

CONTENTS.

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS:—
 Craft Masonry 197
 Masonic Concert at Manchester 198
 Masonic and General Tidings 198
 Provincial Grand Priory of Devon 199
 Royal Masonic Institution for Girls 199
 Royal Masonic Institution for Boys 200
 Fine Arts and the Liverpool Exhibition 200
 Obituary 201
 Meetings of Learned and other Societies 201
 Notes on Art, &c. 201
 In Memoriam 202
 True Charity Reform 202
 A Memory of the Past 203
 CORRESPONDENCE —
 The Grand Orient of France 203
 Freemasonry in New Zealand 203
 The Inhabitant's Lodge, Gibraltar 204
 The Genesis of Speculative Masonry 204
 Lodge of Benevolence 204
 Grammar in the Grand Chapter Office 204
 A Query 204
 Masonic Notes and Queries 205
 A Century of Masonry 205
 Presentation to Bro. John Dennis, P.M. No. 907 205
 Lodge Meetings for Next Week 206
 Advertisements i, ii, iii, iv, v, vi.

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.

MIZPAH LODGE (No. 1671).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held last Saturday at the Albion, Aldersgate-street. The work performed was the passing of Bros. Meitre and Wilson, and the initiating of Mr. Flack. The W.M., Bro. Nelson Reed, was absent in consequence of the death of his wife four days previously, and in his absence Bro. John Hervey, Grand Secretary of England, installed Bro. David R. Still as W.M. The list of brethren appointed for the ensuing year were Bros. Nelson Reed, I.P.M.; Walter W. Medcalf, S.W.; J. Bergmann, J.W.; the Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C.; Chaplain; J. J. Avery, P.M. 70, P.P.G. Treasurer Devon, Treasurer; H. G. Buss, A.G.S., Secretary; C. Schmidt, S.D.; R. A. Morgan, J.D.; P. Alpetter, I.G.; J. Hill, Organist; H. H. Wells, D.C.; and J. B. Tidmarsh, W.S. The lodge then presented Bro. Buss with a handsome Secretary's jewel, as a token of the brethren's appreciation of his services to the lodge as Secretary during the first year of the lodge's existence, and also as one of its founders. When the lodge was first formed Bro. Buss agreed to accept the office of Secretary for one year. He, however, did not wish to have that office conferred on him for the second year, but on the earnest entreaty of the W.M. he consented to act for another year, but stated that after that year he must be excused from again holding the office, his other engagements being very numerous. The brethren then closed the lodge and adjourned to banquet, which was supplied in Bro. W. G. Jennings' best style. Among the brethren present were Bros. W. Wilson, Geo. Coppard, John Oswin, R. Nelson, H. H. Wells, H. Wiles, C. Meitre, H. Warden, John Hill, D. Wright, Geo. Lewis, John Hervey, G.S., W. Klotgen, C. Murton, C. H. Flack, Jas. Orr, Glasgow Kilwinning Lodge, No. 4; A. Brookman, 1657; F. Morgan, 1572; G. Coombs, 1188; Thos. Thexton, 1572; Tros. W. C. Bush, 1728; Jas. Keyworthy, 1728; Kennett Harris, 1728; Julian Hartley, 1426; Adolph Oppenheim, 435; A. Robins, 1056; John Thomson, 185; Donald Clark, 1632; J. R. Foulger, P.M. 1613; John Green, P.M. 27; John Clarricoats, Treasurer 1572; H. Massey, (Freemason); John Chaney, 180; J. Jackson, 1287; D. Y. Vine, 9; F. H. Willcocks, 1572; B. Noakes, 92; and James Relph, 1532. When the toasts were proposed Bro. C. A. Murton, P.G.D., responded on behalf of "The Grand Officers," and said that all the brethren who were P.M.'s knew that Grand Lodge was the parliament of Masonry, wherein all the laws were made by which Freemasonry was guided. The Grand Officers had a great deal to do, and none of them were more efficient than their worthy Bro. John Hervey. What he had said of Bro. Hervey was also reflected in Bro. Buss, because he assisted Bro. Hervey in his onerous duties, and he was sure that no one would be more ready to acknowledge Bro. Buss's services than Bro. Hervey himself. Bro. Hervey proposed "The Health of the W.M." It had often been said that without good officers the Master of a lodge was in a difficulty, and no doubt the officers would find great difficulty if they had not a good Master. A great deal depended on a W.M. in a Freemasons' lodge, and it was mainly on his conduct that the brethren relied for their good governance. The brethren had acted wisely in selecting Bro. Still for their W.M., and they would realise what he (Bro. Hervey) had said, for Bro. Still would conduct the affairs of the lodge in a way to produce good feeling among the brethren, and kindness and forbearance; and if any differences arose they would find sufficient decision in the W.M. to heal up those differences, and to bring the brethren back again into the way in which they should go. He could only deplore the absence of the I.P.M., not only on account of the sad event which had prevented him attending, but also for the loss which the brethren must naturally feel at not having him among them. The W.M. doubtless missed him very much, not that he needed the assistance of Bro. Reed, but he would like to have said

something about him, and all W.M.'s liked to have some one to fall back upon for advice. This evening the W.M. had to rely upon what he might term an outsider—(no, no)—and though he was very happy to give all the assistance he could to the W.M., it would have been more pleasing to him to see it given by the I.P.M. He wished all happiness to the W.M., and he felt satisfied that all the members of the lodge would render the W.M. all the assistance which was necessary, and so render his year of office as easy as possible. They would be doing this if they refrained from forming little cliques, and from having little dissensions among themselves, and there could be no doubt that the lodge's prosperity was assured if they would act on the principle he had recommended. The W.M. responded, and said that Bro. Hervey was not, as he had represented himself, an outsider, but was one of themselves, who honoured the lodge by being a member. He (the W.M.) promised to do all he could to forward the interests of the lodge, and Masonry also, and he would do his best to advise and instruct his officers to do the same. All they had to do was to study the interests of the lodge, and in doing so they would be studying the interests of the Craft. Bro. Flack responded to the toast of "The Initiate," after which the W.M. proposed "The Installing Master, Bro. John Hervey." Bro. Hervey, in reply, said that it was a fortunate thing he was a modest man, for if he had not been he should long ago have been spoiled by the kindness he at all times received wherever he went. He was very much gratified with the kindness he had experienced that evening, and he was pleased to see a lodge which he might call one of his infants progressing so satisfactorily as to promise to grow up a prosperous body. He was glad, and more than glad, to see the unanimity which prevailed in the lodge, for without such unanimity no institution, whether Masonic or otherwise, could prosper. He could not wish to be more kindly received than he had been that evening. He trusted that although he had run through a long career of Masonry, and managed to maintain a popularity during that period, for the short time which still remained to him among the Craft in London and the provinces, he might never forfeit that kindness and good feeling which prevailed towards him in every lodge with which he was associated. The W.M. proposed "The Visitors," to which toast Bro. J. R. Foulger, P.M. Cripplegate, and Bro. James Orr, of Glasgow Kilwinning Lodge, No. 4, replied, the latter brother stating that he should take back to Glasgow very excellent remembrance of the good works of the Mizpah Lodge, and the great hospitality of the banquet table. Bros. J. J. Avery and H. G. Buss responded to the toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary." Bro. Buss, in the course of his reply, said the office of Secretary had been pressed upon him for the second year, but though he felt that the compliment was so thoroughly undeserved on his part, yet the pressure put upon him was so great that he could not help accepting the office. He had been Secretary of other lodges during their first year, and every one of them had come out precisely as the Mizpah Lodge had come out—with a clean balance-sheet, no arrears, and everything paid. He did not expect to lend his hand to another lodge. He did not know how to express his acknowledgments for what the brethren had done, for he knew of no instance where a Secretary of a lodge had been decorated as he had been that evening. He felt it a great mark of esteem, and he should mark the day as a red-letter day in his Masonic career. The W.M. had received a telegram from Bro. Nelson Reed hoping that the brethren were enjoying themselves. This showed that though Bro. Reed was compelled to be away from them they were not absent from his thoughts. The W.M. then proposed "The Masonic Charities," and wished that every lodge in the Craft would put by £10 a year for the charities. The W.M. next proposed "The Officers," to which Bro. W. W. Medcalf, S.W., replied; and the brethren, who had enjoyed some excellent music from Bro. Bergmann and others, then separated.

BATH.—Royal Cumberland Lodge (No. 41).—A regular meeting was held on Thursday evening, April 4th, in the Masonic Hall, Bro. F. Wilkinson, W.M., in the chair, supported by Bros. F. J. Brown, I.P.M.; Captain Peel Floyd, P.M., &c.; T. B. Moutrie, P.M., and others, all the officers being in their places: Bros. T. P. Ashley, P.M., Treasurer; P. Braham, J.W.; G. Falkner, S.W.; T. Wilton, D.C.; Gummer, Secretary; W. Hunt, S.D.; C. W. Radway, J.D.; Captain Robinson, I.G.; Bigwood, Tyler; Mercer, Steward. Members: Bro. Major Preston, P.M., &c.; W. Gregory, J. W. Murlis, Stiles, and several others. The lodge was opened at 7.45, the accounts as audited were duly passed, minutes of the last regular lodge read and confirmed, letter read from Bro. Dr. H. Hopkins, pleading illness as excuse for absence, also from Miss Cooper, daughter of a deceased brother, thanking the lodge for the measures adopted to provide suitable education for the young son, Arthur Ashley Cooper, and the active steps taken to obtain admission into the Boys' Masonic School of her brother, Walter Percy Cooper. The report from the Permanent Committee was brought up and unanimously adopted. The W.M. kindly undertook the Treasurer'ship of the fund voted by Grand Lodge and Prov. Grand Lodge for the Cooper family. The alterations in bye-laws duly passed, and copy ordered to be forwarded to Prov. Grand Lodge. Bro. T. J. Brown, P.M., presented a valuable book to the library, viz., "Kenning's Cyclopædia of Freemasonry," which was suitably acknowledged by acclamation. A report from the Sub-committee on the organ question, to the effect that the settlement of purchasing an organ was still in abeyance. Bro. Falkner proposed, and Bro. Radway seconded, that an Organist's collar and jewel be purchased by the lodge. The W.M. then announced that the candidate to be passed was again absent through illness, and reported that the W.M. and several members of the Royal Sussex Lodge, No. 53, &c., sought admission. They were received in due form,

the salute being capitally given by the W.M. The visitors were Bros. Edwards, W.M. No. 53; General Doherty, P.M.; Dr. Tunstall, Sumsion, Rolfe, Salter, Timmins, Reuben Cook, 335; H. J. Walker, P.M. 53; J. C. Armstrong, 53; J. D. Gardner, 53; H. Bush, and others. The W.M. then read the circular received from the last Grand Lodge, referring to the careful admission of Masons from abroad in relation to the recent alterations of the Constitutions of the Grand Orient, which was ordered to be entered on the minutes. A vote of thanks was then unanimously given for the visiting brethren, and responded to by Bro. Edwards, W.M. The lodge was closed in perfect harmony at 8.45.

WESTERHAM.—Amherst Lodge (No. 1225).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday, the 6th inst., at the King's Arms Hotel. There were present Bros. Edward James Dodd, W.M.; Armande William Duret, S.W. (the S.W. elect); W. C. Banks, J.W.; R. Dustnell, Treasurer; J. H. Jewell, Secretary; C. J. Dodd, S.D.; J. Webb, J.D.; Sinalman Smith, I.G.; T. J. Baker, D.C.; A. S. Owen, S.; R. B. Newsom, P.M.; P. M. Hadley, P.M.; S. Laver, &c. Among the visitors present we observed the V.W. Bro. James Smith Bastes, Deputy Prov. Grand Master for Kent; Flaxman Spurrell, M.D. 615, J.G.W.; Geo. Cook, 3; James Lawburn, P.M. 213, P.P.G.R., P.Z. 258, Norfolk; F. D. Vine, D.C. 173; Lewis Jacobs, Treasurer 1016; Geo. T. Bigley, Secretary 1298; James McCulloch, 645; J. Buggegal, 1491; J. P. Richard, J. Burgess Brown, 503; James Andrews, 957; W. Alfred Lawson, 421. The lodge was opened in the usual form and the minutes of the previous lodge meeting were read and confirmed. The Secretary then read the resolutions agreed to at the last Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge in reference to the proceedings of the Grand Orient of France, which were ordered to be entered on the minutes. The lodge was then opened in the Second Degree, and Bro. Newsom, P.M., took the chair, and Bro. Armande William Duret (the W.M. elect) was presented by Bro. J. H. Jewell, P.M., to receive at his hands the benefit of installation. On the retirement of the brethren below the chair, a Board of Installed Masters was formed, and Bro. Duret was installed into the chair of K.S. The brethren having been re-admitted to the lodge, the customary proceedings were carried out, the salutation of the different degrees being performed under the direction of the Installing Master. The following brethren were then invested—Bros. W. C. Banks, S.W.; Chas. J. Dodd, J.W.; R. Dustnell, Treasurer; J. H. Jewell, Secretary; Jno. Webb, S.D.; Sinalman Smith, J.D.; T. J. Baker, I.G.; A. S. Owen, D.C.; S. Laver, Steward. The Installing Master impressed on each of the officers the necessity of strict attention to their duties if they wished to progress, and closing the ceremony with the customary address in his usual eloquent style which elicited the warm approval of the brethren. A letter was received from the R.W. Bro. the Viscount Holmesdale, M.P., Provincial Grand Master for Kent, regretting his inability to attend; a telegram from Bro. Alfred Spencer, Prov. Grand Secretary, and many letters and telegrams from other important brethren, all expressing hearty good wishes to the new W.M. Bro. Ledger G. Merrit was re-elected on the Charity Committee, and after the proposition for two new members the lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet, which was presided over by the W.M. Upon the removal of the cloth, the W.M. gave the customary Masonic toasts, introducing each with some appropriate observations. To that of "The V.W. the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, and the Prov. Grand Lodge Officers," he expressed the gratification that he felt at the presence of two present and one P.P.G. Officers. Bro. James Smith Bastes, the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, in responding said it gave him and his colleague great pleasure in visiting the lodge on this occasion as it at all times did when he had the opportunity of visiting lodges in the province. As the brethren were aware the province was large and the lodges was somewhat scattered, but he felt it not only a duty but a pleasure to visit them all in turn. He would like to be more frequently with the brethren, but they, perhaps, knew that there was always some work to be done by the Grand Lodge Officers. He was pleased to see the work so well done at the Amherst, and he advised the younger members of the Craft to be always aspiring to the higher honours, and he felt sure that these with zeal and assiduity would obtain them. He urged upon the notice of all the brethren to observe one great feature in Freemasonry, and that was charity, and he trusted that the province would stand second to none in the amount of their contributions and subscriptions to the schools and the other charities. The gavel being entrusted to the I.P.M., he very eloquently proposed "The Health of the W.M." He said he had introduced him into Freemasonry and he was proud of his pupil. If they considered that he had discharged his duties satisfactorily during his year of office, he could assure them that they would find their new Master a better Mason than he was, and that his work was at, and he would require his Wardens and other officers to be perfect in their duties, as he was a strict disciplinarian, and he would not put up with anything inferior in the work of the lodge while he occupied the chair. The W.M. then proposed "The Health of the P.M.'s of the Amherst," of whom four were present. He spoke first of their I.P.M., Bro. Dodd, and with what pleasure the lodge had entrusted to him the duty of presenting him with a P.M.'s jewel for his services to the lodge during the past year. As it was the unanimous vote of the lodge he was sure he would wear it with satisfaction to himself, as the brethren had by this slight acknowledgment shown their satisfaction with his services. He next alluded to Bro. Durnell, the predecessor of Bro. Dodd, who was still serving the lodge by acting as their Treasurer; then of Bro. Jewell, their Secretary, who had done good service to the lodge; and last but not least

the first P.M. and father of the lodge, the Installing Master of this day, he eulogised his work and the readiness he displayed at all times in taking office and the interest he felt in the lodge. Bro. Dodd then, by permission of the W.M., said he had to bring before their notice a little subject with which he felt they would all be interested. They all knew the value of their Secretary, Bro. Jewell, and it was that brother's health he wished to propose, and at the same time to present him with a slight acknowledgment of their appreciation of the value of his services to the lodge. He had known Bro. Jewell many years, and had always known him to be a first rate worker in any cause he undertook. In presenting him with this jewel he begged him to understand that it was the spontaneous offering of the officers of the lodge. They, at least, were well aware of the valuable services he had rendered to the lodge. He had been its mainstay, and had had some work to pull it through its difficulties, and if it had not been for his zeal and love for the Craft the Amherst Lodge would have been a thing of the past. He therefore, on behalf of himself and the officers of the lodge, begged the worthy secretary to accept this little tribute of their esteem and regard. Bro. Jewell, with some emotion, thus acknowledged the very handsome testimonial:—"Worthy Past Master, in receiving this handsome gift from your hands, I do so with some degree of diffidence, because I feel I have done no more than my duty, or what any member of the Craft would have done who had the interest of his lodge at heart, or a genial love for our ancient and honourable Institution. It is true I have stood by the lodge in sunshine and shadow; in its prosperity and adversity; and when, to use a metaphor, our lodge was like a worthy barque deserted by her crew and left to toss about on troubled waters, I took the helm, and, sir, with your good aid and the assistance of several of my good messmates here, we have, I am pleased to say, brought our ship into the right tack, and with such a crew of officers and men as our new captain now possesses, we may naturally anticipate our next voyage will be a happy and prosperous one. To you, sir, and brethren, who have contributed to this jewel, I can hardly find words to express my feelings. I receive it as a pledge of your esteem, and shall wear it as a souvenir of your regard. In the words of an old rhymester, I pray you—

"Accept my thanks, and though my speech be crude,
Words pass like wind, the heart speaks gratitude."
The toast of "The Officers" followed, responded to by Bros. Banks, Dodd, and Webb, and with the "Tyler's" toast, a very pleasant and agreeable meeting meeting was brought to a close.

THE OCARINA.

A few days back a most remarkable object was brought under our notice to which we were unable to attach a name or imagine a purpose. At first it seemed to be related to the artichoke family, then it looked not unlike that object—so dear to your geologist, but so seemingly commonplace to the profane crowd—a flint implement; next our mind wavered between a savage's conch-shell and an Orsini bomb. When we were informed of the real nature of the strange looking object, we found that the conch-shell theory, although not quite correct, was nearest the truth, for the "Ocarina," as we were informed was its name, was a musical instrument.

If we were startled by the use of this new acquisition to the musical family, no words could express our astonishment at the sweet sounds it gave forth, when Mr. Matthias Barr, of 80, Queen Victoria-street (a gentleman as well-known in the literary as the musical world), performed upon it for our edification.

The quality of sound is that of a fine flute-toned organ-pipe, with which is combined an articulation well-nigh as distinct as that of the human voice; the valuable feature of the instrument being that it is not only available for solo-playing, either by itself or accompanied by the pianoforte, but also that, being made of a variety of sizes, like the pipes of an organ, an orchestra can be composed of it just as can be done with the violin or saxhorn group of instruments. Some time since such an orchestra, the performance being Austrian-Tyrolese, delighted large audiences with their charming music.

The strangest part of the business is the material of which our newly found treasure is made: it is a species of terra-cotta called "Ocarina,"—whence its name.

The promise made that its use can be readily learned is quite borne out, for we found that a very few minutes, instruction of Mr. Barr revealed all its secrets. We doubt not that, with the aid of the admirably simple instruction-book, and with a little perseverance in practice, any of our readers who are sufficiently sensible to give it a trial will be charmed with this novel addition to the repertoire of musical instruments.

The *Standard* of Wednesday last states that among the unsuccessful candidates at the election of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys on Monday was a bright little lad, named Miles Coverdale, who is a direct lineal descendant of Miles Coverdale, the translator of the Bible.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Diseases of the skin.—No case of disease of the skin, be its nature what it may, has failed to be benefited when these potent remedies have been properly applied. In scrofulous and scorbutic affections they are especially serviceable. Scoury and eruptions, which have resisted all other modes of treatment and gradually from year to year, have been completely cured by Holloway's cooling Ointment and purifying Pills, which root out the disease from the blood itself and leave the constitution free from every morbid taint. In the nursery Holloway's Ointment should be ever at hand; it will give ease in sprains, contusions, burns, scalds, and infantile eruptions, and may always safely be applied by any ordinary attendant.—[Adv.]

BATCHELDER & DOTTIE'S MASONIC CONCERT IN MANCHESTER.

An event of an unusually interesting description took place at the Free Trade Hall, Manchester, on the evening of Tuesday, the 9th inst. Two of the Cottonopolitan brethren—to wit, J. Batchelder, P.M. 1458, and R. Dottie, J.D. 1161, both of whom are well known in Manchester in connection with musical entertainments—organised a concert of a high character in aid of the East Lancashire Systematic Masonic Educational and Benevolent Institution, and their exertions were warmly espoused by the leading officers of the province, many of whom patronised the undertaking by their presence, amongst others Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie, the R.W.P.G.M. of East Lancashire, and George Mellor, Esq. (Mayor of Ashton-under-Lyne), W. Deputy P.G. Master. Thanks to the energy and judgment of the promoters, the affair had been well advertised, and the arrangements were almost as perfect as could have been desired. The principal vocalist was Madame Nouver, and the following ladies were also engaged:—The Misses Topliffe, Standen, Smith, and Tervin; also Bros. N. and W. Dumville, J. H. Pearson, J. D. Smith, H. Lister, J. Dearnaley, &c. Bros. F. Vetter, O. Gags, C. Fielding, B. Brierley, R. Dottie, J. Batchelder, W. Ellis, J. Peers, W. N. Kershaw, Donbavand, Greenwood, &c., were also amongst the numerous array of entertainers, and the Masonic arrangements were under the personal direction of Bro. J. H. Sillitoe, Pro. G. Dir. of Ceremonies E.L.

The attendance was large and brilliant, and the proceedings passed off without the slightest hitch in perfect harmony.

The concert opened with Adam's chorus, "Comrades in Arms." This was followed by Bishop's "Bid me discourse," charmingly rendered by Madame Nouver, who received an enthusiastic encore.

Bros. Vetter and Batchelder then gave Osborne and De Beriot's "Guillaume Tell" (violin and pianoforte duet); Bro. Ben. Brierley next gave a humorous reading of his own laughable sketch, entitled "Catching a Weasel." This was followed by Battye's quartette, "Hail, bounteous May," tastefully rendered by Bros. Pearson, W. and N. Dumville, and H. Lister.

One of the successes of the evening was Bro. J. D. Smith's singing of Bro. Batchelder's new song, "The Halberdier," which received a hearty encore. Bro. Dottie's reading of Waugh's "Lubbers afloat" created roars of laughter, and his colleague, Bro. Batchelder received an encore for his playing of Gottschalk's grotesque caprice "Pasquinade," which was followed by Smart's quartette "A Knight there came," most acceptably rendered by the Misses Topliffe and Smith, and Bros. W. Dumville and H. Lister.

In the second part of the programme Cooke's fine glee and chorus, "Hohenlinden," was the opening item, and was capitally given by Bros. W. Kershaw, N. Dumville, W. Dumville, J. Peers, H. Lister, and a full choir. Madame Nouver, who was in fine voice, next sang in a magnificent manner Meyerbeer's "Roberto! oh tu che adoro;" this was followed by Bro. Dearnaley with an organ solo, a fine performance. Smart's trio, "The Carnival," afforded the Misses Standen and Tervin and Bro. J. D. Smith an opportunity of evincing their vocal skill, and an eloquent recital of Willis's fine poem, "Parhassius," by Bro. Donbavand, formed an agreeable relief to the otherwise musical character of this portion of the programme. Bro. W. Ellis gave "The Tar's Farewell" in good style, followed by a humorous song by Bro. Greenwood, after which Boehn's flute solo "Du du" was excellently played by Bro. Gags; and Madame Nouver brought a most enjoyable entertainment to a close by an artistic rendering of Cherubini's "Ave Maria."

Bro. Chas. Fielding most efficiently officiated as accompanist.

Altogether the concert was a pronounced success.

NOTTINGHAM CASTLE.—The restoration of Nottingham Castle, at the opening of which as an Art Museum next June or July the Prince of Wales has expressed his intention of being present, is rapidly approaching completion. The Castle, which for about two centuries has belonged to the Dukes of Newcastle, was destroyed by fire in 1831, and since that time had remained in ruins. In 1872 an exhibition of fine and industrial art in connection with the South Kensington Museum was established at Nottingham, and was located in the Exchange Rooms. The remarkable success which attended this exhibition led the corporation to consider the desirability of providing a suitable site for its permanent location as a national institution, and it appeared to them that the Castle, from its fine position and central situation, as well as from its historical associations, was most appropriate for the purpose. In 1874, therefore, with the assent of Mr. Gladstone and Lord de Tabley, the Duke of Newcastle's trustees, an Act of Parliament was obtained enabling them to grant a lease of the Castle and grounds for the purposes of a public museum to the corporation for a term of 500 years, and this was accordingly done. The work of restoration was commenced soon afterwards, and the cost, amounting to £26,000, will be defrayed partly by subscriptions obtained in the town and neighbourhood and partly by grants from the Town Council. At a special meeting of that body on Monday an additional sum of £5000 was voted to complete the work, making the total cost to the ratepayers £15,720, and leaving the sum of £10,580 to be defrayed by public subscriptions. The Mayor of the borough (Mr. Alderman Ward) is taking great interest in the movement, and has obtained promises of loans to the museum from all parts of the country. There can be little doubt that the Castle when completed will contain the finest art galleries in the provinces.

Masonic and General Tidings.

The consecration of the Eclectic Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, No. 1201, will take place on Monday week, the 29th inst., at Freemasons' Hall. The ceremonies of consecration and installation of Principals will be performed by Comp. Thos. Fenn, assisted by Comp. John Hervey, Grand Scribe E., and Comp. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, P.G.P.S.; and Comp. Henry G. Buss as Director of the Ceremonies. The Principals designate are Comps. James Mander, Z.; Edward James Harty, H.; John Henry Watts, J. At the close of the Chapter the companions will adjourn to the Holborn Restaurant. The consecration banquet will be served in grand style in the Prince's Saloon, at 6.30. A full report of the proceedings both at the consecration and banquet will appear in the *Freemason* of May 4th.

CLEOPATRA'S NEEDLE.—At a meeting of the Royal Institute of British Architects on Monday night, held to discuss Professor Donaldson's paper on "Obelisks: their position, purpose, proportions, and material," Mr. Dixon, who has been acting for Professor Erasmus Wilson in the removal of Cleopatra's Needle, explained at considerable length the method by which the monolith was to be transferred from the vessel in which it now lies in the Thames to its site on the Embankment. Mr. Chas. Barry, F.S.A., the president of the Institute, expressed regret at having heard that Mr. Dixon was pecuniarily a loser by his share in the importation of the Needle. He (the speaker) was glad the Parliament-square-site had been abandoned, though he did not consider the accepted position on the Embankment the best that could be had.

The installation meeting of the Langton Lodge, No. 1673, was held at the London Masonic Club, on Wednesday last, the 17th inst., Bro. Joseph Langton being installed in the chair of K.S. A report of the proceedings will appear in our next.

Prince Lucien Murat, the last surviving son of King Murat, died on Thursday week at his residence on the Boulevard Malesherbes, aged 73. He was for a while, under the Empire, President of the Masonic lodges of France.

MASONIC FUNERAL.—The remains of Bro. Alexander Burton, formerly J.W. of the Antient Union Lodge, No. 203, Liverpool, were interred in the Flaybrick Hill Cemetery, Birkenhead, a few days ago. There were about eighty Masonic brethren present, under the direction of Bro. Julius Frank, I.P.M. 203, and Bro. James Winsor, P.M. 203. The deceased was greatly respected by a large circle of the brotherhood.

The Metropolitan Railway Company have decided to supersede their present mode of lighting the carriages by coal gas as quickly as possible by the adoption of Pintsch's compressed oil gas system, to which the Society's gold medal was awarded last session. This system has also been adopted by the Great Eastern Railway Company for a large number of their carriages, and it has gained much favour and extensive adoption on German lines.

The Earl and Countess of Hardwicke have arrived at Wimpole Hall, Cambridgeshire, on Arlington-street. Lord Hardwicke, R.W.G.M. Cambridgeshire, who was confined to his residence for three weeks by a serious accident in the hunting field, is still very unwell, but is slowly recovering.

The Ranelagh Lodge of Freemasons, No. 834, has given the sum of £30 in aid of the funds of the West London Hospital.

Princess Beatrice (her Majesty's youngest daughter and child) on Monday completed her twenty-first year, and the band of the Royal Marines played a selection of sacred music under her Royal Highness's window at an early hour in the morning. Her Royal Highness received presents from the ladies and gentlemen and some of the servants of the Queen's household as a mark of respect and affection on her twenty-first birthday.

METROPOLITAN AND CITY POLICE ORPHANAGE.—The eighth annual ball in aid of the funds of this excellent institution, of which her Majesty is patron, will take place on Thursday next, the 25th inst., at the Cannon-street Hotel.

The *Folkestone Express* understands that Lord Radnor has announced his readiness to grant a site of land for the statue which it is proposed to erect in honour of Dr. Harvey at the celebration of his tercentenary.

Messrs. Feltoe and Sons have been appointed purveyors of the "Spécialité" Sherry at the Paris Universal Exhibition.

His Royal Highness the Prince Démétrius Rhodocanakis, 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council for Greece, and an Honorary Member of that of Scotland, &c., was elected and admitted on the 25th day of July, 1877, to be an Honorary Member for life of the Supreme Council 33°, for the southern jurisdiction of the United States of America; and on the 2nd day of March, 1878, of that for Ireland in consideration of his eminent qualities, high character, and distinguished Masonic worth.

The Master of the Rolls had before him on Tuesday the case of Bro. Clemow, the proprietor of Anderson's Hotel, in Fleet-street, in which an injunction was asked against a firm of printers to put a stop to a nuisance caused at the back of the hotel by the vibration and noise of their machinery. The Master of the Rolls held that the grievance was a substantial one, and ordered the injunction prayed for, to become absolute after four weeks' suspension to enable additional measures to be taken.

Bro. J. D. Allcroft, M.P., P.M. Lodge 1657, will preside at a festival in aid of the Benevolent Society of Blues to be held at the Albion on the 9th of May.

PROVINCIAL GRAND PRIORY OF DEVON.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Priory of the United Religious and Military Order of the Temple was held on the 3rd inst., at the commodious Lodge Room in Gandy-street, Exeter. The P.G.P. was opened in ancient form, under the banner of the Rougement Encampment, by the Very High and Eminent Sir Knight Rev. J. Huyshe, M.A., G.C.T., Past Grand Master, P.P.G. Com. Amongst those present were—V.H. and Eminent Sir Knight L.P. Metham and Eminent Sir Knights Vincent Bird, P.E.C., P.P.B.B.; E. A. Davies, P.E.C., P.P.G.V. Chancellor, Samuel Jew, E.C., P.G. Treasurer; L. D. Westcott, P.E.C.; P.P.G. Reg.; J. P. Gover, P.E.C., P.P.G.T.; Colonel Fitzgerald, P.E.C., Past Second Grand Captain of England; Josiah Austin, P.P.C., P.P.G.E.; Samuel Jones, Past Standard-Bearer of England; H. W. Townsend, E.C. elect, Royal Sussex; T. W. Lemon, P.G. Chaplain; H. Woodgate, Vice Chancellor; T. Dand, P.E.P., First Equerry Devon; H. B. Stark, P.P.G.O. Sidney Templar, P.P.B.B.; Sir Knights J. Stroud Short, R. T. Thornton, Elphington Stone, J. J. Daw, Lillywhite, Hants, H. Bartlett, W. Vicary, W. Bennett Maye, G. Evans.

The proceedings commenced by the reading of the patent from the Grand Master of England appointing the Very High and Eminent Sir Knight L. P. Metham as the Grand Prior of Devon. The V. H. and E. Sir Knight Rev. J. Huyshe then installed G.P. elect in due form. The ceremony was performed by the venerable and venerated Sir Knight in his usual impressive and dignified manner. He accompanied the installation with a masterly and feeling exhortation on the duties of the distinguished office his esteemed brother was about to assume, and expressed the pleasure, pride, and gratification he felt to see one for whom he had so high a regard exalted to a position for which he was so eminently qualified.

The Eminent Prior Sir Knight Metham, having taken the chair, delivered with characteristic eloquence the following oration:—

Sir Knights,—I am sure you will all sympathise with my first expression in taking this chair, which is one of gratitude to our esteemed chief, Bro. Huyshe, for having volunteered to instal me, and for the manner in which he has performed that duty, spite of all the drawbacks caused by his failing health. For the third of a century I have enjoyed his steadfast friendship, and during that long time not a cloud even so small as a man's hand has obscured its serenity, and he has never wearied in showering on me personal kindness and Masonic distinction. For all these I am bankrupt in thanks, and can only trust, dear Bro. Huyshe, to repay you in the manner in which you would most wish to be repaid, by trying to live a life approaching nearer and nearer every day to your ideal of what a good Knight Templar ought to be. You know better than any one that I more than once declined this most honourable post, not from fear of the additional labour it might entail upon me, but from a conscientious scruple as to my fitness to undertake its onerous responsibilities. But, having accepted it, I will strive to perform its duties to the best of my ability. There was one prominent feeling which more than any other decided my acceptance, which was that there never was a time when it was more necessary for every true Mason, and especially every true Knight Templar, to come to the front and contend for the sacred truths which are embodied in Masonry. Freemasonry has shewn, and will, I trust, continue to shew, a wise toleration to her sons' varied worship of the Great Jehovah so long as under every sky that sacred name, the symbol of the eternal, unknown, truth, is represented, and acknowledged. Ages ago Masonry may have existed without religion, simply as a bond uniting the weak to resist the aggression of the strong, and, as time went on, as a means of preserving the secrets of science and art from the attack of the coward and barbarian. But for hundreds of years religious belief has entered largely into our ceremonies, and has been the basis of our ritual, and therefore, if we, in the present day, voluntarily extinguish that tried hereditary lamp of religious belief, which has so long illuminated our lodges, to run after the delusive wills-of-the-wisp and restless phantoms of fancied progress and discursive philosophy, we shall be aiding not in a forward, but in a retrograde movement, by which Masonry will be lowered, and humanity will, of necessity suffer. We have lately witnessed with astonishment and sorrow that the seething volcano of revolution and infidelity has poured forth burning lava that will, if not checked, destroy, and ashes that will bury in one lamentable ruin, the fundamental and most vital principle of our Order—a recognition of the Supreme Being, and a belief in the immortality of the soul. On that belief we take our stand; let French Masons, if they will, discuss the date at which religion was introduced into our ritual; let them persist in excluding it if they can, and will, from their own lodges. Be it enough for us that we found it in ours at our initiation, and that we are resolved to preserve it there in its fullest integrity. Of this most precious jewel in the crown which our devout and older brethren have placed on the brow of Masonry, and which they have bequeathed to us, let us with one voice exclaim, as our noble English prince exclaimed in relation to his father's earthly crown—

"They won it, wore it, kept it, gave it me,
Then plain and right must our possession be,
Which we, with more than that with a common pain,
'Gainst all the world will righteously maintain!"

At our initiation, which was symbolical of our helpless infancy, the volume of the Sacred Law was placed open before us, and we were taught to look to it for comfort and support to our tottering steps. As we advanced in the science into that stage which represented the vigour of manhood, we learned to implore the aid of God on all our lawful undertakings, and to dedicate the intellectual and

physical powers with which He has endowed us to His glory, our own advancement, and the benefit of our fellow creatures. And then, when our day is ended, and, with wearied brain and feeble limbs, we prepare for rest, like labourers who, at the close of their toil, seek their couch and its calm and grateful slumber, the same Sacred Volume whispers to us that if we have been true and faithful stewards of the talents committed to us, we shall awake to a brighter morrow in which there shall be no more toil, nor pain, nor night. That glimmering light in the East, so often indicated to us in our Masonic journey as the beacon to direct our steps, and which so often varied, now brighter, now fainter, now nearly extinguished, as faith, reason, or doubt has ruled the hour, will expand into that bright morning star, also indicated to us in our Masonic progress, whose rising shall bring peace and salvation to the faithful and obedient of the human race. That symbolical star will guide us until it is itself—

Lost, dissolved in Thy superior rays,
One tide of glory, one unclouded blaze
Shall flood Thy courts! The Light Himself shall shine
Revealed, and God's eternal day be thine!

That star, that light, is Christ our Priest, Christ our Prophet, Christ our King! We in the present day are not required to emulate the noble example and self-denying zeal of our older brethren, the Military Knights of the Temple, who patiently endured hunger, thirst, and privation, who voluntarily encountered hardship, danger, and death, who sacrificed worldly ambition, and renounced the endearing ties of family love and friendship, to do unceasing battle with the enemies of the Cross who sought to defile the Holy Sanctuary. But not the less have we self-imposed, self-denying duties to perform. In becoming Knight Templars we have voluntarily adopted a special and sectarian belief in the Blessed Trinity, in addition to that general recognition in the Supreme Ruler of the Universe which is common to the Fraternity throughout the world. If, therefore, we are Knight Templars in spirit and reality, as well as in name and ritual, we are bound by the most solemn ties and obligations to imitate ourselves, and to teach others to do the same, at however long a distance, the example of Him on whose Sacred Name this solemn degree is founded. We, too, like our ancient brethren, must wage incessant warfare, but it must be against more insidious foes than they had to contend with. Our foes lurk within as well as without the citadel; we must wage hourly conflict with ignorance, bigotry, and superstition, with intolerance on one side and infidelity on the other, with arrogance and self-assertion, with tyranny, inhumanity, and selfishness. We must strive to imitate Him who, while He dwelt on earth, was Charity itself in thought, word, and deed; who bid him, who is without sin, cast the first stone at the sinner; who on earth went about doing good; who visited the widow and orphan in their affliction; who clothed the naked, fed the hungry, and cured the blind, the dumb, the sick, the leper, and the lame; and who, on quitting earth, bid his disciples "Feed My sheep." When we have done this as well as our imperfect nature and limited opportunities will permit, then shall we be indeed Knight Templars; then, with a safe conscience and trusting confidence, may we lay our armour at the foot of the Cross, and look to enjoy

The peace that follows battle,
The night that ends in day.

Then shall we be privileged to enter that Living Temple not made with hands, eternal in the Heavens, of which He who is the embodiment of pure, universal, catholic charity—that emblem of our Order—is the sure foundation, the tried corner-stone, the solid buttress, and the topmost pinnacle. Then shall we come face to face with those Christian graces, shining in full meridian splendour, of which, on earth, we have had but glimpses, dull and intermittent at the best. Until that day let us, as Masons, and especially as Knight Templars, find in them our motto and our watchword:

Remember Faith, Hope, Charity, these three,
But the greatest of these is Charity.
These were the words our Great Redeemer taught,
These were the deeds our Heavenly Father wrought,
Peace upon earth, joy, goodwill to man,
Form the bright columns of his Godlike plan!
'Tis mercy, bounteous mercy, warm and wide,
That brings the creature to his Maker's side!

The minutes of the last preceptory having been read and confirmed, a committee, consisting of Sir Knights Jones, Bird, and Dand, was appointed to audit the Treasurer's accounts, which were received and adopted.

The V.H. and E. Prior then invested the following Sir Knights as his officers:—Admiral Glasse, C.B., Sub Prior; K. T. Thornton, Prelate; Captain E. Stone, Chancellor; Colonel Fitzgerald, Constable; the Hon. W. H. Jolliffe, Marshal; V. Bird, Treasurer; K. Worth, Reg.; Major C. W. Troyte, Vice Chancellor; Templar, Sub Marshal; Rev. Thornton, Almoner and Chaplain; H.W. Townsend, Warden of Regalia; J. R. Keats, Herald; C. Godschalk, First Standard Bearer; J. Horswell, Second Standard Bearer; J. Evens, M.D., Banner Bearer; J. J. Short, First D.C.; T. L. Heath, Second D.C.; W. Vicary, Chamberlain; W. B. Maye, Captain of Guard; W. Browning, Sword Bearer; H. B. Stork, Organist; and P. Blanchard, Guard.

A Committee of the following Sir Knights were chosen as a Board of General Purposes, F. B. Gover, S. Jew, L. D. Westcott, E. A. Davies, J. Austin.

This brought to a end the business for which the Priory had been summoned, and it was closed in ancient form.

The Court Circular announces from Osborne that her Majesty and Princess Beatrice witnessed on Tuesday the funeral of her Majesty's much-regretted head gamekeeper, Mr. Land, who had been seven years in the Queen's service.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The Quarterly Court of the Governors and Subscribers of this Institution was held last Saturday at Freemasons' Tavern, the large hall being lent for the purpose, in consequence of the large number of ladies and brethren who now attend these elections. The chair was occupied by Bro. Colonel Creaton, V.P., and Trustee; and among the other brethren who attended were Bros. Col. J. E. Peters, J. H. Tattershall, H. Massey (*Freemason*), H. A. Dubois, H. Cox, J. J. Berry, J. E. Le Feuvre, H. Hacker, H. T. Thompson, Henry Smith, Capt. John Wordsworth, James Terry, T. R. Eames, Rev. Richard Morris, Dr. W. R. Woodman, Arthur E. Gladwell, S. Rawson, G. Bolton, W. H. B. Tomlinson, Charles Greenwood, Thos. Massa, G. R. Shervill, W. H. Spaul, John Bodenham, J. L. Hine, Joseph Clever, Hyde Pullen, Raynham W. Stewart, J. H. Tyerman, Griffiths Smith, John Boyd, Benjamin Head, Joseph Smith, S. Rosenthal, Charles Jardine, Chas. F. Reyroux, Pierce Egan, S. S. Partridge, A. J. Duff Filer, Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, Walter Sowdon, R. B. Webster, Thos. Charlen, James A. Birch, John Benskin, J. M. Case, Thos. Habicht, F. B. Davage, Frederick Davison, E. W. Davis, F. Binckes, and F. H. W. Hedges, for Secretary.

After the reading and confirmation of the minutes, The Chairman said—I have now to announce to you the melancholy intelligence of the death of our Secretary. He died last night. I am sure that we all feel very much grieved at his loss. He was highly respected; he was very efficient and kind, and was everything that could be desired for such an Institution as this. I regret that he has had a very long and painful illness, and though we very much regret his loss I think I am not out of place when I say that I believe God has been very merciful in relieving him of his suffering by taking him to Himself.

Bro. John Boyd moved that in consequence of the death of Bro. Little, Col. Creaton be authorised to sign cheques on behalf of the Institution.

The motion was seconded by Bro. H. A. Dubois and carried.

Bro. Joseph Smith moved and Dr. Woodman seconded, "That a letter of condolence on behalf of the Court be written and sent to the widow of Bro. Little."

The motion was unanimously agreed to.

The Chairman informed the meeting that although the contemplated visit of their Royal Highnesses had not taken place he had no doubt it would be made in June or July next.

Bro. Joseph Smith then rose to nominate a Treasurer of the Institution, in place of Bro. Samuel Tomkins. He said the office was a very important one, and he did not know that any one could fill it better than Col. Creaton, who was always looking after the welfare of the Institution. Col. Creaton was Vice-President of the Institution, and also one of the Trustees, and in those capacities was constantly engaged in watching the affairs of the School. His efforts on its behalf were so great and so constant and were so well known to all the brethren that it was quite unnecessary for him (Bro. Smith) to detail them.

Bro. T. J. Sabine seconded the motion.

Bro. S. Rawson, without rising in any spirit of opposition to their highly respected Chairman, wished to know whether a brother who was a Trustee of an Institution should be elected as Treasurer.

The Chairman said it had been done before, because the late Bro. Benj. Bond Cabbell was both Trustee and Treasurer.

Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford said it appeared to him that a brother being a Trustee was a stronger argument in favour of his being appointed Treasurer. A brother who was a Trustee was the fittest person to appoint as Treasurer; and when there was a vacancy in the Treasurership it gave the brethren an opportunity of expressing their confidence in him as Trustee.

Bro. James Terry added that in the Benevolent Institution the Treasurer was always one of the Trustees.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart said it was so in the Boys' School.

The motion was put and carried unanimously.

The Chairman said—I assure you, brethren, that I am very much gratified and very proud of your having made choice of me for your Treasurer, and nothing shall be wanting on my part to discharge the duties of the high office to which you have elected me.

The following brethren were then unanimously re-elected as the General Committee.

Bros. Tattershall, White, Mason, Col. Peters, Major Finney, R. B. Webster, Capt. Wordsworth, Tyerman, Jardine, Rawson, Dr. Woodman, S. B. Wilson, Hacker, and Spaul, were elected Scrutinisers of votes at the elections.

The following motions were then made:—

By Colonel Creaton, J.P., Trustee and Vice-Patron:

"That nineteen girls be elected instead of eighteen as previously arranged, by which the number of girls in the School will be then increased to 200."

Also, "That the funded property of the Institution be transferred into the names of the present Trustees."

Upon recommendation of the Building Committee, by Colonel Creaton, Chairman.—

"That authority be given for the necessary expenditure in laying out the grounds of the Institution."

With reference to the last motion Col. Creaton said the Institution had recently bought new land which was a rough field, and the whole grounds were very much cut up and out of order consequent on the erection of the new buildings. It would be necessary to re-lay them throughout and the expenditure to be incurred would be about £900. In answer to Bro. Henry Smith, Col. Creaton said the expenditure would include draining and also the putting up of the fence, they would not incur the expense of a wall at present until it was seen whether it would be permanent.

The different motions were seconded by Bros. Benjamin Head, and H. A. Dubois, and carried unanimously.

The Chairman said there was another subject he had to mention to the brethren. It would be in the recollection of all of them that when the Building-Committee was formed it was decided that the House Committee should constitute that Committee with himself as the Chairman of the Building Committee. That Committee had been doing their duty for some considerable time, and he had great pleasure in saying they had been very assiduous in the discharge of their duties, and had had a great many meetings. His object in mentioning the subject now was that he believed the brethren would wish to leave the carrying out of the entire work of the buildings and grounds in the hands of the same Committee, and as the work would not be complete before the next election of the House Committee, if the new House Committee were made the Building Committee and some of the present House Committee were not re-elected it would be unfair to those brethren who had admirably discharged their duties on the building Committee if they were not allowed to see the work completed under their own supervision. For the sake of 4, 5 or 6 weeks he thought it would be better not to make an alteration.

Bro. Henry Smith cordially concurred in the remarks of the worthy chairman and adopting, what he (the chairman) had said as a motion he (Bro. H. Smith) would second it. Carried unanimously.

Bro. H. A. Dubois for Bro. Thomas W. White, P.G. Std., Vice-President, moved "That John Bond Cabbell, Esq., the devisee of trust estates under the will of the late Bro. Benjamin Bond Cabbell, the survivor of the trustees in whom the property of the Institution is vested, be requested and authorised to execute the necessary documents to vest the said property in the present trustees," viz:—The Right Hon. the Lord Leigh, Lieut.-Col. J. Creaton, the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, and the Right Hon. the Lord Skelmersdale.

Bro. Joseph Smith, P.G.P., seconded the motion, which was put and carried nem. dis.

Bro. Henry Smith, (West Yorkshire), wished to ask whether it was necessary to make a motion to the effect that a perpetual presentation be granted to a particular body in the event of a thousand guineas being raised, or whether the Court could do it without notice. He was trying to raise the sum, and if he did raise it he did not wish that there should be any delay in having the benefit of it after it was raised.

The Chairman and several other brethren informed Bro. H. Smith that when the money was raised the privilege would be granted immediately.

Bro. Sabine drew the Court's attention to the fact that the gravestone in Norwood Cemetery over the grave of Miss Crooke, who had been a matron of the Institution for thirty-four years, was in a very dilapidated condition, and he wished to know whether the Institution would go to the expense of setting it right.

The Chairman said the subject should be attended to. Subsequently, the election of nineteen girls out of a list of twenty-four candidates was proceeded with, and the following was the result at the declaration of the poll:—

Table with columns for candidate names and vote counts. Includes sections for 'SUCCESSFUL' and 'UNSUCCESSFUL' candidates.

The votes polled by the unsuccessful candidates will be carried over to the next election.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The Quarterly Court of the Governors and Subscribers of this Institution, was held on Monday, at Freemasons' Tavern Col. Creaton, V.P., presided; and there were also present Bros. J. Le Feuvre, H. A. Dubois, Henry Cox, H. Massey, (Freemason) H. Hacker, G. Bolton, S. Rawson, T. R. Eames, W. Stephens, J. J. Berrie, W. F. C. Moutrie, J. G. Stephens, J. M. Kidd, W. Roebuck, Charles Godtschalk, Clarence Harcourt, F. Davidson, F. B. Davage, T. Cochrane, H. F. Goodall, J. Wordsworth, R. B. Webster, John Constable, J. Robins, H. Smith, W. H. B. Thomason, and J. L. Hine.

After reading and confirmation of the minutes the brethren proceeded to elect a Trustee in the place of Bro. Bentley Shaw deceased, and Bro. Binckes said he had communicated with Lord Leigh, Provincial Grand Master for Warwickshire, and his Lordship had expressed his willingness to accept the office if elected.

Bro. Raynham, W. Stewart therefore proposed and Bro. H. A. Dubois seconded the election of Lord Leigh, which was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

On the motion of Bro. W. Roebuck, seconded by Bro. S. Rawson, it was ordered that a letter of condolence on the death of Bro. Bentley Shaw, late Trustee of the Institution be sent to the widow and family of Bro. Bentley Shaw.

The next business was the election of a Treasurer; and Bro. Binckes said that Bro. George Plucknett had again signified his willingness to act in that capacity if re-elected.

Bro. H. A. Dubois proposed, and Bro. Raynham W. Stewart seconded the re-election of Bro. George Plucknett, as Treasurer.

The motion was put and carried nem. con.

On the motion of Bro. W. Roebuck, seconded by Bro. Charles Greenwood, the General Committee of last year was re-elected.

Scrutineers of votes for the election were then appointed, and the election of 31 boys out of a list of 78 candidates took place. The following is the result.

Table with columns for candidate names and vote counts. Includes sections for 'SUCCESSFUL' and 'UNSUCCESSFUL' candidates.

Bro. Col. Creaton was, at the Quarterly Court of the Governors and Subscribers of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, on Saturday last, unanimously elected Treasurer of that Institution.

The half-yearly meeting of the Provincial Grand Craft Lodge of Cumberland and Westmoreland will be held at Penrith, on Friday, the 25th inst., under the banner of Lodge of Unanimity, No. 339.

We learn that the Prince of Wales will lay the stone of the new church of St. Mary, Southampton, to be built as a memorial to the late Bishop Wilberforce.

FINE ARTS AND THE LIVERPOOL EXHIBITION.

The report of the Fine Arts Committee of the Liverpool Corporation on the seventh Autumn Exhibition of Pictures for 1877 has just been issued, and is of a most satisfactory kind. It states—"The number of admissions by payment at the doors amounted to 35,949 in the morning at 1s., 2623 in the evening at 1s., and 33,533 in the evening at 3d., making a total of 72,105, besides 2,316 season tickets, and about 12,000 pupils of schools of all classes and denominations admitted gratuitously. The works exhibited numbered 1320, and included 652 oil paintings, 637 water colours, 31 pieces of sculpture, and other works of art. Of this number 1193 were on sale, and 301 were sold during the exhibition for sums amounting, at catalogue prices, to £10,936 11s. In presenting the above figures, the Committee beg to call attention to several items which are extremely gratifying. The admissions are about 30,000 more than last year, while the number of season tickets sold (2316, as against 1161 the previous year) is unprecedented, and shows a desire on the part of the public to avail themselves more generally of the advantages of the Art Collection. The amount realised in the sale of pictures was £2886 7s. more than last year, and there is no doubt that, but for the general depression of trade throughout the country, the proportionate increase in the sales would have been fully equal to that of the admissions. The sales of pictures include two works purchased by the Corporation for the permanent collection of the Walker Art Gallery, viz., an oil painting by C. Napier Hemy, entitled "A Nautical Argument," and a drawing by H. Clarence White, "The Castle Rock, Cumberland," a selection which appears to have given general satisfaction. Mr. Alderman Bennett has given fresh evidence of his liberality by purchasing and presenting to the gallery the noble picture, "Self Emancipation," by Mr. Armitage, R.A.; and Mr. Alderman Hall purchased and presented to the Corporation Mr. Arthur Stocks' fine work entitled "The Best of Husbands." The Committee cannot but feel that the great success of this year's exhibition is due, in a great measure, to the fact that it was held in the Walker Art Gallery, the munificent gift of Sir A. B. Walker. Artists and the public generally have expressed the greatest satisfaction with the lighting and arrangement of the rooms, features which will doubtless contribute to the success of future exhibitions. It is understood that several artists of the highest standing contemplate painting special works for the next Autumn Exhibition, being impressed with the beneficial influence it is exerting amongst all classes in the town and neighbourhood."

The popular theory of the Solar System has been vigorously assailed by a coloured preacher in Virginia, who is actively endeavouring to convert people to the belief that the sun moves round the earth, taking the Bible as his authority. In a recent sermon he argued that if Joshua told the sun to stand still how could it stand still if it had not been moving. David says, "the rising and going down of the sun. Would any grammarian say that "rising" meant "standing still?" Again, Isaiah said the sun was turned back ten degrees. Could it have been turned back if it had not been moving? If the earth revolved round the sun what would become of the ocean? Would it not be all spilled over the land? Urging his congregation to believe in the Bible, which says the sun moves, and not the philosophers, who say it does not, the preacher asked each of his congregation who believed in his theory to raise his hand; and so convincing were his arguments that every hand was raised.

The Bethnal Green Museum this summer will contain an Exhibition of Furniture, Cabinet Work, and Ornamented Wood Work, including some furniture from the Royal Palaces, lent by the Queen, and, as much household furniture is manufactured in Eastern London, it is believed that the Exhibition will be specially attractive in that neighbourhood. The Exhibition will open on May 1, and will fill the space hitherto occupied by the Prince of Wales's Indian presents, now removed to Paris.

On Wednesday week Messrs Elder launched from their works at Fairfield, Govan, the first of the six steel corvettes they are constructing for the Admiralty. The chief characteristics of this vessel (the Comus) are steel in place of iron, brass ram stem and stern frames, the absence of double bottoms, the introduction of spare rudders, and steel decks for protecting the machinery. She has a gross tonnage of 2200 tons, and engines of 1300 indicated horse power. She is intended principally for foreign service, and will carry two hundred cwt. and twelve sixty-four pounder guns. Her complement will be 245 men.

DEATH OF AN ARABIC SCHOLAR.—We are sorry to record the death of Risk Allah Hassoun Effendi, of Aleppo, one of the greatest living Arabic scholars and poets of the day. He was Turkish and Arabic interpreter to Fuad Pasha on the expedition sent to Syria by the Porte at the time of the massacres. He was a naturalised English subject, and the author of several excellent works in Arabic, both in prose and verse.—Academy.

STEAM FOR HEATING PURPOSES.—It is stated that a company has been organised in New York to supply steam for heating purposes. Three miles of street mains have been laid, and at present upwards of forty large buildings are heated by the system of pipes, which derive their steam from one boiler 5 ft. by 16 ft. in size. The pipes run through fifteen streets, and over 1,000,000 cubic feet of space is warmed by steam, which is supplied at a pressure of 30lb. to the square inch. The steam, in addition to heating purposes, can be used for cooking food, washing clothes, and extinguishing fires. In addition, the hot water from condensed steam is furnished to the house through the same pipes. The cost is said to be much less than that of ordinary fuel.

Obituary.

BRO. R. W. LITTLE.

We give to-day an obituary of our lamented Bro. R. W. Little, which, obtained from the best authorities, is, we believe, strictly accurate. If it errs at all, it hardly does justice to the Masonic labours of our esteemed and indefatigable brother. Bro. Little died, as he lived in Masonry.

Bro. Little was initiated into Freemasonry on the 20th of May, 1861, in the Royal Union Lodge, No. 382, meeting at Uxbridge. He was the founder of the Rose of Denmark Lodge, No. 975, of which lodge he became the second Master, and held the office of Secretary until 1875. He was founder of the Villiers Lodge, No. 1194, and held the office of Secretary for several years. He was also under and P.M. of the Burdett Lodge, No. 1193, at Hampton, and held the office of Treasurer at the time of his death. Bro. Little joined the Royal Albert Lodge, No. 57, in 1862, but resigned in 1866. In the following year 1867, he joined the Whittington, in which lodge he held the office of Secretary until 1875. He joined the Polish National, No. 534, in 1876, and remained a member until his death. Bro. Little was exalted, and passed the chairs in the Domestic Chapter, No. 177, in 1863. He was founder and First H. in the Rose of Denmark Chapter, No. 975, and held the office of S.E. until 1871. He was also founder of the Royal Middlesex Chapter, No. 1194, and was S.E. until 1874.

Bro. Little was appointed to a clerkship in the Grand Secretary's office in 1862, and became second clerk and cashier in 1866, in which position he remained until he was elected Secretary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls in November, 1872. There were four candidates for this office, which necessitated an election, the result of which was as follows:—

Bro. Robert Wentworth Little	...	317
„ W. Howley Burder	...	12
„ H. W. Durnford Green	...	2
„ Joseph Lockington Potter	...	1

Bro. Little was originally educated for the Church under Bro. the Rev. B. Gibson, M.A., but deciding upon a secular career he entered the Civil Service of the Crown in the Emigration Department at Dublin, and received testimonials of the highest character, both from his reverend tutor and his official chiefs. The following is a copy of the testimonial Bro. Little received from the hands of our esteemed Grand Secretary on his nomination for the Secretaryship of the Girls' School:—

“Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.,
“November 12, 1872.

“Having been asked to express my opinion of the qualifications of Bro. Robert Wentworth Little, I beg to say that, during the period I have held the appointment of Grand Secretary, I have found his conduct such as to merit my warm approval.

“I have the utmost confidence in saying that, to abilities of a very high order, he unites the indispensable attributes of accuracy, attention, and trustworthiness, and I believe him to be well fitted for carrying out the duties of any office, however confidential, to which he may aspire.

“(Signed) JOHN HERVEY, G.S.”

No one, we think, will deny that the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls has greatly benefited by the energetic and wise manner in which Bro. Little administered his duties as Secretary while he was blessed with health and strength. The income of the Institution during his term of office showed a considerable increase on previous years, mainly owing to Bro. Little's activity. Our late brother was the first Provincial Grand Secretary of Middlesex, Prov. S.G. Warden 1875, and was appointed W. Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Middlesex in the room of Bro. Sir George Elliot, now R.W. P.G.M., South Wales, E. Div., which office he held at the date of his death. In 1875, he was H. of the Prov. G. Chapter, which he was instrumental in getting established. He was a member of many Preceptories, Conclaves, and others of the higher grades, amongst which he was principally, instrumental in resuscitating the Order of the Red Cross of Rome and Constantine. The Knights of the Holy Sepulchre in England, in which he was ever an active and hard-working member, having held the various offices of Grand Recorder, G. Treasurer, etc., and under his able management the degree spread into almost all parts of the world where the English Language is spoken. He was an Honorary Member of about ninety Lodges, Chapters, and others, many of which he was the Consecrating Officer appointed as such by the M.W.G. Master. The Rosicrucian Society was also revived by his instrumentality some years ago, and is now working in Ireland and Scotland, and there are colleges in many of the large centres in England. He was supreme Magus of the Order, in which he has been succeeded by his next in command Bro. Dr. Woodman. Our deceased brother was editor of the *Rosicrucian*, and author of many interesting and important works on Freemasonry. He was sincerely esteemed for his many genial qualities, which endeared him to all with whom he came in contact, and his loss will be deplored by a large circle of sympathising friends.

Our lamented brother, after a long and painful illness, consumption, passed away to his rest on Friday night, April 12th. We are permitted to add, (though, perhaps, it is not always desirable to raise the veil which shrouds the death-bed of men,) that our late friend and brother passed away in a deeply religious and reverential frame of mind, full of trust and faith and hope and repentance, in charity with all men. His end emphatically was peace! The entire sympathy of the Craft will be offered, with heartfelt sincerity, to his afflicted widow.

Bro. Wm. Dodd, of the Grand Secretary's office, is his executor.

The funeral of Bro. Little took place on Wednesday at the Cemetery of St. Giles, Camberwell, Honor Oak, Forest

Hill, a burial ground which the deceased brother frequently expressed his wish to be buried in, as he viewed it from the Chatham and Dover Railway when he went down by that line to the Crystal Palace. The funeral, which was of a very simple character, consisted of a hearse and pair, one mourning coach, and a private carriage. The cortege left the deceased's house at Stockwell shortly after eleven o'clock, and arrived at the cemetery in time for the interment to be conducted at high noon.

The brethren present comprised Bros. S. Rawson, Past District Grand Master for China; Colonel Creaton, P.G.D., Vice-Patron and Trustee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls; Col. Peters, W. Mann, J. Coutts, P.G.P.; W. Roebuck, George Kenning, P.M. 192; Rev. Dr. Brette, W.M. 1657; H. Massey (*Freemason*), H. Browse, P.G.D.; W. Paas, J. Boyd, P.G.P.; Herbert Dicketts, J. Terry, Secretary of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, Prov. G.D.C. Herts; B. H. Swallow, W. F. C. Moutrie, Raynham W. Stewart, P.G.D.; Rev. P. M. Holden, Rev. J. M. Vaughan, H. C. Levander, P.G.S. Middlesex; C. F. Hogard, John Mason, George Adamson, P.P.G.A.D.C. Kent; A. Muggerridge, late collector of the Girls' School; H. Haynes, of Liverpool, representative of the Province of West Lancashire; H. A. Dubois, James Stevens, James Spilling, F. Keily, P. Prov. G. Treasurer Middlesex; E. Letchworth, George Bolton, Charles Hammerton, George Faulkner, A. H. Tattershall, E. H. Thieilay, W. H. Hubbard, P. Prov. G. Supt. of Works Middlesex; Thomas W. White, Thomas Cubitt, P.G.P.; Thomas Kingston, W. Stephens, G. J. Robinson, Province of York; Charles Atkins, P.M. 27, Secretary 1260; and J. Gilbert, Prov. G. Tyler, Middlesex.

These brethren went by the 11.8 a.m. train from Ludgate-hill, and met the funeral at the gates of the cemetery. In the mourning coach were Bros. W. Dodd (executor), A. A. Pendlebury, Dr. Woodman, of Exeter, Bro. Allen, and Bro. F. R. W. Hedges. In the private carriage were Bro. the Rev. Dr. Brette, of Christ's Hospital, and Bro. George Kenning. The coffin was of polished oak with black iron handles. On the plate was inscribed the deceased's name, date of death, and age. The lid was covered with a cross and circles composed of exquisite camellias and roses, placed there by the brethren who occupied seats in the mourning coach. The impressive burial service was beautifully read by the Rev. J. W. Mills Ellisen, Chaplain of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. On leaving the chapel the brethren marched in procession to the grave, which is situated a short distance behind the chapel. Immediately about the grave stood the Rev. J. W. Mills Ellisen, Bro. Dodd, Bro. Hedges, Bro. Pendlebury, Bro. Allen, Bro. Woodman, the Rev. Dr. Brette, and Bro. George Kenning. The other brethren stood in close proximity at the two sides and the foot of the grave. The coffin was then lowered into the grave, and the Rev. J. W. M. Ellisen completed the service in the same impressive style as he had read the portions in the chapel. When the ceremony was concluded all the brethren advanced to the edge of the grave, took a last, long, lingering look at all that was to be seen of an old, dear friend of all of them, scattered sprigs of acacia on the coffin, and with a sincere sigh of regret for the loss they and the Masonic Order had sustained, left to his last earthly home, Bro. Robert Wentworth Little.

MEETINGS OF LEARNED AND OTHER SOCIETIES.

ROYAL BOTANIC SOCIETY.—The Duke of Teck presided at a meeting of this society on Saturday, last when the following members of the Council were chosen to be the vice-presidents for the year:—The Marquis of Bristol, Lord Aveland, Lord Calthorpe, Lord Chesham, Lord Lonsborough, Lord Rendlesham, the Right Hon. Sir William Hutt, Sir Walter Stirling, Sir Richard Wallace, and Sir P. D. Pauncefort Dancombe.

ARTISTS' BENEVOLENT FUND.—The annual dinner in connection with this fund was held on Saturday, evening last at the Freemasons' Tavern, Mr. George Godwin in the chair. The attendance was meagre. In proposing the toast of the evening, the chairman expressed regret at the array of empty chairs, as well as at the fact that not a single representative of the Royal Academy was present. He urged the claims of the Fund, whose object was to relieve the widows and families of deceased artists, to exist side by side with the better-known Artists' General Benevolent Institution. Fifty-eight widows and a large number of children were now, he stated, in receipt of annuities, the former of £20 and the latter of £6. Mr. C. J. Dimond, hon. secretary, in replying to the toast, remarked that the society had more widows to provide for at the present time than ever it had had before.

THE ROYAL INSTITUTION.—Professor Dewar, in the course of a lecture which he delivered at the above institution, showed and used the apparatus employed by Cailletet last autumn in the liquefaction of oxygen. The Professor had been illustrating how hydrogen and carbon may be made to unite directly under the influence of an electric arc and how acetylene results. The liquefaction of acetylene by means of the apparatus was now shown, and its fluorescence was specially pointed out.

CANTOR LECTURES.—The first lecture of the third course, on “Some Researches in Putrefactive Changes, and their results in relation to the Preservation of Animal Substances,” by B. W. Richardson, M.D., F.R.S., was delivered on Monday evening, the 8th inst. These lectures will be published in the *Journal of the Society of Arts* during the recess.

More than £200 has been promised for the proposed agricultural exhibition in London. The subscription list includes a donation of a hundred guineas from the Queen and £50 from the Prince of Wales.

NOTES ON ART, &c.

POMPEII.—In the excavations carried out on April 4 in the presence of Prince Leopold at Pompeii the following objects were found:—Gold—an armlet; a ring with engraved agate; and another plain ring. Bronz.—a candelabrum; two vases in the form of a lagena; a pastrycook's “shape”; a ring; some bosses; a large vase in fragments. Glass—a blue vase with one handle, a bottle, two ampullae, one small vase. Terra cotta—a lamp, two small pots, two olive flasks, a porringer. Iron—a candelabrum. Lead—three weights.—*Academy*.

THE PARIS SALON.—The pictures for the Salon were all sent in last week. Among the chief contributions to the Salon are a river scene, by M. Berne Bellecour, “Les Avants-Postes”; two sacred subjects by M. Henner, “Christ at the Sepulchre” and a “Magdalene”; two portraits by M. Bonnat, the painter of M. Thiers' famous likeness last year; portraits of the two Paris Divas of Opera-Bouffe—Mesdames Zulma Bouffar and Jeanne Garnier, in their characters of Irgizne and the Petit Duc; and an important landscape by the late artist Daubigny.

DR. SCHLEIMANN.—The excavator of Troy and Mycenae was in town at the beginning of the week, with the intention of spending two days in improving the arrangement of his Trojan collection at the South Kensington Museum. This design, however, he was compelled to abandon for a time, being recalled to Paris by serious tidings of the state of Mrs. Schliemann's health; but as soon as she is convalescent he hopes to carry it out, and to resume next month his archaeological explorations in the Troad or in Greece.

The sale of the Munro Turners on Saturday week realised no less than £60,453—thirty-two water-colour drawings by Turner bringing in 16,015 guineas, and the nine oil paintings being sold for 41,560 guineas. Pictures by other artists went comparatively cheap. Thus two Hogarths, the only remaining scenes of a series burnt in the Beckford Collection, went for 820 guineas; twelve works of Etty's for £1161 13s.; Wilkie's “Gentle Shepherd” for £157 10s.; and a “Spaniel's Head,” by Sir Edwin Landseer, said to be his first oil painting, for £17 10s. Sir J. Reynolds' “Kitty Fisher” was sold for £725, and his *Contemplation* for £3150.

M. Renan is reported to be engaged on a continuation of Shakespeare's “Tempest,” in which Prospero, Caliban, and Ariel are the chief persons.

The well-known French historical painter, M. Claudius Jacquand, died the week before last in Paris, at the age of seventy-three.

An enormous vase, ornamented with Bacchalian figures, Fauns, and Dryads, has been sculptured by M. Gustave Doré for the Paris Exhibition.

Professor Karl Wiener, who recently returned to Europe after a prolonged journey of exploration in South America, has successfully performed the first ascent ever made of the Illimani. Dr. Wiener was accompanied in his ascent by two Germans, Herren Gramkow and Von Ohfeld. It was the south-eastern summit of the mountain, lying 6131 metres above the level of the sea, which he reached, and he has named it the “Paris Peak,” with the consent of the Bolivian Government. The ascent was made from Catana. Of seven native servants who accompanied the expedition, only three held out to the end. The other four at the height of 6000 metres, were quite unfit to go further. The American explorer Gibbon, when he attempted the Illimani, reached only the height of 4500 metres.

The National Gallery has been closed this week for cleansing purposes. It will re-open on Easter Monday, and the public will be admitted every day in Easter week, including the two students' days, Thursday and Friday.

The Old Playhouse of Edward Alleyn—the actor and the founder of Dulwich College—supposed to be the first theatre established in London, is shortly to be pulled down. It stands in Playhouse Yard, St. Luke's, and as it is in a very dilapidated condition, the owner intends to build on the site.

A colossal statue in bronze of Jan von Eyck has just been completed at Haeren, by the Electro-Metallurgical Company of Brussels, on the galvanic-deposit system. The process has been in operation for several months, the metallic deposit on the model measuring eight millimetres in thickness. It is a great success, the lines being sharper and the work altogether far clearer than would have been the case had the statue been cast on the old method.

Arctic and tropical exploring expeditions are in full activity just now. The new head of the Belgian International African Expedition left Brindisi last week for Zanzibar; and on the same day two delegates of the Paris Geographical Society started from Bordeaux for Africa, intending to make a journey from east to west, from Senegal to Algeria. Gerhard Rohfs, the German traveller, has been preparing for a journey for the last five years, and will shortly start with an expedition of 300 persons. Tripoli will be his starting point, and he will explore the whole eastern portion of North Africa, which has been little visited save by Dr. Nachtigall and by Browne in the last century. Turning to colder regions, the Dutch Arctic Expedition intended to follow up Barents' discoveries, leaves in May, the vessel (the Willem Barendsz) having been launched last week. Lastly, the Danes have been exploring the waters between Iceland and Greenland, and have found a westerly cold stream flowing along the coast of Greenland, and an easterly warm stream surrounding the Icelandic shore.

The Princess Mary of Cambridge (Duchess of Teck), accompanied by Lady Caroline Cust, honoured the Twenty-fifth Annual Exhibition of Pictures by Continental Artists, at the French Gallery, 120, Pall-mall, with a visit on Monday.

TO OUR READERS.

The FREEMASON is a Weekly Newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Subscription, including postage:

	United Kingdom, the Continent, &c. Via Brindisi.	America, India, China, &c.	India, China, &c. Via Brindisi.
Twelve Months	10s. 6d.	12s. 0d.	17s. 4d.
Six "	5s. 3d.	6s. 6d.	8s. 8d.
Three "	2s. 8d.	3s. 3d.	4s. 6d.

Subscriptions may be paid for in stamps, but Post Office Orders or Cheques are preferred, the former payable to

GEORGE KENNING, CHIEF OFFICE, LONDON, the latter crossed London Joint Stock Bank.

Advertisements and other business communications should be addressed to the Publisher.

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

Further information will be supplied on application to the Publisher, 198, Fleet-street, London.

NOTICE.

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

TO ADVERTISERS.

The FREEMASON has a large circulation in all parts of the Globe, its advantages as an advertising medium can therefore scarcely be overrated.

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

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.

Answers to Correspondents.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

"Keystone;" "Night and Day;" "Voice of the People;" "Canadian Craftsman;" "Hull Packet;" "Medical Examiner;" "Young Folk's Weekly Budget;" "Broad Arrow;" "Scottish Freemason;" "West London Express;" "Advocate;" "Vaccination Tracts;" "Hebrew Leader."

The following communications stand over:—"Charity Reform," by Bro. Jabz Hogg; "Lodge of Benevolence," by the Rev. Bro. J. W. Tebbs; "Freemasonry and Civilization," Testimonial to Bro. J. D. Moore, P.G.S.B.; Order of the Temple, Prov. Grand Chapter of Cornwall, Reports of Lodges 228, 342, 350, 757, 1051, 1094, 1303, 1382, 1536; Chapter 115, and Mark Lodge 162.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

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

BIRTH.

ANDREWS.—April 12, at 15, Tamar-terrace, Devon; or, the wife of Captain J. W. Andrews, 11th Regiment, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

COOK—WATTS.—April 11, at the parish church, Dewsbury, by the Rev. F. Whitmore Isaac, vicar, Henry Hutt Cook, of Dewsbury, to Mary Julia, daughter of the late William Watts, solicitor, Dewsbury.

DEATHS.

FABER.—April 12, at Llanstephan, Carmarthenshire, Charles Frederick Faber, eldest son of the late Rev. John Cooke Faber, aged 39.

LITTLE.—On the 12th inst., at 7, St. Martin's-road, St. Ewell, Robert Wentworth Little, D.G.M. Middlesex, and Secretary R.M.I. for Girls, aged 40.

FLORS.—On the 8th inst., at 41, Grove-street, Liverpool, aged 52, Philip R. Thorn, P.M. of the Duke of Edinburgh Lodge, No. 1182. The interment took place at the Toxteth-park Cemetery on the 10th inst.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 1878

IN MEMORIAM.

We had lately to deplore the loss of our eminent provincial Bro. Bentley Shaw, whose services to Freemasonry had been many and great, but we have to-day to record our earnest sense of the mournful bereavement our Order has sustained in the premature decease of our lamented and valued Bro. R. W. Little, whose work has been almost entirely metropolitan. Perhaps few brethren were ever more widely known or warmly regarded than Bro. R. W. Little. His whole life has been, so to say, spent in Masonic harness, and he has died at his post, worn out by heavy work, and succumbing to a fatal disease at a comparatively early age. It is impossible for us to go into the lengthened narrative which Bro. Little's Masonic services and career would justly demand, and we refer our readers to the obituary of our eminent and valued brother elsewhere, for fuller information and a more correct detail. It may suffice us, however, to observe that he is best known to Masons for his connection with the revived Order of the Red Cross of Constantine, the Provincial Grand Lodge of Middlesex, and his admirable discharge of his duties as Secretary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, though we may well bear in mind that he served his apprenticeship in Masonic work in the Grand Secretary's office at Freemason's Hall. To all who knew and mourn for Bro. Little, it is almost superfluous to remark, that few persons have been able to make themselves so generally agreeable and popular to their brethren, owing both to his pleasant address, his kindly sympathies, or his friendly disposition, while his Masonic information and reading, which had been extensive, made him an authority alike on matters of Masonic teaching, as of Masonic ritual. The *Freemason*, at its outset, as many know, was much indebted to the able pen of Bro. Little. His services to the Girls' School have been many and great. He has conducted the onerous duties of his important office, not only with credit to himself and advantage to the Craft, but with a singular mixture of courtesy and forbearance, and consideration for all, which, for a considerable period gave such effect to all his efforts, and produced such signal results to the Girls' School. His loss to that Institution will be very great, his place hard to fill, and whoever follows Bro. Little will have a difficult task set before him, so well had he succeeded in winning the good will of his brethren, and by his conciliatory manners and active interest obtaining and retaining the unceasing confidence of the executive authorities of the School. All zealous Masons, all friends of the charities, will lament sincerely, we know, the great loss to our Masonic Order, and one of the greatest and most useful of our goodly Institutions, which has been brought about by his untimely death, while they bow reverently to the afflictive dispensations of T.G.A.O.T.U. Remembering all Bro. Little's good qualities and excellent merits, bringing to mind his kindness of disposition, the sincerity of his friendship, and his many social and domestic virtues, while we shall be ready with heartfelt sorrow to exclaim "Alas, my Brother!" We shall also, taught by our Masonic lore, be willing also to believe, that what is our loss may be our brother's gain, not merely for time, but we hope, fervently and religiously, for Eternity!

TRUE CHARITY REFORM.

We said that we would deal with this subject in this impression of the *Freemason*, so we fulfil our promise to-day. It is a matter, however, which requires very careful and thoughtful treatment, for the issues are so many and so important, that it would be idle, and worse than idle, to attempt to deal with such a very serious subject in any light or indifferent spirit. The "charitable question" divides itself into two great heads.—1st. the general treatment of the poor, and, secondly, the administration of private alms-

giving. It is well to observe that we use "charity" here in its narrower sense of actual money gifts, though there are countless ways in which true charity can be manifested, or practised, besides personal donations of this kind or that; but it is more convenient for the general purposes of the argument to use the word in its common if imperfect signification. As regards the general treatment of the poor, that is ostensibly provided for by the administration of poor law relief, but which administration, we venture to think, is faulty, alike in conception and development, and is answerable for a great deal of that heavy burden of pauperism which presses upon the industry of our people, and taxes the incomes of our breadwinners. We feel quite certain of this, having carefully studied the subject, and practically administered poor law relief, that the so-called workhouse test, however it apparently reduces the rates, is the foundation of much habitual pauperism, and saps that disinclination to accept poor law relief and become permanent inmates of the workhouse, which is, in our opinion, most creditable to our honest English people. We think, too, that we can say more than this, for we believe that we never shall essentially reduce the long roll of the great army of paupers, or strike a blow at the debasing principle of habitual relief, until we earnestly seek, upon religious principles, to supplement the official administration of poor law relief by countless accessories of utility and benevolence. We must bring into action a well-developed system of life annuities for the old and infirm on carefully graduated payments. We must increase almshouses and homes; we must provide orphanages, and put an end to that greatest of all social blunders, a workhouse school, if we desire to ameliorate truly the condition of our poor, inculcate lasting habits of self-respect and independence, and break down that great bank of pauperism which, like a dark cloud, seems now to hang over all the efforts of benevolence, and the active progress of civilization. No more important subject in its bearing on our national and general welfare can be conceived, than the careful and conscientious improvement of our present most imperfect system of poor law relief. With respect to personal almsgiving the subject is confessedly surrounded with difficulty. If you listen to some, you should not give, except through an Organization Society; if you believe others, you rob Charity of its very grace by so doing. But truth, as usual, here lies between the two extremes. Charity Organization Societies are very good for their real purpose, detection of imposture, but they never were intended to be the only means of almsgiving. It is the great difficulty of discerning between "honest poverty" and "mendacious pretences" which constitutes the "crux" of the whole matter. We are not unfavourable to Organization Societies when they act as useful enquiry agencies, carried on in a kindly moderate spirit, and are used as a means of temporary relief to shrinking but deserving poverty, but we do not believe in any mere inquiry without assistance, if truly needed. We do not affect enquiry offices which enquire—and stop there. Charity, to be effectual, ought to be prompt and sure, and we can conceive a further development of the Charity Organization movement which would divide its operations into a two-fold or three-fold channel, that of careful enquiry, and of actual relief. If the case is a good case, a ticket of relief should at once be given, and we will add this, that until the enquiry is made, temporary relief "in kind" should be offered by a third branch of this society, in a way by which the relief thus administered can be used "ad hoc," and cannot be misused or thrown away. We want also a still larger development of needful lodging houses, under official poor law control, if you like, by which the honest poor may obtain a decent night's lodging at a reasonable price. Religious philanthropy might well step in here, to carry on by a system of "passes" the work of Charity Organization. We feel bound to add, though through no fault of the Boards of Guardians, that many of our vagrant wards which we have seen, are a disgrace to our boasted civilization, and are more fitted for wild beasts than human beings. We say all this with an intense desire to economize poor law relief, and to augment the

efforts of religious philanthropy. It has a good work before it, and we do feel very strongly, that all red tape or officialism are in such a case to be avoided as much as possible, if we seek to make our charity real and honest, true and effective. It is somewhat wildly stated by some men that indiscriminate almsgiving is bad per se. We must, however, doubt the fact. Indiscriminate almsgiving is better than no almsgiving at all, and all it requires, in order to lose even the semblance of inconsideration is, that it be directed by prudence, and strengthened by inquiry, in order that it may pursue the "even tenour of its way," for the relief of the destitute, the help of the honest poor. We are discouraging giving too much just now, so that a large class amongst us, are buttoning up their pockets, glad of an excuse, and are giving nothing at all—a consummation hardly to be wished for, we think, even by the most zealous friends of Charity Organization. We shall deal with the actual charities in our next number.

A MEMORY OF THE PAST.

The English papers report the death of Prince Lucien Murat, and remind us that he was formerly Grand Master of the French Grand Orient. We think it well to note his death, as a distinguished brother of our Order, so that a passing record may be preserved of the fact, interesting alike to French and English Masons. We have always been among those who regretted his resignation, some years back, of the Grand Mastership, and always thought that his were "hard lines," while we equally deplored the excitement in French Masonry which led to his resignation of his high office, and which was, to a great extent, if not entirely, purely political. Indeed, we feel bound to remind our readers that according to our views we must blame that political movement in the French Grand Orient which brought about the regrettable resignation of Prince Murat, and which was the Chant du départ, to their subsequent untoward declination from the straiter paths of unpolitical Freemasonry. Unfortunately the evil influence of Massol induced the French Freemasons practically to constitute themselves a political body, and to take a downward step from which they have never recovered. For it must be patent to every thoughtful Freemason that the French Grand Orient had as much right Masonically to express an abstract Masonic opinion on the temporal power of the Pope, (this was the crux), as the English Grand Lodge would have to seek to avow its leaning for this or that political body, or to pass resolutions on any important State question. It was quite competent, of course, for individual Freemasons in their individual capacity, and as free citizens, to express openly and honestly as such citizens to their opinions on such a debatable subject, but French Freemasonry had nothing to do with the temporal power of the Pope, as a matter of State or political discussion, and ought to have expressed, according to our idea, no opinion one way or the other. For though, as individuals in political meetings, we, too, might be disposed to agree in rejecting the claim of the Pope to temporal power, we have no right or warrant to do so as Masons, in our Masonic assemblies. As we have said before, Anglo-Saxon Masonry knows nothing of religious controversies or political animosities, and French Freemasonry, like ours, is not meant for one political party in France, but should be open to all. This can only be the case, if the French Freemasons will remember the advice of our Royal Grand Master "Keep clear of politics," and if they will bear in mind that as Freemasons they have nothing to do with Republicanism or any other "ism," but simply to obey the laws of their country; and honouring lawfully constituted authority, theirs should be an absolute and entire neutrality on all political questions. That we know cannot be said of them now, and our hopes for the future of French Freemasonry would be brighter and lighter if we could only believe, that, like us, they will honestly avow and practise absolute neutrality in all matters political. Many of the subjects discussed in French lodges would not be tolerated for one moment in our English lodges.

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.]

THE GRAND ORIENT OF FRANCE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Your kindly inserting in your valuable paper the enclosed translation of the circular lately addressed by the Grand Orient of Egypt to the several Grand Lodges will much oblige.

Yours fraternally,

JAMES H. NEILSON,
P.S.G.W. Grand Orient of
Egypt, &c., &c.

5, Upper Mount-street, Dublin,
13th April, 1878.

A.G.D.G.A.D.U.

Valley of the Nile, Orient of Alexandria,
Dec. 23rd, 1877, Vug. Era.

Grand Secretary's Office of the Grand Lodge of Egypt and
its Dependencies, No. 7064 bis.

To all the Masonic Powers in the Two Hemispheres.
S.S.S.

(CIRCULAR.)

Ill. and Very W. Brethren,—

On the 18th of November, 1876, the National Lodge of Egypt by their circular, No. 5712 bis, raised a cry of alarm against the inexcusable innovation first set forth in September, 1876, and definitively adopted in Sept., 1877, by the Grand Orient of France, with respect to the elimination of a belief in God and in the immortality of the soul from the Masonic Constitutions.

By taking the initiative step in so grave a question before any other Masonic Power did so, the National G.L. of Egypt had hoped its voice would have strongly impressed the conscience of the Masonic world, and to such a degree as to prevent the completion of an action unexampled in the history of human institutions.

The Masonic press, and particularly that of England and America, did not fail to support the protest of the G.L. of Egypt, but if we except the G. Orient of Spain, which immediately followed the example, no other power that we know of thought fit to interfere officially, in order to make a timely denunciation of the schismatical tendency of the Grand Orient of France, or at least to protest against it, if that G. Body should absolutely determine to follow it up.

Meanwhile, what had been planned in 1876 was in 1877 actually carried into execution. All on a sudden the G.O. of France, one of the noblest and most important G. Bodies, was left to accomplish its moral suicide, and schismatical division was for the first time intruded upon Symbolic Masonry, which up to that period had formed an universally united and compact family.

The third to protest against this innovation, but after it had become a fulfilled fact, was the M.W.G.L. of Ireland; that of Scotland, of Pennsylvania, the Sup. Comm. of Charleston, and that of England, closely followed the example. The M.W. United G.L. of England severely blamed the decision of the G.O. of France, and upon a motion proposed by the Pro Grand Master, the Ill. Bro. the Earl of Carnarvon, it appointed a special committee to consider the matter maturely and present a report on the same. The authority of M.W. the United G.L. of England is very great—who can doubt it? But "Post factum nullum consilium!" The G.O. of France will consequently be doomed to isolation; while an unanimous and severe remonstrance on the part of the most influential Masonic powers, if presented in time, might have saved her, thus sparing the Masonic alliance such a loss and our Institution such a disgrace.

Whenever the general interests of the Order are in question, the intervention of every power in those projects of reform which another Grand Body may possibly formulate is not only a debt of fraternal unity but an imprescriptible Masonic right. If a fraternal and authoritative admonition had been addressed to the G.O. of France, either from the date of their first innovation or from the time of abolishing the Grand Mastership and reforming the Ritual, we should not have at this day to deplore the consequences, which will not only change the Institution in France, but will also exercise a fatal influence on Masonry in many other countries.

Therefore the G.L. of Egypt applies to all regular and orthodox Masonic Powers, and more particularly to the M.W.G.L. of England, as being the universal mother G.L., in order that in their wisdom and loyalty they may take into consideration the means of defending our noble Institution against the serious dangers which concur in threatening us from every quarter. The innovation adopted by the G.O. of France, under the specious pretext of a most ample toleration, strips our Royal Art of all its most essential and characteristic valuable qualities, such as tradition, universality, morality, idealism of the truth, and toleration itself. To our tradition it has preferred an infinite variability based upon arbitrary caprice; to our tolerant belief in God it has preferred the comfortless sophism of Atheism; to our morality, positivism; to our universality, the peculiarities of schools and of sects; to the poetry of idealism, the inert pretended science; and the so-called scholastic prejudices to the true mass of matter.

This is what must henceforth be the programme of the future for the G.O. of France and its imitators. It is most certain that orthodox Masons who accept the Institution such as it was born on the banks of the Ganges and of the Nile, and as it has been diffused in modern times by the G.L. of England, should never adopt such a programme. But that is not enough. It is necessary that the most energetic and effectual measures should be taken in order

that this programme may be denounced, not only as anti-Masonic, but as destructive of all human society. It is indeed very strange there should be so much talk about human solidarity, when Masonic solidarity, the only bond which is instrumental to it, will exist only in name. If the voice of this G.L. of Egypt might find an echo of fraternal approval in the bosom of the Masonic powers of the world, it would propose a more intimate confederative system, a stricter alliance among all Grand Lodges and regular bodies, under the auspices of the M.W. Grand Lodges of England, Ireland and Scotland, which are the oldest Grand Lodges in the world, based upon a declaration of principles in accordance with the Constitutions and Rituals of the above mentioned three Grand Bodies, which are the keepers and propagators of Masonic doctrine.

This is what the National G. L. of Egypt has thought it proper to submit to your earnest consideration, but even should its voice in this grave emergency only sound in the desert, even should its forebodings meet the same sad fate as those of the unhappy Cassandra, it will at least have the solid satisfaction of having attempted the most sacred of its duties.

Expecting your fraternal answer to this letter, sent by order of the Grand Master and with due Masonic salutation,

I am, fraternally yours,

F. F. ODDY, Grand Secretary.

FREEMASONRY IN NEW ZEALAND.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In the letter of Bro. Malcolm Murray Irving, dated Dunedin, 29th December, 1877, published in the *Freemason* of April 6th, 1878, he states that the Supreme Council of New Zealand applied to the Supreme Council of Scotland for a charter, but was "refused." As one conversant with the facts, I have to say that this statement is absolutely incorrect, nor has it the shadow of a foundation. No such application has been, or will be, made, either by the Supreme Council of New Zealand itself or by any one of its members. In making the statement, Bro. Irving betrays his own Masonic ignorance; for it implies the prior constitution of the Council making the application; and if so constituted, no fresh charter was required.

Among other matters contained in Bro. Irving's letter, he wishes his readers to understand that he enjoys the personal friendship of the Earl of Rosslyn. I question this statement. I believe that he only, and for a few minutes, met Lord Rosslyn once in his lifetime. This constitutes the "pleasure" Bro. Irving possesses of "knowing personally" Lord Rosslyn.

The 33° and last degree of the Ancient and Accepted Rite has hitherto been conferred on Craftsmen either of distinguished social or Masonic rank. The honours of the spurious and would-be Supreme Council of Scotland, however, were so little appreciated in New Zealand—a country teeming with Scotchmen—that no Craftsmen of position could be found there to accept them; and thus, with the view of working its spurious degrees in the colony, the self-constituted Supreme Council of Scotland thrust its highest honours on Bro. Malcolm Irving, and an Englishman who chanced last year, as a tourist, to visit Edinburgh, and also on—to quote Bro. Irving's designation of him—R. Paterson, Esq.

As to Bro. Irving's remarks on the genuineness of the so-called Supreme Council of Scotland, I will simply mention the fact, that the Supreme Council of England and Wales, a few months ago, issued a manifesto, of an old date, to all the Supreme Councils of the world, protesting against its recognition, and forbidding Masonic intercourse between any of its members and those of the would-be Supreme Council of Scotland.

Bro. Irving says that, by "invitation" he was, as a 33° of Scotland, "received" at the Supreme Council of England. What does this amount to? Nothing! Bro. Irving was not invited to attend any meeting of the Supreme Council of England, as he desired his readers to understand. He was not invited to, and never was present at, such a meeting. The meeting he refers to was a private interview between the members of the Supreme Council of England and himself, at which he was warned against acting under the commission he held from Scotland to open chapters and consistories in New Zealand, in breach of Masonic law and discipline; and he was taken to Lord Rosslyn, the representative of Scotland at the English Council, in order that his lordship might indorse the statement of the members of the English Council, and so confirm Bro. Irving's promise not to act under his Scotch commission.

The only objection stated by the Supreme Council of England against the recognition of the Supreme Council of New Zealand is, not that it derives its charter from a spurious source, but because it does not derive its charter from it. The Supreme Council of New Zealand, however, is as regularly, if not more regularly constituted than that of England; and it is a well-known principle that any Supreme Council can create another Supreme Council in any country where none exists. The Supreme Council of New Zealand was constituted in June, 1876, when no other Council exercised jurisdiction in the country.

The Supreme Council of England, no doubt, claims an exclusive jurisdiction in New Zealand, but it has no more right to jurisdiction there than any other Supreme Council. It derives its own powers from an American Council, which neither had, nor claimed to have, jurisdiction, exclusive or otherwise, in New Zealand. It was only on 24th January, 1878, that its first, and only, Rose Croix chapter was opened at Greymouth, an obscure place in the colony.

To recognise an exclusive jurisdiction on the part of the Supreme Council of England over the vast dependencies of the British Crown, without a vestige of title other than assumption, would be as preposterous as it would be tyranni-

cal. The Grand Lodge of England might as well seek exclusive jurisdiction in Craft Masonry in these dependencies.

Yours fraternally,
[We have had to suppress some passages in this letter in order to conform to our safe Masonic canon of non-personality. We say this with all deference to our esteemed correspondent.—Ed. F. M.]

THE INHABITANTS LODGE, GIBRALTAR.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In your report of the centenary meeting of the Inhabitants Lodge, No. 153, on the 13th inst., the W.M. states "It had, like many other lodges, its ups and downs, particularly as it was always more or less a military lodge, whose members were constantly going to other parts of the world."

Having been Master of this lodge at its resuscitation, on the 10th February, 1858, I desire to explain that an examination of its archives conclusively proved to the then members that it had become dormant, through a rigid adherence to the purpose of its original institution, viz., to serve as a lodge for "inhabitants" only.

It is a little singular that the two oldest Gibraltar lodges should, in the course of their century of existence, have completely changed positions. No. 115, St. John, originally a military lodge (attached to the 2nd Battalion Royal Artillery), is, or was, exclusively a lodge for "inhabitants," whilst No. 153, Inhabitants Lodge, revived, after sixteen or seventeen years' dormancy, by brethren of the garrison in 1858, appears now to be, in all but name, a "military" lodge.

The title of "Inhabitants" lodge seems to have existed at Gibraltar for at least 15 years before the establishment of the lodge now bearing that name, as in the list of English Lodges (Modern's) for 1765, appears "No. 285, Lodge of Inhabitants, Gibraltar, July 12th, 1762."

Yours fraternally,
R. F. GOULD, P.M. 153.

THE GENESIS OF SPECULATIVE FREEMASONRY.

(Continued.)

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

There is a well-known story in my profession, of a young advocate who was rebuked by the presiding judge on a trial at nisi prius with the reminder, "Mr. So-and-so, you have already advanced that proposition four times," to which the unabashed speaker rejoined, "And I am afraid I must repeat it nine times more, my lord, for there are twelve gentlemen on the jury, and your lordship makes thirteen." If I seem tedious in reiterating the formula of the point I am discussing I can only plead that in an argument which must necessarily be somewhat involved, I cannot hope to make myself clear without constantly bringing before myself and my readers—focussing, so to speak—the proposition under consideration. And I am at present simply directing my mind to this one sole subject of speculation. Can it be with plausibility contended that some esoteric organisation analogous to speculative Freemasonry, and employing substantially the same marks of recognition which we now use, has existed from the earliest historical times? Because if we can demonstrate even the possibility—I need not say the probability—of the correctness of this hypothesis we have—as I have endeavoured to show in my previous letters—advanced a long way in proving the sodality of speculative Freemasonry. The course of the argument must necessarily be intricate. It is indispensable to clear the ground from time to time—to take stock—to see where we are; and, pursuing this process, I now beg my readers to divest their minds of what I may term square and compass notions. I am at present considering the condition of society in a period in the history of mankind when these mechanical aids to material and moral accuracy were not devised. I am back in the antediluvian days, and boldly trying to grapple with the not improbably wild speculation whether what we call Freemasonry existed before operative Masonry was thought of, long before the incidents of the legends upon which the ritual of modern Freemasonry is based occurred. If I chance to go "heavily to grass" in my excogitations I trust I have sufficient pluck left in me to try to "come up smiling," but I do not think that I need be very apprehensive of mishap, considering how carefully I have tried in my previous letters to guard myself against misapprehension; how sedulously I endeavour to preserve the tentative attitude, and how nervously cautious I am of committing myself to the expression of any decided opinion.

At Westminster Hall, when the judges are "down" upon the advocate arguing, those learned luminaries assure to point out the difficulties in his way by saying, "Mr. So-and-So, I invite your attention to this;" or, "I would draw that to your notice—it seems to tell against you"—"You may feel it necessary to deal with it," &c., &c. Of course I cannot be blind to the objection that may—that must—be made to my theorising, "How could certain marks explained by and traditionally derived from certain historical transactions have been employed before those transactions themselves occurred?" "I press you with this," I fancy I hear the objector explain. Now I might evade this crux by retorting that I contend nothing, that I advance nothing, that I commit myself to no view, but I take that position to be assumed, and so I can say that to throw in a few reflections which may enable investigating brethren to form their own opinions in the enquiry is the sole object of these epistles. I pledge myself however to the attempt at a later stage of the enquiry to grapple with this difficulty.

There is no doubt that writers like Anderson and Preston, adopting what I have ventured to call the prosaic theory of the Genesis of Masonry, authors whose views have been endorsed by the reverend and learned compiler of Bro. Kenning's exhaustive Cyclopaedia, have done a vast

amount of good in clearing away what I may term the mythological rubbish which at one time rather hampered and impeded, than fostered, the healthy growth of the plant. Such speculations as that the legend of the Third Degree sprung from the tragedy of the first martyr, that Enoch and Methuselah were Freemasons such as we know Freemasons now, that Noah, in building the ark, employed the square and compass according to Masonic line and rule, that the same patriarch in planting the vine had something to do in originating the convivial practices which, in latter times, have sometimes been known as the Fourth Degree, that Lot (who, like Noah, certainly seems to have been not altogether unfamiliar with this phase of our working, as it is commonly attributed to us) derived from his pursuit of Masonry the attribute that constituted his righteousness, that Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob were brethren in the modern sense of the term, that the occult knowledge possessed by Moses and Aaron was derived from the mystic teaching of the Craft—all this and much more nonsense like it, promulgated from time to time by the unregulated enthusiasm of fanatics, may be ruthlessly brushed away and yet the question may remain for legitimate argument—is speculative Freemasonry in its modern form a continuation of the system that from the very earliest times preserved the recognition of an abstract personal Deity from that tendency to concrete worship which we call idolatry, and which history teaches us worked and still works mischief, and mischief only, wherever it was or is followed?

It will be very readily conceded by every one of my readers that the first great step in the civilisation of mankind is made when man ceases to wander as a nomad and becomes a member of a settled community. To aspire to possess "A local habitation and a name"—to use the exquisite expression of our greatest poet—marks the one broad line that indicates the commencement of the separation of the savage from the civilised man. But perhaps a greater stride is taken when the process of thought in the mind of a responsible and presumably intelligent being has so far advanced that the thinker is capable of adding abstract to concrete conceptions. Examples of what I mean are around us all. In training the infant mind, a process with which most of us are familiar, reflect how very, very difficult it is to impart to a child the recognition of an abstract proposition. I will not now say anything about instructing youth in the appreciation of the omnipotence and omniscience of a personal but invisible Deity, or the agency of an actual although equally invisible impersonation of the evil principle, but the difficulty is also met with in mere material matters. For instance, the teacher thinks, and rightly thinks, that he has made a great advance when he perceives that he has induced in the mind of the pupil the ability of abstract conception of the power of numbers—those general principles of induction, out of which thereafter may grow the more refined abstractions which lead to the logical triumphs of algebra and the higher branches of the mathematics. Take again ideas of space and time. How much is conceived, and justifiably conceived, to have been attained when some rudimentary idea of infinitesimality or infinitude appears to be grasped by the dawning intelligence. Leaving the field of physical science, in the loftier region of ethics what a vast development of intellectual power do we at once recognise when abstract notions of morality as opposed to profligacy, of truth as the antithesis of falsehood, of honour as the antonym of shame, of purity in contrast with corruption, of virtue, as irreconcilable with vice, are perceived to be familiar intellectual images ineffaceably impressed upon the infant mind. Apply this illustration to the infancy of the entire race of man, and reflect that an even greater advance in that contrasting progress which has been well expressed by the Laureate in the noble words—

"For I hold the grey barbarian lower than the Christian child"

—is made when there first dawns upon the intelligence of the rude and savage wanderer some faint conception of an All Controlling Power that, wholly differing from his wooden fetish or his stone deity, is, although invisible, omnipresent, although impalpable, omnipotent, although unknowable, omniscient. When that supreme step in intellectual advancement has been taken, there is no retrogression. The individual's moral nature is changed, there is a new birth of the soul of the man in the newly found direction of the mental faculties. Races appear to recede, to fall back upon idolatry, to look longingly behind them as did Lot's wife, nay, even like her, to halt in the flight from abomination. Whole masses of people appear to crave once more for the flesh pots they have abandoned, entire nations appear to relapse into the heresies they have solemnly disavowed. The records of holy writ seem full of such apparent backslidings. But as we stand upon the sea shore and mark the incoming tide, the waves advancing and apparently receding, although the individual breakers appear each one to leave a line of foam behind where it first marked the sand, the general advance, the aggregate progress of the flood surely, steadily goes on.

"The individual withers, but the world grows more and more," and so in the savage breast a new era is commenced and irradicably marked, when perception and recognition of an abstract personal Deity is substituted for the superstitious awe of a tangible, material, concrete, idol, blindly adored, timorously propitiated, or despairingly objurgated as a god.

I propose in my next letter, to examine how far this proposition as to the concurrent growth of religion and civilisation, the soundness of which I conceive will not be disputed, can be supposed to have any bearing on the more æsthetic theories of the genesis of speculative Freemasonry.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours faithfully and fraternally,
S. P., P.M. 902 and 1491.

LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In confirmation of the view expressed in Bro. Gould's letter inserted in your columns of last week, allow me to add the expression of my own concurrence, as a P.M. who has not taken an altogether inactive part in promoting the interests of our Masonic Charities.

Happening to be in London on the day of the last Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge, I took the opportunity of attending on the occasion. It is seldom that such an opportunity occurs to me, and I must say I experienced mingled feelings of pleasure and pain as I listened to the proceedings—pleasure at the very able and exhaustive manner in which the noble Chairman who presided brought forward the important question of the future relations of English Masonry with French Masonry, having regard to the repudiation by the Grand Orient of one of the cardinal landmarks of our Order; pleasure, also, at the cordial unanimity with which the very large assemblage of brethren present received and endorsed the recommendations of the Committee; pleasure, too, at the loyal unanimity which characterised the re-election of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as G.M. But pain and disappointment at the partial, and unfair, and overbearing manner in which the question of the re-constitution of the Lodge of Benevolence was treated.

It was evidently a foregone conclusion in the minds of the large majority of the members present that the proposed re-constitution of the lodge or board was to be negatived, and its free discussion put down by clamour.

I arrived and took my seat in the Hall early, and long before the proceedings commenced I noticed that the conversation among the brethren near me turned upon this question, and they appeared all of one mind in denouncing the proposed change, and in a determination not to entertain it. I particularly noticed one stout elderly brother, a P.M. of a London lodge, and a foreigner, who addressed me shortly before the opening of the G.L., asking what I thought about this proposal for "disfranchising the P.M.'s" and taking away their ancient privileges. I replied that I had no strong opinion, but was prepared to hear both sides of the question argued, and then form a judgement.

For this, however, certainly no fair opportunity was given. The clamour to "Vote, vote," which arose before the question was half discussed—the interruptions and noise with which speakers were greeted who were not in accord with the party—must have disgusted many. None were more noisy and energetic than my elderly neighbour, who, although he must, judging from his command of the language, have been many years in England, had obviously not been long enough to acquire that national characteristic on which we justly pride ourselves—the Englishman's love of fair play, and of the justice which hears both sides.

The provincial element of the question was never even approached in the discussion. There was no chance of getting a hearing for it. But as the proceedings closed I could not refrain from asking myself the question whether the brethren of the provinces, who contribute two-thirds of the money dispensed by this Lodge of Benevolence, would not prefer its constitution, in the manner so ably expounded by Bros. Clabon and Monckton, to that which exposes its operations to the unreasoning impulses of general assemblies, such as I witnessed on the occasion referred to.

I answered this question unhesitatingly myself, and I could not help thinking that the judgment of the whole Craft should be ascertained in a manner somewhat more free from metropolitan prejudices than by the vote in Grand Lodge, where the provinces are practically unrepresented.

The calm, thoughtful, judicial treatment of the question by Bros. Clabon and Monckton impressed me much more than the fervid vehemence of Bro. Binckes; and, giving each side credit for earnest feeling and honest and noble motives in their respective convictions, why should not their respective arguments be collected and put before each lodge throughout the realm for individual consideration and answer?

I am, yours very fraternally,

P.M. YORKSHIRE.

GRAMMAR IN THE GRAND CHAPTER OFFICE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I am struck with the curious construction of the letter which, as appears from your last week's columns, has been sent from the Grand Scribe E's Office to a chapter in Cornwall in answer to an enquiry. Surely there has been some mis-printing or mis-copying in connection with it.

The Grand Scribe E. is made to say that "The Scribe N. or an Assistant Sojourner" are "elegant, &c. Why not say "is," as the disjunctive is used? And a later passage is equally bad grammar. It says—

"Either of the Scribes and the three Sojourners are all equally eligible." This is radically bad English. The plural or the singular number should be used in both limbs of the nominative. It should read "The two Scribes and the three Sojourners are" or else "Either of the two Scribes or any of the three Sojourners is."

Grammar is one of the studies promoted by our Order. Is it too great a liberty to suggest that it should be well looked after at our head quarters?

Yours fraternally,

CRITIC.

A QUERY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Would you please give me your opinion through the medium of your paper of the following case which has occurred in this province:—A person from a town in which there is a regular constituted lodge is proposed and seconded

in another town in the same province, in which there is also a regular constituted lodge, and would have been balloted for and initiated without any inquiry as to character, in the lodge in the town in which the person was residing.

Is it lawful according to the Constitutions and Landmarks of Freemasonry? I cannot find anything in the Constitutions directly bearing on such a case; but No. 14 of the Antient Charges bears upon it more than any other.

Yours truly and fraternally,
 CHAS. F. LIVERSIDGE,
 Secretary Yarborough Lodge, No. 242.

[The question asked by our correspondent is confessedly a very difficult one, but we apprehend that by the Book of Constitutions there is no limit to the right of proposition, except that which is laid down by the general laws on the subject. In some provincial bye-laws, notably West Yorkshire, a provision of enquiry exists; but we are of opinion, after ample consideration, that no such limitation actually exists under the Book of Constitutions, or would be recognised penalty by our authorities, and that therefore there is nothing to render inquiry imperative, though it may be, we feel, advisable.—E.D.]

Multum in Parvo; or Masonic Notes and Queries.

I continue this week the list of Dutch lodges in 1775, as they may interest some of my readers the more so as since I wrote last, the kind transmitter, our esteemed and excellent Bro. R. W. Little, has passed away, let us all trust, to his rest in God.

- 1 Concordia Vincit Animos
- 2 Le Véritable Zèle
- 3 La Fidélité
- 4 La Paix
- 5 La Concorde, loge militaire
- 6 Les Coeurs unis
- 7 L'Indissoluble
- 8 La Charité
- 9 St. Louis, suspendue depuis 1759
- 10 la bien Aimée
- 11 L'Union Royale, ayant suspendu ses assemblées en 1766, les a reprises en 1771
- 12 L'Age d'or 1758 } associées en 1770
- 13 La Vertu 1757 }
- 14 L'Espérance 1757, a été déclarée être dechue en 1767
- 15 St. Pierre à St. Eustache 1757, suspendue depuis 1760
- 16 L'Amitié à Curaçao 1757
- 17 La parfaite Union, à St. Eustache 1757
- 18 La Resolution 1757
- 19 Le Philantrope 1758
- 20 Les Amis de la Justice 1758, dechue en 1764
- 21 Le parfait Masson à St. Eustache 1758, suspendue depuis 1760
- 22 Ulingue, loge militaire 1759, éteinte en 1773.
- 23 Salomon à Bengale, Loge Prov. 1759
- 24 La Perseverance 1762, a été substituée à la Fredric Royal qui étoit de 1759
- 25 St. Jean Baptiste, à St. Eustache 1760, suspendue dans la même année
- 26 L'Astrée 1760
- 27 la Bonne foi 1762, suspend. 1773
- 28 L'Aurore 1761
- 29 La Constance, Loge Provinciale 1761
- 30 Concordia à Suriname 1761, suspendue depuis 1762
- 31 L'Egalité des Freres 1761, incorporée le 27 May, 1761, dans la Loge les Coeurs unis, No. 6
- 32 Les Zélés, Loge Provinciale 1763
- 33 Virtutis and artis Amisi, 1763
- 34 * La Candeur 1763, suspendue depuis 1765
- 35 L'Harmonie 1764
- 36 L'Inébranlable 1764
- 37 L'amitié fraternelle 1764
- 38 * La Parfaite Amitié 1765
- 39 * La Bienfaisante 1765
- 40 * La Paix du bas Rhin 1767
- 41 L'Inséparable 1767
- 42 La Zélée à Suriname 1767
- 43 * La Croissante des trois Clefs 1768
- 44 la Vertueuse, à Batavia 1769
- 45 Le profond Silence 1770
- 46 la Compagnie durable 1770
- 47 La Fidélité, à Colombo, Isle de Ceylon, 1771
- 48 St. Jean de la Reunion à Demerary, 1771
- 49 La fidele Sincérité à Batavia 1771
- 50 L'Union Provinciale 1771
- 51 La Bonne Esperance, au Cap de ce Nom. 1773
- 52 La Sincérité à Ceylon 1773
- 53 Le Temple du Bonheur 1773

Those marked with an asterisk are the five lodges under Provincial Grand Masters, mentioned in my previous communication.

EDITOR—F. M.

A CENTURY OF MASONRY.

PART III.

(Continued from page 179.)

From the time of the "Gloucester" accepting the new dispensation Bro. Dunckerly appears to have paid the new converts great attention. In September, 1792, he attended a meeting, and with a Warrant of Constitution regularly constituted a Grand Lodge in Southampton, "was pleased to appoint Bro. Lansdown, Tyler of this lodge, the Tyler for the county," and several other brethren Grand Officers, and then proposed himself and Bro. Grierson, his Deputy Prov. G.M., to be members of the lodge. A new book of proceedings was ordered, and, "as it was agreed to alter our Constitution, the transactions of the modern lodge are inserted in the book for the same purpose." The lodge, however, did not really leave the "ancient body of Freemasons,"

but the brethren, thenceforth, acted sometimes as ancient and sometimes as modern Masons, and in June, 1794, we find in the ancient minute book the following: "Agreed to hold a lodge under the Ancient Constitution. The transactions, therefore, of this lodge shall be inserted in this book as before," and it is added, "Agreed that the Grand Lodge dues for this ancient society shall be paid out of the Royal Arch chest."

The lodge appears to have progressed favourably: the lectures were frequently delivered; it was opened sometimes as a modern and sometimes as an ancient lodge; now and again we find that "Bro. ——— passed the chair this night by the unanimous consent of the brethren;" and although we are told in one instance that the lodge "closed in tolerable good humour and about the usual time;" the formula ordinarily adopted is "closed at nine and in good harmony."

In 1794 we find a minute indicating a practice which would prove "for the good of Freemasonry in general" were it more frequently followed in these days. "A letter from the Master of the Lodge of Virtue, White Lion, Bath, concerning Mr. ———, late of Southampton, being proposed in that lodge, who waited the approbation of this lodge concerning his being admitted, the same was rejected by letter this day." In 1726 a "Mr. Rice being proposed as a candidate for Masonry, the W. Master intimated a doubt of the propriety of such motion, Mr. Rice being one of the persons called Quakers, when it was resolved that the ballot should be deferred until the opinion of the Grand Lodge should be taken," and at a subsequent meeting, "a letter having been received from Mr. Robert Leslie, G.S. of the Antient Lodge, that Mr. Rice could not be admitted as a candidate, it was unanimously assented to." The same question arose in this lodge in 1838, when, the opinion of the Grand Secretary of that time having been taken thereon, Bro. White wrote that many Quakers belonged to the Fraternity, and the question having been long since decided, he had no hesitation in saying Quakers could be admitted Masons on taking the obligation as they did in a court of law.

On St. John's-day, June 27th, 1798, it was "agreed to drop the modern Constitution, and not to work under it any more." In October, 1799, the brethren having been called by the Provincial Grand Secretary of the modern Institution—the before named Bro. Jeans—to register their names under the Act for the Suppression of Societies established for Seditious and Treasonable Purposes—from the operation of which Freemasons were free—they replied that, not having received the letter in time, they begged to discontinue their warrant for the present, being all registered in the Grand Lodge, under the Duke of Athol, in compliance with their official instructions. To this they received a reply from the Deputy Prov. G.M., regretting that the notice did not reach the lodge in time, "but apprising you that your being registered in a Grand Lodge under the Duke of Athol will avail you nothing against the penalties of the Act, as you will find explained in the circular letter of the Grand Lodge. I state this merely as a matter of caution to you, and for your better security against possible ill consequences." To which the lodge rejoined that they thought it necessary to undeceive the Deputy Prov. G.M. respecting the legality of their continuing to sit as a lodge, "It has never ceased holding its ancient warrant since the year 1772 (as No. 174), and the circular letter you allude to we have received a literal copy of from the Ancient Grand Lodge, and we have, in consequence of its instructions, been registered with the clerk of the peace for the county. . . . The penalties of the Act extend equally to persons under both Constitutions, which we, previous to the passing of the aforesaid Act, held, but discontinued the Royal Gloucester Lodge from the mere circumstance of not receiving your instructions in time,"—a statement, by the way, hardly consistent with the resolution of 1798. For some years subsequently to this the minute books contain yearly lists of persons returned to the Grand Secretaries both of the ancient and modern lodges, Bro. Leslie being the Secretary of the former, and Bro. White of the latter, the ancient lists, as a rule, including all the modern names, with some in addition classed exclusively as ancients. In April, 1803, a lodge of emergency was called to consider letters from the respective (Grand) lodges held under H.R.H. George, Prince of Wales, and His Grace the Duke of Athol, when the brethren present determined to postpone their decision on the contents until St. John's Day. Accordingly in June, "the majority of the brethren present agreed to continue the warrant under His Grace the Duke of Athol." But in September, "owing to the brethren not attending in a regular manner according to their summonses for Lodge No. 174 (ancient), the brethren proposed, and it was agreed to ballot, either to give up Lodge No. 174 or Lodge No. 503 (modern), when there appeared five votes for Lodge 503 and one vote for Lodge 174, and it was requested that the Master of the lodge should give notice to the Grand Lodges herein if necessary." Whatever may have been done, the books show that in the following November the returns for the year were made to both the ancient and Grand Lodges, there being twenty-one in the ancient and seventeen in the modern list, thus including nearly all the same names. In March, 1804, however, "having received a letter from a Grand Lodge respecting the impropriety of the brethren holding two lodges, it was decided that the modern warrant should be deposited in the hands of Bro. Steele (a P.M.), and not for him to dispose of the same without the consent of every brother; and that a letter be written to the Grand Lodge that we had discontinued to meet under the modern warrant." There are several entries following of making Masons under the Constitution of England ancient Masons, but the yearly returns continue to be made to both the ancient and modern Grand Secretaries, the ancients predominating in numbers over the moderns in 1805 in the proportion of 29 to 13, and a total of 31 that year returned

to the clerk of the peace under the Act of Parliament claiming to belong to No. 174 (ancient). In 1805 "Bro. Steele returned the modern warrant by request of the Master and brethren," and in this year the names of at least two brethren are recorded as "per certificates granted from their respective lodges under the Constitution of England wishing to become ancient Masons," having been "proposed, balloted for, unanimously approved, and initiated in the First and Second Degrees." On whatever action may have been taken at the union of the lodges in 1813 the minute books are silent, but in a register of the members kept by Bro. Slade, with occasional remarks bearing upon several of the most important changes in the history of the lodge, we have this entry 1813: December 27th:—"Reunion of all the Freemasons of England under His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex as Grand Master. Upon this re-union the number of the Royal Gloucester Lodge was altered and re-numbered 212." In 1818 Sir William de Crespigny joined the lodge, the following year was installed at Southampton as Prov. Grand Master by the Duke of Sussex, and in 1820 accepted the Mastership of the lodge. On St. John's-day in that year it was proposed and carried "that in future no brothers are to have their servants in attendance without such servants are free and accepted Masons," and shortly afterwards—was it as a pleasant retort?—"the W.M. desires that in future the members of this lodge shall appear in white gloves."

In 1829 a new lodge was formed in the town called the "Southampton" lodge, Sir John Millbank, who had just retired from the chair of the Royal Gloucester, being its first Master, and two other brethren of that lodge being its first Wardens. Several years afterwards there was formed a Local Fund of Benevolence, which, having been lost sight of some years through the deaths of its founders and managers, has, happily, been recently reinstated, and that within a few weeks of the death of the last survivor of the original trustees, without whose ready sympathy a sum of just under £1000 would have been lost to the local Masons. As a matter of general interest, it remains only to say that the lodge secured the right to wear a centenary jewel six years since, when the Marquis of Ripon, the Grand Master, and a number of his Grand officers, honoured the centenary festival with their presence.

C. J. P.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. JOHN DENNIS, P.M. No. 907.

The annual meeting of this Lodge of Instruction was held on Tuesday evening, the 2nd inst., at Bro. Chard's, 125 Cannon-street, E.C., when a large muster of the brethren assembled to assist the W.M. in the rehearsal of the installation ceremony, and for the purpose of presenting a testimonial to Bro. John Dennis, one of the P.M.'s and late Preceptor to this Lodge of Instruction.

The lodge was opened by the W. Master, Bro. F. A. White, and amongst the brethren and visitors present were Bros. Rev. J. M. Vaughan, J. A. Farnfield, H. J. Lewis, Charles Chard, W. H. Farnfield, John Dennis, T. Hastings Miller, Samuel H. P. Moore, all P.M.'s of the mother lodge, No. 907; Bro. Nathaniel J. Fenner, P.M. No. 162; Bros. J. K. Colman and J. S. Turner, of the All Saint's Lodge, No. 1716; Bros. J. F. Hallett, Thomas Butt, W. Snellgrove, G. T. Barr, W. Wordley, A. G. Panter, C. Jolly (Freemason), &c. The ceremony of installation (Bro. John A. Farnfield, P.M., personating the candidate) was most ably rehearsed by the W.M., the usual addresses being delivered in a style which bids fair to rival any of his predecessors; and, upon resuming his seat, was greeted with the justly-merited congratulations and cheers of the whole of the brethren. The lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet, which was thoroughly appreciated. After the removal of the cloth, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts duly honoured, the W. Master, requesting the brethren to charge their glasses bumpers, said:—

"Brethren, the toast I have now to propose to you is one that I am sure will meet with the approbation of every one present—it is "Health, Happiness, and Long Life to Bro. J. Dennis." (Cheers.) It gives me especial pleasure to have the opportunity of proposing this toast, because, in the first place, Bro. Dennis is a particular friend of my own, who I have had the pleasure of knowing for many years before I joined Freemasonry, and in which I may certainly say, if possible, that friendship has been more deeply cemented than before, and in the next place, because of the great and good work done by him for our mother lodge. (Cheers.) In our lodge of instruction Bro. Dennis has worked hard and unremittingly for its success, regardless of time, and in many instances of personal comfort. I am sure that whenever we have called upon him he has always responded to that call, and it is impossible to estimate the benefit our mother lodge has received through his instructions to those who have taken office in it. (Cheers.) It is exceeding gratifying to hear, as you, brethren, have heard on many occasions, the eulogiums that our visitors have passed upon the work done there, and the excellent manner in which the whole of the ceremonies are carried out. It is gratifying to you, brethren, and it is gratifying to me, and I say, that if there is praise due to any one for that excellence, it is due entirely to our instructor and friend, Bro. J. Dennis. (Loud cheers.) Bro. White then, with the assistance of several willing hands, placed before Bro. Dennis a handsome polished walnut cabinet, the doors of which opened in front, so that could be seen inside a solid silver tea and coffee service, of the Oxford pattern, weighing over sixty ounces, with rich fern engraving, and having the monogram of J. C. D. on each article. On the coffee pot was the following inscription—"Presented to Bro. J. Dennis, P.M., by the members of the Royal Albert Lodge and Chapter, No. 907, as a mark

of their great esteem, and in appreciation of the services he has rendered, April 2nd, 1878." The whole is the work of Bro. Wordley, jeweller, of 84, Cannon-street, and does great credit to his taste and skill. The W.M. proceeding said: "Bro. J. Dennis, the brethren of the Royal Albert Lodge and Chapter have called upon me to present to you this testimonial of their esteem and regard; and as a slight recognition of the many valuable services they have received at your hands. I therefore, in their name, present you with this handsome tea and coffee service, and hope that you may be spared for many years to use and enjoy it. We hope also that your wife and your children, aye, and your children's children, will receive it with the same pleasure that we have in presenting it to you, not for its intrinsic value, but as a recognition, however humble, of your long and valuable services to our mother lodge, and this lodge of instruction." (Loud cheers.) Bro. Dennis then formally received it, and the W.M. intimated that he should be pleased to hear any remarks the brethren might wish to make before calling upon Bro. Dennis to respond. Bro. Lewis, as the W.M. who gave Bro. Dennis "the first rung of the ladder," added his testimony to the zeal and energy of that brother, who he trusted might live long to enjoy the presentation and then hand it down from generation to generation as a heirloom in the family. Bro. N. J. Fenner, P.M. 162, then, by request of the W.M., rose and said that on the present occasion he was desirous of making a speech, notwithstanding the fact that he felt himself unable to do such justice to the moment as his heart would wish. He thanked the W.M. for giving him that opportunity of saying how much he respected Bro. Dennis, who he had known long before he went into Freemasonry, and when he was consulted upon the subject, he felt that it would not only be a benefit to Bro. Dennis himself but that that brother would be an honour to the lodge. (Applause.) He (Bro. Fenner) thought that Bro. Dennis had made his way in the Craft in such a manner as was unprecedented, and as an occasional visitor to the mother lodge, he could bear testimony that the labours of Bro. Dennis were appreciated. That testimonial now lying before him showed the honour and esteem in which he was held by every brother of the lodge, and if there was an occasion in a man's life—no matter how exalted his station—that he might remember with pride and gratification in after years, it was such a one as the present, when a man, a friend, and a brother, received at the hands of those connected with him such a token of esteem as Bro. J. Dennis had received that night. (Loud cheers.) Might his children and his children's children always remember with pride the name of their progenitor, Bro. Dennis, as he knew it would long be remembered with pride and with pleasure in the Royal Albert Lodge and Chapter. (Applause.)

Bros. Coleman, as a junior member of the lodge, W. H. Farnfield, P.M., Moore, P.M., and Hallett, S.W., as well added a few remarks, the latter, as the oldest lay member of the lodge, endorsing every word that had been said in Bro. Dennis's favour.

Bro. Dennis, who on rising to reply was enthusiastically greeted, said he knew it was customary at this particular meeting of the lodge to pass a compliment to him, but that evening they had done him more than honour; in the first place they had overwhelmed him with surprise, and in the next with gratitude. He could not believe that he had done anything that was sufficient cause for them to speak so highly of him, and more than that, present him with such a splendid testimonial as that now lying before him. Their W.M. had said that he knew him (Bro. Dennis) for many years, and as he looked round that room he saw others who had known him many years, and with whom he had passed, both in and out of Masonry, and hoped yet to pass, many happy hours. Some of the most highly treasured remembrances of his life were associated with those who were assembled that evening around that board, and in this room, but he felt it was not for that alone they had presented him a testimonial. He believed it was because they felt that whatever he had done for Freemasonry had been done as one would do it who had its good at heart. He could only wish that he had known something of what was on foot, because he then should have been prepared to thank them properly, but he could assure them that they had taken him utterly by surprise. He was pleased to be supported this evening among others by his much esteemed and old friends Bros. Farnfield, Chard and Lewis. Bro. J. Farnfield introduced him into Freemasonry, and Bro. Lewis had given him his first step. It had been his privilege to introduce their W.M. into the Craft, and that in itself he felt gave him some claim to their good opinion. (Cheers.) He trusted his efforts for the chapter had not been without effect, and he believed that they knew how constantly he had had the good of their lodge of instruction at heart. (Loud cheers.) Their handsome presentation would have, he felt sure, an excellent effect somewhere else, for when he took it home and told his wife that the Freemasons had given it him, she would say "Then there is something good in Freemasonry." Bro. Dennis then concluded an eloquent and feeling address by thanking them deeply for their presentation, which he hoped long to have and enjoy, but above all for the generous, kind, and brotherly sentiments which had been evinced towards him that night, and which he should always remember with pleasure and gratitude. (Loud cheers.)

Bro. John Farnfield, P.M., then rose to propose the toast of "The W.M.," and in doing so drew their attention, among other of Bro. White's qualifications, to the excellent speech he had made in presenting their testimonial to Bro. Dennis, which he characterised as replete with eloquence and good taste. Their W.M. had that night gone through the ceremony of installation, and they might be sure that when he did, as he would shortly have to, perform that ceremony in their mother lodge, it would

be done in a manner that had not been surpassed by any Master who had preceded him. (Cheers.)

Bro. White thanked the senior Past Master for the flattering terms in which he had proposed his health. He had endeavoured to do his duty faithfully in every position he had held in the lodge, and was, he trusted, some credit to those who had instructed him. He should continue to do the same till the end. (Cheers.) The toast of "The Visitors" was enthusiastically received and responded to by Bros. Fenner, Turner, Coleman, and C. Jolly. The toast of "The Past Masters" followed, and Bros. Chard, Miller, Moore, Lewis, Farnfield, and Dennis suitably replied. To that of "The Officers" Bros. Hallett, Snelgrove, Barr, and Butt responded. The W.M. then said there was one toast that he fully intended to have brought before them earlier in the evening, and if some brother should convey to the subject of it information of the occurrence, he trusted he would at the same time apologise for his, the W. Master's, neglect in forgetting to do so. It was "The Health of their worthy and esteemed brother and P.M., Thomas Griffiths," who, as most of the brethren no doubt were aware, was on the eve of changing his state of single blessedness, and upon such an occasion and under such circumstances they could not separate without wishing Bro. Griffiths and the lady of his choice every happiness and prosperity. The toast was drunk with enthusiasm, and after Bro. Miller had responded for his absent brother a most enjoyable evening was brought to a close.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS For the Week ending Friday, April 26, 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, APRIL 20. Lodge 715, Panmure, Cannon-street Hot. " 1364, Earl of Zetland, Old Town Hall, Hackney. " 1641, Crichton, Surrey M.H.

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, APRIL 22. Lodge 4, R. Somerset House and Inverness, F.M.H. " 26, Castle of Harmony, Willis's Rooms. " 28, Old King's Arms, F.M.H.

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, APRIL 23. Audit Com. Girls' at 4. Lodge 14, Tuscan, F.M.H. " 92, Moira, Mansion House Restaurant. " 99, Shakespeare, Albion Tav. Aldersgate-st. " 145, Prudent Brethren, F.M.H. " 186, Industry, F.M.H. " 205, Israel, Cannon-st. Hot. " 259, Prince of Wales, Willis's Rooms, St. James's. " 1158, Southern Star, Montpelier Tav., Walworth. " 1196, Urban, Old Jerusalem Tav., Clerkenwell. " 1348, Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Milbank. " 1719, Evening Star, F.M.H. Chap. 7, Royal York of Perseverance, F.M.H. Mark 3, Keystone, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st. Rose Croix St. George, 33, Golden-sq., W.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION. Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd. Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney. Domestic, Surrey M.H., Canberwell New-road. Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st. Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood. Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney. Prosperity, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st. Florence Nightingale, F.M.H., William-st., Woolwich. Constitutional, Bedford Hot., Southampton Bldgs., 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 Edgecumbe, 19, Jermyn-st., St. James's. Gen. Com. Grand Chap. at 3. Lodge of Benevolence, at 6.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24. Grand Festival, F.M.H. Lodge 212, Euphrates, M.H., Basinghall-st. " 507, United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H. " 754, High Cross, Seven Sisters' Tav., Tottenham. " 898, Temperance-in-the-East, 6, Newby-pl., Poplar. " 1017, Montefiore, 68, Regent-st., W. " 1056, Victoria, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st. " 1540, Chaucer, Bridge House Hot., London Bridge.

Chap. 13, Union Waterloo, M.H., Wm.-st., Woolwich " 753, Prince Frederick William, 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 Jubiler, 81, Long Acre. Langthorne, Swan Hot., Stratford.

THURSDAY, APRIL 25. Gen. Com. Girls' School, at 4. Lodge 66, Grenadiers', F.M.H. " 858, South Middlesex, Beaufort Ho., Fulham. " 871, Royal Oak, White Swan, High-st., Deptford. " 1563, City of Westminster, M.H., 68, Regent-st. Chap. 29, St. Albans, Albion Tav., Aklersgate-st. " 217, Stability, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st. " 534, Polish National, F.M.H.

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. Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Milbank. Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town. The Great City, M.H., Masons' Avenue. High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham. Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st. Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd. Great Northern, Berwick Arms, Berners-st., Oxford-st. Rose, Walmer Castle Hot., Peckham-road, at 8. Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.

FRIDAY, APRIL 26. Anniversary Festival Stability L. of I.—See Advt. Lodge 197, Jerusalem, F.M.H. " 509, Fitzroy, Hd-qtrs. Hon. Art Co., City-rd. " 861, Finsbury, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION. Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st., at 6 p.m. Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st. Seigrave, 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 Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's-rd., N. 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 Hot., Gouborne-rd., Notting-hill. Pythagorean Chapter, Portland Hot. London-st., Greenwich.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE. For the Week ending Saturday, April 27, 1878.

MONDAY, APRIL 22. Chap. 241, Friendship, M.H., Liverpool. Derby L. of I., M.H., Liverpool. TUESDAY, APRIL 23. Lodge 1609, Dramatic, M.H., Liverpool. " 1675, Ancient Briton, M.H., Liverpool. Chap. 823, Everton, M.H., Liverpool. Merchants L. of I., M.H., Liverpool. Prince Arthur L. of I., M.R., N. Hill-street, Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24. Lodge 32, St. George's, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool. " 220, Harmony, Wellington Hot., Garston. " 724, Derby, M.H., Liverpool. " 730, Ellesmere, Royal Oak, Chorley. " 1061, Triumph, M.H., Lytham. " 1403, W. Lancashire, Commercial Hot., Ormskirk. Chap. 86, Lebanon, Crown Hot., Prescot. " 1052, Callender, Pub. H., Rusholme. " 1356, De Grey and Ripon, M.H., Liverpool. Neptune L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, APRIL 25. Lodge 594, Downshire, M.H., Liverpool. " 1595, Emulation, M.H., Liverpool. Chap. 216, Sacred Delta, M.H., Liverpool. " 1086, Walton, Skelmersdale Hall, Kirkdale. Mariners L. of I., M.H., Liverpool. Stanley L. of I., M.H., Liverpool. FRIDAY, APRIL 26. Chap. 680, Sefton, M.H., Liverpool. Hamer L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

For Masonic Meetings throughout Scotland see Scottish Freemason, which can be obtained at the Office of this journal, 108, Fleet-street, London.