. Visitors: Bros. W. Pissey, P.M. 160, P.P.J.G.W.; J. Jonas, P.M. Panmure, 715; T. F. Barrett, Fitzalan, 1432. The business consisted of the three degrees, but the candidates for initiation and passing were both unavoidably absent, Bro. Henry Smith the candidate for the 3rd Degree being present he was raised to the sublime degree of a M.M. After a joining member had been proposed the lodge was duly closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment. The loyal and Masonic toasts were given and well received. The Tyler's toast brought the proceedings to a close.

DERBY.—Hartington Lodge (No. 1085).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Gower-street, on Wednesday, November 25th. The lodge was opened at 7.30 p.m. in the First Degree. The brethren present were Bros. S. Pipes, W.M.; M. H. Bobart, P.M.; W. Heathcote, S.W.; T. Godsby, J.W.; H. Bobart, Treas.; J. Worsnop, P.M., as Sec.; J. O. Mantou, as S.D.; W. Butterfield, as I.G.; T. Slinn, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. Cox, P.P.S.G.W.; Marsden, P.P.S.G.W.; Bennett, W.M. 731. After the circular had been read, and likewise the minutes of the last

lodge, the ballot was taken for Mr. William Nicholson Kay, brick manufacturer, who was duly elected. The charge in the First Degree was delivered to Bro. Walters by Bro. Cox, P.P.S.G.W., who was then examined in the questions leading from the First to the Second Degree, which being answered satisfactorily, he retired for preparation. The lodge being opened in the Second Degree, Bro. Walters was passed in ancient and solemn form by P.M. Bobart. Bro. Gore was raised to the Sublime Degree of a M.M. in ancient and solemn form by Bro. P.M. Bobart. A candidate being proposed brought the business of the lodge to a close, after which the brethren adjourned to supper, and enjoyed themselves in a most agreeable manner.

MIRFIELD.—Mirfield Lodge (No. 1102).—On Friday, the 8th inst., the installation of Bro. John Walmsley, S.W., as W.M. of the above lodge took place. The lodge was opened in due form at 4 o'clock p.m. prompt, by Bro. J. K. Ibberson, W.M., assisted by the rest of his officers and a number of brethren and visitors from fifteen lodges from the provinces. The W.M. Elect was presented by Bro. George Armitage, P.M. and Bro. John Stott, P.M., Amphibious Lodge, No. 258, Heckmondwike. The first part of the Installation Ceremony was performed by Bro. John Barker P.M. The Board of Installed Masters was presided over by Bro. John Ibberson, P.M. P.G. Reg., when Bro. Walmsley was duly installed in the chair of K.S. for the ensuing year. The working tools in the 3rd degree were given by Bro. J. K. Ibberson, I.P.M.; in the 2nd degree by Bro. Jn. Ibberson, P.M., and in the 1st degree by Bro. John Barker, P.M. The W.M. was saluted by the brethren in ancient form being proclaimed by Bro. John Ibberson P.M.; Bro. Barker acting as D. of C. The W.M. appointed the following brethren as officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. T. B. Fairclough, S.W.; J. T. Barras, S.W.; Jn. Ibberson, P.M., Treas.; T. Lang, P.M., Sec.; A. A. Stott, D. of C.; John Crowther, S.D.; Jas. Walmsley, J.D.; Jas. Barker, I.G.; W. Booth, O.G. The address to the W.M. was given by Bro. John Barker, P.M., and to the Wardens and Brethren by Bro. Jn. Ibberson, P.M. Bro. George Armitage, P.M., was unanimously elected member of the Charity Committee. Previous to the lodge being closed Bro. T. W. Tew, J.P., D.P.G.M., addressed the brethren in a few suitable words and complimented the Mirfield Lodge on the manner in which the ceremony of the evening had been performed, paying a high compliment to Bro. Jn. Ibberson, P.M. P.G. Reg. The Board of Installed Masters numbered 25, a good sign of the esteem the W.M. and the lodge is held in the neighbourhood. After the close of the lodge the brethren adjourned to the banquet, at which the following visitors were present: Bros. T. W. Tew, J.P., D.P.G.M.; Isaac Booth, P.G.J.W.; W. H. B. Tomlinson, P.P.G. Reg., Chairman Charity Committee; Henry Smith, P.G. Sec.; John Booth, P.P. G.J.W.; Mark Newsome, P.P.G.D.; John Wordsworth, P.P.G. Dir. of Cers.; Joshua Lee, P.G.T.; Raddock, P.M. 290; D. A. Shaw, P.M. 827; W. B. Alderson, W.M. 495; T. H. Good, P.M. Defence Lodge, Leeds; L. A. Shepherd; John Rhodes, P.M.; W. F. Watts, P.M.; and E. Hennyway, P.M. Three Grand Principals, Dewsbury, W. Machell, W.M.; E. Poppleton, P.M. 827; T. Pickles, P.M. 258, and many other brethren. The following brethren of the Mirfield Lodge were also present: Bros. J. Ibberson, P.M., P.G. Reg.; John Barker, P.M.; G. Armitage, P.M.; T. Lang, P.M.; J. K. Ibberson, I.P.M.; T. B. Fairclough, S.W.; J. T. Barras, J.W.; A. A. Stott, Dir. of Cers.; John Crowther, S.D.; Jas. Walmsley, J.D.; Jas. Barker, I.G.; Jas. Wright; W. Airtou, J. Smith, A. W. Bramall, T. Normington, Joseph Lister, G. H. A. Lister, J. F. Crowther, Hy. Walmsley, A. Wharton, C. Ramsden, J. Kerr, A. Hardy, J. Eastwood, G. Jackson, etc. The toasts included "The Queen," "The Grand Master of England," "The Pro Grand Master," "The R.W. Deputy Grand Master and the rest of the Grand Officers, Past and Present," "The R.W.P.G. Master of West Yorks., Sir Henry Edwards, the D.P.G.M., and rest of the P.G. Officers, Past and Present," "The W.M. of the Mirfield Lodge, the S. and J. Wardens, and the rest of the Officers," "The P.M.'s of the Lodge," "The Visiting Brethren." This most pleasant and enjoyable evening, one of the red-letter days in the annals of the Mirfield Lodge, was brought to a close with the toast of "All Poor and Distressed Masons."

GREENWICH.—Star Lodge (No. 1275).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Friday, Dec. 1st, at the Ship Hotel, Greenwich. Bro. H. J. Green, W.M., presided. He, in an admirable manner, raised Bros. Leonard Van Boelen and W. Vassila (1326) to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason. Bros. W. A. Simmons, J.W. 1559, and Mark Van Boelen were unanimously elected joining members. Several candidates were proposed for initiation. The lodge was closed and adjourned to Friday, March 2nd. Banquet and dessert followed. The regular toasts were given and responded to. Some excellent songs and recitations were given during the evening. There were present during the afternoon and evening Bros. R. W. Williams, G.O. Middlesex, S.W.; C. W. Williams, J.W.; Rev. Colles Brown, Chap.; J. Smith, P.G.P., P.M., Treas.; F. Walters, G.J.D. Middlesex, P.M., Sec.; W. Kippis, J.D.; E. W. Chetwynd, I.G.; A. Tisley, D.C.; S. Markietis, W.S.; J. Gilbert, G.T. Middlesex, Tyler; W. Ough, P.G.P., P.M.; C. J. Hogg, P.G.S., P.M.; H. Keeble, P.M.; J. J. Limebeer, P.M.; W. P. Tong, G. S. Elliott, H. W. Elmer, J. Brooks, E. Lane, W. E. Williams, Mark Van Boelen, W. Brough, and others. Amongst a large number of visitors we noticed Bros. Dwarber, P.M. 55, &c.; A. H. Fattershall, P.M. 13, P.M. 140, &c.; Frampton, 87; Thomas, P.M. 134; and others.

ROCK FERRY.—Rock Lodge (No. 1289).—On Friday evening, 8th inst., the annual installation meeting of this lodge was held, a large number of visitors

being present, amongst whom were Bros. Thos. Marwood, Prov. J.G.W. of Cheshire; J. P. Platt, P.P.J.G.W.; Jesse Banning, P.P.G. Org. Cumberland and Westmoreland, &c.; the W.M.'s of Warren and the Dec Lodges, Bros. Taylor and Chesworth; and P.M.'s of other neighbouring lodges. After some routine business, the ceremony of installation was proceeded with by Bro. E. Friend, P.M., P.P.J.G.D., the W.M. elect being Bro. John Wilson Paton, M.D., S.W., he being the first initiate of the lodge who has attained that position. The customary observances over, Bro. Paton invested his officers as follows:—Bros. Stanton, S.W.; Townsend, J.W.; Stevenson, P.P.G.S.B., Treas. (re-elected); P. J. Rarson, reappointed Sec.; Phillips, S.D.; Ross, J.D.; Fergusson, I.G.; Jones and Moffat, Stewards. Bro. Holloway was elected and re-invested as Tyler. One noteworthy feature at this meeting was the raising of the initiation fee from six to eight guineas, and the joining fee from one to two guineas, there being only one dissident among a full number of voters. Being a suburban lodge it is thus the wish of its promoters and subscribers to localise the membership as much as possible. The requisite sum was unanimously voted for the funds of the Cheshire Educational Masonic Institution, in the name of the I.P.M., Bro. Bolton, to render him a life governor of that excellent institution, as an appreciation of his services during his year of office. This donation was handsomely supplemented by the brethren in the course of the evening. The brethren then adjourned to refreshment, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured, and under the presidency of the newly installed W.M., Bro. Dr. Paton, the Tyler's toast brought a pleasant evening to an end, when the lodge was finally closed in peace and harmony.

MANCHESTER.—Lodge of Truth (No. 1458).—This lodge held its installation meeting on Saturday, December 2nd, at private rooms, Newton Heath; and was opened at 3.15 p.m. by Bro. Charles Joel Kent, W.M. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, and the ballot was taken for Bro. S. H. Needham, 1210, as a joining member, and was declared favourable. The auditor's report and balance-sheet for year ending November 4th, 1876, were then submitted and accepted. Following the usual routine, a Board of Installed Masters was formed, and Bro. James Batchelder, S.W., and W.M. elect, was inducted into the chair of King Solomon by the Installing Master, Bro. Robert Caldwell, who performed the ceremony with his usual ability. The Board of Installed Masters having been dissolved, Bro. Batchelder was duly proclaimed W.M., and received the customary salutations. The working tools in each degree were presented to the newly installed W.M. by Bro. C. J. Kent; after which the Installing Master requested the W.M. to appoint his officers; which done, they were invested in the following order, by the Installing Master, Bro. Caldwell, P.M., Bros. C. J. Kent, I.P.M.; W. J. Kinder, S.W.; G. H. Needle, J.W.; T. Tyers, P.M., Treasurer (4th year). By Bro. Taylor, P.M., Bros. J. E. Iliff, Secretary; W. Cox, S.D.; J. Taylor, J.D.; R. Caldwell, P.M., D. of C.; J. Proctor, I.G.; A. Yardley, S.S.; M. Kleinmann, J.S.; C. Beswick, Tyler. The address to the W.M. was delivered by Bro. W. Dumville, P.M.; that to the Wardens by Bro. Taylor, P.M., and the general address by Bro. J. Beresford, P.P.G.D. Cheshire, 104. Each address was given with an impressive effect. "Hearty Good Wishes" were accorded from the Provincial Grand Lodge of East Lancashire, the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cheshire, and private lodges 219, 104, 290, 521, 581, 993, 999, 955, 1009, 1077, 1011, 1134, 1161, 1219, 1496, 1357. Bro. the Revd. Dr. Cranswick, P.P.G.C., having implored the aid of the G.A.O.T.U. on the future undertakings of the lodge, it was then closed in peace and harmony, and the brethren retired to celebrate the festival of St. John, and sat down to banquet, which was ably served under the superintendence of Bro. Johnson. The newly appointed Stewards were well up to their work, attending to it with a fervour that added greatly to the comfort of the brethren present. Grace having been sung, dessert followed, and the first toast of the evening was then given, one that is cherished by Masons scattered throughout the universe, viz., that of "The Queen." Then followed that of "The Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," coupled with that of "The Princess of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family." The honour due to our Royal Chief and his illustrious House having been justly accorded, other customary toasts followed, and in due course the toast of the evening was proposed, that of "The Newly Installed W.M." This toast received musical honours; Bro. W. Dumville, P.M., singing that heart-stirring melody, "Here's to his Health in a Song," the chorus being sung by the whole of the brethren. Bro. Jas. Batchelder, W.M., then responded in suitable terms, and remarked that the position he had been placed in that day was one he had long wished to attain, and hoped that he would be spared to bring his year of office to a successful termination. Bro. Batchelder then proposed "The health of the I.P.M. and P.M.'s of the Lodge of Truth," in a very neat and telling speech; and before concluding placed upon the breast of the I.P.M., Bro. C. J. Kent, a Past Master's jewel, in the name of the brethren of the lodge. The I.P.M. having thanked the brethren for their mark of appreciation of him, the P.M.'s then respectively replied to the toast. Other toasts followed in succession, bringing a successful day to a close—a day which at 1458 abounded both in labour and refreshment with true masonic bearing. May the Lodge of Truth have many repetitions of the kind, and may its members at all times harmonise with its title and be just and upright, true and truthful. Before concluding we must not omit to state that the evening was enlivened by a humorous recitation by Bro. R. Dottie, whose droll recitals have made more than one lodge abound with laughter. Vocal ability was well represented by a choir of well-trained voices, composed of Bros. Henry Miller, Wm. Dumville, P.M., W.

Nicholson, W. C. Jones, and Hudson Lister. Bro. Batchelder, W.M. during the evening vacated his chair for a short period, and gave a solo pianoforte, with that professional and magic touch which he at all times appears to be capable of producing.

EXETER.—Semper Fidelis Lodge (No. 1254).—The installation meeting of this successful lodge took place at the Masonic Hall, Exeter, on Monday, the 4th inst. The following brethren were present: Bros. Avery, P.M., P.G.T.; W. Page, P.M.; Quicke, P.M. 39; Warren, P.M. 1254; Horspool, P.M. 1254; Shears, P.M.; A. Bodley, P.M., 39; Long, W.M. 32; Hooper, P.M. 1254; Treas.; Barber, W.M. 1254; Huxham, S.W. 1254; Brodie, J.W.; Pidsley, Sec.; Fulford, S.D.; Gregory, J.D.; Sampson C. Sanders, I.G.; Hawker, O.; Elmore, Kendrick, Horswill, Land, J. Stocker, 39; Willis, 1284; H. Stocker, 39; Brown, Woodbridge, White, Clarke, Culley, W. Roberts, A. Roberts, Langdon, Cape, Gibson, and Densham. The minutes of the last lodge having been read and confirmed, Bro. Huxham was introduced as the W.M. elect. Bro. Barber, the W.M., then proceeded to instal Bro. Huxham into the chair of K.S., which ceremony being completed, Bro. Huxham appointed the following brethren as his officers: Bros. B. Barber, I.P.M.; Brodie, S.W.; Pidsley, J.W.; Hooper, Treas.; Fulford, Sec.; Henrick C. W. Gregory, S.D.; Sanders, J.D.; Elmore, I.G.; Hawker, O.; Sampson, D.C.; Horswell, S. Land, J.S.; and in conclusion hoped that the duties of the various offices would be conducted with the same zeal and unanimity during his year of office as it had been during the past year. Bro. Horspool, P.M., then delivered the charge to the officers in his usual effective and impressive manner. The newly-installed W.M. then presented the I.P.M., Bro. Barber, with a handsome gold P.M.'s jewel which had been unanimously voted from the funds of the lodge, and also with an illuminated address, as a further mark of the esteem in which he is held by individual members of this and other lodges. In making the presentation the W.M. spoke in warm eulogy of Bro. Barber as a Mason, and especially of the manner in which he had fulfilled the duties of the W.M. during his year, and referred in warm terms of praise to the admirable manner in which he had rendered the ceremony of installation, he being the first Master of the lodge that had installed his successor, and expressed the hope of himself and the brethren that he would live long to enjoy the honours which had been conferred on him. Bro. Cape was proposed and elected as a joining member. The lodge was then closed in peace, order, and harmony, and the brethren adjourned to Bro. Birkett's, Royal Clarence Hotel, where a *recherché* banquet was partaken of by them. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and most cordially received. Between the toasts several glees and songs were sung by the choir, Bros. Horspool, Gregory, Huxham, Hawker, and Barber, who received the well-earned thanks and applause of the brethren for the skilful manner in which they were rendered, especially the old Masonic glee of "Hail to the Craft," and after one of the most enjoyable of evenings the brethren separated, well-pleased with the ceremony and entertainment.

NEWQUAY.—Fort Lodge (No. 1528).—The brethren of this lodge celebrated their festival of St. John on Friday, 29th ult. A large number assembled from the neighbourhood and other parts, among whom were Bros. J. Paull, P.M. "Boscawen" Lodge, Chacewater, No. 699, P.P.S.G.D.; J. Ninnes, P.M. No. 699, P.P.G.Reg.; W. Lake, P.M. "Fortitude" Lodge, Truro, No. 131, P.P.G. Reg.; J. Hawken, I.P.M. "Duke of Cornwall" Lodge, St. Columb, No. 1529; Thomas Hicks, W.M. No. 1259; H. T. Whitefield, S.W. No. 1529; J. P. Rogers, W.M. "Prudence" Lodge, Plymouth, No. 1550; and J. Hooper, J.D. No. 699. The business commenced with the installation of Bro. J. G. Prout, as W.M. for the ensuing year, the ceremony being very ably and impressively performed by the I.P.M., Bro. W. E. Michell. The newly installed W.M. then appointed and invested his new officers:—S.W., B. Wellington; J.W., J. R. Bellamy; Sec., C. Bellingham; S.D., R. Martyn; J.D., W. R. White; I.G., T. Boyle; D.C., R. Kendall; Organist, A. Lawry; Stewards, W. L. Blee and W. H. Symons, Bro. W. C. Martyn was elected Treasurer, and C. Carivick Tyler. At the conclusion of the business of the lodge Bro. Wellington, on behalf of the brethren, presented Bro. W. E. Michell, I.P.M., with a handsome Past Master's collar and jewel, in appreciation of his conduct while in the chair and his zeal in the cause of Freemasonry. The brethren subsequently partook of a banquet. The usual Masonic toasts followed, and a very agreeable evening was spent.

ST. COLUMB.—Duke of Cornwall Lodge (No. 1529) held its first annual meeting on Wednesday, 29th ult., when the retiring W.M., Bro. T. Hawken, very ably and impressively installed Bro. Thomas Hicks, S.W., in the chair of the lodge, assisted by the following Board of Installed Masters:—W. Bros. Geach, Captain Colville, Pascoe, Sandoe, J. R. Rogers, Michell, and Collins. W. Bro. Hicks then appointed the following officers:—Bros. Hawken, I.P.M.; H. F. Whitefield, S.W.; E. Brydges Willyams, J.W.; W. Howard, Secretary; G. Hawke, Treasurer; Rev. D. Brown, Chaplain; J. Martyn, S.D.; S. H. Cox, J.D.; J. Best, D.C.; N. Grose, I.G.; R. Rowe, Steward, and J. Coade, Tyler. Bro. Hawken was presented with a gold P.M.'s jewel and the thanks of the lodge engrossed on vellum as a recognition of his zeal and ability in carrying out his duties as first W.M. W. Bro. J. R. Rogers, Lodge Prudence, 1550, was presented with the thanks of the lodge for his assistance and kindness shown in many ways during the past twelve months, and it was unanimously resolved to record the same on the minutes. The brethren then adjourned to the banquet, provided by Bro. Polkinghorne.

INSTRUCTION.

UNION WATERLOO LODGE (No. 13).—On Friday evening, the 1st inst., the weather was admirably adapted for sending brethren to the table with a keen and appreciative appetite, and many as there were who quarreled with the elements en route to the scene of action, disagreements were speedily squared when the joint became the centre of attraction, and the brethren, one and all, did their level best to obliterate the recollections of a wet night by a diligent attention to all that came within their compass. It was the "Fortune of War" that caused certain brethren to bend their steps towards the New Road, and it was the Union Waterloo Lodge of Instruction that was to answer for the heavy engagement with huge joints, and the brisk skirmishing against sundry puddings, custards, and tarts. The company mustered some score rank and file, Bro. S. Goddard, P.M. 700, being in command, having as his first luff G. A. Davies, P.M. 13, one of the Preceptors, or he might say à la militaire, Instructors, while conspicuous among the Stewards was Bro. T. E. Hassall, 13, who discharged his duties in such a masterly manner. As we paid our devoirs to the good things things in the neighbourhood of the Vice we are unable to say what came under the immediate attention of the President, but recollect that Bro. Davies devoted himself to the dispensing of that dish over which Bro. Keeble, P.M. 1275, presided in such splendid style at the banquet of the Star Lodge of Instruction. When the cloth had been withdrawn, and the Order passed "At Ease," a general charge ensued, following which the President gave "The Queen and the Craft." Next on the toast list was "Prosperity to the Union Waterloo Lodge of Instruction," which was received with rare fire. "The Visitors" were responded for by Bro. Lloyd, 913; "The Preceptors," in a modest speech by Bro. Davies, who spoke in terms of sincere regret of the enforced absence through illness of his confrère, Bro. Macdonald, W.M. 1158, and afterwards proposed "The Health of the President," which was received with "three brisk rounds." Bro. Goddard replied in an able and telling manner. Seldom have we heard at an instruction banquet such capital songs as those rendered by Bros. Harding, Morley, Motley, Davis, Butt, and Hassall. We noticed present Bros. S. Goddard, P.M. 700; G. B. Davies, P.M. 13; F. G. Pownall, P.M. 1536, W.M. 13; Butt, W.M. 700; Weston, W.M. 1536; Hutton, S.D. 13; N. Brown, J.D. 13; H. S. Tyler, Sec. 13; T. E. Hassall, 13; T. J. Guest, 158; R. Pearson, 1536; G. H. Masters, 13; Price, 913; Burley, 1260; J. Dalling, 640 (Montreal, Canada); A. R. Smith, 13; Ernest Smith, 1559; W. Wilson, 166 (Constantinople); Crews, Morley, Walker, Schultze, Matley, Cleal, Martin, Percival, and Grinstead, all of 13; Joskey, 1107; Jonah Davis, 1437; Harris, 700; Harding, 1536; Bearer, 700; and McCarthy, all members of the Union Waterloo Lodge of Instruction; and the following visitors:—Lloyd, Letton, and Stabback, 913; Virgo, 700.

LONDON MASONIC CLUB LODGE (No. 58).—This lodge held its second meeting on Monday, the 27th ult., at 101, Queen Victoria-street, E.C. Present: Bros. E. W. Hubbard, W.M.; N. Reed, S.W.; John Walker, J.W.; J. E. Shand, Sec.; C. J. Hogg, Treas.; C. Jardine, S.D.; Jas. Edell, J.D.; W. Stevens, I.G.; Bros. Mosley, Hawksley, Stevens, Tickle, and others. The lodge was opened and minutes of last meeting confirmed, and afterwards opened in Second Degree, and that ceremony rehearsed and the sections of lectures worked by Bro. Mander, Preceptor. Bye-laws were discussed and ordered to be printed. A vote of thanks was moved and carried to the Committee, Bros. Hogg, Reed, and Shand, for devoting time and attention and drawing the bye-laws and making general arrangements for the first meeting of the lodge. Bro. Reed was elected W.M. at next meeting. Lodge closed and adjourned till six o'clock on Monday, Dec. 11.

SOUTHERN STAR LODGE (No. 1158).—When you oblige a friend you may very naturally expect that should occasion require it he will return the compliment; so when you ask a favour of your friend you no doubt feel willing if not absolutely anxious to relieve yourself of the obligation at the earliest possible opportunity. We do not go so far as to say that should you lend your friend a five-pound note you ought at some future period to expect him to do the same by you, for experience has taught us that in the majority of instances the friend who borrows never courts your friendship more, and that, although it may be more blessed to give than to receive, it is as a rule "easier to borrow than to repay," and that if you press for a repayment of a debt, your debtor is more likely to "part friendship" than to part with the money. That we are driving at something by this prelude our readers no doubt have concluded, and we will at once state our case. Last Thursday week, the Fifteen Sections were worked in the above young lodge of instruction, and the attendance was the smallest we have seen for some time past on similar occasions, no matter where. At many lodges where the Sections have been recently worked invaluable assistance has been given by the "Southern Star" brethren, who are ever ready and cheerfully willing to afford help and assistance to contemporaneous lodges. It was, therefore, only natural that some support should have been expected from those lodges that had benefited by "Southern Star" help, but we regret to say that such was not forthcoming, and the S.S. Section workers had to do the best they could. Illness prevented the attendance of Bro. Pulsford, P.M. 1158, Preceptor, who was to have presided, and the same cause kept away Bro. Govan Macdonald, W.M. 1158, Secretary, who would otherwise have taken Bro. Pulsford's place. As it happened, a very excellent substitute was found in the person of Bro. Kent, P.M. 879, Preceptor of the Southwark Lodge, who ably discharged the onerous and responsible duties he at such short notice

assumed. Bro. Beavis, 1158, Assist. Sec., was S.W., and Bro. Solway Smith, S.D. 1158, J.W., of the South. Somewhat later Bro. Kent took the chair, and formed his lodge as follows:—Bros. Beavis, 1158, Sec., S.W.; S. Smith, S.D. 1115, J.W.; Catterson, 548, I.G. There were likewise present Bros. Wise, I.P.M. 1158, acting as P.M.; T. Grumman, 1559; Hutchings, 147; Field, 175; Parker and Taylor, 753; Ernest Smith, 1559; Holloway, Black, Scard, Davis, 1158; Peters, 1471; Arnold, 1319; Runacres, 212; Hutchings, 147; Sims, Harvey, and Walker. Lodge was opened up to the Third Degree, and resumed to the First, and the Sections worked as follows:—

FIRST LECTURE.

1st Section by Bro. Arnold, 1319.
2nd " " Catterson, 548.
3rd " " Ernest Smith, 1559.
4th " " Kent, P.M. 879.
5th " " Beavis, 1158.
6th " " Harvey.
7th " " Beavis, 1158.

SECOND LECTURE.

1st Section by Bro. Wise, I.P.M. 1158.
2nd " " Beavis, 1158.
3rd " " Harvey.
4th " " Parker, 753.
5th " " Taylor, 753.

THIRD LECTURE.

1st Section by Bro. Hutchings, 147.
2nd " " Arnold, 1319.
3rd " " Beavis, 1158.

At the conclusion of the working, the customary votes of thanks were passed to the W.M. and the brethren assisting in working the Sections, and the following were elected joining members:—Bros. Hutchings, Peters, Runacres, and Arnold.

WILLIAM PRESTON LODGE (No. 766).—This lodge of instruction held its first regular meeting under the sanction of the mother lodge, as arranged at the preliminary one presided over by Bro. Geo. Tribbel on Friday evening, the 1st inst., at the Feathers Tavern, Upper George-street, Edgware-road. The chair was taken at 8 o'clock by Bro. A. Braun, P.M. No. 766, who, after a few preliminary remarks, invested and placed Bro. Rudderforth into the chair of K.S. The W.M. then invested his officers as follows:—Bros. G. West, 1287, S.W.; G. Tribbel, 1287, J.W.; Bro. A. Braun, P.M. 766, as P.M. and Sec.; J. Kennard, 145, as Treasurer; J. Davison, 733, S.D.; Lucas, 192, as J.D.; S. Nicholls, 1287, as I.G. The ceremony of initiation was then rehearsed in Bro. Rudderforth's usual impressive manner, Bro. Hayes being candidate, after which the sections of the lecture were worked by the W.M., assisted by the brethren. A code of bye-laws was submitted, duly discussed, and adopted. Bro. Rudderforth was elected Preceptor, Bro. Braun, Sec., and Kennard, Treasurer, for the ensuing year. A cordial vote of thanks, to be recorded upon the minutes, was then passed to these brethren, who acknowledged the same in appropriate terms. Bro. G. West was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, who appointed officers in rotation. There were also present Bros. Dunham, 1287; Parsons, 325; Murch, 27; Golden, 862; Cooper, Frost, 145; Brook, 145; Webster; Chalfont; Sawyer, 145; and many other brethren. The lodge was then closed in due form. The room, which is a convenient size, presented a most happy appearance with the new furniture, and as a lodge of instruction is much needed in this locality, there is little doubt of its being a great success.

Royal Arch.

CHAPTER OF PRUDENT BRETHREN (No. 145).—The installation meeting of this chapter was held on Tuesday evening, 5th inst., at Freemasons' Hall. There were present on the occasion above forty of the companions, among them being Comps. John Boyd, Thos. Bull, E. Moody, Joseph Last, Parkins, G. S. States, John Cox, Venn, Haslett, Wallford, C. A. Long, Herbert Dicketts, Col. Creaton, S. Rawson, H. G. Buss, Hyde Pullen, H. Massey (Freemason), John Constable, Scott, Martin, Murly, Levander, Headon, Barnes Amor, and Duke. After the election of principals and officers Comp. Thos. Bull was installed as Z. by Comp. C. A. Long, Z., and Comp. E. Moody was installed as H. by Comp. John Boyd, P.Z. Comp. E. H. Thicllay, who was elected as J., was not present. The other officers were Comps. Joseph Last, P.Z., Treas.; Parkins, N.; G. S. States, P.Z., S.E.; John Cox, P.S.; Venn, 1st. A.S.; Haslett, 2nd A.S.; and Grant, Janitor. After the installation and investment of officers had been completed Bros. John Jermyn Boyd, 23; Thomas Wm. Chard Leuty, 23; and Luke Bishop, 60, were exalted as Royal Arch Masons, Comp. J. Boyd taking the duties of Z., Comp. Thos. Bull the duties of H., and Comp. C. A. Long the duties of J. The work was most fluently and impressively performed, and fully sustained the high character which the Chapter of Prudent Brethren has secured as a first-class working chapter. This was still further manifested at a subsequent period by the lecture on the Royal Arch jewel, which was delivered by Comp. J. Boyd before the companions adjourned to their banquet. This intricate lecture was admirably delivered, there not being any hesitation at all on the part of the lecturer, who threaded his way through all the windings of the explanation with the ease of a most accomplished geometrician. After the chapter had been closed, the companions were reminded that though there was no banquet announced on the summons, refreshment would be provided at seven o'clock, and on repairing at that hour to Freemasons' Tavern the companions found themselves so far deceived by the announcement that a very elegant spread was provided by Bro. Dawkins,

the able manager of that establishment. Most of the companions who had been in chapter assembled round the board, and, after having done ample justice to the good things provided, proceeded to honour the toasts which were proposed with agreeable brevity by the M.E.Z. Col. Creaton, who responded to the toast of "The Grand Officers," said there were many Grand Officers who had done good suit and service to Royal Arch Masonry, and to them all the members of the R.A. owed their gratitude; more especially did they owe their gratitude to the companions who had given such an excellent treat that evening by the performance of the exaltation and installation ceremonies. The Prudent Brethren Chapter was a chapter par excellence, for never in the whole course of his Masonic experience had he seen the work done so well. Comp. C. A. Long, I.P.Z., proposed "The M.E.Z.," who, they must all agree, had fulfilled his duties in the various offices he had held in the chapter in the most conscientious manner. He had been a hard-working Mason, and it was only the just reward of his exertions that he was placed in the proud position of M.E.Z. It was by having such officers as this chapter possessed that the chapter could go on to a successful issue. The companions could congratulate themselves that they fell under such happy influences. They were in the constellation "Taurus" at the present moment; while they had Aldebaran, with stars of hardly less magnitude, on each of his horns; and the talent round him might well be said to represent the splendid cluster of the Pleiades. In fact, they had a miniature representation of the grand constellation of the "Bull." (Laughter.) The M.E.Z., in replying, said, after thanking the companions for their expressions of good feeling and satisfaction towards him, he felt grateful to them for having placed him in his elevated and proud position. It was a position which at one time he never dreamt of occupying, but it had been their pleasure to give him office from year to year, and he had advanced step by step till he had obtained the highest honours. He trusted that he should go through the discharge of his duties during his year with satisfaction to the companions. (Hear, hear.) Comp. Hyde Pullen responded for "The Visitors," and reiterated the remarks of Col. Creaton as to the work in the chapter. He afterwards referred with pleasure to the circumstances of Comp. John Boyd's son being exalted into the R.A., and trusted he would emulate his father's exertions, his virtues, and his talents. To the toast of "The Exaltees," all those companions very briefly responded. Comp. C. A. Long, I.P.Z., responded for "The P.Z.'s." As far as he was concerned he had endeavoured to perform his duties as Z. properly and conscientiously. Several times the companions had expressed themselves pleased with his work, and he had been very much pleased to receive their congratulations. As to P.Z.'s generally they must always feel somewhat as Dr. Doran would say, "Monarchs retired from business," but with this difference, they were not like ordinary deposed princes; they carried with them in their retirement the affections of their former subjects, and certainly the affections of their present companions. (Cheers.) Comp. E. Moody responded for "H. and J.," and Comp. John Boyd replied to a special toast for himself. During his connection with the Prudent Brethren Chapter, which he hoped would continue as long as he lived, he had always met, as he trusted he always should meet, with the same hearty good feeling as he had that evening. With such working as they had in the chapter, and with such good feeling as was evinced amongst the companions, the success of the chapter must be established. What had been done that evening had met with the approbation of the chapter. It was his desire to give something of the pith and substance of Freemasonry beyond the mere ceremonies—an explanation of the ceremonies; to show the companions that there was not a word throughout the ceremonies that had not its meaning, both in Craft and Arch Masonry. He hoped they would be able to carry out the idea they had, and that they would succeed in putting the needle into the lay members, to make them feel a little more enthusiasm in Freemasonry than was generally exhibited by Masons. (Hear, hear.) Comp. Joseph Last and Comp. G. S. States responded for Treasurer and Scribe E., and Comps. Cox, P.S., replied for "The Officers." During the evening some pleasant singing was performed by Comps. G. T. Carter and Distin, and Miss Florence Levander, who made a most successful debut as a vocalist at Masonic banquets.

DOMATIC CHAPTER (No. 177).—The last meeting of this chapter was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, on Thursday, the 23rd ultimo. There were present Comps. Heyward, M.E.Z.; Cubitt, P.Z., acting H.; Adams, P.Z.; acting J.; Bolton, I.P.Z.; Buss, P.Z., Treasurer; Palmer, S.E.; Hill, N.; Payne, P.Z.; Sutton, P.Z. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, several minor matters were discussed and the companions adjourned to the banquet. Upon the removal of the cloth the M.E.Z. gave the usual loyal and Royal Arch toasts, prefaced by a few remarks. In proposing "The Health of the M.E.," Comp. Buss said that he was pleased at having the opportunity of paying that duty of respect to their worthy M.E.Z. It was true that he (Comp. Heyward) was, in consequence of untoward circumstances, prevented from discharging the duties of the chair as well as many of their first Principals had done, but he hoped that the good feeling which had always prevailed in the "Domestic" would be extended to their M.E. to the conclusion of his year of office. The chair of their chapter had been filled by some of the very best Royal Arch Masons that had ever existed, and it had also been at times very indifferently occupied; but there had never been anything but kind feeling displayed towards all who had reached the proud position of M.E.Z. of No. 177, and he therefore charged them to drink most heartily the health of their old and esteemed companion the M.E. This toast having been duly

honoured, the M.E. replied by expressing his sincere thanks to the companions for the warm manner that they had responded to his health, and assured them that he had the interests of the "Domestic" Chapter at heart. He was sorry that he could not, through inability, aspire to the high honours that some of the past Principals had achieved, but he hoped to win their good opinion. Ill-health and domestic afflictions had hitherto prevented him from paying that attention to the "working" which was so highly essential to those who desired to carry out the duties of the First Principal's chair effectively, but he hoped to be able to do better in the future. The M.E. then proposed, in very complimentary terms, "The Health of their sole Visitor, Comp. Walls, 185," who duly acknowledged the honor. "The Health of the Past Principals" immediately followed. Comp. Bolton, I.P.Z., briefly replied by stating that he would always do his best in conjunction with the other past Principals to assist in the "working." Comp. Buss, P.Z., also in response said he was sorry that the I.P.Z. had been so reticent in his reply, because it necessitated him, as one of the past Principals, to say a few words in acknowledgment for the very warm manner in which their health had been both proposed and drunk. He complimented the chapter upon having had so efficient a M.E. last year, in the person of their esteemed Comp. Bolton, who had carried out the onerous duties most admirably. He was personally pleased, not only for the manner his name had been received that evening in connection with the toast, but for the invariable courtesy and kindness he had always experienced from the companions. In conclusion he congratulated them upon the financial prosperity of the lodge, which happy state for some time past, he said, had been steadily progressing. Comps. Cubitt and Sutton, P.Z.'s, also replied. In proposing "The Health of the Officers," the M.E. said that he was very sorry that two of their important officials were most sorely in need of that great blessing, health, Comps. Scott, H., and Treadwell, P.S., who were both seriously unwell, but he hoped that the new year would see them sufficiently restored to take their proper places in the chapter. This toast having been duly honoured Comps. Hill, N.; Palmer, S.E.; Buss, Treas. and Harrison, 2nd A.S.; replied by briefly stating that they would always do their best to further the "working" and enhance the interests of the old "Domestic" Chapter in every possible way. Between the numerous toasts and responses Comps. Palmer, Ambrose, Cubitt, Walls, Heyward, Brown and others entertained the companions. The Janitor's toast at ten o'clock terminated the proceedings, and the companions separated until the fourth Thursday in January next.

NORTHAMPTON.—Northampton Chapter (No. 360).—The companions of this chapter held their first convocation in the New Masonic Hall, Abington-street, on Thursday evening, Nov. 30. Present: Comps. S. Jacob, M.E.Z.; J. U. Stanton, H.; R. Howes, J.; M. A. Boeme, P.Z., acting N.; G. Robinson, P.Z.; E. J. T. Green, acting P.S.; B. Wilkins, P.Z., D.P.G.M. Norths. and Hunts.; M. W. Flewett, P.Z.; G. Cotton, P.Z.; E. E. Welchman, P.Z.; T. Davies, P.Z.; Revs. J. T. Drake, and Stimpson, E. Roberts, F. Gadsby, J. Cove, and others. Bros. John Henry Hale (Perseverance Lodge, 455) and Henry John Atkins (Pomfret Lodge, 360) were candidates for exaltation. Being duly balloted for and elected, the ceremony was at once proceeded with, Comp. Wilkins officiating as M.E.Z. in his usual impressive manner, the other officers ably fulfilling their various duties. The whole ceremony was conducted in a manner that gained the highest encomiums from all present. The election of officers for the ensuing year was then proceeded with. Comp. Stanton was elected M.E.Z.; Howes, H.; Green, J.; Roberts, N.; Robinson, E.; Gadsby, P.S.; Hewitt, and Wilkins, Treas. The companions then adjourned to refreshment, to which ample justice was done, an unusually agreeable evening terminating with the toasts usual amongst R.A.M.'s. Although the Masonic gatherings now take place in the new buildings, the premises are not yet quite completed, so that those who attend have hardly got settled in their new home, but a bright prospect appears looming in the future for the Northampton Chapter, 360, and the Pomfret Lodge 360.

Red Cross of Constantine.

PREMIER CONCLAVE (No. 1).—The December meeting of the Premier Conclave, No. 1, was held on Monday 11th inst. at the Café Royal. Present: Sir Knts. H.; A. Dubois, M.P.S.; Dr. Brette, E.; P. M. Holden, John Mason, J. A. Acton, J. C. Bailey, R. Wentworth Little, P.S.; George Kenning, P.S.; H. C. Levander, P.S.; J. T. Moss, P.S.; Hubbard, P.S.; Hyde Pullen, Joshua Nunn, W. T. Howe, George Powell, P.S., H. Parker, T. Cubitt, P.S.; J. Boyd, Herbert Dicketts, F. Green, J. W. Mather, and others. The minutes of the last conclave were read and confirmed. Several Sir Knights were advanced to the degree of Sovereign. This mere routine business being ended the Sir Knights adjourned to dinner.

PORTSMOUTH.—Naval and Military Conclave (No. 35).—The anniversary of this old and prosperous conclave was held in the Masonic Hall, Portsmouth, on Tuesday, December 5th. Dr. Knett, the Int. Gen. Hants, was the presiding officer, assisted by his Deputy, Sir Knt. Jn. Clark; C. Groom, Vy. Eus.; Jn. Harrison, Sen. Gen.; B. Simister, Jun. Gen.; G. A. Green, H.P.; J. Clay, P.S., Treas.; A. R. Robinson, P.S., Rec.; J. W. D. Pillow, Organist; W. Tuck, S.B.; C. G. Adames, Herald; A. Reynolds, J. F. Bacigalupo, O. C. Harries, G. R. Johnson, J. Skeens, A. Nance, G. W. Smith, and G. Copus, Sentinel. The conclave was opened in ample form at 6.15. The minutes of conclave held September 26th were adopted, together with a recommendation of the Per. Council that owing to the loss of some of the P. Sovs.

by removals from the town, and other causes, it was expedient that some of the deserving members should be promoted to that exalted position; and that the Int. Gen. be requested to confer the 2nd and 3rd Grades upon Sir Knts. Reynolds and Simister, and the 3rd upon Sir Knt. Groom, the Sov. elect; by these promotions, Sir Knt. Harrison, the Eus. elect, would become eligible for the Sovereignty of the conclave for the ensuing year. Also that the Per. Council do revise the bye-laws and present them for consideration at next meeting, if possible. The ballot was then taken separately for fourteen candidates for installation, which proved unanimous in every instance. All the Sir Knts. except the Int. Gen., Dep. Int. Gen., V. Eus., Treas. and the Rec. having retired, a College of Viceroy's was opened, Sir Knts. Reynolds, Simister, Harrison, and Green were introduced and admitted to the 2nd Grade. All the Sir Knts. except the Int. Gen., Dep. Int. Gen., Treas., and the Rec. having retired, a Senate of Sovereigns was opened, when Sir Knts. Reynolds, Simister, Groom, and Harrison were introduced and admitted to the 3rd Grade. The Senate was closed; the college was closed; the Sir Knts. were admitted, and the newly enthroned M.P.S., Jn. Harrison, invested the officers as follows:—G. A. Green, Eus.; C. G. Adames, S. Gen. W. Tuck, J. Gen.; A. Nance, H.P.; J. Clay, P.S., Treas.; A. R. Robinson, P.S., Rec.; J. W. D. Pillow, Prefect; W. Triggs, Sub. P.; F. G. Bradbear, Organist; J. Skeens, Stan. B.; J. F. Bacigalupo, Sen. Aide.; O. C. Harries, Jun. Aide.; W. H. Sperring, Herald; G. W. Smith and A. R. Robinson, Stewards; G. Copus, Sentinel. Bro. Jn. Lillywhite, P.M. 257; E. Groves, P.M. 903; R. Osborne, Prov. G.O.G. Reading, 487; J. W. Fisher, 175, and J. W. Stroud, 903, being present were installed and proclaimed. The M.P.S. then thanked the members for placing him in the proud position of their ruler, and after highly eulogising the energy displayed by the Int. Gen. since his promotion to the government of the division, proposed that a P.S. jewel with appropriate inscription be presented to Ill. Sir Knt. Dr. Knott in testimony of the appreciation of the members of his services. This was seconded by the Treasurer and carried by acclamation. Several names were submitted for the honour of installation and the conclave was closed. The Sir Knts. then adjourned to the refectory, where a banquet provided by Sir Knt. G. W. Smith awaited them; when we say the comestibles and wines were equally first-rate we only do the caterer scant justice. After the table was cleared, the M.P.S. proposed the usual toasts, which were all duly honoured, and much sympathy was expressed for the Most Ill. G. Sov., Sir F. Williams, Bart., under his present serious affliction, and sincere wishes for his speedy recovery. This most enjoyable evening was brought to a close by the Sentinel's toast.

Scotland.

ROYAL ORDER OF SCOTLAND.

The Quarterly Communication of the Provincial Grand Chapter and Grand Lodge for Glasgow and the West of Scotland was held on Thursday, the 7th inst., at 4 p.m., in St. Mark's Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, Glasgow. The Provincial Grand Master, Bro. F. A. Barrow, having opened his Provincial Grand Chapter, the minutes of last meeting were read and passed. Applications from Bros. Wm. H. Bickerton, Master Mason of Lodge No. 972, of England, and companion of Chapter No. 79, of Scotland, and Wm. Harper, Master Mason of Lodge No. 408, of Scotland, and Companion of Chapter No. 69, of Scotland, were entertained, and, the ballot being clear, they were received and admitted to the Order of H.R.M. The P.G.L. being afterwards constituted, the above named brethren were promoted, and received the honour of K.T. of R.S.T. C.S. from the Right Worshipful P.G.M.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Mother Kilwinning (No. 0).—The sixth annual reunion of the brethren of the Kilwinning Mother Lodge resident in Glasgow and neighbourhood was held on Friday night, the 8th inst., in St. John's Hall, Buchanan-street. The chair was occupied by Bro. J. M. McCosh, Dalry, who was supported on the dais by Bro. D. M. Nelson, W.M. (No. 30), S.D., G.L. of Scotland; and Bro. Robert Wylie (Sec.), Mother Kilwinning. The Croupiers' chairs were filled by Bros. H. Taylor and Wm. Jamieson, and among other members of the mother lodge present were Bros. John Tweed, P.J.W.; John Whinton, Treas.; A. Macmillan, &c. There were also present Bros. A. M. Gregor, W.M. (No. 458); Wm. Nairn (No. 370); G. W. Wheeler, Chaplain (No. 73); Robert Nelson, P.M. (No. 3); J. A. Ferguson, S. Prox. Warden; Macdonald, Aberdeen; Col. Robertson, U.S.; Park (No. 34), A. Ritchie (No. 360), &c. Letters of apology for absence were received from Bros. Colonel Mure, M.P., W.M. Mother Kilwinning; Roger Montgomerie, M.P., Prox. Master; Cochrane Patrick, D.M.; Baird, P.M. (No. 34), &c. After supper, and the toasts of "The Queen" and "The Prince of Wales, G.M.M. of England and Patron of Scottish Freemasonry," had been proposed, the Chairman gave—"The Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland." He thought that in the past they had rather neglected their share of the work connected with the Grand Lodge. It was rather remarkable that the position of the Grand Masters of the three different countries—a position which was aimed at by the highest in the land—was worthily filled by those who had a certain connection with the neighbouring county of Renfrew. (Applause.) The toast was coupled with the name of Bro. Nelson. Bro. Nelson, in reply, said he did not expect that he should have had the honour of responding to this toast, as his appointment as an officer of the Grand Lodge was only a thing of yesterday. For the same reason he could not give any details of the condition of the Grand Lodge. At the same time, he did not

approve of what the worthy chairman had said with reference to their neglecting the work in connection with the Grand Lodge. During the last few years, while he had had the honour of attending meetings of the Grand Lodge as the representative of a Glasgow lodge, it had not been a period of lethargy in connection with its affairs. It was true that fifteen or twenty years ago there had been considerable stagnation, and lodges were allowed to do as they liked, while the Grand Lodge was pretty much in the same condition. Now, however, circumstances had arisen which called for more activity. They had increased in numbers, and now Masonic brethren were to be found in every profession and in every class of society. This meant that their numbers were very large, and their interests also were very large and of importance. They had at the head of the Grand Lodge of Scotland at the present time Sir Michael Shaw Stewart, and any brother who had seen him occupy the throne would acknowledge that he was not likely to descend into lethargy. He was a man of considerable force of character, and he was quite sure if the Grand Lodge ever occupied a position of eminence in times past it was more likely to attain a higher position now that Sir Michael had again accepted office. Colonel Campbell of Blythswood was also an office-bearer, and it was unnecessary to say a word in regard to the gallant colonel. He was a thorough practical man, who, whether in Masonry or anything connected with the interests of the country or country, made his influence felt. In the next few years he was sure the standard of Freemasonry would be raised more in accordance with their theories, as their practice in the past had not been quite equal to their precepts. He had every reason to believe that in time to come they would have a great deal more of the true practice of Masonry than in times past. Bro. William Jamieson then proposed "The Grand Lodges of America, with No. 4, Philadelphia." The toast was coupled with the name of Bro. W. F. Shaw, who in company with Bro. Robert Bell, had paid a visit to Philadelphia at the recent Centennial Exhibition, and been warmly received by the brethren there. "The Army, Navy, and Reserve Forces" were next given by the Croupier, and ably replied to by Bro. Robert Donaldson. The toast of the evening then followed, "Our Mother Lodge." Amongst the other toasts given in the course of the evening were "The Province of Glasgow," "Lodge St. John, No. 33," replied to by Bro. D. M. Nelson, W.M.; "The Visiting Brethren," replied to by Bro. McGregor, W.M. St. John's, Bushby, No. 458; "Bro. Robson, of the U.S. Consulate at Leith," and others.

GLASGOW.—Kilwinning Lodge (No. 4).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held in their lodge-room, 162, Kent Road, on Tuesday, the 5th inst., for the purpose of electing office-bearers for the ensuing year. The lodge was opened by the W.M., when the following brethren were elected, viz.:—Bros. A. B. Thorburn, W.M.; Robert B. Prout, P.M.; John D. Dickson, D.M.; George Holmes, S.M.; John B. Orr, S.W.; James H. McNaughten, J.W.; James M. McKean, Treas.; John McNair, Sec.; John Barr, S.D.; Struthers, J.D.; Alexander Rowan, Chaplain; Thomas G. Jamieson, Architect; John G. Allan, Jeweller; Thomas Orr, Bible Bearer; James Denovan, S.B.; John Graham, S.S.; Wm. S. Henderson, P.G.S.; Andrew Riddell, Tyler. Bros. Thomas M. Campbell, John Currie, and Smith were appointed Auditors, the lodge being afterwards raised to the M.M. Degree, Bro. John Murray received that Sublime Degree, Bro. Thomas M. Campbell, J.P.M. 408, &c., officiating. The sum of two pounds sterling was voted to a poor brother. The lodge was afterwards closed in due and ancient form.

GREENOCK.—Lodge Greenock Kilwinning (No. 12). The annual general meeting of the Lodge Greenock Kilwinning was held in the Council Chambers on Thursday, the 30th ult., Bro. J. P. Fyfe, R.W.M., in the chair, when the following office-bearers were duly elected for the ensuing year:—John P. Fyfe, R.W.M.; D. Cunningham, D.M.; James Newton, P.M.; E. Blackmore, O.M.; J. R. Allison, S.M.; Alexander Smith, S.W.; Robert Allan, J.W.; Wm. Allison, Sec.; Robert Wood, Treas.; Rev. M. Durward, Chaplain; Capt. George H. B. Reid, Architect; H. R. Neill, S.D.; Alex. Neilson, J.D.; Thos. Smith, 1st S.S.; Jas. P. Harris, 2d S.S.; John Brighton, 1st J. S.; C. S. Hall, 2d J.S.; Charles Murray, J.A.; Nathaniel Tucker, Tyler. The annual statement submitted by the Treasurer showed the lodge to be in a prosperous condition.

STIRLING.—Lodge Ancient (No. 30).—On Tuesday, the 5th inst., the nomination meeting was held in the lodge-room, Broad-street. There was a good attendance of brethren. S.M. John Finlayson, in the absence of the W.M., Bro. Provost Christie, was in the chair. The following nominations for election before the ensuing festival of St. John were made:—Bros. George Christie, W.M.; W. H. Fitzpatrick, D.M.; John Finlayson, S.M.; J. W. Laurie, S.W.; John Paton, J.W.; W. Stevens, Jas. Finlayson; Jas. McIntyre, Treas.; John Paton, John Livingstone; D. Cowan, Sec.; W. Smith, Chap.; A. Watmough, S.D.; J. Livingstone, J.D.; James Baird, Dean of Guild, Bard; R. Littlejohn, Jeweller; W. Archibald; John King, A. McCulloch, Stewards; L. B. Wood, Architect; W. Brown; J. Stevenson, Dir. of Cers.; J. McPhail, Std. Br.; James Earl, Tyler. The brethren resolved to celebrate the winter festival of St. John by a supper and ball, the arrangements being left with the lodge committee.

INVERARY.—Lodge St. John's (No. 50).—At the annual meeting of this lodge, on Thursday, the following office-bearers were elected:—Q. M. Wright, R.W.M.; John Rose, D.M. Nicol Lemon, S.M.; David Stewart, S.W.; Angus Guthrie, J.W.; Alex. Robertson, Secretary and Treasurer; Donald Henderson, S.S.; James Maitland, J.S.; Alex. Guthrie, P.M.; Wm. Rhind, Bard. The brethren resolved to make arrangements for the cele-

bration of St. John's festival by a procession, &c. During the past year upwards of twenty new members were initiated under Bro. Wright at W.M.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. Mark (No. 102).—The installation of office-bearers of this lodge for the ensuing year took place within their own hall at No. 213, Buchanan-street, on Monday, 27th ult., P.M. Bro. Thomas Halkett presiding. The following is a list of brethren installed into office, with ample form and ceremony, by Bro. Halkett, viz.: Bros. James Thomson, W.M.; R. Jamieson, S.M.; A. Neil, S.W.; G. Littlejohn, J.W.; A. C. Paterson, Treas.; Neil Campbell, S.D.; Neil Brown, J.D.; McKillop, Architect; Neil N. Currie, Senior Steward; David Dixon, Junior Steward; A. McKenzie Cameron, Sword Bearer; Charles Stewart, I.G.; and John Burton Hardie, Tyler. The W.M., Bro. Thomson, then appointed Bro. Alexander Gillan as his Depute Master, and the latter was thereupon installed into office as such, and Bro. Thomas Halkett as Bible Bearer by Bro. J. B. McNair, I.P.M. Lodge Union, No. 332. The ceremony of installation having been concluded, Bro. Halkett, in a few words, congratulated the new W.M. upon the position in which he was now placed, and said he had no doubt that prosperity would attend upon him during his reign of office. In reply, Bro. Thomson thanked Bro. Halkett for his kind services in performing the duties of the evening connected with the business of installation, and promised that, with the support of his office-bearers, which he trusted he should have, he would do the best in his power for the good of No. 102. The lodge was then adjourned from labour to refreshment, when an agreeable evening was spent, under the auspices of the J.W., before breaking up.

COUPAR-ANGUS.—St. John's Operative Lodge (No. 105).—The brethren of this lodge met on Monday, the 27th ult., for initiation and for the election of officers for the ensuing year. The following brethren were elected:—Robert Ritchie, R.W.M.; Charles E. Anderson, R.W.S.M.; John Doig, R.W.D.M.; James Siddons, S.W.; John Anderson, J.W.; William Hunter, Sec. and Treas.; Peter Gentle, S.D.; Robert Mills, J.D.; James Winter, Inner Guard; John Duncan, Tyler. A small committee was appointed to make arrangements for the due celebration of the approaching festival of St. John.

GREENOCK.—Lodge Greenock St. John (No. 175).—The annual general meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, 27th ult. Bro. A. McMaster, W.M., presiding, when the following were elected office-bearers for the ensuing year:—Bros. J. M. Pollock, W.M.; Robert Urie, D.M.; Alex. McMaster, P.M.; Donald Anderson, O.M.; Duncan McIntyre, S.W.; Archd. Cameron, J.W.; William Wright, jun., Sec.; James Rodger, Treas.; Rev. John B. Robertson, Chap.; John Robb Fleming, S.D.; David Anderson, J.D.; Norman Buchanan, 1st S.S.; John Bell McMillan, 2nd S.S.; Charles John Sergeant, 2nd J.S.; Stevenson Stewart, I.G.; Alexander Cruden, Tyler. Votes of thanks were passed to Bro. McMaster, for his long services to the lodge, to Bro. Urie for acting as Depute Master so efficiently, and to the retiring office-bearers.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Star (219).—A meeting of this lodge took place on the 27th ult., for the annual election of office bearers. The lodge was opened by Bro. Morgan, R.W.M., supported by J. Horn, S.W., D. Mearns, J.W. The Secretary reading the minutes of previous meetings, and the auditors the Financial Report of the lodge for the past year, when both were adopted. The lodge has now a hall of their own, well fitted up with all that is requisite, and after an expenditure of over £50 this year in new clothing it has still over £50 to the credit. This answers well for the future prospects of the lodge. The following were then installed as office bearers for the ensuing year, by Bro. Morgan, I.P.M., in a most impressive manner, viz.:—J. Martin, R.W.M.; J. Horn, S.W.; D. Mearns, J.W.; J. Morgan, sen., Treasurer; Fullarton, Secretary; R. Watson, Chaplain; J. Lawrence, B.B.; D. Taylor, S.D.; W. Robertson, J.D.; A. McNicol, S.S.; C. Stirling, J.S.; Struthers, architect; W. Elliott, Jeweller; D. G. Miller, P.G.S.; W. Jamieson, D. of M.; Robert Kelly, M. of C.; J. Harper, S.B.; J. McFarland, Org.; J. McMillan, I.G.; J. Pearson, Tyler. The office of depute master is left open for the choice of the R.W.M. After the installation and the newly installed R.W.M. had taken the chair a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the retiring R.W.M., Bro. Morgan. The newly installed Master, Bro. Martin, then rose and thanked the brethren for the high honour they had conferred upon him in voting him to the chair unanimous, and assured them that he would endeavour to discharge his duties faithfully, zealously and without fear, (applause) trusting in the support of his office bearers. The was then called to refreshment, and after spending a short time in harmony was closed.

ROTHESAY.—St. John's Lodge (No. 292).—At the monthly meeting of this lodge on Monday, 27th ult., the W.M. in the chair, the following office-bearers were nominated for the current year:—Alexander Duncan, R.W.M.; George Innes, D.M.; Robert McFarlane, S.M.; Archibald Morrison, P.M.; Ernest E. Barker, S.W.; Charles Crothall, J.W.; Rev. Canon Weldon, Hon. Chaplain; George Grant, Chaplain; Thomas Gilchrist, Secretary, Alexander Stewart, Treas.; John Miller, S.D.; John Keith, J.D.; Donald McQueen, S.S.; John McCallum, J.S.; James Hamilton, Architect; Andrew Holden, Jeweller; John Hicks, B.B.; Ronald Livingstone, S.B.; James McAlpine, Assistant S.B.; John Cochrane, sen., Marshall; Peter McLean, Director of Ceremonies; Thomas Napier, I.G.; Daniel Ferguson, Tyler.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Commercial, (No. 360).—On Wednesday, the 29th ult., the 25th anniversary of the formation of Lodge Commercial was celebrated by a festival in the Blythswood Hotel. The chair was occupied by Bro. Monro, R.W.M.; and Bros. Oliver and Finlay discharged the duties of Croupiers. The party

afterwards adjourned to their hall in Hope street, where the lodge was opened in the E.A. Degree. Bro. Monro presided, and was supported on the dais by Bros. Barrow, D.G.P.M.; Dr. Morton, P.M.; Davidson, P.M.; Julius Brode, P.M.; McKenzie, P.M.; Colquhoun, D.M.; A. McMaster, W.M., Greenock. The Senior Warden's chair was filled by Bro. Finlay, and the Junior's by Bro. Bickerton, (Freemason). Among others present not members of the lodge were—Bros. George Heron (86); G. W. Wheeler, Chaplain 73; Jn. Peters, P.G.J.W., Renfrewshire East; P. Brownlie, J.W. (33), &c. The W.M. stated that letters of apology for absence had been received from Bros. Murray Lyon, Ayr; Jn. Baird, S.P.G.M.; and H. Inglis, of Torsonce, D.G.M. The lodge was then called from labour to refreshment, the usual toasts being given.

GRANGEMOUTH.—Lodge Zetland (No. 391).—The annual meeting for the nomination of office-bearers of this lodge was held in their lodge-room, Grange-street, Grangemouth, on the 5th inst., when the following gentlemen were nominated: Bros. James Kennedy, W.M.; James Baxter, P.M.; Andrew Taylor, S.D.; Emil Christensen, D.M.; Wm. Peddie, S.W.; E. Voigt, J.W.; James Walls, Sec.; George Young, Treas.; Thomas Osborne, S.D.; Jno. Houston, J.D.; Theodore Dunkel, S.S.; George Palmer, J.S.; Peter Buchan, Bible Bearer; Rev. J. Falconer, Hon. Chap.; John Gibson, Bard; John Lawson, Architect; Iver J. Klooborg, Foreign Correspondent; Sven Sellstrom, I.G.; and George Wilson, Tyler.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Clyde (No. 408).—The annual election and installation of office-bearers in connection with this lodge, took place in St. Mark's Hall, Buchanan-street, on Friday, 1st inst. The R.W. Master, Bro. William Harper, presided, supported on the dais by Bros. Thomas Gordon, P.M.; Alexander Bain, P.G. Bible-Bearer; William Bell, J.P.M.; Lodge St. John, 3 bis; D. McKirdy, R.W.M., Lodge Union, 332; &c. It was unanimously agreed to, on the motion of the chairman, that the Secretary be instructed to insert in the minute-book a record of the lodge's attendance at the funeral of the late Past Master Bro. Duncan Downie, and also that a letter of condolence on his loss be drawn up and forwarded to the widowed mother of the deceased. Thereafter the election of office-bearers was proceeded with, the votes for the contested elections being taken by ballot. The following is the list as thus amended for the ensuing year:—John McInnes, R.W.M.; William Harper, P.M.; Thomas Gordon, D.M.; John Clape, S.M.; William Bilsland, S.W.; John Crosbie, J.W.; William Anderson, Treas.; Alexander Cross, Sec.; Adam Collic, S.D.; W. J. Pinkerton, J.D.; J. W. Gilchrist, Chap.; Richard Harkness, Bible-Bearer; John A. Dodds, Architect; McCarry, Jeweller; Gray, S. Steward; John Cameron, J. Steward; James Blackstock, I.G.; David Ramsay, Tyler. The following were appointed as auditors of the lodge accounts for the past year, namely, Bros. James Morton, Andrew Wilson, and John Waddell. Thereafter the newly-elected brethren were duly installed into their respective offices by Bro. A. Bain, P.G. Bible Bearer.

CATRINE.—Lodge St. John (No. 497), held their annual meeting for the election of office-bearers in the Crown Inn Hall, on Tuesday, 5th inst., Bro. Charles McDonald, W.M., presiding. The following were elected office-bearers:—Bros. Chas. Howatson, W.M.; Chas. McDonald, P.M.; John Hood, D.M.; James McClymont, S.M.; Thomas Garry, S.W.; Archibald Mearns, J.W.; Andrew Cowan, Treas.; John McDonald, Sec.; Thomas Moore, S.D.; Robert Hyslop, J.D.; Wm. Hair, Chap.; Robert Brown, B.B.; Samuel Alexander, S.B.; William McLeod, S.S.; David Hamilton, J.S.; Charles Arkieson, I.G.; and John Hind, Tyler.

MASONIC BALL AT ELGIN.—The Trinity Lodge of Freemasons held a grand ball in the Assembly Rooms, in honour of St. Andrew's Day. The gathering in every respect was one of the most successful ever held in Elgin. The assemblage was an influential one, numbering about 200, and the capacious ball-room, brilliantly lighted up, presented a scene of magnificent ball-room splendour, formed by the tastefully executed decorations, the glittering of the Masonic insignia of the brethren of the mystic Order, and the varied hues of the ladies' dresses. Dancing began about 9 o'clock in the evening, and was kept up in the best of style till about midnight. The music, which was of a very high-class character, was supplied by an excellent band under the leadership of the popular conductor, Mr. Frank Sutherland, Forbes. Mr. Edgar, of the Gordon Arms Hotel, in a manner that did him substantial credit, purveyed the midnight supper, and Mr. Kemp provided the wines. Supper over, apropos toasts were given, after which dancing was resumed, and the flying feet did not desist from pursuing the glowing hours till about four or five o'clock on Friday morning.

PURE BRANDY.—The *Pall Mall Gazette* lately stated that little or no adulteration in brandy is practised at Cognac. This is satisfactory, but what the brandy distillers leave undone there, is supplied to an alarming extent here. Messrs. Pellisson and Co, of Cognac, and 18, Billiter-street, E.C., who were specially mentioned in the *Pall Mall*, bring under notice their brandy of which, the eminent analysts, Dr. Bartlett and Mr. E. R. Southby speak highly, as a pure grape spirit, unsweetened, uncoloured, rich in fragrant ethers, containing a large amount of tannin and invaluable for its medical qualities. It is an advantage at this festive time to know where to obtain a spirit which connoisseurs will appreciate and do credit to one's cellar. Messrs. Pellisson and Co. have numerous agents for this brandy, which is shipped in only two qualities, seven and ten years old.

GRAND LODGE OF SCOTLAND.

The annual Festival of St. Andrew was celebrated on Friday, 30th ult., by the Grand Lodge of Scotland very much according to their usual custom. By command of the Most Worshipful Grand Master the brethren assembled in the Freemasons' Hall, George street, at five o'clock, for the purpose of installing into their respective offices the several brethren selected at the last quarterly communication. This formal duty being completed the brethren adjourned to the great hall to partake of a banquet. Sir Michael Robert Shaw Stewart Bart., M.W.G.M. Mason of Scotland, took the chair, and was supported by Henry Inglis, Esq., of Torsonce, Depute Grand Master; Colonel A. C. Campbell, of Blythswood, Substitute Grand Master; William Mann, Esq., P.S.G.W., Acting Senior Grand Warden; D. M. Nelson, Senior Grand Deacon, Acting Junior Grand Warden; Rev. Dr. Gray and Rev. A. Thomson Grant, Grand Chaplains; John Laurie, Grand Secretary; Wm. Hay, Grand Architect; John Coghill, Grand Director of Ceremonies; Alex. Hay, Grand Jeweller; Daniel Robertson, Grand Bible Bearer; Colonel Guthrie of Carlogie, Acting President of the Board of Grand Stewards; Captain C. F. R. Colt, of Gartsherrie, Grand Sword-Bearer; Dr. Loth, Representative of the Grand Orient of France; Wm. Officer, Representative of the Grand Orient of Egypt; Robert Davidson, Grand Organist; Captain Phipps, Deputy Assistant Adjutant General; R. Bruce Gardyne, of Middleton, &c.; &c.

Letters of apology for absence were received from the Earl of Rosslyn, P.G.M.; John Whyte Melville of Benochy, P.G.M.; Right Hon. Lord Rosehill, S.G.W.; Right Hon. Lord Ramsay, J.G.W.; Col. Wilson of Bannockburn, J.G.D.; Jas. Ballantine, Grand Bard; F. I. Melville, President of the Board of Grand Stewards; H. F. Maclean, Prov. Prov. G.M. Lanarkshire Upper Ward; Charles Dalrymple, M.P., Prov. G.M. Argyll and the Isles; Col. W. M. Neilson, Queenhill, Prov. G.M. City of Glasgow; Right Hon. Viscount Strathallan, Past Sub. G.M.; and others.

After dinner the Grand Lodge was opened in the First Degree, and immediately afterwards called from labour to refreshment.

The R.W.M. then proposed "The Holy Lodge of St. John," which was drank in solemn silence. Immediately afterwards "The Queen" was given, which toast, he said, was not to be drunk in silence. This year they had the refreshing sight of Her Majesty's gracious presence amongst them on the occasion of the unveiling of the statue of the late Prince Consort. He was not present in Edinburgh on that occasion, but he felt quite sure that all the inhabitants rejoiced to see the Queen amongst them once more. (Cheers.)

The Chairman next proposed "The Prince of Wales, Grand Master Mason of England, the Great Steward of Scotland and Patron of the Grand Lodge." They had had an opportunity of showing their loyalty towards their Royal patron on the occasion of the laying of the foundation-stone of the Glasgow Post Office. (Applause.) He was highly gratified with the way in which the Masons availed themselves of the opportunity to do honour to his Royal Highness, and he was aware the Prince and Princess were well pleased with that demonstration. (Applause.) Their own Grand Master felt proud of the Masons of Scotland that day—(applause)—not only on account of the strength of numbers in which they turned out, but for the orderly and loyal manner in which they conducted themselves. (Cheers.) It was a matter of regret to him that so few, comparatively, of the Masons were unable to witness the ceremony at the stone, in consequence of the necessary arrangements; but he was sure that the members of the Grand Lodge could tell them of the grace, manliness, and kindness with which the Prince conducted himself in performing his double duty. (Cheers.) His Highness had the duty to discharge of receiving an address from the Lord Provost and Magistrates of Glasgow, and secondly that of laying the foundation-stone. (Cheers.) Long might he continue to be Prince of Wales; but when he did ascend the Throne, they could wish nothing

better for him than he should perform his high duties with the same manliness, grace, ability, and quiet dignity which the Scotch Freemasons, on more than one occasion, had seen displayed by him. (Cheers.)

"The other members of the Royal Family" were next enthusiastically toasted.

The Chairman then gave "The Army, Navy, and Reserve Forces."

"The Craft, and Freemasonry over the World," and "The Grand Lodges of England and Ireland," were then proposed and duly honoured, the latter being replied to by Colonel Oswald of Dunnikier as representative of the Grand Lodge of Ireland.

Bro. Henry Inglis proposed "The Health of the Grand Master, Sir Michael Shaw-Stewart," who, he said, was the most dignified and courteous gentleman that had represented the Grand Lodge for many years. (Cheers.)

The toast was responded to with full Masonic honours.

Sir Michael Shaw-Stewart, in reply, said—I thank you sincerely for the high honour you have conferred upon me in responding as you have done to this toast. Bro. Inglis has only spoken in too flattering terms of my humble efforts. I feel very sure that you are all aware that I value very highly the honour which has again been conferred upon me in electing me Master of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. (Cheers.) I can only say that it has always been my earnest wish, and it will always be my earnest wish during the ensuing year, to act in such a manner as will conduce to the honour of the Grand Lodge and the prosperity of the Craft in general. (Cheers.) We meet to-night on a festive evening, and it is no part of my nature to fling a wet blanket over your enjoyment; but we cannot always paint everything "couleur de rose," and I feel it my duty to tell you the simple truth and that is, that I should now address you with a lighter heart, and I believe the office-bearers of the Grand Lodge would enjoy their festival more thoroughly, were it not for the strong shadow cast upon the Grand Lodge by certain irregularities which have taken. I am aware that steps have been taken in carrying out the wishes of the last quarterly communication, and I am glad to believe that everything now with regard to the finances of the Grand Lodge is being properly worked. (Hear, hear.) But I must add this, that certain information is necessary to the Financial Committee—information which can only come from a certain quarter—and I say deliberately that I am of opinion that it would be better for all parties in this most unpleasant matter that that information should be given freely, to enable the Grand Lodge to know how it stands. (Applause.) Do not let any brother here present think that I am hard upon any other brother also present, but there are times when a man acts a kinder part in speaking what is an unpleasant truth—and unpleasant to you to hear, no doubt—than in smoothing matters over. (Applause.) Moreover, this matter has to do with the response to the toast of my health, which has been so kindly proposed and so cordially received, because, let me tell you, these irregularities to which I have referred not only caused me great annoyance, but have given me a considerable amount of personal trouble; and when it was known to me that the Grand Lodge intended to do me the honour of again electing me to the throne for another year, one great inducement that I had in accepting the honour, which I highly value, was my wish and expectation that I should be able to leave to my successor a more satisfactory inheritance than that to which I myself succeeded. (Cheers.) I thank you again, and can truly say that the kindness and cordiality which I have always received from Scotch Masons will make me endeavour still to discharge to the best of my ability the duties of my high office. (Loud Cheers.)

Bro. W. H. Bickerton was present on behalf of the "Freemason," and the following Deputations from daughter lodges, viz.:—1, Mary's Chapel, B. F. Shaw Stewart; 2, Canongate, Kilwinning, Ebsworth; 3, bis, Glasgow St. John, Nelson; 5, Cannongate and Leith, Hudson; 7, Hamilton, Kilwinning, Spalding; 8, Journeyman, Davidson; 36, St. David's, Tracey, 44, St. Luke's, Moncrieff; 112, St. John Fisherrow,

Carse; 146, St. Stephen, Edinburgh, Linton; 851, Edinburgh Defensive Band, Beveridge; 160, Roman Eagle, Laing; 225, Trafalgar, Campbell; 291, Celtic, Edinburgh, Dundas Grant; 299, Panmure Arbroath, W. Smith; 334, St. John's, N. Cumnock, Mitchell; 349, St. Clair, Edinburgh, Greenaway; 392, Caledonian Edinburgh, Swanson; 405, Rifle, Edinburgh, Aphorpe; 548, St. Margaret, Queensferry, Glendinning; 580, St. Leonard, Loanhead.

"The Provincial Grand Lodges of Scotland," "The Grand Wardens and other Office-bearers" were proposed. The toast of "Lady Octavia Shaw Stewart" was received with great applause. The lists was concluded with the usual toasts of "The Memory of Deceased Members during the past year," and "The Memory of St. Clair Rosslyn." Grand Lodge was then called to labour, and closed in ample form.

CEREMONIAL AT WAKEFIELD.

On Saturday, the 25th ult., there were great festivities over the laying of the foundation stone of the new hospital the total cost of which will be about £20,000. In order that justice might be done to the importance of the occasion, arrangements had been made for Colonel J. C. D. Charlesworth, M.A., D.L., J.P., the President, to lay the memorial-stone with full Masonic honours. A procession was formed, led off by the local Volunteers. Then came the Trades and Friendly Societies, the Fire Brigade, the Committee of the Hospital Saturday Fund, the Tradesmen's Association, the Board of Guardians and School Board, the Trustees and Governors of various Charities, Ministers of Religion, Justices of the Peace, Donors and Subscribers, members of the Medical Profession, the Borough Member, the Mayor and Corporation, the committee and officers of the Clayton Hospital, and the Freemasons. The Lodge Wakefield had previously been constituted with due formality, and Colonel Charlesworth invested pro. tem. with the office of Deputy Provincial Grand Master. When the head of the procession reached the entrance to the ground in Wentworth-street, the public societies, &c., divided to the right and left, facing inwards, thus forming an avenue through which the Masonic brethren passed to the enclosure. The proceedings commenced with the singing of the Hundredth Psalm, accompanied by the Rifle Band, after which a prayer was offered by the Rev. N. D. J. Stratton, vicar of Wakefield. Colonel Charlesworth was then presented with a silver trowel by Mr. John Binks, the popular Secretary of the Building Committee; and with this—after the inscribed memorial plate and bottle with newspapers had been deposited—the stone was laid in customary form. The cornucopia being handed to Colonel Charlesworth, he strewed the corn upon the stone with the usual Masonic ceremonies, adding a wish that the plenty of which it was an emblem might be showered down upon the building. The Masonic ewers being next handed to him, he poured the wine and oil over the stone—the first as a symbol of cheerfulness and joy; the second as a symbol of prosperity and happiness. An appropriate prayer was then offered by the Rev. J. S. Eastmead, Congregational minister, after which Colonel Charlesworth addressed the assemblage. Before the procession re-formed for the march back into the town Colonel Charlesworth announced that the Secretary would read a letter which would be most gratifying to every one around him. Mr. Binks accordingly read the following letter:—"Crofton Hall, Wakefield, 23rd Nov., 1876. My dear Sir,—I beg you will convey to the committee of the Clayton Hospital my grateful thanks for their vote of condolence on the death of my father. As a proof of the interest he took as one of the vice-presidents of that institution, I am desired by my co-executors under his will to forward the accompanying extract from that document, viz.:—'To the Treasurer for the time being of the Clayton Hospital, Wakefield, a legacy of £4000—(cheers)—for which such Treasurer's receipt is to be a discharge.' Under other circumstances, as Deputy Provincial Grand Master of the Province of West Yorkshire, I should have had great pleasure in being present at the laying of the foundation stone of the new Hospital and Dispensary, but at present, under the loss I have sustained by the death of my father, I am not taking part in any public ceremonial. Accept, however, my best wishes for the prosperity and usefulness of your institution; and believe me to remain, yours, &c., Thos. Wm. Tew, executor under the will of the late Edwd. Tew." Shortly after the procession and crowd of spectators had dispersed, a company of gentlemen interested in the new Hospital partook of luncheon together in the Music Saloon. The Mayor (Ald. Gill) presided.

A meeting of the Hospital Sunday Fund Committee was held at the Mansion House on Wednesday, the Lord Mayor presiding, at which a resolution was passed that Sunday, the 17th June next, should be the day for making the usual collections throughout the Metropolis.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Though it is impossible in this climate of changing temperature, to prevent ill-health altogether, yet its form and frequency may be much mitigated by the early adoption of remedial measures. When hoarseness, cough, thick breathing, and the attending slight fever indicate irritation of the throat or chest, Holloway's Ointment should be rubbed upon these parts without delay, and his Pills taken in appropriate doses, to promote its curative action. No catarrhs or sore throats can resist these remedies. Printed directions envelope every package of Holloway's medicaments, which are suited to all ages and conditions, and to every ordinary disease to which humanity is liable.—ADVT.

NOTICE.

The Christmas number of the *Freemason* will consist of 32 pages, exclusive of wrapper, which will be illustrated in the highest style of the art of wood engraving, and will contain life-like portraits of

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.
The Right Hon. Lord Carnarvon, M.W.Pro.G.M.
The Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, R.W. Deputy G.M.
The Right Hon. Lord Donoughmore, R.W. S.G.W.
The Hon. W. Warren Vernon, R.W.J.G.W.
Samuel Tomkins, V.W.G. Treas.
John Hervey, V.W.G. Sec.

The price of this number to non-subscribers will be four pence.

To prevent disappointment, it is very necessary that orders should be sent at once to the Office, 198, Fleet-street, or through any news-agent.

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 for the CHRISTMAS NUMBER should reach the Office, 198 Fleet-street, London, by 12 o'clock on Wednesday.

NOTICE.

To prevent delay or miscarriage, it is particularly requested that ALL communications for the "*Freemason*," may be addressed to the Office, 198, Fleet-street, London.

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.

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, 10/6.

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 Thirteen 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.

Answers to Correspondents.

Mark Masonry.—1. No difference. 2. Yes. 3. Yes. C.L.—He cannot vote at all in the lodge in which he was initiated as a serving brother, but can in another lodge, by paying the requisite lodge fees and subscriptions. Reports of Lion and Lamb Lodge, 192; St. John's Lodge, 279, Leicester; and Clapton Lodge of Instruction will appear in our next.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

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

BIRTHS.

ATKINSON.—On the 30th ult., at Bowdon, Cheshire, the wife of F. G. Atkinson, of a daughter.

BAKER.—On the 8th inst., at Hope Park, Bromley, the wife of A. J. Baker, of a son.

MARSHALL.—On the 10th inst., at The Crescent, Clapham Common, the wife of W. Marshall, of a daughter.

TAYLOR.—On the 9th inst., the wife of G. C. Taylor, Esq., of a daughter.

WEBB.—On the 10th inst., at Haywood Mount, Tenby the wife of Comr. A. H. Webb, R.N., of a son.

DEATHS.

CHAPLAIN.—On the 9th inst., in London, Thomas Hanby Chaplain, B.A., aged 25.

GRIFFITH.—On the 8th inst., at Stoke, Devonport, Cecilia Zoffany, widow of the late P. Griffith.

MORGAN.—On the 8th inst., at Pope's-grove, Twickenham, Emma, wife of A. Morgan.

SAVAGE.—On the 12th ult., at Sault St. Mary, Canada, Mary Anne, wid. w. of Col. J. M. Savage, aged 76.

SMITH.—On the 10th inst., at The Grange, Shepherd's-bush, John Smith, aged 71.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, DEC. 16, 1876.

THE LAST QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

The last meeting of Grand Lodge was neither very long, nor, to say the truth, very important, though a good deal of essential business was nevertheless transacted. Our Royal Grand Master was nominated for re-election, and the hearty applause of the brethren was a good index to the feelings of our entire Craft. Bro. Clabon was reappointed President of the Lodge of Benevolence, a matter of much gratification to all. Two appeals of some little intricacy, thanks to the lucid exposition of our esteemed Grand Registrar, were adjudicated upon easily by Grand Lodge. We are to have a special meeting of Grand Lodge to consider the report of the Special Committee. This is, in our opinion, a very wise decision; and until that report is in our hands, proposals are premature and discussion is out of place. We have delegated a special work to a special committee, and until we learn what that committee has to say on the subject, whatever our personal feelings or private notions may be, we must be content to sit still and to hold our tongues.

THE DEPARTURE OF OUR BRO. THE DUKE OF ABERCORN FROM IRELAND.

No one can read the interesting account in the *Times* of this recent event without being deeply pleased, and not a little moved. There is, and there ought to be, always amongst Englishmen and Freemasons a warm sympathy for Ireland and its warm hearted people. No one can deny the impulsive nature of the Celt, or that there still lingers amid the population of the "Green Island," many aspirations and sympathies, which fall on our cold and more phlegmatic Anglo-Saxon temperament somewhat amazedly and coldly, so to say, at times. But his must be a callous heart, or an ungenerous disposition, who does not feel much of interest in a land which often seems to us to have a very great deal to commend it alike to the careful consideration of the publicist, the ardent longings of the politician, the dream of the poet, and the admiration of the genial hearted. The good government of that important portion of her Majesty's Dominions is indeed a subject of vital importance to us all alike, and every one who has any pretence either to the character of a patriot or a statesman, much less that of a Masonic philosopher, will always rejoice to hear of the inward prosperity and onward progress of Ireland. In Bro. the Duke of Abercorn, Ireland has recently parted with an able ruler and a sagacious administrator. No more popular Lord Lieutenant has ever presided over the graceful hospitality of Dublin Castle, and the pleasant rule of his kindly administration will long be preserved green and fresh in the warm memories of the Irish people. As an Irish landlord, as a prudent and polished, and fair and courteous representative of Her Majesty the Queen, his name will long be associated, and most favourably too, with those who make up the long list of leading men, who have from time to time, swayed the Viceregal power in Ireland, and the amenities and graces of his family circle will always be remembered with sincere feelings of pride and admiration. But, as Freemasons, we owe to our brother, the Duke of Abercorn, a warm tribute of grateful acknowledgement, as well as a friendly recognition of his many excellencies, social, political, and personal. In an hour of great trial for Freemasonry he was not ashamed to own us as his brethren. When the Craft in Ireland was mourning their venerable head of many years, the kind and conciliatory "Geraldine," the Irish Grand Lodge happily offered the throne of Irish Masonry to Her Majesty's representative in that country, their eminent Bro. the Duke of Abercorn. He at once gallantly accepted the high honour, even though it exposed him to the virulence of Ultramontane insult and the turgid utterances of "Cardinal Paul." Despite the assertions of the ignorant and the

criticisms of the malevolent, he openly declared before all men, that he found Freemasonry to be (as otherwise, he could in his official position have nothing to do with it) a loyal, peaceable, benevolent order. There is a good deal more in this his act of high courage and straightforward sincerity, (in keeping with his entire career), than appears at first sight, and as Freemasons, we are bound to remember gratefully that we number him among the rulers of our Craft, and can look on him as a faithful and tried brother of our Order. In common with all classes of the Irish people, we regret his departure from a country which he has ruled so well, and while his worth and capacity are alike universally acknowledged, and his resignation of his high office truly deplored, may all of good go with him and his family, and in the clime of the sunny South may he find health and strength, for other duties to his Queen and country. We rejoice to think that his successor, the Duke of Marlborough, is a member of our fraternity, having been originally initiated, we are informed, in the famous Apollo Lodge at Oxford. We doubt not, that in his hands the prestige of the Lord Lieutenant will be well maintained, and that under the Regime of his amiable Duchess, the hospitality of Dublin Castle will be dispensed to the cordial satisfaction of all Her Majesty's loyal subjects in Ireland.

THE PROGRESS OF THE CONTROVERSY RAISED BY THE FRENCH GRAND ORIENT.

It is somewhat amusing, though not a little serious, to note how quickly fulfilment has followed prediction, in this "vexata quæstio." We have already said, that the effect of the French agitation, and the unwise decision of the Grand Orient would be to produce isolation, and that isolation has already commenced. Indeed, it is not too much to say that the effect of the action of the Grand Orient of France has been to produce pain and stupefaction in other Masonic bodies. Bro. André Rousselle seemed to fancy that all such fears were chimerical and groundless, he will we suspect be ready to admit ere very long, that Bro. Behr and others were perfectly right in their apprehensions and prognostications. The Grand Orient of Egypt has already manifested its entire disapproval of the step. By a resolution and decree of Nov. 1, unless this motion for removing the belief in God and the Immortality of the Soul be withdrawn, it declines to acknowledge the Grand Orient of France as a lawful Masonic power, and withdraws any request for recognition, and refuses any representative on its own behalf, at the Grand Orient of France, or any representative of the Grand Orient of France in the Grand Orient of Egypt. The arguments on which the decrees are based seem to be these:—1. That the belief in God is an universal and unchangeable law of Freemasons; and 2ndly, that the suppression of belief in God, as a necessary condition of admission, must not only lead to other consequences, but must inevitably drive out of Freemasonry all believers in God. To the Grand Orient of Egypt, such a step appears, as to us, a REVOLUTION. We have never concealed our opinion of the mistaken and worse than mistaken policy which has resulted in such a dead-lock for the Grand Orient of France, as this resolution will prove to be if carried out. We conceive it to be an act of childish folly, only equalled by its mischievous perversity. Despite the eloquence and ability by which this measure has been defended, eloquence and ability deserving of a better cause to support, we, from the first, have pointed out in language nearly similar to that of the Grand Orient of Egypt, what the effect would be on other bodies, and how seriously the whole Masonic edifice was shaken by such a breach in its constitutional foundation. We still trust that there is time for the Grand Orient of France to retrace its steps. For of one thing we feel sure—of course we speak with no authority beyond our own opinion—that if by any official act, the belief in the existence of God and the Immortality of the Soul is openly repudiated by French Freemasonry, it will be

impossible for the Grand Lodge of England on its principles to acknowledge the existence or authority of the Grand Orient of France, as an integral portion of pure and ancient Masonry. We write as "Amici Curiae," and in the trust that the French Grand Orient will by a special Assembly, at once put a stop to a baneful and perilous agitation.

SOME FRESH ROMAN CATHOLIC ATTACKS ON FREEMASONRY.

Two recent "mandemens" or allocutions have been submitted to our notice, which we think deserve our attention, though we are heartily sick of the subject ourselves and some of our readers may, we think, be still sicker. When they have read what follows, we trust they will say "is there not a cause," probably whether for praise or blame, whether for note or comment, for warning or animadversion. The one is a brief from the Pope to the Bishop of St. Paul in Brazil, published in the *Univers* of October 25th, and a portion of which is contained in the *Chaine d'Union* for December. We wish that our good Bro. Hubert would always give us the whole document, as "excerpta" are liable to the charge of incompleteness and inaccuracy, and in all such quotations it is better to see the text and context in their entirety. The following is a translation of the brief in French (taken from the Latin):—

"To our venerable Brother—Health and Apostolic Benediction.—If your arrival has been very agreeable to us, venerable Brother, it has become the more so by the good accounts we have received of your diocese. In truth at the moment when not only common report but the public journals by their impetuosity, their anger, their calumny, their violence, and their invectives openly show how greatly the Masonic Sect is spread in Brazil, how numerous are the persons of all ranks whom it has inveigled or altogether or partly deceived, with what tenacity it applies itself to ruin the authority of the holy bishops, and to dissolve the Catholic Unity and the Constitution of the Church at this time. We could not but rejoice to learn that the Holy Spirit, which "bloweth where it listeth," had inspired many of the priests of the diocese desirous of marching in the vocation wherunto they are called to form among them an association under the name of the Prince of the Apostles, and under the tutelage of the Holy Heart of Jesus, in order that uniting themselves in this conference, called the conference of St. Peter, they could, by associating their thoughts and joining their forces, labour with an unanimous effort, with all the devotion and zeal of which they are capable, to remove the evils of religion and all that is for the souls (sic) [of the faithful:] a detriment and a peril." We find no fault with this document, as it is moderate "per se," but we could wish that the *Roman Curia* was a little more attentive to punctuation and lucidity of expression. "Les Maux de la Religion" may mean anything or nothing, though we presume, that the chief of these evils is the "Masonic sect" alluded to. So far from blaming the Brazilian Roman Catholic clergy, however, for forming themselves into an union, if they deem that they have cause of complaint, or apprehension, we think that they are quite right in so acting, for that at any rate is better than foolish anathemata and childish excommunications. The last Papal brief is an agreeable contrast to many preceding similar publications, and we have perused it, we confess, with no little satisfaction, as in the present state of Roman Catholic excitement we could not expect much less, nor need we ever find fault with the pious fervour of earnest religionists, acting within their own lines, and defending manfully what they believe, (if ever erroneously), to be in any way menaced from without. We wish we could say the same of the next address, which is that of the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Malta, "Carmulus Comes Sicluna," and which seems to be taken from an English paper, the *Public Opinion*, of 13th November, and translated. If some brethren will kindly procure us the Latin original of these two documents, we will publish them in the "Historical Document" portion of the *Masonic Magazine*, "for informa-

tion." There is at Malta a paper called *La Fenice*, which has been set up by some liberal-minded Roman Catholics, in opposition to the Jesuitical and Ultramontane party, and of this paper the Archbishop of Malta thus speaks:—"The evil being great, we declare that from the date of the present publication, any one who writes in that journal, or contributes to its publication, whether as printer, seller, writer, or reader, will not only commit a mortal sin, but will incur "ipso facto" the punishment of the "greater excommunication" reserved to ourselves, from which without our special permission, no confession can absolve him." Surely this is coming it rather strong? A man has committed a "mortal sin" who prints, or reads, or sells, or writes for the *Fenice*. This is liberty of the press and individual freedom, at Malta, with a vengeance. Can anything be more absurd or more mischievous, or a greater reflexion on common sense, or more, a lasting injury to religion? The angry prelate then goes on piously to say: "We hope that these measures will end not only in restraining the true 'fideles' far from this poisoned pasture, but will also cause the editors of the said paper to repent, as well as their fellow labourers, for whom we wish nothing better, and desire nothing more than their amendment and eternal salvation." Does a faint memory of the great "Pecksniff" float before any of our minds, as we peruse these words? But do not let us judge "Carmulus Archbishop, Bishop of Malta," too severely, and let us make allowance for that peculiar state of sensational morbidity into which as regards the Freemasons, the whole Roman Catholic Church seems just now to have fallen. And now we leave the subject, which we shall not return to willingly, and not at all, if the Roman Catholic Church will leave us alone, but we should be something worse than cowards, if we did not notice in the pages of the *Freemason* attacks, and a system of persecution, which though utterly worthless and harmless to our Order, are yet an insult to reason, liberty of conscience, and above all, to true religion.

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.]

FREEMASONRY IN SCOTLAND.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—We have recently heard much of the degeneracy of our noble Craft amongst our countrymen to the north of the Tweed. As an evidence of this, and as a striking proof of the urgent need existing for improvement in the supervision of private lodges as now exercised by the Grand Lodge of Scotland, I would ask you to make known the following facts:—

A lodge at Arbroath has recently built a hall to meet in, and there is a debt upon the building, which the lodge is anxious to clear off (I gather these facts from the documents I enclose), and to do this, they have got up a lottery upon the principle of the Art Union of England, offering prizes of from £30 to 15s. in value, to be drawn for on the 14th of February next, and they have issued sixpenny tickets, which they are offering for sale to English lodges.

The documents I enclose came to me by post, and were directed to "The W.M. of Lodge No.—&c., &c.," from which I think it is fair to presume that similar communications have been addressed to other lodges in England, and perhaps elsewhere.

Begging from strangers is at all times unseemly, no matter for how worthy an object, and is it not still more unseemly for the Worshipful Master of a lodge to send begging letters in print to the Worshipful Masters of stranger lodges, not even under the same jurisdiction, asking them to assist in selling lottery tickets "amongst brethren and the public," to help to clear off a debt which his lodge ought never to have incurred, if they were going to beg in order to pay it off?

This appears to me to be a more objectionable proceeding even than the *touting* for members by new lodges, which has very recently called for the severe censure of the Pro Grand Master and the Board of General Purposes, and I most sincerely hope no other instance will ever call for condemnation.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,
S.M.M.C.O.
P.M., P. Prov. G. Sec., 31°.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—I have read with deep regret the two letters of Brother Thomson, of Galashiels. If I may be allowed to

say so, I think it is better for all communities "to wash their dirty linen at home." The majority of your readers are brethren residing in England, and not in Scotland; our English brethren can only take a fraternal interest in our concerns; they can give us no help, only their sympathy.

Bro. Thomson may have just cause for complaint, but I would suggest to him to consider whether the more Masonic course would not have been to have sought to lop off the excrescences and reduce rude matter to its proper form at home.

This, I may say, is my idea of the case.

I know Bro. Thomson to be a zealous and earnest Mason; I know that he, in common with others, have grievances—and just ones too. Let us, then, one and all unite and endeavour to reduce this rude matter to its proper form.

Bro. Thomson, I am afraid, has not considered this matter in its full and general light. While he condemns the system, he offers nothing in its place. I can assure him that I have for a long time been seeking to accomplish his aim *Masonically and constitutionally*; but to set the Grand Lodge of Scotland on a firm basis demands many things—first, no isolated motions will or can succeed of themselves; secondly, you may change your executive office-bearers as often as you like ("but the general system requires partial, if not entire, reconstruction"); thirdly, the best system that can be conceived cannot succeed, the best officers available cannot carry out our wishes, if the lodges in general and every individual Mason in Scotland be not prompt to execute the design.

The ideas that I propose through your columns to bring before my Scottish brethren may be considered by many crude in the extreme, but after long thought and anxious enquiry, I feel they may at any rate guide our brethren in the re-arrangement required.

I have now a motion before Grand Lodge of Scotland, which I trust (if duly supported and carried) may lead to a better state of affairs than we have at present; but I should add, that if the "surgeon's knife" be put in (and no doubt rightly) to the root and the stem, the branches also must feel the incision. Our Grand Lodge can, and may, be made good by patient care and the application of good remedies; our Provincial Grand Lodges should be made to bear their portion of the work, but the daughter lodges themselves must also feel the "surgeon's knife."

If one and all will join in the restoration of Masonry in Scotland, no one will be more delighted than

Yours fraternally,

GEO. R. HARRIOTT, of Killiemore,
Prov. G.M. Wigtown and Kirkcudbright.

TRADING ON FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Will the editor of the *Freemason* accept this modest criticism of a still more modest "bid for trade?"

Higglesbury Independent Office, 54, Church-street,
Higglesbury, November 17th, 1876.

"Dear Sir and Brother,—The growth, both in numbers and importance, of this ancient Order during the last few years, and notably so since the Installation of our future Sovereign as the Most Worshipful Grand Master, has been so rapid, that it has become an object of primary importance for the well and successful advancement of the Order, that a public means of communication between the various lodges in this and the adjoining provinces should be available."

The Craft has not yet discovered this object of such primary importance.

"With a view to afford some facilities to the Craft for this purpose, we have decided, after due consideration and consultation, to appropriate a limited space in our columns for the special purpose of Freemasonry, commencing Saturday, December 2nd, 1876."

Very appropriate indeed! Probably to come in at the end amongst riddles, extracts from comic papers, &c.

"It is our intention to avoid, as far as possible, giving details of any circumstances which may not be of general interest to the surrounding provinces. We do not propose to report the meetings of the various lodges at full length, nor the after dinner speeches, but to give a brief record of the business done."

Masonry ceases to be a secret institution when names, &c., are put in print in a local paper.

"It is also our purpose to open a list of meetings, to be held during the week after publication, with notices of adjournments, and other information necessary to avoid the disappointment and annoyance so frequently experienced by brethren who happen to attend at the usual hour and place of meeting, and find that the lodges have adjourned for vacation."

Calendars at 1d. each, compiled by authority, give date, time, and place of meeting of every lodge, chapter, &c., in the province.

"We intend also to notify the meetings of Provincial Grand Lodges, and to report the proceedings as far as admissible, giving the names of the newly appointed officers; and we hope in doing so to avoid the errors so frequently committed by our local contemporaries in giving the initial titles to each."

This is sufficiently well done at present. Initial titles are surely understood by the Craft!!

"In order that all our reports may be strictly correct and in accordance with the constitutions of the Order, and that nothing unmasonic or disadvantageous to the Craft may be inserted, and that the ancient tenets of the Order—Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth—may be ever maintained amongst the brethren, we shall place the editorial supervision of this department in the hands of a brother, who is fully conversant with the details of every branch of Freemasonry."

Name? Where is the guarantee? It follows, that there will be correspondence and bickering over petty details, and members being personally known will be "spotted."

"We solicit your co-operation, and request that you will kindly send us a copy of the circulars convening the meetings of your lodge, and a short report of the proceedings of such meeting, together with notices of any changes, or other matters which may interest our Masonic readers."

Masonic readers have journals of their own, deserving of their support, without encouraging a local newspaper, of whatever political colour, to take them in hand at present.

Possibly not one per cent. of the craft was aware that a newspaper called the *Higglesbury Independent* was in existence.

"The *Independent* is published every Saturday morning. Subscriptions 6s. 6d. per annum, post free, payable in advance.

"Yours, faithfully and fraternally,

"THE EDITOR."

[We give this paper at the request of our correspondent. If any of our brethren cannot find "Higglesbury" in "Bradshaw" it is no fault of ours.—Ed.]

THE BURNS STATUE AND FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of the *Glasgow News*.

Sir,—In the report you give in Monday's paper, of the proceedings at the meeting of the committee and the representatives of the various trades held on Saturday afternoon last, Mr. Gordon Smith mentioned that the poet's mother lodge is dormant. Now, for the information of the Craft, permit me to state that eight years ago a body of Masons here met, and made all the preliminary arrangements to have the poet's mother lodge—Saint David's, Tarbolton, No. 125—resuscitated, and a petition with that object was in due form presented to the Grand Lodge, and a sum of money deposited with the petition. Beyond sending a receipt for the cash, the Grand Lodge has taken no further notice of the application, and still retains the deposited money. The dormancy, which in itself is not creditable to true Masons, your readers will thus see rests entirely with the Grand Lodge, whose officials will, sooner or later, have to give an explanation.

I enclose my card, and am, &c.,
Mauchline, 29th November, 1876.

M. M.

THE PAST MASTER'S JEWEL.

To the Editor of the "*Freemason*."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Can any among your readers tell me whether a Past Master of a Craft lodge, not being the I.P.M., has a right to wear the P.M.'s jewel otherwise than on a collar? It is most frequently worn as a medal. I do not want a mere expression of opinion, which is worthless, unless backed by authority.

Yours fraternally,

A. T.

TEMPLAR HISTORY.

To the Editor of the "*Freemason*."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I see from No. 3 of the *Rosierucian* that the A.D. 1778 Laws of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the so-called "Modern" Masons, led to those of the Bristol Templar confederation of 1780, which are an adapted copy, and both Orders base their powers upon a "Charter of Compact." (Query.—Granted by, to themselves?) I see also that Joshua Springer, who aided the Bath and Bristol Templar confederation of 1780 was a "Modern" Mason, belonging to Lodge No. 138, No. 167 at the Union. Prior to these two dates I suppose these degrees amongst the "Moderns" had no separate Grand Governing body. I should be pleased to see the writer of "Records of the Craft" follow these clues further. Now the Templars have dissolved the "Tripartite Treaty" there is a respectable and independent future again for that Order.

JOHN YARKER.

Manchester, Dec. 9th, 1876.

THE ORDER OF THE TEMPLE.

A National Great Priory of England and Wales was held in the Cannon-street Hotel, Cannon-street, on Friday, 8th inst., the Right Hon. the Earl of Limerick, Great Prior, presiding. There was a very large and unusual attendance, nearly 200 Knights being present. This large assemblage was doubtless due to the vote to be taken on the motions regarding the restoration of Past rank &c., to be made by the Provincial Prior of Lancashire, and in support of which much interest has for a long period been excited in the Provinces of Lancashire, Dorset, and Devon. The Provinces of Stafford and Warwick were also well represented by a goodly number of Sir Knights, who loyally assembled to do honour to their late chief, the new Great Prior, and in consequence they were allowed the privilege of forming the Arch of Steel nearest the throne.

After the minutes of the last Great Priory had been read and confirmed, the installation of the Right Hon. the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot, vice the Earl of Limerick resigned, was duly proceeded with.

In presenting the Earl for Installation, Sir Patrick Colquhoun, the Great Chancellor, delivered an eloquent address on his ancient and noble lineage, in the course of which he recited the following passage from Shakespeare's play of Henry VI. (Part I, Act iv., Scene vii.), in which Sir William Lucy rehearses the titles of the great and celebrated Lord Talbot, an ancestor of the Earl, describing him as,—

"The great Alcides of the field,

"Valiant Lord Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury,

"Created for his rare success in arms,

"Great Earl of Washford, Waterford, and Valence;

"Lord Talbot of Goodrig and Urchingfield,

"Lord Strange of Blackmere, Lord Verdun of Alton,

"Lord Cromwell of Wingfield, Lord Furnival of Sheffield,

"The thrice victorious Lord of Falconbridge;

"Knight of the noble Order of St. George,

"Worthy Saint Michael, and the Golden Fleece,

"Great Mareschal to Henry the Sixth,

"Of all his wars within the realm of France."

After the presentation, the installation was concluded, and the Earl was duly proclaimed by the Great Marshal, who rehearsed all the noble Knight's titles, foremost of which is that of Premier Earl of England.

Having assumed his seat under the customary honours, the noble Knight returned thanks for the honour conferred upon him by H.R.H. the Grand Master, and for the cordial approval of his appointment by the Sir Knights present. It would be his earnest endeavour to rule the Order with firmness and good sense, and he hoped to succeed in restoring it to a state of quietness by his resolve to allow full and free, but temperate discussion of every point. He paid a high tribute to the abilities of his predecessor, the Earl of Limerick, and he trusted he might always count upon his valuable aid and support, and also upon that of all the officers of Great Priory, who he begged would favour him by continuing in office until he had time to make his selections after a closer acquaintance with the members of the Order.

The noble Knight having resumed his seat amidst loud and protracted applause, the business of Great Priory was proceeded with.

The following report of the Council was read by the Great Chancellor, Sir Patrick Colquhoun, Q.C., &c., &c.

Very High and Eminent Great Prior,

Your Council has the honour to report that it has graciously pleased His Royal Highness the Grand Master to appoint the Right Honourable the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot, Great Prior of England and Wales, in succession to yourself, and to express its regret at your resignation of that office.

Your Council has further to report the lamented death, on the 18th of June last, of Theodore Mansel Talbot, the Provincial Prior of South Wales.

The Warrant for raising the Dominion of Canada to a Great Priory has been sealed and transmitted to its destination. Letters Patent have also been passed, under the Seal of the Order, appointing Colonel W. J. Bury McLeod Moore, Great Prior of Canada, and he was on the 10th of August last installed into his office by the delegates of the Grand Master.

Your Council begs to report that a letter has been received by the Chancellor from the Arch-Chancellor of the Order, stating that a resolution was passed by the Convent General, held in Dublin, on 27th of October last, to the effect that the Report of the Ritual Committee had been received by that Convent General, which had thereupon resolved that copies of the Ritual be distributed to the Order by the Great Priorities, through their respective Chanceries, and on such terms and conditions as shall be determined by their respective Councils.

Your Council recommends grants from the Benevolent Fund of 50 guineas to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, and £50 to the Male Fund of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, in the name of the Order, to be represented by the Great Prior for the time being, and that the Sub-Prior be requested to place these sums on his list.

The following balances are in the Treasurer's hands—

General Account	£197	17	5
Benevolent Fund	247	5	7
Total	£445	3	0

By order of the Council,

P. MAC C. DE COLQUHOUN.

28th November, 1876.

Chancellor.

On the motion that the above report be received and adopted, opposition was raised to the fourth paragraph relating to the report of the Ritual Committee, but it was withdrawn, and the motion carried, after a long discussion, on the understanding that the proposed "distribution" of the report of the Ritual Committee was only for the purpose of its being further considered by the Order at large through the various great Priorities.

The Grants of Fifty Guineas from the Benevolent Fund to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, and £50 to the Male Fund of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, recommended by the Council, were unanimously confirmed.

The following motions proposed by Sir Knt. J. E. Curteis were discussed.

1. That Statute No. 4, page 8, be altered by striking out the words "31st day of March," and substituting in lieu thereof, "last day of February."

2. That Statute 7, pages 9 and 10, be altered by striking out the words "appointed and,"—"The Great Prior shall appoint four members and" on the first and second lines of page 10.

3. That Statute 50, pages 22 and 23, be altered by striking out the words "the Prelate," "the Constable," "the Marshall," "four members of the Great Priory to be appointed by the Great Prior," and to insert after the word "five," in the fourth line of page 23, "Members of the Great Priory."

4. That Statute 56 be altered by striking out the words "31st day of March," and substituting in lieu thereof "last day of February."

After a long and animated discussion, Nos. 1 and 4 were carried, and Nos. 2 and 3 rejected.

The Great Prior then declared National Great Priory closed, and the Special Convent General open, which had been convoked by order of His Royal Highness, the Grand Master, "for the consideration of such notices of motion as were not proceeded with at the Convent General holden at Dublin on the 27th October last."

The following amendments to Convent General statutes were proposed by Sir Knight the Earl of Limerick, seconded by Major S. H. Clerke.

AMENDMENTS TO CONVENT GENERAL STATUTES.

Page 10—Cap.—The Convent General.—Omit "in England and Ireland on such day as the Grand Master in Council may determine, of which day not less than four weeks' notice shall be given"; and insert, "in England on the second Friday in May, and in Ireland on the —day of—."

Page 11—Cap.—Qualification to attend, speak, and vote in Convent General.—Amend that it may read, "all Past Grand Masters, Great Priors, Past Great Priors, Great Officers, Past Great Officers, Sub-Priors, Provincial Priors, National Great Officers, Grand Crosses, Commanders, Past Vice-Chancellors who have held that office for two years, Past Sub-Masters who have held that office for two years, and Preceptors," shall be, &c. (as before).

Page 14—Cap.—Honours.—After Ireland 10, insert Canada 10; after Ireland 20, insert Canada 20. At end of section insert, "The Grand Master may also appoint knights of foreign jurisdictions to the honours of Knights Grand Cross and Knights Commander, and such appointments shall not be included in the numbers as limited above."

Page 18—Cap.—Constitution of Great Priorities.—After "in the Convent General," insert "of the Past Provincial Priors and Past Great Officers of the Nationality, and of the Past Vice-Chancellors and Sub-Masters who have been two years in office as such in the Nationality."

Page 19—Cap.—Rank and Precedence.—Omit the whole.—Insert, "In consideration of

the introduction of the dignities of Knights Grand Cross and Knights Commander, no person in future shall receive any rank or precedence analogous to Past Rank except in virtue of some qualifying office which he has held for twelve months at the least."

Page 23—Cap.—Precedence.—After "The Grand Master," amend the paragraph to run—"Past Grand Masters, the Great Priors, the Great Officers, the Sub-Priors, Past Great Priors and Great Officers, the Provincial Priors, the National Great Officers, Past Sub-Priors, Provincial Priors, and National Great Officers, the Knight Grand Crosses, the Commanders, the Officers of the Order, Past Vice-Chancellors and Sub-Masters who have held those offices for two years, the National Officers, Past National Vice-Chancellors and Sub-Masters who have held those offices for two years, Preceptors, Chaplains, Knights."

Exception having been taken to the discussion of these amendments, on the ground that the Earl, having failed to move them himself at the last Convent General, or to secure their being moved by some other Knight, they had fallen to the ground, and could not be re-discussed without the usual notice of motion, the Great Prior allowed the exception, and ruled the Earl of Limerick's motion out of order.

It was proposed by Sir Knight A. H. Royds, Prov. Prior Lancashire, and seconded by Sir Knight Thomas Birchall, Constable of that Province,

"1st. That in the Clause entitled 'Title of the Order' the word 'Masonic' be inserted between the words 'United' and 'Religious.'

"2. That the Statutes headed 'Rank and Precedence' (pages 19 and 20, Statutes of the Convent General) be expunged in order that the Past Rank of the various officers and their right to bear the insignia thereof may be restored and recognized as formerly.

"3rd. That wherever throughout the said Statutes the words 'Preceptory' or 'Preceptories' shall occur, such words be expunged, and the words 'Encampment' or 'Encampments' be inserted in lieu thereof, and in like manner, wherever the word 'Preceptor' or 'Preceptors' shall occur, the same be expunged, and the words 'Eminent Commander,' or 'Eminent Commanders' (as the case may be) be inserted in lieu thereof, so that the changes in the designations of the meetings of the Order may be abolished, and the previous titles restored."

After a lengthened and stormy debate, in which several amendments, suggestions, and emendations were moved and rejected, the whole motion was, after a division on each separate paragraph, declared duly carried. Sir Knight the Earl of Limerick gave notice that he would at next Convent General, move the resolutions which he had not been able to introduce that evening, subject to the verbal emendations necessary on the passing of Sir Knight Royd's motions. The Arch Treasurer Sir Knight Curteis also gave notice of a motion, the wording of which we could not gather. The Convent General was then closed, and the Great Prior and his officers retired under the Arch of Steel about nine p.m., the proceedings having lasted for nearly six hours.

CONSECRATION OF THE STUDHOLME MARK LODGE, No. 197.

On Thursday, the 7th inst., the Right Hon. the Earl of Limerick, M.W.G.M.M.M., consecrated this new Mark Lodge, at the Hall, Golden Square. He was assisted in the ceremony by the Rev. J. S. Brownrigg; General Brownrigg, C.B.; Capt. N. G. Philips; Bros. Hugh D. Sandeman, Dr. Hamilton, Major Barlow, S. Rawson, Major Shadwell H. Clerke, F. Binckes, Hyde Pullen, Col. H. Somerville Burney, Capt. Dadson, the Earl of Donoughmore, the Rev. A. B. Frazer, and the Rev. — Morse. Bro. Massey was present on behalf of the *Freemason*.

After the ceremony of consecration was completed, Bro. the Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg ascended the chair, and in splendid form advanced to the Mark Degree the following brethren:—Capt. R. R. Leeson, Capt. Gilbert, Kenneth Robert Murchison, Col. C. W. Randolph,

Capt. Palliser, Capt. M. S. Brownrigg, and E. C. Willing.

The installation of the W.M. designate was then proceeded with, and Bro. the Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg installed Bro. General Brownrigg as Master of the lodge. At the same time, Dr. Hamilton having been appointed as Grand Master of Jamaica, that brother was obligated in due form for the discharge of the duties of that office. Bro. Capt. Philips was appointed the P.M. of the lodge, Bros. the Earl of Donoughmore, S.W.; Major Shadwell Clerke, J.W.; Dr. Hamilton, M.O.; S. Rawson, S.O.; Major Barlow, J.O.; Rev. — Morse, Chap.; Hyde Pullen, Registrar of Marks; Col. Somerville Burney, Sec.; Capt. C. W. Randolph, S.D.; Capt. Brownrigg, J.D.; E. C. Willing, Org.; Capt. Portlock Dadson, D.C.; Capt. Palliser, I.G.; and Austin, Tyler.

At the conclusion of the lodge-work the W.M. rose and proposed a vote of thanks to the Earl of Limerick for consecrating the lodge, and then moved that his lordship be elected an honorary member, as well as Bros. the Rev. G. R. Portal, Past Grand Master; Lord Skelmersdale, Binckes, the Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, Hyde Pullen, and Col. Burdett. He also stated that the brethren were very much indebted to Lord Limerick for coming and discharging the important office of Consecrating Master, and to the Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, for the fluent and efficient way in which he had advanced the candidates for Mark Masonry.

The Earl of Limerick in acknowledging the compliment said: W.M., I thank you very much for electing me an honorary member of the Studholme Lodge. It has given me great pleasure to be here to consecrate your lodge, which from what I have seen promises so well. I think from the performances of this evening the most favourable expectations may be entertained of a lodge the working of which commences under the rule of such a good old Mark Mason as our Bro. General Brownrigg. It may not be known to all the brethren present that although he, for the first time, takes the chair of a lodge, he has been a Mark Master Mason three-and-thirty years. From that he must certainly be the father in Mark Masonry of those present; and there are not, I venture to think, very many working members of Mark Masonry who can exceed him in that number of years as members of the Order. We all know, brethren, how well he discharges all the duties that he takes upon him, and that he never undertook a duty without the fullest intention of doing it to the utmost of his ability, and we know how great that ability is. I therefore form the greatest expectations of the work of the Studholme Lodge. Perhaps you will allow me as a remembrance of the pleasure I have had in consecrating the lodge, to present the lodge with two Deacons' jewels. They are not of the present pattern; they are old jewels which were made in the year 1780; but I think anyhow you will keep them as a memento, and if you and your successors in your discretion should allow them to be worn by the Deacons, by the authority of my office I would excuse their not being according to the present pattern of Mark Masonry. It would be possible, I think, to adopt them to modern Mark Masonry by hanging the Mark at the bottom of them instead of placing them on the Mark as is generally the custom. I thank you, W.M. and brethren, for making me an honorary member of the lodge, for which I wish every prosperity in its future career. (hear, hear).

General Brownrigg then proposed, the Earl of Donoughmore seconded, and Captain N. G. Philips supported a vote of thanks to the Earl of Limerick for this handsome present, and the vote was put and carried unanimously. The W.M. said to Lord Limerick, we accept them very gratefully, and will have them adopted for the Deacons' collars.

Bro. F. Binckes, the Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, and Bro. Hyde Pullen also returned thanks for being elected honorary members of the lodge, and the days of meeting were fixed for the first Thursday in April, June and December, every year.

The lodge was afterwards closed in ample form, and the brethren adjourned to a splendid

banquet at Willis's Rooms, where they subsequently honoured the usual Mark Masonic toasts.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF LINCOLNSHIRE.

A Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of the Province of Lincolnshire was held in the Old Hall at Gainsboro' on November 29th, by command of the Right Worshipful Grand Mark Master, Bro. John Sutcliffe.

Among the very large number of brethren present were Bros. C. F. Matier, P.G.W.; Wm. Roebuck, G.M.O.; J. N. Scherling, P.G.J.O.; F. Binckes, G. Sec.; Thos. Cubitt, P.G.D.C.; J. D. Sugden, P.G.S.B.; Thomas Perkinson, Prov. G.M.M.M. W. Yorks.; Thos. Entwistle, P.P.G.M.M.M. Lancashire; J. Y. Strachan, P.D.P.G. M.M.M. N. and E. Lanc.; W. S. Wade, P.P.G.S.W. West Yorkshire; Wm. Roberts, Jesse Firth, T. Oakden, Thos. Clarke, H. Maiden, Wm. Briggs, F. N. Stevenson, G. Green, P.G.J.O.; Rev. E. Sewell, Rev. A. A. Bagshawe, W. Cooke, R. Newhouse, Prov. G. Sec. Cheshire; Mark Newsome, P.P.G.J.D.; J. B. Crossby, P.P.G.S.B. of West Yorkshire; John Bell, P.P.G.S.B. Lancashire; N. Horrocks, P.P.G.S.B. Lancashire; S. B. Ellis, A. Britton, W.M. Copley, 111; W. Denison, P.J.W. Copley, 111; J. W. Swann, P.S.D. Copley, 111; W. M. Tyers, Sec. Copley, 111; J. Calverley, Copley, 111; Thos. Ruddock, Truth, 137; Hiram Burley, Truth, 137; M. Kemp, W.M. Humber, 182; W. Needler, S.W. Humber, 182; M. Haberland, J.W. Humber, 182; J. Walker, S.O. Humber, 182; R. Boggett, Sec. Humber, 182; John Sutcliffe, Prov. G. M.M.M.; Charles Harrison, Deputy Prov. G.M.M.M.; W. Watkins, Prov. G.S.W.; A. Kirke, P.G.M.O.; A. Bates, P.J.G.O.; Jack Sutcliffe, Prov. G. Treas.; R. C. Carline, Prov. G. Reg. of M.; Robert Gough, Prov. G. Sec.; C. Scorer, Prov. G.S.D.; R. Goodman, Prov. G.D.C.; W. H. Roberts, Prov. G. Assist. D.C.; W. E. Howlett, Prov. G. Sup. of W.; W. Mason, Prov. G. Org.; James Robinson, Prov. G.I.G.; W. Marshall, P.G.S.; P. P. Dickenson, P.G.S.; J. S. Codd, P.G.S.; D. Swanstone, P.G.S.; W. H. Rodley, P.P. G.S.W. Lincs.; F. Watson, P.P.G.J.W. Lincs.; C. J. Hayward, P.P.G.S. of W. Lincs.; C. Mann, Prov. G. Tyler; A. L. Peacock, Remigius, 117.

The large gathering is mainly attributable to the convenient and liberal train arrangements effected with the various railway companies by Provincial Grand Mark Master Bro. Sutcliffe, and to the liberality with which the Right Worshipful Master distributed his invitations to the banquet which followed the business of the lodge, and which were accompanied by a programme giving in detail all the information that was necessary to be known in reference to accomplishing the journey from distant provinces, the special railway tickets—issued at a first class single fare for the double journey—being available for three days.

After the ordinary duties of the lodge had been gone through, the R.W. Prov. Grand Mark Master Mason appointed and invested the following brethren as Prov. Grand Officers for the ensuing year:—

Charles Harrison	.....	D. Prov. G.M.M.M.
Alfred Kirk	.....	Prov. G.S.W.
W. W. Copeland	.....	Prov. G.J.W.
Chas. Scorer	.....	Prov. G.M.O.
M. Crowden	.....	Prov. G.S.O.
P. P. Dickinson	.....	Prov. G.J.O.
Jack Sutcliffe	.....	Prov. G. Treas.
R. Cotton Carline	.....	Prov. G. Reg. of M.
R. Gough	.....	Prov. G. Sec.
Joseph Chapman	.....	Prov. G.S.D.
Geo. Housham	.....	Prov. G.J.D.
W. H. Roberts	.....	Prov. G.D.C.
J. Moxon	.....	Prov. G. Asst. D.C.
H. S. Close	.....	Prov. G. S. of Wks.
G. M. Lowe	.....	Prov. G. Swd. Br.
C. J. Hayward	.....	Prov. G.I.G.
Geo. Morley	.....	Prov. G. Steward.
Wm. Pollitt	.....	Prov. G. Steward.
Chas. Mann	.....	Prov. G. Tyler.

A further matter of special interest and attraction in the day's proceedings was the presentation to the Right Worshipful Prov. Grand Mark Master of a picture containing portraits of himself and his first Provincial Grand officers, who were photographed in a group whilst being entertained at Stallingsboro' House. The photograph was subsequently enlarged, finished in oil, and handsomely framed. The Mark Masons represented in it are—Bros. John Sutcliffe, Chas. Harrison, F. Watson, H. Watson, T. H. Oldman, J. Bellamy, Wm. Watkins, Jack Sutcliffe, R. Cotton Carline, R. Gough, W. J. Bland, F. S. Judd, C. J. Hayward, T. E. Jacobson, Geo. Robinson, E. J. Cullen, Chas. Scorer, R. Goodman, Rev. D. Ace, D.D., W. G. Moore, Capt. Lowcock, Chas. Mann, F. Binckes, and Wm. Roberts. The frame is enriched with Masonic emblems, and the inscription engraved on a brass plate is as follows:—"First Prov. G.M. Officers for Lincolnshire; Presented to the R.W. Bro. John Sutcliffe, Prov. G.M.M.M., 29th November, 1876." The formal presentation of the picture was made during the after-dinner proceedings, and the terms in which it was offered and accepted will be found reported below in the "post prandial" speeches.

The banquet to which about 160 sat down, was of a magnificent description. The "menu" was in harmony with the high character of the occasion, comprising every available delicacy, and the dinner was served "à la Russe," Great credit is due to the provider of the dinner.

The Right Worshipful Prov. Grand Mark Master, Bro. Sutcliffe, occupied the chair, and, in commencing the toast list, gave "The Queen and Mark Masonry" in terms.

glowing with loyalty. The Right Worshipful brother also gave "H.R.H. Albert Edward Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, and the members of the Royal Family," observing how little need be urged in recommending the toast, and that the more they said about it the greater damage they might do it. They all admired the lovely Princess of Wales; all England were ready to lay down their lives for her. He might add that at the moment they were sitting here their brother Prince Leopold was being installed in office as Master of a Mark lodge at Oxford. They would therefore add his health to the toast, and if he were present he would respond to it in a way they would all be pleased to hear. (The National Anthem was sung after the first toast, led by Bro. Cope-land.)

Bro. P. P. Dickenson, Mayor of Lincoln, in rising to propose "The Bishop and Clergy," said he had pleasure in serving the chairman in any position he might call him to. He asked the company as Mark Masons to join him in drinking the health of those men who by their piety showed them the way of life and invited them to walk therein.

Bro. the Rev. A. A. Bagshawe responded, remarking that although he did not belong to this diocese he was a member of the Mark in Lancashire, and as such he had been honoured by being made the Provincial Grand Chaplain, and also the Chaplain of his lodge, of which he was very proud. He felt a very deep gratitude to the Provincial Grand Master of Lincolnshire for inviting him and the lodge to which he belonged. They came with a right hearty and especial pleasure, because they knew what a large-hearted man Bro. Sutcliffe was, whose heart was in Mark Masonry, and he rejoiced that he was to be the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Mark Master of Lincolnshire for the second period of three years.

The Chairman proposed "The Most Worshipful the Grand Mark Master Mason, the Right Honourable the Earl of Limerick, and all other Grand Officers, Present and Past," calling upon Bro. Roebuck, the Grand Master Overseer, to respond.

Bro. Roebuck, in acknowledging the toast on behalf of the Earl of Limerick, observed that it would be his special privilege to report to Grand Lodge the reappointment of the Provincial Grand Mark Master of Lincolnshire for another three years. It had been gratifying to him to find the reception that had been given to the name of the Most Worshipful Grand Mark Master, not only by Lincolnshire, but by the provinces around. He was aware the Earl was well known in this and other counties; he was also known in London as a good Mark and Craft Mason, and as a supporter of the Charities. (Applause.)

The Chairman next proposed "The Right Worshipful the Provincial Grand Mark Master Masons of other Provinces, and all Present and Past Provincial Grand Officers." In doing so he said he need not occupy their time long in urging the claims of this toast. The characters of the Provincial Mark Masters were all so well known that they required no recommendation from him to insure them a hearty and cordial reception. They ought to feel highly honoured that a brother came here to-day from Newcastle to visit their provincial lodge. He himself (the Chairman) felt highly complimented by Bro. Strachan, D.P.G.M. for Northumberland and Durham, coming amongst them. They also had Bro. Tom Perkinson, P.G. M.M.M., from West Yorkshire. He must not forget to say that he had not the opportunity in lodge of reading a number of letters of apology from brethren not present, and he might inform the brethren from Lancashire that he had received a very polite note from Bro. Le Gendre Starkie, D.P.G.M. for Lancashire, saying that previous engagements prevented him coming. He wished to say that for the information of the brethren from Lancashire.

Bro. Strachan said he felt highly honoured in having the opportunity of thanking the Most Worshipful chairman for inviting him and the other Northumberland and Durham brethren, and must say how honoured he also was by the way he had received them, by the way he had proposed their healths, and by the way they were received in the province.

Bro. Perkinson acknowledged the pleasure he felt in having his name connected with the toast. He had been a Provincial Mark Master 5½ years, and now his time was nearly ended. ("No, no.") He had been very much cheered with what he had seen to-day. He was very much attached to Mark Masonry, and it would ever live in his heart.

Bro. Prince was also proud to respond for his province, whose Grand Master, like the Lincolnshire Grand Master, was a man with a large heart. Addressing the chairman the speaker said—I thank you, Right Worshipful Sir, for the kind support you give to Mark Masonry. You are a most honoured man in this district, and if others can be found like you when your time is run out we shall have cause to be hopeful for the future of Freemasonry. I trust you will accept through me the thanks of our Provincial Grand Mark Master for what you have done to-day. (Applause.)

Bro. Perkinson again rose, and said he would give without much preface, "The Health of the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Mark Master Mason for Lincolnshire, Bro. Sutcliffe." (Great cheering.) Nothing he could say would add to the esteem of those present, by whom he was so well known.

The toast was drank with Masonic honours.

The Chairman, who was received with prolonged cheers, said he felt very much obliged to his brethren for the proposal of his health and the kind reception it had met with. He knew not what he could say more. He valued their opinion, and allowed them to be the best judges. He could only say he thanked them—thanked them most heartily—for the generous reception they had given to the toast. He would not sit down without taking the opportunity of proposing the toast of the evening, that was,

"The Health of the Visiting Brethren," and he would call upon them to open their lungs and open their shoulders (laughter), and to receive the toast in a way that would be heard through Lancashire, Yorkshire, Northumberland, Cheshire, and North Wales. It was not often they had representatives from so many provinces, and he thanked them for the honour they had done the Province of Lincolnshire in coming from all corners of those counties to the old port of Gainsboro'. The Old Hall in which they were assembled would be interesting to archaeologists, and he thought they would like to visit him in that fine old hall, where they were all on a par—all on an equality, which did not exist in any other kind of assembly. (Hear, hear.) Having thanked them again most heartily and sincerely, he coupled with the toast the name of an "old friend" of his—Bro. C. F. Matier.

Bro. Matier, in returning thanks, said that all the compliments bestowed upon the Right Worshipful Bro. Sutcliffe had been justly made, and he could only say ditto to all that had been said in his honour. He narrated what he called a "little incident" that occurred on the journey to Gainsboro'. When about three miles on this side of Worksop, and when they were going about 50 miles an hour, the driving axle of the engine broke, but he was happy to say—thanks to the Great Architect of the Universe—no fatality had occurred. He was only too pleased in coming to visit the Provincial Grand Mark Master for the first time, and he sincerely trusted it would not be the last. He hoped he would see him again elected for the third, fourth, or twentieth time. (Applause.)

Bro. Roebuck also responded, saying he would be second to none in giving his adhesion to the Right Worshipful Master. It had been said he was a large-hearted man: so he was, but he was also a large-headed man, and so all would say if they knew him as well as they did in West Yorkshire, where they had proved him before he came into Lincolnshire. No better man was ever put into shoes than Worshipful Master Sutcliffe. He said it freely, and without fear of contradiction—with all respect and without flattery—that there never was a man who worked himself up to the position Bro. Sutcliffe now held more rapidly and more successfully than he had done. It was only the week before last that he (Bro. Roebuck) was at a meeting of Royal Arch Masons, and if this gathering had only heard the remarks which were then passed by the brethren of the provincial chapter with reference to their brother who now presided at this meeting, there was no one but would have been proud, and deeply proud, to have had those feelings expressed towards himself. There was no worthier man than the present Worshipful Master of their Mark lodge. The speaker then referred to the Masonic schools, mentioning the desire that Bro. Sutcliffe had evinced to have them placed on a proper footing. They were all, he said, actuated by one feeling, and they wished to place those schools in a right position. They didn't want to have "fish for one and flesh for another," and he for one wished to find out the feeling that existed in the province of West Yorkshire, and he was determined to do so. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. Kemp proposed the toast of "The Deputy Provincial Grand Mark Master Mason, Bro. Harrison, and all other Present and Past Grand Officers of Lincolnshire," and reverted to Bro. Sutcliffe, saying he had made them feel that Mark Masonry was no simple thing, and had made them feel proud that they were Mark Masons, and whether they were recognised by Grand Craft Lodge or not it was a fact, and might she mark well!

Bro. Harrison, in responding, said: I assure you, Worshipful Sir, we feel the honour of being here under your presidency, and hope for many years to see you at the head of the province. I have a very pleasing duty to perform. At the last Provincial Grand Mark Lodge the Provincial Grand Mark Master was kind enough to invite the officers to breakfast to Stallingsboro' House. When we arrived an artist was there from Grimsby, and we were photographed in a group. We felt that we would like, as a memorial of our visit, to have it enlarged and painted, and ask our Worshipful Master to accept it. I have now, on behalf of the Past Provincial Grand Mark Officers, to request you to accept this picture as a mark of the esteem and respect of those who had the honour of acting as your first Provincial Grand Mark Officers. (Applause.)

The Chairman gave some account of the first production of the photographic group. He called on the artist to order a copy for each provincial officer, but was informed that several brethren had requested him to finish it, and he was about to do so. Therefore it was taken out of his—the Chairman's—hands altogether. It was his intention to present that group to his officers, but he was told in a sense to mind his own business, and he saw no more of it. He thought it had taken the wrong turn, but still he thought they would all agree with him that he could not be so ungrateful as to refuse the honour of accepting that handsome picture. It would not belong to him; it would belong to Masonry—Mark Masonry—and he felt bound to accept it; and some day they would see it hung up in the province of Lincolnshire as a mark of respect to the Worshipful Master. I accept it (concluded Bro. Sutcliffe) at your hands, and thank you on behalf of the family to whom you have paid this high honour. (Cheers.)

The brethren then separated to return to their homes by their respective trains.

The quantity of game killed during the late visit of the Prince of Wales to the Maharajah Dhuleep Singh at Elvedon amounted to 8141.

The Duke of Norfolk has announced his intention of giving pieces of open ground at Sheffield, each ten acres in extent, as places of recreation. These are in the neighbourhood of some of the largest works, and will be a great boon to the working population.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The Committee of this Institution met on Wednesday last in the library, Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Colonel Creaton, presided; and there were also present Bros. S. Rawson, Griffiths Smith, W. Levy, Thomas Cubitt, William Stephens, Hyde Pullen, A. H. Tattershall, Joshua Nunn, James Brett, Thomas W. White, J. Newton, J. M. Case, Richard Hervé Giraud, Henry G. Warren, Charles F. Hogard, John Constable, Dr. Erasmus Wilson, J. G. Hill, W. F. Nettleship, W. Lane, H. Massey (*Freemason*); and James Terry, Secretary.

After reading the minutes Bro. James Terry informed the Committee that he had read a letter from Bro. R. H. Collins, on the part of His Royal Highness, Prince Leopold, P.G.M. for Oxfordshire, announcing that H.R.H. would take the chair at the annual festival on the 14th February. This letter was dated 18th November, but he had subsequently received another letter from Bro. Collins, dated the 30th November, altering the date for the festival to Monday, the 12th February.

Bro. Terry then read the Warden's report in which that brother informed the Committee that Dr. Strong had presented to the Asylum at Croydon a number of flowers and shrubs for the garden.

The petitions of seven men and six women were received, examined, and passed, and as some of these came from the Province of Devon,

Bro. John Constable, P.M. 185, asked how many male and female annuitants there were at the present time on the funds of the Institution from the Province of Devon.

Bro. James Terry said there were ten men receiving £40 each, or £400 a year, four widows at £32 each, or £128 a year, and one widow receiving half her late husband's annuity, or £18 a year; making in all £546 a year from this Institution for the Province of Devon.

Bro. Constable asked whether Devon was not the largest province in this respect on the Institution.

Bro. Terry said he thought East Lancashire was receiving over £600.

Bro. Constable thought that as the festival of the Institution was approaching, it would be but fair to the Institution to solicit the Province of Devon and its Grand Master for its support on that occasion.

The Chairman said the number of Devonshire cases in the Institution was certainly an argument in favour of that province being asked to support the institution as much as possible on that occasion.

Bro. James Bell asked Bro. Constable how he was going to do it.

Bro. Constable said by letter.

Bro. Terry obtained leave for the use of the hall of the asylum for the Christmas entertainment to the aged inmates on the 3rd of January.

Bro. S. Rawson gave notice that he would at the next meeting move an alteration of one of the rules of the Institution to the effect "That in the event of a widow marrying again, and being again left a widow, she shall still be eligible as an annuitant." He said that he was induced to bring this forward in consequence of what took place at last meeting, when the existing bye-law would not allow the widow of a Mason who subsequently married a non-Mason and again became a widow, to be eligible. He thought that this was never the intention when the rules were framed.

Bro. J. W. Case said that believing, as was formerly stated, that the existing rule was inconsistent with general usage he had made enquiries and found that other funds were different to this fund. In the navy, while the widow was under coverture she lost her pension; but in the event of her losing her second husband her former status reverted to her. That was also the case in the Army; and on enquiring at the Indian Office found that the same rule with one exception, existed. He had also been many years connected with the Naval Benevolent Society, where the rule was that under coverture a widow was deprived of the benefit of the fund, but in the event of her becoming again a widow it revived. All the brethren felt that they should

open the door of the Institution to worthy and deserving objects, rather than draw a line which would exclude them, and he had laid the above facts before them as additional information to guide them in coming to a conclusion.

Bro. R. H. Giraud mentioned a case in which a lady lost her pension for forty years and afterwards got it again.

The Committee then adjourned.

Masonic and General Tidings.

The anniversary festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution will take place on Monday, the 12th February, not Wednesday, the 14th February. The alteration of the day of meeting has been made by request of H.R.H. Prince Leopold, R.W.P.G.M. Oxfordshire, the 14th of February being Ash Wednesday.

The Loughboro' Lodge of Instruction No. 22, held its eighth Meeting at the Warrior Hotel, Coldharbour Lane, Brixton, on Monday last. The First and Third Degrees were worked. Present Bros. Thomas White, W.M.; E. Towell, S.W.; J. Warren, J.W.; J. Brown, J.D.; W. A. Breeding, I.G.; G. Oby, Asst. Sec.; F. Mercer and Thos. Parratt. It was resolved that a supper take place on the first Monday in February, next, also that in future the hour of meeting should be seven.

It has been decided by the committee of subscribers that the Brighton Memorial to the late Bro. Sir Cordy Burrows shall take the form of a statue in Sicilian marble, to be placed in the Pavilion grounds.

The first Mark Lodge in the City of Chester was consecrated on Tuesday last by the Hon. W. Egerton, M.P., R.W.P.G.M.M.M., of Cheshire and North Wales, assisted by the officers and brethren of the P.G.M.M. Lodge. A report of the proceedings will appear in our next.

The Portuguese corvette *Reina de Portugal*, from London for Lisbon, and having on board the remains of the late Bro. Duke de Saldanha, had to put into Falmouth on Tuesday through stress of weather.

The Annual Masonic Ball, in connection with the Hartington and Hindpool Lodges, Nos. 1021 and 1225, will be given in the Town Hall, Barrow-in-Furness, on Tuesday, the 18th proximo, under the distinguished patronage of the Rt. Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, D.C.M., and many Officers Past and Present of the Province of West Lancashire. Judging from the success of the former balls we anticipate a brilliant gathering and a fair balance of cash to hand over to the Masonic Charities.

KING'S COLLEGE SCHOOL.—The distribution of annual prizes and the recitations will take place on Wednesday next, at seven o'clock, when the chair will be taken by the Right Hon. J. G. Hubbard, M.P.

The consecration of Bro. the Rev. Lord Plunkett, R.W. Grand Chaplain, Ireland, as Bishop of Meath took place on Sunday, the 10th inst., at Armagh. The Primate was assisted by the Bishops of Down and Kilmore.

The bishopric of Truro has been offered to the Rev. Christopher Benson, D.D., Chancellor of Lincoln Cathedral, and formerly Head Master of Wellington College.

The circulation of the *Daily Telegraph* has reached the enormous number of 200,317 daily.

The importation of tea has increased this year from British India. The declared value amounts to £2,192,937, against £1,944,897 in the same period of the period year.

Wednesday being the anniversary of the death of the Prince Consort, her Majesty the Queen, with the Prince and Princess of Wales and other members of the Royal family, attended a memorial service in the Mausoleum in Frogmore-gardens, as usual.

THE ACCIDENT TO MR. BARRY SULLIVAN.—Mr. Barry Sullivan was prevented from playing the part of Macbeth at Drury-lane Theatre on Wednesday night, owing to an accident which befel him the previous evening during the performance of *Richard the Third*. In the fight between Richard and Richmond, Mr. Sinclair, by some accident, injured Mr. Sullivan in the face. Last night *Macbeth* was to have been performed, but previous to the rising of the curtain the stage manager came forward and read a certificate from Dr. Mills, of Southampton-street, Strand, to the effect that owing to his accident Mr. Sullivan was "totally incapable" of appearing. Mr. James Bennett would, it was announced, take the character of the Scottish chief. The wound was received after Mr. Sullivan had fallen at the close of the combat with Richmond, and while the audience were loudly applauding. Drs. Mills and Canton were called in, and it was found that the left eyelid had been cut through, and the effect of the injury to the pupil was such as to occasion partial blindness, from which, we understand, Mr. Sullivan still suffered last night.

Bro. His Grace The Duke of Marlborough, having been formally sworn in as Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, left Kingstown Harbour, on Tuesday night for London. The departure was private. It is expected that the Duke will return to Ireland in state in January.

CONFIDENCE LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.—The second of the series of Lectures upon the History of the Craft will be given in this lodge on Wednesday next at Masons' Hall Tavern, Basinghall-street.

The Christmas Number of the *Freemason* will be ready for the trade early on Friday Morning, the 22nd inst., price 4d. It will be a double number and have in addition an illustrated wrapper with seven life-like Portraits.

A REWARD FOR HEROISM.—The Duke of Manchester presided on Tuesday at a chapter of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, held at St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, when the bronze medal of the Order was voted to George Gates, a sewer flusher, who recently, with gallant disregard of personal danger, went back into the New-road sewer at Battersea, although himself in a half-stupified state, and rescued two men—Scott and Plester—who, but for Gates' courageous conduct, would probably have shared the fate of their comrade, Lomas, who was killed by the poisonous gases. This medal, which is also awarded in silver, is conferred by the Order for the reward of deeds of valour in saving life on land.

We are very pleased to learn that The Health of H.R.H. Prince Leopold R.W.P.G.M. has considerably improved.

FREEMASONRY IN NEW ZEALAND.

The interesting ceremony of installing Bro. Clayton, W.M. of the Prince of Wales Lodge, took place at the lodge-room, Star Hotel, Auckland, on Thursday, Sept. 28th. The ordinary business having been proceeded with, Bro. Clayton was presented to P. M. Leers, who acted as Installing Master for the occasion, and conducted the ceremony in a most impressive manner. Bro. Clayton having been duly installed according to the prescribed form, proceeded to appoint the following officers for the ensuing year:—

Bros. W. H. Skinner, I.P.M.; C. M. Nelson, S.W.; F. W. E. Dawson, J.W.; E. Browne, Chap.; W. H. Kissling, P.M., Treas.; M. S. Leers, P.M., Sec.; R. C. Dyer, S.D.; W. Rattray, J.D.; G. N. Brassey, P.M., Dir. of Cers.; C. T. Saxton, Org.; J. H. Gosset, I.G.; C. Burton and W. S. Collins, Stewards; C. Porter, Tyler.

The W.M. then closed the lodge, and the brethren, to the number of about forty, adjourned to the banquet room. After the many good and excellent things provided by mine host, Bro. Gorman, had been partaken of, the W.M., Bro. Clayton, as Chairman, proposed the following toasts:—"The Queen and the Craft." (Choir: "God Save the Queen.")—"H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M. of England." (Song and chorus, "God Bless the Prince of Wales.")—"The M.W.G.M.'s of Scotland and Ireland, Sir Michael Stewart, and the Duke of Abercorn."

The Chairman next proposed "The Three District Grand Masters, English, Scotch, and Irish, Bro. Sir Donald McLean, K.C.M.G., Bro. John Hislop, and Bro. G. P. Pierce." The toast was drunk with full honours.

Bro. P. M. Leers then proposed the health of the W.M. of the Prince of Wales Lodge (drank with Macduff honours), who briefly acknowledged the toast.

Bro. P. M. Skinner proposed the health of the Installing Master, Bro. P. M. Leers.

Brother C. M. Nelson, S. W., who acted as vice-chairman, next proposed the health of the Past Masters of the Prince of Wales Lodge. This toast was drunk with Macduff honours, and responded to by Bros. P. M. Skinner and Leers.

The remaining toasts were then given: "The Visiting Brethren," responded to by Bro. P. M. Wade; "The Wardens, Chaplain, Treasurer, and Secretary," proposed by Brother Dyer, and responded to by Bro. Nelson; "The Honorary and Junior officers" proposed by Bro. Dyson, and responded to by Bro. Dyer; "The newly initiated brethren;" "The Choir;" "The Ladies;" "Host and Hostess." Immediately before the Tyler's toast Bro. Nelson proposed "The memory of the late P. M. Diethelm, first W.M. of the Prince of Wales Lodge." He spoke of him as a most active and enthusiastic Mason, and one whose loss would be severely felt by the Masons of Auckland. Both this and the Tyler's toast were drunk in solemn silence.

The evening's proceedings were enlivened by selections on the organ by Bro. Rees, and vocal pieces by Bros. Harker, Sexton, and Skinner. The brethren separated at about 12 o'clock, after spending a most enjoyable evening.

Obituary.

BRO. WYLIE, P.P.G.R. W. LANCASHIRE.

Bro. Wylie was initiated in 1840, in the Lodge of Sincerity, No. 368, now 292; continued a subscribing member till his death, and was twice W.M. of the lodge—the second time about 25 years after the first occasion, when he was installed by his son, Bro. Robert Wylie, P.P. G.S.D. The deceased also filled the office of P.G. Secretary for ten years; and, besides being P.G. Registrar, as we have stated, he was also appointed P.G. J.W. and H. in the Prov. G. Chapter. He especially distinguished himself as one of the original promoters of the Masonic Hall, in consequence of which he was appointed one of the trustees when the land and premises in Hope-street were brought. He took the warmest interest in everything appertaining to Freemasonry, especially in the Province of West Lancashire, and was presented with jewels by the brethren in the Furness district, and also by those in the neighbourhood of Southport for services rendered to the lodges and chapters. He was also presented with a splendid service of plate (subscribed for by the brethren) on his resignation of the Prov. Grand Secretaryship. Amongst his other honours it may also be mentioned that he was P.Z. of Chapter 86.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, December 22, 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 16.

Lodge 715, Panmure, Cannon-st. Hot.
" 1365, Earl of Zetland, Old Town Hall, Hackney.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

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

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18.

Lodge 1, Grand Masters, F.M.H.
" 8, British, F.M.H.
" 21, Emulation, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 185, Tranquillity, Cannon-st. Hot.
" 222, St. Andrew's, Inn's of Court Hot., Lncn's-inn.
" 720, Panmure, Balham Hot., Balham.
" 862, Whittington, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 1201, Eclectic, F.M.H.
Chap. 12, Prudence, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.

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., Chancery-rd.
Marquis of Ripon, Pembury Tav., Amherst-rd., Hackney.
Loughborough, Warrior Hot., Brixton.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19.

Lodge 30, United Mariners, Guildhall Tav.
" 73, Mount Lebanon, Brid.Hou.Ho., London-brdg.
" 95, Eastern Star, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 435, Salisbury, F.M.H.
Chap. 11, Enoch, F.M.H.
" 19, Mount Sinai, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.

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., Leadenhall-st.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Constitutional, Wheatsheaf 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 20.

Lodge 140, St. George's, Trafalgar Hot., Greenwich.
" 174, Sincerity, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
" 700, Nelson, M.H., William-st., Woolwich.
" 969, Maybury, Inns of Court Hot., Lincoln's-inn.
" 1044, Wandsworth, Spread Eagle Hot., Wandsworth.
" 1349, Friars, Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars.
" 1382, Corinthian, George Hot., Millwall Docks.

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 Edgecumbe, 19, Jermyn-st., St. James's.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall.
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.
Lewis, King's Arms Hot., Wood Green.
Langthorne, Swan Hot., Stratford.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21.

House Com. Girls' School, at 3.
Lodge 23, Globe, F.M.H.
" 49, Gihon, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
" 169, Temperance, White Swan, Deptford.
" 179, Manchester, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 813, New Concord, Rosemary Branch, Hoxton.
" 1139, South Norwood, Public Hall, South Norwood.
" 1287, Great Northern, F.M.H.
" 1339, Stockwell, Tulse Hill Hot., Tulse Hill.
" 1475, Peckham, Surrey M.H.
" 1507, Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.
Chap. 79, Pythagorean, Ship Hot., Greenwich.
Precep. E., Observance, 14, Bedford Row.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., 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 22.

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 Coutts, 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, Feathers Tav. Up. George-st., Edgware-rd.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, December 23, 1876.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18.

Lodge 1502, Israel, M.H., Liverpool.
 Chap. 32, Jerusalem, M.H., Liverpool.
 Everton L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19.

Lodge 667, Alliance, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 1225, Hindpool, Hartington Hot., Barrow.
 " 1276, Warren, Stanley Arms Hot., Seacombe.
 " 1325, Stanley, M.H., Kirkdale, Liverpool.
 " 1570, Prince Arthur, 80, N. Hill-st., Liverpool.
 Chap. 605, De Tabley, Seacombe Hot., Seacombe.
 Merchants' L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
 Liverpool Red Cross Conclave, M.H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20.

Lodge 537, Zetland, M.C., Birkenhead.
 " 823, Everton, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 1086, Walton, St. Lawrence's School, Liverpool.
 " 1345, Victoria, Cross Keys Hot., Eccles.
 " 1353, Duke of Lancaster, Athenæum, Lancaster.
 De Grey and Ripon L. of I., 80, N. Hill-st., Liverpool.
 Harmonic L. of I., Mona Hot., James-st., Liverpool.
 Downshire L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
 Mark Lodge, 31, Fidelity, Norfolk Hot., Hyde.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21.

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

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22.

Chap 680, Sefton, M.H., Liverpool.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

For the Week ending Saturday, December 23, 1876.
All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18.

Lodge 129, St. Mirren, 5, Moss-st., Paisley.
 " 332, Union, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 " 581, Plantation, Craigiehall-st., S.S., Glasgow.
 Encamp. St. Mungo, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19.

Lodge 33, St. John, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 " 73, Thistle and Rose, 213, Buchanan-st., Glsqw.
 " 87, Thistle, 30, Cathedral-st., Glasgow.
 " 437, Govandale, M.H., Portland Buildings, Govan.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20.

Lodge 117, St. Mary, M.H., Douglas-st., Partick.
 " 354, Caledonian Railway, 30, Hope-st., Glasgow
 " 571, Dramatic, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow (3 p.m.)
 Chap. 150, Shettleston, M.H., Shettleston.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21.

Lodge 27, St. Mungo, 213, Buchanan-st., Glasgow.
 " 370, Renfrew County Kilw., 8, High-st., Paisley.
 " 465, St. Andrew, 69, Garngad-rd., Glasgow.
 " 547, Stewart, M.H., Kilsyth.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, December 23, 1876.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18.

Lodge 44, St. Luke, F.M.H., 98, George-st.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19.

Lodge 36, St. David, Ship Hot., E. Register-st.

" 405, Rifle, F.M.H., 98, George-st.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20.

Lodge 160, Roman Eagle, Iona Hot.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21.

Lodge 48, St. Andrew, F.M.H., 98, George-st.

" 226, Portobello, Town Hall, Portobello.

Chap. 152, Perseverance, 86, Constitution-st., Leith.

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