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UNITED GRAND LODGE.

The Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge of English Freemasons was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall. The Earl of Carnarvon, M.W. Pro Grand Master, presided, and among the other brethren present, who numbered in all about 700, were:—Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M. Lord Sherborne, as Past G.M.; F. B. Alston, S.G.W.; Lord Tenterden, J.G.W.; W. W. B. Beach, Prov. G.M. Hants and Isle of Wight; John Havers, P.G.W.; E. J. McIntyre, Q.C., G.R.; J. B. Monckton, President of the Board of General Purposes; Captain N. G. Philips, S.G.D.; Sir M. Costa, P.G.W.; Peter de L. Long, S.G.D.; Captain Platt, P.G.W.; Dr. Jabez Hogg, P.G.D.; Thos. Fenn, P.G.D., as G.D.C.; J. M. Case, P.G.D.; Le Gendre N. Starkie, P.G.W.; Col. Creaton, P.G.D.; James Glaisher, P.G.D.; R. W. Hollon, P.G.S.B.; Brackstone Baker, P.G.D.; James Mason, P.G.S.B.; Victor Williamson, P.G.W.; S. C. Hadley, P.G.D.; C. W. C. Hutton, P.G.D.; J. A. Rucker, P.G.D.; Joseph Smith, P.G.P.; John Coutts, P.G.P.; Benj. Head, P.G.D.; W. F. Nettleship, P.G.S.B.; Robt. Grey, P.G.D.; H. Browse, P.G.D.; Robt. W. Wheeler, P.G.D.; Raynham W. Stewart, P.G.D.; John T. Collins, P.G.W.; C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P.; A. J. D. Filer, P.G.S.B.; Montague Guest, P.G.M. Dorset; Col. Burdett, Prov. G.M. Middlesex; Geo. Toller, G.S.B.; Hon. Richard Giddy, G.M. Giqualand; Rev. C. W. Arnold, G.C.; Rev. J. E. Cox, D.D., as Asst. G.C.; S. Rawson, P.G.D.M. China; C. E. Willing, G. Org.; James Brett, P.G.P.; J. M. Clabon, P.G.D.; Thos. Cubitt, P.G.P.; Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C.; Hyde Pullen, P.G.S.B.; C. Hutton Gregory, P.G.D.; Hugh D. Sandeman, P.G.D.M. Bengal; F. P. Cockerell, G. Sup. Works; John Boyd, P.G.P.; F. Robinson, as Asst. G.D.C.; John Hervey, G.S.; H. G. Buss, Asst. G. Sec.; C. A. Murton, P.G.D.; H. Murray, P.D.G.M. China; E. S. Snell, P.G.D.; E. P. Albert, P.G.P.; Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G.C.; Rev. C. R. Davey, P.G.C.; E. E. Wendt, Grand Secretary for German Correspondence; C. Locock Webb, Q.C.; H. J. P. Dumas, P.A.G. Dir. of Cers.; Joshua Nunn, P.P.G.S.B.; C. C. Dumas, P.A.G.D.C.; Henry Tombs, J.G.D.; Edward Morris, J.G.D.; S. G. Foxall, G.P.; A. W. Adair, P. Prov. G.M. Somerset; W. Hickman, P.G.A.D.C.; Sir F. M. Williams, P.G.W.; John M. Wike, P.G.D.; Rev. W. K. R. Bedford, P.G.C.; Thos. Birchall, P.G.D.; Wm. T. Howe, Asst. G.P. H. C. Levander, 1; Brawn, 16; Leggett, 17; Rev. Dr. Ernest Brette, 2; A. J. Altman, 3; Cowan, 11; H. A. Dubois, 8; E. J. Hartly, 9; Jas. Stevens, 24; H. Garrod, 10; H. Legge, 15; Dr. Ramsey, 6; Macrae Moir, 7; J. M. Tay, 19; E. Mallett, 21; A. A. Pendlebury, 20; W. Dodd, 22; W. H. Lee, 18; S. Rosenthal, 13; Atkinson, 23; H. Gompertz, 12; Erasmus Wilson, 5; Fred Binckes, 14; Rev. T. Cochrane, 10; George Kenning, H. Massey (*Freemason*); James Lewis Thomas, G.W. Middlx.; R. F. Gould, P.M. 92.

There were 84 Grand Officers present.

Grand Lodge having been opened in solemn form, Grand Secretary read the minutes of last Quarterly Communication of 5th December, 1877, which were then passed and confirmed.

Grand Secretary afterwards read the regulations for the government of Grand Lodge during the time of public business.

The Earl of Carnarvon.—Brethren, the next order that stands on the list is one in my name for the grant of £100, to be paid out of the Fund of General Purposes, for the assistance of the members of the Igualdad Lodge, No. 653, in the Island of Curacao, in the West Indies, who have suffered from the hurricane which occurred there on the 23rd September, 1877. There are some enquiries which it seems desirable to make in consequence of circumstances that have arisen since this motion was put on the notice paper, and therefore I think it will be desirable if I postpone the consideration of this motion to the next Communication. I now proceed to the very important motion that stands in my name, the report of the Committee appointed to enquire into the action of the Grand Orient of France. The Committee have met, and they have considered, and they have reported unanimously; and before I make any statement to Grand Lodge on the subject, I will request the Grand Secretary to be good enough to read that report to the Grand Lodge.

Grand Secretary then read the following report: "The Committee appointed at the last Grand Lodge, on the

15th December, 1877, to consider the recent action of the Grand Orient of France, beg to report that Grand Lodge of England has received information that the Grand Orient of France has resolved, by a considerable majority, to rescind the first and second paragraphs of its Book of Constitutions, as follows: The laws, as they formerly stood, read thus: 'Freemasonry is an institution essentially philanthropic, philosophic, and progressive; it has for its objects enquiry after truth, the study of universal morality, science, and arts, and the practice of benevolence. Its principles are the existence of God, the immortality of the soul, and human solidarity. It regards the liberty of conscience the common right of every man, and excludes no person on account of his belief. Its motto is Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity. As they now stand, they are as follows:—'Freemasonry is an institution essentially philanthropic, philosophic, and progressive, has for its objects the enquiry after truth, the study of universal morality, sciences, and arts, and the practice of benevolence. Its principles are absolute liberty of conscience and human solidarity, it excludes no person on account of his belief; its motto is Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity.'

The Earl of Carnarvon.—Brethren, that is the preamble, so to speak, of the report of this Committee. The report proceeds in the following terms. As I wish to comment very slightly upon them, I will take the words up where the Grand Secretary has left them, and read to you the remainder of this report:—"The Committee have carefully considered this action on the part of the Grand Orient of France, and having regard to the circumstances of the case they have unanimously agreed to recommend the following resolutions for the adoption of Grand Lodge:—First, that this Grand Lodge views with profound regret the step taken by the Grand Orient of France in thus removing from its Constitutions those paragraphs which assert the belief in the existence of the G.A.O.T.U., because such an alteration is opposed to the traditions, practice, and feelings of all true and genuine Masons, from the earliest to the present time. Secondly, that this Grand Lodge, whilst always anxious to receive in the most fraternal spirit the brethren of any foreign Grand Lodge whose proceedings are conducted according to the ancient landmarks of the Order, in which a belief in the G.A.O.T.U. is the first and most important, cannot recognise as true and genuine brethren any initiated in lodges which thus deny or ignore that belief. Thirdly, that in view of the foregoing resolutions the W.M.'s of all lodges held under the Grand Lodge of England be directed not to admit any foreign brother as a visitor unless first he is duly vouched for, or unless his certificate shows that he has been initiated according to the ancient rites and ceremonies in a lodge professing belief in the G.A.O.T.U., and secondly that he shall not be admitted unless he himself shall acknowledge that this belief is an essential landmark of the Order. Fourthly, that a copy of the foregoing resolutions be transmitted to the Grand Lodges of Scotland and Ireland, and to each Grand Lodge with which this Grand Lodge is in communication, and to the W.M. of all lodges held under the Grand Lodge of England." Now, brethren, on the last occasion it was my duty to address you at considerable length upon this subject. I do not propose to re-traverse that ground. What I then said I doubt not is in your recollection, and I remember at all events myself that the feeling of Grand Lodge was so unmistakably clear and unanimous, that I should be simply wasting time were I to repeat what I then said. At the same time it is but right I should call your attention in a very few words to each of these four resolutions which the Committee have recommended. The first resolution professes the profound regret with which Grand Lodge has heard of the alteration made by the Grand Orient in their Constitution. With respect to this I believe there can be but one feeling and one voice in this Grand Lodge. The second resolution follows as a natural corollary from the first. It states that we cannot recognise those who have taken part or action in this matter, in that sense. It declares emphatically that there is no diminution of paternal feeling on our part, and it implies that there is no wish on our part to interfere in the jurisdiction of any foreign Grand Lodge, but that, holding the belief in the existence of the Great Architect of the Universe to be one of those principles that lie at the very root of Freemasonry, we cannot overlook a distinct abnegation of that principle, and those who do so regard and deny it cannot be recognised formally by us. And I apprehend to that second resolution there can be no objection in this Grand Lodge. Well, if so, the third resolution is but the practical embodiment of those two previous theoretical resolutions. It became the duty of the Committee to consider how effect was to be given to the opinion of Grand Lodge. It was not for Grand Lodge to content itself with a mere idle barren statement of opinion—that would be unworthy of such a body; it would also have been unjust to those members of the Craft and to those numerous lodges in this country that look upon this Grand Lodge as the central parliament of English Freemasonry for guidance in an essential question of this kind, and therefore it is, I hold—it was the view of the Committee and it is my view—that it is the duty of this Grand Lodge not to flinch from the duty, however disagreeable it may be, of prescribing and specifying the practical mode in which effect should be given to that statement of opinion. And what is the course that Committee have recommended? They recommend that when a foreign brother presents himself to a lodge for admission he shall be required either to produce his certificate, as he now does, or be vouched for. So far there is no change in the existing facts, but we go a step further, and say that either that certificate shall bear on its face the evidence that he has been initiated in a lodge in which the belief in the existence of the Supreme Architect of the Universe was required, or else that some bystander of credible authority shall vouch for him that he was so

initiated. That is the first condition, and it is a necessary condition, if you intend your statement of opinion to be a practical one. But the Committee went one step further, and they held that under the extremely anomalous and difficult circumstances which have been created by the action of the Grand Orient of France, that inasmuch as the majority of lodges have been in existence before that alteration was made, and that it may be that the visitor who comes may either be one who was initiated previous to that change or subsequent to that change, they felt that there was no way out of the difficulty, after long discussion, except to require him to pledge his word that the belief in the existence of the G.A.O.T.U. was a fundamental principle of the Order. And I think no one can hold that this is an overstrained view, or a severe test to apply to any foreign brother. It is undoubtedly a practical one, but it seems to me that it is almost the minimum which it was our duty to require. Brethren, remember it is not enough that we could not deny the existence of the G.A.O.T.U., but inasmuch as it is a landmark of the Order, a fundamental principle, we have a right to require that that belief should be affirmed. If indeed this question had never arisen by the ill-advised action of the Grand Orient of France we might have dispensed with that duty. If schism come, the responsibility on those that introduce that schism rests with them; we have simply to guard the ancient landmarks of the Order, and, as we have received them, to see that they go down from our hands uninjured and unimpaired. It is impossible for us, as it seems to me, therefore, to be silent, and painful as it may be to us to take this step in opposition to another great Masonic authority in a foreign country, still I hold that Grand Lodge must have the courage of its own undoubted opinion in this matter, that they must not shrink from declaring that which they believe to be not only a truth, but the fundamental truth, lying at the very root of Freemasonry, that which we have professed through the whole length and breadth of the land, in every lodge, from generation to generation; and whilst we disclaim, one and all, any intention of interfering with the internal jurisdiction of a foreign power, whilst we declare our readiness to meet our foreign brethren in the same Masonic spirit in which we have met them in times past, boldly and unequivocally to assert that nothing will ever induce us to violate or to mutilate that which is a fundamental principle of the Order. Brethren, I have nothing further to say on this subject, except to remind you that the fourth resolution involves an order for transmission of these instructions to every Master of every lodge, for them to give effect to. I have now gone through the resolutions of the Committee seriatim. I apprehend from the feeling of Grand Lodge that I may put these resolutions as a whole to you, because Grand Lodge will see that taken singly they would mean nothing; they all hang together, they must stand or they must fall together. I therefore propose, gathering as I do that there is a unanimous feeling in the lodge to put these resolutions as a whole, and I trust that it will be in the power of Grand Lodge to vote them unanimously—I therefore propose that these resolutions be now adopted.

Lord Sherborne: M.W. Pro G.M. and brethren, after the resolutions which you have heard read, and after the very able manner in which they have been commented upon by our Pro G.M., I think every one must be now perfectly conversant with the subject. It would be idle, therefore, for me to take up the time of Grand Lodge any further than formally to second the motion of the M.W. Pro G.M., that these resolutions be taken as a whole.

Bro. H. Greene rose to speak, but was met with unanimous cries of "Vote, vote."

Lord Carnarvon: Brethren, as Bro. Greene rises probably to second the proposition under the misapprehension that there was no immediate seconder, I would ask Grand Lodge to hear what he has to say.

Bro. H. Greene: Most W. Pro G.M., I entirely agree with the spirit of the resolutions which you have submitted to Grand Lodge. I venture, only in a very humble way indeed, to express my opinion that the last portion of the resolutions scarcely goes far enough. I would submit in the greatest spirit of humility in this Grand Lodge, that in addition to the resolutions to be transmitted to the W.M.'s of lodges there should be an instruction that, in order to give effect to it, it should be read at the first meeting of the lodge, after that lodge has received it; and I do not think it could be properly objected to if that were adopted. It was just possible that a Master of a lodge might not attach that importance to the resolutions in his own individual capacity which we as members of Grand Lodge do. And therefore, M.W. Pro G.M., I would venture most humbly, as I say, to suggest that it should be an instruction to the W.M. of each lodge to read these resolutions at the very first meeting of his lodge after he has received those resolutions.

Bro. S. Poynter.—M.W. Pro G.M., I am very happy to second that resolution.

Bro. McIntyre, G.R.—M.W. Pro G.M., that is a rider to the resolution.

The Earl of Carnarvon.—Brethren: I can have no objection to this addition, so I will see if it be the wish of Grand Lodge that it should be made. It will therefore form a rider to the resolutions. I will not read those resolutions again, as you have heard them already, but I will say that with the addition of that rider which has just been moved and seconded. Is it your pleasure to agree to the resolutions in this report?

The motion was then carried unanimously.

The Earl of Carnarvon.—The next business is the election of the M.W.G.M.

Bro. Arthur B. Cook, Dep. Master, No. 259.—M.W. Pro Grand Master, in accordance with the nomination which I had the honour to make on the last occasion in Grand Lodge, I now move that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales be elected Grand Master for the ensuing year.

No other brother having been nominated, it is somewhat a matter of form, and I assure you it is a form that commends itself to every member of Grand Lodge, and it is one that gives us another opportunity of testifying how gratifying it is to us to see the interest H.R.H. takes in the Craft, and condescending to honour us by presiding over us. I am sure it is unnecessary for me to remind you of the numerous occasions on which he has shown the interest he does take in the Craft. I am sure the unanimous way in which from year to year he is elected by us to the office of Grand Master is sufficient proof of that, and the continued confidence Grand Lodge reposes in him must be very satisfactory to him. I think I shall follow the feelings of this Grand Lodge if without further remark I move that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales be elected our Grand Master for the ensuing year.

Bro. Robert F. Gould, P.M. 92.—M.W. Pro G.M.: I beg to second the proposition that has just been made for the re-election of H.R.H., and I do so heartily, though briefly, for I do not feel justified in interfering one moment longer between Grand Lodge and the unanimous vote which I feel confident it will arrive at.

The Earl of Carnarvon.—Brethren, it is my most pleasing task this evening to put this vote to you. I cannot think there will be the slightest difference of opinion upon it. You have heard it proposed that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales be elected as the Grand Master for the ensuing year. All those who are of that opinion will signify their opinion in the manner common to Masons.

H.R.H. was then re-elected unanimously, amidst loud cheers.

Bro. Thomas Fenn, P.G.D., acting as G.D.C., then proclaimed H.R.H. the Prince of Wales with all his titles G.M. of Freemasons for the year ensuing, and concluded with the words, "whom may the G.A.O.T.U. long preserve." (Cheers.)

The Earl of Carnarvon: Brethren, the next business which stands on the paper is one which on all previous occasions has been of a very formal nature. It is one unfortunately which we cannot so treat this evening. It relates to the election of a Grand Treasurer. All those who are present are doubtless aware of the catastrophe, for so I must call it, which has occurred. I would almost venture in the first instance to deprecate any discussion of details at this moment. There ought to be hereafter the fullest opportunity for discussion, and I for one should be the first to invite it, but I feel that we are not yet in possession of either the figures or the facts upon which this matter turns, and that it would perhaps be hardly fair, even to those parties who are concerned in the case, to discuss it. What, however, I think Grand Lodge is entitled to is full information of all that has been done by its executive officers upon this subject, and as far as I know the facts, I will briefly state them to Grand Lodge. When the news reached the ears of the Grand Secretary of this unfortunate failure, he and the President of the Board of General Purposes, feeling an absolute necessity of finding some means for paying the current expenses of the Craft, opened an account with the London and Westminster Bank, and the London and Westminster Bank. I need not say, was very happy to give any accommodation to Grand Lodge. Our credit has not fallen so low but that we can command, and I believe without any difficulty, and it was then settled that the drafts drawn, should be signed by the Grand Secretary, and by the President of the Board of General Purposes, that being the arrangement which has been working for the last few days. The advice which I think on the whole, I should give to Grand Lodge in the circumstances would be this, that they should allow that arrangement to subsist till the next Quarterly Communication, as a provisional arrangement, subject to an alteration, while I will immediately mention that those officers who sign the drafts should be the President of the Board of General Purposes, and President of the Board of Benevolence, countersigned by the Grand Secretary, and further that power should be given to the locum tenens, of the Board of General Purposes or the Board of Benevolence, should be allowed to sign in the absence of those officers, because I think you would have a sufficient safeguard, a check in the counter-signature of the Grand Secretary, but I may propose that this arrangement should be merely a provisional arrangement, to last till the next Quarterly Communication. Brethren, I think that any misfortune of this sort, any failure or misfortune of this sort, as regards the funds of a body such as ours, cannot be scrutinised too closely, or too critically, and I, for one, think it very likely, that if criticism is now brought to bear at this juncture many improvements for the future may be devised, and possibly some defects in our past system may be ascertained. And therefore I would propose that a Committee should be appointed to enquire for the next three months into the whole financial and banking arrangements of Grand Lodge, with full power to examine to the utmost, and to report their opinion to Grand Lodge at next Quarterly Communication. We ought then to be in a position, with our eyes clearly opened, and with a knowledge of real facts and figures as regards this unfortunate failure, to determine satisfactorily with regard to the interests of the Craft. I have only one other thing to mention. I think Grand Lodge may naturally desire to know what the amount of the balance at the bankers when this failure took place. I am told that the balance in favour of Grand Lodge was £3543 some shillings. The balance in favour of Grand Chapter was fortunately only £388. Grand Lodge might also like to know, I think, what the amounts were under the different Charities. I find that the Benevolent Institution for aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons had a balance of £3980, but of this sum—very nearly £4000—an order had been transmitted, I think, two or three weeks ago, for the investment of no less than £3000; and if that order has not been complied with, then

the amount I need not say is large; but if it has been complied with, it is not large. If complied with, though there may remain £980, that may not be entirely lost. Then the Boys' School, I am sorry to say had no less than £1566 at the bankers. The Girls' School had a balance of £777; but I also find that it had overdrawn its account by £4000. Brethren, on the whole, therefore, what we must call a bad business, I hope is not quite so bad, even on this present showing, which is the worst and most unfavourable showing as it might be. I am indeed told, but I do not wish to give it on authority, either of myself or any one else, that when the accounts came to be examined, it may possibly turn out that Grand Lodge will be a very small loser. I think it right to say that; but still we know nothing at the present for certain, though we must be prepared for a loss, though I trust it may not be a heavy loss. Brethren, I would propose that the arrangement which I have explained to Grand Lodge be carried out during the next quarter, and that at present a Committee be appointed consisting of the Pro Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, ex officio, the Grand Registrar, the Presidents of the Boards of General Purposes and Benevolence, and of the Colonial Board, together with Bro. Havers, Bro. Philbrick, and Bro. Gibson, to enquire into and report upon the whole of our financial and banking arrangements.

Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M.: Most Worshipful Sir, I have very great pleasure in rising to second that motion, "That this Committee be appointed." I think, brethren, that we must all be gratified to hear that the loss, if I may say so, is comparatively so small, and certainly, speaking for myself, I was under the impression it would be very much larger. But brethren, I have no doubt that, whatever that loss may be, it will be easily made up. I have that confidence in my Masonic brethren to feel that they will not let any loss of this kind remain, if I may say so, as a slur on Masonry. In proof of what I say, I have this morning received a letter—it is a letter from a worthy brother in Lancashire—and if you will allow me I will read you two or three sentences out of it. He says: "I have seen with great regret that by the failure of Messrs. Willis, Percival, & Co. the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter, and above all the various Masonic Charities, will be great losers. It must occur to every one that for the Charities this loss is very like a calamity. All I can say is that I, for one, shall be most happy to contribute to a special fund to replace these losses to the Charities, and that I may be counted upon for 200 guineas to be given in proportion to the losses sustained by them severally." This brother is, I may say, a most worthy, a most charitable brother. He has not authorised me to read this letter; he has not authorised me to give his name; but I have no hesitation in doing so. It is Bro. W. Harrison, the Past Provincial Grand Senior Warden of East Lancashire of the 64, the 118, and the 345 Lodges. Now, brethren, I think that this is an example. I showed the letter to our Pro Grand Master before coming into Grand Lodge, and he agreed with me that it would not be right to keep the name in the dark. Such an example is one which shadows forth what the Craft will do—I do not say at once—but the time may come when those losses may have to be made up. I think this is an example worthy to be followed. I have the greatest possible pleasure in seconding the motion.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, P.G.D.—Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master, I beg to say that as we have heard of the unfortunate circumstances of a good brother who has always stood upon the dais, because calamity has come upon him we ought not to discountenance him. He may possibly not have had control over this concern, and we ought to sympathise with him rather than condemn him. (Bro. Stewart's observations were received with great interruption, and with cries of "No, no," and "Vote, vote," which rendered his further remarks entirely inaudible.)

Bro. J. M. Klenck, W.M. 1686.—M.W. Pro Grand Master, there is only one alteration I should like to suggest. I quite agree with the view that has been expressed, and am in thorough accord with the observations that have been made by yourself; but I should be a great deal better pleased if the name of the Bank of England had been substituted for that of the London and Westminster Bank. (cries of "Hear, hear," and "Vote, vote.")

The Earl of Carnarvon.—Brethren: I understand that it is the desire of Grand Lodge to come at once to a vote on this subject, and I think you are right. I may just mention with reference to a point that was raised by the worthy brother who spoke last, who recommended that the Bank of England should be the Bank, instead of the London and Westminster, that I think it would be very unsatisfactory and injurious if we were to make choice of one bank against another; but inasmuch as this is a purely temporary arrangement, and inasmuch as that arrangement was entered into under very pressing and critical circumstances on their own behalf (which I felt myself quite justified in approving at once) by the Grand Secretary and the President of the Board of General Purposes, I do not think it would be quite fair or expedient if we were to reverse that without any just cause. However, this is starting quite afresh, and as it is, I think Grand Lodge would wish to allow the present arrangement, which is a purely temporary one, to subsist for the next three months. The only addition which I think it would be desirable to make to the motion which I have put to you, is that the election of Grand Treasurer be postponed, because that will afford the Committee an opportunity of giving any recommendation on the subject which they may think in their discretion proper. The resolution therefore which I have to put is first of all, "That the election of the Treasurer be postponed."

The motion was carried nem. dis.

The Earl of Carnarvon.—Brethren, the next proposal I shall have to make will be, "That the provisional arrangement entered into for the drawing of orders in the name

of the Grand Secretary and the President of the Board of General Purposes be adopted, with the addition 'that the name of the President of the Board of Benevolence be added to that number,' and it being also understood that the locum tenens of those Presidents have full authority to sign, with the counter signature of the Grand Secretary."

This motion was also carried.

The Earl of Carnarvon.—Brethren, and lastly, it is my duty to put to you a resolution, "That a Committee be appointed, consisting of the Pro Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Registrar, the Presidents of the Boards of General Purposes and Benevolence and Colonial Board, Bros. Havers, Philbrick, and Gibson, to enquire into and report upon the whole of our financial and banking arrangements."

The motion was carried unanimously.

The following grants recommended by the Lodge of Benevolence were then confirmed:—

The widow of a Bro. of the Old Union Lodge,	
No. 46, London	£50 0 0
The widow of a Bro. of the Mechanics Lodge,	
245, Jersey	50 0 0
The widow of a Bro. of the Royal Athelstan	
Lodge, No. 19, London	50 0 0
A brother of the Strawberry Hill Lodge, No.	
946, Twickenham	100 0 0

The next business on the paper was the report of the Board of General Purposes, which stated that:—

In the month of September last a complaint was preferred by the Duke of Connaught Lodge, No. 1558, Camberwell, against Bro.—, the Treasurer of the lodge, for falsifying the accounts, and detaining the books and papers of the lodge. Bro.— was summoned to attend the Board to answer that complaint. Not attending to such summons a peremptory summons was directed to be sent to Bro.—. At the meeting of the Board in November, in his continued absence, the adjudication was further adjourned, and Bro.— required to hand in his books and papers to the Grand Secretary forthwith. This order not being complied with, the Board ordered Bro.— to be peremptorily summoned to attend the next meeting of the Board. Bro.— failed to attend this peremptory summons, or to satisfactorily account for his absence, and it was resolved, "That Bro.— be suspended in accordance with the Constitutions, and the suspension notified to Grand Lodge."

On the motion of Bro. J. B. Monckton, seconded by Bro. T. Fenn, this report was taken as read, and ordered to be received and entered on the minutes.

Bro. J. B. Monckton then said.—M.W. Pro Grand Master, the next business on the paper is the resumption of the adjourned debate on so much of the report of the Board of General Purposes of 21st August last as relates to the Lodge of Benevolence, viz., that set out on the agenda paper. I had not the opportunity—the advantage I may call it—of being present when the report came up, and I am glad to-day to be here in order that I may put the Board right with Grand Lodge, and I hope I may put Grand Lodge right with the Board. In the first place, I have to say one thing with great emphasis. One or two brethren, perhaps more during the interval that has elapsed since the adjournment of the debate, have said that in effect if the report is not agreed with it will be practically a vote of censure on the Board of General Purposes, and that it would be better to withdraw it. Now, the reason why the Board of General Purposes were unanimous in these resolutions was this. In the first place we had no option to withdraw the report, which was brought up last September, and placed before Grand Lodge. It was brought up and placed before Grand Lodge, and it remained in the hands of Grand Lodge; and it would have been impertinence in us to make a movement to withdraw from Grand Lodge that which we had brought up. For the rest I may say emphatically that the Board of General Purposes quite remembered that they are Masonically the servants of Grand Lodge—the serving board of Grand Lodge during the year—on whatever matters are put before us to consider and report upon, and having considered and brought up a report we do so to the best of our ability, and with all respect to Grand Lodge; but we never forget that we are still members of Grand Lodge, and being members of Grand Lodge we desire to be guided by the opinion of the majority as any other members would do. I say this because I would not have it thought, nor would any member of the Board have it thought, that the motion before Grand Lodge if not carried would cast any reflection on the Board of General Purposes. We simply desire the Grand Lodge to take it into consideration fairly and decide according to the best of its judgment, and the conscience of each of its members. I will retrace the steps that have been taken in the matter in order that those brethren who have not been present in Grand Lodge on previous occasions when this matter was before them may understand them. At the Quarterly Communication in June of last year the question of the constitution of the Board of Benevolence was very strongly spoken of, and by no less an authority than Bro. Clabon, than whom I may say there is no one better able to speak on a subject much concurred in by Grand Lodge. Bro. Clabon's observations were made on the subject of charity, and he said that our most sacred work of charity should be thoroughly, fully, and faithfully performed, and in order to that end some alterations seemed to him necessary in the constitution of the Board of Benevolence. Those remarks were at any rate so strongly endorsed at the time by Grand Lodge, that the matter went to the Board of General Purposes to consider. It was therefore not an initiation of the matter on the part of the Board. What we had to do was to consider the matter sent to us to the best of our ability. The point that I think Bro. Clabon dwelt upon indirectly—for he said as President he should not directly put it—was that

a brother, (say myself) who never attends the Board of Benevolence regularly, (as I am very much engaged in other duties I am unable to do so), suddenly appears at the Board for the purpose of assisting and forwarding the interests of a particular case, that is coming before the Board. I will plead guilty of having done so once, and when I did, I did it because I felt strongly in regard to the case. I attended, and did my best for that case, but I am not going to claim that thorough justice was not done to the funds of the Craft thereby. Still I think greater justice would be done if it were done by a number of brethren who constantly attend, and have the cases before them. (cries of "No, no"), and that is what occurred to us who sat on the Board of General Purposes as being in the minds of Grand Lodge, when it thought some alterations should be made in the constitution of Lodge of Benevolence. I am quite ready to admit that many brethren in the Craft who have filled the chair, will say that any alteration in the Constitution or Lodge of the Benevolence would disfranchise a great many of the Craft. (hear, hear), Well, after all, M.W.G.M., I will ask Grand Lodge, to bear in mind that we in the Craft are not individual; we are one homogeneous whole; we desire the good of the whole of the Craft; and I do not think that brethren who consider the matter a short time will say that any good can be done, if individuals and not the whole body are to be considered. I think that will weigh with the minds of Grand Lodge. That weighed with us at the Board, when we thought the Board should be a permanent body for a year. There are two amendments, Worshipful Sir, upon the paper, and although of course the movers of those amendments would in their turn have to say what they have to say upon them, I am sure they would desire to save the time of Grand Lodge. I would say that the first amendment of Bro. Tebbs appears to us at the Board somewhat unworkable, because of its details. The second by Bro. Gould seems to be a good thing to do, if Grand Lodge thinks it desirable that Provincial Grand Lodges should take an active part in representation on the Board. I may say for the rest, that when we put down here as the number, 52, as a fit number to constitute the Board of Benevolence we in no way bind Grand Lodge to 52. Whether the number be 20 or 104, I think matters not, the only thing we desire to enforce on Grand Lodge by the arrangement mentioned—and when I use the word "enforce" I do not mean it in compulsory sense, but only to impress upon Grand Lodge that the arrangement would such a one that the administration of the funds of the Craft should be the best which we think it would be if the same brethren attended at the Board, meeting after meeting. Therefore I move the adoption of this report. I desire to conclude as I began, and to pray Grand Lodge to take the matter into full consideration, and to decide upon it absolutely according to the best of the brethren's judgment.

Bro. H. C. Levander.—M.W.G.M., I beg to second the proposal of the President of the Board of General Purposes, who has so exhaustively put before you the whole subject, and said all that is to be said on it, that I think I shall best consult the wishes of Grand Lodge by not occupying any further time in speaking upon it. I beg to second the proposition.

Bro. J. M. Clabon, President of the Lodge of Benevolence.—M.W.G.M., it is my absolute duty to Grand Lodge that I, having been President of the Lodge of Benevolence since its alteration some eight or nine years ago, should tell Grand Lodge my humble feeling on the subject of these proposed alterations. I had the honour of being Chairman of the Committee which led to those alterations ten years ago, and having acted on it since I hope I am able to give evidence on the subject. I propose to take no part in forcing any resolution on Grand Lodge, but simply to tell them to the best of my belief what I think. The consideration of the Board of General Purposes has hardly said anything upon the first of the recommendations of the Committee, which is that the Lodge of Benevolence be in future designed as the Board of Benevolence, and I am not sure that he did not implicitly withdraw that, virtually, because when he inadvertently called it a Board he immediately corrected himself and called it a lodge, as it now is. Let me tell you that in old times, before the alterations of ten years ago, the constitutions called it, the Committee or Lodge of Benevolence, and in some cases, the Board of Benevolence. The Committee over which I presided unanimously recommended that it should be in future called simply the Lodge of Benevolence, and in consequence of that the constitutions were altered throughout and that name substituted. Before that time the Board had never been opened or closed as a Lodge, but since that time that had most carefully been done. We have not gone further than that; we have simply tyled the Lodge; and I hold and earnestly recommend that Grand Lodge should not alter that, because I think considering, as we do, the circumstances of unfortunate brethren, their widows and children, those matters ought to be discussed in a tyled Lodge, and not in an open Board. I have heard it said that we ought to have gone further, and instead of merely opening and closing Lodge, and tyling it, ought at least to have had a prayer to the G.A.O.T.U. I heartily submit this to the Grand Master that if we open and close it as a Lodge, he should direct us whether we should not add a prayer to the G.A.O.T.U., which, I for one, should be most happy to propose and to carry out. The President of the Board of General Purposes has gone to the general question, and as he has alluded to what I said at the Grand Lodge of last June, I may say I remain of precisely the same opinion as I expressed then. Our Lodge of Benevolence is a very shifting body. There are some members appointed by the Grand Master or by the Grand Lodge—I forget which—most of whom are very regular in their attendance, and those members thoroughly

understand their duty, and help me, or my Bro. Nunn, or Bro. Brett, whichever may be in the chair, in guiding our proceedings. But every Master, or some P.M. of every lodge in England is entitled to come; and so we have a very general body; and if the average attendance is, as I suppose it is, about fifty, perhaps those who attend with tolerable regularity is about ten, and the other forty or thirty, or something like that, are those who come occasionally. Sometimes members attend once, whom we never see again. I can hardly think that justice can be done to our suffering brethren by a shifting body of that kind. I know the feeling that exists among Masons. Every lodge thinks it a privilege for its master to come; and so it is; and if they attended regularly it might be so; only we should have too large a body. I ask the brethren to consider this—had we not better have a small and well-selected body. (Loud and numerous cries of "no, no.") Brethren, do for a moment consider whether you cannot give up your privilege in order to the business being done better. (Renewed cries of "no, no.") The object is to relieve the distressed. I think that may be done better by a smaller body than by a large one. (Renewed cries of "no, no.") However, having expressed that opinion, I say no more; and therefore I humbly submit to Grand Lodge whether it is not expedient to make a change in our Constitution as to number, and leave us a lodge, as we are. My own belief is that we should do the business better if our body was a well selected and smaller body. (Cries of "no, no.")

Bro. James Mason and Bro. F. Binckes rose together, but there were deafening calls for Bro. Binckes. The M.W.G.M. called on Bro. Binckes.

Bro. F. Binckes, P.G.S.—M.W.G.M.: As a tolerably constant attendant at the Lodge of Benevolence I have to address a few observations to Grand Lodge on this very important matter, and I shall commence those observations with a question. What argument can we adduce to justify this sweeping measure of disfranchisement? (Loud cheers of "Hear, hear.") Who can give me one single solitary instance of a miscarriage of justice in the consideration of any application to this Lodge of Benevolence? And then when we refer to a very important regulation, the canvassing for support for this or that case, it is strictly prohibited by the regulations of that lodge. I ask where or under what circumstances is canvassing more likely to be encouraged; whether where there is a constantly shifting board the members of which it is impossible to canvass, or where you have a small, selected, and uniform board? The system of canvassing, however forbidden, may or may not be practised now; but there is every facility given to canvass every member of the suggested Board, whose names will be known. I cannot for one single instant bring myself to believe that a Board, or lodge, whose work has been carried on so successfully hitherto, is at once to be ruthlessly altered on account of the feelings or the prejudices of some few brethren, whose cases may or may not have been considered so favourably as they think they were entitled to be. I know I am speaking the sentiments the majority of the members of the Craft in London, as well as in the provinces. I do not call on Grand Lodge to alter its disposition, but I call on Grand Lodge at once to give such an expression of feeling as to shew that that Board, composed of all the lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of England, shall not lay itself open to be charged either with dereliction of duty, or to be swayed by either favour or affection in considering the cases they are called upon to consider. I have said over and over again—sometimes I am quite prepared to admit with the President of the Board of General Purposes, that I have attended for the purpose of supporting a case I have wished to be successful, and with which I have been conversant. At other times I have had no such object, but I have seen a brother, or the widow or children of a brother, coming before the Board for relief, and I have been actuated by a sense of the functions of my office as Master or P.M., and been there, and occasionally I have borne my testimony to the nature of the case. If you are pleased to adopt such a recommendation as that on the paper, and to have this Board of Benevolence formed of an appointed or elected body of brethren, you will be simply carrying out what we have all condemned, in the administration of the affairs of our Masonic Institutions, the being governed by the principles of a Charity Organisation Society as to the exercise of our opinions, votes, and suffrages. In the face of this Grand Lodge I repudiate the idea that the Lodge of Benevolence is swayed by improper motives, and I say that it is less likely to be so in a shifting body than in a permanent body. I do hope that, in the sacred name of charity before alluded to, this Grand Lodge will give an unmistakeable expression of its opinion in favour of the Lodge of Benevolence as now constituted. (Loud and long continued cheers.)

Bro. James Mason, P.G.S.B.—M.W.G.M. and brethren: At my instance this proposition for the reorganisation of the Board of Benevolence was adjourned for six months. During the whole of that time I have given repeated consideration to the question; and the more I have thought of it, the more I am prepared to condemn the proposition submitted to you. For now, I believe, about a quarter of a century, I have had the honour and pleasure of attending at intervals the Board of Benevolence, and of all the Institutions that ever I entered, of all the charitable societies with which I have been connected, there is none that has given me more pleasure. The Craft is thoroughly represented there. Every lodge has a right to send its representative. Every lodge has a right to send its Master for the year, and if the Master for the year be unable to attend, then he can depute the I.P.M. or another officer of the lodge to attend for him. What can be better? In my opinion you can have nothing better. The brethren who attend are all Masons, and are desirous of doing their duty; and I for one, can say, the Board of General

Purposes has done what it considered its duty in submitting these proposals to you. But although there are two classes of opinion there, those who are always for hoarding, and saving, and accumulating, there are others who think it their duty to provide those large funds for the purposes for which they were organised, for decayed Freemasons, their widows and their children. Now we have a very large fund, and if you adopt a select vestry, as it were, if you have a select vestry, it may be canvassed; but now you have a constant flow and re-flow of members there, who cannot be canvassed. If you have a select body, if you have a body whose names are known to all the Craft, they can be easily canvassed. A large mixed body cannot be so swayed. (Cries of "Divide, divide") Brethren, let me submit to you one other observation. (Renewed cries of "Divide.") If you have a select board you will find that you will have but little voice. ("Divide" and "Agreed," "Agreed.") Brethren, feeling that you are almost unanimous on this question, I will say no more, but sit down; but I will move "The previous question."

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, P.G.D.:—And I second it. Bro. J. M. Klenck, W.M. 1686:—M.W.G.M.: Before this motion is put I wish to give my experience as a W.M. during my year of office of the Board of Benevolence.

The Earl of Carnarvon:—Brethren, the worthy brother is of course in his right to address Grand Lodge; but it is also, of course, for him to consider, when he sees how the feeling of Grand Lodge is strongly expressed to go to the vote, whether he will prolong his observations beyond a certain point.

Bro. Klenck again attempted to speak, but was met with loud calls of "Vote, vote."

The Earl of Carnarvon:—Brethren, I think Grand Lodge must give the brother a hearing. I am sure he will confine himself within the strictest possible limits of time; but I think Grand Lodge is bound to give him a hearing.

Bro. J. M. Klenck.—M.W.G.M.: I have attended the Lodge of Benevolence three times during my year of office, and I will just enlighten the brethren as to the number of brethren who have attended during my three visits. The largest number was fifty-one, exclusive of the Grand Officers. Another attendance was about twenty-one, and the other was about thirty-one. I think with the privileges the hundreds of members have of attending that Board of Benevolence, if it is reduced to forty, and we take the number of the attendants now as so small out of the hundreds who may attend, the number will be reduced to tens. From this I deduce an argument in favour of not entertaining this proposal.

The Earl of Carnarvon.—Brethren, I now call on Bro. Tebbs, who has a motion on the paper on this subject, to speak next. It will shorten our proceedings, I think, if he now addresses us.

Bro. the Rev. Wm. Tebbs, P.M. 285.—M.W.G.M., I believe I should fail in my duty to this Grand Lodge, inasmuch as a motion stands in my name, if I did not utter two or three words upon it; but I will not allow the proceedings to take up more of your time than I can help, inasmuch as I have very considerable reluctance in coming before Grand Lodge at all on a question of this kind. I have only ventured to trespass on you as a member of a lodge in a distant province which I represent, and I hope the brethren will give me their kind attention and a moment's forbearance while I speak to the amendment that stands in my name. If, as one brother whose name unfortunately I do not know, has stated, the Board of General Purposes are prepared to give up calling the assembly which dispenses charity by that name, which I think is rather an odious name in these days of Boards, and if they will stand by the old landmarks of our order, and call it a Lodge, then the greater part of that which I have to move this evening is accomplished. We know very well that the lodge stands in the same relation to its members as the household does to the family, and so far the lodge is the means by which charity is dispensed. The charity of a lodge is gathered into a certain focus, named the fund of Benevolence. The power of dispensing that is vested in the Lodge of Benevolence. That Lodge of Benevolence consists—(cries of "Question," "Question")—I hope the Board of General Purposes will allow the matter to stand as it does at present; but if it insists upon an alteration then I would wish to go on with my amendment. (Interruption.) I have no wish to take up the time of Grand Lodge unduly, but I want merely to press my amendment if the Board of General Purposes insist on their proposal; but I think we should not proceed with this if it is the wish of Grand Lodge to let matters remain as they are.

Bro. J. B. Monckton, President of the Board of General Purposes:—M.W.G.M., one word in reply. I think the whole matter may be settled and disposed of. Several brethren have said "withdraw the report." I reply to that that the Board of General Purposes cannot withdraw the report; but I think as suggested by Bro. Mason, that the carrying of the previous question will not answer, because I see that the feeling of Grand Lodge is entirely adverse to the report. The moving that the question be not now put will answer the purpose. If the previous question is carried, then the matter will remain on the paper and must come before Grand Lodge at every subsequent meeting. I suggest, therefore, that Bro. Mason should withdraw his motion of the previous question, in order that the Grand Lodge may if it please—and I see that there is no doubt it does so please—negative at once the report. I cannot, as President of the Board, who had the honour of being one of the advisers of Grand Lodge, fail to see that the feeling of Grand Lodge is to negative the report.

Bro. James Mason:—I beg to adopt the suggestion that has been so gracefully made by the President of the Board of General Purposes to withdraw my motion and allow these resolutions to be taken.

The Earl of Carnarvon:—Brethren, the two questions

that I shall put in order to take the sense of the Grand Lodge upon them are these; that the amendment in favour of the previous question be withdrawn first of all, and secondly, I shall put the substantive question that stands on the paper, aye, or no. Is it your pleasure that the previous question should be adopted or withdrawn?

The motion for withdrawing the previous question was then carried unanimously.

The Earl of Carnarvon: The next question that I shall put is the substantive question, that the resolution moved by the President of the Board of General Purposes be adopted. (No hands were held up.) On the contrary. (For this there was a general show of hands, and his lordship declared the contrary carried.)

Grand Secretary then read the report of Bro. R. P. Harding, Auditor of Grand Lodge accounts, of receipts and disbursements during the year 1877, and this report, on motion duly made and seconded, was ordered to be received and entered on the minutes.

The Earl of Carnarvon then said that the next business on the paper was the receipt of letters and papers from Lord de Tabley, Provincial Grand Master from Cheshire, recommending the erasure of the Southam Lodge, No. 1054 Wilmslow, from the Roll of Lodges.

Grand Secretary read the letter from Lord de Tabley, and another letter from the Secretary of the Southam Lodge praying on behalf of its members for a respite for twelve months. This latter document set forth that the lodge would now go on comfortably, and would be a united lodge.

The Earl of Carnarvon: Is the Worshipful Master of the Southam Lodge present? (There being no reply, his lordship continued). Then I will call on the Grand Registrar, who happens to be, I believe, the Senior Grand Warden of the Province, and who is conversant with the true state of this case, to explain to Grand Lodge, if he will, what the circumstances are.

Bro. McIntyre, G.R.—M.W.G.M.: I felt and do feel very great delicacy in speaking of a lodge which is within the province of which I have the honour to be appointed the Senior Grand Warden for the present year; but I must say that I know that our Provincial Grand Master, Lord de Tabley, has taken very great pains indeed, to ascertain the position of this lodge. Wilmslow is a township in the north part of Cheshire, within a very few miles of Manchester, and when that lodge was formed the idea of Lord de Tabley was that it would be composed principally of local members. That idea was unfortunately disappointed. Certainly a few local members joined and were initiated into Freemasonry in it. But now that the great city of Manchester has become so large it has sent a great number of men over to Wilmslow to be members of that Lodge, and by that means the Manchester members have completely out-voted and put to shame the local Wilmslow brethren. At the time the disturbances—for they really were disturbances—in this lodge took place there were very few local members in the lodge; it being chiefly composed of brethren from the City of Manchester. There was great difficulty in getting a lodge to be held at all. A gentleman who was proposed as a member found on going that no lodge was to be held, and the reason for no lodge to be held was that the Master and the Wardens did not come to the time, and the other members were not present. When one brother, who was the chief one that made this complaint to Lord de Tabley, had been initiated in Freemasonry, he had to wait seven months before being passed to the Second Degree. He states, in a letter which I have read, that on some occasions when he has come there, there have been no officers of the lodge present, and when the officers have been there the Worshipful Master (the place where the lodge was held was a public-house, with a bowling green attached) at five o'clock in the evening was playing at bowls, and did so till seven o'clock, when the other Manchester brethren had to go back by the ten minutes past seven train. Lord de Tabley on several occasions warned the lodge that they ought to be more particular—that brethren who were initiated ought to be passed to their other degrees, and at all events that their certificates ought to be obtained for them from Grand Lodge. This particular brother who complained so much was initiated, and for nine months he never got his certificate. The lodge was now I think in arrears to Grand Lodge; they have not paid their dues in the Provincial Grand Lodge, and Lord de Tabley directed a course of inquiry to be held. That inquiry was held, and by their unanimous report they suggested that the lodge should be erased, because they saw no chance whatever of the lodge being better. We have heard from the Grand Secretary the letter that has been sent by the lodge, in which they pray for further time. That, of course, must be left to Grand Lodge. I make no motion whatever. I ought, perhaps, to make a motion, as I am the representative of the Provincial Grand Master as his Senior Warden I merely gather the facts from letters before Grand Lodge, I state those facts, and it is for Grand Lodge to decide whether the recommendation of the Provincial Grand Master—having tried his best to keep the lodge in order, having done his utmost to see whether the lodge can be sustained, having sent a Commission of Inquiry to report and that Committee having reported that that lodge ought to be erased—shall be confirmed, or whether that lodge is to be continued. In my official capacity of Grand Registrar I know that the conduct of the province is left, as it must be left, to the Provincial Grand Master and to his Provincial Grand Lodge and those who advise him; and if he lays before you full and sufficient grounds why this lodge ought not to continue in his Province, Grand Lodge, ought to hesitate before they decide differently. I make no motion whatever, I have stated before the facts as they appear from the papers I have read, and I submit this that I know all the members of the Committee of Inquiry, all of them are men who are good Masons,

good men, and men of position, who would inquire candidly and fairly, and I think they would not come to any conclusion that was not warranted by the facts placed before them.

The Rev. C. W. Arnold, G.C.—After what has been said to us by the Grand Registrar, the brethren present can have no doubt or hesitation as to what ought to be done in this matter, and that such a lodge should be erased as a disgrace to Freemasonry. I move that it be erased.

Bro. H. A. Bennett, P. Prov. G. W. Cheshire.—I rise to support, as one of the Provincial Grand Officers of Cheshire every thing that our Bro. McIntyre has stated this evening. I think this lodge, as it is at present constituted, will not be able to carry out the duties of Masonry. I do not second the motion, but I only desire to support and confirm every word that our Grand Registrar has stated.

Bro. F. Davison: I second the motion.

The Earl of Carnarvon: Brethren, this motion for the erasure of the Southam Lodge has been moved and seconded, and you have heard the statement which those who are conversant with the locality have given, and on the other hand there is the fact which I think ought not to be disregarded that the Master of this Lodge has not thought fit to attend here and justify his conduct. I feel, as every one present must feel, that it is a serious, a very serious matter to erase a lodge; at the same time it is no less a serious matter to keep an unworthy lodge upon the roll of Freemasonry. The authority of the Provincial Grand Master ought to be maintained, and when those who are charged with, after all, what amounts to a commission of Masonic offences, do not appear either by themselves or their friends to defend their conduct. I can hardly see what course is open to Grand Lodge, except to agree to this resolution.

The motion was then put and carried unanimously.

Grand Secretary read an application from the Royal Lodge, No. 207, Kingstown, Jamaica, for assistance to enable them to build a Masonic Temple, but no motion was made upon it.

Grand Secretary read a letter which he had that afternoon received from the Secretary of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution, relative to the model of the lifeboat placed in front of the Grand Master's pedestal. The letter was as follows:—"Dear sir and brother, I have the honour, by direction of my Committee, to ask the acceptance by Grand Lodge of models of the lifeboats and transporting carriages, accompanied by water colour drawings of the lifeboat houses at Clacton-on-Sea, and Hope Cove, which the Freemasons of England generously presented to the National Lifeboat Institution as a token of the thankfulness of the Craft for the safe return from India of the Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. I am to add that the Committee and officers of the Institution will spare no effort to maintain the property of the Masonic Lifeboat Establishment, which will ever be a monument of the sympathy of the Craft for the shipwrecked sailor. I am, yours truly and fraternally, Richd. Lewis."

This letter was ordered to be entered on the minutes, and Grand Lodge was closed in the usual form.

REPORTS, etc., intended for insertion in current number, should reach the Office, (198, Fleet-street), by 12 o'clock noon, on Wednesdays.

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

ROYAL JUBILEE LODGE (No. 72).—The usual and ordinary meeting of this lodge was held on Monday evening, March 4, at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street, and was very numerously attended by members and visitors. Bro. Watson Carr, W.M., presided. Bro. Dunn, S.W.; Bro. Dann, P.M. (in the absence of Bro. Harvey), J.W.; Chesterton, S.D.; Thurston, I.G.; J. N. Bate, Steward; Joseph Nunn, Secretary; and Past Masters Hines, Dodson, and Durkin; besides the following visitors: G. Smith, 186; Tattershall, P.M. 140; Dalby, 1475; Whitfield, 1000; Mudge, Mount Carmel; J. Dixon, W.M. 1728; H. Thompson, 1426, and P.M. 177 and 1158 (*Freemason*); Batchelor, 147; Robards, P.M. and P.Z. 228; Greenwood P.M. 410, and P.G. Secretary for Surrey; Biddle, 193; Tomkins, 201; Chalk, S.D. 1558; Fenwick, 1178; and several others whose names were not clearly expressed. The business of the evening commenced at five o'clock with an ample list to be disposed of, consisting of four raisings, one passing, and one initiation. The lodge having been opened and the minutes of the last lodge read and confirmed, the lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and Bros. Whiffen, Craddock, Reid, and Dobson questioned as to the progress they had made in the science, and their answers being considered satisfactory, the lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and they were raised to the Sublime Degree. The lodge was then lowered to the Second Degree, and, after a preliminary examination, Bro. W. Koolman was passed to the degree of a F.C. The lodge was then resumed to the First Degree, when Mr. R. Bachelor, who had been regularly balloted for and approved as a candidate was admitted and duly initiated into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry. Some communications having been made by brother Joseph Nunn, the Secretary, the lodge was closed in due form and the brethren adjourned for refreshment. At which, in consequence of the indisposition of the W. Master, Bro. Hines, the Immediate Past Master, took the chair. On the withdrawal of the cloth, the W. Master (pro tem.) proposed "The Queen and the Craft," who, as the mother and descendant of a Freemason, had always felt the deepest interest in the welfare of the Craft. The toast was heartily responded to. "The Health of his Royal Highness

the Prince of Wales, Most Worshipful Grand Master, was then given, and received with the usual honours. The other formal toasts were afterwards proposed and responded to. The acting W. Master said that he had then to some extent a painful duty to perform, as he had to introduce the name of their W. Master, who had been obliged to leave on account of indisposition, and who had requested him to take his place. Their W. Master had that night given them an earnest of what he could do, although it was not long since that he had only just stepped over the threshold of Freemasonry. He had been obliged to retire, but he had left him (Bro. Hines), in full power to do all that might be required to make them comfortable, his worst wish being that they might be all happy, contented, and delighted while they remained in the Royal Jubilee Lodge. He therefore asked them to rise and drink to the health of the W. Master, which was readily responded to. The W. Master (pro tem.) said the next toast he had to propose placed him in somewhat an invidious position, in as much as he had to put himself forward amongst the Past Masters, although he had been put into the position of W. Master. He trusted, however, that they would lose sight of whoever was in the chair, and only do honour to the Past Masters. He had been astonished by the Past Masters of the lodge, and as long as the G.A.O.T.U. should spare them, and allow them to permeate the Royal Jubilee Lodge, he trusted that they would continue to astonish young Masons. When they approached the Past Masters, it was as it were sitting at the feet of Gamaliel, for it was from them that they received instruction and education up to the highest point. For himself, he was but a juvenile member amongst the Past Masters, but he hoped in time to be placed in the same category as they now enjoyed, and when one or two of them had passed away, then perhaps there might be an opening for minor minds like himself (laughter). He gave "The Health of Bros. Dodson, Dann, and Durkin," P.M.'s of the Royal Jubilee Lodge. Bro. E. Dodson, in returning thanks for the P. M.'s, said they were very pleased that the W. Master (pro tem.) had so good an opinion of their own body. They were also pleased at the manner in which their health had been proposed, and could assure them that they would do everything in their power that could add to the happiness of the brethren. His brother on his left (Bro. Joseph Nunn), was more able to reply on behalf of the Past Masters than himself, but at the same time he took the opportunity of expressing their thanks for the manner in which their health had been proposed and responded to. He concluded by proposing "The Health of Bro. Hines, W.M.," who, during his year of office, had discharged his duties with great ability. (Loud cheers.) Bro. Chalk, one of the visitors, sang "The Village Blacksmith," in a style which delighted all, and he was rewarded with unanimous and enthusiastic applause. Bro. Hines, in responding, thanked the brethren for the very kind way in which his health had been proposed and responded to, although, his Bro. Dodson had gone a long distance to say something good of him, but he thought some of his observations and compliments were unmerited, although he could sincerely say that he had endeavoured to do his best to carry out his duties. He knew perfectly well that he had omitted many things he ought to have done, and done things that ought to have been left undone, but if they were pleased with him he was well satisfied, and trusted that any shortcomings on his part would be blotted out of their recollections. The W.M. said the next toast he had to propose was a most pleasurable one to any brother who occupied the chair in his parent lodge. The toast he had then to propose was the health of one whom he had now the pleasure of calling brother, who had married himself to them, and was no longer a bachelor—(cheers, and loud laughter)—one who had the courage to leave the outer world and come into the Jubilee Lodge. He had been waiting ever since half-past two, although the summons said it would be half-past six before he could be initiated, so that it would be seen he felt some interest in becoming a Freemason. He had gone through the trying ordeal in a proper manner, and had come out of it unscathed, and he (the W.M.) was sure that he would never regret the step that he had taken. He would long remember the night on which he was initiated in the Royal Jubilee Lodge, and the beautiful tenets to which his attention had been called by the W. Master, which he had been good enough and kind enough to make. He exhorted him to be careful of what he had been taught, and to practise out of the lodge what he had been taught within it, and when his friends discovered the change which had taken place in his conduct, it would only be explained when they afterwards found out that he had become a Mason. He concluded by proposing "The Health of their newly-initiated Bro. Bachelor." Bro. Bachelor returned thanks, and expressed his desire to do everything in his power to benefit the lodge, and endeavour to gain the respect of every member. The W. Master then proposed "The Visitors," giving them a hearty welcome, for which Bros. Greenwood and H. Thompson severally returned thanks. One or two other toasts were given, and the evening's amusement was most harmoniously brought to a close.

LODGE OF JOPPA (No. 188).—The brethren of this lodge met on Monday, the 4th inst., at the Albion Hotel, Aldersgate-street. Bros. Muller, W.M.; Spiegel, S.W.; Hymann, J.W.; Campion, S.D.; Baker, J.D.; Isaacs, I.G. The minutes of the previous meeting, after debating with respect to the informal election of Treasurer, were confirmed. Brother Wynman was raised in a creditable manner by the W.M. Several poor Masons applied for relief, which was readily granted. After closing the lodge, 74 brethren sat down to a banquet, as usual at the lodge of Joppa. The usual loyal toasts were proposed, and as customary afterwards "The W.M." "The P.M." "The Visitors," "The Joppa Benevolent Fund," and "The Officers," and each was respectively responded to.

FAITH LODGE (No. 141).—This lodge held its last meeting at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Tuesday,

26th ult. The lodge was convened at six o'clock, and there were present amongst others Bros. E. Mallet, W.M.; C. Dairy, S.W.; Rumball, J.W.; Morrison, J.D.; Walls, G.P.O. Middlesex (*Freemason*), acting I.G.; Carter, P.M., Treasurer; W. Stuart, P.M., Secretary; Davis, I.P.M.; Clark, D.C.; and Past Masters Hopwood, P.G. Sword Bearer Middlesex, &c.; Taylor, Green, Themans, and Waygood. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M. with the assistance of his officers initiated Mr. Holmes and passed Bro. Abrahams to the degree of a F.C., both ceremonies being most carefully performed. The S.W. then produced a design for a coat of arms for the Faith Lodge, and which, together with many others, is intended to be placed in the new Masonic Hall, which is about to be built by Bro. Clemow for the convenience of those lodges and chapters who hold their meetings at Anderton's. The shield after some discussion was unanimously approved, and a vote of thanks passed and ordered to be entered on the minutes to Bro. Dairy for the trouble he had taken in the matter. It was also ordered that the design should be emblazoned in true heraldic colours on vellum, and to be framed and glazed. The lodge was shortly afterwards closed, and the brethren and visitors, to the number of nearly sixty, adjourned to the Pillar Room, where a most excellent banquet was served by Bro. Clemow and assistants. The visitors were Bros. J. Wilson, W.M. 1155; Barrett, W.M. 1706; Millais, 25; Lowson, 188; Caswell, 212; Hocking, 382; Walters, 489; Dunn, 813; Stephens, 1623; Moss, 1706. At the conclusion of the banquet the W.M. gave the customary Royal and Craft toasts, briefly but pertinently. "The Health of the W.M." was proposed warmly by the I.P.M., and enthusiastically drank by the brethren, and the W.M. having acknowledged the compliment immediately gave "The Initiate," who made a modest but excellent response. The remaining toasts were "The Visitors," "The Past Masters," and "The Officers." During the proceedings contributions of harmony were given by Bros. Davis, sen., Walls, and others. The next meeting of the lodge will be held on the last Tuesday in the present month.

YARMOUTH.—Friendship Lodge (No. 100).—The annual festival of this lodge was held at the Crown and Anchor Hotel, on the 26th ult., when Bro. R. W. Hubbard was installed W.M. for the ensuing year. The ceremony was performed in a most able manner by Bro. Oswald Diver, P.M., in the presence of a large number of brethren. The W.M. then appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. Spence, S.W.; P. Glover, J.W.; Rev. H. J. Bode, Chaplain; D. R. Fowler, Sec.; J. Palk, S.D.; A. D. Stone, junior, J.D.; W. Turrell, I.G.; A. D. Bennett and F. Brooks, Stewards. The installation took place in the lodge-room, which presented a very attractive appearance, the whole of the furniture having been most chastely and elegantly restored and painted by Bro. Calver; while a beautiful new Masonic carpet had been supplied by Bro. Bennett (connected with Messrs. Chamberlain, Sons and Co). The brethren afterwards adjourned to the new room recently built by Bro. J. Franklin, with a view to the increasing accommodation required by the lodge, and which has been so arranged as to enable the minutest details demanded for Masonic purposes being carried out. The work has been effected in a most admirable manner by Bro. Howes, P.P.G.S. of W. A splendid banquet was provided by Bro. Franklin. The menu and toast list were embellished with aptly-chosen Shakespearian quotations, principally compiled by Bro. Glover. The following is a copy of the toast list:—"We'll have a speech, straight; come give us a taste of your quality."—Hamlet. "Good wine is a good familiar creature, if it be well used."—Othello. Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen; "The queen of earthly queens."—Henry VIII. H.R.H. Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.; "The immortal heir of England, the hope and expectation of the time."—It is the Prince of Wales.—Henry IV. The Right Honourable Earl of Carnarvon, M.W. Pro G. M.; the Right Honourable the Lord Skelmersdale, R.W., Dep. G. M.; and the rest of the Officers of the Grand Lodge of England, Past and Present; "Good men and true."—Much ado about Nothing; "Salutation and greeting to you all."—As You Like It. The Right Honourable the Lord Suffield, R.W. Prov. G.M.; "In faith he is a worthy gentleman."—Henry IV. W. Bro. Major Penrice, Dep. Prov. G.M., and the rest of the Provincial Grand Officers, Past and Present; "So are they all, all honourable men."—Julius Cæsar. The W.M. Bro. R. W. Hubbard; "Worshipful Master."—Taming the Shrew; "Installed in that high degree."—Henry VI. The Installing Master, Bro. Oswald Diver, P.M.; "You have made good work, you, and your apron men."—Coriolanus. The I.P.M., Bro. R. Martins, and the other Past Masters of the lodge; "Most potent, grave, and reverend signors, my very noble and approved good masters."—Othello. The Newly appointed Officers; "Bear their blushing honours thick upon them."—Henry VIII. The Secretary; "It shall be said his judgment ruled our hands."—Julius Cæsar. The Masonic Charities; "As much for my poor brethren as myself."—Measure for Measure; "The charitable duty of our Order."—Comedy of Errors; "It blesseth him that gives and him that takes."—Merchant of Venice. The Visitors; "Pray you bid these friends welcome."—Winter's Tale. The Ladies; "I'll blush your thanks."—Winter's Tale. The Tyler's Toast; "Stand not upon the order of your going, but go at once."—Macbeth. Among those present at the banquet, in addition to the W.M. (who presided), and the officers already named, were:—Bros. E. P. Youell, W.M. 1631; Capt. S. Lacon, C. Chipperfield, P.M.; H. M. Baker; E. J. Bonfellow, P.M.; Howes, P.M.; Hanlon, P.M.; R. Martins, I.P.M.; J. Hammond, &c. About 70 brethren in all sat down to the repast. The banquet was enlivened by the strains of the East Norfolk Militia (under the conductorship of Mr. E. M. Sturge), and who were kindly permitted to attend by the

officers of the regiment through the intervention of Bro. Capt. Dods. A programme of vocal music was also presented, the brethren taking part being Bros. Bonfellow, Pycraft, Glover, Calver, Green, Bennett, Rolfe, Franklin, and Spence. The singing of Bro. Green was especially admired. Both his songs, "I'll not ask thee to forget me," and "I fear no foe," and a duet which he sang with Bro. Glover, "The Moon has Raised," were encored. Altogether the proceedings passed off very pleasantly; and the brethren of the district are to be congratulated on the success of the gathering.

BEDFORD.—Stuart Lodge (No. 540).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 27th ult. To the great gratification of the brethren the chair was taken by the W.M. in person (Bro. Dr. Rhys Williams), who had sufficiently recovered from the unfortunate accident, that we lately announced, to allow him to undertake the journey from town. As Dr. Williams cannot yet walk without support, he was assisted in certain parts of the ceremonies by Bro. Dr. Prior, P.M. and Sec. of the lodge. Other officers present were the S. and J. Wardens, Bros. Colburne and Coombs; S. and J. Deacons, Bros. Allan and Thody; Bros. Carter, I.G.; Rev. C. Brereton, Chap.; Ald. Serjeant, Treas.; Ald. Bull, J.P., Steward; Piper, Org.; and G. Reynolds, Tyler. Past Masters Cuthbert, Cookson, G. P. Nash, Billson, and Green were also present, as were Bros. Glubb, Verey, Boughton-Smith, Stafford, H. Young, Moore, Chibnall, Foster, Thompson, Kilpin, Pick, Warren, Jarvis, Ayres, H. Allen, Jessop, and others. Bro. Haydon, P.G.S., was also present as a visiting brother. After the usual routine business, Bro. H. A. Allan was raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M., and Mr. A. L. Jessop was then balloted for, elected, and initiated. The brethren then adjourned from labour to refreshment, when, as the W.M. was compelled to leave, the senior P.M. present, Bro. Dr. Prior, took the chair. The attendance at both lodge and supper was unusually large, and the work was remarkably well done all round.

BARNARD CASTLE.—Barnard Lodge (No. 1213).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Friday, the 1st inst., an average number of brethren being present. Amongst other Masonic business was the election of Bro. Robert Kenny Rule, Lodge No. 1121, Wear Valley, Bishop Auckland, as joining honorary member, as a mark, though slight, of the esteem he was held in by the brethren of this lodge, and to whom their thanks were due, for the valuable aid he has so kindly rendered. The financial position of the lodge was then gone into, and was found not so satisfactory as could be wished, and the subject was ordered to be brought forward again at the next lodge. The ventilation of the lodge room not proving so satisfactory as desirable, Bro. Richardson, P.M., undertook to get the defect remedied at his own cost. The W.M., Bro. J. W. Bradcock, having offered to get the Warrant of Constitution of the lodge framed, Bro. B. S. Beckwith, J.D., suggested that an effort be made to procure the warrants of Constitution of the various Masonic lodges which have from time to time been held in Barnard Castle, and that they also be framed and suspended in the lodge room of the Masonic Hall, Newgate. The lodge was then closed, the brethren afterwards partaking of refreshment.

LIVERPOOL.—Dramatic Lodge (No. 1609).—The ordinary monthly meeting of this admirably conducted and most prosperous lodge was held on the 26th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool. There was a very large and highly influential attendance of brethren. The W.M., Bro. W. J. Chapman, was in his place, and amongst those who gave him support were Bros. J. Bell, I.P.M.; L. Courtenay, S.W.; J. Mackenzie, J.W.; A. Woolrich, Treasurer; J. Atkinson, Secretary; W. Sandbrook, S.D.; F. Wilkinson, J.D.; F. Emery, I.G.; J. Skeaf, P.G.O., and W. Burgess, Organists; J. Pyer, S.S.; W. Savage, J.S.; W. H. Ball, Tyler; H. Leslie, Reay, R. Borough, W. Hildyard, G. Hutchin, M. Robson, Berleaur, J. S. Macbeth, Dr. R. H. D. Johnson, Squire, Keaf, J. Levy, Coates, Cooke, J. Brown, Carter, and others. Bro. Commander Cheyne, R.N., was amongst the visitors. Messrs. Annand, Sanderson, and Owen were initiated, and Bros. Berleaur, Boyd, Wilkinson, and another were passed to the degree of F.C. It was unanimously resolved on the motion of Bro. J. Bell, seconded by Bro. Sandbrook and "thirded" by Bro. H. Leslie, that the initiate fee for non-professional candidates (who are not members of the dramatic, literary, or musical professions) should be increased from six to eight guineas. Banquet was subsequently served, and a pleasant evening was spent with toast and song, the proceedings closing about 7 o'clock.

INSTRUCTION.

EARL OF CARNARVON LODGE (No. 1642).—A meeting of this lodge of instruction was held at the Mitre Hotel, Golbourne-rd., Notting Hill, on Friday, the 1st inst., Bros. Spiegel, W.M.; Adkins, S.W.; Woodmason, J.W.; Penn, S.D.; Smout senr., J.D.; H. Dehane, J.G.; Savage, P.M. Preceptor; Smout, junr., Lichtwitz, Poulter, Pettenborn, Hatton, Gabb, Whitaker, Hook, Parkhouse, Chalfond, Webster, Spiegel. The W.M. rehearsed, after reading the minutes, the ceremony of Initiation, Bro. Penn being the candidate, after which the W.M. according to promise, previously made, gave the lecture on the First Tracing Board, at full length, with all the illustrations; the brethren paid great attention to the lecture, and were all highly pleased; most of them having heard the same for the first time. The W.M. nothing satisfied with his evening's work, worked in conclusion, the first and second sections of the first lecture. Bro. Charles Webster, No. 1318, was elected a member of this lodge. Bro. Savage, P.M., proposed Bro. Adkins as W.M. for the 15th of March, next Friday, the 8th, being officer's

night. Bro. Savage, P.M., proposed and Bro. Penn seconded that a vote of thanks be recorded in the minutes, for the special treat, the W.M. was pleased to give them this evening, which was carried. The W.M. briefly acknowledged the compliment.

Royal Arch.

NORTHAMPTON.—Northampton Chapter (No. 360).—The installation meeting of this chapter was held at the Masonic buildings on Thursday, 28th ult. Present: Comps. J. U. Stanton, Z.; R. Howes, H.; J. T. Green, J.; W. Kingston, N.; G. Robinson, E.; F. Gadsby, P.S.; J. Bingley, A.S.; Comps. B. Wilkins, D. Prov. G.M. Norths and Hunts; M. A. Boémé, T. Davis, S. Jacob, J. Kellett, P.Z.'s; J. H. Hale, C. Barnes, H. J. Atkins, H. W. Parker, and others. Bros. the Rev. S. J. Woodhouse Sanders and W. Kirby (as Serving Companion), both of the Pomfret Lodge, 360, presented themselves for exaltation, and were duly elected. Comp. Stanton performed the ceremony, being most ably assisted by Comp. Wilkins, and the several officers—Comps. Howes as Z.; Green as H.; and Kingston as J.—were duly installed in their several chairs by Comp. Wilkins in a most impressive manner. The following are the other officers for the ensuing year: Comps. G. Robinson, E.; E. Roberts, N.; F. Gadsby, P.S.; F. A. S. Bouverie, Asst. S.; Jno. Bingley, Asst. Soj.; Rev. J. Stimson, Chap.; J. U. Stanton, Treas.; Dean and Kirby, Janitors. At the conclusion of the business of the evening, the companions partook of an excellent banquet provided by Mrs. Forth, of the Peacock Hotel, in the admirable manner for which she is so well noted, and the remainder of the evening, under the genial presidency of the M.E.Z., was spent harmoniously and to the gratification of all present. The chapter has during the past year been unusually strengthened in numbers, and the coming year bids fair to be a most prosperous one.

LIVERPOOL.—Everton Chapter (No. 823).—The companions of this chapter were summoned to the fulfilment of their Masonic duties, at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, on Tuesday, the 26th ult. The chapter was opened at five o'clock by Comp. W. Cottrell, Z.; Comp. T. Shaw, H.; and Comp. J. W. Ballard, J.; in the presence of a very large gathering, which also included the following officers and members: Comps. Geo. Turner, P.Z.; Josh. Holland, P.Z.; Thomas Ashmore, P.Z., Treasurer; Joseph Hunter, E.; Josh. G. Hassell, N.; Henry Ashmore, P.S.; P. W. Oglesby, A.S.; J. M. King, A.S.; Jesse Banning, P.Z., P.P.G.P.S.; W. Boulton; Wm. Wilson; Geo. Lunt; Josh. Jenaway; Wm. Simpson; R. H. Webster; John Bessley; R. Clamp; C. D. Griffiths; Thos. Delamere; Jas. Pendleton; Edwd. Walker; James Harding; T. H. Careful; Luke Bagnall; John Cavenali; J. S. Cuthbert; J. Allen; D. Catton. The visitors were Comps. Hugh Williams, P.Z. 580, P.P.G.S.B.; Rich. B. Martin, P.Z., 1094; R. H. Evans, Z. 1393; R. H. D. Johnson, P.Z., 1094; Peter B. Gee, Z., 249; Jas. T. Callon, P.Z., 673; Thos. Roberts, H. 673; Henry Pearson, P.Z., 249; L. Ellis, H. 537; H. Burrows, J. 673; W. Woods, 249; R. C. Millor, 249; J. Archdeacon, 249; W. C. Jones, 292; Thos. Gray 220; J. Wood, Treasurer 249 (*Freemason*); R. S. Milne, John Lecomber, 203; R. P. France, 220. The minutes were read and confirmed, after which Bro. Jacob Comins was balloted for and elected, then exalted in a faultless manner by every officer. At the conclusion of the ceremony, Comp. Major Turner, P.Z., in the name of the companions, presented Comp. Cottrell, with a beautiful P.Z., jewel in very complimentary terms. Comp. Cottrell in very feeling terms thanked Comp. Turner and the others for the very handsome jewel, and said he felt a great amount of pleasure in accepting it as a token of their esteem and affection. A pedestal was then placed before him as Z., on which was placed a most splendid clock with the following inscription on a gold plate:—"Presented to Mrs. W. Cottrell, by the members of the Everton Chapter of Royal Arch Freemasons of England, as a mark of the respect and esteem in which her husband, Comp. W. Cottrell, P.Z., is held by the companions, Feb. 26, 1878. Signed on behalf of the members, Comp. Joseph Holland, P.Z., Chairman; William Wilson, P.M., Vice Chairman; Timothy Webster, S.E., Treas.; Joseph Hunter, Sec." Most Excellent Comp. P.Z. Holland, in the following terms, then presented the clock:—"This handsome clock is a present to yourself and wife from the companions of this chapter. Your conduct as a Mason has won the esteem and affection of all its members; you have filled all the offices in Craft Masonry with very great ability, and especially so in the chapter, and have now arrived at the climax of legitimate Freemasonry. This timepiece is one of the emblems of our Order—I have seen it represented as such in America by a female holding the hour-glass; so, Most Excellent, make good use of your time, and may the clock as the moments pass remind you that the opportunities for doing good are also passing away. May it remain in your family as an heirloom, and remind you and yours of the brotherly love in which you are held, and when time with you shall cease may you ascend to the Grand Lodge above, where time shall be no more. In reply, Bro. Cottrell said: Comp. Past Principal Holland, officers, and companions—I cannot find words sufficiently to thank you for this great mark of your favour. I can only say that this gift will greatly strengthen my attachment to the chapter, which I have always loved, and from which I have in return received the greatest love and esteem; and I trust every time I hear the strike of that clock I shall be reminded of the many happy hours I have spent in the chapter, and I hope while it marks the hours passing away the Great Ruler of all will enable me to make the

best use of my time. Companions, again I thank you. Comp. Turner then took the chair, and requested all companions below Z. to retire. He afterwards installed Comp. T. Shaw as Z.; J. W. Ballard, H.; and W. Boulton, J., in a manner not to be surpassed, if equalled, in any chapter in the province. The M.E.Z. invested the following officers: T. Ashmore, Treas.; T. Webster, S.E.; J. S. Cuthbert, S.N.; and W. Wilson, Principal Soj., who invested Comps. King and Baesley as his Assistant Sjs. Comp. P. Ball was re-invested as Janitor. After several propositions from the members, and "Hearty good wishes" from representatives of various chapters, the chapter was closed in due form. The companions retired for refreshment, under the presidency of the Z.

Knights Templar.

CONSECRATION OF ST. CUTHBERT'S PRECEPTORY, DARLINGTON.

The High and Eminent Great Sub Prior of England Sir Knight Lt. Col. Shadwell Clerke, consecrated the above Preceptory on the 26th ult., assisted by Sir Knt. Captain N. G. Philips, Prov. Prior of Suffolk and Cambridge; Sir Knight H. D. Sandeman, Prov. Prior of Bengal; M.E. Sir Knt. J. M. P. Montagu, Prov. Prior Dorset; Sir Knt. C. J. Banister, Prov. Prior of Northumberland, Durham and Berwick-on-Tweed, in the Masonic Hall, Arthur-street, where a goodly muster of Sir Knights from the province and many visitors had assembled. After consecration V.H. and C. Great Sub-Prior installed Sir Knt. Christopher Jackson as E. Preceptor, who appointed his officers. V.E. Sir Knt. C. J. Banister, Pro Prior, installed five of the candidates out of the ten proposed into the order, with his usual care. After business the Sir Knights adjourned to the King's Arms Hotel for the banquet, which was all that could be desired.

PROV. GRAND PRIORY OF NORTHUMBERLAND, DURHAM, AND BERWICK-ON-TWEED.

This Provincial Priory was opened on the 26th ult., by the High and Eminent Great Sub-Prior of England, Sir Knight Lieut.-Col. Shadwell Clerke, assisted by V.E. Prov. Prior of Suffolk, Cambridge, Bengal, Dorset; P.E.C. Major W. Woodhall, Gilbert Wilkinson, and many other Past Grand Officers. V.E. Sir Knight C. J. Banister was obligated and installed by the High and Eminent Great Sub-Prior most impressively into the chair, his patent being effectively read by Rev. H. Trastrim, Canon of Durham Cathedral, and after being duly proclaimed, appointed Sir Knight John Trotter, Prov. Sub-Prior, and the rest of his Provincial Officers, first proposing that a letter of condolence should be sent to the widow of the late E. Prior, Wm. Punshon, who had presided over the province so many years, which was carried unanimously. Reports were received from the preceptories in the province, which were all satisfactory. Business over, the Sir Knights dined together under the banner of the Saint Cuthbert's Preceptory.

Ancient and Accepted Rite.

CONSECRATION OF THE LEODENCIS CHAPTER ROSE CROIX, LEEDS.

This chapter was consecrated by Ill. Bro. Capt. Philips, Lt. Gd. Commander, 33°, assisted by Ill. Bros. General Clerk, J. M. P. Montagu, Lieut.-Col. Shadwell Clerke, H. D. Sandeman, all members of the Supreme Council, 33°; Ill. Bro. C. J. Banister, 33°, with members of the 32°, 31°, and 30°. Ill. Bro. Shadwell Clerke installed the M.W. Sov., Cap. Jno. Wordsworth, 30°, and perfected several members into the Order, Ill. Bro. C. J. Banister, 33°, assisting. Votes of thanks were unanimously passed to the illustrious brethren, making each honorary members of the chapter.

After the chapter was closed, the brethren adjourned to the dining hall, where an excellent banquet was prepared, presided over by the M.W.S., who proposed in rotation "The Queen," "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Grand Patron of the Order," "The Supreme Council," responded to by Capt. N. G. Philips, "Lieut.-Col. Shadwell Clerke," who after responding for himself, proposed "The M.W.S.'s Health," in very appropriate terms, who responded, hoping that the Supreme Council might soon visit them again, proposing "The Health of their friend and Bro. C. J. Banister, Inspector General of the Province," who on responding gave the officers and members good advice respecting the degree. Other Masonic toasts were proposed and responded to, and all enjoyed themselves thoroughly.

STUDHOLME CHAPTER, ROSE CROIX.

—On Monday, the 21st ult., the 30° degree was conferred on Bro. H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, at 33, Golden-square, in the presence of a limited number of members of the Ancient and Accepted Rite. Subsequently there was a meeting of the Studholme Rose Croix Chapter, when Ill. Bro. H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, 30°, who had been previously duly elected as M.W.S. of the Studholme Rose Croix Chapter, was presented by the Ill. Bro. Lieut.-Gen. Studholme Brownrigg, 33°, P.M.W.S. of the chapter, and was duly installed by the Ill. Bro. Lieut.-Col. Shadwell Clerke, 33°. His Royal Highness then was pleased to appoint the following officers for the ensuing year: Ill. Bro. Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, 30°, as Pro Most W. Sovereign; Ill. Bro. Captain Leopold Victor Swaine, 30°, High Prelate; Ill. Bro. the Earl of Donoughmore, 32°, as First General; Bros. Captain M. Studholme Brownrigg as Second General; Dr. G. B. Brodie, 18°, as Grand Marshal; Captain Leeson, 18°, as Raphael; H. H. Dobree, 18°, as Treasurer; Ill. Bro. C. Grillon, 31°, as Recorder; Bros. H. Morse, 18°, as Almoner; Travers Smith, 18°, as

Captain of the Guard; Captain Ormsby, 18°, as Herald; Ill. Bro. C. E. Willing, 30°, as Organist. The Immediate P.M.W.S., Ill. Bro. Lieut.-Col. Randolph, 30°, was then presented with a jewel of P.M.W.S. by His Royal Highness the Ill. M.W.S.

LIVERPOOL.—Liverpool Chapter Rose Croix.—The Supreme Council 33° visited this chapter, on the 20th ult., the following were present:—the M.P.S. Grand Commander, the Rt. Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, Lieut. G. Com. Captain N. G. Philips, Ill. Bros. General Clerk, J. M. P. Montagu, Lieut.-Col. Shadwell Clerke, Hugh D. Sandeman, also Ill. Bros. F. Fendelow, 33°; C. J. Banister, 33°; E. Pierpoint 32°; H. S. Alpass, 32°; C. A. Newnham, 32°; J. D. Moore, 32°; S. White, 31°; S. Stanhope, 31°; Walter Reynolds, 31°; I. W. Woodhall, 31°; H. Seeborn, 31°; Lieut.-Col. Birchall, 31°; a dozen members of the 30°, the M.W.S., officers, and brethren. Three candidates were perfected. All the members of the Council were elected hon. members. Afterwards all dined together at the Adelphi Hotel under the presidency of the M.W.S., Bro. Robertson. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and responded to, and a very happy evening was spent by all present.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—Royal Kent Chapter, Rose Croix.—The Supreme Council 33° visited this chapter and installed Ill. Bro. Major Monks, M.W.S., who was presented by Ill. Bro. C. J. Banister, 33°, to Ill. Bro. Lieut. Col. Shadwell Clerke, who placed him into the chair of his predecessors, in the presence of Ill. Bro. Capt. N. G. Philips, Lieut. G. Com. 33°; J. M. P. Montagu, Gd. Ch.; H. D. Sandeman, G.C.P.C. 33°; Ill. Bro. Major J. W. Woodhall, 31°; Ill. Bro. R. J. Banning, 30°; Ill. Bro. Gro. Robinson, Mayor of Newcastle, 18° P.M.W.S.; and a fair muster of the members. After the officers were appointed, the M.W.S. proposed the Ill. brethren as honorary members of the chapter, and hoped that they would soon visit them again, for these meetings were calculated to do much good in the provinces. After business was over the M.W.S. had prepared a sumptuous banquet, over which he presided, proposing all the loyal and Masonic toasts, which were suitably responded to, not forgetting his worship the Mayor of that ancient borough, who had been so kind in showing the Ill. brethren about, after partaking of his hospitality.

YORK.—St. Hilda's Chapter, Rose Croix.—To give éclat to this chapter, the Supreme Council 33° visited it on the 23rd ult. to instal the M.W.S. and perfect the candidates. The S.C. consisted of Ill. Bro. Capt. N. G. Philips, Genl. Clerk, J. M. P. Montagu, Lieut.-Col. Shadwell Clerke, H. D. Sandeman, also C. J. Banister, 33°; Major S. W. Woodhall, 31°; Walter Reynolds, 31°; H. E. Voegt, 30°; T. Marwood, 30°; Major W. H. Marwood, 31°; G. Wilkinson, 30°, and others. The M.W.S., Bro. Thomas Cooper, was presented by Ill. Bro. C. J. Banister, 33°, to Ill. Bro. Lieut.-Col. Shadwell Clerke, 33°, who installed him as M.W.S. After the officers were invested, the Ill. brother delivered an excellent charge to the M.W.S. and brethren of the chapter, which was listened to with marked attention. Three candidates were perfected. The members of the Council were unanimously elected honorary members, thanking them for their presence that day. Bro. T. B. Whythead kindly took the Ill. brethren to the many great objects of interest in the ancient city.

A WORTHY TRIBUTE.

In the early part of the present year the late Bro. Daniel McDonald died leaving a family of five children, who have now neither father or mother. The brother was an exemplary member, not only of Progressive Lodge but of the community in which he lived. The lodge, feeling the necessity of assuming the care of the helpless children, assumed the responsibility with alacrity, and set about straightening the affairs of the deceased brother for the benefit of the children. Among the labours connected with the case was the administering to the affairs, in a legal way, through the Surrogate's Court of King's County. These matters were placed in the hands of Mr. Thomas F. Farrell, a clerk in that office, who lost no time in completing all the necessary papers, and subsequently secured the probate without cost to the lodge or the estate. The other evening R.W. Bro. Thomas R. Le Count invited Mr. Farrell and W. Bros. Decker, Pickett, and Simonson; and Bros. Irwin, Haslam, sen., Crane, Guthrie, McKee, and Rowe, of the Brooklyn Times, to spend the evening with him at his residence. About 9 p.m., the gentlemen above named were seated in the parlour of the R.W. brother, when Bro. Rowe arose and presented to Bro. Farrell a set of handsome resolutions, very beautifully engrossed in album form, and bound in extra Russia, expressive of the sense of Progressive Lodge, No. 354, toward Mr. Farrell, for his kindness and gentlemanly traits in thus aiding them in so noble a manner without hope of fee or reward in the cause of true charity.

Mr. Farrell, somewhat astonished at the way the visit was turning, hardly knew what to say or do at first; but upon assurance that it was real, he thanked the lodge, through the gentlemen present, in thus noticing a profane, and added that he hoped at no distant day to be able to call those present and others "brothers in the mystic tie." but if this never came to pass he would always be as willing and as ready to assist the poor, the orphan, and the homeless as he has always been before.

The gentleman and brethren then spent an hour or so in social reflection, and retired, aglow with satisfaction, believing that while there was a Le Count and a Farrell the poor and needy would not always suffer.—*New York Dispatch.*

The celebrated cricketer, Julius Caesar, died on Wednesday, after a lingering illness, aged 48.

LOYAL SOCIETY OF ANCIENT BRITONS.

The Festival of the Most Honourable and Loyal Society of Ancient Britons, which took place on St. David's Day, was presided over by Sir George Elliot, Bart., M.P., Pro Grand Master for South Wales (Eastern Division), and was remarkable for the many distinguished Masons who supported him. The vice-presidents were Viscount Castle-reagh, George W. Elliot, Esq., M.P., Lord Harlech, Robert Jones, Esq., Joseph C. Parkinson, Esq., and James Lewis Thomas, Esq. Among those present were: Mr. S. Holland, M.P., General Brownrigg, Mr. Heath, M.P., Mr. McIntyre, Q.C., Mr. Samuel Pope, Q.C., Mr. Wm. Beattie, W.M. of St. Thomas's Lodge, Lieut. Richard Douse, H.M. 12th Regt. of Foot. C. W. Williams Wynn, M.P.; Mr. G. A. Sala, Mr. J. R. Kenyon, Q.C.; Mr. Edward Rhys Wingfield, Mr. Thomas Wood (Grenadier Guards); Major Jones, R.E.; Captain Ivor Herbert, (Grenadier Guards); Mr. D. R. Harris, Mr. John Edmond, &c. The Welsh schools, in behalf of which special contributions are raised in connection with the anniversary, are situated at Ashford, Middlesex. From the report for the past year it appears that since the institution was founded in the year 1737, 2525 boys and 809 girls have passed through the institution, and of these, 96 boys and 84 girls are in the present establishment. On the 1st of January this year the society had £50,000., the result of gradual accumulations, invested in the funds; but it is nevertheless to a large extent dependent on donations and annual subscriptions. The Chairman in proposing "Prosperity to the Welsh Charity Schools and Perpetuity to the Honourable and Loyal Societies of Ancient Britons," described a visit which he had just paid to the schools, and said the sole exception to his favourable impressions was the feeling that there was a deficiency of funds. Although not a Welshman, he had, he said, a strong interest in, and deep sympathies with, the Welsh people, and he much regretted that the benefits of the institution were not more widely diffused among them. He hoped that large employers of labour in the Principality would have their attention directed to the matter, and that its usefulness would in consequence be greatly increased. Welshmen in London ought to exert themselves in order that Welsh children might have the benefit of more liberal subscriptions, many of the children now being of another nationality in consequence of the necessity of making the institution pay. The musical performances were under the special direction of Mr. Brindley Richards, who kindly lent his aid on the occasion, and the music was of a national and very interesting character, one feature in it being the song of "The Men of Wales" (solo by Miss Mary Davies), which was written last year and set to music by Mr. Brindley Richards, in aid of the Tynewydd Miners' Fund. Two celebrated native harpers—Griffydd and his daughter—"Y Fronfraith Fach" were deputed to attend the dinner by Lady Llandover. Griffydd is domestic Harper to Lady Hanover, and Welsh Harper extraordinary to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. The vocalists, in addition to Miss Mary Davies, were Miss Lizzie Evans, Mr. John Williams, Mr. J. Lucas Williams, and a select Welsh choir, conducted by Mr. William Davies (Mynorydd). An ode by Sir F. H. Doyle, adapted to the ancient Welsh melody of "Llwn On," by Mr. Brindley Richards, was sung by the children of the school. The band of the Royal Artillery played an excellent selection of music. The total amount of the donations announced by the Secretary, Mr. C. B. Shaw, was upwards of £1000, including 100 guineas from the Queen, 200 guineas from the Chairman, in addition to a previous donation; 50 guineas from the Earl of Powis, £50 from Lord Tredegar, 50 guineas from Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, M.P., 50 guineas from Lord Penryn, 10 guineas from Mr. J. C. Parkinson, and the same amount from Mr. G. W. Elliot, M.P., and Mr. James Lewis Thomas, F.R.G.S., in addition to his annual subscription.

The installation meeting of the Royal York Lodge, No. 315, took place on Tuesday last, but owing to the pressure upon our columns this week, a report of the proceedings stands over. Also reports of lodges 78, 571, 1275, 862 (Instruction), Red Cross Conclave, 36.

The ship Windsor Castle, one of Messrs. Green's Blackwall Line, has just arrived from Brisbane, having made the passage in 78 days, the fastest time on record.

The Hon. Corps of Gentlemen-at-arms mustered the other day in their new ante-room with the view of receiving a large oil-painting of their late captain, the Earl of Shrewsbury. Lord Shrewsbury attended and read a feeling letter from his mother, the Countess, presenting the portrait to the corps, acknowledged the gift on behalf of the members of the corps in a few appropriate words. The likeness is painted by Mr. Hallé (son of the composer), and represents Lord Shrewsbury in the full uniform of the corps. The portrait on the whole is very successful and effective.—*The World.*

In our report of the Prov. G. Chapter of Middlesex last week, the word Middlesex was omitted from the remarks of Comp. Wiggington. The sentence should have read:—"Middlesex stood very high in the Craft, and he the M.E.Z., believed that it would in time also hold a very distinguished position in the Royal Arch."

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 free to any part of the United Kingdom, on receipt of twenty-five penny stamps. Address, Publisher, 198, Fleet-street, London.—ADVT.

Reviews.

"THE FOLK LORE OF CHINA," By N. B. DENNYS, Ph.D., F.R.G.S. Trübner & Co. 57, Ludgate Hill, London.

This is one of the most interesting works we have perused for some time. In the first place, it deals with that most prolific of subjects, Asiatic Folk Lore; in the next place, it concerns that wonderful Chinese people, estimated by some at 400,000,000 of whom so much is told us, but of whom, after all, so little is reliably known. Mr. Denny tells us at the outset, what is one great peculiarity connected with the Chinese Folk Lore, that, though, with us, such traditions are lingering, for the most part, as relics of by-gone superstition, popular ignorance, and that before the advance of knowledge,

"Each dear delusion dims and dies,"

yet that in China we have the "singular spectacle of an entire nation, numbering at the least 300,000,000 and perhaps 400,000,000 of souls, whose every-day life is framed to meet the exigencies of a puerile system of superstition." Of late years, much light has been cast on that most interesting subject, national and international Folk Lore, by the labours of Max Müller, Baving Gould, Thorpe, Dasent, Muir, Blecke, the Bros. Grimm, and Henderson. "cum multis alii," and no study per se, is more interesting to the ethnologist or the archaeologist. There is for instance, a great affinity, a mighty family likeness, as between the Folk Lore, the habits, the customs of China and that of the East and Europe.

Mr. Denny seems to find a counterpart in Chinese adages and traditions with some of the most cherished stories of oriental grace, and which are bound up with all the souvenirs of our own youth, even in dulter and older Europe, whether as regards the Fables of Æsop, Arabian Nights, the old tales which charmed our childhood, the divination of number, the "Sortes Virgilianæ" proverbial wisdom and the like.

Our readers will see how minute and emphatic is the similarity when Mr. Denny divides the tabulation of his chapters into the following heads.

(a.) Superstitions as to Personal Fortune, Birth, Marriage, Death, Days and Seasons, Portents, Auguries, Dreams, Lucky Numbers, Charms, Spells, Amulets and Divinations.

(b.) Superstitions as to various subjects.

(c.) Superstitions involving the interference of Supernatural Powers, Ghosts, Apparitions, and Supernatural Beings, Witchcraft and Demonology, Elves Fairies and Brownies, Serpents, Dragons, Fabulous Animals and Monsters, Superstitions as regards the Powers of Nature.

(d.) Legendary Folk Lore, Legends of Locality, Household Tales, &c.

(e.) Fables and Proverbial Folk Lore.

It will interest our learned and able Bro. Fort to be told that the mystic "Swastica," or "Thor's Hammer," called also the "Fylfot" is one of the commonest diagrams to be met with throughout China. It is said to be Buddhist in its origin, and to be one of the 65 or 108 "mystic figures which are believed to be traceable in everyone of the famous footprints of the Buddha." And here there comes in this further question, whence came all this system into China?

Are all these various developments of vagrant philosophies but declinations from primeval wisdom and truth? We recommend the work to the careful study of Masonic Students.

"WINNIE TRAVERS," by ANNIE LISLE. Groombridge and Sons, London.

We took up this one-volume tale with hesitation and doubt; we put it down with pleasure and contentment. Granted, if you like, that the earlier part is a little spun out, or too microscopic in its delineation of individual tendencies and personal idiosyncracies, yet the conclusion is alike animated and forcible, agreeable and affecting. It is pleasant to turn from tales of horror and deeds of darkness, from the "escapades of the roud" and the emotions of the libertine from those very fast sensations of faster young men and go-head young women of modern novélism, to a healthy moral and a human hero and heroine! The story is well told, well developed, and well concluded. We feel how clearly all through the writer is aiming at the right and the true, and we also see how well she personifies the more hateful form of selfishness, while she brings into a goodly light, the loving heart and the contented will, the simple fruits of patience and perseverance, the pleasant certainty of religious sympathy and religious lives.

We recommend the work to our young readers and for the matter of that to our older ones. We feel sure that like us, they will be pleased and glad to make the acquaintance of "Annie Lisle," who has already written works known to many, and popular with more, "Self and Self Sacrifice," "Quicksands," &c.

MUSIC.

"SATURDAY EVENING," a Hymn, by Miss CHARLOTTE ELLIOTT. The music composed by W. Moon, LL.D., and dedicated to Sir Charles Lowther, Bart., Lamborn, Cock, & Co., 63, New Bond-street.

We have received and looked over this very interesting little addition to the "Ars Musica," and wish to call attention to it, especially, in the pages of the *Freemason*. The words are written by Miss Elliott and very beautiful words they are. The music, composed by Dr. Moon, (the indefatigable pioneer of mental and religious improvement for the blind), and very effective and appropriate it appears to us.

Dr. Moon tells us that there are 3,000,000 blind persons in the world, of whom 30,000 are in Great Britain. Until a few years ago little or no provision was made for their

mental light, but thanks to him, and the munificent patronage of Sir Charles Lowther, Moon's Alphabet for the Blind is now adapted to 131 languages and dialects. We have long felt that a public recognition of Dr. Moon's many services to humanity would be alike desirable and proper.

The profits of this little hymn are to be given to the good work. We commend the Hymn to all our young friends, alike for organ and piano, as something very simple to learn and pleasant and improving to listen to.

Mulum in Parbo; or Masonic Notes and Queries.

LIST OF LODGES IN 1735, WITH PLACES OF MEETING.

As you have recently been publishing various lists of lodges of an early date, the following list, taken from the great work of Bernard Picard, on the religions of the world (Vol. IV., p. 252-3), may not be unwelcome.

KENNETH R. H. MACKENZIE.

1, Christ and Cross, Ludgate-street. 2, Bull, Holborn. 3, Horn, Westminster. 4, Swan, Hampstead. 5, Ship, behind the Royal Exchange (kept by Samuel Manship, circa 1720). 6, Mr. Braund's Tavern, New Bond-street. 7, Rummer, Queen-street, Cheapside (from 1709, opposite Bow Lane). 8, Devil and St. Dunstan, (Union Lodge) Tavern, Temple Bar. 9, Tun, Noble-street. 10, Royal Arms, New Bond-street. 11, Queen's Head, Knave's Acre. 12, Castle, Drury Lane. 13, Bedford, Covent Garden. 14, Queen's, Great Queen-street. 15, Bull Inn, Southwark. 16, Bedford Court Coffee House, Covent Garden. 17, Crown, St. Giles's. 18, Crown, Ludgate-hill. 19, Mourning Bush, Aldersgate-street (now the Lord Raglan). 20, Swan (French Lodge), Long Acre. 21, Anchor, Chancery Lane. 22, Swan, Fish-street Hill. 23, Crescent, Cheapside. 24, Swan and Tree, Whitecross-street. 25, (Device, a man with a glass), Lübeck Lodge, London-street, Greenwich. 26, Key and Garter (Honi soit qui mal y pense), Pall Mall. 27, Forrest Coffee House, Charing Cross. 28, Queen's Head, City of Bath. 29, White Horse, Bristol. 30, Queen's Head, City of Norwich. 31, Whale, City of Chichester. 32, Bull, Northgate-street, City of Chester. 33, Castle, Watergate-street, City of Chester. 34, Bunch of Grapes, Carmarthen, South Wales. 35, East India Arms, Gosport, Hampshire. 36, Red Lion, Congleton, Cheshire. 37, Crown, Moore Fields. 38, Ball and Three Tuns, Cheapside. 39, Swan and Cup, Finch-lane. 40, Christ Cross, Ludgate-street, (but see No. 1). 41, Apple Tree, Holborn (The Apple Tree, Charles-street, Covent Garden, was the tavern where in 1716 the four malcontent lodges assembled to elect a Grand Master, *pro tem.*) 42, Two Porters, Billingsgate. 43, Royal Arms, Strand. 44, Swan, Long Acre, (but see No. 20). 45, Stag, Without Bishopsgate. 46, Rummer and Tankard, Mount Lodge, Grosvenor-street, near Hanover Square. 47, Three Crowns, Stoke Newington. 48, Queen's Head, Salford, near Manchester. 49, Castle, Holborn. 50, Trios Fleurs de Lys, St. Bernard Street in Madrid. 51, Rock, Gibraltar. 52, Cushion, Warwick. 53, Dragon, Leadenhall-street. 54, Rose and Crown, Greek street, Soho. 55, Rummer, Henrietta street, Covent Garden. 56, Crown and Anchor, Shorts' Gardens. 57, Red Lion, Red Lion-street, Holborn. 58, Crown, Corn Market, Oxford. 59, Three Tuns, Scarborough. 60, Three Tuns, Billingsgate. 61, Royal Arms, Cateaton-street. 62, George and Dragon, Northampton. 63, Bear and Harrow, Butcher Row (Picket Street, Strand). 64, Rose, without Temple Bar. 65, St. Rook's Hill, near Chichester, Sussex. 66, Red Lion, Canterbury. 67, Castle, St. Giles's. 68, Vine, Long Acre. 69, Bacchus, Bloomsbury Market. 70, Duke's Head, Lyme Regis, Norfolk. 71, Rose, Cheapside. 72, East India Arms, Bengal, in the East Indies. 73, Saracen's Head (?), Lincoln. 74, University Lodge, at the Bear and Harrow, Butcher Row. 75, Rainbow Coffee House, York Buildings. 76, Angel (?), Old Bailey. 77, Black Lion, Jockey Fields. 78, Fountain, Bury St. Edmunds. 79, Angel and Crown, Little St. Martin's Lane. 80, Angel, Macclesfield. 81, Golden Fleece, Bury St. Edmunds. 82, Three Tuns, Moorgate-street. 83, Three Tuns, Smithfield. 84, Sun, by the Royal Exchange. 85, King's Arms, Russell-street, Covent Garden. 86, King's Arms, St. Margaret's Hill, Southwark. 87, New King's Arms, Leigh, in Lancashire. 88, Bell, Wolverhampton, in Staffordshire. 89, Horse Shoe and Rummer, Drury Lane. 90, Au Louis d'Argent, dans la Rue de Boucherie, à Paris. 91, Sun, Fleet-street. 92, City of Antwerp, Thracneedle-street. 93, Two Queens, Rosemary Lane. 94, Bull and Bible, Ludgate-street. 95, King's Arms, Dorset-street, Spittle Fields. 96, White Horse, Ipswich. 97, New Inn, Exeter. 98, Duke of Lorraine, Suffolk-street. 99, Leg, Fleet-street. 100, George and Dragon, Butcher Row. 101, Crown, Upper Moore Fields. 102, Royal Vineyard, St. James's Park. 103, Ship, without Temple Bar. (This house was probably the inn granted to Sir Christopher Hatton in 1571, together with some lands in Yorkshire and Dorsetshire and the wardship of a minor. It stood opposite Palsgrave Place, and is now part of the site of the New Law Courts.) 104, Virgin's Inn, Derby. 105, A private room, Bolton le Moors, in Lancashire. 106, White Horse, Audley-street. 107, Dale's Coffee House, Warwick-street. 108, Seven Stars, Bury St. Edmunds. 109, Three Lions, Salisbury. 110, Ship Coffee House, near the Hermitage Bridge. 111, Theatre Tavern, Goodman's Fields. 112, King's Arms, Tower street, near Seven Dials. 113, White Bear, City of Bath. 114, Royal Oak, in the Strand. 115, Scott's Masons' Lodge, Devil Tavern, Temple Bar. 116, Master

Masons' Lodge, Bear and Harrow, Butcher Row. 117, Master Masons' Lodge, King's Arms, Strand. 118, Red Lion, Bury, in Lancashire. 119, Talbot, Stourbridge, Worcestershire. 120, Oates's Coffee House, Master Masons' Lodge, Great Wilde-street. 121, Solomon's Coffee House, Pimlico. 122, Forest Coffee House, Charing Cross. 123, Prince of Orange, St. Saviour's Dock, Southwark. 124 (Without place), Hamburg, in Lower Saxony. 125, Swan, Birmingham. 126 (Without place), Boston, in New England. 127 (Without place), Valenciennes, in French Flanders. 128, Duke of Monmouth, Petticoat Lane, Whitechapel. 129, Masons' Arms, Plymouth.

NOTES ON ART, &c.

The National Portrait Gallery at South Kensington now contains 490 portraits, valued at £50,000, in addition to an important library and a collection of engravings. The trustees of the Gallery now consider that the Gallery in their opinion is not sufficiently fire-proof for so valuable a collection, and have communicated with the Treasury on the danger of using gas in the Gallery, absolving themselves from all responsibility in the event of accident.

THE ROYAL ACADEMY.—The exhibition at the Royal Academy of works of the old masters closes this day (Saturday), March 9.

A well-known French landscape painter, Charles Francois Daubigny, died last week in Paris at the age of sixty-one. River scenes were his favourite subjects, and the artist and his son spent most of the summer months floating up and down the Seine and the Oise in a rude boat resembling those attached to the wood rafts on the Rhine. M. Daubigny contributed a picture of "Moonrise" to the last Salon, and one of his paintings, "Lock in the Valley d'Optevoz," is in the Luxembourg.

PRINCE METTERNICH.—The memoirs of the late Prince Metternich will be published in English, French, and German simultaneously. The literary work connected with the eight volumes in which the German original will be printed will be performed by Herr von Klinkwostrom. Prince Richard Metternich, it is stated, is now going over the work, and omitting such portions as are likely to prove painful to the feelings of living personages.—*Athenæum*.

THE HIGHER EDUCATION OF WOMEN.—The report of the Conference of Headmistresses and others engaged or interested in the higher education of women held at Cambridge has been issued. The question whether Latin should be taught generally as the basis of instruction in higher schools for girls was discussed and decided in the affirmative by an overwhelming majority. The desirability of three languages being taught was almost universally acknowledged, but opinion was very much divided as to whether French or Latin should be first taught. On the question of mathematics all agreed that geometry should be taught, and most of those present that algebra should likewise. In regard to natural science there was a great divergence of opinion.

The Belgian African expedition is to continue its explorations despite the loss of its heads, M.M. Maes and Crespel, whose deaths was mentioned last week, and two fresh Belgian officers are to go out to Zanzibar.

BETTER THAN GOLD.—The *San Francisco Chronicle*, describing the equipment of a lady departing from that city on a tour, enumerates:—"Foot muffs to be used in riding in carriage; made of seal and lined with Arctic wolf."

SERBIAN HISTORY.—Captain Gambier, author of "The Life of Midhat Pasha," in a recent number of the *Nineteenth Century*, is about to publish, through Messrs. C. Kegan Paul & Co., a small book on Serbian history. His aim is to call attention to the possible fate of a small and struggling nation which he holds to be destined to play a great part in the solution of the Eastern Question, and whose interests it is impossible to sever from those of the British Empire.—*Academy*.

COMMUNICATION WITH SOUTH AMERICA.—The Western and Brazilian Telegraph Company announce the repair of their cable between Bahia and Rio de Janeiro and that direct telegraphic communication is restored with the latter city, Uruguay, the Argentine Republic, Chili, and Peru.

AN EPISCOPAL DEFENCE OF THEATRES.—The Bishop of Melbourne writes a long letter to the Melbourne papers defending theatrical amusements. He says:—"It is sometimes asked, for instance, whether St. Paul would have shown himself at a theatre. No, certainly not at heathen theatres, where the performances were usually connected with heathen worship. But if the question be whether he would have attended a well-conducted theatre in a Christian land, to witness a high-toned performance, then it might as well be asked whether St. Paul would have attended a cricket match, a chess tournament, or a spelling bee. In his circumstances it is very unlikely that he would; but it is equally certain that he would have called none of them unlawful. Amusement is necessary for young people and it would be equally unreasonable to forbid our boys to play at cricket and to require grave divines either to join their sport or condemn it." The Bishop concludes by saying that he desires "to do something to make the drama what it should be—the handmaid of religion and morality."—*Theatre*.

The Zoological Gardens have been presented with a Japanese wild dog from Yokohama.

An Entomological Exhibition is to be opened at the Westminster Aquarium to-day (Saturday), when selections from the chief collections of insects in the kingdom will be contributed.

TO OUR READERS.

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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.

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

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.

Answers to Correspondents.

W. H. B. in our next; J. C. Manning—crowded out—in our next.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

"The Westminster Papers;" "Medical Examiner;" "Hull Packet;" "Broad Arrow;" "Masonic Record;" "Scottish Freemason;" "Advocate;" "European Mail;" "Unity;" "Corner Stone," (New York); "Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Virginia 1877;" "The Freemasons' Repository;" "Hymnbook Democrat (U.S.A.);" "Risorgimento;" "Tower Hamlets Independent;" "Canadian Craftsman;" "Freemasons' Journal of the Grand Lodge of Kent;" "Keystone;" "Drunkness, how to deal with it;" "Der Bund;" "Hatters Gazette;" "Record of a Year's Insurance;" "Liberal Freemason;" "Die Bauhütte;" "Proceedings of the Free and Accepted Masons of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts;" "Advocate (New York);" "Der Triangel;" "Report of the last Quarterly Communication of the United Grand Lodge;" "The Folk-lore of China;" "Winnic Travers;" "Keltic Orient;" "Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska, 1877;" "Freemasons' Monthly (Calamagoe)."

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.

Several P.O.O.'s are now in hand, but having received no advice we cannot credit them.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

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

BIRTHS.

BAKER.—On the 1st inst., at Park House, Clifton, Mrs. Arthur Baker of a daughter.

GIBSON.—On the 2nd inst., at Woodridings, Pinner, the wife of E. Grene Gibson, of a daughter.

KNIGHT.—On the 22nd ult., at Oxford-road, Tollington Park, the wife of J. Knight of a son.

TOWNSEND.—On the 1st inst., at Baily Glas, Abersychan, Monmouthshire, the wife of F. E. Townsend, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

CARTWRIGHT—FLETCHER.—On the 2nd inst., at St. Peter's Eaton-square, Aubrey T. C. Cartwright, son of A. Cartwright, Esq., of Edgcote, Northamptonshire, to Louise Florence, daughter of the late J. C. Fletcher, Esq.

DEATHS.

BANKS.—On the 2nd inst., at Fenton Villa, Lewisham, Edith the beloved daughter of William Coppard and Louisa Mary Banks, in her 10th year.

PORTER.—On the 3rd inst., at the White Swan Hotel, Deptford, Elizabeth, widow of the late John Porter, in her 60th year, deeply mourned and regretted.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 1878.

THE QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

The Quarterly Communication for March assembled under circumstances of gloom and depression, which were clearly visible alike in the countenances and conversation of the brethren. The feeling of the great blow sustained by the Craft in the financial misfortunes of the Grand Treasurer was paramount and apparent on every side, and while the immediate loss to Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter was fully appreciated, and while above all, the serious mischance to the Boys' School and the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, (which no foresight on the part of the officials could have avoided) were, to use a commercial expression, fully discounted, yet the members of Grand Lodge, like true Englishmen, bore this painful situation of affairs calmly and courageously. The election of a Grand Treasurer was deferred till next Quarterly Communication, and a committee was appointed to make the necessary financial arrangements. Lord Skelmersdale hoped that the loss sustained would be readily made up, and announced that Bro. Harrison, Prov. G.S.W. East Lancashire, had offered to contribute to a special fund for that purpose, the munificent sum of 200 guineas. The grants of the Lodge of Benevolence were all confirmed. We are indebted to our contemporary, the *Times*, for the following lucid "precis" of the admirable report of Lord Carnarvon. "The Pro Grand Master, who on rising was received with warm cheers, said that it was then his duty to call attention to a report of a committee appointed 'to inquire into the circumstances relative to the elimination of the name of the Great Architect of the Universe from its ritual by the Grand Orient of France.' The committee, the noble earl said, had agreed unanimously to a report, but before he stated its effect he requested the Grand Secretary to read the old and the new regulations of the Grand Orient, which declared that the 'principles of the Order are the existence of a God, the immortality of the soul, and human solidarity,' and that it excluded no person on account of his belief (the same in effect as the general principles of the Order universally). In the altered regulations the words regarding the existence of God and the immortality of the soul were eliminated, and there were substituted the words 'absolute freedom of conscience.' The Pro Grand Master then proceeded to state that the committee, having regard to all the circumstances of the case, proposed four resolutions—one, that Grand Lodge should state that it viewed with profound regret the step which had been taken by the Grand Orient of France in thus removing from its regulations the foundation of the Craft upon the existence of God and the belief in the immortality of the soul,—a removal opposed to all principles of the Craft, as was seen in the history and traditions of Freemasonry from the earliest times. The second resolution proposed was to the effect that the English Grand Lodge, while anxious in the most fraternal spirit to greet brethren from foreign lodges initiated in lodges where the true and genuine principles were adopted, could not admit those initiated in lodges which denied or ignored the belief in the existence of God. It would, therefore, be necessary to state, the report proceeded to say in a third resolution, that no brother from a foreign lodge could be admitted unless his certificate showed that he had been initiated in a lodge where this landmark of the Order was observed, or unless he should be vouched for as one so initiated, and he also admitted that belief in the Great Architect of the Universe was an essential landmark of the Order. The fourth resolution was to give effect to the other three by transmitting them to all lodges working under the Grand Lodge of England, to the sister Grand Lodges of Scotland and Ireland, and to all Grand Lodges in communication with this Grand Lodge. The noble earl expressed his deep regret at this action of the Grand Orient. There was no wish, he proceeded to say, upon the part of the

English Freemasons to interfere with foreign Grand Lodges; there was no diminution of fraternal feeling upon their part towards foreign brethren; but, holding that the belief in the existence of God lay at the very root of Freemasonry, the English Grand Lodge could not overlook the distinct abnegation of that principle, and to that assertion he thought there would be no dissentient in the crowded hall he then addressed. It was, moreover, the duty of this Grand Lodge of England to send forth its views for other Grand Lodges, and general lodges looked to the English Grand Lodge, as to the central Parliament of Freemasonry, for guidance, and the committee considered it should not flinch from the duty of prescribing and specifying the practical mode in which effect should be given to its views. It is almost needless to add that the resolutions were then put to the meeting, and were carried unanimously. The next important business was the election of a Grand Master for the year, and upon the motion of two brethren from below the dais, as representing the working lodges, the Prince of Wales was re-elected with unanimity and amid loud cheers, and proclaimed in due form by Bro. Thomas Fenn with all the titles of the Grand Master. We beg also to refer our readers to our own careful report of the meeting of Grand Lodge for the rest of the important business.

OUR RITUAL.

By a correspondence which appears in another column, it will be seen, that there is still a tendency in some to "philosophize," to improve our old and admirable ritual. In all the affairs of men, as of Masonry, we have to make allowance for that ceaseless love of change, which seems to dominate the human mind. It may be, as some writers have held, a proof of man's aspirations after the *To Kalon*, the *To Agathon* of life, the moral perfection of our being, but as a general rule it is not characterized by anything so high or heroic. In all earthly associations, in all human fellowship, there seems every now and then an intense longing for change, quia change. We become restless under monotony, excited under quiescence, and we may always bear in mind when we listen to the often noisy "factors" of this or that reform, this or that revolution, the ever seasonable adage of our ancient and Royal G. Master, "My son, meddle not with those that are given to change." At the same time, when we say this, we do not shut our eyes to the need and advisability of change under some circumstances. There is apt to grow over the affairs of the world, and the thoughts and habits of mankind, a placid stagnancy, a contented selfishness, which set them vigorously against all improvement, and above all, any innovation. This is neither wise nor judgmatical, Masonic or commendable. We therefore have to analyze the composition of all movements for change, whether in respect of the change itself desiderated, or the motives of those who seek to compass it. The springs of human action are so complex, the wheel within wheel so hidden, the wires so fine-drawn, that it requires often a good deal of "gumption" and perception to find out the why and how of anything new. We would divide the causes of change into three classes—1. Those who with honesty to improve; 2. Those who desire to be considered great reformers; and 3. Those who through restlessness or ignorance seek to change for change's sake alone, without measuring the depth of the movement, without foreseeing whither their steps must take them. It is only with the first class that we need concern ourselves to-day, though we may remark, that, honest themselves, they are often made the unconscious dupes of longer heads, of greater rascals than themselves. Let us admit, for argument's sake, that some of our brethren may wish to alter, to improve our ritual, the natural question arises to all thoughtful minds, why? in what direction. Brother Burger proposes a philosophising improvement; others may suggest verbal emendations, and an uniform system. Now we say at once, that we do not believe in any philosophising reform. What has it all ended in in Germany and France? Practically in nothing. The only effect has been undoubtedly to introduce either hurtful subtleties, or childish perversities of the

ancient text. And this we do say advisedly, with some knowledge of the subject, and having studied the matter for years, that in every departure from the old Arglican Ritual, both the German and French Masonic systems have gone further and fared worse! For the moment we get into the region of a so-called philosophy, there is no end to the absurdity or the rubbish of competing systems and conflicting grades. Masonic writers have tried to give every sort of explanation to our Masonic Ritual, but have utterly failed, because they sought to make it what it is not, to give to it a character it does not profess to bear. Therefore we always say when we hear of this suggestion for change or that proposal for improvement, that our time-honoured ritual is exactly suitable to our wants and Masonic requirements, and that is alike our wisdom and our duty, "quieta non movere." If Bro. Burger's argument be good for anything, that because during 150 years the Ritual has been improved and expanded we are always to be changing it, when some professed reformer arises, we beg to join issue with him. Granted that in the last century or early in this, a change was needed and desirable, it is not at all a case of "sequiter" that we require further alterations now. What is termed the philosophical view of Freemasonry, apart from the sensible Masonic philosophy which our very ritual teaches all its proficient, we have always regarded as the height of absurdity, not to say the fullest development of the "precipitate bathos." Our ritual, as we have it now, is suitable for the most educated of us all, while in its interpretation is to be found in that true Masonic and moral philosophy which deals practically with the great battle and the lasting dangers of life. Those of us who hear it often delivered with all that wonderfully effective power, (as we did lately), which lucidity can offer or impressiveness can convey, must be proud both of its many beauties, and its entire adaptation to its use and purpose. In its case any change will probably be for the worse, and we therefore, at once, expressing as we do, we believe, the feelings of all Masonic experts, all "bright Masons," all Masters of the Art, deny the opportuneness, and refuse the consideration of any suggestion for needless and meaningless change. With regard to the very important point of uniformity of Ritual, we will reserve our remarks on until (D.V.) next week.

PEACE.

Peace is signed between Russia and Turkey, and, for the moment, the Funds are rising, and the perils of a great European war are averted. As Freemasons we must rejoice in the conclusion of a cruel and pitiless war, which only served to demonstrate, how great and how unchanged is the inherent barbarity of humanity. How long such a position of affairs will continue may, however, be doubtful to the foreseeing and far-seeing statesman, and how long the "Sick Man" will continue with such a weakened frame and exhausted constitution is a problem we must leave to the future to solve. As patriots, though Freemasons, we shall have every confidence that Her Majesty's Ministers will manfully uphold the real interests and abiding honour of Old England, come what can, happen what may; and in that feeling we resign ourselves in a submissive sense to the always seasonable belief, that "whatever is, is best," and above all, that "sufficient to the day is the evil thereof."

THE SUSPENSION OF PERCIVAL, WILLIS AND Co.

On Friday the *Daily News* published the following letter:—

"14, Old Jewry-chambers, London, 28th Feb.

"Gentlemen,—We have to inform you that Messrs. Willis, Percival and Co., of 76, Lombard-street, are compelled to suspend payment.

"The books have been placed in the hands of Messrs. Turquand, Youngs and Co. A statement of affairs will be prepared and submitted to the creditors at the earliest possible date.

"We are, Gentlemen, your obedient servants,
"LAWRENCE FLEWS AND BAKER."

This was the first public intimation of the disaster, though the fact did not become gene-

rally known until Saturday, when the *Times* in its city article of date Friday evening inserted the subsequent paragraph—alike startling in its announcement, and precise in its statements.

"The announcement after business hours yesterday of the suspension of the old-established private bank of Messrs. Willis, Percival and Co., of 76, Lombard-street, although unexpected at the moment, did not cause much surprise among those who knew the real state of affairs. The bank commenced business over 100 years ago, and the partners at the present time were Henry Willis, Samuel Tomkins, and Samuel Leith Tomkins. During the crisis of 1857 the bank is believed to have suffered severely through its Greek connections, and from that time the credit of the firm has been gradually on the wane. Within the past twelve months the senior partner died, and the situation was not improved by the revelation of the fact that his property was much smaller than had been anticipated. Those most intimately acquainted with the growing weakness of the concern expected, however, that a suspension would be avoided, and that it would be wound up. But this course, if it was really contemplated, was rendered impossible by the failure of Messrs. Gerussi, Brothers, and Co., merchants, of Finsbury-circus, debtors for £250,000, whose position has been propped up by the bank for a long time past. The impression prevails also that the catastrophe was hastened by the withdrawal of money by a West-end bank, which has long been connected with Messrs. Willis, Percival, and Co. A statement of affairs is being prepared by Messrs. Turquand and Co., the liabilities being roughly estimated at £650,000. As regards the securities held by the bank for its customers, everything is understood to be in perfect order."

The sad interest to Freemasons arises from the circumstance, well-known to the entire Craft, that for many years Bro. Samuel Tomkins, one of the leading partners, has been the trusted and honoured Treasurer of Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter—and also of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution and of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, being also the bankers for the Boys' School. The various amounts now lying in the bank, and which for the moment are lost to the Order, amount in the whole to £6600, which are divided as follows:—Grand Lodge and Chapter £4000, Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution £1000, and the Boys' School £1600. The Girls' School is in debt to its Treasurer, on a special advance, of about £3000.

The following official proceedings took place in the Bankruptcy Court on Friday:—

"In re Willis, Percival, and Co."

The debtors, who are bankers, carrying on business at 76, Lombard-street, have presented a petition for liquidation, estimating their joint liabilities at £650,000.

Mr. W. F. Baker, for the debtors, and with the concurrence of several of the principal creditors, applied that Mr. W. Turquand, accountant, should be appointed receiver and manager.

From the evidence it appeared that £24,300 of the liabilities arose upon acceptances against securities held by the debtors, and the bulk of the residue consisted of amounts due to customers of the bank, about 600 in number. The assets comprised cash and drafts in hand, £15,000; balance at the Bank of England, £38,000; bills of exchange discounted, £40,000; and of a sum of about £435,000, due from customers in respect of loans and overdrawn accounts, with and without securities. The debtors stated that they had also about £40,000 India Four per cent. bonds, under advance, with a margin of £1,300 in their favour; there are other securities subject to loans. Apart from the £435,000, the debtors returned other debts amounting to £115,000, of which the value was very doubtful, but from the separate estates a surplus would probably arise. It appeared that the business, which had been carried on for upwards of 150 years, was of a very extensive and miscellaneous character.

His Honour granted the application.

All our brethren will feel alike the serious position in which the Craft is placed, but all will extend their fraternal sympathy to our late respected and kindly Grand Treasurer, who has for years merited and obtained the good opinion of all his brethren.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

FREEMASONRY IN JAMAICA—THE NEW THEORY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

My attention has been called to a report, which appeared in your columns on the 29th December last, page 584, from "A Young Master Mason," of a lecture which I recently delivered before the Glenlyon Lodge in this city. The report, as he truly expressed it, is indeed but a "rough outline," whilst he appeared to have entirely overlooked the fact that the purport of the lecture was as much to exemplify the purity and beauty of our English ritual as to offer a key to the plan of Freemasonry. Throughout the lecture comparisons were made between our system and that which prevails in the United States,—bringing out the various discrepancies and irregularities of the American ritual.

Now, although we may contend that our ritual is the very best in the world, I think it would be very difficult to prove this to any foreign brother, unless we are prepared to shew to him that our ritual is based on a well-defined system. In the United States, the working tools of the First and the Third Degrees are not entirely like our own, nor do the secrets correspond exactly with ours.

In your editorial note, you stated that "able and eloquent as no doubt Bro. Burger's lecture is, it is not, it is right to remark, altogether a new or original theory, and we feel pretty sure that the Emulation Lodge will say that they prefer *quieta non movere*. We think that there is great danger in philosophising too much in respect of the simple system of Freemasonry, and we prefer the older system of exposition, &c."

Let me first inform you that I care not for Masonic fame at all, as the brethren in this community know too well; yet as I desire that English Freemasonry should stand on something better than its simplicity, permit me to reply to your remarks.

When you assert that my theory is not altogether new, I suppose you mean that others before this have, in a general way, called Freemasonry a philosophical institution, and some brethren have even written on the Philosophy of Masonry. But my lecture did not aim at establishing our order as a philosophy of itself—but as an order founded on the well recognised principles of ancient philosophy—not on the aimless theories which spring from the perverted brains of our foreign brethren across the Channel. I think then that my theory is new and original; but if you deny this, do me the favour to indicate the book in which any theory similar to mine has been submitted to the Masonic world. Perhaps I may not possess the work, will you then add to your kindness by quoting the text, giving likewise the page on which the theory is advanced, for I am not too old to learn. Of course you will not refer me to the "Cours Philosophique" of Ragon, nor to the "Croix Philosophique" of Chereau, and least of all to those puerilities called "Knights of the Sun" and "Knights of the East and West."

As to the "great danger in philosophising too much," I grant you that by accepting the term philosophy in its present Gallic sense there is very great danger of rendering Freemasonry, what it is fast becoming in France—a godless system! but I contend that the theory I advance, if it had been hitherto known, would have saved us from the scandal which the Grand Orients of France and Belgium have committed. True philosophy, divided into its three original branches—Natural, Moral, and Spiritual—harmonises with all the deductions of science, the teachings of morality, and the essential doctrines of religion. Freemasonry founded on philosophy such as this, can hold its own—on any other basis, in this progressive age, it is liable to many vicissitudes.

Our worthy and talented Bro. Findel writes thus in his "History" on this subject:—"Whether the fraternity of Freemasons enjoys in this nineteenth century that consideration warranted by the important era in which we live, whether, indeed, it is capable of continuing to exist, is a question not only started by non-Masons and opponents of the Society, but by members themselves. And though the latter may not positively reply in the negative, as do the former, yet are Freemasons generally most determined and unanimous in their conviction that a thorough reform is imperatively necessary." (1st Ed., p. 541.)

Our text-books declare that "Masonry is a progressive science." As this is so, why should any brother rest content with the "older system of Exposition," &c., and be left behind with the age? Were our ancestors satisfied with "*quieta non movere*?" Were Desaguliers and Anderson?—were Clare and Manningham?—were Calcott and Hutchinson?—were Dunckerley and Preston?—were Shadbolt and Hemming? Certainly not! Dr. Oliver has recorded in his "Discrepancies" (page 131), that eight revisions of our ritual were made in eighty years.

Our ritual is beautiful—it is more than this—I believe it to be the purest and the best, but to regard it as having reached perfection is taking the first step towards making it a fossil.

I am a conservative in all that I believe to be good and useful, but I am also a progressionist for the perpetuation of our beautiful Order. The age is advancing, and if we do not advance with it, we shall certainly be left behind.

There are points that we dare not meddle with, nevertheless, newer expositions are called for, or the result will be, that the best minds will not cultivate our "peculiar system."

All intelligent brethren should carefully peruse the second chapter of Dr. Oliver's "Discrepancies."

Do not imagine that I have the ambition to step into the shoes of Dr. Hemming, for I have not the talent, the energy, nor the opportunities for becoming a great Masonic reformer; I simply love Freemasonry from my own view of it, and would wish intelligent men to see it too from my standpoint, but I am not sufficiently entet   to force my own ideas on unwilling minds.

I remain, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,
H. J. BURGER.
Kingston, Jam., Feb. 10th, 1878.

BRO. BURGER'S LECTURE.

Dear Bro. Kenning,
I have seen Bro. Burger's letter above, and though I don't profess to admire its tone, nor can I accept its assumptions, I think it well to send a few lines "anent" it. Bro. Burger's idea that his theory is a novel one, unique, "sui generis," is not borne out by the facts of the case. Whatever may really be his explanation of our Masonic Ritual, however original or important, it is an undoubted fact that many writers have sought to extract a philosophy of some kind or other, special or general, from our Masonic ritual. "Vixere fortes ante Agamemnona," and philological reformers have lived and spoken—begging his pardon—even before Bro. Burger.

Indeed this tendency to "philosophize" upon our simpler Masonic Ritual was the basis of all the Theosophic High Grade, Hermetic movements in the last century. If Bro. Burger will turn to Kluss's "Bibliographie der Freimaurerei," he will find that he gives the names of 51 works, more or less Masonic, under the division "Metaphysik, Theosophie, Mystik, Cabbala," and of 145 works under the head. "Antiquitaten, Mysterien, Cultus." So far back as 1777 Court de Gebelin delivered his lectures at Paris on the Allegories of Freemasonry, and in 1814 A. Lenoir published his well known work, "La Franche Maconnerie rendue a sa Veritable Origine," &c. "Initiation a la Philosophie de la Franc Maconnerie," by J. C. A. Fisch, appeared in 1803, "Esprit du Dogme de la Franche Maconnerie," by Rhagellint de Schio in 1825. There are later works in French, German, and English on the same subject, which I need not mention here, but those above mentioned must suffice, "ad hoc," as actual contributions to a philosophic Masonry. There may of course be a difference between Bro. Burger and all these writers, probably there are, but they have this in common with him—that they philosophize in one direction or another. In one sense we all hold that there is a philosophy of Masonry in our Ritual, namely, a purely moral philosophy, in the truest sense of the word, but beyond this we do not go in England, and I for one, think we are right in taking, in this; as in all other matters, a common sense view of things.

There is one argument of Bro. Hubert's which I cannot understand, if he means that because Desaguliers and Anderson, Clare and Preston, Hemming and Williams, successively altered the Ritual, therefore, we are still to go on altering it in 1878, I must at once demur to his premise. The earlier teachers found the Ritual crude and incoherent, disconnected and discrepant, and, therefore, they wisely amalgamated, modified, and harmonized its various portions. Such as we have it, it is a good product of Masonic zeal, tempered with harmony and discretion, and I for one, object to change, as I fancy all Masonic teachers will, and above all, to fancied improvements, or philosophizing changes, which mostly land us on hopeless rubbish.

I stick to my text—"quieta non moveo," and am, yours most fraternally,
THE EDITOR.

LODGES AT TAVERNS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—
Bro. W. Darley's letter last week appears to me crushing and unanswerable, and his advice is most brotherly, he has to my knowledge been the instigation of many lodges being taken from public-houses, and every honest brother will follow his resolve and look out to see that the charities are thoroughly upheld.

Yours fraternally,
TRUTH.

THE EXCLUSION OF HEBREWS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—
Allow me a small space in your valuable Masonic journal, and I hope it may give light amongst the brethren abroad.

About three months ago, I have noticed in several newspapers of this province of a meeting which has taken place by the Grand Lodge of England, his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales presiding, stating about the Grand Lodge of France not agreeing with the Principal Orders and ground-works of Masonry, which certainly ought to be condemned, and I cannot but glory in the courage of the many subordinate lodges of France, to dissolve all future connection with such mother lodge. Furthermore as to not admitting non-Christians as members in lodges in this country, which is very general, and not like some brothers abroad imagine.

I am a member of Austin Lodge, No. 12, Austin, Texas, (and a companion of Royal Arch Chapter, No. 6), have been residing here for several years, and I can speak for myself, as an eye-witness that I have tried to become a member here of "Tempel der Eintracht," and admittance has been refused to me, for no other reason, only because I am of the Jewish nation, and a believer in the Deity. Such brotherly love exists in Masonry in Prussia! Is this the corner-stone of our foundation? Should this be the wages of a Mason, and the fruits of his labour, which he has so faithfully and honestly worked for?

Furthermore, honest labouring men are not admitted here, as their external qualifications are considered more than their internal, and most of times it is necessary, as the working men and the better class do not associate in this

country even in societies like ours. Should this be the love of fellowship, which our brothers abroad approve of? I have visited various climes, and travelled East and West, and over many a rough road, and never have I met with such obstacles as this. I would like to have some light on the subject by some brother abroad.

B. PULASKI,
28, Friedrich-str., Posen, Prussia.

SWEDENBORGIAN RITE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

As I gather from my correspondence that some misapprehension prevails as to my motives in organising the Swedenborgian Rite, as well the Ancient and Primitive—Memphis, Mizraim, &c., I should be glad if, once and for ever, you will allow me an explanatory word of a personal nature.

I have accepted the Grand Masterships of several excellent rites, those, I mean, with valuable information or objects, for the simple reason that there was no other eligible brother willing to take them, but I do not care to retain them when once a suitable successor for any of my Masonic offices presents himself. Especially shall I be glad to be relieved of the Grand Mastership of the Swedenborgian Rite, which already numbers nine lodges, and I have already offered it both to Captain F. G. Irwin and Lord Lindsay, neither of whom seems disposed to take it.

The position which I assume in regard to these rites is that of the organising agent to help those who require them. They are of great Craft interest, and there must be many who, like myself, would be glad to acquaint themselves with them, and add to their other Masonic titles the privilege of being a member at a reasonable cost, the funds being as carefully husbanded as they can be with justice to the rites themselves. For such brethren as these the rites only exist. They are there for them to take or leave; it being to me a matter of no personal moment. But so long as the management of them remains in my hands I shall do my duty to them, at some cost to myself, in a quiet easy-going way. When any one suitable will undertake to relieve me of the unsought trouble of office I shall be delighted to transfer my unappreciated troubles to them, assuring them, from a long experience, that high Masonic office brings more of jealousy and ill-feeling than—thank you for your trouble.

Yours truly and fraternally,
JOHN YARKER.

THE INSTALLATION ENGRAVING.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I find you are profuse in your praises of the Installation Engraving, and have no doubt you are correct. I am only a very humble subscriber, at £2 2s., but should be very thankful if you could say when I am likely to get mine, as I have been put off time after time, although some caustic brothers endeavoured to silence the subscribers by telling them how long other engravings had taken, and implying we had no right to expect this at an unreasonable time, that is, the time it was promised. I must still press for a reply. I fancy by expecting them when they were promised, we were paying Bro. Hart a very high compliment, simply because we trusted to his judgment and believed his promises. I understood that only a limited number of each were to be struck off, if so, why the delay, and why send out these at a higher price at an earlier period? I think all ought to have been delivered or ready for delivery on one and the same day. I understood all were to be placed as near as possible where they stood; is it a fact that such has been departed from, and those who subscribe for the most expensive copies are placed in a prominent position in consequence. I should be glad to see the promised advertisement in your columns, to say that all are ready for delivery on receipt of the cash. I hope I shall not be considered very premature, as I have waited more than 12 months (I think), after the promised time. Please remember the promise was not extorted under pressure—it was volunteered.

Very faithfully yours,
DISAPPOINTED.

A QUERY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Can A., who is W.M. of a lodge, instal B. (who has been duly elected) into the chair of another lodge, A. not being a P.M., but actually a W.M.?

Yours, &c.
J. E.

[Certainly, if asked to do so by the W.M.—Ed.]

COINCIDENCE OR DESIGN—WHICH?

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Permit me through your columns very sincerely to thank "S.P." for his letter under the above heading. I have coloured copies of the cartoons before my eyes at every meal, and a set of prints in my bedroom, and though I delight in a constant study of men, I confess that the idea suggested by "S.P." never before occurred to me; but my attention having been drawn to the subject, I have made it my business carefully to examine the cartoon to which he evidently alludes, and it has struck me that the position, though hardly so forced and unnatural as to attract the attention of the uninstructed, or even a P.M., unless like S.P. a very thoughtful one, is quite sufficiently so to give rise to a very decided suspicion of "design" in its execution rather than of coincidence. It is, to my mind very strongly suggestive of "occult knowledge," and actual participation in some ceremony analogous to that of our present installation.

Although therefore, this certainly curious coincidence,

cannot of course be regarded as actual proof, still it does seem to me that, in the absence of positive evidence to the contrary, it affords a reasonable presumption, that Freemasonry existed early in the 16th century; that though its ceremonies may have been changed, its tokens were then similar to those of the present day, and that if so then Raffale d'Urbino was a member of the Craft and had passed the chair. I may observe that he was perhaps forgetful, if at that time aware of the impropriety of "delineation," while thus "manifesting the possession of occult knowledge."

I am, dear Sir and Brother, fraternally yours,
H. J. H., P.M. 160, P.P.G.C., 18^o.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The General Committee of this Institution met on Saturday last at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. S. Rosenthal in the chair. Among the other brethren present were Bros. Geo. J. Row, James Winter, S. Rawson, L. Ruf, J. G. Berry, Raynham W. Stewart, John Boyd, Percival Sanford, Wm. F. C. Moutrie, Wm. Roebuck, A. Durrant, Don. M. Dewar, Hyde Pullen, J. G. Chancellor, Henry W. Hunt, J. W. Dosell, H. Massey, (Freemason), W. Maple, and F. Binckes, Secretary.

After the reading and confirmation of the minutes, Bro. Raynham W. Stewart said he rose to ask a question which he was sure under present circumstances would elicit an answer that would relieve the brethren's minds of a good deal of doubt and anxiety. The subject on which he wished to put a question was the recent bank failure in the City. That bank being the banking house of Messrs. Willis, Percival, & Co., the bankers to this Institution, it would be satisfactory to know in what position the Boys' School stood with regard to it. He would therefore ask as shortly as possible what balance this Institution had standing at the bank which had failed, and what steps had been taken for placing this Institution's account at another bank. No doubt this Institution had lost by the failure of Messrs. Willis, Percival, & Co., but it was better that they should at once know the worst.

Bro. Binckes said he had fully anticipated that some member of the Committee would ask this question, and would wish to have some statement laid before the brethren. He had therefore prepared himself, and could now inform the Committee, in answer to Bro. Stewart's question, that on the 1st January the balance at the bank was £2752 19s. 4d. They had since paid into the bank £1249 2s. 10d., and there had been paid into the bank direct £15 5s., and dividends £148 2s. 6d.; or a total of £4172 9s. 8d. From this had to be deducted cheques drawn on the bankers and honoured by them £2680 19s. 4d., leaving an indebtedness by the bank on the general fund of £1491 10s. 4d., and £74 16s. 4d. on the sustentation account; making the claim of this Institution against the bank £1516 6s. 8d.

Bro. Binckes then read the notice which appeared in the Standard as to the failure of the bank, and the letter he had received from Messrs. Lawrance, Plews, and Baker. He had heard from private sources that it was possible there would not be a dividend of more than 3s. 4d. in the pound. He was at Manchester on Thursday and Friday, and when he saw the announcement of the failure in the papers on Friday morning he came back. He called at the London and Westminster Bank (Bloomsbury Branch) that (Saturday) morning, and saw the manager and asked him if he was prepared to open an account with the Boys' School. He then found that the same step had been taken by Grand Secretary on behalf of Grand Lodge, the representative of the Secretary of the Girls' School, and by the Secretary of the Benevolent Institution. The manager said he would, and he (Bro. Binckes) informed him that he hoped at the meeting of the Committee that afternoon to be able to get a resolution passed authorising a banking account to be opened with the London and Westminster, which he would forward to him embodied in a formal letter. The bank was therefore now ready to receive the money of the Boys' School, subject to the approval of this Committee. The arrangements were all made, and this Institution would begin to pay in on Monday next.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart said he would move a resolution, "That the account of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys be transferred to the Bloomsbury Branch of the London and Westminster Bank."

Bro. J. J. Berry seconded the motion, which was then put and carried.

Bro. W. Roebuck, in accordance with notice given last month, moved, "That the salary of Miss Hall, the matron at the school, be increased from £100 to £150 a year." Since Miss Hall last had a rise the school had increased in numbers, and after the next election there would be fifty more boys in the school than there were when Miss Hall had a rise to £100 a year. Every one who had visited the Boys' School must know how deserving Miss Hall was of an increase in her salary. No one could look after the boys more kindly or attentively; and the brethren must remember that it was not only the fifty additional boys that she had to look after, but an increased number of teachers and servants, which would make the addition of fifty as high as sixty. The increased number of assistants had not at all eased Miss Hall's position. Miss Hall had had great difficulties to contend with, but they were all surmounted, and everything went on remarkably well.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart had much pleasure in seconding the motion, as one of the oldest members of the House Committee. In that capacity he had observed how Miss Hall had discharged her duties, and he was able to say that no one could discharge them better.

Bro. Durrant asked what salary the matron of the Girls' School had, and what number of pupils were under her charge.

Bro. Roebuck said Miss Jarwood had £125, and there would be when the full number of girls were admitted to that Institution 199 children there; but if the brethren went to that school and contrasted the position of Miss Jarwood with that of Miss Hall they would see that Miss Hall had doubled the labour that Miss Jarwood had.

The motion was then put and carried.

Bro. W. Roebuck also moved "That the salary of the second assistant master, W. Brocklehurst, be increased from £70 to £80."

This came to the Committee as a recommendation from the House Committee.

The motion having been seconded, was carried.

Three petitions were considered, and the candidates placed on the list for the October election. Four outfits were granted to ex-pupils; and the Committee then adjourned.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. F. BINCKES.

The monthly meeting of the Boys' School Committee Dinner Club was held at Freemasons' Tavern on Saturday last, after the meeting of the General Committee. Bro. Raynham W. Stewart occupied the chair, and there were also present Bros. Chancellor, Roberts, Winter, G. Everett, John Boyd, H. W. Hunt, W. Roebuck, Hyde Pullen, Maple, H. Massey (*Freemason*), L. Ruf, W. Paas, Styles, J. M. P. Montagu, J. W. Dosell, D. M. Dewar, W. F. C. Moutrie, W. Maple, and several others. Bro. Binckes (Treasurer and Secretary) occupied the vice-chair.

After dinner, Bro. Binckes having retired, the Chairman proposed that five guineas be taken from the funds of the club towards a testimonial to Bro. F. Binckes. This was in addition to the subscriptions of individual members of the club.

Bro. J. G. Chancellor seconded the motion, and was sure that every member of the club would feel proud to support the proposition.

The motion was then carried unanimously, and Bro. Binckes having returned was informed of the vote.

The Chairman then proposed the toasts, and after giving that of "The Queen," proposed "The Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and Bro. Binckes." He said that the toast was one which was dear to the heart of every brother at the table, because if he did not feel an interest in the Institution he would not be a member of this club. His speech on this occasion would have been very short but for one circumstance, the presentation of a testimonial to Bro. F. Binckes. What he was about to say was said in earnestness and truth. Bro. Binckes had for many years acted as Secretary for the Institution, and many times had his health been drunk in that capacity by brethren who appreciated the services he had rendered to the Institution from the supporters of which this club had sprung. This club had been united together for some years, and by its exertions the brethren had been enabled to build up the noble Institution of which they were all so proud. If it had not been for the great feeling they had for each other, and the still greater feeling they had to support the Secretary, the Institution would have gone very far short of what it is now. They had all worked in unity and concord of spirit, and who had kept them together so nobly and well as their Secretary, Bro. Binckes? He had been the means of re-organising a club that formerly existed, and which would not have been acceptable to Masons of the present day in its old form. He (Bro. Stewart) and Bro. Binckes were both members of the old club; and he (Bro. Stewart) was one of the oldest members. As such oldest member he was glad to see so many brethren around the table that evening, which showed that they fully appreciated the usefulness of this club in promoting the success of their Institution. Bro. Binckes had been honorary Treasurer and Secretary of this club for 17 years, a length of time which was nearly three apprenticeships. The brethren were all glad to support Bro. Binckes, who had always taken such a great interest in the Institution and in this club. When the club was started it was never meant to exist for nothing. It was meant to establish good feelings between the brethren, as well as to promote the success of the Boys' School. On this occasion he (Bro. Stewart) felt highly flattered and honoured in being asked to take the chair out of his turn, but being in that position he hoped the brethren would not be disappointed in his expression, for the brethren and himself, of their good feelings for their Secretary. It was pleasant to any man, be he prince, or duke, or commoner, to be the medium of presenting a testimonial to a man who had justly earned it, in mark of acknowledgment of the earnestness with which he had performed his duties. They had for many years enjoyed the friendship of Bro. Binckes, and he (Bro. Stewart) was now entrusted with a silver crucet to present to Bro. Binckes, which had been subscribed for by members of the Committee Dinner Club. In the name of the brethren and in his own, he hoped that this crucet would stand on Bro. Binckes' table, filled and emptied, and filled again, for many years. He had also to present Bro. Binckes with a purse and contents, which they would leave Bro. Binckes to dispose of in a way that would be most acceptable to himself. He begged Bro. Binckes to understand that he had no sincerer or more honest friends than those brethren who presented him with this testimonial.

Bro. Binckes in reply, said that perhaps the brethren would forgive him if he did not commence the few observations he had to make by stating this was the most painfully affecting or proudest moment of his life, for he did not want to indulge in any superlative expressions of that description. They would perhaps allow him first of all to get rid of the most important part of the toast by returning thanks to all those around the table, whether members of the club or not, who had not forgotten the interests of the Institution. That one toast "Prosperity to the Institution," was of course the main and principal toast of the evening,

and he was exceedingly gratified at being able to testify to that, which all of the brethren knew, that that Institution had for many years enjoyed a large amount of prosperity. It might appear to be the irony of fate that this toast was proposed on the very evening of the day on which he had in his official capacity to report one of the greatest misfortunes that had ever happened to the Institution. But he need hardly say that there was no one who was connected with the administration of the affairs of that Institution, nor any one charged with official duties associated with it who was in any way responsible for the disaster which had befallen it. Every-one shared with him in the regret he felt at the misfortune that had overtaken the Institution, but while lamenting over it they felt it was not of so serious a character that an institution belonging to a body with elastic resources could not get over it. He could not help alluding to the little cloud that had hung over the Institution for the last 48 hours, because it seemed an extraordinary occurrence that the mark of appreciation which the brethren had presented him with should have come on this very night. Let them now turn to a more cheerful subject, and, while thanking the brethren for drinking prosperity to this Institution, he had no doubt he had plenty of good friends to assist him in compensating the Institution for its loss. Every brother who participated in drinking success to the Institution undertook a certain amount of obligation to make the toast a reality. He hoped that would be the feeling of every-one now round the table, and of every one to whom the misfortune he had alluded to was made known. The loss was not of any great extent, but it put the Institution in a position to command the sympathies and attract the support of all those good friends to whom he had never yet pleaded in vain. Trusting that this cloud would soon pass away, and that nothing connected with it would interfere with, or for a moment impede the onward march this Institution had made and was making in extending its benefits, he felt sure that as this was his sincere wish, it was also the sincere wish of every one present. It would not induce the managers for a single instant to relax their desires and intentions to confer their benefits on the sons of deceased and distressed Freemasons. For himself he considered he was nothing more than the brethren's agent, ministerially, to perform the duty of carrying out their intentions, and rendering the government of that Institution as favourable as possible, and the results attained in an educational point of view were the best proofs that their efforts had not been in vain. He had derived nothing but entire satisfaction for a quarter of a century of work in connection with the Boys' School, and, thank God, though he did not like to boast, he had been endowed with health and strength for his work, and he now felt as strong and as able as ever he was in his life to continue to perform his duties. He hoped he might be spared for some few years yet to discharge his task with satisfaction to himself and gratification to the brethren. On more than one occasion previously he had received substantial testimony of the brethren's appreciation of his efforts on behalf of the Boys' School; but whenever he had acknowledged this as gratefully as he could, he had invariably said that the success which had attended the Boys' School, was not due to him, but to a great body of the Craft, who, year after year had never been found wanting in the generous support they had rendered to that Institution. It was very true—and the brethren would pardon him for repeating himself on an occasion like this—that it was just possible that he might have been somewhat instrumental in stirring up a feeling of sympathy, and to some extent stimulating the generosity of the Craft to a greater extent than it had been exercised before on behalf not only of the Boys' School but all the Masonic Institutions; and if that be the case, and if he might indulge in the little boast, certainly free entirely from egotism, but not without some pride and gratification—he felt himself more than amply rewarded. He did not think there was any one connected with any of the Masonic Institutions who would grudge him that little meed of approval of what he had endeavoured to earn during the seventeen years he had been Secretary of the Institution. The Boys' School had met with an amount of success which he was perfectly sure was not anticipated by the most sanguine some sixteen or seventeen years ago. He felt very grateful for that success, and they must all feel a very considerable amount of pride in witnessing the result of those exertions which had been used for the number of years to which he had alluded. He would now come to another subject which had been touched upon, the re-organising of this Committee Dinner Club, which had been of enormous use in subserving the objects of the Institution with which it was so closely connected. The Chairman had alluded to the old club, but he was in error when he said that he (Bro. Binckes) was a member of it. He was, however, present so often that the club might well mistake him for a member. He well remembered all that was done at its meetings, how its minutes were kept, and the way in which its proceedings were conducted. He did not mind admitting that those proceedings were characterised by a very large amount of wit and clever humour; but this was accompanied by much severe ridicule and sharp sarcasm that many members winced under, and which all did not appreciate and enjoy. Thus the club became at last much reduced in numbers, and on the occasion of his becoming Secretary of the Institution it was a question whether the Boys' School Club should be continued. Fortunately a few members of the old club said it was one of those little organisations so useful in itself as connected with the Institution, and at the same time so pleasurable in its monthly associations, that they would be sorry to see it abolished, but they hoped to have it established on a different foundation. The meetings never ceased: the club was re-organised; and as the newly appointed Secretary of the Institution he was

asked to take, and was able to take, the duties of Treasurer and Secretary. That was seventeen years ago, and he was thankful and pleased to say he had only been absent from the meetings of the club on three occasions, two of which he was confined to his bed by an accident, and one under circumstances to which he need not now more particularly allude. He had never allowed the call of duty or pleasure elsewhere to take him away from his pleasure and duty as Treasurer and Secretary to do the best he could for the brethren's comfort and happiness consistently with what the funds would allow. He did not think any of the members had much to complain of. He would now give some statistics of the club's operations. Since its reorganisation in 1861 it had had a total of 80 members. Of these seven were members of the old club, and of these seven only two were now remaining, Bro. Stewart and Bro. Adlard. Bro. Stewart was the father of the club. The club had lost ten members by death, and in those ten were comprised some of the best members of society, and some of the hardest-working Masons, besides being the most respected friends that any one could testify to as regarded their merits, whether inside or outside the order. Twenty-seven had resigned. It was a satisfaction to himself and all those present that they had at that table a member of the old club. They had still forty-three subscribing members. By means of the club they contributed 240 guineas to the funds of the Institution. They had not then altogether missed the great purpose of their organisation. But there was something more important that the club had done; it had not only kept together month by month and brought into close unison the members of the club, but had enabled the brethren to invite visitors from the provinces and elsewhere, who but for this club would not have known of the merits of the Institution. By this means, too, large sums had been brought into the coffers of the Institution. He thought, therefore, he was quite right when he said that the club had achieved a great object. It was not a direct benefit, only which such a club effected for each member or for the Institution; there was also an indirect good by the geniality that was evinced by the members to each other and the hospitality they extended to the visitors, which practically enlarged that circle of good which every member had for object. Bro. Binckes again thanked the brethren for the testimonial, and said that those poor services which it had been in his power to render the brethren had thought proper to give him a substantial mark of their appreciation of, and he felt it a great compliment that it was presented to him by the oldest member of the club, one of the most constant attendants at the Committees, and as good a social and personal friend as any one would wish to claim. He also thanked Bro. Roebuck, who had taken a leading part in organising this very handsome testimonial, and Bro. Chancellor, and others who had joined him. There was much trouble always associated with anything like a testimonial, and for the trouble which the brethren had taken he offered his earnest and sincere thanks.

"The Health of Bro. Roebuck" was afterwards given and responded to.

The Chairman, in returning thanks for his health, in the course of his speech remarked again upon the failure of Messrs. Willis, Percival, & Co. He said that with respect to the funds of the Institutions there had always been exhibited a great deal of prudence, and the day after the last festival of the Benevolent Institution he moved, and it was carried, that £3,000 should be invested. Instructions to invest the money were given to the bankers on the 18th of February, and the money ought now to be invested. If it was, so much the better.

The "Health of The Visitors" followed, to which Bros. L. Ruf, Roberts, Winter, and Styles responded. Special toasts were given for Bros. J. M. P. Montagu, and W. Paas, to which both those brethren replied.

Bro. Montagu, in the course of his reply, advocated the organisation of support in the provinces for the Institutions, and suggested a permanent Charity Steward, an old P.M., whose duty it should be to impress on all the members of lodges the duty of charity. By this means, instead of £11,000, £12,000, or £14,000, double that amount would be contributed. With regard to the Supreme Council of which he was a member, they had determined to contribute as large a sum as they could every year. They gave at least 50 guineas a year. Last year their charity was £500, and they supported the Mace Fund and the boy Bright. He hoped the day would come when there would be a Supreme Council Studentship.

The Chairman replied to the toast of "The House Committee," and Bro. J. W. Dosell to that of "The Audit Committee," soon after which the company broke up.

SUNBURY LODGE (No. 1733).—The consecration of this lodge takes place at the Magpie Hotel, Sunbury-on-Thames this (Saturday) afternoon at 4 o'clock precisely. A full report will appear in our next.

NORWICH MUSICAL FESTIVAL.—The services of Mdle. Albani, Madame Trebelli-Bettini, Mr. Santley, and Mr. Lloyd have been secured in connection with the approaching musical festival at Norwich. A new orchestra, constructed upon the most approved model, has been erected in St. Andrew's Hall.

MR. RUSKIN.—The *Academy* regrets to hear that Professor Ruskin is dangerously ill from overwork. He is at his house at Coniston.

The Duke of Abercorn lunched with the King of Italy on Monday, and left Rome the next day, on his return to England.

Sir Thomas Chambers, M.P., has been elected by the Court of Aldermen to fill the office of Recorder of the City of London, rendered vacant by the resignation of the Right Honourable Russell Gurney, M.P.

THE BIBLE—ITS MASONIC AUTHORITY.

(Continued from page 122.)

While we have no desire to see aught which tends to sectarianism admitted into the Craft, yet we do wish to see the ancient landmarks respected by the leading members, and we moot the matter that all may investigate it with candour, and be prepared to act wisely. Occasionally these matters have been brought up for the action of Masonic bodies, and they may come up again and again. Indeed, France is at this time cut off from communication with the grand Masonic jurisdictions of the world on account of her repudiation of God and the Bible, and we are grieved to say that we have quite too many Masons of the French type in our midst.

To show the action taken by a few of our Sister Grand Bodies, and also to show how the matter has been viewed by leading members of the Craft, we give a few quotations as follows:

"Resolved, That this Grand Lodge is clearly of the opinion that a distinct avowal of a belief in the divine authority of the Holy Scriptures should be required of every one who is admitted to the privileges of Masonry, and that a denial of the same is an offence against the Institution, calling for exemplary discipline."—*Ohio*, 1856.

"The only declaration of faith necessary on the part of the candidate, before initiation, is the profession of belief and trust in God. But we also say, that a man who declares his disbelief in the divine authenticity of the Holy Bible, cannot be made a Mason."—*Brown, C.F.C., Fla.*, 1858.

"Resolved, that the Grand Lodge of Texas declares that a belief in the divine authenticity of the Holy Scriptures is an indispensable pre-requisite for Masonic admission; and the Grand Lodge does not mean to exclude the Israelite, whom it does not regard as being disqualified for the mysteries of Freemasonry."—*Texas*, 1857.

"No Christian doubts the authority of the Bible, and in this country we need not trouble ourselves much about any other class of people. We place it upon our altars as the word of God—the initiate is practically taught so to regard it—and we take it, and enjoin others to take, as the rule and guide of our conduct. This is enough. If any offer who are not willing so to recognize and take it, we are not bound to receive them. Every lodge is the judge of the fitness of its own candidates. Let this suffice, and 'remove not the ancient landmarks which our fathers have set.'"—*C. W. Moore*.

"It is clearly settled that in the first degree of Masonry religious tenets shall not be a barrier to the admission or advancement of applicants provided they confess a belief in God and His Holy Word."—*Res., Ohio*, 1820.

"By the usages and principles of our Order, he who does not believe in and acknowledge the Bible as the rule and guide of his conduct, ought not to be received into our Order."—*Hubbard, Ohio*, 1853.

"Resolved, That Masonry, as we have received it from our fathers, teaches the divine authenticity of the Holy Scriptures, and that the views of candidates on this subject should be ascertained by the committee of inquiry, or otherwise, as well as their other qualifications and fitness to be received into the order."—*Res., Iowa*, 1855.

"It is the sense of this Grand Lodge that no man can become a Mason unless he can avow a belief in the principles contained in the Holy Bible, and that the demand for such belief does not conflict with the universality of Freemasonry."—*Res., Neb.*, 1858.

It is understood, of course, that the Grand Lodge of Michigan has decided that a candidate need not avow his belief in the divine authenticity of the Holy Scriptures, yet the eminent author of that decision has also placed himself right on the record, by declaring, in no ambiguous terms that his decision was never designed to convey the impression that brethren of the Craft have a licence to treat the Bible with contempt. "Grand Lodge, in no shape nor manner, has ever sanctioned, and never will (as I know from the culture, character, and intelligence of its members) give countenance to any brother who will speak contemptuously of the Bible." "I say, most emphatically, that a brother who speaks contemptuously of the Bible is not a Mason. He may have passed through the forms and ceremonies, taken the obligations, and promised obedience, but with all this done, he is not a Mason; and a brother who knows of the existence of such a moral leper, claiming to be a Mason, should prefer charges against him, and, if found guilty, the lodge should at once purge the Temple of his contaminating presence."

Good enough. Let us act upon this suggestion. A brother who has so little regard for himself and the fraternity as to speak contemptuously of the Great Light of Masonry, our spiritual and Masonic trestle-board, and before the brethren denounce it as a lie, let him be at once called to account and dealt with as above. A few such examples would be wholesome.—*Michigan Freemason*.

THE ALL SAINTS LODGE POPULAR.—We shall call especial attention in our next, to the extraordinary refusal of the Poplar Board of Works to lend the Hall, for the meeting of the All Saints' Lodge.

Copies of the Christmas number of the *Masonic Magazine* are still on sale at the office, 198, Fleet-street, E.C. Price 1s. Post Free, 1s. 1d.—*Adv.*

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Rheumatism or Neuralgic Affections.—No diseases are more frequent, painful, or difficult to cure than these. From their attacks no tissue of the human body is exempt—no age, sex, or calling secure. It is a blessing, however, to know that all these sufferings may be completely and expeditiously subdued by Holloway's remedies. The Pills must assist in banishing the tendency to rheumatism and similar painful disorders, whilst the Ointment cures the local ailments, the Pills remove the constitutional disturbance and regulate the impaired function of every organ throughout the human body.—*Adv.*

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

There are few persons who are unacquainted with the Royal Masonic Institutions for Boys and Girls, which has been established by the energy of the great body of Freemasons in the metropolis. Valuable as such an institution is it has been frequently felt that the establishment of schools more local in character is desirable. It by no means follows that such should be antagonistic to the central school—in fact, they would relieve some of the pressure which must naturally bear upon it, seeing the large number of children of Freemasons left year by year totally unprovided for, a very small percentage of whom receive any assistance whatever. It is also a more difficult matter to obtain entrance to a central than to a local charity, whether Masonic or not, and this affords a reason why the members of our local lodges should imitate the example set by the Leeds Freemasons. The committee of the Leeds Masonic Educational Institution, in their report just issued, state that their object is to provide assistance to children who would never be able to obtain admission to the Metropolitan Masonic Schools by seeing that their education is attended to at home, and in needful circumstances gifts are given to deserving boys, and girls, the sons and daughters of Freemasons, in order that they may start life with a fair prospect of success. The institution consists at this present time of twelve patrons and three perpetual governorships, who have contributed £10 10s. each; seven patronesses or Lewises, 52 life governors, who have contributed £5 5s. each; and 63 annual subscribers of sums varying from 5s. to £1 1s. It should not take long to establish something of this kind in Hull, and from what we have been able to observe we believe it to be very much needed.—*The Hull Packet*.

H. R. H. PRINCE LEOPOLD.

It is stated with some degree of authority that Prince Leopold has determined to enter holy orders. The instances in which members of the Royal Family of England have entered the Church are very few. Henry, brother of King Stephen and grandson of William the Conqueror, was Bishop of Winchester. Henry de Beaufort, second son of John of Gaunt by his second wife Katherine, widow of Sir Hugh Swynford, was created by Pope Martin V. Cardinal of St. Eusebius, and became successively Bishop of Lincoln and Winchester. The celebrated Cardinal Reginald Pole was the youngest son of Margaret, Countess of Salisbury, the "last of the Plantagenets" (by her marriage with Sir Richard Pole), and grandson of the ill-fated Duke of Clarence (brother of Edward IV.), whose tragical death is so well known to school-boys. Henry Benedict Stuart, familiarly known as Cardinal York, was the second son of the Chevalier St. George, Prince James, and grandson of James II. The father of George I., Ernest Augustus, Duke of Hanover, was Bishop of Osnaburg; as was also the younger brother of the King, Ernest, who was also created Duke of York and Albany and Earl of Ulster. No member of the Royal Family of Scotland, according to Sir Bernard Burke, entered the Church; but two natural sons of James V.—namely, James, by Elizabeth Shaw, of the House of Sanchie, and John, by Elizabeth, daughter of Sir John Carmichael—were respectively Abbot of Kelso and Melrose and Prior of Coldingham. A son of the Prior of Coldingham, Francis, was created Earl of Bothwell, a name well known in Scotch history. Among the ladies of the Royal Family, Cicely, eldest daughter of William the Conqueror, became Abbess of the famous Abbey of the Holy Trinity at Caen. Queen Eleanor, widow of Henry III., took the veil at Ambresbury, and died a nun there in 1291. Her grand-daughter Isabel, fifth daughter of Henry, Earl of Lancaster, was abbess of the same institution. Mary, fifth daughter of Edward I., and Bridget, fourth daughter of Edward IV., became nuns. The last instances recorded are those of the Princess Elizabeth and Louisa, grand-daughters of James the First (James VI. of Scotland), and aunts of George I., who were respectively Abbess of Hervorden and Abbess of Maubisson. — [This appears in the *Glasgow News* of March 4. We believe it to be a "canard."—*Ed.*]

"RECOLLECTIONS OF A JOURNEY ROUND THE WORLD."

A lecture was delivered recently in the New-road School room, Bury, in aid of the choir funds of the New-road Chapel, by Bro. A. C. Wylie, of the Gresham Lodge, No. 869, on "Recollections of a journey round the world, and six months' residence in Japan." There was a very fair attendance, and the Rev. J. G. Deaville presided.

The lecturer commenced by saying that what he was about to tell them was the result of his own personal observation when on a purely business tour. In October, 1876, he was suddenly obliged to go to Japan on business, and he therefore sailed for New York in the Cunard steamer *Scythia*. He stayed in that city four days, and then visited the Philadelphia Exhibition, the Falls of Niagara, Chicago, &c., and then started from Omaha on the Central Pacific Railroad to San Francisco, a distance of 3200 miles from New York. He arrived at San Francisco after a weeks railway travelling. After a prosperous voyage, Yokohama is reached. He then visited Tokio, the capital of Japan, Shanghai, Hong-Kong, and Bombay. The lecturer gave a graphic description of the various places visited, and concluded his interesting discourse by giving a description of his journey from Bombay to Southampton, and the different places at which they touched, including Malta and Gibraltar; and resumed his seat amid great applause.

Masonic and General Tidings.

Bro. Messent, of St. Andrew's Lodge, (No. 231), was presented on Thursday evening with a valuable testimonial. A full report of the proceedings on the occasion will appear in our next. The testimonial was presented for long continued and varied services.

ILL. BRO. JUDGE TOWNSEND.—It is with extreme pleasure we announce a further honour conferred on our Ill. Bro. Major Townsend, of being appointed Representative from the Supreme Council of Belgium to the Supreme Council of Ireland.

THE AGE OF ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS.—A contemporary mentions the *Northampton Mercury*, first published in 1720; the *Nottingham Journal* (1710); the *Stamford Mercury* (1698); the *Gloucester Journal* (1722); among eight existing English newspapers more than a century old.

According to the *Dutch Landbouw Courant*, the exports to the United Kingdom of two Dutch butter-making firms represent a value of £25,000 weekly, natural and artificial butter both included. For the manufacturing of their artificial butter these two firms use daily 20,000 kilograms of margarine, 8000 litres of new milk, some casks of white American syrup, and other minor ingredients.

The Fifteen Sections will be worked in their entirety in the Panmure Lodge, No. 720, meeting at the Balham Hotel, Balham, by Bro. Thomas Poore, P.M. 720, on Wednesday evening next, at 6 for 7 p.m. precisely. Bro. James Stevens, P.M. 720, 1216, 1426, Worshipful Master. Brethren are respectfully invited to attend in full Masonic clothing.

A telegram from Carmarthen states that Lord Beaconsfield has been pleased to recommend that the sum of £200 should be issued from her Majesty's Royal bounty for the benefit of the widow and orphans of the late Thomas Humphreys, who so heroically lost his own life in saving that of another in Carmarthen Bay on Jan. 31th inst.

Father Secchi, the celebrated Italian astronomer, died at Rome last week.

At the meeting of the Legislature of the Isle of Man, held in Douglas on Tuesday, the following motion was unanimously passed: "His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor having been requested to bring to the notice of the Court a petition very numerously signed by the people of this isle, that the Court should renew the expression of their hope that their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales should visit the Isle of Man, and having laid the same before the Court, the Tynwald Court unanimously endorses the wish thus expressed, and resolves that his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor be requested to convey the earnest expression of their loyalty to his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and humbly to submit that if the arrangements of their Royal Highnesses admit thereof, that they may be graciously pleased to give a favourable consideration to the wishes of this ancient Legislature and those of the Manx people."

Bro. George Lambert, (30°) was on Tuesday last placed on the Court of the Goldsmiths' Company.

The South-Eastern Railway Company have sent over one of their Royal saloon carriages for the use of the Prince of Wales when travelling on the Northern of France Railway between Paris and Boulogne. His Royal Highness's duties as President of the Commission at the International Exhibition will necessitate his presence at Paris.

The *Morning Advertiser* is informed that Parliament will probably adjourn for the Easter recess on or about the 12th of April, and will not re-assemble until the 6th of May. This long interval will afford to members at once compensation for the early period at which the labours of the session commenced, and an opportunity of attending the opening of the Paris Exhibition.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales paid a visit to the office of the *Paris Figaro* on Wednesday evening, when the various members of the staff were severally introduced to his Royal Highness.

Will the following gentlemen be good enough to forward their present address to the Publisher, (198 Fleet Street), to enable him to forward the copy of the Cyclopaedia, for which they have paid. Baird, F. C., late of Gracechurch Street, London; Bullock T., Greek Street, Southport; or Carteret, Col. E. C. Mallet de, late of Victoria Club.

A report of the Installation meeting of the Royal Standard Lodge No. 1298, which took place on Tuesday last, will appear in our next.

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

A contemporary is informed that the efforts initiated by the National Provincial Bank of England to alter the time of opening the banks in London from nine to half-past nine, has been unsuccessful. The Joint-Stock Banks were nearly unanimous in favour of the change, but the leading private Banks opposed it, and so, for the present, the subject drops.

The total number of emigrants from the port of Liverpool during last month was 2,528, an increase of 569 on the figures for January, and 664 on those for February, last year.

Kenning's Masonic Cyclopaedia is now ready, and may be obtained at the office of this paper (198, Fleet-street.) Price 10s. 6d.—*Adv.*

Public Amusements.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—To a crowded and critical house Herr Neville Moritz made his first appearance in this country last Saturday afternoon, in the character of Othello. Herr Moritz is a Hungarian, who comes to us with a great continental reputation as a tragedian. But, unlike Salvini, Rossi and others, he essays the more difficult and ambitious task of acting the part in English. Precedents are dangerous encroachments, and, therefore, any actor, whether he be foreign or native, who is bold enough to attempt the delineation of any of Shakespeare's characters subjects himself to a rigid criticism, where no mercy is shown, no excuses taken, and no difficulties of circumstances allowed for. All must undergo a merciless pruning before the fiat of the public can be given that the delineation may stand.

The difficulty of the task, the Hungarian had set himself became only too apparent in his address to the Council. In telling his love story the peculiarities of his pronunciation sadly marred the pathos and exquisite charm of that beautiful tale of wooing, and, we must add, did but scant justice to the evident feelings of the actor himself.

Again the greeting of Othello and Desdemona was much weakened by the same cause.

"O my soul's joy!

If after every tempest come such calms,
May the winds blow till they have awakened death!"
and again—

"If it were now to die,

'Twere now to be most happy,"

Are passages which, for their overwhelming love and passion, are nowhere surpassed; but they were delivered with that variation in tone and proper accent, which alone could make the full power of the words felt. That Herr Moritz fully appreciated the beauties and power of these passages was most apparent, but from want of that skill, which we doubt much any foreigner obtaining, he was unable to grapple with the difficulties of the language, and hence failed in making his audience feel what he felt himself. This want of light and shade and a due appreciation of the soft pathetic power and worth of each simple word constrains us to say that all the softest passages failed in producing their proper effect. In the brawling scene between Cassio and Montano, Herr Moritz's energy and power began to shew. Exception has been taken to the want of dignity shewn by the actor in this scene, but, surely, if this be a fault, as suggested, it lies with the author and not the actor. Othello's own words, "Now, by Heaven, my blood begins my safer guides to rule," should protect him from censure on that ground.

Herr Moritz is still happier, however, in the scene where Iago breathes suspicion in his ear. The struggle between doubt and faith was most powerfully depicted, and his rendering of the passage—

"What sense had I of her stolen hours of lust?"

&c., gave the house a taste of what was to come; for gradually rising in power and intensity, he fairly electrified his audience when, seizing Iago by the throat, he warns him:—

"Give me the oracular proof:

Or, by the worth of mine eternal soul,
Thou hadst been better have been born a dog,
Than answer my waked wrath,"

and throws him cowed at his feet. Well deserved were the shouts of applause which greeted this grand effort, an effort that put all minor faults out of memory, and stamped Herr Moritz as one of the greatest tragedians of the day.

In his passionate passages Herr Moritz is powerful in the extreme; and we welcome heartily the absence of anything approaching to rant in the most passionate and frenzied situations; a vulgarity that has become only too common, unfortunately, in modern actors. Only once did Herr Moritz fall into this error, in the passage—

"My wife! my wife! what wife? I have no wife,"

words that should have depicted his crushing agony and despair, but which, as they were shrieked out by Herr Moritz, depicted nothing.

Well indeed was Herr Moritz supported by Mr. Herman Vezin in the character of Iago. He was the cool cringing calculating villain throughout, and will make the character in the future, one of the most unenviable to follow. As nearly as possible was the delineation perfect. If we may be hypercritical, we would suggest at times he was a little too rapid in his speech, more especially when stating his plans to Roderigo. On the whole, however we must again repeat, that his performance was one of the most perfect studies we can remember witnessing, and well deserved the hearty applause that greeted it. And much we regret that space will not allow us to dwell upon a performance, every line of which showed the thought and care that had been expended upon it.

Miss Genevieve Ward, as Emilia, was all that could be desired. She fairly roused the house with her energy and passion in the passages—

"And put in every honest hand a whip,
To lash the rascal naked thro' the world."

Again, when Othello informs her that her husband had first told him of Desdemona's shame,

"If he stays, may his pernicious soul
Rot half a grain a day! he lies to the heart."

And again when the Moor threatens her with his sword,—

"I care not for thy sword, I'll make thee known,
Though I lost twenty lives."

Mr. E. H. Brooke's Cassio left little to be desired. His acting in the drunken scene was telling without being exaggerated. But, at the same time, however much the modern practice of gag may be tolerated in modern efforts at play writing, we would remind Mr. Brooke it becomes, no matter how slight the innovation, an unpardonable offence, if not something more, in the play of a giant like Shakespeare.

Miss Hodson (Desdemona), Mr. Arthur Stirling (Brabantio), and Mr. J. G. Shore (Roderigo), all showed the care with which their respective parts had been studied, and well deserved the applause they received from a most critical house.

NEW CONCORD LODGE BALL.

The annual ball of New Concord Lodge, No. 813, was given on Monday evening, at Freemasons' Tavern. The company numbered altogether 150, and shortly after 9 o'clock they commenced dancing to the excellent band of Bro. Thomas Adams, P.G.P. There were twenty-four dances on the programme, which was divided into two parts. The first part comprised: 1. Quadrille, Fleur de Thé; 2. Polka, Fau Fair; 3. Lancers, Welsh; 4. Valse, Fascination; 5. Quadrille, Madame Angot; 6. Schottische National; 7. Caledonian. St. Patrick; 8. Valse, Little Nelly; 9. Quadrille, Promenade; 10. Redowa, Bright Eyes; 11. Quadrille, Young Friends; 12. Galop, Rachel; and 13. Quadrille, They all do it. Supper was then announced, after partaking of which the company drank a few toasts, and then resumed dancing, which of course was the principal attraction of the evening for the ladies. The second part of the entertainment comprised 14. Polka, Jury; 15. Lancers, Lord of Lorn; 16. Valse, Sweethearts; 17. Quadrille, Trial by Jury; 18. Redowa, German; 19. Caledonians, Borderers; 20. Valse, Florence; 21. Lancers, Festival; 22. Schottische, Sea Shells; 23. Quadrille, De Brabant; and 24. Valse, Gentle Spring; Galop, Loo. A most delightful evening was spent and the happiness of the ladies and brethren was assiduously attended to by Bros. T. J. Cusworth, W.M. of the lodge, president, J. R. Gallant, P.M., vice-president; T. Bartlett, P.M.; H. J. Gabb, P.M.; R. R. Harper; W. Stead, J.W.; J. Stillwell, Tyler; S. George, S.D.; Wm. Gabb, J.D.; John Thomas, D.C.; F. Dunn, S.; J. Taylor, I.G.; F. W. Swales, T. Glass, W. Pierpoint, J. T. Sinclair, A. L. Fauquez, J. Bond, G. Mustoe, W. J. Crabb, and H. L. Allardye, who formed the Board of Stewards, and also Bro. W. H. Main, P.M., Honorary Secretary to the Board. The brethren appeared in Craft clothing, which with the ornamentation of the room and the elegant attire of the ladies presented a very animated and attractive spectacle. Dancing was kept up till a late (or early) hour, but apparently not sufficiently late for the enthusiastic spirits who took part in it. The arrangements of Freemasons' Tavern gave the greatest satisfaction, and added another to the numerous testimonials to the abilities as caterer of Bro. Best, the proprietor, and Bro. E. Dawkins, the manager. Several other balls have been given at the same place this season, and there are still a large number yet to come off, all of which will no doubt be as well provided for. The New Concord Ball is always a great success, but none of those which have preceded that of last Monday have excelled it.

Red Cross of Constantine.

The regular quarterly meeting of the Premier Conclave of England was held on Monday last at the Freemasons' Tavern. Sir Knight H. A. Dubois, Past Sovereign, in the temporary absence of Sir Knight Dr. Brette, occupied the throne during the evening. The business on the summons was the election of Sovereign, Viceroy, Treasurer, and Sentinel for the ensuing year, the result of which fell upon Sir Knight the Rev. P. M. Holden, as Sovereign; Sir Knight Kingston, Viceroy; Sir Knight Cubitt, Treasurer; and Gilbert, Sentinel. The ballot was taken for Bro. Major Robert J. Maxwell, as also for Sir Knight H. M. Carter as a rejoining member, and in both cases proved unanimous.

The conclave being closed, the Most Eminent Grand Sovereign of England, Col. Francis Burdett, opened the Annual Grand Conclave, and was supported by a large number of Sir Knights, who were also present at the Premier Conclave, amongst whom we noticed Sir Knights Nunn, P.G.V.; Woodman, Levander, Cubitt, Boyd, Dubois, Roebuck, Thomas, Ellis, Hogard, Rosenthal, Howe, Peters, Hall, Mason, Letchworth, Robinson, Parker, Harford, Clark, Dewar, Kingston, Buck, Moss, Holden, Dr. Brette, Scargill, Moore, Mather, Rev. Moses Macartney, M.P.; Thiellay, Stedwell, Townsend, Giddy, Massa, and many others.

The principal business of the evening was the reading of the Executive Committee's report, and the election of the Grand Senate, the result of the latter fell upon the following Sir Knights:

C. H. Roger Harrison	Grand Preceptor
G. Powell	Grand Examiner
H. A. Dubois	Grand Prefect
Rev. Ambrose Hall	Grand Sub-Prefect
Rev. Canon Harford	Grand Sub-Prefect
George Kenning	Grand Vice-Chancellor
Lieut.-Col. Peters	Grand Asst. Treasurer
John Mason	Grand Asst. Recorder
(The above were nominated by the Grand Sovereign.)	
C. F. Hogard	Grand Sub-Almoner
W. T. Howe	Grand Inr. of Regalia
Herbert Dicketts	Grand Std. Bearer
Macartney	Grand Std. Bearer
Thiellay	Grand Asst. Orator
Pendlebury	Grand Swd. Bearer
F. Keily	Grand Asst. Marshal
J. M. Stedwell	Grand Vice-Chamberlain
Robinson	Grand Herald
G. F. Tuckey	Grand Herald

A letter was read from Sir Knight R. W. Little, tendering his resignation as Grand Treasurer, in consequence of continued illness, but it was the unanimous wish of the conclave that Sir Knight Little should be asked to reconsider his decision. The matter stands over. Letters of apology were read from several Sir Knights who were unable to be

present, and also a telegram from Sir Knight George Kenning, in consequence of illness.

The whole of the business being ended, the Grand Conclave was closed, and the Sir Knights adjourned to banquet, which was presided over by Sir Knight J. Nunn, the Grand Sovereign, Col. Burdett, being compelled to leave, and a very pleasant evening was spent, as Red Cross Knights know well how to do.

CARMARTHEN.—Maurice Conclave (No. 112).—This conclave met at the Masonic Rooms, Carmarthen, on the 28th ult. After confirmation of the minutes, the following brethren, having been balloted for and accepted, were admitted in due form and installed as Knights of the Red Cross. Bro. W. S. Stradling, P.M., St. David's, 336; E. P. Davies, T. P. Horsman, S. Cruse, H. Howells, and David Samuel, M.M.'s of St. Peter's Lodge, 476. The ceremony was performed by Ill. Sir Knight Marsden, M.P.S., ably assisted by his officers. Em. Sir Knight Jenkyn Jones and Sir Knight G. J. Hearder were then unanimously elected M.P.S., and V.E. for the ensuing year; and Sir Knight Richard Thomas was for the fourth time unanimously elected Treasurer. Sir Knights David Davies, W. Lewis, and T. P. Horsman were appointed by the conclave to assist the ex-officio members of the Finance Committee to draw up a report of the financial position of the conclave against the next assembly in April.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS
For the Week ending Friday, March 15, 1878.

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, MARCH 9.

Lodge 108, London, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 173, Phoenix, F.M.H.
" 176, Caveac, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 1328, Granite, F.M.H.
" 1361, United Service, Greyhound Hct., Richmond.
" 1426, The Great City, Cannon-st. Hot.
" 1607, Loyalty, Alexandra Palace, N.
" 1671, Mizpah, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.

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, MARCH 11.

Lodge 5, St. George's and Corner Stone, F.M.H.
" 29, St. Alban's, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 59, Royal Naval, F.M.H.
" 90, St. John's, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 193, Confidence, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 222, St. Andrew's, Inn's of Court Hot.
" 1366, Highgate, Gatehouse Hot., Highgate.
" 1571, Leopold, Woolpack Tav., Bermondsey-st.
" 1657, Aldersgate, Castle and Falcon, Aldersgate-st.
Chap. 22, Mount Zion, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
" 1118, University, F.M.H.
K. T. D., Mount Calvary, F.M. Tav.
Rose Croix Chap. Holy Sanctuary, 33, Golden-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Old Rodney's Head, Old-st., E.
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.
St. George's, Globe Tav., Greenwich.
London Masonic Club, at 101, Queen Victoria-st. E.C.,
2nd and 4th Monday every month, at 6 o'clock.

TUESDAY, MARCH 12.

Lodge 46, Old Union, Cannon-st. Hot.
" 96, Burlington, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-st.
" 166, Union, Westminster Palace Hot.
" 180, St. James's Union, F.M.H.
" 198, Percy, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 211, St. Michael, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 228, United Strength, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
" 235, Nine Muses, Long's Hot., Bond-st.
" 548, Wellington, White Swan Tav., Deptford.
" 917, Cosmopolitan, Cannon-st. Hot.
" 933, Doric, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 1441, Ivy, S.M.H.
" 1593, Royal Naval College, Ship Hot., Greenwich.
" 1604, Wanderer's, F.M.H.
" 1614, Covent Garden, Ashley's Hot., Covent Garden.
Rose Croix, Bayard, 33, Golden-sq.

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, 'r'iangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Florence Nightingale, F.M.H., William-st., Woolwich.
Constitutional, Bedford Hot., Southampton Blds., at 7.
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-st.
Leopold, Woolpack Tavern, Bermondsey-st.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
Mount Edgcombe, 19, Jermyn-st., St. James's.

WEDNESDAY MARCH 13.

Com. R.M.B.I., at 3.
Lodge 11, Enoch, F.M.H.
" 13, Union Waterloo, M.H., Woolwich.
" 15, Kent, F.M.H.
" 87, Vitruvian, White Hart, College-st., Lambeth.
" 147, Justice, White Swan, High-st., Deptford.
" 238, Pilgrim, 101, Queen Victoria-st.
" 749, Belgrave, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 1306, St. John of Wapping, Gun Tav., Wapping.
Chap. 1260, Hervey, F.M.H.
" 1305, St. Marylebone, Brit. Stores, St. John's Wood.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Confidence, Railway Tav., Railway-place, Fenchurch-st.
Burdett Coutts, Salmon and Ball, Bethnal Green-road.
Jordan, Devonshire Arms, Devonshire-st., W., at 8.
Mt. Lebanon, Horse Shoe Tav., Stones-End, E
Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London-street, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
La Tolerance, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Whittington, Red Lion, Poppin's-court, Fleet-st., at 8.
Lewis, King's Arms Hot., Wood Green.
Royal Jubilee, 81, Long Acre.
Langthorne, Swan Hot., Stratford.

THURSDAY, MARCH 14

Lodge 18, Old Dundee, Bridge House Hotel.
" 19, Royal Athelstan, Holborn Viaduct Hotel.
" 91, Regularity, F.M.H.
" 206, Friendship, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 263, Bank of England, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 534, Polish National, F.M.H.
" 657, Canonbury, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 865, Dalhousie, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 879, Southwark, Southwark Park Tavern.
" 1076, Capper, Marine Hot., Victoria Dock.
" 1288, Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., N.
" 1321, Emblematic, Tulse Hill Hot., Tulse Hill.
" 1425, Hyde Park, 1 Craven-rd., W.
" 1471, Islington, Cock Tav., Highbury.
" 1558, Duke of Connaught, S.M.H., Camberwell.
" 1599, Skelmersdale, M.H., Masons Avenue.
" 1642, Earl of Carnarvon, Ladbrooke Hall, Notting-hl.
Chap 72, Royal Jubilee, Horns Tavern, Kennington.
" 554, Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Chatham Arms, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
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.
Libury, 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, MARCH 15.

Lodge 6, Friendship, Willis's Rooms, King-st., W.
" 143, Middlesex, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 201, Jordan, F.M.H.
" 780, Royal Alfred, Siar and Garter, Kew-bridge.
" 1589, St. Dunstan's, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
Chap. 92, Moira.
Encamp. 6, St. George's Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 48, Kemeys Tynte, 33, Golden-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st., at 6 p.m.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Harp Tav., Jermyn-st., W.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st., at 7.
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, 79, Whitechapel-road, at 8.
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.
Royal Standard, The Castle, Holloway-rd.
Ranelagh, Bell and Anchor, Hammersmith-rd.
William Preston, Feathers Tav., Up-George-st., Edgware-rd.
Hervey, 99, Fleet-street, at 8.
Earl of Carnarvon, Mitre Ho., Goulborne-rd., Notting-hill.
Sir Hugh Myddelton, 25, King Edward-st., Liverpool-rd., N.
Phytagorean Chapter, Portland Hot. London-st., Greenwich

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, March 16, 1878.

MONDAY, MARCH 11.

Lodge 314, Peace and Unity, Militia Rooms, Preston.
" 721, Independence, Eastgate-row, Chester.
" 1021, Hartington, Custom House Bldgs., Barrow.
" 1398, Baldwin Castle, Dalton-in-Furness.

Lodge 1496, Trafford, Northumberland Hot., Old Trafford.
" 1350, Fermor Hesketh, M.H., Liverpool.
Chap. 148, Elias Ashmole, C.R., Warrington.
Derby L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
Everton Mark Lodge, 165, Bedford House, Rock Ferry.
Walton Conclave, Skelmersdale Hall, Liverpool.

TUESDAY, MARCH 12.

Lodge 241, Merchants, M.H., Liverpool.
" 897, Loyalty, Fleece Inn, St. Helen's.
" 986, Hesketh, Grapes Inn, Croston.
" 1250, Gilbert Greenall, M.R., Warrington.
" 1256, Fidelity, Bull Hot., Poulton-le-Fylde.
" 1713, Wilbraham, Walton Institute, Walton.
Chap. 537, Zion, M.R., Birkenhead.
" 613, Bridson, M.H., Southport.
Stanley L. of I., 214, Great Homer-st., Liverpool.
Prince Arthur L. of I., 80, N. Hill-st., Liverpool.
Red Cross Conclave, Liverpool, M.H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13.

Lodge 86 Loyalty, Crown Hot., Prescott.
" 281 Fortitude, Athenæum, Lancaster.
" 484, Faith, Gerard's Arms, Ashton-in-Makerfield

Lodge 580, Harmony, Wheat Sheaf, Ormskirk.
" 758, Ellesmere, M.H., Runcorn.
" 1092, Temple, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1356, De Grey and Ripon, M.R., N. Hill-st., L'pool
" 1547, Liverpool, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1345, Victoria, Cross Keys, Eccles.
Neptune L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, MARCH 14.

Lodge 216, Harmonic, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.
" 333, Royal Preston, Royal Hot., Preston.
" 477, Mersey, M.R., Birkenhead.
" 786, Croxteth, United Service, M.H., Liverpool.
" 950, Hesketh, Royal Hot., Fleetwood.
" 1032, Townley Parker, Howards Arms, Whittle.
" 1035, Prince of Wales, M.H., Kirkham.
" 1070, Starkie, Black Horse Hot., Kirkham.
" 1182, Duke of Edinburgh, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1213, Bridgewater, Cross Keys, Eccles.
" 1576, Dee, Union Hotel, Park Gate.

Mariners L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, MARCH 15.

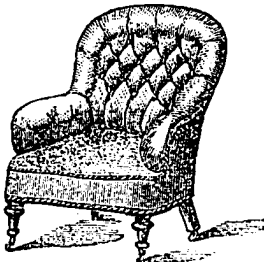
Harmer L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

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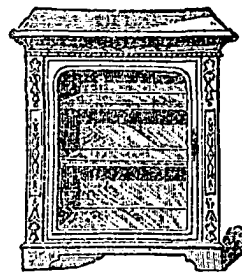


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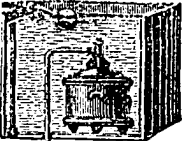
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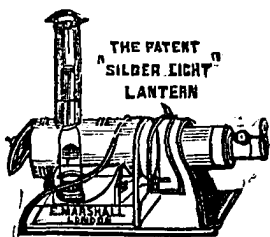
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