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THE "FREEMASON" INDIAN FAMINE FUND.

Bro. George Kenning having consented on request to act as Treasurer to the above important Fund, has the great pleasure of announcing the following subscriptions received up to the time of going to press:

Amount paid to the Lord Mayor,
Oct., 6th 1877..... £120 1 8

Royal Lodge, 643	1	1	0
Merchant Navy Lodge, 781	3	0	9
Royal Standard Lodge, 1298	5	5	0
The Great City Lodge, 1426... ..	10	10	0
Sandgate Lodge, 1436	1	3	6
Sandgate Lodge, 1436 (2nd don.) ..	0	5	0
Cole, J., Lodge 928	1	1	0
Ramsey, W., Lodge 1539	2	2	0

Intending subscribers (lodges or individual members) to this fund are earnestly requested to send in their subscriptions, large or small, at as early a date as convenient. A list will be published each week of all amounts received at the Office, (198, Fleet-street), up to 6 o'clock, p.m., on Thursday.

INDIAN FAMINE FUND.

The Lord Mayor acknowledges the receipt of the following subscriptions in aid of the Indian Famine Fund:—

Emulation Lodge, 21	26	5	0
Fortescue Lodge, 84	5	5	0
Eastern Star Lodge, 95	10	10	0
Yarborough Lodge, 554	2	2	0
Sherborne Lodge, 702	11	5	0
Dalhousie Lodge, 860	10	10	0
Royds Lodge, 1204	5	5	0
Mizpah Lodge, 1671	5	0	0
All Saints' Lodge, 1717	13	12	4
Victoria Chapter, 1056	5	5	0

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

ST. LUKE'S LODGE (No. 144).—The installation meeting of this lodge took place on Monday, the 1st inst. There was a goodly attendance of members of the lodge, and the following were the visitors: Bros. F. White, 55; Jubal Webb, 55; Yacoub-als Shellabi, Chief of Smaratus; Cates, C. B. Kirke, Crutenden, 503; Cook, 959; Walker, 1044; Hickman, 228; Harvey, 1344; Michelburg, 1425; Kingham, 1517; Grammont, 1559; Pearson, 1567; Hodges, 1706. The installation was very impressively performed by Bro. W.M. Allen. After the Installation about 50 of the brethren of St. Luke's entertained the above visitors at a banquet.

LODGE OF FRIENDSHIP (No. 206).—h lodge held its first meeting for the winter season on Thursday, 11th inst., at the Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st. Present: Bros. Thomas Taylor, W.M.; James Stephens, S.W.; Squirrel, J.W.; Wm. Ramsey, Treas.; John Ramsey, Sec. the assistant officers and 25 others, 10 of whom were Past Masters. There was a goodly show of work on the summons which, in consequence of the unavoidable absence of Bro. Lessware, and other candidates was necessarily postponed. After the disposal of some Masonic business, amongst which was the recommendation of the petition of a distressed Bro. to the Board of Benevolence, the W.M., Bro. Thos. Taylor, rose to beg the members of the lodge to accept what he termed a trifling present as a memo of his year of office, which proved to be a "Rough and Perfect Ashlar," complete. The former, rough and unhewn, as taken from the quarry, and the perfect, a true die or square, made of the finest marble, without flaw or blemish, and with the handiwork of the real operative mason, fully displayed in its beautiful polish and finish. The shears, tackle, winch-gear, &c., showed the masterly skill of the first artists in metals, the whole forming in a marked degree a delightful combin-

ation of Free and Accepted and Operative Masonry, and amid the admiration of the brethren, Bro. Grammon proposed, and Bro. W. Ramsey seconded, that the thanks of the lodge are due, and are hereby given to Bro. Thomas Taylor, W.M., for his valuable and useful present, shewing as it does the great interest now and always evinced by him for the welfare of the Craft, and his mother lodge in particular, as well as his fraternal regard for all its members, and that the same be recorded on the minutes, which was carried by acclamation. The lodge was then closed, and the highly pleased brethren adjourned to the banquet.

GRESHAM LODGE (No. 869).—Bro. Allan C. Wylie, of 84, Cannon-street, E.C., Past Master of the above lodge, was entertained on Saturday, the 13th inst., at a banquet at the Midland Grand Hotel, St. Pancras, on the occasion of his return home after a protracted journey through America, Japan, China and India, a journey necessitated by the death of a near relative, to settle his business affairs. Although the welcome home was in the first place determined upon by his Brother Past Masters, yet it was decided to invite some of his professional friends and gentlemen, with whom he was connected. To this invitation some twenty-five responded, and many more sent very kind letters of congratulation, and expressed their regret that other engagements prevented them being with the company. Amongst those present were Collin Rae Brown, Esq., a Glasgow journalist, who was the first to inaugurate the cheap daily papers, one of which he published for some years before the duty was taken off at a considerable loss to himself, but with incalculable benefit to his country. There were also Dr. Charles Mackay, LL.D., author of "Cheer Boys Cheer," and many other popular songs. Colonel Brasyer, C.B., Bros. Wm. Layton, Esq., Rector of Kelso High School; Captain Sheppard, Baron Griffiths, Dr. Pottle, M.D., Dr. Bruce, P.M.; and Dr. Smyth, C. J. Anderson, Esq., J. Forsyth, P.M.; J. H. Broom, Esq., F. D. R. Copestick, P.M.; Eugene Benard, Esq., Thomas Perry, Esq., Chief Engineer and Manager of the Government Rifle Factory at Enfield, R. C. Robinson, Esq., W. E. Gompertz, P.M.; David Jarvis, Esq., J. R. Dickie, Esq., &c., &c. After a well served banquet had been enjoyed, and the cloth removed, the usual toasts were given and duly honoured, the President C. R. Brown, Esq., then gave the toast of the evening, "A. C. Wylie," and in a very humorous and spirited speech congratulated him upon his safe return to his home and friends. Bro. Wylie in his reply gave a complete account of his journey, from the time he left Southampton until his arrival home, mentioning the different customs and manners he had noticed in the various commercial centres he had visited, and giving a most encouraging report of the great progress being made both in engineering and paper making, as well as in other branches of manufacture. His remarks, which were interspersed with some amusing anecdotes, of the varied traits of character he had observed in the Celestial City, were listened to with much interest by his friends, other complimentary toasts followed, some capital songs were sung, and a most agreeable evening was passed, all expressing their pleasure at having their kind and genial friend amongst them again, and wishing he may be long spared to his wife and family.

ECLECTIC LODGE (No. 1201).—This lodge met on Friday week at Freemasons' Hall, W. Bro. Edward James Harty, W.M., presiding. Among the other brethren present were Bros. Taylor, S.W.; Saul, J.W.; Manders, P.M., Treas.; W. H. Barber, Sec.; W. Lee, S.D.; Moss, I.G.; Higgs, Org.; Pochen, D.C.; Dr. Watts, Stwd.; J. H. Watts, P.M.; Bros. Botibol, Baven, Rash, Manders, Richardson, Newton, Laws, and Præd; and visitors, Bros. T. E. Talbert Nicholls, P.M. 25; T. W. Sims, 1351; H. M. Mitchell, 1360; E. Payne, 1261; J. Mann, P.G.S.D. Middx.; J. E. Wade, 1475; J. Coutts, P.G.P.; Ireton, S.W. 1348; Smith, P.M. 1260; Robinson, 201; Henton, P.M. 660 (America); J. Morey, P.M. 660 (America); Raback, 109; Griggs, P.M. 228; Mitchell, Royal Arthur; and Kips. The work performed was initiating Messrs. James Stewart, James Amsden, Albert Amsden, and George Edward Travers; passing Bros. Manchester, Dixon, and Bavers; and raising Bro. Hamp. All these ceremonies were performed by the W.M. in faultless style, and the other officers including Bro. Higgs, Organist, were equally efficient in their duties. At the close of these proceedings five guineas were voted to a brother in distress; and the W.M. having expressed his wish that a Royal Arch Chapter should be attached to the lodge, the R.A. Masons who were present signed the petition for a charter. The lodge was then closed and the brethren adjourned to the Holborn Restaurant, where banquet was provided by Bro. Hamp. When this had been disposed of the toasts were proposed, and Bro. John Coutts, P.G.P., replied briefly and effectively for "The Grand Officers." Bro. J. H. Watts, P.M., proposed "The W.M." and said he was sure that all the brethren would agree with him that whatever lodges they had visited they had never seen the ceremonies more ably performed than they had been by the W.M. that evening, and that was not all, for he had taken care that after labour they should have a very sumptuous repast, and they all regretted that he had not a longer period than three months to remain in office. The W.M. responded. He had feared through ill health he would not be able to be among the brethren that evening. However, after consulting Dr. Lloyd, he found himself able to come, and he was glad he had given satisfaction to the brethren. He was one of those who believed that if a man undertook a duty he should perform it thoroughly. He had felt the importance of the position of W.M. long before he went into the chair, and he took the opportunity of going to Lodges of Instruction and making himself well acquainted with the duties of W.M. He considered it a great mistake to place brethren in office

by seniority or relationship. The motto in Masonry was "merit and ability," and the due performance of the duties of W.M., who had to initiate brethren and impress them with that universal religion which was displayed by Masonry. A brother who did not appreciate the office by making himself proficient should not have it. He had to mention another matter. He had the honour of wearing Her Majesty's uniform, and his regiment was dining that evening in the same establishment where the brethren were. His colleagues in the regiment were much disappointed that he was not among them, and so, during the dinner he went in and had a glass of wine with them. Bro. Harty next proposed "The Initiates." These brethren had now entered the portals of the great Temple of Masonry and he was sure that from what they had seen that evening they were solemnly impressed with the importance and solemnity of that religion in which they had taken an obligation. He might inform them that this religion was the most universal religion in the world, because it embraced the highest truths that were preached in the Gospel, viz, duty to God and duty to our neighbours. There was nothing in the religion of Masonry incompatible with the highest duties that man owed to the Deity and to their social position in life. Quite the contrary. If a man was a good Mason he was a good citizen in every possible sense of the word; and the more a man practised the truths, precepts and tenets that were laid down in Masonry the better man he would be. Masonry was an allegorical religion. Everything done in it was for a purpose. The initiates were on his right now; but they would find as they went further on they would travel in another direction till, as he hoped, they arrived at the distinguished position he at present occupied. All the initiates responded. The W.M. then proposed "The Visitors," and congratulated the lodge now on entertaining visitors at the banquet table. All the visitors replied. Bro. Babcock, Rochester, U.S.A., said that he and Bro. Morley had lately arrived on Great Britain's shores, and the reception they had met with that evening was quite in keeping with the hospitality they had received all the way through their trip. They had enjoyed it immensely and were delighted with their reception by the Craft. It was not unexpected, for we were all brethren when we met, whether in America or Great Britain. As they had had extended to them the hand of hospitality that evening, if they had an opportunity of reciprocating it they would do so with interest. Bro. John Morey, proprietor *Daily Union and Advertiser*, Rochester, New York, said he could heartily endorse the observations of Bro. Babcock. He did not think it was ever the fortune of two gentlemen coming so great a distance to receive a kinder reception or more hearty welcome than they had since they arrived on the shores of the fatherland. They came here in a certain sense as children of this great and glorious commonwealth, believing that the same blood that flowed in the English brethren's veins ran in theirs. They came here believing that the English brethren lived under the rule of a glorious Queen, one unequalled, he believed, on the face of the earth, and he might say as an American that that idea ran through and permeated the blood of every true, honest American. He had not risen to make a speech, but he might be allowed to say that Masonry was one of the best institutions on earth. The W.M., who performed his duties as Bro. Harty had, was an honour to the Craft. Masonry, to a very large extent, was good as it was worked well. Its charities were good; and it was based upon faith and charity. It had been well said that faith was everything, and it certainly went a great way. But charity extended beyond the realms of eternity. Charity was everything. We must extend in the home of the individuals to the orphan, the fatherly hand. This was done on the other side of the Atlantic, and the American Masons believed that the English Masons did it too. It was universal; it extended all over the world, the hand of the honest and true Mason was extended to the widow and to the orphan. He would give a little experience of his own, though it might not be pertinent to this meeting. When he and Bro. Babcock left America, one gentleman, who was a perfect stranger to them, placed in their charge his young and beautiful daughter, who was going to Frankfort-on-the-Maine to be educated. As he had said they were perfect strangers to him, but he knew them to be Masons. He placed that child in their hands, and they saw her safe on the English shores, and they left her at the depot safely ticketed for Frankfort-on-the-Maine as they would their own daughter (cheers). Now that was the feeling that should actuate every Mason. Bro. Morley concluded by thanking the W.M. and brethren for their great hospitality. Bro. Watts responded for "The P.M.'s," and Bro. Manders for "The Officers," shortly after which the brethren separated. Some excellent singing was given during the evening by Bros. Watts and Kips. Bro. Higgs presided at the pianoforte.

MACDONALD LODGE (No. 1216).—A regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Head Quarters of the First Surrey Rifles, at Camberwell, on Thursday the 11th inst., and was well attended. The W.M., Bro. Hervey Hammond, presided, and amongst others present were, Bros. T. W. Carnell, S.W.; C. Fountain, J.W.; Past Masters, M. S. Larham, James Stevens, S. H. Wagstaff, G. H. Newnham Bridges, and W. J. Messenger, Sec.; Harser, Nevill, Woolwich, Golding, Hildreth, Cranch, Edmonstone, Hale, Yonge, Hutchins, Carpenter, Henton, J. J. Curtis, Foster, Scholey, Yongman, Eldridge, H. Bridges, Rugg, &c., and visitor Bro. T. Spiller, of the Domestic Lodge, 177. Business was not heavy, consisting only of the raising of Bro. Scholey to the Third Degree, but several matters relating to notices of motions were dismissed. Amongst these were a proposal to present the late Secretary, Bro. J. J. Curtis, with a testimonial of thanks for past earnest services, and which

met with unanimous approval; a proposal to grant Bro. Grant (Tyler), a retiring pension during life, and in recognition of his faithful discharge of his duty during ten years; and a proposition by Bro. Edminston for a vote in aid of the Indian Famine Fund. In reference to this latter proposal considerable difficulty arose, for whilst the members of the lodge were in full accord, and desirous of voting twenty guineas towards that laudable object, it was shown that the vote could not be legally made, and the money paid over until after the expiration of four months, the ensuing meetings being appointed for December and February, and the usual routine of notice of motion, the vote, and confirmation being required. Much regret was expressed that such delay in dealing with the lodge funds, for the purpose named, should exist, but the position was accepted, and recourse was then had to the Charity Fund of the lodge, in respect of which no such law controlled the wishes of the brethren. It was, therefore unanimously voted that the sum of ten guineas should be at once paid to the Famine Fund from that source, and that notice of motion should be given for a vote of the lodge for a further sum of ten guineas, should the necessities of the lamentable case further require aid. After the closing of the lodge the brethren adjourned to the canteen, where a plain, but excellent repast, was provided, and a pleasant hour or two spent before separation.

THE GREAT CITY LODGE (No. 1426).—On Saturday evening the installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Cannon Street Hotel, and Bro. John Seex, W.M., installed Bro. Richard Stanway as W.M. of the lodge for the ensuing twelve months. The brethren appointed to office were Bros. John Seex, I.P.M.; Freeman, S.W.; Blackie, J.W.; N. B. Headon, P.M., Treasurer; Edward Moody, P.M., Secretary; Catchpool, S.D.; Hamer, J.D.; Taylor, I.G.; W. H. Kibble, D.C.; Jenkins, Organist; W. H. Hook, Steward; R. Hooker, Steward; the Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C. Chaplain; and W. Steedman, T. A handsome P.M. jewel was presented to Bro. John Seex, after which the lodge was closed; and the brethren to the number of about seventy, adjourned to a most liberal banquet. The visitors present were Bros. C. W. Noehmer, P.M. 186; J. C. Mason, W.M. 1540; W. H. Green, 403; J. R. Williams, 766; J. Painter, P.M. 749; W. L. Partridge, 1445; E. Crolich, P.M. 857; E. Harfield, P.M. 185; W. Medwin, 192; W. Worrell, P.M. 766; J. Hooper, 1515; A. Stone, 889; O. F. Hearne, 957; C. J. Grose, P.M. 72; W. Mann, P.M. 186; F. Page, 1414; H. V. Clements, 754; T. W. C. Bush, 185; R. H. Williams, P.M. 1314; G. W. Saul, 1201; O. A. W. Carper, 1216; G. W. Evans, 1632; G. Cordwell, P.M. 3; R. N. Field, P.M. 902; J. Clarkson, P.M. 1457; J. E. Hellier, 1329; T. Eastgald, 1563; W. Read, 55; A. Farey, 1287; J. Walker, W.M. 27; C. T. Nunn, W.M. 889; J. H. Outhwaite, 1687; J. Crossland, 1687; T. P. Staley, 1216; E. W. Candy, 890; B. C. Battham, 156; J. B. Glenn, 1491; J. Baron, 1287; C. J. Perceval, 1607; H. Massey, P.M. 619; (Freemason) and I. Poore, P.M. 720. The brethren after the banquet had been disposed of, collected ten guineas for the *Freemason* Indian Famine Fund, "The W.M. proposed the usual toasts. In giving "The Prince of Wales," he said the Freemasons of England were particularly fortunate in possessing the Prince of Wales for G.M., who had all those qualifications of birth, education, and position which were desirable in the head of a great body. In giving "The Earl of Carnarvon," &c., he remarked that all the brethren who were privileged to attend Grand Lodge were aware of the quiet, dignified manner in which the Pro Grand Master occupied the chair. He had proved the wisdom of the Prince of Wales in selecting him for that office. The W.M. introduced the subject of the Indian Famine to the brethren's notice, and it was after his appeal that the collection above named was made. Bro. Headon also pleaded the cause of suffering humanity, and urged that the present was a very distressing case. Bro. Seex having proposed "The Health of the W.M." Bro. Stanway replied, and said that this was the most difficult part of his duty. It was a very easy matter to say "I return to you my very sincere thanks for what you have been pleased to do," but it would be a difficult matter for him to express himself in words sufficiently strong to assure the brethren of what his real feelings were. The position in which he was placed as Master of The Great City Lodge was one that he had worked up to from the other offices of the Lodge to which previous W.M.'s had been kind enough to promote him. He had worked up with all the zeal and earnestness of which he was capable, and as far as his health, strength and ability were concerned, the same amount of zeal, earnestness and assiduity would be brought to bear upon the performance of the duties of the chair which he had now the honour to occupy. The I.P.M. had been kind enough to allude to the dignity and character of this lodge, which it had maintained through the exertions of the previous Masters. It certainly had a great character for work and hospitality, a character which he thought was not second to any lodge in Freemasonry. Now, this character did not depend alone on the Master for the time being. With 120 members, of what avail would the exertions of the Master be if they set up their voices against his? If the brethren were desirous for the welfare of the Great City Lodge, they must support the Master, not only in the lodge ceremonies, which embraced some of the finest sentences in our language, but his endeavours to make the banquet agreeable. The business of that evening had been conducted admirably, (he did not mean as far as he himself was concerned), but by other members of the lodge; and it had been a source of great delight to him to perceive the great order which had prevailed. He was very much pleased to see it, and he would say with the greatest confidence that the brethren that evening had thoroughly maintained the character of the lodge they took so deep an interest in. The W.M. then proposed "The Visitors," 46 of whom were present. He said that if there had been

146, the brethren would have given them the same hearty welcome. The Great City Lodge was not noted for doing much in banquets, but when it did give a banquet it gave a banquet; and when it saved its money, it saved its money. It did, in fact, nothing by halves. Whenever they got visitors in their lodge they gave them all they had. In lodge they gave them as good a ceremony as they could witness; and at banquet they provided them with the best—whatever they could. When they had not the money they did not involve themselves. The toast of "The Visitors" was one which he felt himself incapable of dealing with thoroughly; therefore he should be very brief, and simply ask the brethren to drink the toast with the greatest cordiality. Bro. W. Mann, P.M. 186, responded, and observed that though many out of the numerous visitors present could return thanks for this toast much more eloquently than he could, there was no one who could speak to it with greater sincerity than he when acknowledging the splendid hospitality with which the visitors had been entertained. He might inform the brethren that he was present at the consecration of the lodge, and his name appeared on the petition for the warrant. He therefore could say with truth that ever since the consecration, five or six years ago, the visitors to The Great City Lodge had been treated magnificently. The work in the lodge had been magnificent; all the officers were up to their work, and everything had been done to support the lustre of The Great City Lodge. The Great City Lodge had a great name. It had made wonderful progress, and it was known all over the country. He was proud to be among them once more, and to return thanks for "The Visitors." He trusted the lodge would go on and prosper as it had hitherto. This evening's proceedings added another feather to its cap, the brethren having contributed another mite towards the great fund for the relief of distress in India. The Craft had come out very well in this matter. Grand Lodge had contributed a large sum; and private lodges had followed the example. The Great City Lodge would now figure in the list, and he had no doubt it would be an incentive to other lodges to contribute something as well. The W.M. next proposed "The Installing Master, Bro. Seex," and paid a high and well deserved compliment to that brother for the excellence of all his work. His occupation of the chair during the year had well supported the character of the lodge. The way in which a W.M. presided was the keynote to the brethren. It was a position which required great dignity, and the way in which it was fulfilled made an impression on the brethren for good or ill. Bro. Seex's conduct in the chair would long be remembered by the brethren with admiration, and the way in which he had performed the installation was a fitting conclusion to his successful year of office. The W.M. then presented Bro. Seex with a handsome P.M.'s jewel. Bro. Seex in reply, after thanking the W.M. for his encomiums and the brethren for the jewel, said it was one thing to be a W.M. and another thing to satisfy every member of the lodge. There were certain duties which were imperative to a W.M., and if for the sake of conciliating any one member of a lodge a W.M. diverted from the certain, direct straight line of duty he would be sure to come to grief. With a full knowledge of this he entered upon the duties of the chair, and fully made up his mind that he would carry out his duties as best he could to the honour of Masonry and The Great City Lodge. After the expiration of his year of office such an enthusiastic reception he had received justified him in the belief that the brethren approved of what he had done. But he must thank the officers of the lodge who had so nobly supported him. A W.M. however efficient and cognisant of his duties was helpless without good officers; but he had been ably assisted, and he now tendered his best thanks to the officers for their able performance of their duties during his year of office. Bro. James Stevens made a short reply for the "P.M.'s," and expressed his great satisfaction at the bright position taken by The Great City Lodge, of which he was the first W.M. Bro. Headon replied for "The Treasurer," and Bro. E. Moody for "The Secretary," and after "The Masonic Charities," "The Officers," and "Tyler," had been given a special vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Bertram, under whose directions Bros. Kenningham, Thornton, Thurley, Beale, and H. Frost, and Messrs. W. Frost and Thomas Harper had performed a splendid selection of music.

DUKE OF CONNAUGHT LODGE.—(No 1524).—A lodge of emergency was held on Thursday, the 11th inst., at the Havelock Hotel, Albion-road, Dalston. Present: Bros. J. B. Shackleton, W.M.; W. H. Lee, P.M., Secretary; T. C. Chapman, P.M., Treasurer; Brand, J.D.; Meyer, I.G.; Brasted, and Dignam, Stewards; Young, Organist; also Bros. Polak, Stevenson, A. Ferrar, Brame, C. Olley, A. Olley, Hollingsworth, Norman, Beensen, Moon, Watkins, G. Ferrar, Davies, E. Dietrich, and O. Dietrich. Bro. H. G. Buss, Assistant Grand Secretary, was present, also Bro. E. Somers, P.M. 1602; March, 1326; and Harris, S.D. 1158, visitors. The lodge having been opened in due form, Bro. Hollingsworth was passed to the Second Degree. Ballot was then taken for seven candidates for initiation, which proved unanimous in their favour, and Messrs. Loeffler, Dexter, Beasley, Bell, and Bigg being in attendance, were then regularly admitted into Freemasonry. The lodge was then closed and the brethren adjourned to slight refreshment, after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to. Bro. Buss, A.G. Secretary, returned thanks for the Grand Officers, the initiates responded in appropriate terms, and Bros. Somers and Marsh replied for the visitors.

DUKE OF CONNAUGHT LODGE (No. 1558).—The anniversary and installation meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday evening, the 11th inst., at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New Road, and was numerously attended. Bro. Cackett, W.M., presided, and all the officers were present in their proper places. There were several visitors, amongst whom were Bros. G. W.

Wilks, 707; Catling, 144; Larham, P.M. 1216; Bisson, 471; Tobbs, 1425; C. B. Wright, 1319; W. H. Crichton, 1641; Martin, 868; Trenn, 935; Kingston, 1249; H. Thompson, P.M. 177 and 1158 (*Freemason*), &c. The lodge having been opened in due form, Bro. Dann, the Secretary, read the minutes of the last lodge, which were unanimously confirmed. The report of the Audit Committee was then presented and received. The lodge was then opened in the Second Degree and Bro. T. Sleep, the W.M. elect, was presented by Bro. Larham to receive at the hands of Bro. Cackett, the outgoing Master, the benefit of installation. The customary formalities having been gone through, the lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and all the brethren below the chair were requested to retire, and a Board of Installed Masters having been formed Bro. Sleep was impressively installed into the chair of K.S. according to ancient custom. On the re-admission of the brethren, under the directorship of Bro. Dann, the usual salutes were given by the brethren in the different degrees, after which Bro. Dann delivered addresses to the W. Masters, Wardens, and brethren in a manner which elicited general approbation. Some other formal proceedings having been gone through, the W. Master proceeded to invest his officers for the ensuing year and the manner in which that was done gave the highest satisfaction to all, but more particularly to the older members of Freemasonry. Instead of confining himself to a few common-place words usually employed, he departed from that beaten track and gave each one a thorough and complete explanation of the duties he would have to perform. There were certain parts of these addresses over which as Masons a veil must necessarily be drawn, but there were some parts of them which might advantageously be generally adopted, and with no such restraint. In addressing his newly appointed Treasurer, Bro. Cape, he said, "I trust your regard for the fraternity will prompt you to the faithful discharge of your duties. The cross keys are an emblem of science and secrecy. While the metal key is to preserve the treasures of the lodge, the symbolic key is an emblem of the tongue, whose eloquence should be used to instruct the hearts of the brethren and cause them to dispense their treasures in the cause of charity. By the symbolical key also you are taught to preserve a tongue of good report, and in case you should hear a brother slanderously spoken of you are to defend and vindicate his character, but if unfortunately, that cannot be done with strict honour and propriety you are to preserve that excellent Masonic virtue—silence." Addressing Bro. Dann, P.M., on his re-appointment as Secretary, he said, "our good intentions to Freemasonry in general, and to this lodge in particular, I am sure will prompt you to the faithful discharge of the duties of your office, as by so doing you will merit the esteem and appreciation of your brethren. The cross pens are an emblem of silent admonition that the pen should not be used in the cause of oppression, but the fluid should flow freely from it to defend a brother's character when assailed, and be eloquent in the cause of the destitute and oppressed. In investing Bro. Cackett as Immediate Past Master he said, I have very much pleasure in investing you with the jewel of Immediate Past Master of the Duke of Connaught Lodge, No. 1558. It is an office which it is not in the power of the Worshipful Master to bestow, being yours by right, as having faithfully performed your duty in the Craft. Your jewel is that of the 47th problem of the first book of Euclid. As this figure depends upon several lines, angles, and triangles, which form the whole, so Freemasonry depends upon its several members and the principles upon which the society is established. Some of our brethren, from their station in life, standing as they do on the bases of earthly bliss, are emblematical of the great angle which subtends the right angle. Others blessed with ample means to tread the flowery meads of prosperity and opulence are descriptive of the squares which stand on the sides. Those brethren who enjoy every social comfort and never exceed the bonds of mediocrity symbolise the triangle within the squares, and those who have the satisfaction of administering to the wants of the urgent and industrious may be compared to the triangle which surrounds the figure, whilst the lines which form it may remind us of those brethren who are incapable of providing the necessities of life unless aided by cheerful and ready assistance. These several addresses were greeted with hearty cheering. The following is a complete list of the newly appointed officers:—Bros. Mitchell, S.W.; Runacres, J.W.; Chalk, S.D.; Boyton, J.D.; Dann, P.M., Secretary; Cape, Treasurer; Power, I.G.; Taylor, D.C.; Portrees, W.S. The W. Master said he had a very pleasing duty to perform, which was to present Bro. Cackett with a jewel, which had been voted to him by the brethren on his retirement from the chair, and he wished him long life to wear it. The jewel bore the following inscription:—"Presented by the Duke of Connaught Lodge, No. 1558, to Bro. Cackett, on retiring from the chair, Oct. 11, 1877." Bro. Cackett, I.P.M., returned thanks for the honour conferred upon him. The newly installed W.M. immediately commenced upon the duties of his office, and most ably initiated two gentlemen into the Order. Bro. J. Dixon proposed that a jewel of the value of five guineas should be presented to Bro. W. Dann, Secretary, for the valuable services to the lodge, which was seconded by Bro. Scott, supported by Bro. Cackett, and carried unanimously. The lodge was then closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment, which was well served. On the withdrawal of the cloth, the customary loyal and Masonic toasts were given. Bro. Cackett, I.P.M., proposed the health of Bro. Sleep, W.M., and alluded to the excellent specimen the brethren had seen of his working. The W. Master returned thanks for the kind manner in which the brethren had drank his health, and made the pleasing an-

nouncement that during his year of office he would never trouble the brethren with long speeches, but should rely upon his officers to rally round him, so as to render the lodge, if not the largest, one of the most prosperous in the Craft. "The Past Masters" was next given, for which Bros. Cackett and Dann sincerely returned thanks. The next toast was that of "The Visitors," for which Bro. Larham, P.M. 1316, returned thanks, and expressed the pleasure he had experienced in seeing the W. Master so ably install his officers; indeed, in so able a manner as was seldom witnessed in any lodge, and he felt sure that he would have a successful year of office. "The Press" was next given, for which Bro. H. Thompson responded, and remarked upon the great benefits which frequently resulted to mankind from its agency. It was the most powerful engine in the state, and it was but rare indeed, that the power it possessed was abused. Some other toasts were given, and the evening was a happy one throughout, a number of the brethren filling up the intervals between the toasts with some choice ballads, which were highly applauded. The brethren separated at about eleven o'clock, in the true spirit of Freemasonry.

ST. JOHN OF WAPPING LODGE.—(No. 1306.)—This lodge held its regular meeting at the Gun Hotel, Wapping, on Wednesday, the 10th inst. Present: William Power, W.M.; Bros. Rae, S.W.; Coleman, J.W.; Hayward, J.D.; Tyer, I.G.; Longstaff, Tyler. The lodge was opened in due form, minutes read and confirmed. The lodge was then raised to Third Degree, and Bro. Frayley was raised to the Sublime Degree of a M.M. by the W.M. in his usual impressive manner. Present: Bros. Pallet, Cox, McDougal, J. W. Coleman, Hartman, and several others.

KENNINGTON LODGE (No. 1381).—The first meeting of the season of this prosperous lodge was held on the 2nd inst. at the Surrey Club House, Kennington Oval, when there were present, amongst others, Bros. H. Higgins, W.M.; H. Reeves, S.W.; T. Walls, P.G.O. Middx., J.W.; Kohler, S.D.; Speedy, J.D.; Webb, I.G.; Robinson, D.C.; Marsden, W.S.; Stokes, A.W.S.; Honeywell, P.M., Doble, Asst. Org.; G. Everett, P.M. Domestic, I.P.M.; and Past Masters Warren, Koch, Stuart (Secretary), Drysdale, and Pope. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the bye-laws were read, and the ballot taken for Bro. Timewell as a joining member, and which proved unanimous. The W.M. stated that since the last meeting of the lodge, in April last, they had lost one of their oldest members, namely, Bro. Sirgood, whose genial and other qualities had endeared him to every member of the lodge, and that he (the W.M.) had upon behalf of the "Kennington," forwarded a letter of condolence to Mrs. Sirgood and family upon their heavy bereavement. Previously to the lodge being closed, Bro. W. Mann, P.M., gave notice of motion for the next meeting—that a Royal Arch Chapter should be founded in connection with No. 1381. The visitors were Bros. Vickins, W.M. 164, P.M. 1329; Downie, 186; Davison, 733; B. Cooper and Taylor, 1441; Burrows and Rayner, 1305; Cox, 1314; and Kohler, 1585. At the conclusion of the banquet the usual Royal and Craft toasts were duly honoured. In proposing "The Health of the W.M.," Bro. Everett said that he considered the subject toast a very pleasing one. Bro. Higgin's whole heart and soul was in the work of Masonry, and he also had the interests of the lodge in sound keeping. He was pleased to see so large and happy a gathering assembled there on the first night after this long recess, which pleasant state of things he hoped would continue to the end of the season. In conclusion, he stated that although the W.M. had had no "work" to do that evening, yet he wished to assure their visitors that no brother was better qualified to carry out the Masonic ceremonies than Bro. Higgins. The W.M., in reply, briefly thanked the I.P.M. for the kind manner in which he had proposed his health, and the brethren for the hearty way that they had received it. His year of office had commenced well, and he believed it would end well, and he felt pleased that so many members and friends had attended that night, and by their genial faces and manner had so enhanced the success of the proceedings. "The Visitors" followed, and it was acknowledged at length by Bros. Vockins and Burrows. In introducing "The Health of the Past Masters," the W.M. took the occasion to remark that the toast embraced not only the actual brethren who had passed the chair of the Kennington, but also those members who had gained past rank in other lodges, and who had rendered very great assistance to the lodge in many ways. This toast having been duly honoured, Bros. Everett, Mann, and Koch responded on behalf of the former, and Bro. W. Pope for the latter. "The Masonic Charities" and "The Officers" followed quickly, and were briefly responded to. During the evening instrumental and other selections were given by Bros. Honeywell, Walls, and Sleight.

MIZPAH LODGE (No. 1671).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Albion Hotel, Aldersgate-street, on Saturday last, when the following brethren were present:—Bros. Nelson Reed, W.M.; D. R. Still, S.W.; W. W. Medcalf, J.W.; J. J. Avery, Treas.; H. G. Buss, Sec.; J. Bergmann, S.D.; F. Morgan, W.S. 1572, acting J.D.; R. A. Morgan, acting I.G.; G. Coppard, D. Wright, C. Sissons, H. H. Wells, W. Klotgen, J. H. Wiles, H. Warden, P. Alpeter, R. Nelson, G. Lewis, H. Shaw, Tyler. Visitors:—Bros. W. S. Whittaker, W.M. 1572; A. Brookman, 1657; C. W. Thompson, W.M. 1601; J. L. Jones, W.M. 1670; Hyde Pullen, P.G.S.B.; C. Sopsett, W.M. elect, 1527; J. Kimp-ton, 1601; C. Atkins, P.M. 27; W. H. Allen, 619; J. Chaney, 180. The minutes of the regular meeting, held April 14th, were read and confirmed. The minutes of the lodge of emergency, held June 2nd, and September 29th, were read and confirmed. Bros. Alpeter, Nelson, and Warden were passed to the Second Degree. Mr. John Bedford Tidmarsh, having been unanimously elected,

was initiated according to ancient custom; two gentlemen were proposed for initiation, after which the lodge was closed, and the brethren then adjourned to a well served banquet, provided by Bro. Jennings, who has made the Albion so famous. The usual toasts were given by the W.M. Bro. Hyde Pullen, P.G.S.B., replied for the Grand Officers; Bros. Whittaker, W.M. 1572; Thompson, W.M. 1601; and J. L. Jones, W.M. 1670, replied for the Visitors. "The Health of the W.M." was given by Bro. H. G. Buss, Asst. G. Sec. The W.M. made an appeal to the brethren present on behalf of the Indian Famine Relief Fund, resulting in the collection of £5, which was handed to the Treasurer to be forwarded to the Lord Mayor. The remaining toasts having been given, the brethren departed at the early hour of 8 o'clock. This is a speciality (early hours) with the Mizpah Lodge. The proceedings were greatly enhanced by the good singing of Bros. Avery, Whittaker, Medcalf, Morgan, Warden, Bergmann, and Alpeter, Bro. Bergmann presiding at the pianoforte very efficiently.

THE CRUSADERS LODGE.—(No. 1677).—The first regular meeting of this new lodge was held on Wednesday, the 10th inst., at St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, Bro. Jarvis Maples, W.M., presiding, assisted by his officers, Simmonds, S.W.; Dr. Hunter, J.W.; Thomas Goode, S.D.; Frederick Rothschild, S.D.; Dr. Defriez, Secretary; Samuel Rushton, Organist; and others. The minutes of the previous meeting having been confirmed, the lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the following brethren having shown their efficiency, were duly passed: W. J. Goode, Frederick Goode, Alfred Goode, Thomas Taylor, James J. Stockall, S. Rushton, Beetham, Jackson, William F. Garrod, and Moorhouse. The lodge was then resumed to the first degree, when the following gentlemen were initiated into the mysteries of the fraternity:—Messrs. Ulric J. Upton, W. H. Jackson, and William W. Chandler. The working, rather exhaustive, was done in a masterly manner, and great credit is due to the Master and officers of the lodge for the efficiency. A handsome carved oak chair was presented to the lodge by the above nine brethren just passed, and by Bro. Thomas M. K. Gilbert. A unanimous vote of thanks was passed for the gift. Bro. Calderwood also presented the lodge with a rare old Crusaders' seal, of some value, and a similar compliment was paid to him by the lodge. The lodge closed in due form, the brethren adjourned to the banquet, prepared by the host, Bro. Gay, in his usual liberal style. The cloth removed, the usual Masonic toasts were observed. Bro. T. Vell replying for the visitors. Some capital singing by Bros. Rushton, Jackson, Millward, and Rothschild brought a happy evening to a close.

BATH.—Royal Cumberland Lodge (No. 41).—The first regular meeting of this ancient lodge since the recess was held at the Masonic Hall, Bath, on Oct. 4th, Bro. F. Wilkinson, W.M., in the chair; Bros. F. J. Brown, I.P.M.; Reeves, P.M., P.Z., &c., kindly officiating at the organ; Ashley, P.M., Treas., and acting as Chaplain; George Falkner, S.W.; Chas. Wilkinson, J.W.; P. Brahan, Sec.; Gummier, S.D.; William Hunt, J.D.; Capt. Robinson and Jacob Smith, Stewards; C. W. Radway, I.G.; Bigwood, Tyler; Bro. T. Moutrie, P.M., &c., acting as Dir. of Ceremonies. The lodge being duly formed and opened at 7.35, the minutes of the lodge of emergency, held on Sept. 13th, and of the last regular lodge, were duly confirmed. After some minor lodge business the candidate for initiation, Mr. W. B. Gregory, was duly admitted and initiated—the working tools were presented by the S.W., the charge being given by Bro. Ashley—after which the lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and Bro. R. Mann was passed to the degree of F.C. in due form, the ceremony being impressively performed by the W.M., assisted by the I.P.M. and Bro. Ashley, P.M., &c., the working tools being again presented by the S.W. The lodge was then closed down to First Degree, and several letters from absent brethren on ordinary subjects were read. Bro. Ashley, P.M., put a motion on the notice paper that in future all officers taking collars should pay a small fee to the lodge, it being the custom in other lodges. The grant of ten guineas to the Indian Famine Fund was duly confirmed by unanimous vote. A new candidate Mr. T. Wilton, jun., well known to the brethren, son of an old P.M. of this lodge, was proposed by Bro. Thos. Ames. —also a proposal for the purchase and use of gauntlets for the W.M. and Wardens was carried unanimously. A question as to inviting Grand Lodge of Somerset to Bath was mooted for further consideration. Members present, Bros. Major Preston, P.M., &c., Baldwin, Davies, Holmes, Rubie, P.M., &c., Peach, Mercer, Stiles, Ames, Clark, P.M., Murlis, and Brewer. Visitors: Bro. Edwards, W.M. Royal Sussex, and others. The brethren all missed the familiar face and impressive tones of Bro. Dr. Hopkins, P.M., &c., who is absent in Warwickshire. An arrangement was made for a Lodge of Instruction to be held on the third Thursday in each month. After some discussions on minor importance the lodge was closed in perfect harmony at 9.50.

WINDSOR.—Etonian Lodge of St. John, (No. 209).—The first meeting of the season was held at the Masonic Hall, Windsor, on Tuesday the 2nd inst. The W.M., Bro. C. D. Hume, P.G.S., presided, supported by Bros. Roberts, P.G.S., S.W.; Schiemann, J.W.; Wilson, P.M., Treasurer; J. O. Carter, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., Secretary; Dick Radclyffe, S.D.; Cousins, I.G.; Tolley, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., Organist; Evans, Steward; Dixon, P.M., P.P.G.D.C.; McIlwham, P.M.; Hopwood, P.M.; Denne, P.M.; Bryant, P.M., P.G.S.W.; Reid, P.M. There was a large muster of members and visitors, amongst the latter were Bros. Keily, of 1293, P.P.G. Treas. Middlesex; Cole, 742; Gillard, 657; Nash, P.M. 865; Lyon, J.W. 865; F. H. Johnson, 903; Bingham, P.M. 771; J. Johnson, 771; Ford, 771. The chief duties of the evening were initiating Mr. H. Perks and raising Bro. Crawshaw, both

ceremonies were most ably performed by the W.M. to the great satisfaction of the brethren present. One candidate for initiation and two as joining members were proposed. The Secretary announced that the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Sir D. Gooch, Bart, M.P., had appointed Bro. the Venerable Arthur Percival Percy-Cust, Archdeacon of Buckingham, as Deputy Provincial Grand Master. The sum of five guineas was voted to the testimonial, now being raised in the Province, to be presented to Bro. Biggs, P. Prov. Grand Secretary. After some further business had been transacted the lodge was closed in due form.

HOLYHEAD.—St. Cybi Lodge (No. 597).—A lodge of emergency was held at the Masonic Rooms, Town Hall, on Monday, the 8th of October, for the purpose of forming a procession to attend the funeral of their late Brother, Capt. Robert Williams, of the Liverpool Arms Hotel. In the absence of the W.M., the lodge was opened by P.M., Bro. John Peters, P.P.G.S.W. The following brethren were also present, P.M. William Lewis, M.P.; J. P. Griffiths, S.W.; R. J. Edwards, J.W.; W. P. Elliott, Organist; Parry, J.G.; Jones, Tyler; W. Williams, H. T. Barber, Dr. O. T. Williams, Jas. Wells, Owen Edwards, Thos. Crispin, Wm. J. C. Riva, Wm. Anker, O. Hughes, W. Roberts, Capt. John Owen, John Hughes, E. Jones, J. Dooling, &c. The remains were carried from the church gates into the church, and thence to the grave by the P.M.'s and officers of the lodge, after paying this last tribute of respect to their departed brother, the brethren again formed a procession, and returned to their lodge room.

LANCASTER.—Lodge of Fortitude.—(No. 281).—This lodge held its meeting on the 10th inst., in the Masonic Rooms, Athenæum. The W.M., (Bro. R. Taylor), presided, and there was a good attendance of members and visiting brethren. The lodge was opened in the First Degree, with solemn prayer, and the minutes of previous meeting read and confirmed. Bro. John W. Simpson having given proficiency as an Entered Apprentice was entrusted and retired, and the lodge was opened in the Second Degree. Bro. Simpson was then re-admitted, and passed to the Degree of F.C. by the W.M. Bro. Phyzackerley having answered the requisite interrogatories was entrusted and retired, when the lodge was raised to the Third Degree. Bro. Phyzackerley was re-admitted and raised to the Sublime Degree of a M.M., the working being well gone through by Bro. John Hatch, W.M. and Secretary. The lodge was then closed down, and the usual proclamations having been made, the lodge was closed in peace, love, and harmony.

YARBOROUGH LODGE (No. 554).—The reunion of the brethren of this lodge took place on Thursday sennight, at that noted old East End Hostelry the Green Dragon Tavern, Stepney, where for the past twenty years the requirements of the fraternity have ever been cheerfully studied and well met by Bro. Host Walters. The chair was occupied by the W.M., Bro. W. Allen, and he was ably supported by Bros. H. Cotter, S.W., and F. Taylor, J.W., whilst the responsibilities of the junior positions were well sustained by Bros. E. Walters, S.D.; W. Cross, J.D.; W. Taylor, I.G.; and Levermore, W.S. Amongst the Past Masters were Bros. Berry, Wymes, Stevens, Mosley, Hood, and Hamilton, and a goodly array of visitors, including Bros. Lavitt, 1185; Allen, Dawson, and Snelling, 1174. A numerous assemblage of the brethren attended to greet the W.M. on his return to office, and the never failing salutary effect that the efficient delivery of the ceremony of raising a brother to the degree of M.M., has upon the minds of all worthy brothers in the Craft, was peculiarly noticeable on this occasion, while the rendering of the ritual lost little of its force in the hands of the W.M. and his subordinates. The business of the evening was unfortunately of a painful and prolonged character, mainly arising from the necessities of those who sought in affliction that relief they were themselves unable to obtain, and the question arose, in argument, whether it would not be in such instances better to refer and determine the relative merits of either unknown supplicant, than to rashly relieve or unkindly deny. A member of the Board of Benevolence took exception to any unrepresented case being at all entertained, and remarked how misdirected were the influences oftentimes exerted that caused Masonic charity to flow into channels whence the itinerant Mason oftentimes benefited; and exemplified this idea by a retrospect of the working of the Board of Benevolence whilst he had been privileged to sit at the same, where, in several instances the promptings of the heart outweighed the dictates of prudence, and rather than refuse any, aid was given without sufficient enquiry and discrimination. The opinion prevailed that if such lack of discernment were found at the Board the interests of lodges through their representatives were but ill cared for, if it be possible for the undeserving to prey with success, continually on funds placed at the Board's disposal for the relief only of the too many who are unfortunately reduced to the distressing condition of worthy penury. Bis dat qui cito dat, but be careful least in rashly distributing bounty nothing remains when the really necessitous apply in their need, for that aid which blest charity so mercifully furnishes. These respective applications having been satisfactorily disposed of, the brethren adjourned to the banquet table, and after the usual loyal toasts had been drunk, Bro. P.M. Jno. Stevens in responding for the charities, remarked that Bro. T. Taylor, who would represent the lodge as Steward at the ensuing festival for the Masonic Institutions, already had upon his list an amount exceeding £60, and that the efforts of the Secretaries of the respective Institutions resulted last year in the accumulation of an amount approaching £40,000. The Tyler's toast was given at ten o'clock, and a generally satisfactory evening terminated.

LANCASTER.—Rowley Lodge (No. 1051).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held on the 1st inst., in the Masonic Rooms, Athenæum, Bro. T. Jackson, W.M., presiding. There was not a large attendance,

Bro. Dr. Moore, P.G.S.B. of E. gave a short lecture on "The Ethics of Freemasonry," which was listened to with much interest by the members present. At the close, a cordial vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Moore. The usual proclamation having been made, the lodge was closed in due form.

PLUMSTEAD.—United Military Lodge (No. 1536).—The regular meeting of the above lodge took place on Friday, the 12th inst., at Bro. Plaisted's fine Hall adjoining the "Sir Robert Peel," Anglesea Hill, and was well attended by the brethren and visitors of the district. Bro. G. Spinks, W.M., presided, and was supported by the following officers: Bros. W. Weston, I.P.M.; H. Picken, S.W.; — Show, J.W.; T. Pownall, P.M. and P.G. S.W. Kent, Secretary; I. McCaffery, S.D.; W. Hollyman, I.G.; H. Harding, Organist; J. Lackland, O.G.; Coupland, P.M. 913, and P.P.S.W. Kent, and Bro. Pryce, 913, who are honorary members of the lodge, were also present. Among the visitors were J. F. Randall, P.S.D. 1089; A. Jessop, Treas. 913; D. Capon, 913; W. G. Batchelor, 548; L. J. Russell, 160; G. Hand, 215; W. Menzies, 1531; H. Dana, 1531; W. Keen, 1604; J. Harper, 1604; T. Hassell, 13; G. Fraser, 700; H. Carty, 913; E. Spinks, 158; E. Tappenden, 781; W. Wray, 700; A. Upperton, 913; and C. Jolly, (Freemason), 913. The business before the lodge consisted of the balloting for of Sergt. James Steedman, of the Royal Engineers, and after approval that gentleman was initiated into Masonry. Bro. J. P. Earle was then raised to the Sublime Degree, both ceremonies being most impressively rendered by the W.M., who was as well ably assisted by his officers. The W.M.'s report of the proceedings of Prov. Grand Charity Committee was then received with much satisfaction, and it was then proposed and unanimously carried that the sum of five guineas be subscribed towards the testimonial to Bro. the Rev. A. Hill, Prov. G. Chaplain, Kent, and that the W.M., Bro. Spinks, be appointed as a delegate from that lodge to serve upon the Committee formed for the purpose of carrying out the presentation. Bro. Pownall, then in most eloquent terms made an appeal on behalf of the widow of a military brother (not a member of the lodge) who was in most adverse circumstances, and the W.M. kindly promised the proceeds of that evening's charity box, which, by-the-bye, amounted on the first round to £1 12s., but one of the brethren humorously suggested that now all the silver was in, it might be as well to try for the copper, and the sum was ultimately made up to £2 2s. Before closing the lodge the W.M. called the initiate to the pedestal, and recited the E.A. charge in rare style. The lodge was then duly closed and the brethren partook of refreshments, honouring the usual loyal Masonic toast as gallant soldiers and true Masons should do. Bro. Coupland briefly returned thanks to the Grand Officers Past and Present, observing, that at the present time, his light was obscured by the greater brilliancy of Bro. Pownall, who had just taken Provincial honours. They would have been pleased had they heard the P.G.M., Lord Holmesdale, compliment their distinguished brother when he was invested with the collar of his office at Erit (cheers). It was an honour to have as a member of the lodge so excellent a man and Mason among them (loud cheers). Bro. Weston in proposing the health of the W.M., said he had shown all the tact and resource of a skilled general in leading his little army, not in the field of battle, but in the search after the hidden mysteries of natural science (applause). Dr. Spinks, in reply, trusted that he should always carry out the duties of his high position in such a manner as to merit their confidence and deserve their esteem (applause). After the health of the initiate had been proposed and responded to, "The Visitors" received a very flattering reception at the hands of the W.M., who said they, as military men, were very liable to be called away at the blast of the bugle to serve their country, to do duty either at home or abroad, and it was a most gratifying reflection for them, both here and when away, to know that between them and all other lodges around them the utmost good feeling prevailed. (Applause.) He looked upon this as the toast of the evening, and one that always was, and he hoped ever would be, highly honoured in the United Military Lodge. No matter what lodge they visited, they were sure to meet military brethren there, and when he saw the many smiling faces around him, and gathered from that that there existed a true bond of good feeling amongst them, he hoped long to see it prevail, for in it was the surest foundation of all good and worthy Masonry. (Loud cheers.) He coupled the toast with the name of Bro. Jessop, of the Pattison Lodge, and Bros. Batchelor, Wray, Hassell, Cobb, and Menzies, who severally returned thanks. The toast of "The Past Masters" followed, and Bro. Weston replied, saying that it would ever be the task of the P.M.'s to promote brotherly love, peace, and harmony in the lodge, as well as earnestly assist any aspiring brother in his upward course. "The Officers" followed, and Bros. McCaffery and Welding replied; and after a "God speed" had been given to Bro. Stevens, who is about proceeding to India with his battery, and a feeling reply from that brother, the Tyler's toast concluded the proceedings.

EALING.—West Middlesex Lodge (No. 1612).—This lodge, which is now twelve months old, held its first anniversary meeting at the Ealing Institute, Ealing, on Saturday last, Bro. A. Beasley, the first W.M., presiding. This lodge is a bright example of what may be effected in a short space of time by a combination of energy, concord, and skill; and it is a great pleasure to visit a lodge where the machinery is in such perfect working order that the thought at once forces itself on the mind of the visitor that here is a lodge where everyone concerned has caught the true spirit of Masonic association, as each one contributes his quota of work with that precision and ease which so enhances the beauty of the ceremonies, and

proves that these are not merely gala day Masons, but that they must have a good lodge of instruction amongst themselves, where each may help the other to become perfect in those duties which they have undertaken. The greatest praise is due to the W.M., Bro. Beasley, the Secretary, Bro. J. Chambers Roe, P.M. of the Prince of Wales Lodge, to Bro. T. Brown, acting I.P.M. and Treasurer, and, indeed, to all concerned, for the hearty co-operation in bringing a lodge, now only a year old, to its present successful state. The lodge numbers now about forty-three subscribing members, and has initiated eighteen candidates during the first year. There has also been formed in connection with it a lodge of instruction, by the aid of which the working of the lodge has been rendered as perfect as we remember to have seen it in any lodge. They have also instituted that most admirable feature in a lodge—a benevolent fund, upon a sure and well defined basis. During the first year they had an income of over £200, which has been well and economically managed, so that after paying for every item of outlay, and contributing to at least one of the Masonic Charities, they commenced their new year with a very handsome balance in hand. All who know Bro. Beasley know well what an excellent worker he is; and we are not surprised that the brethren should have re-elected him to the Master's chair for the ensuing year; for there can be no doubt that a far deeper impression is produced upon a candidate when the Master is not only perfect but also successful in conveying the spirit of the words to the candidate's mind. With such a Master presiding the members of the lodge can bring forward their friends as candidates with the full conviction that the favourable conviction pre-conceived of the institution will not be lowered by the manner in which the ceremonies are worked. On Saturday the business before the lodge was very heavy. After the confirmation of the minutes of the last ordinary lodge meeting, and of a lodge of emergency, Bro. T. C. Jenkin was raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M. by the W.M., who afterwards passed Bro. Maling to the degree of Fellow Craft. The W.M. then left the chair, which was taken by Bro. T. Kingston, P.M., S.W., by whom Bro. Jones was passed to the Second Degree. Bro. Kingston then vacated the chair, which was thereupon occupied by Bro. Roe, P.M., Secretary, who conferred the Second Degree on Bro. Clarke. At the conclusion of this ceremony the W.M. returned to the lodge, and resuming the chair, performed the ceremony of passing for Bro. Etienne. Thus four initiates were passed to the Second Degree. The lodge was then resumed in the First Degree, and the ballot was taken for the following candidates: Mr. Richard Henry Day, proposed by Bro. Kasner, J.W., seconded by Bro. Ferner; Mr. William Nye, proposed by Bro. Tucker, seconded by Bro. Beasley, W.M.; and Mr. George Samuel Wright, proposed by Bro. Kasner, J.W., seconded by Bro. Tucker. The ballot having been successful, the candidates were ordered to be prepared, and while the preparation was in progress, the report of the Audit Committee was read, and was of a most satisfactory nature, and it concluded with an encomium upon the admirable manner in which the books had been kept and the business of the lodge conducted by Bro. Roe, the Secretary, and a recommendation by the Audit Committee that Bro. Roe's services should be recognised by a vote of thanks to be entered in the minutes of the lodge. This recommendation was adopted in the heartiest manner, and a vote of thanks ordered to be recorded, a compliment that was acknowledged by Bro. Roe in a few appropriate words. The above mentioned candidates were then initiated by the W.M., each being brought in separately and the ceremony separately worked for each, in order that it might lose none of its impressiveness. As we have already stated Bro. Beasley has been elected W.M. of the lodge for the ensuing year; and therefore after the investiture of the candidates, the lodge was resumed in the Second Degree, and Bro. Beasley vacated the chair in favour of Bro. P.M. Roe as Installing Master, whereupon Bro. Kingston, S.W., presented the W.M. Elect, who, having given his assent to the ancient landmarks of the Order, which were read by Bro. Burr as acting Assistant Secretary, was duly obligated, after which a Board of Installed Masters was formed, to whom he was presented, and afterwards installed into the chair of K.S. It is needless to say that the ceremony lost none of its impressiveness through being worked by Bro. Roe, by whom the orations were admirably delivered. The officers for the year are Bros. Kasner, S.W.; Burr, J.W.; J. Green, S.D.; W. J. Compton, J.D.; Tucker, I.G.; Dyer, D.C.; Bourne, Assistant D.C.; Delavante, Organist; Browne, P.M., Treasurer; Bro. J. Chambers Roe, P.M., Secretary; and Harrison, Tyler. The heavy labours of the evening being thus concluded, the lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to Browne's Hotel, where about fifty sat down to an excellent banquet, to which they did ample justice. Among the visitors were Bro. E. F. Foot, 1260; R. E. Hanners, 771; J. Hambleton, 1319; J. Fowlings, 780; Harry Barnes, 780; S. S. Phillips, 173; W. Gardner, 780; E. N. Watts, 194; Morgan, 1385; W. Gutteridge, 1305; B. E. Blasby, 780; C. S. Cottleton, 780; T. Prendergast, 563; G. W. Lay, 569; Geo. Wills, 780; G. C. Sparrow, 192; Righton, 23; and Massey, 1297, (Freemason). On the removal of the cloth, the customary loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed by the W.M.; on account of the lateness of the hour the speeches in reference to those toasts were made as brief as possible. On the conclusion of these toasts, acting I.P.M., Bro. Kingston, rose and said:—Brethren, the gavel being in my hand you know the toast that I am about to propose to you, namely our W.M., and I am sure you all coincide with me in congratulating him on being able to preside over us again. I need not say one word upon his excellencies as a Master; in the lodge or out of the lodge you all know we could not have a better to preside over us. Brethren I give "The Health

of our W.M." Bro. Beasley in reply said, brethren, I lose no time in responding to the toast which has been so kindly proposed by Bro. Kingston and so cordially responded to. I think Bro. Kingston says I am to be congratulated on being able to preside here this night. Since I presided here last I have gone through a serious—nay, a dangerous illness; but the great Architect of the Universe has thought fit to spare me, and I am able to preside here to night over the West Middlesex Lodge. Brethren, I thank you very much for the compliment you have paid me. The W.M. concluded by proposing "The Health of Bro. Kingston, acting I.P.M., Bro. Browne P.M., Treasurer, and Bro. Roe, P.M. and Secretary, and Installing Master, all of whom responded. Bro. Beasley in proposing "The Health of the Initiates," said that it did not often fall to a Master's lot to propose the health of seven newly made brethren at one time; that however was his present position. They had with them four brethren who had taken their Second Degree that evening, whose health he had now to propose for the first time, because the lodge did not have a banquet when they were initiated, they had also the three initiates who had just been admitted into Masonry. These were very young Masons, whose experience was of a most limited character, but he hoped that what they had seen might lead them to effect great things in the future. Several other toasts were also drunk, including the "Visitors," and the "Officers of the lodge." These having been responded to the W.M. proposed "Success to the Masonic Press," coupled with the name of Bro. Massey, of the *Freemason*, who in replying acknowledged the flattering terms in which Bro. Beasley had referred to the paper he represented, and the manner in which pressmen's services were appreciated in the Craft.

INSTRUCTION.

PYTHAGOREAN LODGE (No 79).—After a few years' sojourn at Bro. C. Wall's, the Prince of Orange, London-street, Greenwich, this well-known Lodge has removed to new quarters, at the Portland Hotel, in the same street. The occasion of the removal was seized by the brethren to have the Ceremonies of Consecration and Installation rehearsed, and in the person of Bro. Jas. Terry, the courteous Secretary of the R.M.B.I., they were fortunate in obtaining an efficient expounder of those two beautiful ceremonies. On the 10th inst. nearly 80 brethren assembled at the new quarters to take part in the double event. With his proverbial punctuality Bro. Terry ascended the throne at 7 o'clock, and appointed as his officers, Bros. Dr. Gooding, as S.W.; C. Nash, P.M. 79, J.W.; Macdonald, P.M. 1158, D.C.; Andrews, P.M. 871, I.G.; and Roberts, P.M. 79, as P.M. After the preliminary business had been observed, Bro. Terry delivered a forcible oration on Freemasonry in general and the constitution of a lodge in particular, and then in an unusually impressive manner duly consecrated and dedicated the lodge according to ancient custom. At the conclusion of this ceremony, Bro. J. Shaw, I.P.M. 79 and Preceptor of the Lodge of Instruction, was presented by the D.C. and regularly installed by Bro. Terry into the chair of K.S. Having been proclaimed and saluted, the new W.M. appointed and invested his officers as follows; Bro. Gooding S.W., Nash, J.W.; R. Boncey, Treas. Roberts, Sec.; Gibson, S.D.; Partridge, J.D.; Andrews, I.G.; and Macdonald, D.C. The delivery of the charges to the Master, Wardens, and Brethren with Bro. Terry's well known force and eloquence, terminated the business proper. A complimentary vote of thanks was unanimously passed to Bro. Terry for his kindness in officiating as Consecrating Officer, which that worthy brother suitably acknowledged. A large number of the visiting brethren having joined, the lodge was closed and adjourned to the ensuing Wednesday evening. Great credit is due to Bros. Roberts, Sec.; Shaw, Preceptor; Macdonald, D.C.; Andrews, I.G.; through whose skilful arrangements the proceedings were carried through without the slightest confusion, notwithstanding the crowded state of the room. The musical arrangements were to have been under the direction of Bro. Kipps, P.G.O. Kent, but domestic affliction preventing his attendance, his place was ably filled (although at very short notice) by Bro. G. Dowsett. After the lodge was closed the brethren partook of a cold collation, which was served by their new host Bro. G. Boncey in a manner that called forth the encomiums of all present. Altogether the proceedings of the evening were eminently successful, and the 10th October, 1877, will long be remembered by those present as a red letter day.

DUKE OF CONNAUGHT LODGE, (No. 1524), held at the Havelock Tavern, Albion-road, Dalston E., on Wednesday, 17th inst. Present: Bros. Brasted, W.M.; Maples, S.W.; Dignam, J.W.; C. Larkin, S.D.; Delafons, J.D.; Brown, I.G.; Fieldrook, Preceptor, E. Dietrich, Sec., and Bros. Marsh, G. Ferrar, Poole, Pollack, E. George, Watkins, R. Olley, Lee, Loeffler, Norman, and others. The lodge was opened at 8 p.m. in ancient form, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and Bro. Marsh answered the usual questions leading from the Second to the Third Degree, when Bro. Marsh was raised to the Degree of M.M. by the W.M. in his usual correct and impressive manner. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree, and Bro. Lee worked the Sections of the Lecture, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Loeffler and Norman became joining members. Bro. Maples was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week.

Royal Arch.

MOUNT LEBANON CHAPTER (No. 78).—A convocation of this chapter was held on Thursday, October 11th, at the Bridge House Hotel. There were present Comps. J. W. Baldwin, M.E.Z.; J. Mason, H.; F. Walters, P.P.G.A.S. Middlesex, P.Z.; as J. Apologies were received from absent candidates. A letter of condolence was ordered to be sent to the widow of the late Comp.

Edward Harris, P.Z., who died on the 10th inst. The chapter was then closed. Louis Becklate, 176, was present as a visitor.

JERUSALEM CHAPTER (No. 185).—The first convocation of this old chapter since the recess was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on the 9th instant. There were present Comps. Elsam, M.E.Z.; Wagner, H.; Robinson, J.; Davage, P.Z., S.E.; Mander, S.N.; Walls, P.S.; Stewart, Second Assistant; Holbrook, P.Z.; Loewenstark, P.Z.; Harfield, P.Z., Treasurer; Whitley and Bentley, Janitors. The minutes of the April convocation having been read and confirmed, two propositions were taken and the companions adjourned to the banquet. Comp. Leah, late of 185 was a visitor. The preliminary toasts having been satisfactorily disposed of "The Health of the M.E.Z." was proposed in fitting terms by Comp. Loewenstark, and having been duly honoured was acknowledged by the First Principal, who stated that he was pleased that notwithstanding their long recess no calamity had befallen any of the members of the old Jerusalem. He felt honoured at occupying that position more especially, and he hoped that they would pardon his egotism—as he had filled all the intermediate offices with the exception of one, and believed he had given every satisfaction in the discharge of his duties to the present time. "The Health of the Visitor" followed, and was responded to by Comp. Leah. In proposing "The Second and Third Principals" the M.E.Z. in the course of his remarks said that both Comps. Wagner and Robinson who held those positions were excellent students of the science of Royal Arch Masonry, and that when their time came to occupy the First Principal's Chair that they would be thoroughly conversant with every detail of its duties. The companions thus honoured in their reply expressed the great interest that they took in the progress of the "Sublime Degree," and that they were determined to spare no efforts to render No. 185 equal to any chapter in the Metropolitan area. As the hour was getting advanced the remaining toasts were given quickly and briefly. They were "The Past Principals," "The Treasurer and Scribes," and "The P. Soj. and Assistant." Companion Loewenstark replied for the former, and Comps. Harfield, Mander, and Walls for the two latter. During the evening the companions were entertained by Comps. Mander, Leah, Robinson, Walls, and others.

LION AND LAMB CHAPTER (No. 192).—A convocation of this Chapter was held on Wednesday, 17th inst. There were present: Comps. Copestick, Z.; Birdseye, H.; Roberts, J.; George Kenning, Treas.; Fellows, S.E.; Pythian, P.S.; Hooton, 1st A.S.; Storr, 2nd A.S.; Child, E. Jones, Chambers, Lorkin, Medwin, Potter, Muggeridge, Kent, Cann, Arkell, Wilson, and Brand. The visitors were Comps. Dr. Pottle, 1056; D. W. Pearce, Carnell, 1216. The minutes having been confirmed, Comp. E. Benard was exalted, and the following were elected as officers for the ensuing year: Comps. Birdseye, Z.; Chapman, H.; Hooton, J.; Storr, P.S.; Pythian, S.N.; Fellows, S.E.; Gilbert, J.; Potter and Medwin, Auditors; Harrison, Janitor. The business over, the companions adjourned to the banquet.

Mark Masonry.

ERA LODGE (No. 176).—This Mark lodge met on Friday, the 12th, inst., at the Bridge House Hotel. Bro. Rev. Holden, W.M., in an able manner advanced Bro. G. W. Baldwin, P.G.P. Middlesex, P.M. 1423, &c., into Mark Masonry. The W.M. was supported by his officers, Bros. F. Walters, P.P.G.G.D. Middlesex, P.G.I.G., Sec.; F. Horton, J.W.; R. P. Tebb, and several others. Bro. J. Hammond was present as a visitor.

SUPREME COUNCIL 33°.

The half-yearly meeting of the Supreme Council, 33°, was held on Tuesday, 9th October, at the Masonic Hall, 33, Golden-square, W. Ill. Bro. Captain N. G. Phillips, Lieut.-Grand Comdr., 33°, and G. Deacon, of England, presided in the absence of M.P. Bro. Lord Skelmersdale, Sov. Grand Comdr., 33°, and Deputy Grand Master of England, caused by the serious illness of Lady Skelmersdale. There were also present Ill. Bros. Major-General Henry Clerk, F.R.S., G. Treasurer-General, 33°; Robert Hamilton, M.D., M.A., Grand Chaplain, 33°, District Grand Master of Jamaica; J. M. Pulteney Montagu, D.L., Grand Chancellor, 33°, P.D.P.G. Master of Dorset; Lieut.-Colonel A. W. Adair, S.G.I.G., 33°, P.P.G.M. of Somerset; H. D. Sandeman, S.G.I.G., 33°, P. District G.M. of Bengal; Henry C. Vernon, P. Lieut. G. Comdr., 33°; and Major Shadwell Henry Clarke, R.B.G., G. Secty.-General, 33°, P.D.G.M. of Devon, and Great Sub.-Prior of England. A letter was read from M.P. Bro. Lord Skelmersdale, Sov. Grand Commander, 33°, stating his great regret at being prevented from attending by the serious illness of Lady Skelmersdale.

A circular was read which had been issued to all the Chapters, &c., expressing the loss of the Council by the death of M.P. Bro. Charles John Vigne, J.P., P. Sov. Grand Commander, 33°, who had been connected with the A. and A. Rite for nearly a quarter of a century.

The Grand Treasurer General, Ill. Bro. General Clerk, R.A., 33°, submitted the accounts as audited to 30th June, 1877, showing a balance in favour of the Supreme Council of £1191 1s. 1cd., and property valued at £11,739 2s. 9d. The following donations were voted:

One hundred pounds to the Indian Famine Relief Fund, Mansion House.

Fifty guineas to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. Fifty guineas to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. Fifty pounds to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows.

These three latter amounts to be placed on the lists of those brethren representing the Friends-in-Council Lodge, 1383, as Stewards.

Ill. Bro. Lieut.-Col. H. S. Somerville Burney, 32°, was appointed and invested as Grand Director of Ceremonies, in the vacancy caused by the death of the much-esteemed and lamented Bro. Henry Dubosc, 32°.

The Supreme Council of the A. and A. Rite, 33°, met at the Masonic Hall, 33, Golden-square, W., on Wednesday, 10th October, for the purpose of conferring degrees on those brethren elected and approved.

Ill. Bro. Captain N. G. Phillips, Lieut. G. Canada, 33°, and P.M.P. Sov. Grand Comdr. presided, and amongst those present were:—Ill. Bros. Major General-Clerk, R.A.; Robert Hamilton, M.A., M.D.; Major Shadwell Clarke, R.B.G.; Henry C. Vernon, J. M. P. Montagu, D.L. &c.; Lieut. Colonel Adair, M.A., J.P., and H. D. Sandeman, of the Supreme Council, 33°; Major George Barlow, D.I.G.; Samuel Rawson, D.I.G.; Charles Fendelow, D.I.G.; C. J. Banister, D.I.G.; General Doherty, C.B., D.I.G.; R. W. H. Giddy, D.I.G.; Raphael Costa, D.I.G.; Andrew Hay, D.I.G.; Lieut. General J. Studholme Brownrigg, C.B., and W. Hyde Pullen, 33°. Ill. Bros. Rev. T. F. Ravenshaw, Major Molineux, Rev. C. R. Davy, Charles Horsley, Col. T. Birchall, Thomas Jowitt, David Ross, McCord (of Canada), Captain W. F. Portlock Dadson, George Lambert, and Lieut. Colonel Somerville Burney, 32°. Ill. Bros. Henry Murray, Hugh H. Riach, R. de M. Lawson, Frank Richardson, James Keene, H. C. Levander, Magnus Ohren, H. R. Cooper Smith, Rev. F. G. Beaumont, Thomas Trollope, M.D.; and Rev. Ambrose W. Hall, 31°, W. Bros. John Boyd, Captain Compton, Edward J. Grisbrook, Rev. Fred King, Captain F. Turner, Walter Spencer, Major F. I. Ricardo, Seaxer, E. B. Webb, C. Edwin Willing, C. H. Driver, William Russell, J. F. Hoffgaard, Rev. T. W. Lemon, Alfred Richards, Robert Stewart, Mark Batt Tanner, M.D., Chevalier C. E. Habicht, E. Ashworth, John Adams, Acton, Thomas Cubitt, Edmund R. Tynms, J. J. Hooper, Wilkins, Daniel Nicols, Rudolph G. Glover, S. S. Partridge, George Higgins, John Gibb Smith, Peter Royle, M.D., Rev. J. Studholme, Brownrigg, S. G. Kirchoffer, Sir Charles J. Bright, John Wood, &c., 30°.

The 33rd Degree was conferred on Ill. Bro. Lieutenant General J. Studholme Brownrigg, C.B.

The 32nd Degree was conferred on Ill. Bros. Lieutenant Col. Augustus H. King, R.A.; George Lambert, and Lieut.-Col. H. S. Somerville Burney.

The 31st Degree was conferred on Ill. Bros. Frank Richardson, the Rev. I. G. Beaumont, M.A.; H. R. Cooper Smith, M.A.; the Rev. Ambrose W. Hall, M.A.; and Thomas Trollope, M.D.

Bros. Sir George Elliot, Bart., M.P.; Charles Hamerton, Major J. R. Pearson, R.A.; and Henry Seebohm, were prevented from attending for the 31st Degree.

The 30th Degree was conferred on Ill. Bros. Sir Charles T. Bright, Alfred Richards, Daniel Nicol, George Higgins, Johannes F. Hoffgaard, Peter Royle, M.D.; John Gibb Smith, John Wood, Samuel Steads Partridge, Samuel Gerard Kirchoffer, B.A.; Rev. Thomas William Lemon, M.A.; J. J. Hooper Wilkins, Mark Batt Tanner, M.D.; and Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg. Bros. W. Webb, Lord Henry F. Thynne, M.P.; Edmund Ashworth jun.; Thomas Rose, Rev. Albert L. Willett, B.A.; Captain John Wordsworth, Samuel Spratley, M.D.; Thomas Entwistle, Charles D. Turton, Surgeon-Major James, L. Notter, M.D.; Frederick Davison, William George Harrison, Q.C.; Thomas F. Dallin, M.A.; St. Clair F. Hood, and Captain Henry S. Andrews, who had been elected to the 30th Degree, were prevented by various causes from attending on this occasion.

A vote of thanks was given by acclamation to Ill. Bro. Major General H. Clerk, Grand Treasurer General, 33°, for the very able and careful manner in which he rendered the ceremonies, and also for the great care with which he has managed the accounts of the Council.

A vote of welcome expressing the pleasure afforded to the Council by the presence of brethren hailing from sister jurisdictions was unanimously voted to Ill. Bro. Daniel Ross McCord, 32°, of Canada, who returned thanks for the same in eloquent terms.

MASONIC PRESENTATION TO BRO. SIR WATKIN WILLIAMS WYNN.

A meeting of the Grand Officers of the Province of North Wales and Shropshire has been held at Oswestry, to consider what form the commemoration of the R.W. Bro. Sir Watkin's reign of a quarter of a century over the province, should take place, when it was resolved that the P.G.M. should be presented with an illuminated address, congratulating him on the event, and that a Life Presentation to the Boys' Masonic School should be purchased to be called "The Sir Watkin Presentation." It was also agreed that the Worshipful Masters of each lodge in the province should be requested to solicit subscriptions towards this object both from individual members from their lodge funds.

From the illustrated history of the Williams Wynn family, called Wynnstay and the Wynns, we learn that "In 1852 Sir Watkin received the distinguished appointment he holds at the present time, that of Provincial Grand Master of North Wales and Shropshire. The Grand Lodge warrant appointing 'our well-beloved Bro. Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, in the county of Denbigh, baronet; Representative in Parliament for the county of Denbigh; Lieut.-Col. Commandant of the Montgomeryshire Yeomanry Cavalry, and Steward of Her Majesty's Manorial Courts in Denbighshire—Provincial Grand Master for North Wales with the county of Salop added,' is dated January 13, 1852, and is signed 'Zetland, G.M.; Yarborough, D.G.M.; William H. White, G.S.' The ceremony of installation took place at Shrewsbury on the 9th of March, 1852, when Bro. the Right Honorable Lord Combermere, the hero of

Bhurstpore, the Right Worshipful the Grand Master for Cheshire, who had taken great interest in Sir Watkin's Masonic movements, was specially deputed by the Grand Master of England, Lord Zetland, to perform the ceremony of installation. Bro. White, Grand Junior Deacon of England, attended with the warrant of appointment, and the direction of the ceremonies devolved upon Bro. Griffiths, G.S. of the Cheshire Province, at Lord Combermere's request. The Rev. Canon Bowles, D.P.G.M. for Hertfordshire, acted as Deputy Grand Master, and amongst the brethren who assisted were Lord Dungannon, Sir Andrew V. Corbett, the Rev. J. Osmond Dakeyne, one of the Grand Chaplains of England, &c. Sir Watkin was introduced and presented by Bro. Colonel Burlington, C.B., Grand Master for the Province of Bengal.—*Oswestry Advertiser.*

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

At a dinner, given in connection with this Institution, at Freemasons' Tavern, on Monday evening, Bro. Binckes, the Secretary, in responding to the toast of "The Institution," which was proposed by Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, V.P., referred to the enlargement of the school, which was now in progress, and expressed the hope that in the course of two or three years it would accommodate from 220 to 230 boys. The strong support which the Institution had received from the Craft in general, and from the provinces and London in particular, justified the Committee in giving greater accommodation, and thereby meeting the growing demands of the Craft. With reference to the success of the School, as an educational establishment, it had met with general approval. While the intellectual culture of the children was carefully studied, their physical training was not neglected, and whenever they had entered the lists in bodily or mental tests, they had, as a rule, come out victorious. In their recent cricket match with the pupils of the Grocers' School, at the Alexandra Palace, they scored more than 200 to their opponents' 24, and similar success attended them in football and other matches. With regard to their scholastic acquirements, the large number of successful competitors at the Cambridge Local Examinations was sufficient evidence that their intellectual cultivation was not neglected. A small section of the Craft had taken exception to the cost of the education given by the Institution; but he was happy to say that the general body saw nothing excessive in it; and even if it was a trifle above the cost of the education given at other Institutions (and it was really only a trifle), the results were comparatively so much greater, that this alone was ample justification for incurring the extra expense.

CLEOPATRA'S NEEDLE.

[The following appears in the *Times* of Thursday.]

"Falmouth, Oct. 17.—The Olga, steamer, arrived at 9 p.m. The Cleopatra was abandoned on Sunday night, in lat. 44° 53' N., long 7° 52' W., in a gale from the S.W. (force 7 to 8). The second mate and five hands were lost in endeavouring to save the Cleopatra."

Captain Carter, of the Cleopatra, telegraphs to us from Falmouth the same sad news:—

"The Cleopatra was thrown upon her beam-ends during a heavy gale in the Bay of Biscay, on Sunday night. The ballast broke adrift and the vessel was abandoned on Monday morning, in a hopeless condition, I fear. A boat's crew of six poor men, who came to our assistance from the Olga, have perished. The crew of the Cleopatra are all saved."

Another telegram sent to us from Falmouth says:—

"On Sunday night, during the terrible gale from the south-west, the Cleopatra was thrown on her beam-ends. The ballast broke adrift, and all efforts to save her were fruitless. The second mate of the Olga and five men attempted to get alongside the Cleopatra to rescue her crew, but their boat was swamped, and they were all lost."

We also have an earlier telegram from Mr. John Dixon, C.E., dated from the signal station at the Lizard Point. The Olga was then (at 6:30 p.m.) steaming slowly past the Lizard, but nothing was to be seen astern, and it was thought that the Cleopatra might be lashed alongside. We now know that this surmise was unhappily incorrect. Yesterday we reported that Mr. Dixon had such faith in the buoyancy of the Cleopatra, that, even in the event of her breaking adrift, or of the Olga being obliged to cast her off, he thought that she "would but drift slowly and safely to seaward, to be picked up again by the Olga when the weather cleared." Captain Carter, as will be gathered from his telegram, does not share this opinion, and fears that the recovery of the Cleopatra and the obelisk is hopeless.

The strike on the branches of the Great Southern and Western Railway of Ireland has terminated. The discontented men returned to work on Monday.

A meeting has been held in Dundee, at which it was resolved to start a subscription for the erection of a statue of Burns in that town.

THE QUEEN AND THE ROYAL FAMILY.

The Queen and Court are at Balmoral.

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales has brought his two sons to Clarence House.

The Duke of Connaught has been confined to the house at Lord Rossmore's.

The Duke of Cambridge has continued his inspections. His Serene Highness the Duke of Teck, and her Royal Highness the Princess Mary Adelaide (Duchess) arrived at White-lodge, Richmond-park, on Saturday, from Brussels.

NOTES ON ART, &c.

A Congress of Librarians might do some good across the Atlantic, where in the classified index of one library Aristophanes' "Frogs" has been placed under the head of "Reptiles."

Two Birds of Paradise, from new Guinea, are now in the Paris Jardin d'Acclimatation, the first living specimens ever brought to France. These birds are very rarely secured alive, as they are specially shy and difficult to approach.

A fresh Arctic Expedition will be undertaken by Sir Allen Young in the "Pandora" next spring. He will probably try the Spitzbergen route, as Smith's Sound has been now so fully explored. Ancient Arctic research, Professor Nordenskiöld has decided on his route through the Polar regions next year. The Professor will leave Sweden in July, hoping to reach Nova Zembla in the beginning of August and the Yenisei shortly afterwards, will thence round the most northern point of Asia, called Tschieljuskun, and will arrive in Behring's Straits about the end of September. He will then skirt China and India, and return home by the Suez Canal and the Mediterranean. The Swedish expedition will sail in a specially constructed steamer provisioned for two years, and will consist of a crew of twenty-two men, with a doctor and scientific staff.

A beautiful white Alabaster Pietà has been unearthed at the Parish Church of Breadsall, near Derby, now being restored. The Pietà apparently belongs to the fifteenth century, and is probably of continental workmanship, while it is supposed to have been hidden away from the Puritans. It is about two feet six inches high, and bears traces of colouring and gilding, but unfortunately in the excavation the sculpture was slightly injured, part of the face of the Christ and the head and hands of the Virgin being damaged. The Pietà is, however, to be restored, and placed in the church.

A new Government Filter has been invented which will reduce strong tea and infusions of logwood to clear tasteless water. Major Crease is the inventor, and the filter was shown at the recent *soirée* at Guy's Hospital.

Railway travelling in France is decidedly safer than in our own country, to judge from recent statistics. Thus between the years 1872-5 only one person was killed out of every 45,258,270 travellers on the French lines, and one person injured in 1,024,360, while during the same period in England one traveller was killed in 12,000,000 and one injured of every 336,000.

Mdme. Christine Nilsson left England on Wednesday to fulfil a three months' engagement at Moscow and St. Petersburg. On Monday she sang in one of Mr. Kuhle's grand concerts at Brighton.—Madme. Adelina Patti has been staying in London, pending the series of concerts for which she is engaged in the "provinces." From England she goes to Milan, and it is rumoured, will pass the winter in Italy.—Mdme. Annetta Essipoff, the charming Russian pianist, is taking a holiday at Venice, and intends paying us a visit, either in the winter of this year or the spring of the next; so that, what with Rubinstein, Bülow, &c., we shall have enough to do with foreign pianistic virtuosos for a good time to come.

The Famous German Tragedian, Devrient, has died at Frankfurt.

"Hamlet" has been translated into Portuguese by the King of Portugal, who, however, publishes his work anonymously. The translation is said to be very well done.

Despite announcements to the contrary, Mr. Delane, whose health we are glad to say is greatly improved, is still acting as editor of the *Times*. He will continue to do so till he can devolve his authority upon a successor who has been prepared by him to exercise it.—*Athenæum*.

The *Academy* states that Messrs. C. Kegan Paul and Co. have purchased the publishing business of Messrs. Henry S. King and Co., of 65 Cornhill, and 1, Paternoster-square. The new firm will carry on business at the latter address, Messrs. King's Bank and Indian Agency remaining in Cornhill.

St. Margaret's Westminster.—"A very interesting fact has come to light which corroborates Stow's statement that the great chancel of St. Margaret's was built by the Abbots of Westminster." Upon the string which crosses the east wall the well-known rebus of Abbot Islip has been found. He was elected on October 27, 1500, and died on May 12, 1532. The churchwardens' accounts for the years 1496-1502 mention purchase of rag-stone, Caen stone, Ryegate stone, and free-stone, and also payments to masons, carpenters, and joiners. Sir Thomas Billing (Lord Chief Justice) and his wife built the south aisle, and it was the place of the lady's interment on March 14, 1499. At the second bay from the east in this aisle, the lower door of the staircase and the doorway which opened to a rood loft, stretching from one wall to the other, are still visible. In the north aisle there is a square sepulchral recess, with traces of figures of angels in distemper colour, and the indent of two small brasses. The image of St. Margaret has been found decapitated and broken in pieces; the robes were painted red and green and covered with a beautiful gold pattern of conventional foliage. There is a notice of gilding her cross-staff in 1515. Some Jacobean texts remain on the east wall, and two apertures for light on either side of the place of the high altar. This noble and, indeed, national church, 130ft. long and 65ft. in breadth, deserves, and will repay, the cost which may be expended on its restoration.

Messrs. Remington have just issued a small volume of poetry bearing the felicitous title of "Pictures in Verse," the matter, however, to be in keeping, should be exceptionally good, for though the title be happy it is ambitious, and is suggestive of no common powers of description.

Masonic and General Tidings.

We learn that overtures have been made to Bro. W. Smallpeice, of the Emulation Lodge of Instruction, with a view of his becoming Preceptor to the London Masonic Club Lodge of Instruction. In the event of Bro. Smallpeice accepting the office, which we confidently expect he will, his election will take place on Monday next, when we have no doubt a large number of brethren will attend to support so eminent an Instructor. Bros. C. Hogg, and J. E. Shand will be again elected respectively, Treasurer and Secretary. The lodge meets at the London Masonic Club, 101, Queen Victoria-street, and will open at 6 o'clock p.m. We shall give a report of the meeting in our next.

MASONIC LIBERALITY.—At the last ordinary meeting of the Harmonic Lodge, No. 216, held at the Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool, Bro. D. S. Davies, W.M., in the chair, a sum of £20 was unanimously voted from the funds of the lodge in aid of the noble national effort to relieve the every-day necessities of our perishing fellow creatures in India. This gift is all the more creditable to the "Harmonic," as it is not so very long ago that votes amounting to upwards of £100 were made by the brethren in aid of our own noble Masonic charities.

KILBURN LODGE No. 1608.—The Installation meeting of this lodge will take place on Monday next at the Queen's Arms Hotel, Kilburn. Lodge will be opened at half-past 3 precisely. A full report of the proceedings will appear in our next.

Mr. Thom, whose name was well-known in connection with a previous publication, is about to bring out another, entitled "The County and Borough Magistrates' List and Official Register," which will comprise all Justices of the Peace for every County and Borough in England and Wales, with their Professional and Business Avocations, and the appointments and Offices they hold in each different county or borough; also, all the County and Borough Officials (Legal and Civil), and a complete Parliamentary Directory—about twenty thousand names in all. The publishers are to be Messrs. Butterworth, of London, Her Majesty's Law Publishers.—*The Athenæum*.

The consecration of the Sub-Urban Lodge, No. 1702, took place on Friday, the 19th inst, Bro. J. Tickle, P.M. 1196, was installed W.M., and Bros. C. E. Hawksley and A. F. Roberts were invested S.W. and J.W. A full report will be given in our next.

The place of meeting of the St. James's Lodge of Instruction has been changed from the New Tanners' Arms, Grange-road, Bermondsey, to the Gregorian Arms, 96, Jamaica-road, where it will meet in future on Friday evenings.

The 15 sections will be worked in the Tredegar Lodge of Instruction, No. 1625, held at Bro. A. Yates, Royal Hotel, Mile End-road, on the second Monday in November (12th proximo). The W.M. on that occasion will be Bro. T. J. Barnes, P.M., P.Z., &c.

We are desired to state that the 15 sections will be worked in the Percy Lodge of Instruction, meeting at No. 113, Southgate-road, N., on Saturday next, the 27th inst.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASONS.—The County Palatine of Lancaster Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons will be held in the Freemasons' Hall, Church Institute, Bolton, on Monday the 22nd inst., at half-past two o'clock. Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, R.W. Prov. G.M.M.M., will preside. At the conclusion of the business there will be a banquet, Bro. Lord Skelmersdale in the chair.

MANCHESTER.—For the information of the fraternity in Manchester, the publisher begs to state that the *Freemason* may now be obtained at 47, Bridge-st., Manchester, on Saturday morning at 8 o'clock.

We learn that a marriage is arranged between the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, (Bro. Sir Thomas White) and Miss Florence Simpson.

The Members of the Masonic Foot Ball Club play their next match this day (Saturday), with the St. Phillips Rovers at Battersen Park, an account of which we shall give next week.

LIVERPOOL AND THE INDIAN FAMINE FUND.—The contribution from Liverpool to the Indian Famine Relief Fund now amount to the magnificent sum of £30,000.

Constitutions of the Ancient Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, containing the Charges, Regulations, E.A. Song, &c. A copy should be in the possession of every brother. It may be obtained for 2s. at the office of the *Freemason*, or will be sent post free to any part of the United Kingdom on receipt of twenty-five penny stamps. Address, Publisher, 198, Fleet-street, London.—*ADVT.*

ERRATUM.—In the report of the Consecration of the New Finsbury Park Lodge, "Crampton," J.D., was erroneously printed "Frampton."

MASONIC SONGS.—A selection of Masonic Songs set to popular airs, written by Bro. E. P. Philpots, M.D., F.R.G.S., is now ready, forming a handsome volume, bound in cloth, with gilt edges, 3s. Sent post free from the office of this paper on receipt of stamps or post-office order value 3s. 2d.—*ADVT.*

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—At the changes of seasons many persons feel oppressed without knowing why they are so; they are aware something within them is wrong, though they cannot detect the defective organ. A few doses of these powerfully purifying and eminently cooling pills will restore regularity to every part of the system, will cast out all impurities lurking in the frame, and will thoroughly expel the last traces of disorder, however hidden the disease may be, however obscure its cause. With Holloway's medicine relief is insured without risk; erroneous action is rectified without disturbing natural regularity; and health is reinstated, and with it the cheerful feelings which unmistakably tell the recent invalid that all within is right again.—*ADVT.*

The consecration or resuscitation of the Hartismere Lodge took place on Wednesday last. The ceremony was performed by Lord Skelmersdale, R.W., Deputy Grand Master, assisted by Lord Donoughmore, P.S.G.W., and Bro. John Hervev, Grand Secretary. Lord Henniker was installed first W.M. A full report will appear in our next.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—The brethren who have experienced so much difficulty in procuring the *Freemason* in this distant colony, will be pleased to learn that owing to arrangements made with Messrs. T. J. Jones and Son, "The Four Masonic Publications" may now be obtained at their offices, No. 330, George street, Sydney, on the arrival of the mail.

LIVERPOOL.—In answer to the numerous letters that the publisher has received from brethren in Liverpool, we beg to state that the *Freemason* is to be obtained in Liverpool on Friday afternoon at 5 o'clock, at the Office, 2, Monument-place; at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street; and at the Landing Stage.

Lord and Lady Donoughmore have left Milford Lake, Highclere for town.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon is entertaining, at his seat, Highclere Castle, near Newbury, a circle of visitors, including Lord Lyons, the Right Hon. George Selater-Booth, M.P., and Mrs. Booth, Mr. Robert Herbert, Mr. Sheffield, Mr. Jekyl, &c.

A Special Performance of Handel's "Messiah," in support of the Indian Famine Fund, is announced to take place on the 29th inst., at the Surrey Chapel, Blackfriars, under the patronage of the Lord Mayor, Mr. Watney, M.P., Mr. Morgan Howard, Q.C., Sir J. Lawrence, M.P., and other gentlemen of influence.

Bro. P. L. Simmonds has been requested by the Royal Commission for the Paris Exhibition to prepare for the British and French catalogues introductions to all the classes, showing the progress of the nation in arts, industry, and manufactures, in the ten years since the last Paris Exhibition.—*City Press*.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.—For the convenience of families residing a distance from town, Bro. Henry Neville announces a morning performance of Mr. Wilkie Collins's new drama, "The Moonstone," for Saturday week the 27th inst.

The annual banquet of the Pythagorean Lodge of Instruction, No. 79 will be held at the Portland Hotel, London-street, Greenwich, on Wednesday, 24th October, when Bro. J. R. Dussee, P.M. 79, will preside.

On Tuesday the subject of the return, for the third time, of Sir John Bennett as Alderman for the Ward of Cheap, was taken into consideration at a meeting of the Court of Aldermen, held in the Guildhall, the Lord Mayor in the chair. After great discussion the recorder read the resolutions to which the Court had come after considering the matter. The Court held to its former opinion—that Sir John Bennett was and still continued to be not a fit and proper person for the office, and determined to adjourn for a week, and then to take into consideration the election of a fit and proper person to fill the vacancy. Upon leaving the court Sir John Bennett was loudly cheered.

We are informed that the Lord Mayor of London, accompanied by the Sheriffs, will pay a visit to Brighton, as the guest of the Mayor of Brighton, and that early next week there will be a public reception of General Grant, who will be entertained at a banquet in the Pavilion by the Mayor, Corporation, and inhabitants of the borough.

It was agreed at a special meeting of the Glasgow Corporation, on Thursday, that the freedom of the city should be conferred on Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Hartington R.W.G.M., Derbyshire, on his visit to Scotland next month.

ABBOTT TESTIMONIAL FUND.—At the meeting of the Executive Committee of this fund, held at the Cannon-st. Hotel, it was unanimously resolved that the fund be finally closed on Saturday, December 1st. To those of our readers who recognised the efficient services, uniform courtesy, and marked attention of Bro. George Abbott, during the many years he discharged his duties as station master of the Cannon-street Terminus; we commend this notice, and ask all intending contributors to forward, at their earliest convenience, the amount they desire to subscribe to Messrs. Glynn, Mills, and Co., 67, Lombard-street, E.C. The list of contributions has already reached the sum of £300.

The following reports unavoidably stand over: Amherst Lodge, 1223; Era Lodge, 1423; Lodge of Truth, 1458; Francis Burdett Lodge, 1503; Metropolitan Lodge, 1507; Morecambe Lodge, 1561; Carnarvon Lodge, 1572; Ecclestone Lodge, 1624; Beaconsfield Lodge, 1662; Industry Chapter, 186; Fidelity Chapter, 248; William de la More Encampment.

Now binding, will be ready on the 24th inst., post free, 2s. 1d. The Cosmopolitan Masonic Calendar Diary and Pocket Book for 1878. It contains lists of Lodges, Chapters, Encampments, Conclaves and Grand Councils, with the names of Officers in England, Scotland, Ireland, and all parts of the World. Single copies ordered by letter may be paid for by stamps; orders for more than one to be accompanied by Post Office Order, payable at the Chief Office, London. Address Publisher, 198, Fleet Street, London. (Advt.)

SAFETY OF CLEOPATRA'S NEEDLE.

(LLOYD'S TELEGRAM.)

FERROL, Oct. 18.

The Fitzmaurice, steamer, from Middlesburg for Valencia, fell in with and recovered at sea the Cleopatra's Needle, 90 miles north of Ferrol.

Reviews.

"The New Shakesperian Dictionary of Quotations." By G. SOMERS BELLAMY. Charing Cross Publishing Company.

As Mr. Bellamy very modestly puts it, in his preface, "There is no work more laborious than the compiler's, and none less appreciated," but, nevertheless, in this careful "labour of love," dedicated, by the way, to the Lord Chief Justice, we discern a great measure of utility, and good. It is curious, and amusing to note, how often we quote Shakespeare, (pardon my old spelling), without knowing it, and how many oft repeated "saws," and familiar utterances are literally children of the "Bard of Avon."

Mr. Bellamy, in our opinion, deserves the thanks of all who admire "Honest Will," and of all friends of civilizing sympathies for his very well conceived and admirably executed work. It is quite true that there have been many books of "Shakesperian Quotations;" nay, we believe there is a Concordance of Shakespeare, (a misuse altogether of the word), and as for "beauties of Shakespeare" and selections of Shakespeare, natural or expurgated, they are also many—too many to remember. We should perhaps, be led to suppose, therefore, that Shakespeare is more read than ever, but we are not quite prepared to concede this fact, qua a fact. Indeed, it is averred by some that Shakespeare, though often talked about, and ingeniously quoted, is less read, like another and better Book, than of old, and that many who appear to be well versed in his "high philosophies" and "gracious conceits," seldom study him carefully, and know little about him truly and spiritually. Be this as it may, and there is, we are inclined to think, some truth in the allegation, we hold Mr. Bellamy's book to be a useful "vade mecum" and "guide book" for the Shakesperian student. For all may avail themselves of the gems of thought he indicates and all may appropriately use the illustrative quotations he has so laboriously collected and collated. The divine, the judge, the lawyer, the student, the merchant, the Freemason may find apt "quips" and suitable quotations in numberless passages of his writings, which seem to be like his genius, "for all time."

We feel sure that in commending Mr. Bellamy's most useful and valuable work to the attention of the educated and intelligent of our great brotherhood we are performing a duty for which they will thank us, we are offering them a most valuable "index," (not "expurgatorius," we beg to observe), to the abounding wealth of Shakesperian thought and the results of Shakesperian wisdom.

We may add that in the work there are no less than 4000 quotations.

"A Connection between the Templars and the Freemasons of the City of York."

We have received and studied with much interest a Paper read before the Members of the Ancient Ebor Preceptory, No. 101, September 11th, 1877, by E. Sir Knt. J. B. Whitehead, E.P., with this heading, and though we cannot conscientiously agree with the views of the writer, yet as they are so ably put forward and so moderately expressed, that we deem the little work worthy of something more than a mere passing perusal. Sir Knt. Whitehead seems to assume as his "petitio principii" that the modern Masonic or non-Masonic Knights Templar are the lineal and actual descendants of the famous chivalry of the Temple, that they retain in some way or other, which "deponent doth not explain," the forms and secret usages of the actual Templars. But Bro. Whitehead, though he traces out quite correctly the history of the Northern English Templars to their absorption in the Northern Convents, under the auspices of Archbishop Greenfield, in 1311, yet can carry historically the annals of the Order no further. His statement that in 1312 they were all relieved from their obligatory confinement is not confirmed by historical documents, as the accounts of the hospitallers disclose pensions to Knights Templars in the north much later. The truth is that from 1312 to 1780—468 years—nothing more seems heard of the Templars in York. Then the G.S. of the Grand Lodge, who had become a Templar Mason, became a zealous advocate of the higher grades.

Bro. Whitehead can still see the draft in the York Archives of a proposed warrant for a Templar Chapter of "Knights of the Holy Sepulchre of St. John of Jerusalem," with all its erasures and interlineations, showing that up to that time no proper warrant had been issued. What is the evidence of Templar perpetuation during the 468 years? Practically nil. The Charter of Larmenius at Paris is clearly a forgery. The Scottish evidences of Templary under Jacobite leadership are of dubious authority, and there is not the slightest evidence accruing, or Addison would have produced it, that the Southern Templars, after their imprisonment and ill treatment, ever met again as such. Where Dunckerley obtained his Templary from is still a moot point, and he is the Southern reviver of it. The theory that the modern Templars have any historical connection with the old, is, in our opinion, an utter delusion. Every usage is modern, and utterly alien from the real customs of the true Templars. "Encampment" is a modern word, and no "Preceptory" of Templars was ever called after a person, but a place. The "locus in quo" where the Preceptory was situated, as Bro. Whitehead well knows.

There is not in the Templar ritual any remains of "knightly archaisms," indeed it is notoriously most modern. The very adaptation of the power of granting knighthood, (which by the way does not seem to have been ever given by the Grand Master of the old Templars), is in itself an error. Knighthood can only be granted by the Crown for public services to the Crown or state, and the only exception we know

of is the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre at Jerusalem, which knighthood used to be conferred by the Prior of the Franciscan Convent at Jerusalem. In a word, all such societies in England, are skilful adaptations of older and different societies, and nothing more. But when we write history we should seek to write history, authentic, matter of fact, and not colour it by prepossessions, however amiable ideal attributes, however innocuous.

THE CITY COMPANIES.

On Wednesday week, the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress entertained the Masters of the various Guilds of the City of London at dinner in the Egyptian-hall of the Mansion-house. The Companies represented were, giving them in order of seniority—the Mercers, Drapers, Fishmongers, Goldsmiths, Skinners, Merchant Tailors, Haberdashers, Salters, Ironmongers, Vintners, Clothworkers, Leathersellers, Pewterers, Barbers, Cutlers, Bakers, Tallow Chandlers, Armourers and Braziers, Girdlers, Butchers, Saddlers, Carpenters, Cordwainers, Painters, Curriers, Masons, Plumbers, Innholders, Founders, Poulterers, Coopers, Cooks, Tilers and Bricklayers, Bowyers, Fletchers, Blacksmiths, Joiners, Weavers, Woolmen, Scriveners, Fruiterers, Plasterers, Stationers, Broderers, Upholders, Turners, Glaziers, Horners, Farriers, Apothecaries, Shipwrights, Clockmakers, Glovers, Feltmakers, Framework Knitters, Watermen, Carmen, Needle-makers, Tinplate-workers, Wheelwrights, Distillers, Glass-sellers, Coach-makers, Gunmakers, Wire-drawers, Playing Card Makers, and Fan-makers, each Master being accompanied by a lady. There were also present a large number of municipal dignitaries.

After dinner the Lord Mayor drank to his guests in a loving cup, which was passed round the board. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been duly honoured, the Lord Mayor proposed "The Houses of Lords and Commons," observing that perhaps at no time had there been a more critical period in the history of England than the present, and the two houses of Legislature had spent many anxious hours in discussing questions fraught with momentous concern to our happiness and prosperity. Mr. Alderman Cotton, M.P., the senior member for the City, who met with a warm reception, remarked, in reply, that the Guilds somewhat resembled the Government of this country. Each had its Master, who was invested like a Sovereign, with limited power; each possessed Wardens or Ministers, a Court and Livery, answering to the two Houses of Parliament, and each had freemen, who were the great electoral body. These points of resemblance might account for the Conservative feeling which pervaded the whole of the Guilds of the City, and which would, he hoped, ever prevent any successful attack on them. The Lord Mayor next proposed "The Guilds of the City of London," and took occasion, first of all, to allude to the great help which those Guilds had rendered to him in his work of raising funds for the relief of the sufferers by the Indian Famine. He next referred to their great value as the means of affording education and to the great interest they took in technical studies, exemplified appropriately by the excellent exhibition of turnery now being held in the Mansion-house. He wished them every prosperity and a long continuance of their work and influence. Mr. Aston, the Master of the Mercers' Company, the oldest Guild in the City, replied very briefly, tendering to the Lord Mayor the warmest thanks of the Companies for the honour he had done them by entertaining them that evening, and expressing a wish that the friendship existing between the Corporation and the Guilds might continue as firm as hitherto. The Lord Mayor next gave "The Corporation of London," observing that it was important that none but men of character and position should become Aldermen or hold any public office within the City. This sentiment was loudly cheered, and Sir Robert Carden, who replied, taking up the subject, remarked that unlike country towns, where Aldermen had to be periodically re-elected or rejected, the Aldermen of London were chosen for life, and it therefore behoved the citizens, and especially those who had the power of veto, to see that none but fit and proper men, in every sense of the word, should be selected. The City magistrates, he added, were, as the public had seen, in earnest in their determination to discharge their duties in that respect. The Master of the Drapers' Company proposed, in complimentary terms, "The Lord Mayor's Health," which was warmly received. His Lordship returned thanks, and then gave "The Health of the Sheriffs," to which Mr. Alderman and Sheriff Staples replied. Mr. F. J. Bramwell, F.R.S., the Prime Warden of the Goldsmiths' Company, proposed "The Health of the Lady Mayoress" (Mrs. Cecil Price), with which the entertainment came to a close. The company separated about half-past 10 o'clock. The dinner was served from the establishment of Messrs. Ring and Brymer. Mr. Taylor acted as toastmaster; and Mr. Gate's quadrille band from Brighton played during dinner a choice selection of music.

TESTIMONIAL TO BROTHER CAPT. SEWELL, P.M. 21., P.G.S.B..

At the Guildhall Tavern, on Thursday week, Bro. T. D. Sewell was presented with a testimonial, consisting of a purse of 100 guineas and a massive silver salver. The inscription on the piece of plate indicates the object of the testimonial. It is as follows:—"Presented to Captain T. Sewell, together with a purse of 100 guineas, by nearly 100 members of the Worshipful Company of Shipwrights, to record their personal appreciation of his valuable services as clerk of the Company, especially in connexion with the competitive exhibition of models and designs for improve-

ments in ship-building, 1877." There was a large attendance of gentlemen present, and thus the compliment to Bro. Sewell was enhanced. The Master (Mr. W. Broomham) presided. In making the presentation, Mr. Ex-Under-Sheriff Baxter made a very eloquent address, in which he succinctly and forcibly pointed out the reasons of the presentation.

Bro. Capt. Sewell replied as follows:—"Mr. ex-Under-Sheriff, Mr. Master, Mr. Warden Marshall, Lord John Manners, and Gentlemen,—I am at a loss for words to adequately acknowledge the very handsome gift which you have so generously presented to me to-day, but feel sure you will afford me a generous criticism whilst expressing my warmest thanks for this substantial token of good will, and your satisfaction at the manner in which I have humbly endeavoured to promote the interests of the worshipful Company of Shipwrights. Allow me to assure you, gentlemen, that such efforts as I have been able to make on behalf of the company, and more especially in promoting the success of the recent exhibition, have been to me a labour of love, and I have esteemed it a high privilege to have been associated with so many gentlemen of standing who have devoted their best energies to the work of organising and carrying through the details of the exhibition. Without such powerful aid any effort I may have made would have been almost thrown away. I must therefore be pardoned for congratulating the members of your court and of the able committee of practical shipwrights appointed from its midst, as also, the hon. Secretary, Mr. A. Sedgwick Wooley, upon the successful result of their labours, which has been to place the company in a foremost position amongst those guilds which have been of late re-asserting their important influence upon their respective crafts, and by endeavouring to purify and elevate the taste of our artisans, and encouraging good workmanship and design, have made an important step towards the improvement of the manufactures and industries of this great commercial country. In the course of our mutual labours the foundations have, I trust, been laid of a lasting friendship with many gentlemen here present, and I regard it as a proud moment in my life to receive this public testimony of your approbation. This handsome salver I shall always hold amongst my most valued treasures, and it will ever recall to me the happy memory of this occasion, which I feel that I have but too faintly expressed in these few poor words. Allow me further, and in conclusion, gentlemen, to thank you individually for honouring me with your presence on this occasion, and to assure you that the recollection of your kindness will remain with me as long as I live.

MASONIC FOOTBALL CLUB v. COWLEY HOUSE F.C.

The above clubs met for the first time this season on the ground of the home team, on Wednesday, the 10th inst., in weather decidedly warm for football. Cowley won the toss, and kicked off against the wind at 3 p.m., the ball however, was quickly returned and brought uncomfortably near the Cowley House goal, and in fact was kept there all the while game, through the excellent play and packing of the forwards, among whom Godsmark was especially conspicuous. The ball was run in no less than 14 times, chiefly by Parker, Ellis, and Godsmark, resulting in 9 goals, (all kicked by Scurr), 5 ties, and 3 touch-downs to nil.

The match throughout was a most hollow affair, as the Cowley House were literally driven all over the ground by the Masonic forwards, the former seeming to be in happy ignorance of the art of collaring.

Masonic Team:—Sparks, Howard, Molineaux, Hart, Whitley, Nutt, H. Wood, Ed. Wood, Eastland and Godsmark, (Captain). Forwards:—Parker and Ellis (½ backs); Scurr and Davies, (½ backs); Phillips, (back).

FOOTBALL.—MASONIC F.C. v. VICTORIA F.C.

The above clubs played on the Masonic ground, on Saturday the 13th inst., resulting in a victory for the Victoria's by 1 goal and a try to nil. This match presents a striking contrast to the last, being throughout an excellently contested affair, the Masonic forwards again showing their superiority, although the Victoria's were a decidedly heavy team. For the losing team, Mr. Brocklehurst, Mr. Humphrey and Parker played in very good form.

Masonic Team:—Godsmark, Sparkes, Howard, Molineaux, Barrett, Davies, Hart, Ed. Wood, H. Wood and Eastland. Forwards:—Parker, and Ellis, (½ back); Mr. Brocklehurst and Scurr, (½ backs); Mr. Humphrey, (back).

Victoria:—T. Hewitt, (Captain); H. Michel, (½ back); R. D. Batten, (½ back); Frazer and Russell (backs). J. Coke, H. Smith, V. Lann, E. Smith, F. Baldwin, Burton, H. A. Booty, Friar, V. Baker, J. de Courcy.

Mulum in Darbo; or Masonic Notes and Queries.

BRO. ZACHARIAS JEPSON.

I see that the esteemed Provincial Grand Master of West Yorkshire states, in his able address to the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire that Zacharias Jepson was a Freemason and Apothecary of York, and that he founded the hospital in 1672. Can any other archaeological brother in West Yorkshire tell us what is the actual evidence that Zacharias Jepson was a Freemason and Apothecary at that date? It would be a very important fact in itself, and I am sure Bro. W. J. Hughan will agree with me.

MASONIC STUDENT.

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Communications on literary subjects and books for review are to be forwarded to the Editor. Anonymous correspondence will be wholly disregarded, and the return of rejected MSS. cannot be guaranteed.

Further information will be supplied on application to the Publisher, 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.

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.

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 to ensure insertion in current week's issue should reach the Office, 198, Fleet-street, by 12 o'clock on Wednesdays.

Answers to Correspondents.

In answer to Bro. Jackson, we cannot hold out any hope of its appearance before early in the spring in 1878.

BOOKS &c. RECEIVED.

"Canadian Craftsman," "Keystone," "Risorgimento," "Standard Guide to Knitting," "Standard Guide to Needlework." Portrait of the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

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

BIRTHS.

DAVENPORT.—On the 14th inst., at Keppel-street, Russell-square, the wife of H. Davenport, of a daughter.

GREATORRE.—On the 15th inst., at 3, The Common Ealing, the wife of Simon Greatorre, of a daughter.

WADE.—On the 15th inst., at Overton-road, Brixton, the wife of G. Wade, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

HARRIS—CARR.—On the 9th inst., at Christ Church, Cheltenham, Edwin P. Harris, Capt. Suffolk Artillery Militia, to Maria Augusta, daughter of J. K. Carr, Esq., M.P.

SHAW—SPENCER.—On the 13th inst., at St. Mary's Aldermay, City, John Shaw, manager and secretary South-Eastern Railway, to Elizabeth Jane, daughter of the late S. Spencer.

WATERS—KISBEY.—On the 13th inst., at St. Paul's, Clapham, Earnest Edward, son of the late E. Waters, of Stratford-sub-Castle, near Salisbury, to Emily Marion, daughter of R. S. Kisbey.

DEATHS.

FRIDAY.—On the 11th inst., at 54, St. Mary's-terrace, Hastings, John Friday, formerly of Gillingham, Kent, in his 56th year. Deeply lamented.

GOLLAN.—On the 15th inst., at Cornwall-road, Westbourne Park, Robert John, son of J. G. Gollan, Esq., aged 29.

MORGAN.—On the 11th inst., at sea, off Lowestoft, Robert Morgan, in his 48th year.

PILCHER.—On the 15th inst., at Bifrons Cottage, near Canterbury, Herbert Edward Pilcher, Land Agent to the Most Noble the Marquis of Conyngham.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1877.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.
ENLARGEMENT.OF
"The Freemason."

The Proprietor has much pleasure in announcing the enlargement of the *Freemason* to 20 pages, during the London Masonic Season.

All communications to ensure insertion in the current number should reach the Office, on Wednesdays, by 5 p.m.

FRIARS AND FREEMASONS.

Our worthy contemporary *Punch*, under the above heading, gives us a little "Morceau" which we quoted last week, commenting upon it "more suo," and is good enough to express its innocent doubts as to the reality of a fact recorded by a facetious Ultramontane scribe, who has a keen perception both of a "canard" and a good joke. For it appears that the *Civita Cattolica*, an Ultramontane Italian paper, recently edified its readers with a profession of a moribund Freemason in twelve striking articles, apparently drawn up and uttered "in articulo mortis." Our facetious confrere only gives us two of the twelve articles and we note that they are both in Latin. This will strike all our readers as it struck us. For is it not a fact indisputable and undoubted, how very commonly Freemasons in all countries write in Latin, and express themselves in Latin, in life, and above all make death-bed confessions in Latin? Does not this authentic narrative in its initial announcement appeal to all our prima facie sense of truthfulness and reality? From what we all know of the ideas and habits of our Order generally, may we not assume it as incontestable, that this extract from the *Civita Cattolica* is a faithful and truthful report of what actually took place, from the pen too of a specially well-informed and accurate scribe? Listen to the statement, Oh Masons all! "Oh! pater meus" the dying Freemason exclaimed, in confession auricular we suppose, "possumus omnia facere quae volumus absque levi etiam culpa." It will be observed here by the intelligent reader of the *Freemason*, how entirely different this is from the good old Pope Pius Nono, who keeps saying "Non possumus." Worthless Freemasons are able to declare "Possumus." This is a very striking fact, and still more striking contrast, per se, and then the poor dying Freemason goes on to declare "ergo semper Liberi sumus." Surely we must all feel at once, that this is as awful a confession as any Freemason can make, though whether by the word "Liberi," "Free," it means that we, as Freemasons, are Free lovers, or Free livers, or Free thinkers, or Free-and-easy fellows, or Free anything else, does not so far appear quite clear from the context. Now, if we thought it worth our while to treat such an allegation seriously, we might be inclined to reply to so false an accuser of his and our brethren "mentiris impudentissime;" or we might remind ourselves of many similar undesirable data, of like falsifications, inventions, forgeries of words and documents, to prop up a rotten cause, or to injure an honest adversary. But we prefer rather to laugh at so ridiculous an exhibition of idle Ultramontane anger and perverted Ultramontane ingenuity! Such silly and worthless attacks only prove the utter weakness of our assailants, and they are really powerless to injure the good fair fame of Freemasonry. No such teaching has ever, at any time, under any form, been put forward, by Freemasons, who are accused by some as being "Mere Moralists." We have a remembrance indeed, of somewhat similar casuistry, in "Monita Secreta," and published dicta of many antagonistic Jesuits, but we never before heard or supposed that even in such elegant

Latinity such words or theories were patronised or put forward by Freemasons. The truth is that the Church of Rome and the Ultramontane Press just now, as we have often before said, are in a "craze" in respect of Freemasons and Freemasonry, and as true members of our benevolent brotherhood, returning good for evil, we must overlook such absurdities and as freely forgive such hallucinations.

THE PROGRESS OF OUR ENGLISH CRAFT.

It will have struck some of our readers, doubtless, that we have reported the consecration of three new lodges, consecutive on our long roll, 1713, 1714, and 1715, in itself a remarkable coincidence. It is, in fact, a "sign of the times," to be "recorded and made note of." It points to the unmistakeable progress of our Order, and the large growth of our useful and benevolent brotherhood. And "So mote it be!" for some time to come, amid those hurrying and thronging years. For we look most favourably, for various reasons, on this striking increase of our material prosperity, subject, of course, to some needful warnings as to carefulness of admission and the like. We are aware that some of our Order take rather a different view, but we have never seen any reason to change our deliberate opinion that in the interests of toleration, kindly feeling, civilizing influences, and brotherly goodwill, every fresh Masonic lodge is a centre of light and benevolence, an additional bond of unity, amity, and sympathetic appreciation. We have been struck lately with the amount of interest displayed in the consecration of new lodges, by our brethren, old and young, and we feel sure that the more our elaborate and interesting ceremonial is entered into by the members of our Order in all its parts and details, the more it will be admired. We also are glad to note the proceedings of those very distinguished provinces, West Lancashire and West Yorkshire. The most popular of Provincial Grand Masters has received a goodly greeting from a most numerous and distinguished body of Lancashire Freemasons, and the day's proceedings are alike noteworthy and agreeable. The liberal and enlightened grants towards the Sedilia of Chester Cathedral reflect the greatest credit on the large-hearted sympathy of our West Lancashire brethren. In West Yorkshire the proceedings at Ripon have been most successful, and a most admirable sermon was preached by our worthy Bro. Canon Burfield, P. Prov. G. Chaplain. The concurrence of the Dean, Chapter, and the Municipal Authorities in the gathering was as pleasant as it is suggestive, and we, who can recall the state of feeling as regards Freemasonry a quarter of a century ago, in some parts, and amid the clergy especially, must rejoice to think that Time, which softens most prejudices and removes most antipathies, has thrown its protecting shield, so to say, over our honoured and worthy Brotherhood. The idle tales to its discredit are not believed; the doubts as to its utility are gradually melting away, as before the "stubborn facts of the case;" while the voice of detraction and of calumny have long since given way except among the perverse, the irrational, the bigoted, and the obtuse, to a wiser perception of what Freemasonry really is, and what it really does for the welfare of the community, and the happiness of mankind.

SOME SPECIAL DIFFICULTIES OF MASONIC LITERATURE.

All Journalism has its difficulties, and just now, perhaps few are aware of the struggles some portions of the press have to make in order to keep themselves afloat. The *Freemason* has long been running before a "prosperous trade wind," and is under very easy sail, taking things most complacently, calmly, and prosperously, and our publisher sees clearly to-day how his many efforts have been rewarded, and his honest anticipations fulfilled, in the ready and willing support of an always considerate Craft. But still, it is impossible but that we should be struck, amidst our own prosperity, which is very

real, with the sense of how much yet remains to be achieved before Masonic Journalism reaches its proper position, or attains what ought to be its normal prestige. A very large number of Freemasons never look at a Masonic paper of any kind at all. Some dislike Masonic publications, and a large proportion are too busy in secular pursuits, to devote any time to the study or support of Masonic Literature. Once upon a time we remember asking a worthy and distinguished brother Mason had he seen a certain article in the hebdomadal Masonic Journal. "My dear fellow," was his reply, "I never read it; I never open it, and I know nothing at all of what is in it, it remains on my table for a week, and after that time is swept into the waste paper basket." This probably, represents the state of the case as regards some subscribers, still, and if it does, what can we say of those who have so little time, or care so little for Masonic literature that a casual glance at a club is sufficient for them? We remember, some of us, an old story in the *Freemason*, where a brother at the bookstalls read the *Freemason* through, advertisements and all, but did not buy it, and as some of our good brethren ignore certain facts as regards Masonic journalism, we think it right gently to hint to them to-day, in no spirit of complaint or fault-finding, but as a simple historic truth that their support is not what it ought fairly to be. As we before observed, a large portion of our Order never troubles itself with Masonic literature, because it has no time to devote to the study, while another portion does not care for Masonic publications, and rather discourages than supports them,—so that Masonic journalism is doubly handicapped for the race. It has to deal with a special class, but that special class does not much care for special literature, and in most cases prefers what is not special. But still Masonic literature has to be kept up, and as no Masonic journal is produced for nothing, a fact sometimes forgotten, as a general rule, the fate of Masonic journalism is not difficult to predicate. We might touch on other topics, but we do not. The *Freemason* has no cause to complain of either special or public support. It has received from the first most generous encouragement, and is now in the possession of a larger amount of special and public patronage than ever has been accorded in Great Britain to any other Masonic journal. Across the Atlantic, with 700,000 Masons or thereabouts, the same difficulty exists, the same complaints are made, only with a hundredfold intensity, and we are sometimes inclined to reduce to a simple rule of three sum, "if the support of 700,000 Masons in America is so much, what will be that of 100,000 in Great Britain?" Can any arithmetical brethren help us to a solution. In the meantime Publisher and Editor return their best thanks not only for "obliging enquiries," but for very liberal support.

GRAND LODGE OF SPAIN.

We have received with great pleasure from Bro. Juan A. Perez, Grand Master of the Spanish Grand Lodge, a list of all the Symbolical Lodges, and of the High Grades. We beg to thank him most fraternally for forwarding this information to us, and to express all good wishes for the peaceful future of the Grand Lodge of Spain.

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.]

"FREEMASON" INDIAN FAMINE FUND.

To the Editor of the "*Freemason*."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I have been considerably astonished at the very poor result as yet that you have received in response to your appeal on behalf of the Indian Famine Fund. Various lodges, I am aware, have sent their subscriptions direct to the Lord Mayor, but there are, I know, numerous lodges whose offerings would be perhaps too small by themselves, but when put with others would make no insignificant amount.

The suggestion originally made by Bro. Wm. Cooke, P.M. 1302, and so generously responded to by your worthy self and the proprietor, would I had thought have received the immediate support of the Craft. Bro. Cooke's suggestion was in my opinion a very sensible one, and should be

acted upon by the W.M., Treasurer, or Secretary without delay. I think if either of these officers would at the banquet, when the brethren are surrounded with all the luxuries of the table, ask them to think for one moment of our thousands of fellow subjects literally starving in India and that a small sum, say one shilling, from each present, would help to relieve the sufferings of so many, the result would be that a very large sum would be received. Could any brother resist this appeal at so opportune a moment? I think not. I do sincerely trust that this matter will receive the generous and early attention of the Craft, as it so richly deserves.—I remain, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally 1426.

CHARITY VOTING REFORM, &c.

[The following correspondence has come accidentally into our possession between a vice-patron of the Boys' School, and a leading member of the Charity Voting Reform Association, and we leave it to the careful consideration of all whom it may concern.]

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Please let me have all the votes you can spare for the poor boy—

Yours fraternally,

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I must say I was much taken aback at your canvassing for votes for—considering the strong attacks you, as a prominent member of the Charity Reform Association, have made against all canvassing. I was especially taken aback that you should canvass my votes for the weakest Masonic case that ever came before my notice, and one which, being not eligible according to the laws, was only placed on the list by a mistake of the Committee.

Yours very truly and fraternally,

Dear Sir and Brother,—

You ask me why I am so inconsistent as to canvas.

In the first place I felt that I might answer your invitation to write by doing something quite inconsistent, and which would afford you the opportunity of returning good for evil.

You are quite right! I do very sincerely set my face against the canvassing system, which I think wrong in principle, and calculated to help the least deserving amongst the candidates. But you, that is the Committee, place us outsiders on the horns of a dilemma, and we are thereby driven to employ your own weapons, or rather the only means at our disposal to assist a candidate, otherwise we should probably let in a worse case than that I mentioned to you, and which I now see, for the first time, is a very weak one.

But, surely, the Committee is to blame for permitting sixty-four candidates to scramble for nine vacancies, and on the principle of "God for us all, and the devil take care of the hindmost."

You ought to set to work to reform the abuses of the present system. A list should be sent round giving some idea of the comparative claims and merits of the several candidates, and the brethren should be asked to support the most deserving. Now a large number of children are admitted whose cases are quite as weak as that I have been asked to support by a brother who stands high in the Craft, and who, I suppose, believes the case a deserving one, or he would not have enlisted my sympathies.

Do, pray, try and put a stop to trafficking in votes; buying and selling at the last moment converts the election into a farce, so far as the merits of the case are concerned.

How comes it that the boy whose name stands at the head of the list is up for the eighth time? Is this Masonic charity?

Believe me, I remain yours fraternally,

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF WEST LANCASHIRE.

To the Editor of the "*Freemason*."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In the report of this distinguished province, in your paper of the 13th inst., an incident occurs which raises in my mind a question of Masonic legality.

What is the authority by which the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire resolves itself into a "Court of Governors of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution?"

Having very great doubts as to the constitutional legality of such a proceeding under all circumstances, I venture to ask in your columns for a little light upon the subject.

I am, yours, fraternally,

IN THE DARK.

LODGES AT TAVERNS.

To the Editor of the "*Freemason*."

Dear Sir, and Brother,—

Please permit me in reply to "Sigma's" letter to you in last week's issue, to state that if the inclination of the Craft is adverse (as it ought to be), to holding their lodge meeting at taverns or hotels, there is now every opportunity and facility for their removal to a properly constituted and consecrated building, (in addition to the Surrey Masonic Hall) where Masonic ritual, and ceremonies, also the banquet, if desired, can be enjoyed with greater advantages, and less costs than at hotels and taverns. I refer to the London Masonic Club, advertised in your columns, where also a Lodge of Instruction meets.

The apathy shown by the Craft to Masonic buildings, as for instance the lamentable result of the Surrey Masonic Hall, is the cause of so many resorting to "Pubs."

I am fraternally,

J. E. SHAND, (Member of the Club)
and Hon. Sec. L. M. C. L. of Instruction.

To the Editor of the "*Freemason*."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Your correspondent "Sigma," in your last issue, raises a question of vital importance in Freemasonry, and consequently of great interest to all Freemasons.

The holding of London Lodges at taverns is unfortunately unavoidable, owing to the want of suitable Masonic buildings in which to hold them, but your correspondent will be glad to be informed that a most successful attempt to remedy this, has already been made. The London Masonic Club was instituted for the purpose (inter alia) of supplying accommodation for lodges. Any lodge desirous of holding their meetings and banquets in a building solely devoted to Masonic purposes should apply to the Secretary of this Club.

The Deputy Grand Master, (Lord Skelmersdale), who presided last year at the opening of the club, stated that the fact of the club offering a place of meeting for lodges, other than at taverns, ought of itself to ensure success.

Yours fraternally,

JOSEPH LANGTON,

Chairman of the Club Committee.

PAST GRAND RANK.

To the Editor of the "*Freemason*."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I was very much pleased to see in your last issue a letter signed by "P.M." upon Past Grand Rank. There is no doubt but a deal of misconception arises upon the position of Past Prov. Grand Pursuivants. I am a Past Grand Pursuivant of North Wales and Shropshire, having been appointed to that office in December, 1870, and served as such for two years, but I never now wear the clothing, as I contend that I have no right to do so, because the Prov. Grand Master never grants permission to take past rank and wear the clothing. At every appointment in the Grand Lodge of England I think the Grand Master always orders "that in consideration of the conduct of Bro. A. B. as Grand Pursuivant he has been graciously pleased to order that he ranks as a Past Grand Pursuivant and wear the clothing." Now why is this not done in the Provinces? and why should a Past Pursuivant, whose duties are much more important, be treated differently to the Grand Deacons, Sword and Standard Bearers.

When the present Prov. Grand Bye-laws of Wales, &c., were under revision in the year 1874, I was present at a meeting of P.M.'s held at Wynnstay, and I laid great stress upon the particular point, but was outvoted and the anomaly still continues, and I believe that I am the only Past Pursuivant in the province who does not wear the clothing. I think it would be worth while for the Board of General Purposes to take the question into consideration, and definitely settle the position of Past Pursuivants, who in my opinion are most important officers of Grand or Prov. Grand Lodge, if those holding the appointment thoroughly do their duty.

Yours fraternally,

D. P. OWEN, P.M. and P.Z., 996.

THE ROYAL ORIENTAL ORDER OF SIKHA AND SAT B'HAI.

To the Editor of the "*Scottish Freemason*."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In reply to "Querist," in *Scottish Freemason* of September 16th, I give the following condensed description from *Mackenzie's Masonic Cyclopaedia*—"Order of Sikha and Sat B'hai:—This is an Order of Indian origin, and named after a sacred bird of the Hindus, whose flight invariably in sevens, has obtained for the Rite the appellation of the Seven (Sat) Brethren (B'hai). It is divided into seven degrees (but with Sikhas, composed of Sponsors, nine). None but Master Masons can be admitted into the higher degrees of the Order. The principles of the Order are Masonic, and includes the preservation, in its original Archaic purity, of Craft Masonry; the support of duly constituted authority, wherever found; sympathy with all branches of the Aryan race, and the cultivation of a fraternal sentiment—more especially towards the Hindus; and it inculcates the study of Hindu literature and archaeology. The Order is now firmly established in England and Scotland, and has branches in America, Austria and other countries, and its Masonic value is highly appreciated by eminent brethren all over the world."

Yours fraternally,

ONE OF THE ORDER.

DRINK FOR THE THIRSTY.

[The following interesting letter appeared in the *Scotsman*, of the 4th inst.]

Sir,—Though much good work is being done in the cause of temperance, it is very remarkable that the most important means of all is left almost untouched in this and other large cities.

How can there be sobriety in the working and moving classes of our crowded streets and city approaches unless an abundant supply of pure drinking water be readily accessible to them at all moments of the day?

At present a thirsty wayfarer in our streets and dusty suburban roads has no place to turn to in order to quench his thirst but to the first public-house that comes to hand the drinking-fountain movement halts in its monumental and æsthetic stage. The number of drinking fountains in Edinburgh may probably be counted on the fingers of one hand, whereas when we turn to the Post Office Directory we find four hundred and seventeen public-houses for the supply of intoxicating drinks. The remedy is very simple. Drop the Arcadian title "Drinking Fountain," and establish, in the city and suburbs, a system of "Street Drinking Taps," in number commensurate at least with that of the public-houses. Let the construction be something of the character of the pillar letter-boxes—viz., a cast-iron cylinder of diameter sufficient to contain

and protect the pipes, with a small shallow enamel-lined basin under the tap, with overflow pipe and chained enamel lined drinking cup. Let this be the work and duty of the Municipality, just as street lighting, watering, and cleaning are.

There would be nothing to apprehend from obstruction of the streets by crowding—provided the street taps were sufficiently numerous—nor from the playfulness of the city arabs, provided the police were awake. Moreover, after a short time the arab would regard them with the same indifference as he now does the lamp-posts.

Of course it is not supposed that an organisation of this kind would at once eradicate drunkenness, but it would certainly tend materially to diminish and prevent it, and would place within easy reach of all classes of the people a condition which they are entitled to command as being almost as necessary to life as the air they breathe.

I am, &c.,

C. MOREHEAD, M.D.

THE MOONS OF MARS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I have read, as will most Freemasons, throughout the world, with pride and pleasure your article on the Moons of Mars, in your issue of the 13th inst.

Bro. Dr. Bedford has doubtless honoured our Craft. His insight into the mechanism of the heavens is something wonderful, and his position is somewhat similar to the geologist, who, by reason of his knowledge of the particular configuration, and the nature of the strata in any locality, asserts the existence of precious metals and minerals, and sets the mining engineer at work, who is rewarded by the discovery.

We can readily decide which is entitled to the most honour. Twenty-three years before the moons were dug out of the depths of infinite space; Bro. Bedford pointed them out, gave a physical reason for their existence in the locality of the solar system.

I have satisfied myself of the date of Bro. Bedford's predictions. His "New Theories of the Universe" now called the Bedfordian system of Astronomy, was entered at Stationers' Hall, on the 17th of October, 1854, as you have stated in your article, and it is numbered 8610, C. B. Vol. 21 in the library of the British Museum. Bro. Bedford was initiated in the Bank of England Lodge, No. 265, and he is Life-Governor of all our charities.—I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

W. E. GOMPERTZ,
P.M. and Sec. 869 and 1495.

THE BURGLARY SEASON.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Since you have opened the columns of your valuable paper to the all important subject of burglary, I cannot but express my admiration at the fearless and impartial manner in which you treat both with the discipline of the typical "Bill Sykes," and the guardian of the peace; and I trust that through the coming season we shall have a little more attention from our rural constables. Clapham, Dulwich, and Hornsey are by no means the only favoured localities in which burglaries have been committed, for during the past month many cases have been reported in the neighbourhood of Sydenham, one of which was my own, although beyond a few flower pots and same choice plants, no damage was done, or loss sustained, as having been induced to try electricity as a safeguard, I had the whole of my windows and doors fitted last year with the Electric Burglar Alarm of Francis and Co., and on this occasion they proved highly satisfactory in their working, as on the thieves forcing their way into my library window the large bell poured forth a loud peal, which was soon answered by the presence of myself and man-servant in time to see the fellows decamp without spoil, leaving behind them the instruments, alike useful for forcible entries and breaking skulls. However, robbery and bloodshed were omitted from their programme that night, at least as regarding us, and I shall not fail to recommend the means of security above referred to whenever opportunity offers, as they appear as certain in their action as the ordinary electric house bells, and may be connected with them at trifling cost.

Apologising for thus troubling you, I am Sir, yours truly,

W. R. ROBINSON.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The Quarterly Court of the Subscribers and Governors of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys was held on Monday last in the Board Room, Freemasons' Hall. Bro. John Symonds, Vice-Patron, presiding. There were among the brethren present Bros. S. Rawson, H. J. A. Dubois, H. Browne, Raynham W. Stewart, A. K. Ware, George Wyatt, J. B. Wilson, Joyce Murray, J. E. Le Feuvre, J. Mason, H. Hacker, H. Massey, (Freemason), W. H. Perryman, G. Bolton, J. Merry, Thos. W. White, A. H. Tattershall, O. Durrant, Hon. R. W. H. Giddy, John G. Stevens, Aeneas J. McIntyre, Thomas Randall, C. F. Matier, Alfred H. Diaper, George Jeffrey, Col. Creaton, Col. Henry Basevi, Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, H. S. Massa, J. Edward Curteis, W. Mann, Walter Hopekirk, Benjamin Head, J. J. Berry, J. M. P. Montagu, Frederick Davison, David Roberts, F. G. Baker, Fras. R. Vine, J. A. Birch, J. L. Hine, and F. Binckes, Secretary.

The Secretary, Bro. Binckes, read the minutes of the former Court, and the subsequent meetings of the different Committees, which were put to the brethren and confirmed. The minutes also of the special committee on further accommodation were also read, and Bro. Binckes informed the Committee that the tender of Mr. Prout of Southgate, for the erection of the new buildings, at a cost of £2497, had been accepted, subject to enquiries and approval of sureties. These enquiries had been made, and the result

was perfectly satisfactory, and the operations would begin during the current week. Bro. Binckes further stated that Bro. Edward Harris, the late collector of the Institution, to whom the Quarterly Court of last January had awarded a pension of £120 a year on his retirement, died on Thursday of last week.

Bro. Raynham Stewart, V.P., in the absence of Bro. W. Roebuck, moved that ten boys be now elected instead of nine; room for a tenth boy having been created by the mother of the boy Cunnah, who was elected in April, having chosen to have him educated out of the Institution.

Col. Creaton, V.P., seconded the proposition, which was then put and carried.

Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, P.G.C., having given notice of motion to insert in rule 30, after "to elect boys," "and also shall have power to accept or reject any recommendation of the General Committee," rose and said that since he had given notice of the motion, he had had a communication with Bro. Symonds upon the subject of the proposed alteration in the rules of the Boys' School, and Bro. Symonds had very properly called his attention to certain difficulties which in his (Bro. Symonds's) opinion would inevitably rise on a hasty adoption of the resolution. Of course under all circumstances, knowing the interest Bro. Symonds, who was now presiding as chairman, took in the Institution he should be glad, as in courtesy he was bound to do, to give way. But he felt especially induced to do so, seeing that as the Chairman would remember, on his (the Chairman's) appearance at Sheffield, some twenty years ago, with their late lamented Bro. Hopwood, that great provincial movement was begun which had culminated in such signal success, and which had demonstrated the great interest the brethren in provinces displayed in the Masonic Institutions. The Chairman had pointed out to him that there would be some doubts as to the bearing of the rule respecting the powers of the General Committee and the Quarterly Court, and he also called very properly, his (Bro. Woodford's) attention to the fact, as he had great interest in the question himself, that grave doubts existed as to the ruling of Bro. Clabon on a special point submitted to a former Court. As these doubts existed, and he believed other reasons might be adduced, he thought on the present occasion he had better withdraw his motion. He believed that all the brethren were agreed in this, that on the polling day it was advisable, if possible to keep their discussions as short as could be, and also that it was undesirable to make alterations in the rules of our Institutions without a strict and careful pre-consideration. He would therefore withdraw his motion, reserving to himself his privilege as a Life Governor to give notice of his motion to another General Committee; and if he should think it necessary to bring it forward at the next Quarterly Court he would do so. He would consequently ask the permission of this Quarterly Court to withdraw the motion of which he had given notice, and which stood on the paper in his name; but he had reason to believe that before this was done, Bro. Symonds, who had taken a very active part in the question, was wishful to say a few words upon one or two incidents which had taken place.

The Chairman said he was not aware of the motion of which Bro. Woodford had given notice until last Saturday, when he saw the worthy brother at the Quarterly Court of the Girls' School. He (the Chairman) then ventured to suggest to him that he should withdraw the motion, first, because the wording would require considerable care, and secondly, because no notice had been given of a similar motion to the Girls' School. He thought it would be a great pity to break up the assimilation of the laws which had been effected at considerable trouble, and which had been attended with great advantages. He also gleaned from what he had read in the *Freemason* of Saturday last, that Bro. Woodford seemed to have been under a misapprehension with regard to Bro. Clabon's ruling at the Court in January, or whether he had given any ruling at all. He (Bro. Symonds) brought under the notice of the Court in January the case of Taylor, No. 32 on the list of to-day; but he had not then seen the petition, and was not aware of the actual circumstances of the case. He could therefore deal with the question only as one of doubt. He had seen a proof of the balloting paper in which it was stated that the father of the boy had subscribed, he believed, only one and a half year, and that he died some years after he had ceased to be a subscribing member of a lodge. He had subsequently seen an amended proof, in which it was stated that since he had subscribed till death. He was not in a position at the time to say which of these statements was correct, and Bro. Clabon thereupon made the suggestion that, treating the question as one of doubt, they should leave the responsibility of its acceptance with the General Committee. Bro. Clabon did not, as Bro. Woodford imagined, rule that it was incompetent for the Quarterly Court to deal with the recommendation of the General Committee, acting upon the well-known principle of law that a lawyer should not go beyond the case that is laid before him. Had he (Bro. Symonds) seen the petition, he could have pointed out to Bro. Clabon that the case on the shewing was clearly not eligible according to the laws of the Institution, and then, no doubt, Bro. Clabon would have ruled that under the regulation by which the Committee made a recommendation to the Quarterly Court, this boy could not be placed on the list. The General Committee had to recommend to the Quarterly Court those boys who were eligible. It seemed to him that that gave power to the Quarterly Court, if they found by accident a case had slipped in upon the list which by the laws was not eligible, to strike it out. At the Court, in July last, a motion was made to strike off the case of Taylor because it was not eligible according to the laws. He (the Chairman) felt bound to rule at that meeting that the time for such a motion had gone by. The case had gone to the

Quarterly Court in January, and was placed on the list for election in April. As it had gone on the list there was no power to strike it off. That was how the case stood at present. Bro. Clabon had not ruled that the Court had no power to reject a recommendation. Between this time and the next Quarterly Court he would communicate with Bro. Clabon, and be prepared to make any statement which he might think necessary, unless, as he hoped would be the case, the brethren should have the opportunity of hearing Bro. Clabon himself.

Bro. Walter Hopekirk rose to make some observations on what Bro. Woodford had said.

Bro. Col. Creaton rose to order. He thought he understood that Bro. Woodford withdrew his motion to save any discussion.

Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford said he thought Bro. Hopekirk was in order, as he had a right to speak on his (Bro. Woodford's) motion to withdraw the motion.

Bro. Col. Creaton repeated that the motion was withdrawn in order that time might be saved.

Bro. Walter Hopekirk again rising,

The Chairman said he could not quite agree with Bro. Woodford. If he had a motion to submit to the brethren they would listen to it.

Bro. Walter Hopekirk said he rose to give an answer in explanation.

Bro. Col. Creaton said that Bro. Hopekirk would have an opportunity of submitting any observations he had to make when the motion came on at the next Quarterly Court.

The motion was then withdrawn, and the brethren proceeded with the election of ten boys out of an approved list of fifty-seven candidates.

At the close of the poll the following was found to be the result:—

SUCCESSFUL.			
Cox, George Samuel	...	...	2329
Waddington, T. Herbert	...	...	2253
Watkin, Hugh Robert	...	...	2138
Armitage, Harry	...	...	2119
Smith, Frank	...	...	2097
Stevens, Alfred	...	...	2000
Gedge, Percy Aubrey	...	...	1970
Stanton, William	...	...	1915
Shrapnel, H. V. N. Scrope	...	...	1805
Johnston, William Studer	...	...	1736

UNSUCCESSFUL.			
Deeley, Richard P. Francis	...	...	1687
Shury, Solomon, Hiram	...	...	1655
Searle, Harry Bulmer	...	...	1448
Dyer, Frederick	...	...	1301
Ceeley, John R. Gordon	...	...	1207
Bingham, Herbert	...	...	1023
Garstin, William Lionel	...	...	994
Taylor, Ernest Geo. W. J.	...	...	879
Sharp, Colin Bell	...	...	850
Woon, Albert Allen	...	...	677
Busher, Samuel Longton	...	...	650
Taylor, Richard Tom	...	...	612
Roberts, Samuel Curry	...	...	600
Mackay, J. Montague Hela	...	...	586
Crew, Frederick Alt	...	...	574
Fairman, William Henry	...	...	574
Wilkinson, Percy Charles	...	...	513
Nash, Stanley Harry	...	...	428
Gurney, John Henry	...	...	405
Day, Arthur Harris	...	...	398
Wait, Emanuel	...	...	395
Shapland, F. G. Lambert	...	...	344
Webb, Charles Thomas	...	...	301
Riley, Robert	...	...	253
Green, Charles William	...	...	248
Furze, William Ernest	...	...	239
Hutton, John F. W.	...	...	227
Rogers, Gordon	...	...	188
Barclay, Henry G. Hackett	...	...	159
Ridpath, Lovell Hope	...	...	141
Williams, George Alfred	...	...	133
Watkins, Fred. Charles	...	...	116
Perrin, Gustav Teasdale	...	...	106
Spalding, Edmund Percell	...	...	97
Denton, Herbert	...	...	60
Evans, John McMillan	...	...	42
Marshall, Robert James	...	...	38
Gover, Joseph	...	...	35
Chandler, Arthur John	...	...	33
Ward, James	...	...	30
Newbould, Harry	...	...	27
Morley, William Moore	...	...	15
Collins, Joseph Barrett	...	...	12
Minshall, Sam Bradford	...	...	11
Cole, Alfred Thomas	...	...	10
Frost, Christian Frederick	...	...	10
Gibson, Walter James	...	...	7
Bell, James Herbert	...	...	5
Allen, Albert Charles	...	...	5
Allin, Charles James Fox	...	...	4
Edmonds, Richard Herbert	...	...	3
Giles, Frank Arthur	...	...	3
Matthews, Robert	...	...	2
Parker, George Shadwell	...	...	2
Atkin, John Batson	...	...	—
Jepson, James Thomas	...	...	—
Parker, William James	...	...	—

The number of votes polled in the course of the day was 28,870.

Bro. Rawson, the Chairman of the Scrutineers, who announced the result of the election, said that there were thirty-seven voting papers, equivalent to 147 votes, lost.

The Chairman having declared the successful candidates,

Bro. Binckes said they would be admitted to the Institution at the House Committee meeting, on the last Friday

but one in January next, and the friends of the candidates would have due notice of the date and hour, and whatever articles they would be required to bring with them to the Institution.

Bro. Eberall, P.M. 315, Brighton, P.P.G. Purs., moved and Bro. Thos. Cubitt seconded a vote of thanks to the Scrutineers, which was put and carried unanimously.

Bro. S. Rawson acknowledged the compliment.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman, which was seconded and carried.

The Chairman, in replying, said that unless the Building Committee proceeded very slowly, he hoped a larger number of boys would be admitted in April than had just been elected. He would ask Bro. Binckes if he was justified in expressing that hope.

Bro. Binckes said yes.

The Chairman then added that that being the case there would be fewer cases of disappointment than on the present occasion, and that, he assured the brethren, would be very gratifying to their Chairman.

The proceedings then terminated.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The Quarterly General Court of the Subscribers and Governors of this Institution was held last Saturday at Freemasons' Hall, Colonel Creton, Vice-Patron, in the chair. There were also present Bros. Henry Smith, Capt. John Wordsworth, Raynham W. Stewart, Thomas Hill, W. H. B. Tomlinson, Geo. Jeffery, P. J. Luke, George Wyatt, Alfred Tattershall, Dr. F. Ramsay, W. Browne Kidder, C. F. Matier, S. B. Wilson, S. Rawson, Hyde Pullen, H. A. Dubois, H. Massey, (Freemason) Major E. H. Finney, Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, John Symonds, J. E. Le Feuvre, E. Williams, John G. Stevens, James Terry, James Kindred, George Bolton, W. R. Wontner, John Tyerman, George Page, John Bodenham, Fred. G. Pownall, C. Coupland, J. Mason, Wm. Paas, Joseph Smith, H. Potter, James Dunsford, Jesse Turner, H. Hacker, W. F. C. Mouric, Thomas J. Sabine, V.P.; Thomas W. White, G. R. Shervill, Wm. Stephens, F. Binckes, A. A. Pendlebury, Joseph Storey, Captain N. G. Philips, Colonel Somerville Burney, J. A. Farnfield, Charles Walter, Edward Cox, E. M. Haigh, F. Davison, E. S. Snell, H. Buss, Benjamin Head, F. R. W. Hedges, and R. W. Little, (Secretary).

After reading and confirmation of the minutes, Bro. C. F. Matier brought on his motion of which he had given notice, "That the rank of Honorary Vice Patron, with its attendant privileges, be awarded to Bro. John Constable, in recognition of his services to this Institution." He said it would be quite unnecessary for him in introducing the motion to detain the brethren with any lengthened speech, as most of them knew the distinguished services of Bro. Constable. But he might tell those of them who did not know, that in three years, Bro. Constable by his personal exertions had realised for the Institutions the large sum of £200. At the last festival of the Boys' School, he took up the enormous sum of £1231, which was the largest personal list ever known. Besides this he had been the Secretary of the Charitable Association connected with the Tranquillity Lodge, which had produced £500; and it was calculated that next year it would produce another £500. In the Boys' School and the Benevolent Institution the rank of Honorary Vice Patron had been conferred on Bro. Constable for his exertions, and he now asked the Governors of the Girls' School to award him similar rank in their Institution. Bro. Matier concluded by reading the motion given above, and submitting it to the meeting for approval.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, V.P., said it was with great pleasure that he seconded the motion, for he could speak with a personal knowledge to the great zeal and exertions which had characterised Bro. Constable in working for the benefit of the Institution. No comment was necessary, as the result of his labours was sufficient testimony to their extent.

Bro. H. A. Dubois, who did not desire to oppose the motion, wished to know under what rule of the Institution the rank of Vice Patron was proposed to be given. He could find no rule referring to this rank, though there was one with reference to Vice Presidentship.

The Chairman thought there was the rule which related to the conferring of any rank on brethren who had distinguished themselves on behalf of the Institutions.

Bro. H. A. Dubois said there was none having special reference to the particular rank of Vice-Patron.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart replied that that was because when the rules were framed, the rank of Honorary Vice-Patron was not in existence.

The Chairman believed this was so. However, the rank had been conferred by the other two Institutions, and he presumed it might be done by the Girls' School, though it did not follow as a necessary consequence.

Bro. Joseph Smith, P.G.P., said it had been done before, and therefore there was a precedent for it. Having done it once, the brethren would do it again. He thought if it had been already done that was quite sufficient.

Bro. H. Smith, (West Yorkshire), gave as an instance, the action taken by the Committee of the Boys' School, when they conferred on him the rank of Life-Governor.

Bro. John Symonds, V.P., was inclined to think that on due notice of motion to that effect being given to the Quarterly Court the right of conferring honorary rank was inherent in a General Court without the necessity of its being actually specified by the laws. If notice of motion made it a law and it was not absolutely necessary that it should be stated in the laws that that power existed. The Quarterly Court on notice being given had power to confer honorary rank.

The Chairman asked Bro. Matier before putting the motion to the meeting whether he proposed that Bro. Constable be

made Vice-patron, independent of the position he now held as Vice-President.

Bro. Matier said his intention was that promotion should be conferred on Bro. Constable, that he should be made full Vice-Patron from Vice-President.

The Chairman then put the motion, which was carried unanimously.

The next business was the consideration of a motion, notice of which had been given by Bro. Henry Browse, V.P., that in consideration of a legacy of fifty pounds bequeathed to this Institution by the late Bro. Charles John Vigne, his daughter Miss Catherine Ann Vigne, be, and is hereby elected, a Life Governor of the Institution, but Bro. Browse rose and said that since he had come into the room he had been informed that the motion was unnecessary. The money bequeathed by Bro. Vigne had already been paid to the Institution in the name of Miss Vigne, and by that act she was entitled as of right, to the rank of Vice-Patron. He therefore withdrew his motion.

Bro. Henry Browse, V.P., then moved, that a gratuity of twenty-five guineas be awarded to Bro. F. R. W. Hedges, the Senior Clerk in the Secretary's office, in recognition of the attention he has given to the increased duties entailed upon the office, since the abolition of the collectorship. Bro. Hedges had been in the office five years and the manner in which he had conducted himself in that office had been highly satisfactory. He feared no contradiction when he said that Bro. Hedges' conduct had been highly satisfactory to all persons who came in contact with him. Since the abolition of the office of collector the receipts of the Institution had been greatly in advance of what they used to be. They had amounted to a very small sum less than £10,000 in the year, and Bro. Hedges had been instrumental in a great degree in getting that large sum in. He had also been very active in his assistance of the Secretary: and at the present moment the brethren were in an excellent position to offer him some reward for his great zeal and ability in discharging his duties to the Institution by granting him this small gratuity. They were all aware that Bro. Hedges came into the Institution shortly after the present Secretary was appointed, and he (Bro. Browse) could appeal with confidence to the Secretary to say that he was highly satisfied with Bro. Hedges, both in the office and in collecting. He need not detain the brethren any longer, because he felt that all the information he had just given the brethren was patent to them. He had therefore great pleasure in asking this court to pass the motion of which he had given notice. He entertained no doubt that if anything was wanted to encourage Bro. Hedges to do his duties still more satisfactorily, the passing of this vote would contribute to it. Every brother must confess that it was greatly to the interest of the Institution that they should have such a valuable officer as Bro. Hedges. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. Henry Smith seconded the motion. He could bear personal testimony to the great and valuable exertions of Bro. Hedges, for he had had a great deal of correspondence with him during the last three or four years. The proposal of Bro. Browse was a very modest one. If it had been fifty guineas he should also have had much pleasure in seconding it. He trusted that the brethren would pass Bro. Browse's motion unanimously.

The Chairman added that before he put the motion he might tell the brethren that he had had repeated reports from the Secretary of the efficiency of Bro. Hedges. Going himself very frequently to the office he always found Bro. Hedges at his post, and all his work was remarkably well done.

The motion was then put and carried nem con.

The Chairman said that Bro. Little would have thanked the brethren on behalf of Bro. Hedges had his voice been in a fit state to do so. He (the Chairman) therefore would thank the brethren for him, and he was sure Bro. Hedges would value the brethren's recognition of his services very much.

The brethren then proceeded with the election of thirty-five girls out of an approved list of fifty candidates. The result will be found in the advertisement on the front page. The names of the unsuccessful candidates will be given in our next.

A vote of thanks to the scrutineers of votes was then passed, to which Br. A. H. Tattershall returned thanks.

A vote of thanks, proposed by Dr. Ramsey, having been accorded to the Chairman,

Col. Creton said he thanked the brethren very much for this compliment, which was not the first he had received by a great many. He felt the compliment all the more, because coming from Dr. Ramsey, he was sure it was genuine. He would take this opportunity of stating that the new buildings at the Institution, the large hall and the dormitories were completed, and in January when the children elected to-day would be admitted, everything would be ready for their reception. Nothing now remained to be done but the laundry, and this was virtually completed, as it was only the engineers' work therein which was required to be effected.

Bro. Hy. Smith said as the Chairman had mentioned the new buildings and enlargement, it was a good opportunity for asking when there was a chance of the rooms being enlarged in which these half-yearly elections were conducted. During the announcement just made of the numbers of votes polled by each candidate he had not been able to get a seat and take down the numbers. He did not think the room they were in was a worthy one for the Board of General Purposes to allot for the brethren. There should be larger rooms. Considering the large sums of money that Masons had at their disposal, to which the all had to contribute, he thought they had a right to expect greater accommodation. They had been to a great extent undervalued by the Board of General Purposes, and he thought it was high time that something should be done. Some of them should raise their voices and ask the Board of General Purposes to give more accommodation.

The brethren gave their money freely, they gave it to extraneous objects, such as the Lifeboat Institution, and the Indian Famine Fund. They did it freely and willingly. Then let them have accommodation. He hoped there would be a movement made to accelerate the wheels of the Board of General Purposes at no distant date. He did not think he was guilty of any presumption in making these remarks. He had had the pleasure of attending these elections now eighteen or nineteen years, and he was therefore capable of speaking with something like weight when he said there was very great inconvenience experienced by the brethren in the crowding of the room. He was much obliged to the Chairman for allowing him to make these remarks, and he trusted that those who had so kindly listened to them would not think them out of place. (No, no.)

The brethren then separated.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORLAND.

On Tuesday last, the 16th inst., a new Royal Arch Province was constituted for the counties of Cumberland and Westmorland, and at the same time a chapter was consecrated in connection with the Underley Lodge, No. 1074, Kirkby Lonsdale. Although there are now seven chapters in the two counties, no move for the formation of a province was made till within a year ago, when the subject was mooted at the installation meetings of one or two chapters in the west. The seven chapters in the province of Cumberland and Westmorland are as follows: Sun Square and Compasses, 119, Whitehaven; Kendal Castle, 129, Kendal; Union, 310, Carlisle; Two St. John's, 327, Wigton; Unanimity, 339, Penrith; Holy Temple, 412, Longtown; and Bective, 1074, Kirkby Lonsdale. It may be mentioned that the charter for the last chapter was granted in November, 1875, but has never been used until to-day on the occasion of the consecration. The movement for the constitution of a Royal Arch Province was jovially set moving at the Provincial Grand Craft Lodge meeting, last April, at Penrith, when a meeting of Royal Arch Masons was improvised, and the result was the convocation, which took place at Kirkby Lonsdale on Tuesday.

There was not by any means a large gathering, for various cogent reasons, the principal of which was the great distance, and indifferent train accommodation, whilst it was Quarter Sessions day at Carlisle, and a market day at Penrith. The companions assembled at the Assembly Rooms, Kirkby Lonsdale, a little before twelve o'clock, when then there were present:—Companions Dr. J. D. Moore, P.Z. Fortitude Chapter, 281, Lancaster, P.P.G.H. West Lancashire, P.G. St. Br. England; J. Bowes, P.Z., Lights Chapter, 148, Warrington, P.P.G.S.B. W. Lanc., P.P.G.J.W. Cumberland and Westmorland; Colonel Whitwell, M.P., P.Z. Union Chapter, 129, Kendal, P.G.P.S. England, D.P.G.M. Cumberland and Westmorland; the Earl of Bective, M.P., R.W.P.G.M. of Cumberland and Westmorland; W. Dodd, P.Z. Furness Chapter, 995, Ulverston, P.P.G.J.W., Cumberland and Westmorland; J. Talbot, P.P.G.S.W. Cumberland and Westmorland; John Lemon, P.Z., St. John's Chapter, 327, Wigton, P.P.G.S.W. and Treasurer, Cumberland and Westmorland; W. Kirkbride, P.Z. Unanimity Chapter, 339, Penrith, P.P.G.S.W. Cumberland and Westmorland; Rev. Dr. Simpson, P.Z., 129, Chapter, Kendal, P.P.G.S.W. Cumberland and Westmorland; Jesse Banning, Z., Union Chapter, 310, Carlisle, P.P.G.P.S., West Lancashire; Jas. Comet, H. Union Chapter, 310, Carlisle, P.P.G.S.B. Cumberland and Westmorland; H. Bewes, H. St. John's Chapter, 327, Wigton; G. J. McKay, S.E. Castle Chapter, 129, Kendal; G. Murchie, S.E. Union Chapter, 310, Carlisle; R. Godfrey, P.S. Castle Chapter, 129, Kendal, P.G. Supt. of Works, Cumberland and Westmorland; Jas. Crosskell, 1st Assistant Sojourn, Rowley Chapter, 1051, Lancaster; E. Tyson, S.E. Sun, Square, and Compasses Chapter, 119, Whitehaven; W. F. Lamonby, P.S. Sun, Square, and Compasses Chapter, 119, Whitehaven, P.G. Registrar Cumberland and Westmorland (Freemason); J. Rothery, 1st Assist. Soj., Sun, Square, and Compasses Chapter, 119, Whitehaven; Dr. D. Page, Castle Chapter 129, Kendal; W. James, Castle Chapter, 129, Kendal; John Banks, Castle Chapter, 129, Kendal; J. R. Barron Unanimity Chapter, 339, Penrith; Thos. Baron, Castle Chapter, 129, Kendal; G. J. Dalton, Union Chapter, 129, Carlisle; A. C. Poole, Rowley Chapter, 1051, Lancaster; J. Henderson, Union Chapter, 310, Carlisle; R. Stanton, Rowley Chapter, 1051, Lancaster; J. Atkinson, Merchants' Chapter, 241, Liverpool.

The chapter of emergency was opened in form by Comp. Bowes as Z., Comp. Bewes as H., and Comp. Comet as J., the other Principals also being present, after which the rest of the companions were admitted, and the presiding officer's position was assumed by the M.E. Comp. J. D. Moore, assisted by M.E. Comp. J. Bowes, as Director of Ceremonies. After the ceremony had been so far proceeded with, the Principals designate of Bective Chapter, No. 1074, were presented to the Consecrating Officers, viz., Lord Bective, M.P., Z., W. Dodd, H., and J. Talbot, J., and thereupon the first members of the new chapter were presented. Next the acting Scribe, E. Comp. McKay, read the petition and charter, the latter of which was signed by Comps. Lord Bective, W. Dodd, J. Talbot, D. Page, R. Godfrey, J. Holme, H. Rauthmell, (deceased), G. J. McKay, and J. D. Atkinson.

After the companions had signified their approval of the Principals named in the charter, the Consecrating Officer delivered the following oration:—Companions,—It is customary at the consecration of Royal Arch Chapters for an oration to be delivered on some subject connected with the ceremony, or with Masonry in general. I now propose, in obedience to this custom, to offer you a very few words on the subject of the consecrating elements. The use of corn,

wine, and oil in Masonic and other consecrations is supported by the highest antiquity. Being all the most important productions of the East, they were looked upon as symbolically representing the greatest riches of the people, and from their very nature were esteemed as the great supports of life, and means of refreshment. Bro. Harris, in a discourse, in aid of a charitable institution, says:—"Wherefore, my brethren, do you carry corn, wine, and oil in your procession, but to remind you that, in the pilgrimage of human life, you are to impart a portion of your bread to feed the hungry, to send a cup of your wine to cheer the sorrowful, and to pour the healing oil of your consolation into the wounds which sickness has made in the bodies, or affliction rent in the heart of your fellow creatures." Our Psalmist David in enumerating the greatest blessings that we enjoy, speaks of them as "Wine that maketh glad the heart of man, and oil to make his face shine, and bread, which strengtheneth man's heart." We are told that the tabernacle in the wilderness, and all the holy vessels were, in obedience to God's express command to Moses, consecrated with an holy anointing oil; and, following the customs of the ancients, those kings, priests, and prophets were thus consecrated. The sovereigns of our own land, at their coronation, are consecrated with an holy oil. Lodges and Royal Arch Chapters, as emblematical of the holy ark, are at their formation solemnly consecrated to the secret purposes of the institution by the stewing of corn, and the pouring of wine and oil. They may be characterised as emblems of health, peace, and plenty, blessings essential to the happiness of an individual and necessary for the success of a chapter. Thus does this mystic ceremony instruct us to be nourished with the hidden manna of righteousness, to be refreshed with the Word of God, and to rejoice with joy unspeakable in the riches of grace. And may all those blessings, which are represented in the corn, wine, and oil of consecration ever found in the chapter.

The remainder of the ceremony was then gone through in the most impressive manner by the two consecrating Principals, the prayers incidental thereto being delivered by the Rev. Dr. Simpson. Finally, the new chapter was dedicated and constituted. The three Principals were next installed, and upon re-admission, the Companions saluted them according to ancient form. The other officers were appointed as follows:—Comps. Dr. D. Page, Scribe E.; R. Godfrey, Scribe N.; W. Tattersall, P.S.; J. Atkinson, First Asst. Soj.; W. James, Second Asst. Soj.; W. James, Treas. The remaining officers stood over for a future meeting.

The M.E. Comps. Moore and Bowes were unanimously elected honorary members of Bective Chapter, 1074, in recognition of their valuable services during the day, and they having returned thanks, Bro. the Rev. H. Vincent Thompson, P.G. Chaplain Cumberland and Westmoreland, was proposed as a candidate for exaltation.

The M.E. Corp. Moore then opened the Prov. Grand Chapter, for the installation of the Earl of Bective M.P., as Provincial Grand Superintendent of Cumberland and Westmoreland.

The Installing Officer having stated the object of the meeting, the roll of the several chapters was called, the Provincial Grand Superintendent designate was announced and sent in his patent, dated June 3rd, 1877.

Afterwards Lord Bective was inducted into the Provincial Chair with the usual formalities, and being obligated, his lordship was invested with the insignia of his office.

The proclamation over, the newly-installed Provincial-Grand Superintendent appointed and obligated the two Principals, or, rather, one was obligated, Comp. W. B. Gibson, Sun, Square, and Compasses Chapter, 119, Whitehaven, P.G. Sec. Cumberland and Westmoreland, being unavoidably absent.

The following is a list of officers appointed and invested by the Provincial Grand Superintendent.

M.E. Comp. Col. Whitwell, M.P., P.G.H.; M.E. Comp. W. B. Gibson, P.Z. 119, P.G.J.; Comp. G. J. McKay, P.G.S.B.; M.E. Comp. J. Bowes, P.G.S.N.; M.E. Comp. J. Lemon, P.G. Reg.; M.E. Comp. W. Kirkbride, P.G.P.S.; M.E. Comp. J. Talbot, P.G. 1st A.S.; Comp. J. Murchie, P.G. 2nd A.S.; Comp. W. F. Lamonby, P.G. S.B.; Comp. W. Court, P.G. St.B.; Comp. J. Godfrey, P.G. D.C.

On the motion of Comp. Col. Whitwell, seconded by Comp. Bowes, Comp. John Barr, P.Z. Sun, Square and Compasses Chapter, 119, Whitehaven, was unanimously chosen as Provincial Grand Treasurer of the chapter. Comp. panion Tyson apologised for the unavoidable absence of Comp. Barr. The next business on the agenda paper was the appointment of a committee to frame bye-laws for the new province, and ultimately it was resolved that the said committee consist of the three Principals and two Scribes. Before the Provincial Grand Chapter was closed, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Comps. Moore and Bowes. On the motion of Comp. the Rev. Dr. Simpson, seconded by Comp. Lemon; and the consecrating Comps. having replied, Comp. Dr. Pape moved that the cordial thanks of the Provincial Grand Chapter were due to Comp. G. J. McKay, for the great amount of trouble he had taken in the preliminary arrangements of the meeting. This was seconded by Colonel Whitwell, M.P., and agreed to with the greatest unanimity.

The Provincial Grand Chapter being then closed, and the customary proclamations made in the Bective Chapter, Bro. Anderson, Tyler of Underley Lodge, was proposed as a candidate for exaltation as serving companion, and the working proceedings of the day, which throughout had been successful, were brought to a satisfactory conclusion at half-past two o'clock.

Subsequently an elegant banquet was served at the Royal Hotel, presided over by Lord Bective, M.P., the new Provincial Grand Superintendent. The usual toast list was observed, so far as time would admit, and the

company broke up in time for the last train north and south from Kirkby Lonsdale, at a few minutes before six o'clock.

The proceedings of the day undoubtedly augurs well for the prosperity of Royal Arch Masonry in Cumberland and Westmorland, and now that the several Chapters are centralised, a wonderful change will be effected before long in the working, or we are much mistaken.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF DEVONSHIRE.

The annual Provincial Grand Chapter of the R.A. Masons of the Province of Devon was held on Wednesday at Topsham. The selection of that little township for the holding of the Provincial Meeting this year arose from the local Lodge, Brent, No. 1284, desiring to add to its honours that of possessing a Royal Arch Chapter. Topsham, although small in size, has been, and is now, a town of considerable commercial importance in comparison with the number of its population.

After the destruction of the original port of Exeter, Topsham became and remained for a lengthened period the resort of the Exeter shipping trade. The subsequent opening of the Exeter shipping canal has, however, materially interfered with that branch of Topsham's prosperity. In the parish church a fine monument by Chantry is erected to the memory of Sir John Duckworth, a distinguished naval officer, who died at Devonport early in this century, where he was long remembered as Commissioner Duckworth through his eccentricities. He had charge of that arsenal, for there were no Admiral-Superintendents then. When standing by to see the scamen flogged, in answer to their screams for mercy, he used to say, "I am sorry for you, my man; remember, it is not me, it is your country hat flogs you."

The early Masonic records of Topsham, like that of most other places are obscure. It is known that a warrant was granted for establishing a Craft Lodge there in 1764, but how long that lodge existed in the town, whether it decayed or was removed, is apparently not recorded.

The present lodge was founded in 1869, principally through the exertions of Dr. Brent, who was its first W.M. and whose name it bears. For the accommodation of that Lodge a commodious Hall has been erected in the immediate proximity of the Globe Hotel, one of the principal hostleries in the town. In that Hall the meeting was convened on Wednesday. The interior of the Hall is very handsomely fitted up for Masonic purposes, and contained, appropriately laid out, an elegant suite of Royal Arch furniture and regalia that did great credit to the taste and liberality of the promoters of the new Chapter.

Provincial Grand Chapter was opened in the afternoon. M.E. Comp. the Rev. Jno. Huyshe, M.A., Past G.J., Prov. G. Superintendent, presided, supported by the following officers:—Ex. Comps. W. G. Rogers, P.P.G.J., H. pro tem.; Capt. W. E. Stone, R.N., P.G.J.; J. Stroud Short, P.G.P.S. pro tem.; W. F. Quicke, P.G. 1st A.S. pro tem.; W. Coath, P.G. 2nd A.S.; W. H. Triplett, Treas.; R. M. Andrews, P.G.D.C.; H. B. Stark, P.P.G.O., Organist pro tem.; P. Blanchard, P.G., Janitor. The following Past P.G. and private chapter officers were also among the companions present: Ex. Comps. H. Walrond, P.P.G.P.S.; Samuel Jones, P.P.G.S.N.; W. T. Maynard, P.P.G.P.S.; J. B. Gover, P.P.G.P.S.; P. B. Clemens, P.P.G.A.S.; L. D. Westcott, P.P.G.A.S.; E. Aitken Davies, P.P.G. Reg.; H. Woodgate, P.P.G. Reg.; Jno. Sadler, P.P.G.S.B.; A. Bodley, P.P.G. St. B.; Jos. Page, P.Z. 444 Treas. 112; G. W. Ormerod, P.Z. 303; T. B. Patterson Z. 1125; Saml. Loram, H. 303; F. Horspool, H. 444; I. Latimer, H. 189; T. J. Shapland, H. 251; Geo. Evans, H. 847; W. C. Oliver, J. 251; W. E. Williams, J. 1125; Sydney Templar, J. 303; T. Freeman, J. 106; F. J. Pratt, J. 1138; G. J. Bishop, Z. 106; H. S. Gill, J. elect, 1125. Comps. H. Strawnson, P.S. 39; F. Pollard, P.S. 112; Jas. Jorman, S.N. 112; H. Stocker, D.C. 112; T. Higgs, S.E. 106; Geo. Huxham, S.N. 444; C. C. Kendrick, D.C. 444; W. Pidsley, A.S. 444; W. Brodie, 1st. A.S. 444; W. Gregory, A. Huxtable, 112; Benj. Barber, 112, 444; S. Stewart Kersteman, 303; Col. Fitzgerald.

Business commenced with the constitution and consecration of the Brent Chapter. Ex-Comp. G. W. Ormerod, acting as S.E., made the application to the P.G. Superintendent, who ordered the warrant for the constitution of the Chapter granted by Grand Chapter to the promoters of the Chapter to be read. The members of the new Chapter, expressed their approval of the officers named in the warrant.

Ex-Comp. W. G. Rogers, as H., then delivered an oration to the companions on their duties. They were, he said, to admit no candidates to exaltation whom they would scruple to grasp with the right hand of fellowship. They were to keep the membership worthy of the Order that had gone before, and to do nothing that would throw any blame on the fraternity in the future. P.G.S.E. then presented the following companions as the three Principals of the new chapter for the ensuing year, who were duly invested:—J. H. Warren, Z.; F. Horspool, H.; B. Barber, J.

The Principals produced a list of their officers (for the present their investment was deferred):—F. Pollard, S.E.; George Huxham, S.N.; H. Strawnson, P.S.; W. Brodie, 1st A.S.; W. Pidsley, 2nd A.S.; W. F. Quicke, P.Z., who was unanimously elected Treasurer; W. Gregory, Chap.; C. C. Kendrick, D.C.; W. Sampson, 1st Steward; W. B. Land, 2nd Steward. The P.G. Superintendent declared the Chapter duly constituted, and the ceremony of its consecration was then proceeded with. At the close of the consecration the P.G. Superintendent congratulated the companions of the new chapter on the promising appearance of their chapter.

The reports of the P.G.S.E. and of the P.G. Treas, were

then submitted and adopted. The treasurer's report, together with some payments that had been made that day, shewed an available balance in hand of £34, Ex-Comp. W.G. Rogers proposed that £25 should be subscribed to the Masonic Fund for the relief of the famine in India.—Ex-Comp. Samuel Jones seconded the Proposition, which was carried unanimously, and Most ex-Comp. the Rev. John Huyshe added ten guineas to the donation. Comp. Jones said Masonic donations to the distress in India were very appropriate, as some of the oldest lodges in the world existed there, and it would shew the Indian Masons that their English brethren did not forget them. Comp. Benjamin Barber was unanimously elected as the P.G. Treasurer for the ensuing year, and Ex-Comps. W.H. Triplett and T.S. Bayly appointed the Audit Committee. A letter was read from Ex-Comp. L.P. Metham regretting his inability through illness, to be present, and another from him urging the claims of the Indian Famine Fund to the charity of the province. The following Comps. were appointed the P.G. officers for the ensuing year:—Ex-Comps. W.G. Rogers, 112, H.; H. Walrond, 303, J.; G. W. Ormerod, 303, S.E.; Robert Brewin, 112, S.N.; George Evans, 847, P.S.; J. H. Warren, 1284, 1st A.S.; G. W. Phillips, 202, 2nd A.S.; I. Latimer, 189, Reg.; F. J. Pratt, S.B.; Samuel Loram, 303, 1st St. B.; G. I. Bishop, 106, 2nd St. B.; F. Horspool, 1284, D.C.; R. Pengelly, 70, A.D.C.; F. Pollard O.; J. S. Short, B.B.; P. Blanchard, Janitor. In the evening the companions dined together at the Globe Hotel; the P.G. Superintendent presiding.

MEMORIAL TO STEPHENSON.

There is no name which the industries of this country and the civilized world should hold in more enduring estimation than that of George Stephenson. His life was a history of the progress of locomotion. All that we have been doing in that direction since his first travelling engine was placed on the rails in 1814 has been but a development of his invention. His experience of that date showed that a revolution had been effected in the means of transport, and with the passing of the Bill for the Liverpool and Manchester Railway in 1816 that system of locomotion was inaugurated which has since extended itself, to the glory of England and the immortal honour of George Stephenson. He was born at the Wylam Colliery, near Newcastle, which is far distant from Chesterfield, in Derbyshire; but there is nothing inappropriate in a memorial being raised to George Stephenson by the inhabitants of the latter town. In Derbyshire, amid his birds and his horticultural pursuits, he spent the quiet evening of a laborious life, and in the churchyard of Chesterfield his ashes now repose. It was a happy thought, then, of those who are interesting themselves in the cause of industrial education in Chesterfield to dedicate to the memory of Stephenson the building in which such education is to be afforded.

The ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the memorial was held on Wednesday, and it was conducted in a manner which rendered it in every way a success. It is not easy to impart novelty in the laying of a foundation stone. The thing is of frequent occurrence in these days, and there are certain set proceedings which one expects to see duly gone through whenever a foundation stone is laid. But on this occasion the Freemasons of the Masonic province in which Chesterfield is situated, with Lord Hartington, as Prov. Grand Master, at their head, imparted an imposing grandeur to the ceremony, which raised it far above the ordinary level of "functions" of this kind. It is but justice to the inhabitants of the town and to a large concourse from the surrounding neighbourhood, to say that they did their part in seconding the successful exertions of the Masonic body. Two o'clock was the time appointed for the mustering of the procession which was to take the leading part in the ceremony. Punctually at the appointed hour the excellent band of the 3rd Derbyshire Volunteers was in the Market-place, and to its music various bodies, several of them wearing bright scarves and other emblems of the brotherhood, rapidly fell into their places and got into marching order. There were the friendly societies of Chesterfield, four abreast, the Committee of the Science and Art Classes, the Committee and Members of the Mechanics' Institute, the Committee of the University Extension Classes, the Council and members of the Chesterfield and Derbyshire Institute of Mining, Civil, and Mechanical Engineers, the tradesmen of the town of Chesterfield, the Stephenson Memorial Committee, the contractors, the architect, the Mayor and Corporation of Chesterfield, the borough magistrates, the members for the county, the county magistrates, the local gentry, private Lodges of Freemasons with their respective banners, the officers wearing their collars and jewels, and lastly, the Provincial Grand Lodge of Freemasons, with the Right Worshipful the Marquis of Hartington, Provincial Grand Master of the Province of Derbyshire, all in full Masonic costume. The site of the memorial is on the brow of the hill beneath the church, the spire of which is, in its way, almost as curious an object as the Leaning Tower of Pisa. Owing, it is said, to the warping of the woodwork in its interior, this spire has assumed an extraordinary twist, and leans very decidedly out of the perpendicular, though not, it is to be hoped, at a sufficient angle dangerously to affect its centre of gravity. Arrived at the site of the memorial, the procession halted and formed an avenue, through which the Provincial Grand Master passed to the spot where the foundation-stone was suspended. The officiating brethren took up positions at the four sides of the stone, the Provincial Grand Master standing at one end and the Provincial Grand Chaplain, bearing the Sacred Law on a cushion at the other. An anthem having been chanted by a choir, a silver trowel was presented to Lord Hartington; then a prayer was read by the Provincial Grand Chaplain, and various coins of the present reign

having been deposited in the cavity, the noble lord duly laid the stone.

Lord Hartington, in his capacity of Provincial Grand Master, then, according to ancient Masonic custom, addressed the spectators as follows:—Men, women, and children here assembled to-day to behold this ceremony, know all of you that we be lawful Masons, true and faithful to the laws of our country, and established of old in peace and honour in most countries to do good to our brethren, to erect magnificent structures, and to fear God, the great Architect of the Universe. We have among us, concealed from the eyes of all men, secrets which cannot be divulged; but these secrets are lawful and honourable, and not repugnant to the laws of God or man. They were intrusted in peace and honour to the Masons of ancient times, and have been faithfully transmitted to us. It is our duty to convey them unimpaired to the latest posterity. Unless our Craft were good and our calling honourable, we should not have lasted for so many centuries, nor should we have been honoured with the patronage of so many illustrious men in all ages, who have ever shown themselves ready to promote our interest and to defend us against all adversaries. We are assembled here to-day in presence of you all to assist in laying in ancient form the foundation-stone of this Stephenson Memorial Hall, which we pray God to prosper for the promotion of godliness, harmony and brotherly love till time shall be no more.

To this all the brethren replied, "So mote it be." After some further Masonic formalities,

Lord Hartington continued,—Mr. Mayor, the ceremony of laying this stone being now finished, I wish before we conclude the proceedings of this forenoon by the singing of the National Anthem, to say just a very few words on behalf of the Masonic body of this Province, expressive on their part and on my own, as their representative, of the pleasure we have felt in assisting in the work which we have here been performing. I hope that the building of which we have laid the first stone to-day, and which, despite the many difficulties which have arisen, has at last made a prosperous beginning, will not only be an ornament to this town of Chesterfield, but will prove also a great and material advantage to the town and neighbourhood. By means of this building an institute which has been at work among you for so many years, and has promoted the progress of those industries which in your district have found so wide a field, will be able to carry out its mission unimpeded by those obstacles which it has hitherto encountered. From that circumstance the community of this neighbourhood will derive very considerable and manifest advantages. In this building there will also be the means of extending to all of you and your children who may be desirous of availing yourselves of them the benefits of a higher education than has been hitherto afforded to you. You are aware under what disadvantages, and yet with what success, the work to which I have alluded has been done, but I trust it will be carried on with greater advantages and with still greater success in the building we have this day inaugurated (cheers). It will be no unworthy memorial of the great man after whom this edifice is to be named, who lived among you during the latter period of his life, and whose bones now lie in the churchyard of your town. I believe this building is rightly to be called after one who did so much, not only for Chesterfield and its neighbourhood, but for this nation and the world at large (cheers). It would be useless, especially as I have to address many of you later in the evening, for me now to detain you longer. I shall, therefore, only express on the part of the Masonic body of this county, of whom I have the honour to be the head, their good wishes for the prosperity of the institution for whose benefit the proposed building is designed.

The ceremony concluded by the singing of a Masonic version of the National Anthem.

SKETCHES OF MASONIC CHARACTER. No. IX.

BRO. KIMPTON ON THE RHIGI.

Bro. Kimpton is a fixed light in his famous lodge, the "Zodiac," but of which the cabalistic, or rather the astronomical characters he represents, is not quite certain. He is both a learned Mason and a true-hearted man, and is always ready to impart his store of knowledge to his brethren, to diffuse information, and encourage the cultivation of Masonic intellectuality. He is liberal and kindly communicative, and tolerant, and we have often listened to his "Lectures" in the lodge with edification, and hope to do so often again, as Paddy says, "Plaze the Pigs." Bro. Kimpton is emphatically a student of polite literature, as well as an intelligent Mason, and he is not a little scientific in all that concerns the outer world of literature and knowledge. No wonder, then, that he is much looked up to.

He has just returned from the Rhigi Kaltbad, and gives a most amusing account of his experiences and his expedition.

He went from Paris to Geneva, and from Geneva to Berne, and from Berne to the Rhigi. He saw a very charming country, and delighted alike in the Lake Lemman and Lake Lucerne. He was able to loiter at Vevay, to look in at Chillon, to breathe fresh air at Chexbres, and to take a peep at Montreux.

He says, (for he is a genuine Briton), "Sir, I breathed the air of liberty, and thought of William Tell and the apple. I don't believe in these doubts about William Tell. They are throwing doubts on everything just now. There are some fellows who believe nothing, and I have not yet reached that state of botheration and bosh! No, Sir, I believe and always shall, more majorum." And a very sensible fellow we venture to think, is Bro. Kimpton.

What a good thing it would be if some of our dilettante sceptics, who are so fond of talking of their "mental difficulties" and boring the sensibilities of the strong, and

shaking the faith of the weak, would throw their doubts, (not their physis), "to the dogs," and become rational and believing as of yore. We are sick, positively sick of the "yearnings for solution of difficulties" which are not difficulties at all, which appear amongst our young men just now, who have, however, not the slightest scruple of scepticism in the world, in respect to "cham," a "smoke," a "nip," a "chew," and who have entire faith in billiards and bitters, in Newmarket and B. and S. What can be done with them or for them?

Bro. Kimpton says that much as he likes Switzerland and the Swiss, its glorious scenery, and its wondrous hills, he thinks that he was disappointed at the Rhigi. It was sultry by day and sultrier by night. The mountain air was somewhat warm in August, and it was very hot for walking, and he has a distinct recollection of a good deal of perspiration, and glare, and a wonderful Babel of tongues and nationalities. However, it did him good, at least, so he says. The variation from a busy life, "On Change," was a very pleasant one, amid Swiss hills and Swiss lakes, and he has returned, much to the delight of his friends, with a large collection of Swiss knick-nacks, and a wonderful assortment of sticks and walking poles. "And then," as he says, "travelling, Bro. Toulmin, enlarges the mind. If a man is always living in one spot, he becomes narrow, and prejudiced in his views and sympathies. But travelling expands his horizon and his mental grasp. he returns home, if gladly, sensible of the prevailing excellency of Old England, yet with a kindly recollection of the distant spots he has visited, and the different people he has seen in other days. He is fond of saying:—"Oh! it was in such a year, I went up the Rhigi with old Jones and venerable Trotter, and a very pleasant time we had of it. We saw the sun rise, and we enjoyed the early hours, and we found ourselves among a friendly people, and we were quite sorry when we had to return home. As Freemasons we should always seek to be large-hearted, and tolerant and to emancipate ourselves from absurd antipathies and childish prejudices. Let us all remember that "A man's a man for all that," as Bro. Burns said so well of old, and a "brother," in Masonry points to something more than a mere profession. The word has a real meaning, and is neither a vapid formulary, nor an insular claim, but is truly a very real thing and a Cosmopolitan obligation.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, October 26, 1877.

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

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20.

Audit Committee, Boys' School, at 4.
Lodge 1185, Lewis, King's Arms, Wood Green, N.
" 1364, Earl of Zetland, Old Town Hall, Hackney.
" 1641, Crichton, S.M.H.
Chap. 1194, Royal Middlesex, Mitre Hot., Hampton Ct.
LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.
Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-sq.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-rd.
Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, S.W.
Percy, 113, Southgate-road, N.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 22.

Lodge 4, Royal Somerset Ho. and Inverness, F.M.H.
" 28, Old King's Arms, F.M.H.
" 79, Pythagorean, Ship Ho., Greenwich.
" 183, Unity, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 902, Burgoyne, Anderton's Ho., Fleet-st.
" 1608, Kilburn, Queen's Arms Ho. (Installation).
" 1615, Bayard, 33, Golden-sq.
" 1632, Stuart, Surrey M.H.
Chap. 25, Robert Burns, F.M.H.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden Town.
Tredegar, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st.
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Upper Norwood, White Hart Hot., Church-rd.
Marquis of Ripon, Pembury Tav., Amherst-rd., Hackney.
Loughborough, Warrior Hot., Brixton.
West Smithfield, New Market Hot., West Smithfield.
Leopold, Woolpack Tavern, Bermondsey-st.
London Masonic Club, at 101, Queen Victoria-st. E.C. 2nd and 4th Monday every month, at 6 o'clock.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23.

Audit Committee, Girls' School, at 4.
Lodge 14, Tuscan, F.M.H.
" 92, Moira, Criterion, Piccadilly.
" 145, Prudent Brethren, F.M.H.
" 186, Industry, Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue.
" 205, Israel, Cannon-st. Ho.
" 1158, Southern Star, Montpelier Tav., Walworth.
" 1348, Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank.
Chap. 7, Royal York of Perseverance, F.M.H.
Mark Lodge 3, Keystone, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-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.

Constitutional, Bedford Ho., Shampton Blds.
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.
Islington, 23, Gresham-street.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24.

Lodge of Benevolence.
" 212, Euphrates, Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue.
" 507, United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H.
" 754, High Cross, Seven Sisters Tav., Tottenham.
" 1017, Montefiore, 68, Regent-st.
" 1056, Victoria, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 1540, Chaucer, Bridge House Hot., Southwark.
Chap. 13, Union Waterloo, M.H., Wm.-st., Woolwich.
" 753, Prince Frederick William.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Confidence, Greyhound Tav., Milton-street, Cripplegate.
Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London-street, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
La Tolerance, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Mount Edgumbe, 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.
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.
Lewis, King's Arms Hot., Wood Green.
Royal Jubilee, 81, Long Acre.
Langthorne, Swan Hot., Stratford.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25.

House Com. Girls' School, at 4.
Lodge 34, Mount Moriah, F.M.H.
" 65, Prosperity, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
" 66, Grenadiers, F.M.H.
" 871, Royal Oak, White Swan, High-st., Deptford.
" 1421, Langthorne, Swan Hot., Stratford.
" 1658, Skelmersdale, S.M.H.
Chap. 177, Domestic, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 534, Polish National, F.M.H.
" 766, Wm. Preston, Cannon-st. Hot.

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, M.H., Masons' Avenue.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.
Great Northern, Berwick Arms, Berners-st., Oxford-st.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26.

Lodge 569, FitzRoy, Hd.-qtrs. Hon. Art. Com., City-rd.
" 861, Finsbury, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
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.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Westbourne, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood.
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, Prince's Hall, Buckhurst-hill.
Burdett Coutts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
Royal Standard, The Castle, Holloway-rd.
Ranelagh, Bell and Anchor, Hammersmith-rd.
St. George's, Globe Tav., Greenwich.
William Preston, Feathers Tav., Up. George-st., Edgware-rd.
Hervey, 99, Fleet-street, at 8.
Pythagorean Chapter, Portland Ho., London-st., Greenwich.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, October 27, 1877.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 22.

Lodge 613, Unity, Palatine B., Southport.
" 703, Clifton, Clifton Arms, Blackpool.
Chap. 241, Friendship, M.H., Liverpool.
Derby L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23.

Lodge 178, Antiquity, Royal Hot., Wigan.
" 1384, Equity, Commercial Hot., Widnes.
" 1609, Dramatic, M.H., Liverpool (Installation).
" 1675, Ancient Briton, M.H., Liverpool.
Chap. 823, Everton, M.H., Liverpool.
Merchants L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
Prince Arthur L. of I., M.R., N. Hill-street, Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24.

Lodge 32, R. George's, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.
" 220, Harmony, Wellington Hot., Garston.
" 724, Derby, M.H., Liverpool.
" 732, Ellesmere, Royal Oak, Chorley.
" 1061, Triumph, M.H., Lytham.
" 1403, W. Lancashire, Commercial Hot., Ormskirk.
Chap. 86, Lebanon, M.H., Prescot.

Lodge 605, De Tabley, Seacombe Hot., Seacombe.
 " 1052, Callender, Public H., Rusholme.
 " 1356, De Grey and Ripon, M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25.

Lodge, 594, Downshire, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 1313, Fernor, M.H., Southport.
 Mariners L. of L., M.H., Liverpool.
 Chap. 216, Sacred Delta, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 1086, Walton, St. Lawrence Schools, Kirkdale.
 Stanley, L. of L., 214, Gt. Homer-st., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26.

Lodge 1393, Hamer, M.H., Liverpool.

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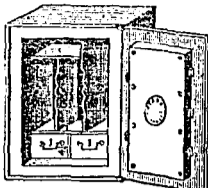
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