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SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER.

The Quarterly Convocation of Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Freemasons of England was holden on Wednesday evening, at the Freemasons' Hall. In the absence of the Grand Principals, the three chairs were held by Comps. the Rev. C. J. Martyn, as M.E.Z.; S. Rawson, as H.; and H. D. Sandeman, as J. There were also present Comp. John Hervey, S.E.; Capt. N. G. Phillips, S.N.; A. J. D. Filer, S.B.; F. Robinson, D.C.; T. Fenn, H. Murray, Joseph Smith, J. M. Case, H. J. P. Dumas, E. S. Snell, Joshua Nunn, Col. Creaton, H. Muggerridge, James Glaisher, Hyde Pullen, Peter de L. Long, P.S.; W. Hickman, 1st A.S.; Robt. Grey, 2nd A.S.; B. Head, Dr. J. E. Carpenter, A. A. Pendlebury M. Ohren, W. Dodd, Rev. C. W. Arnold, C. F. Hogard, E. Letchworth, W. Stephens, John Boyd, Thomas Cubitt, Col. Somerville Burney, J. Lewis Thomas, Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, E. Kimber, D. Betts, Dr. Erasmus Wilson, H. G. Buss, H. C. Tombs, John Bosworth, John McDougall, John J. Gosset, J. E. Middleton, Julius Rosenstock, C. Brown, W. A. Bowler, John Canham, R. T. Elsam, Geo. Neall, Henry Birdseye, W. H. Lucia, Rev. T. Cochrane, Walter Hopekirk, J. M. Klenck, H. Mackery, H. Massey (Freemason), and C. B. Payne, G. Janitor.

The regulations for the Government of the Supreme Grand Chapter during the time of public business having been read by G.S.E., and the minutes of the last Quarterly Convocation having been read and confirmed, the installation of the new Grand Officers was proceeded with. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales was again made M.E.Z.; the Earl of Carnarvon, Pro G.Z.; Lord Skelmersdale, H.; and Lord De Tabley, J. The acting M.E.Z. again invested Comps. John Hervey as S.E.; Erasmus Wilson was invested as S.N.; Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, as P.S.; the Rev. C. W. Arnold, as 1st A.S.; Henry C. Tombs, as 2nd A.S.; E. J. McIntyre, Q.C., Registrar; James Lewis Thomas, as Sword Bearer; Henry Gustavus Buss, as Standard Bearer; William Henry Lucia, as Director of Ceremonies; and C. B. Payne, as Janitor.

The report of the Committee of General Purposes, which was as follows, was then taken as read, and ordered to be received and entered on the minutes: To the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England. The Committee of General Purposes beg to report that they have examined the accounts from the 16th January to the 15th April, 1878, both inclusive, which they find to be as follows:

To Balance, Grand Chapter	...	£274 19 11
" " Unappropriated Account	...	212 1 11
" " Subsequent Receipts	...	430 11 3
		£917 13 1
By Purchase of £300 Consols	at 95½ and Commission	£286 2 6
" Disbursements during the Quarter	...	207 0 10
" Balance	...	204 13 10
" " in Unappropriated Account	...	219 15 11
		£917 13 1

of which Balances there is in the hands of the Grand Treasurer a sum of £388 17s. 4d., and in the London and Westminster Bank, £35 12s. 5d.

Comp. Col. Creaton then proposed that the prayer of the following petitions be granted:—

- 1st. From Companions David Macorie as Z., Abraham Myers as H., Sydney James as J., and eight others, for a chapter to be attached to the Southern Cross Lodge, No. 997, Invercargill, to be called the Southern Cross Chapter, and to meet at Invercargill, in the colony of New Zealand.
- 2nd. From Companions William Wynne Jendwine as Z., George Albert Rooth as H., George Haslehurst as J., and six others, for a chapter to be attached to the Scarsdale Lodge, No. 681, Chesterfield, to be called the Scarsdale Chapter, and to meet at the Masonic Hall, Chesterfield, in the County of Derby.

3rd. From Companions Franklin Thomas as Z., James Bertwistle as H., Thomas Turner as J., and twelve others, for a chapter to be attached to the Limestone Rock Lodge, No. 369, Clitheroe, to be called the Limestone Rock Chapter, and to meet at the Masonic Hall, Church-street, Clitheroe, in the County of Lancaster.

4th. From Companions James Willing as Z., Jonathan Richard Stacey as H., William John Ferguson as J., and seven others, for a chapter to be attached to the Metropolitan Lodge, No. 1507, London, to be called the Metropolitan Chapter, and to meet at the Metropolitan Club, 269, Pentonville-road, King's Cross, in the County of Middlesex.

5th. From Companions Thomas Joseph Sabine as Z., James Catley Mason as H., Edward Spencer Stidolph as J., and seven others, for a chapter to be attached to the Chaucer Lodge, No. 1545, Southwark, to be called the Chaucer Chapter, and to meet at the Bridge House Hotel, High-street, Southwark, in the County of Surrey.

6th. From Companions George Everett as Z., Edward Page as H., William Mann as J., and seven others for a chapter to be attached to the Kennington Lodge, No. 1381, Kennington, to be called the Kennington Chapter, and to meet at the Surrey Club House, Kennington Oval, Lambeth, in the county of Surrey.

7th. From Companions James Hill Sillitoe as Z., John Rains as H., Joseph Potts as J., and eight others for a chapter to be attached to the Chorlton Lodge, No. 1387, Chorlton-Cum-Hardy, to be called the Chorlton Chapter, and to meet at the Masonic Rooms, Chorlton-Cum-Hardy, in the county of Lancaster.

8th. From Companions William Elliott as Z., Robert Drake Kendall as H., John Marshall as J., and six others for a chapter to be attached to the Ryburn Lodge, No. 1283, Sowerby Bridge, to be called the Ryburn Chapter, and to meet at Central Buildings, Sowerby Bridge, in the county of York.

9th. From Companions Edmund Heywood as Z., Thomas Hindle as H., John Tennant as J., and six others for a chapter to be attached to the Lodge of Equality, No. 1145, Accrington, to be called the Chapter of Equality, and to meet at the Red Lion Hotel, Accrington, in the county of Lancaster.

10th. From Companions John Edward Walford as Z., William Stephens as H., Thomas Hastings Miller as J., and seven others for a chapter to be attached to the Marquess of Ripon Lodge, No. 1489, London, to be called the Ezra Chapter, and to meet at the Metropolitan Societies Asylum, Ball's Pond Road, Islington, in the county of Middlesex.

11th. From Companion James Lewis Thomas as Z., John Bosworth as H., Frederick West as J., and six others for a chapter to be attached to the Granite Lodge, No. 1328, London, to be called the Granite Chapter, and to meet at Freemasons' Hall, London.

12th. From Companions William James Stanley as Z., James Cunningham as H., James Conroy as J., and eight others for a Chapter to be attached to the Inhabitants Lodge, No. 153, Gibraltar, to be called the Prince of Wales's Chapter, and to meet at Engineers' Lane, Gibraltar.

13th. From Companions Alexander Meyrick Broadley as Z., William Kingston as H., Edward Kosenbusch as J., and seventeen others for a chapter to be attached to the Lodge of Ancient Carthage, No. 1717, Tunis, to be called the Chapter of Ancient Carthage, and to meet at the Masonic Hall, Tunis, in North Africa.

The first twelve having been granted, Col. Creaton said that with respect to the 13th it required a few words of explanation from him. The lodge to whom a chapter was sought to be attached had only been in existence six months, but still the Grand Chapter Committee recommended that the petition should be granted for the following reasons. Tunis had a population of 40,000 souls, and the Lodge of Ancient Carthage was the only working body of Freemasons at present in that part. The lodge had forty-two registered members, and there was no other Masonic body within at least 200 miles. Grand Chapter Committee had considered those circumstances, and therefore recommended the charter for a chapter to be granted.

Companion Joshua Nunn seconded the motion. Companion J. M. Case wished to know what length of time Grand Chapter required a lodge to have been established before it granted a charter for a chapter.

Companion Joseph Smith said the rule had been that a lodge should be established three years, but at last convocation it broke through that rule on account of exceptional cases. The present case was an exceptional one.

Companion Col. Creaton said the circumstances he had stated afforded a good reason for the Committee to recommend that the charter should be granted. There was only one lodge at Tunis, and no Royal Arch Chapter. The lodge, as he had said, numbered 42 registered members, and he thought it would be discourteous to them if the petition was not granted.

Companion H. J. P. Dumas wanted to know how long would it be in the ordinary course before a charter was granted to this lodge. He did not think there would be anything discourteous to the members of the lodge in adhering to the ordinary rule.

Col. Creaton said the ordinary period was three years.

Companion C. F. Hogard observed that there was no law of Grand Chapter to that effect. There was only a recommendation from the Committee that charters should not be granted unless a lodge had been in existence three years.

Comp. Joseph Smith added that there was an understanding in Grand Chapter that it should be so.

Comp. James Lewis Thomas thought Grand Chapter might make a rule that a twelvemonth should be the very shortest time. Six months seemed to him to be exceedingly short.

Comp. Robert Grey said the petitioners stated that they had resuscitated six other lodges which had almost fallen

into disuse. They had influential members among them, some of whom were initiated by them and some had joined. They found the want of a chapter in that district, where none existed at the present time.

Comp. H. D. Sandeman, acting J., said there was one thing he must draw to the attention of Grand Chapter. It was stated that this chapter was wanted because there were 40,000 inhabitants at Tunis, that number meant he supposed the aboriginal inhabitants. The number of European inhabitants must be extremely small. Those companions who had been in the colonies would bear him out when he said that there was always great danger in the colonies of all sorts of persons coming into Masonry whom in this country we should not care to meet. He would rather see this petition stand over for six months, and in the meantime some little enquiry might be made as to the position of Masonry in Tunis, whether they required this Royal Arch Chapter, and if so what class of people would be admitted.

Comp. Joseph Smith said all this matter came before Grand Chapter Committee, and they considered it, or they would not have recommended the petition to be granted.

Comp. S. Rawson, acting H., asked whether Grand Lodge of England had granted a lodge to Tunis. If it had Grand Chapter might grant a chapter. He would like to ask Scribe E. under what jurisdiction Tunis was.

Comp. John Hervey, S.E., said it was under the jurisdiction, by the Grand Master's special permission, of the Grand Lodge of Malta, and the recommendation of this petition was given by the Grand Lodge of Malta, signed by the District Grand Master and the Deputy District Grand Master.

The acting M.E.Z., in putting the motion to Grand Chapter, said the companions had heard what was to be said on the subject, and he must say that, living as we did in England, having so many opportunities of working and enjoying the privileges of Masonry, we ought not to be slow in giving to brethren in foreign parts the power of carrying on Freemasonry. So many arguments had been adduced in favour of granting this petition that he should feel no hesitation in voting that it be granted, and the warrant sent to these companions. In this country, Masons had so many opportunities of meeting each other in chapter that they were not in a position to form an idea of the feelings of those brethren who were so far removed from them, and who wanted to advance the cause of Masonry. In distant provinces of the empire it was our bounden duty to extend our privileges to our brethren, provided they had under their banners proper and right men for the offices they proposed to hold.

The motion was then carried nem. dis.

Comps. Col. Creaton (President), Benj. Head, and Robert Grey were then nominated to the Committee of General Purposes, to which were elected Comps. Joseph Smith, 19; H. C. Levander, 79; John Boyd, 145; D. Betts, 507; Capt. Phillips, 1383; and James Lewis Thomas, 13.

Grand Chapter was thereupon closed in due form.

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

HAMPTON COURT.—Era Lodge (No. 1423).—The regular meeting of this prosperous lodge was held on Saturday, April 13th, at the Island Hotel. Punctual to the time named on the summons the W.M., Bro. T. J. Sabine, P.P.G.S.B., opened the lodge. The minutes of the last meeting were read, unanimously confirmed, and signed by the presiding officer. An apology was received from the absent candidate for raising, Bro. C. G. Wheeler, which was caused through his having to attend the funeral of a near relative. The bye-laws as revised by the committee were read and agreed to. The following sums were unanimously voted from the lodge funds:—ten pounds to the Female Annuity Fund, ten guineas to Girls' School, ten guineas to Boys' School, all in the name of the Secretary for the time being, some of the other offices being endowed with votes. It is a pleasing fact to notice, that this lodge has during its short existence taken the lead in the province by subscribing so largely to the Charities, that it augurs well for its future prosperity. Great gloom was cast over the lodge when it was announced that the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. R. W. Little, had died on the previous evening. On motion duly made, seconded, and unanimously resolved, "A letter of condolence be sent to the widow of the late ever lamented brother." Some routine business having been disposed of, candidates names received for initiation, the lodge was closed. Bro. T. G. Tagg supplied the usual good banquet. There were present Bros. E. W. Devereux, S.W.; S. Weoff, J.W.; H. A. Dubois, P.P.G.D. Middlesex, P.M., Treasurer; F. Walters, P.P.G.D. Middlesex, P.M., Secretary; J. Johnson, J.D.; B. Wright, I.G.; W. Hammond, P.P.G.D. Middlesex, P.M.; E. T. Henman, J. Faulkner, D.C.; W. Hurlestone, and others. The visitors were Bros. A. F. Snelson, P.M. 597; J. G. Tinsley, 228, New York.

INSTRUCTION.

EARL OF CARNARVON LODGE (No. 1642). A meeting of this lodge was held on Friday evening, April 26th, at the Mitre Hotel, Golborne-road, North Kensington, when the following brethren were present: Bros. Savage, P.M., Preceptor; Smout, jun. W.M.; Parkhouse, S.W.; Dr. Pecoock, J.W.; Wood, S.D.; Adkins, J.D.; H. Dehane, I.G.; Smout, sen., Williams, Oldrey, Poulter, Woodmason, Lichtwitz, Hatton, and Webster. The lodge having been opened in due form, the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed by the W.M., Bro. Woodmason being candidate. The First, Second, and Third Sections of the First Lecture were then

worked by the brethren, under the guidance of Bro. P. M. Savage. The next meeting being devoted to the officers of the mother lodge, Bro. Parkhouse was unanimously elected W.M. for the following week. The lodge was then closed at half-past nine o'clock.

Royal Arch.

JERUSALEM CHAPTER (No. 185).—The installation meeting of this old and flourishing chapter was held at the Freemasons' Tavern on the 9th ult., when there were present Comps. Elsam, M.E.Z.; Wagner, H. (First Principal elect); Robinson, J.; Davage, P.Z., S.E.; Mander, S.N.; T. C. Walls, P.G.O. Middlesex, P.S. (*Freemason*); Moss, First Asst.; S. Harfield, P.Z., Treas.; and Past Principals Loewenstark and Holbrook. There were also present Comps. Ellborn, Whitley, G. Davies, and Hiscock. The visitors were Comps. H. Muggeridge, P.Z., &c.; Capt. Baxter, P.Z. 8; Read, P.Z. 834; E. Sims, and Enfield. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bros. H. J. Al-leard, 957, and M. Higgs, P.M. 63, were duly exalted to the Sublime Degree of the R.A. by the M.E.Z. The interesting and arduous ceremony of installing the Principals was performed, by special request, by Comp. Muggeridge, with his accustomed verve. The officers for the ensuing year are Comps. Wagner, M.E.Z.; Robinson, H.; Mander, J.; Harfield, Treas.; Davage, S.E.; Walls, S.N.; Moss, P.S.; Stewart and Davies, Assistants. Comp. H. Muggeridge having been elected an honorary member of the chapter, in which he was exalted upwards of thirty years ago, and a vote of thanks having been accorded to him for his kindness in "working" the installation ceremonies, the chapter was duly closed, and the companions adjourned to an elegant repast. At its conclusion the usual toasts were duly honoured. The next meeting of the chapter will be held on the second Tuesday in October next. An interesting feature of the evening's proceedings was the presentation of a Past Principal's jewel by the Treasurer, Comp. Harfield, to the retiring M.E.Z., and which honour was duly acknowledged by Comp. Elsam.

PETERBOROUGH.—St. Peter's Chapter (No. 442).—At the last convocation of this chapter Comp. F. G. Buckle was duly installed as M.E.Z., Comp. Wilkins (D.P.G.M. Norths and Hunts) performing the ceremony, being assisted by Comps. Oxford, P.Z. and Stanton, P.Z. 366.

MOUNT LEBANON CHAPTER (No. 73).—On Thursday, April 11th, at the Bridge House Hotel, Borough High-street, Southwark, the thirteenth installation meeting of this chapter was held. The chapter was opened by Comps. J. W. Baldwin, M.E.Z.; J. Mason, H.; J. C. Mason, J.; F. Walters, P.P.G.A.S. Middx., P.Z., S.E.; Dr. Dixon, P.Z. (the father of the chapter); W. Smeed, P.Z.; J. T. Moss, P.Z.; and others. The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, January 10th, were read and unanimously confirmed. The ballots, taken separately, were in each instance declared to be unanimous in favour of the admission of Bros. R. G. Willoughby, 73, Mount Lebanon Lodge; D. H. Ashford, 1441, Ivy Lodge; and F. Day, 1275, Star Lodge. Apologies were received from the absent candidates. Bro. R. G. Willoughby, being in attendance, was exalted into Royal Arch Freemasonry. The Board of Installed Principals was formed. Comp. W. Smeed, P.Z., installed Comps. J. Mason, M.E.Z.; James Cautley Mason, H.; and Marcus David Loewenstark, J. On the re-admission of the members, the following companions were invested with the robe, jewel, and collar of their office: Comps. T. J. Sabine, P.P.G.S. Middx., P.Z., Treas. (re-invested fourth time); F. Walters, P.P.G.A.S. Middlesex, P.Z., S.E. (re-invested tenth time); B. Isaacs, S.N.; W. Dunham, P.S. (who appointed as his assistants Comps. A. J. Ireton, First A.S.; and T. Lamb, Second A.S.); J. Barney, W.S.; and C. T. Speight, Janitor. All the work was done in a superior manner. A vote of thanks was given, and ordered to be recorded in the minute book, to Comp. W. Smeed, for his excellent rendering of the installation ceremony. He was offered a P.Z.'s jewel, but selected a life governorship of the Boys' School instead. The usual P.Z.'s jewel was given to Comp. J. W. Baldwin, P.Z., for his efficient services during the past year. Some candidates were proposed for exaltation, and the chapter was closed, and adjourned to meet on Thursday, the 10th October. Amongst the visitors we noticed Comps. Col. F. Burdett, P.G.S. Middx.; J. Coutts, P.Z. 177, 382, 1348; J. Stevens, P.Z. 720, 771; T. Butt, 907; and others. Comp. J. H. Spencer had a splendid banquet served under his able superintendence, which gave great satisfaction to all present.

Mark Masonry.

MARYPORT.—Whitwell Lodge (No. 151).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday evening, the 18th ult., in the Masonic Hall, Eaglesfield-street. There were present Bros. F. Mandle, W.M.M., P.G. Reg. M.; J. R. Banks, S.W.; J. H. Banks, J.W. P.G.I.G.; P. Dodgson, M.O., P.G. Std.; J. Nicholson, P.M.M. and Treas., P.P.G.S.W.; J. W. Robinson, Reg. M.; James Gardiner, P.M.M., P.G.M.O.; G. W. Thompson, J.D.; R. G. Harris, Tyler; F. Lamony, P.G.A.D.C., as Chap. (*Freemason*); T. Carly, W. Stoddart, and J. Melmore. The lodge having been opened in form, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, after which a ballot was taken for Bros. W. H. Luthwaite, P.M. 1002, P. G. Organist Cumberland and Westmorland, and H. Peacock, I.G. 1002, which in both cases was favourable. These two brethren being in attendance, they, and Bro. Weatherston

Lodge 371, who had previously been balloted for, were duly advanced to the degree by Bro. J. R. Banks, S.W., Bro. Gardiner taking his place in the West. This was all the business, and the W.M.M. having announced that the election of officers would take place next lodge night, the lodge was closed.

Red Cross of Constantine.

LANCASTER.—Red Rose Conclave (No. 12).—A meeting of the Sir Knights belonging to this conclave was held on the 8th ult., in the Masonic Rooms, Athenæum, Lancaster. E.M.P. Sir Knight Joseph Fenton, M.P.S., presided, and there were also present Sir Knights W. J. Sey, V.E.; J. D. Moore, Inten. General; H. Longman, S.G. and Recorder; John J. Crookell, J.G.; John T. Jackson, Prefect; Richard Stanton, S.B.; John Bell, Herald; Frater A. K. Allinson, Sentinel. The conclave was opened in due form, after which the muster roll was called. The ballot was then taken for Bro. C. H. Garnett (P.M. 1561, P.G.S.W.), which proved unanimous, and he was regularly installed a Knight of the Order. The Treasurer's accounts for the past year were submitted and approved, and it was also resolved that in future the meetings be held on the second Thursday in each quarter instead of the second Monday. The other business of the conclave having been transacted, it was closed with the usual formalities.

CARMARTHEN.—Maurice Conclave (No. 112).—The annual meeting of this prosperous conclave was held on the 11th ult., at the Masonic Rooms, Carmarthen. The conclave was opened in proper form at 3.30 p.m., and after confirmation of the minutes of the previous meeting, Em. Sir Knight J. Jenkyn Jones was solemnly installed in the chair of C. by the Ill. Sir Knight Marsden, M.P.S., assisted by Em. Sir Knight Evans, P.S., and Em. Sir Knight Davies, P.S. A college of Viceroy's having been opened, Em. Sir Knight Hearder was inducted in solemn form and installed in the chair of V.E. by the M.P.S. The Mount of Olives' Sanctuary and Commandery of St. John were severally opened in due form by Bro. Knight Marsden, M.E.C., and Bro. Jenkyn Jones and W. Lewis were received and installed as K.H.S. and Knight of St. John the Evangelist. All the Bro. Knights present were greatly pleased with the extremely beautiful ceremonies of the sanctuary and commandery. The Red Cross Knights were then re-admitted, and the M.P.S. invested the following as officers of the conclave for the ensuing year:—Sir Knights William Lewis, S.G.; J. E. Prothero, J.G.; J. I. Stradling, H.P.; R. Thomas, Treas.; D. Nanton, Recorder; D. Samuel, Prefect; T. P. Horsman, Standard Bearer; H. Howells, Herald; J. Hamilton, Sentinel. The Sir Knights present having saluted Bro. Marsden, as Intendant General for Carmarthenshire, the conclave was closed in ancient form and with solemn prayer.

Obituary.

BRO. DR. J. M. CUNNINGHAM.

It is with unfeigned regret that we announce the death of Dr. Bro. James M. Cunningham, of Lewes, after a brief illness. Till within the last few days he enjoyed his usual health, and displayed that activity for which he was remarkable, when he caught cold, bronchitis and congestion of the lungs set in, and he expired early on Wednesday morning, at the age of 75. For a great number of years Dr. Cunningham carried on an extensive practice as surgeon, and his kindness and attention were incessant and widely esteemed. When the volunteer movement started he accepted the post of assistant-surgeon in the 3rd Sussex Artillery Corps, and he was held in high esteem by his brother officers and the whole of the battery. It was more particularly as a Freemason that Dr. Cunningham stood prominently forward in Sussex. With so great a zest did he enter into Masonic proceedings that no important gathering was complete without his genial face and sound counsel. It is not three weeks since he attended an important meeting at Brighton in connection with the Masonic charities, for which excellent institutions he was a most ardent worker. His Masonic career commenced in the Royal York Lodge, No. 315 (Brighton), and we believe him to be the oldest Mason of eminence in the province. He attained to the honour of Master, both in his mother lodge and the Yarborough, No. 811 (Brighton), also the Tyrian, No. 1110 (Eastbourne). In the formation of the latter he took a most active part, being named the first W. M. in the Grand Lodge Warrant. In the higher degrees of Freemasonry he took office as First Principal in the Harrington (Eastbourne) and Yarborough (Brighton) Chapters. As a proof that his abilities were appreciated by the Grand Master of Sussex, Dr. Cunningham was selected as Assistant Director of Ceremonies, and afterwards Senior Warden in Provincial Grand Lodge. In Mark Masonry he also took deep interest and became chief officer thereof for Sussex and a Grand Officer of England. During the last twenty-five years no man in Sussex has taken a greater interest in Freemasonry, and his knowledge of the ritual was scarcely surpassed. In every walk of life the good qualities which distinguished Dr. Cunningham as a Mason were the prominent features which secured for him the esteem of all classes. An only son, Dr. C. L. Cunningham, succeeds the deceased professionally. He also leaves four daughters—two unmarried. Besides the honourable offices above referred to, Dr. Cunningham held the position of Chairman of the Hailsham Gas Company for some twenty-five years, and he was also a member of the Burial Board, and Medical Officer of the parish and of various Benefit Societies in the neighbourhood. His loss

will be greatly felt, particularly by the poor. The funeral took place on Saturday at the Hailsham Cemetery, in the presence of a large concourse of spectators. The cortege left the residence of the deceased at three o'clock, a large number of Freemasons heading the procession. Among these gentlemen were the following:—From Brighton, J. R. Lockyer, Royal York Lodge; H. Paine and C. Wren, P.M.'s, 315; G. Smith, P.M., 732, P.P.G. Purst.; W. T. Clark, J. Braithwaite, T. J. Sabine, P.M. 1540 and 73, W. M., 1636, P.P.G.S.B., Middlesex; R. Paige, W. Hudson, P.M., 315, P.P.J.G.W.D.; J. Eberall, P.M., 315, W.M., 1536, P.P.G. Purst.; W. Challen, P.M. 215, P.P.S.G.D.; S. T. Floar, P.M., 515; A. J. Hawkes, W.M., 315; J. W. Stride, P.P.J.G.W., Sussex; V. P. Freeman, Provincial Grand Secretary; J. Dixon, P.M., 271, P.S.G.W. Sussex; J. Fabian, P.M., 56, P.P.G. Superintendent of Works; J. H. Spencer, 73; W. Lutley. From Lewes, C. Briscoe, P. M., 311; R. H. Ellman. From Eastbourne: Harrington Lodge, 916; W. Stickland, J.W.; T. Holmar, P.M., P.P. G. Sword Bearer; B. Roberts P.M., P.G.A.D.C.; R. Piddcock, P.P.G.A.D.C.; R. Pitcher, P.M. Tyrian Lodge; J. Brown, T. Newmaa, M. Mocket, H. Southenden, W. Parsons, A. Burtenshaw, T. Baker, C. W. Thomas, J.D.; H. Sutton, S.D.; J. Baddeley, A. Taylor, S.W.; C. Thomas, P.M., C. Tomkinson, P.M.; T. Morris, P.M.; W. Kirkland, P.M.; J. Head, W.M., and W. Hooper. The hearse containing the body came next in order, and then followed carriages containing the relatives and friends of the deceased. First carriage Mr. C. S. Cunningham, Surgeon (son); Dr. Lennox Cunningham (brother); Mr. Lenox Cunningham (nephew); and Mr. Thos. Cunningham (grand nephew). Second carriage: Mr. C. H. Sinnock (brother-in-law); Dr. Trollope, of Hastings, P.P. G.S.W., Derwent 40 (medical attendant); Mr. R. Wood, of Brighton, P.P.G.W., Sussex; and Mr. T. Lane, of Eastbourne, P.M. Third carriage: Dr. Billing (medical attendant, of Hailsham), Mr. Robert Overy and Mr. George Strickland. Fourth carriage: Mr. A. Pitcher (Hellingly), Mr. J. H. Pitcher (Polegate), and Messrs. Thomas and A. Bell (Hailsham). Fifth carriage: Mr. Nicholls (surgeon, Hailsham), Dr. Holman (East Hoathly), Dr. Wallis (Bexhill), Mr. Josiah Pitcher (Hailsham). Behind were about fifty members of the A.O.F. Courts Prince of Wales (Hailsham) and Hurstmonceux Castle (Gardner-street), and, lastly, nearly a hundred of the farmers and tradesmen of Hailsham and neighbourhood. The entrance to the burial ground was guarded by a body of police, under Superintendent Waghorn, and a detachment of the 3rd Sussex (Hailsham) Artillery lined the footpaths to keep order. The officers in command were Major W. W. Turner, Capt. Cooper, Lieut. Dempster and Lieut. Cardwell. The service was impressively read by the Vicar, Rev. F. C. Harvey, and the coffin, which was of polished oak with brass furniture, bore the inscription—“James Mackay Cunningham, born 14th March, 1803; died 24th April, 1878.” On being lowered into the grave it was covered with wreaths and crosses, formed of white and scarlet blossoms, supplied by friends and patients of the deceased. The funeral arrangements were conducted by Mr. J. Saunders, of Hailsham, the hearse being supplied by Messrs. Haine & Son, of Eastbourne. It is estimated that at least 500 persons were present.

BRO. JOHN VERITY.

We have the painful duty of recording another gap in the ranks of our Order, in the person of our late Brother John Verity, who was attacked with congestion of the lungs, and died on Easter-day, after a very few days' illness, at the early age of 43; lamented by a large circle of friends and brethren. Our brother was initiated in the Villiers Lodge, No. 1194, Isleworth, in October, 1870, and was J. Warden at the time of his death. He was also a founder of the Ebury Lodge, No. 1348, London, and served the office of W. Master in a most efficient manner, he being a good and careful worker, and a constant attendant of the Lodge of Emulation. His loss will be felt by the Villiers Lodge, of which he was anxiously working up to the position of W. Master, having a great desire to pass the chair in his mother lodge.

We have to note the lamented death of the wife of our esteemed Bro. Judge Townshend, of the High Court of Admiralty, Ireland. She was excellent in all relations of life, and will be long and sincerely regretted.

ORIENTAL CONGRESS AT FLORENCE.—The fourth Oriental Congress will be held at Florence next September, from the 12th to the 18th of the month, in the Palazzo Riccardi, lent for the purpose by the Provincial Council. An exhibition of various objects illustrative of the East, such as books, manuscripts, coins, maps, idols and the like, will be on view in the hall of Luca Giordano and the adjoining rooms, and contributions to the exhibition are requested. Tickets of admission to the Congress cost 12 francs, but the delegates are allowed to grant them only to scholars and other qualified persons. The Congress will hold eight sessions on North Egyptian, on the Semitic languages including Assyrian, on Iranian including Armenian, on Indian, on Indo-European generally, on Chinese, Indo-Chinese, and Tibetan, on Ural-Altai, and on Polynesian.

The Three Vacant Arm-chairs in the Paris Academic are to be filled up on June 6th, and MM. H. Taine and Renan are considered the probable successors respectively of MM. Thiers and Claude Bernard, while MM. Martin and Bornier will dispute M. De Lomenie's seat. The Duc d'Audiffret Pasquier at first intended to contest M. Thiers' seat, but as he had been previously beaten by M. Sardou, the Duke was not inclined for the contest, especially as he would have had to pronounce the eulogy of his predecessor, M. Thiers, to which M. Emile Ollivier will have to reply.

FESTIVAL OF THE STABILITY LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.

The sixty-first anniversary of this celebrated Lodge of Instruction, better known perhaps as Bro. Henry Muggeridge's Lodge of Instruction, was celebrated according to annual custom on the last Friday in April by a festival yesterday week at the Cannon-street Hotel, which, notwithstanding what it will be observed by Bro. Muggeridge's speech, given below, we cannot help thinking was very well attended. Bro. Muggeridge of course attended, and the other brethren present were, Bro. Fr. A. Philbrick, Q.C., P.G.D.; E. H. Hewett, S.W.; R. W. Muggeridge, J.W.; A. H. Diaper, S.D.; A. Sack, J.D.; J. H. Townsend, I.G.; T. White, T. R. Eames, C. Jardine, C. Arkell, E. H. Hewett, E. M. Hubbuck, E. Spooner, Roumieu, Black, H. Watts, J. W. Clever, F. G. Dawson, J. L. C. H. Little, Whitmarsh, H. Carter, G. Tedder, G. Pointing, Giles, C. Arnold, Nettleford, Gilman, Spencer, E. Collard, P. G. Cubitt, J. T. Hiscocks, Wilkinson, J. T. Goodinge, T. James J. Adams Acton, G. F. Gilbey, H. A. J. Norris, Shubbrook, Benningfield, Westcott, J. Middleton, F. Brown, J. H. Townsend, G. S. Green, Harrop, Westmoor, E. L. Horne, J. Perkins, Hyde Pullen, P.G.S.B.; F. C. D. Fenn, H. Birdseye, J. Winkfield, J. Padule, L. Mills, Franks, Sibley, Tattershall, J. T. Taylor, E. F. Storr, W. Ashwell, Moon, R. S. Barker, E. Dyer, Alcard, G. Phythian, Brown, F. Keily, T. Carnell, G. Potter, W. R. Freeman, T. Goodwin, C. Collard, E. S. Luell, P.G.D.; Thompson, T. V. Staley, E. W. Gandy, G. Clark, T. Denne, Cranch, Ockenden, Stampfer, R. Wagner, Clarke, Leah, F. D. R. Copestick, Hirsch, Weedon, Cistall, Crossfield, Zwinger, Myers, E. Johnson, George Kenning, H. Massey (*Freemason*).

The following was the work performed in lodge which preceded the banquet:—

FIRST DEGREE.	
1st Section ...	Bro. R. W. Muggeridge, Sec. 1704
2nd " ...	" A. H. Diaper, P.G.S., P.M. 5
3rd " ...	" J. W. Clever, S.W. 171
4th " ...	" E. H. Hewett, W.M. 235
5th " ...	" H. Muggeridge, (Lodge Board) W.M. 1679
6th " ...	" A. Sack, Sec. 1679
7th " ...	" A. Sack, Sec. 1679

After lodge was closed, the work having been performed in a most admirable manner, a banquet was provided in the large hall of the hotel, at which Bro. F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., P.G.D., presided, and when the cloth had been removed the usual toasts were proposed. The toast of "The Queen" called forth the customary expressions of loyalty on the part of the chairman, which were heartily endorsed by the brethren in their reception of the toast.

The Chairman next proposed "The Health of the M.W. G.M." and in doing so said that at a critical juncture in English Freemasonry H.R.H. the Heir Apparent to the throne—he would not say consented, but came forward and took upon him the government of the Craft, and during the years that he had presided over its destinies Masonry had made great progress; it had increased in the estimation of the outside public; in the accession to its own numbers, and in the excellence of its working; it had increased before all things in its sincerity to its great principles in supporting the charities the Order sustained, and in the steadfastness of its adherence to the principles on which it was founded. His Royal Highness came among the brethren and presided over them again at Grand Festival two days ago. The brethren could not have a more popular Grand Master, and the more they saw of him the greater, if possible, would be the attachment they would feel to him personally, and the greater would be the progress and success of the cause they all had at heart.

After this toast had been duly honoured,

The Chairman said the brethren had drunk two toasts without having either Her Majesty to respond to the one or the Prince of Wales to the other. He now, however, came to a toast to which they had a real living brother present who would answer to it, and two or three other brethren who would stand up while it was being acknowledged. The toast was that of "The Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon, the D.G.M., Lord Skelmersdale, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past." With the toast he should couple the name of Bro. Snell, P.G.D. Before proceeding further, he would mention again what he had said in the lodge above when he read Bro. John Hervey's letter apologising for his absence, that Bro. Hervey's name had only to be mentioned in an assemblage of English Masons to evoke the kindest feelings of personal respect and esteem. He had hoped they would have been honoured with Bro. Hervey's presence, but he was sorry to say that Bro. Hervey's health was such as they must all deplore; and it was only that which prevented Bro. Hervey attending to do honour not only to Bro. Muggeridge, but to the Stability Lodge of Instruction. But they were all very glad to see the other Grand Officers who were present, and if he did not misinterpret the brethren's feelings they held out the hearty hand of fraternal greeting to these Grand Officers. The Grand Officers did not discharge merely ornamental functions; their duties were not confined to joining in festival celebrations and wishing their brethren good speed, which did not involve much sacrifice of time and labour; but there were duties which the Grand Officers were called upon to discharge, and the noblemen whose names he had mentioned, even amidst the cares of State (as he himself personally could testify), did at great personal inconvenience to themselves quit their official duties to attend to the multifarious affairs of the Craft. Of the other Grand Officers it would be invidious of him to mention names, but he thought he might truly say, from what he had seen, that a body of brethren more devoted to the cause of Freemasonry, and more anxious to lend what help they could in the management of its concerns for the

good of the Order, could scarcely be found than those who advised the Grand Master and took part in the administration of the affairs of the Craft. The present position of the Craft was certainly due to good management at the helm, and as long as those who sailed the ship so well took part in its navigation so long he thought and he might now without fear of any personal matter intervening speak of the Grand Officers) they were entitled to the brethren's confidence and merited their gratitude.

Bro. E. S. Snell, P.G.D., replied, and said that for himself he had as a Grand Officer always done his best to keep the affairs of the Craft in order, but he thought that the worthy chairman had flattered the Grand Officers too much. The Grand Officers, however, would always do their best for the Craft they loved so much.

The Chairman next gave the toast, "The Stability Lodge of Instruction, and Bro. Henry Muggeridge." He said: "Bro. Muggeridge and Brethren, I can truly say that in rising to propose the next toast, which as you see is the toast of the evening, I most painfully feel my own deficiency, not from want of sympathy with either the object of the toast or the Lodge of Stability, but because I should have been much better content had the individual who occupied your chair this evening been other than myself, because, comparatively young in the Craft on this the 61st anniversary of the oldest Lodge of Instruction in the metropolis, I feel that the duty of presiding over you might well have been entrusted to better hands. But I know, and I have this encouragement in the discharge of my duty, that I have your good wishes, and that already before I speak your feelings have gone in favour of that which I am about to say regarding this Lodge of Instruction. I have referred to the position the Cra't holds in the world at large, to the advantage conferred on our Order by H.R.H. the Heir Apparent to the Throne being our Grand Master, to the estimation in which the world at large now holds those who adhere to us; but depend upon it, as of an individual, so of an institution, as no individual can be great and can make his mark among his fellow men, or achieve success in life, unless he respects himself—and no man can respect himself unless he is true to himself and has the courage to act up to his own internal convictions—so no body can hope to succeed or to maintain a high position in public estimation unless it is true and faithful to the traditions it is founded upon, and acts up to the great principles which it embodies in its existence. Therefore the purity of Masonry, the fulfilment by Masons of the great principles of the Order, their adherence to the great and traditional ceremonies that have been handed down to us from our forefathers, their careful conservation of the landmarks of the Order, are matters of vital importance to us of the Craft, and secure to us, as long as we are true to those traditions and adhere to those landmarks, the honour, respect and esteem of the world at large. Brethren, it is because we are true to ourselves that the world respects us; and to be true to ourselves and to carry out faithfully as an embodiment in our lodges of the great principles of the Order, what can be of such vital consequence, what can be of so great assistance to the young Mason, or minister to his Masonic career, as to be placed in the right way by experienced hands, and to receive that fraternal encouragement, and that fraternal instruction, which is to be got, and to be got alone, in a lodge of instruction, such as that whose festival we are now met to commemorate? Brethren, if the working of our ceremonies and the maintenance of the traditions of our Order in our lodges is of importance (and I think I have shown you it is), the instruction which the Mason gets, the perfection which he is able (and we have witnessed that perfection to-night from the working brethren) to bring his work, to the truthness with which the traditions are handed down, all depend upon the complete and perfect instruction which is given in this and the sister lodge, which has for its object the forwarding and the perfecting of Masons in their Masonic career. For sixty-one years this lodge has met. It has gone on increasing and, I trust, to increase—"prospering, and to prosper;" and, although when I was asked by our Bro. Muggeridge—would I consent, for want of a better, to be the president here to-night—(Bro. Muggeridge here expressed dissent)—Bro. Muggeridge says he did not say so; but I know like a wise Mason, according to the doctrines he explained to us to-night, there are many things he does not always say—I remarked to him that the festival fell in Easter week. Well, he said, his was a kind of fixed feast and Easter was a sort of moveable feast; but Easter has happened to coincide with this in the present year, and to that cause must be attributed the absence of certain well known officers, who would, I know, had they not been absent from town, been the first to meet here and greet our Bro. Muggeridge, and see the harmony which pervades his lodge and the good feeling which exists in it, from the brethren to their Preceptor, instructor, and revered Master. Will you allow me to say a word personally? It is now—well, I will not say how many years ago, but many, since I first had the happiness in a Masonic assembly of being introduced to Bro. Muggeridge. He then gave to me, a perfect stranger to him, a few words of kindly advice in my Masonic career—I think I was then prospectively an Inner Guard, or something of that sort—I had hardly got to office; but the advice that was given to me I endeavoured to profit by; and from that time I have never seen the kind face of our brother without remembering the encouragement he then gave me; and when I meet him, as I do constantly, at a chapter to which I belong, of which he is the Scribe E., I feel we have in our brother one whose whole life is a thorough embodiment of Masonic virtues, and his devotion to the best interests of the Craft—whose rare and generous and unselfish devotion to the best interests of the Craft—entitle him to the warmest encouragement at our hands. It is not every man who can bring to the discharge of his duties that ability which we witnessed in our brother to-night. He brings the experi-

ence of riper years; but I will put it to the youngest here does not he also bring the fire and enthusiasm of youth? And age cannot chill his fire; but his working, I may venture to say, was as perfect, and the spirit and soul which he threw into the ceremony as admirable, as when he first was able to take part in those great ceremonies. Brethren, you in the lodge scarcely know how much our ceremonies gain by being worked in a thoroughly appreciative and impressive manner. I mean, you know it one sense, because they are so worked in this lodge; but in order to realise what the difference is, you should see what sometimes one is called on to witness—by being treated as a matter of rote how truly robbed of grandeur are those great ceremonies in which we take such a pride and delight. It is, therefore, of the utmost importance to feel that there is an intelligent and appreciative mind which above the mere letter—although faithful to the tradition—turns it from "a dead letter to a living spirit," from being a mere empty form to that which has a vital power. The services of our Bro. Muggeridge to this lodge and to the Craft are too well known to require any eulogium from me. The existence of this lodge as a means of instruction to Masons is one of the things on which the Craft may justly congratulate itself. That the lodge may continue a career of prosperity is our sincerest wish and desire; that that prosperity may be unchequered we all wish; but that, as the crown, and jewel, and ornament of this lodge, your Worshipful Master may long continue in the esteem and affection of the brethren is our most earnest desire; and I trust that in proposing his health in connection with the prosperity of the lodge I shall have your unanimous support on the present occasion. (Loud applause. In the midst of which Bro. Muggeridge's health was heartily drank.)

Bro. Henry Muggeridge, who on rising to respond was received with vociferous cheering, said: If I did not feel pleased on the present occasion I certainly must have a heart of stone. I do feel pleased with what our W. Chairman has said about me and the Lodge of Instruction, and I feel highly gratified with the very kind manner in which the brethren have responded to the remarks the W. Chairman has made. But at the same time I must confess to you that the pleasant feelings I have on this occasion are not unmixed with a little sorrow, and I never used such an expression on an occasion like this before. My sorrow is caused by the shortness of our numbers; and I feel that not so much for myself as I do for the good of the house, because I do think that this Lodge of Instruction, and I as the representative of it, are very much indebted to this house for the liberal manner in which they always act towards this Lodge of Instruction. Of course you now get very great accommodation for this meeting. You know the nice room we hold the lodge in and the ante-room, and this beautiful hall; and the number being so thin—the thinnest meeting that I have had since I have had the management of this Lodge of Instruction; and therefore it causes me great grief—I use the word advisedly—great grief that we have not had larger numbers, so as to make it more beneficial to the management of this house. However, we cannot help that, and therefore we must bear it. I take the opportunity of saying I am very much pleased with what Bro. Philbrick has said of the manner in which the work has been gone through this evening. I think I never had a better staff than I had on this occasion. I think you will all join with me in saying that they all did their work well. I cannot mention one particular case of doing the work well; they were all equally good, and I am very glad you were pleased with their working. I must confess that getting up this meeting not only causes me a great expenditure of time and trouble, but also a great deal of anxiety; and I can assure you I have been very anxious about the success of the meeting. As far as the present meeting is concerned there is no question of its success; but I only mean that we have not had so many brethren present to-night that I should have been proud to have had, and therefore I confess to you that I feel disheartened. Now, W. Chairman and brethren, I have had the honour of attending these meetings every year for 39 years, viz., since 1839. The Lodge of Instruction has been under my management since 1851. On the death of Bro. Peter Thompson I succeeded to the management of it, and I assure you that this is the smallest I have had during that period. The Lodge of Instruction, as our W. Chairman, Bro. Philbrick, has stated was founded in the year 1817. Bro. Phillip Broadfoot was then the Preceptor and manager. He left London in 1835, and Peter Thompson succeeded him, and Peter Thompson died in 1851, and I succeeded him. I wish I could congratulate ourselves on the success of this meeting, that is, on the success in the numbers attending it; and it is a great disappointment to me that I cannot do so. There is no doubt a great deal of it owing to its having occurred in the Easter week; and I think if I should undertake to get up another meeting of the kind—which I am rather doubtful whether I shall do, very doubtful indeed, after the non-success of this evening, very doubtful—but if I should do so, I think, supposing Easter week to occur so late as it does this year, it would be better to defer it to some little later period. However, I am very sorry to speak in such a sorrowful manner, but I am sure you all sympathise with me, and feel that the fact of the thin meeting must be very disheartening indeed. To save time, there is one thing cheers me up: there appears to be a unanimous feeling in favour of my exertions. All present here appear to appreciate what I have endeavoured to do; and therefore I thank you most heartily and most sincerely, W. Chairman and brethren, for the very kind reception you have given me this evening; and whether I do get up another anniversary meeting of this kind, or whether I do not, I shall continue, as far as my health and strength will allow, to promote the good working and efficiency of the Lodge of Instruction that I have been connected with for so many years. (Great

applause.) I have one thing to say, brethren, that I have on my book 216 members.

Bro. Hyde Pullen, P.G.S.B., proposed "The Health of the Chairman." After referring to the admirable way in which the Chairman had put the merits of the lodge and Bro. Muggeridge before the brethren, he said he could not help directing attention to the remarks of Bro. Muggeridge. The brethren all sympathised with Bro. Muggeridge, but he thought that brother must not forget that there was one of these little virtues on which he spoke so beautifully in the lodge room which must occur to him and the brethren now—the virtue of hope. Let Bro. Muggeridge live in hope for another year, and he did not doubt that it would be realised. It was unfortunate that Easter should have happened so late this year; but it would not be so next year. In a few years' time it would be as late as it could be, but after that a hundred years must elapse before it could so happen again. At no very distant period a night would be devoted to Bro. Muggeridge, when it would be seen how warmly the brethren would cluster round Bro. Muggeridge. He (Bro. Pullen) would do his best to get him a hearty welcome. It had been a great pleasure to him (Bro. Pullen) to see the way in which not only Bro. Muggeridge but his pupils had performed the work that evening. These lodges of instruction were the very essence and soul of Masonry. They kept together that which belonged to it absolutely, and they perpetuated it, and he greatly commended the Stability Lodge of Instruction for what it had done. After some further remarks on the conduct of the W. Chairman in the chair, Bro. Pullen proposed his health.

The Chairman in reply said he did not think that the brethren ought altogether to feel that the small numbers were due to those who were present, or else he should be following the example of the clergyman in church, who scolded those who were there because other people did not go. That struck him as a very illogical mode of proceeding, and he, therefore, thought that those who were present should congratulate themselves on being there, though they might deplore the absence of those who had the bad taste unhappily to be away. He was sure he did not deserve the kind remarks of Bro. Pullen, though he knew they came in all goodwill, and as such he thoroughly accepted them. If he had been able to discharge his duties to the satisfaction of the brethren he was more than rewarded, and if his presence had given one shade of pleasure to Bro. Muggeridge he was more than pleased.

The Chairman next proposed "The Working Brethren, Bro. R. W. Muggeridge, A. H. Diaper, J. W. Clever, E. H. Hewett, H. Muggeridge, and A. Sick. They had heard what had been said of these brethren, and he (Bro. Philbrick) thoroughly believed all that had been said had been deserved. The brethren had had a great treat that night, and everything that had been done was as near perfection as anything human could be. They must remember that when brethren worked the ceremonies well they showed the excellence of the instruction received at his lodge of instruction, and when they went to their own lodges, or visited others, they carried with them that high standard of ritual, that perfect working of the ceremonies of the Craft, which would be a great incentive to other lodges to raise their standard still higher, and assist them in maintaining the purity and integrity of the Masonic ceremonies. He called for Bro. Hewett to respond.

Bro. Hewett responded. The Chairman proposed "The Sister Lodge of Instruction, the Emulation Lodge of Improvement." The present lodge was Stability before the other was Emulation. They came to emulate Stability. This lodge hoped they would always emulate Stability. The Emulation had many good and worthy Masons in it. It had in it many personal friends of all the brethren present, and this lodge wished it every success. The only rivalry between them was a generous rivalry—which should do the most good and best advance the interests of the Craft. The kindest feelings were exhibited in the Emulation towards Bro. Muggeridge, and the same feelings were displayed by the Stability to the Emulation.

Bro. Hyde Pullen responded. The Chairman gave "The Masonic Charities," to which Bro. A. H. Diaper replied, and the brethren then separated. The proceedings were enlivened by some excellent music by Bros. T. W. Simons, Fred. H. Cozens, and Theodore Distin, under the direction of Bro. F. H. Cozens.

OUR V.P.C. AT WATERLOO.

"Tis sweet to think our voice the watch dog's honest bark sweeter to see it inside-out when Saturday comes; 'Tis sweet to know a 'P.C.'s ear drinks in our talk, sweeter to see it reproduced amidst 'Freemasons' plums'—as Juan Fernandez says in his cant about Don Byron, and so I need hardly pause to excuse my sending a little account of two or three recent visits to Grand Lodge to my dear, though distant,* friend the Editor.

I feel that I ought to apologise to several of my friends and brethren for my neglectful tardiness in

"Chronicleing small beer,"

but the ardent and arduous pursuit of science during the last few months has so filled my hands with pins† that they have had no room to hold a pen. I am especially sorry, even now, to break in upon my studies in natural history, for I have almost discovered "the missing link" of the chain, but, really, the Editor's watchfulness over space, which seems to him to be as precious as jewels, makes me curb my ambition, at least for the present, and defer till a more suitable opportunity my demonstration of the involution of a water-rat into a full grown pike.

* Obligated to be sometimes.—O.P.D.

† Pins for mounting specimens.—O.V.P.C.

To return, however, to my sheep,* as we should say in France—

I was reading the other day a magnificent poem upon one of our great battles, which, if I remember the laureate (a real bard of Erin) aright, ran somewhat like this :—

"Then the Fut and the Dhragoons
In squathrons and platoons,
With their music playing choons, down upon us bore;
And they bate the rattatoot
And the Marshal and the Dook,
Soon ended the shaloo on the Lambeth shore."

The martial vigour of this seemed to fire my blood to do something, if it were only to visit the scene of our glorious national conflict, and I determined to take the opportunity whenever I should next leave my beloved Mudford-on-Spree to visit Grand Lodge, of inspecting the scene of the famous fray. Accordingly, on leaving town on Wednesday last I devoted the morning to this purpose (or, rather, as it proved, I meant to do so) and took shipping at St. Paul's Pier for the bridge near the field of battle. I must not stay to describe the miseries of my voyage, nor to expatiate upon the unfeeling conduct (to say nothing worse) of my fellow-travellers when I rendered up perforce my vorive offerings to the River-god, suffice it to say that they exceeded in ribaldry and ill-timed jest those remarks which a friend of the Editor's will remember hearing addressed awhile ago to similar unfortunate voyagers disembarking at a certain Southern seaport.†

However, I survived the horrors of the passage, and disembarking, asked every policeman I met if he could show me the spot where the battle was fought. Strange to say, only two seemed to know anything whatever about it. One, on my mentioning the "termination of Waterloo," sent me to the "Waterloo Terminus," whence I wandered back to the bridge unsatisfied; but, upon again enquiring, the second guardian of the place told me that "he 'ad 'ad information of a mill theerabouts, an' 'e'd no doubt as one of his mates at Bow-street 'ood tell me more about it." Taking the name "Bow" street in connection with the fact that the way to it was along "Wellington" street, convinced me that there was a clue to be followed up which would lead to important results. I was doomed, however, to another disappointment, for at the station I was informed that "the mill" in question was one between a drunken cobbler and his "missis." My time, however, was not thrown away, for I found myself early enough at Grand Lodge to get a good seat, and jot down the results of the last two or three meetings as they now present themselves to my mind in the glass of memory—

"As o'er the dusted furniture I bend,
Each chair awakes the feelings of a friend.
The storied panels, source of fond delight,
With old achievement charm the 'wildered sight;
And still, with Heraldry's rich lines impress,
Shines o'er each portrait somebody else's crest.
Organ recalls my disappointment's smart,
Whilst Clock its moral strikes into my heart."

But there, all that is over and gone, quite as much as is dear old stooled and stilted Rogers, and I must just review what has passed within these walls since that bitter ending.

"Lulled in the countless chambers of the brain
Our thoughts are linked by many a hidden chain?"

And so I suppose it's talking of Marshal Blucher Bootz that recalls to my mind the German question propounded in such a presume-ably plausible manner by a most worthy brother, whose knowledge of "Oysters" should have taught him that the way to investigate that mollusc's integrity in safety is not by inserting the tip of his nose between the edges of the shells. If bad, the result, olfactorily, is to most people not pleasant; if good, the result, if forcible and convincing, is not, sentimentally, one whit more agreeable.

From Germany to France is but a step, and if I may presume to doff the cap and bells for the nonce I can but recall with gratitude and admiration the clear, yet kindly condemnation of the policy of our brethren across the Channel by our wise and amiable Pro Grand Master.

Talking about poking our nose into German affairs reminds me of the debate upon a question of our own Constitution—I mean the Lodge v. Board of Benevolence. I am not going to discuss the question at issue, but merely say a word as to the conduct of Grand Lodge on that occasion; I could but think what an example of courtesy was then set to us provincial brethren; nor can I cease to marvel at the tender and gentle consideration extended to the speeches; it was only equalled by the prompt way in which any such absurdity as expressing an opinion different to the majority was vigorously suppressed, and all speakers shouted down except one, who, for many reasons, led me to fear the catastrophe of a violent rupture of the cuticle, as is the case of a certain Batrachian, who aspired to attain the proportions of his Bovine neighbour. I really wished that my brethren of the Mudford-on-Spree Lodge could have been present to learn such a lesson of Masonic forbearance and brotherly feeling—of one thing I am quite assured, that no words would have adequately expressed the astonishment with which their minds would have been filled at the pitch of excellence to which this, our central and model lodge had carried the conduct of debate.

Just as I had come to this conclusion, other members of Grand Lodge came dropping in, and these droppings amounted at last to such an aggregate that it was quite apparent that something was in the wind; this something, to my great joy, proved to be the Heir-apparent to the other throne, and the present occupant of ours, and right glad was I to help in giving him a hearty welcome in taking his proper position amongst us. Very pleased, too, were

* The habit of this quadrupedous mammal of shutting its eyes and blindly playing "follow-my-leader" may be remembered here, but not remarked upon.—O.V.P.C.

† To whom does he allude? We dinna ken.—O.P.D.

we to greet his relative, the Grand Master of our Danish brethren. There was one thing though that I could not at all understand, and must mention. The brother next me remarked, in speaking of certain ceremonies then in progress (installations of those appointed to office, &c.), "that now the 'Golden-square' ruled everything!" I remarked that "the Master's jewel was silver except in two lodges, and could not see that these could govern the Craft in any way." He laughed and shook his head, and said that "that was not what he meant," I replied that "if he meant the Grand Master's jewel, that was Compass and Square, signifying the universality of his righteous sway, and not simply a Golden Square at all." He laughed again, and said, "Look here, Brother Paul Pry Smith, if you aspire to the purple remember that if you want to 'part on that level' you must 'meet in the Square!'"

What did he mean?

Masonic and General Tidings.

SECRETARYSHIP OF THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.—We are requested to state that there is no foundation for the report that Bro. Hedges has withdrawn his candidature for the Secretaryship of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, and that a meeting of his supporters will be held in the Morning-room, Freemasons' Tavern, on Monday next, May 6th. The chair will be taken at twelve o'clock.

Constitutions of the Ancient Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, containing the Charges, Regulations E.A. Song, &c. A copy should be in the possession of every brother. It may be obtained for 2s. at the office of the *Freemason*, or will be sent post free to any part of the United Kingdom on receipt of twenty-five penny stamps. Address, Publisher, 108, Fleet-street, London.—[ADVT.]

A Second "Masonic Charitable Association" for Tottenham, Edmonton and Enfield, has been started under the presidency of Bro. D. Roberts, P.M. 754, with Bro. John Maller, P.M. 754, as V.P.; Bro. J. H. Thompson, P.M. 1237, P. Prov. G.S.B. Middlesex, Treasurer; Bro. J. Garron, 754, Hon. Sec.; and a strong committee. This Association will be carried on in connection with the High Cross Lodge of Instruction, and its object will be to obtain for its members Life Governorships in the Masonic Charitable Institutions, by means of small monthly payments.

This afternoon the installation of Bro. Walter Simmons as W.M. of the New Cross Lodge, 1559, will take place at the New Cross Public Hall, Lewisham High-Road. We are truly glad to hear that Bro. Simmons has almost entirely recovered from the effects of serious illness, that prevented him assuming the duties of W.M. at the last regular meeting of 1879. We wish him a successful year of office.

The Princess of Wales and the Princess of Denmark, with suite, went to the Exhibition of the Society of Painters in Water Colours on Tuesday last.

The *Globe* is glad to be able to announce that the health of Lord Tenterden is improving. It is believed that his Lordship will be able to resume his duties at the Foreign Office in a few days.

The marriage between Lord Charles Beresford, M.P., P.S.W. Devon and Miss Gardner is fixed to take place on the 25 Proximo.

The Prince of Wales has consented to lay the memorial stone of the new parish church of St. Mary, Southampton, which the rector, the Rev. Canon Wilberforce, is building in memory of his father, the late Bishop Wilberforce.

The Steward's visit to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, at Croydon, takes place on Tuesday next between the hours of 12 a.m. and 4 p.m. The train service is as follows :—

For East Croydon (S.E.R.)						
Charing Cross	11.0	1.5	2.12	3.28
Cannon Street	11.10	1.17	2.23	3.38
London Bridge	11.13	1.20	2.26	3.41
For Addiscombe Road (S.E.R.)						
Charing Cross	12.35	1.45	2.57	
Cannon Street	12.43	1.55	3.7	
London Bridge	12.46	1.59	3.10	
For New Croydon (Brighton Line.)						
Victoria	11.20	1.28	3.15	
London Bridge	11.15	1.24	3.30	
Liverpool Street	11.18	1.28	3.36	

A Second Edition of the *Freemason* will be published on Saturday morning, May 11th, and will contain a full report of the proceedings at the Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, which anniversary takes place on Friday next, the 10th inst.

A meeting of the creditors of Messrs. Willis, Percival, and Co., was held on Tuesday last, at which the agreement with the Hampshire and North Wilts Bank for the sale to them of the assets and business of Messrs. Willis, Percival, and Co. upon payment of 9s. in the pound to the creditors, was unanimously adopted and confirmed. The sanction of the court to the arrangement has to be obtained, and it is anticipated that this will be done, and the dividend paid early next week.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—This purifying and regulating Medicine should occasionally be had recourse to during foggy, cold, and wet weather. These Pills are the best preventative of hoarseness, sore throat, diphtheria, pleurisy, and asthma, and are sure remedies for congestion, bronchitis, and inflammation. A moderate attention to the directions folded round each box will enable every invalid to take the Pills in the most advantageous manner; they will then be taught the proper doses, and the circumstances under which they must be increased or diminished. Holloway's Pills act as alteratives, aperients, and tonics. Whenever these Pills have been taken as the last resource, the result has always been gratifying. Even when they fail to cure, they always assuage the severity of the symptoms and diminish the danger.—ADVT.

Reviews.

OFFICIAL DIRECTORY FOR THE PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF CORNWALL, Originated and Edited by Bro. W. J. HUGHAN.

This most useful little book is now before us, and we have perused it with much interest. It contains a great deal of valuable information, and is, as usual, most admirably edited. We learn from it that there are 27 lodges in the province, and 1567 members; that there are 279 Past Masters in the province, and that there have been 148 initiations in 1877. There are also, it seems, 10 chapters, and 238 companions. The Charity Committee commands 73 votes for the Boys' School, 255 for the Girls' School, 210 votes for the Male and 208 votes for the Female Fund of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution—in all 746 votes. There are 23 life governors, 14 life Subscribers, and 4 annual subscribers to the various charities, while 20 of the lodges are life governors, and 3 of the chapters. We cannot help being struck with the small number of life governors, and hope that it will soon be augmented. Such a fact, is not, we feel bound to say, though we say it in all fraternal good feeling, creditable to a province like Cornwall. The proportion of qualified lodges is good, as far as it goes, but it only shows what a mine has yet to be worked in our lodges and chapters. Every lodge and chapter ought to be a life governor of all the charities. We thank Bro. Hughan for his useful little book.

FREEMASONRY AND CIVILIZATION; being an Allegorical Illustration of the Rise of the Orders of Architecture. Published by Bro. E. M. HAIGH, 213, Regent-street. Painted by Bro. CHAS. G. ROSENBERG, of New York.

This is an allegorical representation of the onward and civilizing progress of Freemasonry, and is likely to be much admired, and, we hope, largely patronized. It is meant as a companion to the Tracing Board in the Second Degree, and as such will form a most appropriate ornament to a lodge room. It is cleverly designed and most skillfully grouped, and the colouring is most effective. We are very glad to call attention to this new and attractive work of Masonic art.

GUIDE, WITH PLAN, TO PARIS AND ITS EXHIBITION. By Bro. J. T. LOTH, Simpkin, Marshall and Co.

We have read this seasonable and useful little guide to Paris with pleasure. It is both very handy and very explicit, and any brother now starting for "La Grande Ville" and the Exhibition of 1878 cannot do better than purchase one of these convenient and clearly arranged handbooks. We think the idea of the book a good one, well worked out, and both practical and explanatory in the highest degree. Bro. Loth deserves well of all who have not seen Paris before, and his little book may be perused even by those who, like ourselves, know well and admire largely the great metropolis of European civilization. For we must all say this of Paris, be we who we may, that there are few cities in the world like her, and those know her best like her most. To all who have a good digestion, good temper, a fair share of time at their disposal, and fairer health, a competent sum of money to spend, Paris is always a pleasant place to visit for a longer or shorter space. Like the traveller and sojourner of old said, many modern visitors can say, "Je suis venu a Paris pour une semaine, et j'ai resté six mois!" In the present instance the interest of the Exhibition will draw many to Paris, and for all who see the Boulevards for the first time lighted up of an evening, (a wondrous sight), or delight in the Bois de Boulogne, to all John Bulls and Jennie Raws our good friend Bro. Loth's handbook will prove a great help, and is most truly to be commended and recommended.

ANIMAL INSTINCT.—A few weeks ago a family named Shaker lived at Dawley, in the county of Salop, but had occasion to leave and go to Nottingham. They of course removed all their household goods, including a fine cat, which had been in the family for years. Arriving at Nottingham the cat showed signs of great dissatisfaction with her new abode, and after a few days disappeared. The other day the cat walked into the old house at Dawley, to the great surprise of the neighbours. As might be expected, she was very footsore and lame. When it is considered that the distance travelled on foot by the cat, from Nottingham to Dawley, is over seventy miles, the feat seems one of the most wonderful on record. Hundreds have flocked to see the four-footed pedestrian. Large sums have been refused by the owner for the favourite cat.

KENNING'S MASONIC CYCLOPEDIA. Edited by the Rev. A. F. A. WOODFORD, M.A. Price 10s. 6d.

An immense amount of information respecting the terms of "the Craft," eminent Freemasons, the literature of Freemasonry, and other kindred matters which may be lawfully spoken of in public, will be found in this volume, which furnishes ample proof of the industry and research of its author. Of course Mr. Woodford does not run the risk of exposing his secrets to the uninitiated, and the curious outsiders who want to know what is being done in the meetings have therefore to content themselves with intimations that certain ceremonies are best explained in the lodge, while other points are too well known to need elucidation. The work is one that all Freemasons who care to be duly posted up in the history of their society will be glad to possess, and both author and publisher deserve no small commendation for the spirit and energy shown in its production.—City Press.

Public Amusements.

ST. JAMES'S HALL.—The third of a series of five concerts given by Mme. Jenny Viard-Louis took place last Tuesday. To lovers of classical music these concerts are a rare treat. The orchestra is the best ever heard in London. Mme. Viard-Louis is a pianist of no common order, and her rendering of Hummel's Grand Concerto in B Minor gave immense satisfaction to a very critical audience. Two songs in Madame Lemmens-Sherrington's best style helped considerably to lighten the concert, which was otherwise entirely orchestral. We sincerely hope Mme. Viard-Louis will see her way to extend the number of these charming concerts.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—The new play at this house, entitled "Madelaine Morel," is about as poor a drama as ever was written. There is no interest, no sympathy, and no wholesome hatred created for any one of the dramatic personæ. Madelaine Morel herself is a poor and weak imitation of Formosa—Formosa with the chill off—Formosa attempting to play the part of a boarding-school miss, in a drama that suggests the trail of the serpent. Mrs. Rousby has never been seen to less advantage than as Madelaine Morel. Miss Eleanor Bufton as "Merope," another unfortunate, was lively and spirited, but at times somewhat too noisy. Mr. Barnes, who is a clever young actor, strives very hard to redeem his part, a cross between a country bumpkin and a milkop, from the utter contempt which in less skillful hands would certainly have been its fate. The whole play is sickly, maudlin, and unhealthy.

ROYAL PARK THEATRE.—Madame St. Claire has done well and wisely in giving Londoners another opportunity of witnessing one of the brightest, happiest, and most sparkling of comic operas. "Pom" contains as many "good things" as "Madame Angot," and in many of the airs there is a sweetness that even the popular "Madame" cannot equal. Madame Rose Bell as Trainette is heard to great advantage at the "Park," for her softer and sweeter notes are not lost as they would be in a larger building like the "Alhambra." Miss Marie Parselle has a pleasing voice, and most ably sustained the part of Pom's housekeeper, Angeliqne. We understand that in consequence of other arrangements "Pom" will not hold the boards of the Park Theatre for many weeks, and as it may be a long time before this charming comic opera is again offered to a London audience, we would advise all who are fond of really good music to book seats for the "Park."

The Crown Princess of Germany, attended by Count Bruhl and Count Seckendorff, arrived at Dover from Calais on Tuesday afternoon, at 2.55 p.m., by the London, Chatham, and Dover Company's special steamer "The Breeze (Captain Goldsack), and, after lunch at the Lord Warden Hotel, they proceeded by special train to Windsor, via London, Chatham, and Dover, and South-Western Railways, which was reached by ten minutes past six in the evening.

Mayfair will on and after the 14th inst., be enlarged to 20 pages, which will afford space for the introduction of several additional features of interest.

It is understood in Berlin that the betrothal of his Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught to the Princess Louise, third daughter of Prince Frederick Charles and Princess Marie of Prussia, will take place at Darmstadt on the 9th inst.

The consecration of the St. Mary's Royal Arch Chapter, No. 63, took place at the Star and Garter Hotel, Kew Bridge, on Thursday last. The ceremony of consecration was performed by Comp. John Hervey, G.S.E., assisted by Comp. Thomas Fenn, the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, and Henry G. Buss. A report of the proceedings will appear in our next.

Bro. the Rev. Dr. Brette, P.M. 1460, W.M. 1657, and Past Grand Chaplain for Middlesex, was on the 24th ult. re-elected for the ninth time, Examiner, by the Senate of the University of London.

The Right Hon. W. H. Smith has forwarded a donation of £50 to Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C; in aid of the curates' fund of the parish of St. Clements Dares.

PRESSURE IN THE CITY.—The City Press would seem to be no longer content to come out once a week. It is in future to be published every Wednesday and Saturday. Evidently that is a Press that won't be kept waiting.—Judy.

THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT.—At Windsor on Wednesday, the 28th birthday of Prince Arthur (Duke of Connaught) was celebrated with the customary honours. In the morning, and at intervals throughout the day the bells of St. George's Chapel and St. John's Church, pealed merrily, and Royal salutes were fired from the Adelaide frigate and Fort Belvedere, Virginia Waters. Prince Arthur was born on the 1st of May, 1850.

Mayfair says it is, perhaps, among the things not generally known that the Corporation of the City of London have finally determined to carry out a design for widening London Bridge.

A demonstration in honour of the arrival of the Earl and Countess of Limerick at Dromore Castle on Wednesday, for the first time since their marriage, was made by the tenantry. A tara of diamonds and a magnificent claret jug were handed to the Countess, and an address was read.

The Masonic Magazine for May is now ready. It may be obtained of any Bookseller or Newsagent, price 6d., or direct from the office (198, Fleet-street), post free for 7d.—[ADVT.]

NOTES ON ART, &c.

Bro. George Baxter, P.M., has been presented with a handsome salver by the members of the Cabbell Lodge, No. 807, at their last meeting, which took place on Friday week, at the Rampant Horse Hotel, Norwich. The salver bore the following inscription:—"Presented to Bro. George Baxter, P.M. Cabbell Lodge, No. 807, as a token of their esteem and fraternal affection." The salver was presented by the Treasurer (Bro. J. W. Lacey) in a most telling and graceful manner. Bro. Baxter (who upon rising was received with enthusiastic cheering) replied in an eloquent speech.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—The competition for the Lady Goldsmid scholarship took place on Monday, the examiners being Sir Julius Benedict, Messrs. Lunn, Brinley Richards, Dr. Steggall, and the principal (Professor Macfarren). There were 23 candidates, and the scholarship was awarded to Beatrice Frances Sarah Davenport.

THE POPE.—Mr. McDowell, of North Kensington, is at present modelling a bust of Pope Leo XIII. as companion to the bust of Pius IX., recently produced by him.

TROPICAL GARDENS FOR SWEDEN.—Messrs. Alexander Shanks and Son, of Dens Ironworks, Arbroath, have designed and constructed a tropical garden which is shortly to be erected at Gothenburg. The garden will consist of five houses substantially built of iron and glass, each one heated to the temperature of the countries from which its exotic occupants have been drawn. The structure weighs nearly 200 tons.

DUTCH CANALS.—The Dutch Government intends to build a canal from Amsterdam through the so-called Geldern Valley to the Upper Waal (the southern branch of the Rhine), and also additional canals in the provinces of Drenthe and Overijssel. Both projects are of great commercial importance with regard to the navigation on the Rhine and the communication by water between Germany and Holland.—Nature.

The Zoological Gardens have acquired a specimen of a rare and local variety of terrapins, or water-tortoises, from the River Amazon, a matamata, believed to be the first brought to Europe. The creature lives in a kind of double scollop-shell, and has a wonderfully long nose or beak like a telescope. Another curiosity is a Humboldt's penguin, which has moulted in the gardens, losing its old and acquiring new feathers within seven days. The bird now has brightly striped black and white plumage, quite different from its former coat. While moulting the penguin would not go into the water, thus showing that these birds probably resort to sea islands for the purpose of moulting, as well as for laying their eggs.

Captain Burton's Exploring Expedition to the newly-discovered silver mines in the Land of Midian has proved highly satisfactory. He has returned to Alexandria with a considerable amount of silver, and reports favourably of mining prospects.

THE COPYRIGHT COMMISSION.—The Royal Copyright Commissioners intend to hold a meeting on May 11, for the purpose of finally settling the terms of their report. We have reason to believe that they will recommend that, under English law, no distinction shall be made between English and foreign authors. In other words, they do not propose to make the concession of equal rights to foreigners dependent upon reciprocity, but are prepared to advise that Great Britain shall set the other nations an example of justice and fair play. We believe that the Commissioners also express a strong opinion as to the deteriorating influence of literary piracy upon American literature. Several American witnesses were examined before the Commissioners.—Athenaeum.

SOCIETY FOR THE FINE ARTS.—The third conversazione this season of this society for the encouragement of the fine arts was held last week in the Conduit-street Galleries, by permission of the Society of British Artists, whose works adorned the rooms and lent a pleasing variety to the musical portion of the evening's entertainment. The object of the society is to cultivate the arts of music, poetry, and design, and to establish an active sympathy between the professors of those arts and the public. The artistes who took part in the concert last week were Miss Susannah Cole, Miss Cora Stuart, Mr. J. Harper Kearton, and Mr. R. Hilton, Miss Prytherch and Mr. J. Parry Cole performing on the piano. The society may be congratulated on the success of their attempt to provide a series of pleasant reunions for the lovers of the arts.

French pictures illustrating any incidents of the Franco-Prussian war are strictly excluded from the Paris Exhibition, in consequence of Emperor William having prohibited German artists to send any paintings relating to that campaign. The German art-contributions will number about three hundred and fifty, the greater part being pictures, as there are but few pieces of sculpture. In the centre of the gallery devoted to Teutonic Art will be a table, containing the most noteworthy illustrated books of recent publication, the work of eminent German painters, as well as maps and architectural drawings.

NATIONAL TRAINING SCHOOL FOR MUSIC.—Various movements in favour of this school are going on. Birmingham has declared the establishment of a seventh free scholarship, which will be held by a student after Easter. An extensive association throughout Lancashire for promoting music as a means of culture among all classes is being organised, with the Bishop of Manchester as President. Special teachers of music for elementary schools and night classes are to be trained, and in Manchester competitions will be held to award scholarships at the National Training School.

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 :

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Twelve Months	10s. 6d.	12s. 6d.	17s. 4d.
Six "	5s. 3d.	6s. 6d.	8s. 8d.
Three "	2s. 8d.	3s. 3d.	4s. 6d.

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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.

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.

REMITTANCES RECEIVED.

	£	s.	d.
Abadoo, J. M., Cape Coast Castle, ...	0	13	0
Bone, W. E., Queensland, ...	1	5	0
Booth, W., N.S.W., ...	0	12	0
Brady, H. Sloane, St. Helena, ...	5	0	0
Brown, H. D., Liberia, ...	18	10	6
Burger, H. J., Jamaica, ...	0	12	0
Crossley, James, The Cape, ...	1	2	0
Davis, A. E., Africa, ...	1	6	0
Edwards G., New York, ...	0	13	0
Francis, H. E., Paris, ...	0	12	0
Graham, T. S., New Zealand, ...	1	8	8
Halkett, J., Cape Town, ...	1	0	0
Harmsworth, C. J., Natal, ...	1	9	6
Howard, W. C., The Cape, ...	0	13	0
Lodge of Harmony, Cawnpore, ...	1	3	0
Pendans, W. F., Bolisia, ...	1	16	0
Porter, Capt., New Zealand, ...	1	14	0
Scheel, T., Peru, ...	0	12	0
Store, W. H., Japan, ...	2	0	0
Whitbourne, J. W., Jamaica, ...	3	0	0

Answers to Correspondents.

In answer to numerous correspondents, we beg to state, on the authority of Bro. D. Murray Lyon, R.W. Grand Secretary, that the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Scotland are still under revision, and that due notice will be given when ready.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

The Report of the Masonic Female Orphan School Dublin; Medical Examiner; Hull Packet; The Scottish Freemason; The Broad Arrow; Brief; Risorgimento; Der Mangel; The Masonic Record of Western India; The Freemasons, Monthly; The Magazine of Art; Proceedings of the Great Priory of Canada; Maxims and Miscellanies for Merchants and Business Men.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

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

BIRTHS.

HART-DAVIS.—On the 26th ult., at Dunsden Vicarage, Reading, the wife of the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis, of a daughter.

NEAL.—On the 26th ult., at Mount Pleasant, Clifton, the wife of the Rev. J. Neal, of a son.

STENNING.—On the 28th ult., at Greenlands, Caterham, the wife of H. E. Stenning, of a daughter.

DEATHS.

COLLIS.—On the 24th ult., in London, after four years of incessant suffering, Charles Collis, formerly of Great Dunmow, aged 72.

PERCEVAL.—On the 25th ult., at Eastbourne, Catherine, relict of Lieut-Col. P. J. Perceval, Grenadier Guards.

TOWNSHEND.—On the 20th inst., at 30, Upper Fitzwilliam-street, Dublin, Ellen, the wife of J. F. Townshend, Esq. L.L.D.

VERITY.—On the 21st ult., John Verity, of the Villiers Lodge No. 1194, Isleworth, aged 43. Deeply lamented.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, MAY 4, 1878

OUR CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

We have been much amused, (though it is no laughing matter), with some recent utterances of the Charity Voting Reform Association—especially their last official report. Such statements as are contained in their last report, for instance, are to us either a proof of a perverse desire to find fault, or of sensational love of change for change sake; or else are the natural "outcome" of positive ignorance of the important subject on which we are favoured with so much florid dogmatism. We have never, we say it unhesitatingly, read a production which so challenges criticism and so invites condemnation, or which is more marked, from first to last, by the absence of any quality which renders it reliable or even readable. It is simply a "loud" compilation, (to use the slang of the day), a mixture of morbidity and "high falutin," which it is positively painful, if not humiliating, to peruse. What can be more ridiculously untrue than this? "There is the highest authority for saying, 'if any man will not work, neither shall he eat,' and our so-called charities, as long as they continue to ignore this fundamental principle, can never be anything better than artificial sources of pauperism and misery." The poor working man, struck down by an accident, throbbing with fever, must work, or rather pay—for charity! Is there such a thing as charity left in the world? Or what can any reasonable or reasoning man say to the following choice specimen of unfairness, and even worse:—"When we go beyond hospitals to the innumerable institutions for which appeals are made every day, it would probably be difficult to find a single one which would be permitted to exist in a perfectly well-governed State, or which does not, on the fairest computation, do more harm than good. The various Voting Charities, for example, are hurtful to the community in many ways. Their system of contested elections induces the friends of the majority of the candidates to spend more money than they can afford, and inflicts bitter loss and disappointment upon the numerous applicants who never had a chance of success. The elections must be virtually purchased, often as the cheapest way of escape from the duty of maintaining an old servant or some other dependant. When the result is made known, the elected candidate is either an old person, who is then taken away from all the associations of his past life; or a child, to whom an institution is for several years to be put in the place of a home; or one who is in some way afflicted, deaf it may be, or blind, or semi-imbecile, and whose future existence is then to be that of a phenomenon, an example, a living witness of the bounty of the governors and of the wisdom of the managing committee." We utterly deny the entire statement. As regards the Voting Charities the assertions are most incorrect, and, to say the truth, unjustifiable, and though there are, no doubt, defects in all our organizations, they are such as careful and considerate administration can easily cure. Such a description, officially given too as a professedly true description of all our medical charities, is a parody alike on all that we are accustomed to consider truth, honour, gratitude, or justice. It is, without doubt, one of the most useless and ridiculous caricatures of the existing state of things which it has ever been our lot to wade through. We cannot understand this perverse misrepresentation of things as they are in truth, thus making everything dark and uncomfortable. Perhaps like the Mrs. Gamp and Mrs. Harris of old, our talkative and reforming "old ladies" to-day are seeking to make others as "nervous" as they are professedly and professionally themselves, and, therefore, these sensational stimulants are absolutely necessary. This crusade against charities proceeds on two assumptions, each equally fallacious, and we must add false. "That a central committee will do better than open voting, and that all gratuitous gifts are, per se, bad." We protest against the entire tone of this last report, as alike un-

founded, selfish, and unfair, for it is this mournfully hard line theory which underlies much of the movements of impractical theorists just now, and more of the efforts of noisy reformers of the present hour, and we deeply regret to see so much energy thrown away, to prop up so weak and so unsound a proposition of a so-called charity reform, a movement which will never be supported by the sound common sense and practical religion of our thinking and serious people. If such views ever prevail we shall have driven true charity out of the land. Useful and reasonable reform is one thing, empty-handed and empty headed revolution is quite another thing.

THE BEGINNING OF A MASONIC REVOLUTION.

We note in the *Monde Maçonnique* the commencement of a Masonic revolution, which, as it is duly heralded by Bro. Grimaux, and not disapproved of by Bro. Caubet, may be said to be fairly enough the last deliverance of the Grand Orient of France. Unfortunately, like many similar proceedings, it is simply revolutionary according to our view and belief. It seems that at Port Louis, in the Mauritius, an English Colony, the French Grand Orient has lately granted a charter to a new lodge, "L'Amitié," which was consecrated Jan. 28, 1878, despite a formal protest from the Lodge of Harmony, under the English Constitution. This clearly intrusive and irregular proceeding is justified on two grounds, 1st., that the French Grand Orient had originally founded lodges in the Mauritius before the English occupation; and 2ndly., that every Mason has "le droit de se placer sous l'obédience de l'autorité Maçonnique dont les doctrines lui convenaient le mieux,"—page 489. "The right to place himself under the obedience of the Masonic authority whose doctrines are most agreeable to him." With regard to the first ground, though we do not deny that old lodges so founded may continue their connection with their foundation authority we utterly deny the right of an alien Masonic authority to found a new lodge in another territory, which is under the lawful jurisdiction of a lawful national Grand Lodge. But what will our readers say of the second ground? Surely it is the most revolutionary and dangerous that has been propounded by any Masonic authority, and let us note the "reductio ad absurdum" to which the Grand Orient must be brought. If such is Masonic international law, any English Masons in France and Belgium may claim a Charter from the English Grand Lodge on the ground, firstly, that the English Grand Lodge first warranted Lodges in France, and secondly, that they prefer the teaching of the English Grand Lodge, especially under recent circumstances. Such an official act on the part of the Grand Orient of France, in the present condition of affairs, shows a most unmistakeable animus, and may be productive of most serious consequences as regards the relations between the two Grand bodies of England and France. We deplore it more than we can say, in the interests of Masonic peace, but we fear that in the present temper of French Freemasonry neither the English, nor any other Anglo-Saxon Freemasonry can expect any other treatment. Our American friends will say "well, we have always warned you of what must be the consequence of the illegal constitution and apostasy of the French Grand Orient." We confess that we regret to have to realize such an experience of how far faction will even lead Masons, but we think it well to note it for the information of our brethren. The act in itself is so illegal, and the grounds alleged are so absurd, that we can only sadly recall to day the old line of the scholiast, "Quem Deus vult perdere prius dementat."

THE "MONDE MACONNIQUE" AND THE "FREEMASON."

We have seen Bro. Caubet's remarks with respect to our humble selves, in the last number of the *Monde Maçonnique*, but we do not realise what we have to say in reply. Bro. Caubet takes one view, strongly, of the whole matter, we take another, and we are not likely, moreover, to agree; and thus the matter must remain. Time,

which proves all things, and verifies and falsifies all statements, can alone shew whether he or we are right in the estimate we have respectively formed of the tendency and effect of the last great change effected by the Grand Orient of France.

OUR BANK HOLIDAYS.

We said on a former occasion, and we are glad to find our words are verified elsewhere, that we could shew a progressive improvement in the way our toiling population spent their hard earned holidays. We rejoice, greatly, at the fact, of which we never had any doubt. Our contemporary, the *Graphic*, while it admits the case to be so, says that some of the diminution of intoxication may be put down to the increase of smoking. Whether this be so or not it matters little. It must be a great matter of rejoicing to us all as Freemasons and patriots, that the bank holidays are not perverted to riotous excess or widespread intoxication, and that a great improvement is manifested on these heads. It is not, however, the working class only which needs improvement in this respect.

THE NEW GRAND OFFICERS.

GRAND CHAPLAIN.

The Rev. William Alfred Hill, the Grand Chaplain, is M.A. of Worcester College, Oxford and was formerly a barrister in considerable practice on the Oxford Circuit. On the 19th, December 1847, following a long cherished wish, he exchanged his forensic robe for the ecclesiastic's gown, and was admitted into Holy Orders by Dr. Wilberforce, then Bishop of Oxford, at Christ Church Cathedral, and received admission into the priesthood at the hands of the same eminent Prelate at the December ordination in the following year. After filling various spheres of labour and meeting with abundant marks of appreciation, particularly from the parishioners of "All Saints," Worcester, where, on the nomination of the Bishop he officiated in sole charge, in the absence of the rector, he was transferred to Alvochurch, and subsequently to Loxley, in the same diocese and thence, on the 5th September, 1857, was admitted to the incumbency of St. Peter's, Maidstone, where he laboured with success for a period of nearly seventeen years, until collated by the Archbishop of Canterbury to the Vicarage of Appledore with Ebony, and subsequently to the Vicarage of Throwley, Faversham, of which he is now the Incumbent. He is a Mason of long standing, having filled the office of W.M. of Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 34, in the year 1845, and was exalted in St. James' Chapter in the following year. He was invested Provincial G. Chaplain of Worcestershire in 1853, and preached a well-known sermon entitled "The Christian Mason," in the parish church of Oldswinford, (Stourbridge), on the 20th September in that year. On the Installation of Viscount Holmesdale, M. P., as Provincial Grand Master of Kent, which took place at Gravesend, October 22, 1860, our rev. brother was appointed P.G.C., and preached to an overflowing congregation at St. George's parish church. The Sermon, "The Bright and Morning Star," was published by request of the P. Grand Lodge, and the proceeds, which shewed a balance of £14 5s. od., were given to the Masonic Charities. Masonry has greatly flourished under the rule of Lord Holmesdale. There are now forty three lodges in the Province. The new Grand Chaplain has taken part in many of the consecrations, and delivered the usual orations, and with only one omission during his lengthened term of office has preached the sermon at the Annual Festival. He has ever encouraged the brethren to stand firm to the ancient landmarks of our order, been prompt to minister to the bereaved and sorrowing, and taken a lively interest in their temporal progress and in their practice of piety and virtue. For these reasons he is generally held in high esteem, and the affection of the brethren is about to be exhibited in the form of a substantial testimonial, which will probably be presented at the next Provincial Grand Festival, to be held at Canterbury in July next. The recent distinction—entirely unexpected and unsought by its

possessor—has given great satisfaction, and while esteemed as an honour conferred on the individual, is viewed as reflecting credit upon the whole Province. Our reverend brother is a member of Lodges 133 and 280, and also an hon. member of many other lodges, and this year is 2nd Principal of the High Cross Chapter, No. 229.

GRAND CHAPLAIN.

On entering the University in 1851, Bro. the Rev. H. A. Pickard at once signified his wish to become a member of the Craft, so that in November of the same year he was initiated, the Rev. R. St. John Tyrwhitt being then Worshipful Master. After serving as Deacon and Warden, he was elected as W. Master for the year 1856, and re-elected for 1857. During these two years of office, Bro. Pickard initiated among other distinguished brethren, the Deputy Grand Master, Lord Skelmersdale, Bro. Talbot, late Provincial Grand Master for the Eastern Division of South Wales; Bro. Victor Williamson, Junior Grand Warden in 1865; and the Marquis of Hamilton. During his second year of Mastership, the Pro Grand Master, Lord Carnarvon, became a joining member of the lodge. It is well worthy of notice that Bro. Pickard made such rapid progress in Masonry that before he had been a Mason two years the Provincial Grand Master conferred upon him the office of Provincial Grand Steward, and after passing through another minor office he was appointed Prov. Grand Senior Warden in 1857, during which year Lord Zetland's memorable visit to the Province of Oxford took place. For nearly ten years Bro. Pickard was compelled by his duties as H.M. Inspector of Schools to be absent from Oxford, but shortly after his return he had the honour of being Chaplain to the lodge when H.R.H. the Prince of Wales was Worshipful Master in 1873. That Bro. Pickard's popularity amongst the members of his lodge was great is evident from the fact that he received the extraordinary honour of being elected for the third time Worshipful Master, and during his year of office was appointed to represent the province as Steward at the installation of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master in the Albert Hall. On quitting office Bro. Pickard installed as his successor H.R.H. Prince Leopold, and took a prominent part the next day in the installation of H.R.H. as Provincial Grand Master. In addition to gaining distinction in lodge Bro. Pickard also became First Principal of the Alfred Chapter in 1859, and of the Apollo University Chapter in 1875, and has also served as Steward for all the Masonic Charities. He is also joint editor of the Bye-laws of the Apollo University Lodge.

SENIOR GRAND DEACON.

Bro. Erasmus Wilson is a Lewis, his father, W. Wilson, surgeon in the Royal Navy, was made a Mason in 1802, at Malta, in Lodge 63, of the 20th Regiment of foot, of the Register of Ireland. He himself was admitted into Masonry in the Lodge of Antiquity, No. 2, in 1870; and served the offices of Senior Deacon and Junior and Senior Warden. In 1874 he was installed Master of a lodge of the province of Kent, No. 1464, named after himself, the Erasmus Wilson Lodge; and in 1875 he was appointed Grand Steward. On this occasion the duty of making provision for the banquet given to the Grand Master of the Order, the Prince of Wales, at his installation, devolved on the Board of Stewards for the year, and Bro. Wilson was elected its president. In 1876 he was installed Master of the Lodge of Antiquity. He is a companion of the St. James' Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, and also of that of the Bard of Avon; and is now First Principal of the former. He has served the office of Steward for the three Charities in both his lodges, and is Vice-Patron of all. He has likewise served on the Board of General Purposes, and is at present a member of the Colonial Board. His most recent Masonic honour is that of being installed Senior Grand Deacon by His Royal Highness the Grand Master.

SENIOR GRAND DEACON.

Bro. Lieut.-Col. Shadwell Clerke has just attained his Masonic majority, having been initiated exactly twenty-one years ago (27th April, 1857) in the Zetland Lodge, No. 756, E.C., in the Island of Malta, where he had recently arrived with his regiment—the 21st Fusiliers—

from the Crimea, after serving throughout the whole of that campaign. He filled the various offices in his mother lodge, and having joined No. 437 (now 349), St. John and St. Paul Lodge, in the same island, in the year 1858, he was appointed J.W., and from thence was elected W.M. in 1859, which office he duly served. In the latter end of the year 1860 he was appointed A.D.C., and subsequently, Secretary to the Commander of the Forces in the West Indies, where he joined the Albion Lodge, No. 196, and after seven years' service on the staff there, he rejoined his regiment in Ireland, and worked occasionally in various lodges in that country, but from the continual moving consequent on military service was unable to join one permanently. In the beginning of the year 1870 he was stationed in Plymouth, when he joined the Metham Lodge, No. 1205, and became P.G. Sword Bearer, and subsequently P.G. Senior Warden of that province. In the year 1872 Col. Clerke, having retired on half-pay from his regiment, came to reside in London, and became one of the original members of the Friends in Council Lodge, No. 1383, which was formed that year, and of which he shortly after was elected Treasurer, continuing to serve as such until 1875, when he became S.W., and was installed W.M. the next year. By the lamented death of its W.M. for the present year (Major Barlow) he still continues to fill the chair as I.P.M. Bro. Col. Clerke was exalted to the degree of Royal Arch in the Leinster Chapter, I.C., in Malta, in February, 1858, and subsequently became one of its rulers. He was affiliated to Chapter 437, E.C., in 1859, when he filled the chair. On moving to the West Indies he joined the Scotia Royal Arch Chapter, S.C. (there being no English one in work there), and on the formation of Chapter 1383, he became an original member, and held the office of P.S., being at present time J. of that chapter. Bro. Col. Clerke is a Life Governor of all the Masonic Institutions, and has served all the Stewardships, on two occasions his list heading the London lodges, and on the the third occasion being second, and amounting in all to nearly £750. He is at present a member of the Board of General Purposes.

JUNIOR GRAND DEACON.

Bro. J. M. P. Montagu was initiated in St. Paul's Lodge on the 23rd December, 1845, and has consequently been 33 years a Mason. He was founder of the Montagu Lodge and the St. Mary's Lodge, and was a petitioner for the charter of the Portland Lodge, the Manor Lodge, and the Friends in Council Lodge. He was exalted to the Royal Arch Degree on the 3rd Jan., 1856, and was founder of the St. Mary's Royal Arch Chapter. He also consecrated the Royal Arch Chapters at Trowbridge and Salisbury, assisted in forming the Provincial Grand Chapter of Wiltshire, was a founder of the St. Mary's Mark Lodge, the St. Mary's Preceptory Knights Templar, and the St. Mary's Royal Ark Mariners Lodge. He was a petitioner for the charter of the Studholme Chapter. He became a Knight Templar on the 4th February, 1856, and on the same day was admitted as a Rose Croix Mason. He attained to the Thirty-third Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Rite on the 11th December, 1869. He was appointed S.G. Warden for Dorset in 1856, and held the office of D. Prov. G.M. Dorset from 1863 to 1877, and that of Prov. G.H. from 1866 to 1877, when he was promoted to be Grand Superintendent of the province. Bro. J. M. P. Montagu is the Grand Secretary of the Ancient and Accepted Rite of Thirty-three Degrees; Grand Chancellor Ancient and Accepted Rite; Grand Captain of England. Knights Templar; Provincial Grand Prior K.T. Dorset (from 1877); Provincial Grand Superintendent of Dorset (from 1877). He joined the Royal Order of Scotland in 1872. He has served eleven Stewardships to the three Masonic Charities, and is Steward to the Girls' and Boys' School Festivals for the present year, in which capacity he will have taken up to the Masonic Charities the sum of £2500. He is Vice-Patron of the Boys' and Vice-President of the Girls' and Benevolent Institutions. Two of his children are also Vice-Patrons of the Boys' School and Governors of the other two Charities, and his son, the W.M. of the Meridian Lodge, is a Governor of the

three Charities. His father was a Mason before him, as were several of his ancestors. He is at present a subscribing member of the St. Mary's, All Souls', and Friends in Council Lodges, and of three Royal Arch Chapters, and is a honorary member of several other lodges and chapters.

JUNIOR GRAND DEACON.

Bro. Raphael Costa was in 1847 initiated, passed, and raised in the Bank of England Lodge, No. 329, now No. 263. In 1849 he was exalted in the Chapter of Fidelity, No. 3, and in 1851 was installed W.M. of the above lodge. On retiring from the chair he received a jewel with the following inscription:—"Presented by the members of the Bank of England Lodge, No. 329, to Bro. Raphael Costa, P.M., on his retiring from the chair, as a token of their sense of his high Masonic attainments, his truly amiable and generous character, and his able conduct in presiding over them, 1852. In 1856 he was installed M.E.Z. of the Royal Arch Chapter Hope and Unity, at Romford. He was an original member of the Friends in Council Lodge, No. 1383, and Chapter. He has taken great interest in the Craft and greatly helped the Masonic Charities. He is a Life Governor of the Girls' School, and is now one of the Stewards for the next festival of the Boys' School. He has continued a subscribing member to the above two lodges and chapters. He is a P. Em. Commander, K.T., and a P. Grand Captain of the Ancient and Accepted Rite. He is a Thirty-third Degree of the Order, and on the 24th ult. he was appointed and invested a Grand Deacon by the M.W.G. Master, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.

GRAND SWORD BEARER.

Bro. William H. Lucia was initiated into Masonry in the United Friends Lodge, No. 313, Great Yarmouth, in April, 1847, and continued a subscribing member for several years. In 1853 he joined the Friendship Lodge, No. 100; this lodge had been dormant some time, and he joined it for the purpose of assisting in its re-suscitation, and sat for two years as Senior Warden from the time of its being re-opened. After successfully carrying out the duties of this office, he was unanimously elected to and served the office of W.M. in 1855. In 1861 Bro. W. H. Lucia went to reside in Bury St. Edmunds. Finding no lodge there, he founded the Royal St. Edmund's, No. 1008, in March 1864, in which he sat as W.M. for the first two years, and was afterwards appointed and continues to hold the office of Secretary. In this year he was appointed Prov. Grand Sword Bearer in the Province of Suffolk. In 1865 he was elevated to the Junior Wardenship, which office he filled for three years. In 1870 he was appointed, and has since held, the office of Prov. Grand Secretary of the same province. In 1875 he had the honour of being one of the Stewards to attend upon the occasion of the installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales at Albert Hall. He founded a second lodge in Bury St. Edmunds, which was consecrated in January, 1876, the Abbey, No. 1592, and sat as the first W.M. Bro. W. H. Lucia was exalted in the Alexandra Chapter, No. 959, Ipswich, in 1867, served the office of S.E., and passed the chair of J.; but seeing into and understanding the Royal Arch Degree, he was determined to attach a chapter to the Royal St. Edmund's Lodge, and was successful in having the White Rose Chapter, No. 1008, consecrated in 1873, in which chapter he passed the chairs of H. and Z. He was one of the companions that agitated and obtained a Grand Superintendent for the province of Suffolk, and at the inauguration of the chapter in January last he was appointed Prov. G.S.E., and we have now to record that our brother was appointed to fill the office of G. Dir. of Ceremonies in the Grand Chapter of England, on Wednesday last. Bro. Lucia, although taking a lively interest in the business of the Craft, did not lose sight of the brightest ornament that adorns the Masonic profession—Charity. He is a Life Governor of each of the three Charitable Institutions, and has for several years interested himself in their behalf, by serving six Stewardships at the different festivals. Bro. W. H. Lucia has also interested himself in other degrees; he was exalted as a M.M.M. in the Freeman Mark Lodge, No. 105, Stowmar-

ket, in 1874, and was elected W.M., on its being removed to Bury St. Edmunds. He is also a member of the Prudence Encampment of Knights Templar, Ipswich, in which he was enrolled.

ASSISTANT GRAND DIRECTOR OF CEREMONIES.

Bro. James Lewis Thomas was initiated in 1848, in the Albany Lodge, No. 151, Isle of Wight. In 1851-2 he filled the office of W.M. of St. John's Lodge, Antigua, No. 492. He passed the chair of St. Thomas's Lodge, No. 142, in 1871. He founded the Granite Lodge, No. 1328, in 1870, also the Campbell Lodge, No. 1415, in the Province of Middlesex, and now holds the office of Prov. Junior Grand Warden in that Province. He was exalted in 1856, in Chapter 13, Woolwich, and was M.E.Z. in 1872, and has been elected for the last three years to serve on the Grand Chapter Committee of General Purposes. He is also W.M. of the Thistle, No. 8, Lodge of Mark Master Masons, and Preceptor elect of the Kemeys Tynte Preceptory of Knights Templar. He is a Life Governor of all the Masonic Charities, having filled the office of Steward in each.

ASSISTANT GRAND PURSUIVANT.

Bro. William Wilson is a veterinary surgeon, having an extensive practice in Hertfordshire. He was initiated in the Berkhamstead Lodge, No. 504, in 1866, and was installed W.M. in 1871. He has acted as Honorary Secretary since 1869. Was Prov. Grand Director of Ceremonies from 1868 to 1874, when he was appointed Prov. Junior Grand Warden. He has received many jewels from the Prov. Grand Lodge and private lodge, as well as a life-size portrait, which hangs in the Berkhamstead Lodge room. The prosperity of the Craft in the Province of Hertfordshire is in a great measure due to his untiring zeal and activity. He is well known to London Masons as the indefatigable manager of the enjoyable summer excursions in the neighbourhood of Berkhamstead, and by many of whom "the day in Hertfordshire" is an event never to be forgotten.

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.]

PROVINCIAL CHARITABLE FUNDS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I notice this discussion at the last Prov. Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire, but it is quite clear to me that the proposition is illegal by section 4, page 53, Book of Constitutions. The proposer and seconder could not have read, much less understood, the words of that section, and how the Prov. G.M. or D. Prov. G.M. could allow such a proposition to be put, I know not. I think I may fairly say, that it would not have been allowed in Lord Ripon's or Bro. Bentley Shaw's time. It may be said that it has been done elsewhere, but it is none the less "illegal." I wish brethren would study the Book of Constitutions.

Yours fraternally,

LEEDS.

QUALIFICATIONS OF CANDIDATES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Are the Ancient Charges supposed to be in any way binding upon us now, or are they not?

No. IV., on "Masters, Wardens, Fellows, and Apprentices," says that no Master should take an Apprentice unless he be a perfect youth, having no maim or defect in his body. I went into a lodge the other day and saw one of the brethren who had lost his right arm; I, of course, assumed that he had met with the misfortune after joining the Craft, but was astonished to find such was not the case. When I inquired how the brother could make the signs of the Three Degrees, my companion replied he did not know, but he added that he knew of a blind gentleman who was made Prov. G. Chaplain in the same province.

Will you kindly enlighten us on this subject—because an artist friend, who has unfortunately become blind, lamented one day to me that he could not become a Mason on account of his calamity—and I should be glad to tell him, *nous avons changes tout cela*, and that we now take in the blind, the halt, and the lame.

Yours fraternally,

A. P.M. IN A REMOTE PROVINCE.

PROGRESS OF FREEMASONRY IN THE PROVINCES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

A good deal is said just now in your paper about the rapid progress of Masonry, but out of the metropolis, and perhaps in Lancashire, I doubt the fact very much. As a proof of this I believe I am correct when I say that in West Yorkshire last year only 88 initiations took place,

and I fancy that this tale might be repeated in other provinces. Otherwise there must be something special in the case of West Yorkshire to account for so small an increase. Cornwall, I see, had 148 initiations, with 1567 members, and Kent, if I remember rightly, had its fair proportion. Can any one throw any light on these figures?

Yours fraternally,

STATIST.

FREEMASONRY IN NEW ZEALAND.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Brother Lieut.-Col. Shadwell Clerke, the Secretary of the Supreme Council of England, in his letter in the *Freemason* of 27th April, 1878, says that my letter of the previous week contains "many misstatements." He, however, questions my accuracy on three points only. These are—

1. My statement that his Supreme Council issued a manifesto protesting against the recognition of the spurious Supreme Council of Scotland. Unfortunately my copy of this manifesto is not presently beside me, and Bro. Clerke, who is in possession of it, has not deemed it prudent to quote its terms. But I unhesitatingly assert that the Supreme Council of England did publish a resolution, ceasing to hold any alliance, or Masonic intercourse, with the Supreme Council of Scotland, and did prohibit the subordinate bodies under it from holding communion with the members of the various bodies established by or owing allegiance to the Supreme Council of Scotland. The difference between Bro. Clerke and me resolves itself, therefore, into one not of substance, but of expression; for if the Supreme Council of England has broken off its alliance with that of Scotland, and prohibited intercourse between its members and those of Scotland, surely that amounts to non-recognition of the latter.

2. My accuracy is next questioned in saying that the only objection raised by the Supreme Council of England to the recognition of the Supreme Council of New Zealand was that it was not formed by the former. The facts are as follows. The Supreme Council of England claims exclusive jurisdiction not only in England and Wales, but in all the dependencies of the British Crown. New Zealand is such a dependency, and, as such, the Supreme Council of England claims exclusive jurisdiction over it. In October, 1877, it published a resolution embodying its objection to the recognition of the Supreme Council of New Zealand in the following terms:—"This Supreme Council (England) having been informed that a body has been established in New Zealand, styling itself the S.C. 33° A. & A. Scottish Rite for New Zealand—and, whereas no such body can legally exist in the dependencies of the British Crown, under the Constitution, which recite that there shall be but one Supreme Council 33° in each state or nation—do now decide that instructions be sent to the 'Star of the South' Chapter Rose Croix at Greymouth, New Zealand, pointing out that the said body is illegal." The Supreme Council of England did not say that any body other than itself exercised a jurisdiction in the colony prior to the existence of the Supreme Council of New Zealand, and, as it did not specify any objection other than what I have quoted to the latter's validity, I was surely justified in setting forth the one it gave as being its only objection. If, therefore, the charter of the Supreme Council of New Zealand is only questioned, because of the exclusive jurisdiction claimed by the Supreme Council of England, its validity becomes undoubted when it is found that England has no jurisdiction.

An attack is made on the genuineness of the Grand Orient of France and Egypt, as powers validly exercising the Ancient and Accepted Rite. I am reluctant, in this somewhat long letter, to enter on this question. But permit me simply to say that the Grand Orient of France is the mother of all the Supreme Councils in the world, and is the fountain from which they have all sprung. If it be spurious, its offspring is also necessarily spurious. But, by a resolution recently issued by the Supreme Council of England itself, it appears that it was only on 7th November last that that Council resolved from that date only to "cease to hold any alliance or Masonic intercourse" with the Grand Orient of France; and that resolution was formed not because the Grand Orient was a spurious Council, but for another well-known reason. If, therefore, the Grand Orient was a genuine body prior to last November it follows that its warrants granted prior to that date were likewise genuine. As regards the Grand Orient of Egypt, as a Supreme Council it does not, as Major Clerke states, derive its title from an irregular body at Palermo. It holds its title from regularly constituted Supreme Councils, one of which did exist at Palermo, and one at Naples, and which are now incorporated in the United Supreme Councils at Italy. These United Councils recognise the Supreme Council of Egypt. The Supreme Council of Italy is in alliance with that of England, and is recognised by all the other Supreme Councils with which the Supreme Council of England is in friendly alliance. Further, the Grand Orient of Egypt has been recognised, after careful consideration, by the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland; and the Supreme Council of Scotland itself some time ago issued a statement, in which it set forth that, if that recognition were accorded to Egypt, it would be difficult to see how the validity of the Supreme Council of New Zealand could be impugned.

3. The next, and last, statement, in which I am said to be in error, is in stating that it was only on 24th January, 1878, that the Rose Croix Chapter was opened under England in New Zealand. I don't know what the date of that chapter's warrant may be; but its existence was never publicly heard of, or known, until long after the institution of the Supreme Council of New Zealand, nor did even that illustrious Brother Malcolm Murray Irving

know of its existence until he was told by the officials of the Supreme Council of England, with a view to prevent him opening in New Zealand chapters and consistories in connection with the spurious Supreme Council of Scotland. I, however, have in my possession a letter, dated February 2, 1877, from Brother John J. May, an office bearer in the English Rose Croix Chapter in question, in which he states that that chapter "was formally opened under warrant from the Supreme Council of 33° of England on the 24th day of last month." This letter I am ready to exhibit, and it conclusively verifies my statement.

Major Clerke is mistaken in saying that I hinted in my letter that his Supreme Council contemplated granting a warrant to form a Supreme Council in New Zealand. My letter did not contain any such statement, inferentially or otherwise.

I need not reply to the opinion he expresses that I am not 33° of any lawful Council. I will only assure him that I am. But this fact has no bearing on the questions at issue; for I trust that the capacity to write a plain and truthful statement of facts is not exclusively confined to members of Supreme Councils.

Yours fraternally,

A 33.

ALLEYN'S PLAYHOUSE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

We have seen in your issue of the 20th ult., a paragraph to the effect "that the old playhouse of Edward Alleyn, the actor, and 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."

Will you kindly allow us to state the facts, so that the time of brethren with archaeological tastes may be saved.

The undoubted site of this old playhouse was for many years previous to 1872 a refuge, or casual ward, and in that year we, as architects to the present lessee (Mr. W. Barnard), pulled down the dilapidated building and erected a three-storey factory on the site. The work now proposed is to rebuild the entrance to this factory only.

There is not the slightest suggestion of the old playhouse remaining, nor can there be any surprise at this, as in Maitland's History of London, published in the year 1772, we find the building referred to in these terms:—"The first playhouse (for aught I can learn) that was erected in the neighbourhood of the City of London was situated between Whitecross-street and Golden-lane, in a place still denominated Playhouse-yard, where on the north side are still to be seen the ruins of that theatre."

We are, dear Sir and Brother, yours truly and fraternally,

GORDON AND LOWTHER.

THE GENESIS OF SPECULATIVE FREEMASONRY. (Continued.)

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

For the purpose of examining the hypothetical organisation of such a society as I imagined in my last, let us for the moment endeavour to divest our minds of what I have ventured to term the square and compasses notion; let us, for the present at least, disregard any possible connection of such an institution with Freemasonry operative or speculative, as we at present see its working displayed. Let us regard the matter a priori. The chief necessity in a society so constituted would be the security of the personal safety of its members, and it is not difficult to conceive that this prime desideratum would readily be sought by three devices. Firstly, the strict examination of a candidate for comradeship; secondly, the invention and communication of a secret mode of recognition available everywhere and at any time; thirdly, the establishment of a public feeling—an esprit de corps—in the mind of every member, of the duty of each one to surrender his life rather than, by betraying his trust, endanger the safety of the rest. The reply to the question, why all this occult precaution, is almost the answer to the question so frequently propounded in the present day. If Freemasonry be so good a thing why have any secrets at all in it? Why not throw it open to all the world? But we need not concern ourselves at present with the answer—and a very conclusive answer is familiar to all of us—to these queries as they now present themselves. Sufficient for our purpose is it to evince that some such precautions as the above were necessary to be adopted in the rude state of society I have been endeavouring to depict. A form of faith proscribed by the majority of mankind, conflicting with the interests, the profits, the pleasures, the favourite pursuits of the most powerful classes—professed in an age when, as I have so frequently before insisted on, men, not even the faithful themselves, knew what toleration* meant—required as I

* "I don't like repeating a hackneyed story but the following well-known apologue is so beautiful that even if it should meet one appreciative reader who has never before seen or heard it, it is worth the labour of type setting and risking the charge of retelling stale traditions, to reproduce it. It was most exquisitely employed by the Rev. Sidney Smith at the close of a sermon. "On the rules of Christian Charity," preached at Bristol, November 5th, 1828, and in his language I quote it: "As Abraham was sitting in the door of his tent there came unto him a wayfaring man; and Abraham gave him water for his feet and set bread before him. And Abraham said unto him, 'Let us now worship the Lord our God before we eat this bread.' And the wayfaring man said unto Abraham, 'I will not

ERRATUM.—In the fifth line of the last communication under the above head for "almost" read "abstract."

think I have shewn, the most extreme vigilance and astuteness to preserve its professors, and thereby keep alight the fire of which they were the custodians. To proclaim ready adhesion to an imperfectly understood creed was not sufficient, the emeriti must be assured and convinced that the neophyte was one, by entrusting the secrets of the society to whom, the safety of the rest would not be imperilled. And secrets were necessary, for mutual recognition was indispensable, and the means of mutual recognition must be kept secret, for were they not a small—tiny—body in a great mass, and had they not to guard against the cunning, the hypocrisy, the lying tendencies, as prevalent at least in a barbarous as in a civilised state of society, though perhaps evinced in a coarser fashion, that were constantly lying in wait to entrap, destroy, and root them out?

If then I have rendered plausible the position that men so circumstanced would inevitably desiderate strict personal examination of the members they admitted to what they regarded as the privileges of their body, and if, on satisfaction that they were worthy to be entrusted, they conceived that it was necessary for mutual protection to confide to them certain means of recognition among the members of the human family foreign to their organisation, and if they, from apprehension of danger should those means be publicly known, thought it necessary for their common safety to render them secret under certain penalties for violation, I think it not unnaturally follows that some form of ceremony of admission would be devised where all this was to be performed. Perhaps it would be more accurate to say some ceremony would be adopted and some form invented. They would probably adopt the principle of the ritual such as it was they saw performing around them. They would certainly invent the form best suited to the circumstances of their own organisation.

It is pretty clear that a ceremonial mode of adoption into the body of believers, with its correlative acquiescence, is common to every system of mythology, and in a very early stage of the world's history it is recorded how the profession—accepted from the mouth of vicarious speakers—was exacted early in life. Of course, the most notable instance is the painful Hebrew rite practised since the days of Abraham, the combination undoubtedly of a sanitary precaution with a religious observance, but it is only with the ceremony in its latter light that we are concerned now. Following Hebraism, Mahomet adopted the same method of affiliation; the Christian Church—and for this purpose we need make no distinction between the tenets of the Anglican and the Roman Church—employs the rite of baptism at an early age to secure the same object. But it is well worthy of observation, that in all these creeds the ceremony amounts to no more than a sealing, an adoption, a setting apart, a period of probation, an affiliation, a vicarious profession. It is difficult to avoid trespassing upon the domains of theology in examining the analogy between the admission of professing members of a hypothetical community in the early ages of the world's history and the customs of the Jewish and modern Churches on the like occasion, but I will endeavour to be, as it is my duty to endeavour to be, perfectly colourless and neutral, and therefore I will barely call the attention of the reader to the fact that all Churches have considered that the ratification of aspiritual contract, necessarily vicariously made by an infant, as all sound systems of jurisprudence have considered the personal ratification of a temporal contract so made, was indispensable when the contractor arrived at the age of maturity, if it was sought to bind him to its performance. I am not familiar with the ritual of the Jewish ceremony of circumcision, but I believe that the principle of a vicarious profession of the faith, analogous to the Christian provision of godfathers and godmothers, is there exacted from persons standing to the neophyte in the relation of sponsors. I fancy too—though perhaps some Hebrew brother would kindly enlighten me as to this—that in their ancient Church a ceremony equivalent to the Christian rite of confirmation is exacted as the condition of an admission to full Jewish privileges. As an illustration, though not of much value perhaps to this part of my contention, it will be remembered that Our Blessed Lord,* although in his infancy he had undergone the painful operation indispensable to His recognition by His Church, nevertheless after attaining manhood received baptism at the hands of John. It is not recorded whether he ever was personally received into the Israelitish faith on attaining the age of puberty, as I have assumed was the Hebrew custom.

In the days of chivalry, when the institution of knight-hood copied much of the monastic usage in its practices, a period of probation, in which the propriety of the candidate's profession was guaranteed by sureties, had to be passed, and the alumnus served consecutively as page and esquire before he was deemed qualified (except under very exceptional circumstances indeed) to receive the accolade and

worship the Lord thy God, for thy God is not my God, but I will worship my God, even the God of my fathers. But Abraham was exceeding wroth; and he rose up to put the wayfaring man forth from the door of his tent. And the voice of the Lord was heard in the tent, 'Abraham; Abraham! have I borne with this man for three-score and ten years, and canst thou not bear with him for one hour?'

* Of course, as I said before, although as a Mason I am quite neutral, yet as a brother in Masonry I claim its privileges, one of the chief of which I conceive to be that of toleration, and that I am entitled, if I make no illegitimate use of the concession, to speak of Christian topics in the spirit of reverence which as a Christian I feel, and to use the language in relation to Christian personages, which as such, I feel myself under an obligation ordinarily to employ.

find himself accounted worthy to be numbered among the fraternity. I need not allude to the guild system as adopting the same practice of apprenticeship, and of course we are all familiar with the gradual communication of full franchise in our three grades of speculative Freemasonry as practised at present, although in that practice must be noted the important difference that we have no vicarious, no infantine affiliation. The recruit must be mature, free, able to judge and to pledge for himself.

Such I must believe to have been the case in the primitive germ—if a germ it be—of speculative Freemasonry, as I have imagined and tried to depict it. Children would have been ineligible for such a community, as would women. The members would of course, many of them, have possessed wives and been the fathers of children, and those children, such of them as were males, they would doubtlessly desire to devote to the service of the brotherhood when old enough to be of service to it—and we may get rid of our modern notion of a sort of heaven-sent maturity at the age of twenty-one years, as an arbitrary arrangement established, and wholesomely established, at a much later period than that we are now considering, solely for the sake of convenience—these early believers were not in a condition to keep more cats than would catch mice; the alumni they wanted were those who would add to their immediate strength, surrounded, as they were, with enemies and dangers. I need not dilate upon this proposition. The reflective mind may detect in it some connection between the Oriental and the Masonic exclusion of women from religious communion, and the restriction of privileges by the latter to candidates of mature age, sound judgment and free from disabling controlling influences.

I have supposed, then, that the adult candidate for the communion of the faithful was examined and entrusted at a ceremonial meeting equivalent to the Jewish circumcision or the Christian baptism, but I am inclined to think that, if this were so, the admission was, in those days, completed in one ceremony; wholly accomplished on one occasion. I fancy the comparatively modern system of probation grew up, or was invented, as society became more artificial, and perhaps was adopted in what was conceived to be wholesome imitation of, a deference to, or the fashion observed in the so-called religious customs of the exoteric world. The more probable opinion, however, is that it was an imitation of the guild system—using that word in its broadest sense, and in no way restraining myself within the narrow limits in which it is employed by Anderson—that, as society progressed and arts and manufactures increased, and it became an absolute necessity that artificers should take pupils for the purpose of instructing them in their handicrafts, in order duly to qualify them for the privilege of working independently, religion followed the secular practice, and its professors found it necessary to train their alumni and to keep their designated successors for a certain time in statu pupillari, as secular toilers did theirs.

But at the early period of the history of society, from the contemplation of which we have not yet escaped, this example had not been set, and even if it had been set, the necessity of following it had not been rendered manifest. We have to focus our view on an esoteric body of men, recruiting their numbers from the exoteric world, and for safety sake inaugurating the accession of a brother with a certain observance, the probable nature of which I will proceed to consider, so far as I can do so with propriety in the columns of a public journal, in my next.

Yours faithfully,

S. P., P.M. 902, 1491.

THE LATE BRO. LITTLE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

We have read the letter of Bro. Irwin in your last week's issue, and give him the fullest credit for the affectionate regard evinced by him for the memory of our lately deceased friend, Bro. R. Wentworth Little, and the kindness and sympathy expressed on behalf of his bereaved widow, and write to say that it is not contemplated to make any appeal to the Craft for her assistance, as, although she cannot be said to be in affluent circumstances, she has, nevertheless, sufficient, we hope, with care and economy, to supply her wants. There is also his aged mother, who during his lifetime was dependent on him for support, and for whom he has made a slight provision, which will, of course, reduce the widow's income. Bro. Little's expenses during his long illness were heavy, and he had not enjoyed the emoluments of his office sufficiently long to enable him to save much.

We may mention that it has been proposed by some of the brethren with whom Bro. Little was more intimately associated, that a meeting should be called shortly to arrange some manner of perpetuating his memory by the erection of a stone over his grave, and in any further way that may meet with the approval of the brethren and the widow.

We remain, yours fraternally,
WM. DODD, } Executors of the late
A. A. PENDLEBURY, } Bro. R. W. Little.

A CORRECTION.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Will you afford me space in your journal to correct an error which inadvertently appeared in the announcement of the names of Stewards and amounts collected by them at the last festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. It is there stated that Bro. Farmaner, W.M. of the Old King's Arms Lodge, No. 28, did not serve as Steward, whereas the contrary is the fact, he having very kindly accepted the position for the second time.

I should be exceedingly sorry if, through any inadvert-

ance on the part of this Institution, justice was not done to his kind services.

Yours truly and fraternally,

JAMES TERRY, Secretary.

EASTER HOLIDAYS.

To the Editor of the Times.

Sir,—With reference to your remark this morning as to there being a gradual improvement in the way in which the Bank holidays are being spent, will you permit me to say that, deducting re-admissions, there were some 86,000 persons at the Crystal Palace on Good Friday and Easter Monday, and that the police have reported that there was not a single police charge on either day. I may add that I did not see a drunker person on either day in the Palace or gardens. The population of Nottingham and Preston is about 86,000.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
S. FLOOD PAGE, Secretary and Manager.
Crystal Palace, April 23.

ROYAL ARCH.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I suppose it is hypercritical to quarrel with the grammar of Grand Scribe E. or his representative, but I venture to think his reading of the Constitutions relative to the election of the Third Principal in a private chapter is a new one, and as an old Craftsman I should like to be assured on your authority, which I take to be the highest in England, whether it is correct.

Comp. Buss says that the Assistant Sojourners, as well as the Principal Sojourner, together with the Scribes E. and N., are eligible for the chair of J. I venture to demur to this, because Regulation 51 states that all officers except the Assistant Sojourners (who are to be appointed by the Principal Sojourner) are elected annually, and further, that no companion shall be elected to either of the Principal chairs until he shall have served the office of Scribe or Sojourner—not Assistant Sojourner—of a private chapter for a year. The mere fact that the Assistant Sojourners are not elected, but appointed, and that they do next to nothing to qualify them for higher office, seems in my humble judgment to preclude the possibility of their being eligible for the J. chair, until they have actually served the chapter in the responsible offices of P.S. or Scribe.

Yours fraternally,

Æ, P.Z.

P.S.—Are Prov. Grand Officers allowed to wear the jewel of their office attached to a tricoloured ribbon, or are they not? Regulation 91 would seem to confine it to officers of the Grand Chapter only.

[We think that Comp. Buss is quite right, as all candidates for J.'s chair must be installed W.M.'s. We think that Provincial Officers out of their province cannot wear the jewel of their office attached to a ribbon round their neck.—Ed.]

CONSECRATION OF THE ECLECTIC CHAPTER, No. 1201.

This new chapter was consecrated on Monday last at Freemasons' Hall, by Comp. Thomas Fenn, Past Grand Sword Bearer, who took the chair of M.E.Z. He was assisted in the performance of his duties by Comp. John Hervey, G.S.E., who took the chair of H., and Comp. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, P.G.C., who took the chair of J., Comp. H. G. Buss, Assistant Grand Secretary, performed the duties of D.C.; Comp. John Mason, those of S.E.; and Comp. C. B. Payne, G.J., those of Janitor. The other companions present were Comps. J. Glashier, Magnus Ohren, Henry Thompson, James Stevens, James Terry, A. H. Tattershall, John Boyd, Rev. P. M. Holden, E. J. Harty, James Mander, J. H. Watts, R. E. Williams, Arthur E. Taylor, George Kelly, P. Robinson, George Brooke, W. Ackland, T. Taylor, and H. Massey (*Freemason*).

The musical arrangements were under the direction of Comp. Edwin Payne, M.D., who was assisted by Comps. Theo. Distin, G. T. Carter, Marcellus Higgs, and G. Large.

After the chapter had been formally opened, Comp. T. Fenn, addressing the companions, said:—We are assembled here this evening to constitute and consecrate a new chapter. Such an oration must be gratifying to all who view with interest the progress of Royal Arch Masonry. But this is an occasion of peculiar interest to myself, because I had the pleasure of consecrating the lodge to which this chapter is attached. It is to that circumstance that I owe the honour of being selected to preside over you to-night. Had it been otherwise it would still have given me unbounded pleasure had our highly respected and esteemed Scribe E., Comp. Hervey, taken my place, because I feel sure that the ceremony would have been far more efficiently and more fittingly performed by him. Our Comp. Hervey, had he occupied this chair, would no doubt, at this preliminary stage of the proceedings have given you, as is his usual custom on such occasions, some excellent advice as to the future conduct of your chapter, and advice coming from our Comp. Hervey, emanating as it does from his vast, and I may almost say, unexampled experience, and suggested as those words of advice are, and we must all feel they are by the most earnest desire for the good and the progress of the Craft, I feel quite sure that those words would have been listened to by you with the profoundest attention and respect. But Companions I know there are so many among those who are to become members of this chapter who have distinguished themselves in Craft Masonry, and not only in Craft Masonry, but who have shown themselves proficient in the mysteries of Royal Arch Masonry that I feel it would be quite unbecoming in me to presume to instruct them in those duties with which they must be so well acquainted. I shall, therefore, delegate my Comp. Woodford, who has

so kindly consented to address you and say what is necessary on this occasion.

The Rev. Comp. Woodford then offered up the prayer, customary at this point of the proceedings, and afterwards delivered the following admirable sketch of the Royal Arch Degree in the form of an oration:—

I have been requested to deliver the customary oration at the consecration of the Eclectic Chapter, and gladly respond to the invitation of my friend and companion E. Harty, and your command, M.E. Presiding and Consecrating Officer. It appears to me, and I hope the companions present will agree with me, that it is advisable if possible on such an opportunity as the present to avoid a too familiar repetition of wonted addresses, and though, perhaps, I shall not equal the eloquence and appropriateness which mark the customary orations of some of the Masters of the Royal Art, like our friends Comps. Boyd, or Terry, and last but not least, our respected and talented G.S.E., yet I trust, that at the close of my short address, you will agree that it is not altogether unworthy the occasion, or the organisation of this new and promising chapter. Let us take then a historical retrospect of the grade or Order of the Royal Arch. Interesting as it is, beautiful as it is, striking as it is, and as it appears to me always to be admired, and much to be desired as it is, I think that every lodge should have a chapter attached to it, (cheers) in which, if found fitting, all Master Masons should be exalted, after the proper interval, yet, this simple but Sublime Degree has been hastily depreciated and vehemently attacked. It has been said to be modern, the production of Ramsay and Dermott of the Antients. It has been declared on the authority of no less a person than Bro. Dr. Oliver to be probably of foreign growth, while writers like Findel in Germany, and Ragon in France, cum multis aliis have inveighed against it in unmeasured terms. But the truth is that they are all, in my opinion, wrong; and, on the contrary, I believe the Royal Arch to be a very ancient and regular portion of our time-honoured ritual, though no doubt in 1817 it received material modifications and alterations, as some of us know. What then is its true history? Its name first appears in 1744, in Fifield D'Asigny's pamphlet, of which Bro. Hughan so far possesses an unique copy, and under the name Royal Arch it was not known to the Grand Lodge in 1717. But still this grade existed, and about that time it was undoubtedly practised in this country as a separate grade, as in the minutes of the Lodge of Industry, 1749, the "Highroadians," in all probability members of this High Order, are mentioned. Still our Grand Lodge knew nothing of it as a separate grade as late as 1756, repudiated the name Royal Arch. Dr. Oliver mentions 1748 as its earliest date in England, mainly on the evidence of an old "floor cloth" of a lodge or chapter at Chester. Comp. Hughan, with whom I have been so long associated in Masonic archaeological researches, and whose authority is A 1, states that the first mention of the Royal Arch in Great Britain and Ireland is to be found in the records of the Ancient Grand Lodge, now at Freemasons' Hall, namely, March 4th, 1752. The first partial connection of the Royal Arch with the Grand Lodge of 1717 is, according to the same sure authority, June 12, 1765, when the meeting of a private chapter is recorded, which seems to have had, however, a previous existence, and which private chapter merged into a Grand Chapter. The earliest known Royal Arch warrant, under this body dates in 1769, and 1766 seems to be recognised as the creation of the Grand Chapter. Still, though in existence this body was never officially recognised by Grand Lodge until 1813, when at the Union, the Royal Arch Grade by name was for the first time formally mentioned, and the ceremonial was officially acknowledged and modified in the Chapter of Reconciliation of 1817. The first charter of this body dates from July 12, 1769. Dunckerley, as it is known, took an active part in the setting up of this first chapter and Grand Chapter, and Dr. Oliver gives us as the names of the originators of Royal Arch Masonry, in friendly though not official connection with the Grand Lodge of 1717, James Galloway, Thomas Dunckerley, John Brooks, James Resell, John Allen, Bartholomew Ruspini, Francis Coust, and Sir Herbert Mackworth, Bart. And here then comes another question. How did we get the name Royal Arch? There was no doubt an "Arche Royale," connected with Ramsay's system, and I think it is probable that Dermott, anxious to strengthen his schismatic body as against the legal claims of the one true Grand Lodge, adopted this new and taking name to attract acolytes. For the ceremonial was practically the same in both systems, though not termed by the same name. In our own Grand Lodge the Master's ceremonial had then two portions, and Dermott gave to the second part the distinctive name of Royal Arch, declaring that it was the real name of true ancient Masonry for that grade or section, but had been forgotten by the Modern Grand Lodge. If any of us remember his line of argument, it is not that the Modern Grand Lodge had it not, but that they had it partially, though incorrectly, while Dermott had recovered it from abroad, and that he was, therefore, more correct and ancient than the Modern Grand Lodge. It is also, I think, evident that Dermott, in order to make some sort of separation, marked as between the two systems, borrowed from the rite of Ramsay, or foreign source, much of his ornate nomenclature and ceremonial. The older usages of the Arches and the passing of the veils all are no doubt foreign in their origin, and are not traceable (at least, I cannot find them) to purely English sources or tradition. It is very remarkable how, in some of the earlier minutes, as at Sheffield (thanks to Comp. Ellis), the three Principals are said to be the three Kings, and some Masonic archaeologists have fancied that in this earlier use a remnant of the legend of the Three Kings of Cologne, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar. Let us, therefore, note our position. The grade, as we have

it, is essentially English, (for its counterpart can be found in no foreign grade), though its name as originally used by Dermott, is probably of French derivation. At the same time, this even is not quite clear, as the legend of the Arch is much anterior to Ramsay's time, and it is just possible that the idea may have been taken from the original second part of the Master's Grade, was worked out either by Ramsay, (a very clever man), or by Dermott, into a new and striking appellation for the purpose of lending lustre and interest to the rival system in England. I am myself not at all satisfied that Royal Arch is not an English term translated into French, and not a French term translated into English. You will note the great difference. Another fact is patent, that Dunckerley's ceremonial is entirely distinct from our present ceremonial, though there is nothing strange in that, following normal law of development and improvement, but still the difference is most marked. I am inclined to think that Dunckerley sought to combine two systems, then existing, though some have hastily contended that he only revised Dermott's system, and it is just possible that as he did not receive much encouragement from his own Grand Lodge, he only used a portion of the second part. For this must strike you, as it does me—if it were not so, if in 1813 the whole of the Royal Arch grade was unknown altogether to the rulers of the Modern Grand Lodge, they could not have acquiesced in the statement of the Union, that the Royal Arch was part of pure and ancient Masonry, unless they then for the first time accepting the name officially, made official use of the ceremonial, well known to them also, though under a different appellation. I for one do not believe that in 1873 the Duke of Sussex and Grand Lodge foisted a grade of the ancients into old Craft Masonry. For, as I have sought to point out, both systems had the same ceremonial essentially, though under different names, and under different conditions. Such then, M.E. Presiding Officer and Companions, is a short historical sketch of this Sublime Degree, though necessarily imperfect, whose antiquity is I believe incontestible, whose merits are many and great. I for one have always admired alike its historical, its didactical, and its mystical lectures, and I have always found the greatest pleasure, like many now present, in these abodes of true friendship and loyal companionship, the kindly chapters of our Order, whose rapid increase everywhere is a source of unqualified gratification and approval to all who like myself are quite content to abide by the great English system of pure and ancient Masonry. (Cheers.) May the Royal Arch Grade flourish and increase amongst us, and may all of prosperity, union, and happiness attend the new Eclectic Chapter. May its companions ever bear in mind that in this rough and trying, and often dark and treacherous world of ours, that as, there is no greater gift to man from God than true and unselfish friendship, so we as companions of this admirable grade, are bound over to prove ourselves true and devoted friends to our companions, alike in prosperity and adversity, alike in mournful lays and sunny hours. In this harmonious abode of kindly sympathy and refined sociality let no baneful passions, no jarring interests intrude, but let all be love, Charity, and brotherly goodwill, in all of glory to the Triune Jehovah, in all of active sympathy and affection for those whom we hail by the sacred name, "Companions of the Royal Arch." I thank you, M.E. and companions, for the kind attention you have given, to what I fear is a somewhat dry oration, and trust that you will accept in the spirit with which it was offered, the humble address I have been privileged to deliver. (Applause.)

The chapter was afterwards duly consecrated, and the following companions were installed and invested as officers of the chapter:—Comps. James Mander, Z.; Edward James Harty, H.; John Henry Watts, J.; John Mason, S.E.; Taylor, S.N.; and Edwin Payne, M.D., Organist. Comp. S.E. afterwards read a long list of brethren desiring to be exalted to the R.A. Degree in this chapter.

On the motion of the S.N., seconded by Comp. Harty, H., a vote of thanks was passed to the Consecrating Officers, Comps. Fenn, Hervey, Woodford, and Buss, and the same companions were elected honorary members of the chapter.

Comp. Fenn thanked the companions on behalf of himself and the other Consecrating Officers, and the chapter was closed.

The companions afterwards dined together at the Holborn Restaurant.

After banquet, the toasts were proposed, and the M.E.Z. in giving the toast of "The Grand Z., the Prince of Wales," said that all the members of the Craft who took an interest in the Order viewed with the greatest satisfaction the fact of H.R.H. presiding in Grand Lodge on the previous Wednesday, and more especially with the way in which the Grand Master performed his Masonic duties on that occasion. Referring to H.R.H.'s declaration, that he hoped to be more frequently among the brethren in future, the M.E.Z. said that this must be peculiarly gratifying to Freemasons.

Comp. Hervey in replying to the toast of the "Pro Grand Z., &c.," said that whether at the consecration of a new chapter or in any other work in Freemasonry the Grand Officers were always ready and desirous to do that which might render them useful to the Craft generally. On the present occasion it had given him and Comps. Fenn and Woodford great pleasure to consecrate the Eclectic Chapter. He might say the same of Comp. Glashier, and all these companions would be much delighted to see the success of the chapter, which he hoped would make its mark in the Royal Arch Degree.

Comp. Fenn replied for "The Consecrating Officers," and said that the principal part of these brethren's duties fell to the J., and he was very sorry that Comp. Woodford, who most eloquently and fluently performed that part of the ceremony was obliged to be absent from the banquet through illness. Comp. Fenn afterwards proposed "The

Health of the M.E.Z.," and passed a hearty compliment to all the Principals for getting up the chapter.

The M.E.Z. replied and said, it would be a great honour to be the first Z. of a chapter or the first W.M. of a lodge. He thought however that he was scarcely competent to fulfil the duties properly; but he would nevertheless try during the year that was before him to show the companions that he had the interest of the chapter at heart, and to carry out the duties he had undertaken to the satisfaction of the chapter. Comp. Harty, H., replying to the toast of "The Second and Third Principals," said it was one of the darling wishes of his heart, when he was W.M. of the Eclectic Lodge, after having broken the ice by introducing banquets to the Eclectic Lodge, to form the Eclectic Chapter. He hoped the chapter would go on well; in its youth be industrious; in its middle age respectable; and in its old age a credit to the Stock. It was the wish of the founders that it should be so, and all their efforts would be used to that end. Comp. Large also replied. Comp. George Kelly replied for "The Visitors," in a very few words, as time was running short. Comp. James Terry responded for "The Charities," and referring to the death of Comp. Little said that he and Comp. Little had worked together in Grand Secretary's office, and they were both elected Secretaries of their respective Institutions about the same time, Comp. Little to the Girls' School on the last Thursday in November, and himself to the Benevolent Institution on the second Wednesday in December. He was sorry that Comp. Little's career of usefulness had been but short, and he hoped the Girls' School would not suffer from it. The Girls' School was dear to all the companions, and they all knew how well it had been conducted, and what admirable results followed. Comp. Woodford in his oration mentioned the name of the founder of that School, the Chevalier Ruspini, and the name ought to be honoured. After noticing the Boys' School in flattering terms, Comp. Terry mentioned the Benevolent Institution, and said that for fifteen years he had endeavoured to promote its interests to the best of his ability. For the result of his labours he begged to refer the companions to the fact that last year £16,400 had been collected for that Institution, and he could assure the brethren that the old people for whom it was subscribed were very grateful for what the Craft had done. The companions shortly afterwards separated. The intervals between the toasts were enlivened by some capital music from the professional companions, Theo. Distin, G. Large, G. T. Carter, and Marcellus Higgs, with the assistance of Dr. Edwin Payne, Organist of the chapter.

THE PRINCE OF WALES AND THE FREEMASONS.

(From the Times of April 25th.)

The Prince of Wales entered yesterday on his fourth year of office as Most Worshipful Grand Master of the English Grand Lodge of Freemasons. The ceremonies of the occasion, which we describe in another column, were, of course, most impressive. It is by its external splendours that Freemasonry is best known to the world outside its ranks. Its gorgeous dresses, its mysterious tokens of rank and office, and its dignified method of procedure, are well calculated to impress the mind with due reverence for those awful secrets of the Craft which they at once veil and symbolise. Nothing was wanting yesterday to the full effect of the day. There was a large and distinguished company, including among the guests the Crown Prince of Denmark, Grand Master of the Danish Freemasons. There was a profuse display of the well-known insignia of the Freemasons' order. The sun and the moon, the compasses, the squares, and the triangles were resplendent amid the gold and silver and blue of the aprons, or shone upon the breasts of the assembled brethren as marks of a nobility at once the highest and the most venerable of any. Freemasonry has had its dark days. It has met with suspicion and persecution from Church and State. Its practice, even in this country, has been forbidden by express statute. Elsewhere it has been under the ban of the Inquisition, and its members have suffered accordingly. It has had its martyrs and confessors, its false and weak-hearted brethren, its schisms and discords from within, its relentless enemies, who have been ever on the watch to surprise it and put it down. It has passed safely through all these dangers. It has survived with unbroken front, guarding its secrets meanwhile from an intrusive and hostile world. In this country it has been its good fortune for some time past to enjoy the favour of Royalty. The ceremonial of yesterday is not the first of the kind that the English world has seen. From the days of King Henry VI., who passed suddenly from a persecutor to an admitted member of the Order, the connexion of the English Royal Family with Freemasonry has been close and frequent. At the present day, with its sixteen hundred lodges, its innumerable band of brothers, and with the Heir-Apparent as its Grand Master, English Freemasonry stands more firmly than ever. Its enemies, if such it has, must be looked for among the sex which is debarred for ever from its privileges. Women, it is well known, unhappily for themselves and for Freemasonry, have an evil reputation for not keeping secrets. The great ceremonial of yesterday was, therefore, less perfect than it might have been made if the sex had been less frail.

The Freemasons are, beyond all dispute, a very ancient body indeed. Their descent has been variously traced down from the patriarchs of old days. Solomon, Noah, and Adam have all been claimed as founders or prominent members of the Order. Probable evidence in all its degrees must be taken for what it is worth in a case of this kind, where strict proof has now ceased to be possible. The finisher of the great Temple must, in all reason, be thought to have been conversant with the builder's art. His workmen, if not himself, were certainly Masons; and, as the presumption is that a man is free in the absence of proof to the contrary,

we may venture to speak of them as Freemasons. From these early members of the Masonic order, through Pythagoras, and with a process of filiation not very strictly made out, we come next to the Masons of the early middle ages, to the constructors of the magnificent Gothic churches which in this country and on the Continent are among the most precious monuments of antiquity. The men who erected these buildings where certainly possessed of secrets which have not yet been divulged. Their unapproached supremacy as artists is sufficient proof of this. Nor need we have any difficulty in believing that they were frequently united in a kind of brotherhood of the Craft known to one another in their necessary wanderings from place to place by signs of their own, and possessed of professional knowledge which they guarded jealously from outsiders. All this is so likely that it would need proof that the old builders were not something of this kind rather than that they were; whereas, in point of fact, the evidence, such as it is, is almost wholly confirmatory. But between these men and the modern Freemasons there is only one more chasm to be bridged over, and it is not nearly as broad and difficult as the previous one which we have already passed. As time went on, and as the constitution of society changed, the early trade companies of Europe lost, together with their uses, a good deal of their original meaning. There has been a process of transformation in a good many of them. The guild has survived, but it has been less and less closely connected with the craft or business from which it took its name. Modern Freemasonry has no very close connection with the building trade. It scarcely, indeed, affects to have any in the ordinary sense of the words. Its buildings are of a kind not made with hands. Virtue and brotherhood and good-fellowship are the intangible results at which it is contented to aim. But we may still, in spite of the wide difference between old and new Masonry, trace some, at least, of the steps by which the process of development has been carried on. Before the time of modern Freemasonry there had already been something of mystification introduced into the Masonic Order. When the obvious uses of that Order were at an end, it was thought wise to devise something or other by way of justifying its continued existence. Curiosity was piqued by half glances which the world was suffered to have into the inner secrets of the Order. This was the state of things which went on apparently until the seventeenth century, and the genius of Elias Ashmole gave Freemasonry a fresh start. Ashmole, in his various characters as herald, astrologer, and antiquary, was well fitted for the work; and Freemasonry ripened into a perfection which could scarcely have been expected.

It is of the symbolism of Freemasonry that we must be understood as speaking. Of its real secrets we can, of course, say nothing. They have been made public a dozen times since Ashmole's day. Scotchmen and Americans, with an imperfect sense of humour, or with a want of love for the mysterious, have come forward to divulge them. Weak members have been forced into betraying them, sometimes by downright violence. The Grand Inquisitor of Portugal—so the record runs—joined the Order of the Freemasons for the express purpose of betraying them to their enemies. But, from whatever cause it has happened, the secret of the Order—if secret indeed there be—has never been made known. The world sees it as a society which unites practical benevolence with good-fellowship, and is contented to honour it for its more obvious as well as for its more occult excellences. The patronage of the Prince of Wales, however honourable, is not needed for keeping it in popular favour. Its great charity alone suffices to give it real merit, by which the outer world may be satisfied to judge of it. Its secrets are its own affair, and we are not bold enough to indulge even the wish of prying into them.

FREEMASONRY AND CIVILIZATION.

(From a Correspondent.)

Some few weeks ago we sketched for our readers' edification some of the beautiful and interesting objects in the studio of Mr. Rowe, the eminent sculptor, of Buckingham Palace-road. One of those exquisite objects to which we then drew attention—a statuette of the Princess Victoria—has procured for Mr. Rowe a summons to Windsor, obeying which, Her Majesty the Queen expressed her highest approbation of it, and graciously consented to its exhibition in the Academy. During the same visit we were shown another excellent specimen of the sister-art, painting; but as it was then in an unfinished state, our lips were sealed upon the subject. To-day the seal of secrecy is removed, and we hasten to draw our brethren's attention to a beautiful specimen of the pictorial art, to be published by Bro. E. M. Haigh, of Regent-street, and painted by Mr. Rosenberg, of New York.

Occasionally we hear disparaging remarks about our greater proneness to refreshment than labour, but that this expression is unwarranted is abundantly manifested, when we are informed that this result of labour really had its birth during the period of refreshment—for it was at a Masonic dinner that the idea of the picture was first suggested to Bro. Haigh by Bro. James Stevens. This conception was elaborated, the suggestions of several brethren learned in the art being worked into it, by Bro. Haigh, until the talented composition before us is the result.

The painting in question represents pictorially the teaching of one of the sections of our Second Lecture, and is beautiful in the extreme, whether we look at the idea or the result, whether we examine the composition as a whole, or study the minutest details. To describe it at length would occupy too much space here, and we can therefore only stay now to ask our readers to study the matter of the descriptive pamphlet by Bro. Haigh, which we may shortly print in extenso.

So admirably does the picture tell its tale of Masonry and its resultant and companion Civilization, that we award it our highest commendation in saying that it

should form an instructive ornament to the brethren collectively in every lodge, as well as a pleasant reminder to every individual brother in his home.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF WEST YORKSHIRE.

The following is the address delivered by Sir Henry Edwards, Bart., omitted from our report last week.

Sir Henry Edwards said:—Officers and Brethren of this Provincial Grand Lodge,—Accept from me the assurance that I am gratified for the manifestation of cordiality which you have exhibited towards your Provincial Grand Master, and which I interpret as faithfully reflecting the fraternal sentiments of the Craft in this province towards me, and in which the Leeds brethren also have displayed so much goodwill and enthusiasm. The trouble the committee, as the representative of the seven lodges, has taken to hold our annual meeting in this town has been great a meeting which uninitiated persons, outside the Masonic circle, would criticise, perhaps, as a gathering of a peculiar community merely to exchange a few complimentary remarks of fraternal greeting, but which is of itself to us here assembled a well understood symbol of the doctrines and charitable principles represented by our Masonic costume, and which I interpret as the expression of your deep attachment to our ancient and time-honoured Order. I thank the seven lodges for their reception of Provincial Grand Lodge; and I thank you all, brethren, for your salutation, under circumstances of eventful interest to the brotherhood in West Yorkshire. The pleasure of greeting you all here to-day is, I am bound to say, tinged with melancholy. What was intended by the committee of the seven lodges to have resulted in one of the most brilliant and joyous of our annual assemblies, and upon an extended scale of hospitality, has been curtailed to a simple reception of Provincial Grand Lodge, from respect to the memory of a distinguished brother, lately amongst us as a bright and shining light in Freemasonry. (Hear, hear.) Bro. Jefferey, the Secretary to the committee of the seven lodges, has, therefore, postponed to a more fitting occasion the entertainment to this Provincial Grand Lodge, which formed the original programme. But I heartily acknowledge the obligations to this committee on the union of the seven lodges, and thank them all again for their invitation to meet at Leeds for the third time during my occupation of the chair of this province. At this moment we have not recovered from the shock the Craft has sustained by the death, last month, of the late Deputy of this province and Grand Superintendent of Royal Arch Masons. Those ties of friendship which commenced between himself and the Masonic body on the 15th January, 1846, when he was initiated a member of the Lodge of Harmony, at Huddersfield, have been snapped asunder by the death of Bro. Bentley Shaw. This province has been deprived of the services and experience of one of the ablest of her counsellors. Those amongst us who have been since 1846 associated with the late Deputy in an official capacity must now again acknowledge and appreciate his qualifications for administering the affairs of this province, the brightness of his intelligence, and the judicial impartiality of his conduct when fulfilling the duties of this chair. I trust, brethren, you will reciprocate in the desire of your Prov. Grand Master, that our united sympathies, by a resolution of condolence, should be passed by this lodge, and conveyed to Bro. Shaw's family. The expression of sentiments of regret by this resolution, which stands in my name, is a Masonic principle hallowed by all our traditions and ancient customs, "to weep with them that weep, to mourn with them that mourn." We beseech the Great Architect of the Universe to give to the family of our departed brother His richest consolation under the domestic bereavement with which it is visited, and may we all be, as we veily believe he was, when our span of life is ending, ready to enter the Grand Lodge above, eternal in the heavens. (Applause.) I again congratulate the Craft on the re-election of the Prince of Wales as Grand Master of England. Freemasonry is spreading in all directions under his administration. Last year sixty-three warrants for new lodges were granted, and 8,465 Grand Lodge certificates issued to new members in the Order of the Grand Lodge of England. The foundation of every new lodge is a stone added to the edifice of Masonic civilization, and each new member a link to the fraternal chain of brotherly love, charity, and mercy, which binds together peaceful loving communities of the earth. I mention with pleasure the sum of £604 contributed by the lodges and brethren of this province to the Royal Masonic Fund on the 13th February, at which my Deputy was present. The circumstances of the times are not more settled than when I addressed you in January last, rather the political anxieties of the moment are intensified, and there is that consequent depression of trade which prevents the Craft from contributing more liberally at present; nevertheless the total sum announced amounted to upwards of £11,000. Our Charity Committee reports five candidates for our votes at the elections, and may I hope that you will all without delay send in your voting papers to the committee, so that they may not be hampered in the conduct of the elections and give disappointment to expectant applicants, when success ought to crown united exertions, and the more as by Bro. Shaw's death we lose 114 votes, which he always placed at the disposal of the Charity Committee. Since preparing my address, I have been informed of the election of three out of the five candidates. (Loud applause.) It is with delicacy I refer, as does the charity report, to the failure of a London bank in which the voluntary contributions of the Craft to the extent of £2689 had been entrusted. The late Grand Treasurer, it appears, was connected with this banking firm. A committee has been appointed to consider and report upon the finance arrangements generally, and those relating to the late Grand

Treasurer. The pecuniary loss to the Craft is more than was at first anticipated. A proposal has been placed on the agenda paper by the Provincial Grand Registrar and is successor for augmenting the charitable resources at the disposal of this Provincial Grand Lodge. My Deputy has the time has arrived, and that this is a fitting opportunity, for the consideration of a fund of benevolence for West Yorkshire. Should you be pleased to entertain the Registrar's moderate proposal, the paragraph would, when confirmed, become incorporated by attachment to that particular bye-law, and be construed as a part of it by affiliation. These brethren think, by this proposal, a foundation would be laid on which hereafter might be consolidated a "fund of Masonic benevolence," solely devoted to charity, worthy of the liberal and munificent traditions of this generous province. The proposal has for one of its objects the separation of the annual current expenditure of the administration of this province from the receipts, to be exclusively devoted to charitable purposes, such as are petitions for relief, &c. By placing the financial receipts of this proposal for the establishment of a charitable fund under the control of the Charity Committee, the pecuniary influence and usefulness of this most representative body would be greatly and permanently consolidated, and its voting power at the elections year by year could be cumulatively increased and strengthened. Should there be anything in bye-law No. 42 which may on constitutional precedent hinder the promoter and seconder introducing this proposal for discussion, I and my Deputy ask your permission for its temporary suspension, so as to enable this meeting of the Craft to take cognisance of and deal with this proposal to the extent contained within itself. Only one more topic must I touch upon which ought not to be passed over: I refer to the resolutions of Grand Lodge on the French question. These resolutions I have received from London, and requested my Deputy to transmit them to the Worshipful Masters of all lodges under my jurisdiction, with directions to have them read in open lodge, at its next meeting after their receipt, and afterwards permanently fixed in the minute-book. With us a candidate cannot be admitted who is without belief in the G.A.O.T.U. The first article of our incomparable Book of Constitutions says, "A Freemason of all men should best understand that Jehovah seeth not as man seeth, for man looketh at the outward appearance, but Jehovah looketh at the heart." Therefore there is no place in our lodges for one who has no belief in a Supreme Being. We are dependent on Him for life and health and all things. He demands the entire consecration of the intellect, the heart, the physical powers to His work and glory here, and that we may be fitted for the resurrection and the Grand Lodge above. (Applause.) These grand truths are nobly expressed with much force and beauty by the great Apostle, in his reference to the Greek poet Aratus—

From God begin we. Who can touch the string,
And not give praise to Heaven's eternal King?
He animates the smart and crowded way,
The restless ocean and the sheltered bay,
Doth care perplex? Is lowering danger nigh?
We are His offspring, and to God we fly.

(Loud applause.) In conclusion permit me to say that, having examined the annual returns of the lodges, I find an increase of eighty-eight new members admitted over the numbers of the previous year. With 840 Worshipful Masters and Past Masters on our rolls, the difficulty of choosing names for the entering year is one of anxiety and delicacy, because out of so large a list of meritorious brethren I am utterly unable, to my great regret, to provide them with Provincial Grand Lodge recognition; therefore those lodges from whom members are about to receive the appointment of office must accept and consider it in these brethren as equivalent to the highest honour in my power to bestow. Again I heartily thank the outgoing Provincial Grand Officers for the work they have accomplished and assistance rendered to me and to my Deputy during their year of office. (Applause.)

The Princess of Wales and the Crown Princess of Denmark, and the Princess Albert Victor and George, visited the Tower of London on Monday morning.

The list of subscriptions received on behalf of the Licensed Victuallers' School during the year ending on the 18th inst., amounted to upwards of £6500.

The Presentation of the Testimonial to Bro. Henry Muggeridge will take place on Wednesday week, the 15th inst., at the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham Street. Dinner will be on table at half-past 6, the presentation being made immediately after by the Chairman, Bro. Samuel G. Myers, P.M. and Treasurer Panmure Lodge, No. 715. Dinner tickets, the price of which, exclusive of wine, is 3s. 6d. may be obtained of Bro. F. Fellows, 19, Montague Road East, Dalston.

Commencement of the Stage Coaching Season.—A large number of persons assembled on Wednesday, at the White Horse Cellars, Piccadilly, to witness the inauguration of the stage coaching season. The first coach which left was the Guildford, followed by the Dorking. The Rapid, from Beckenham, the horses driven by Lord Arthur Somerset, arrived, and the Portsmouth (Captain Hargreaves) made its journey up to London. Coaches to Windsor, Oxford, and other places will shortly be put on the road.

Readings in the Temple.—The Master of the Temple (Dr. Vaughan) will resume his public readings in the Greek Testament on Tuesday, the 7th inst., at eight o'clock in the morning, in the lecture room of the Middle Temple, and continue them for three weeks, on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, at the same hour. The subject will be "St. Paul's Epistle to the Ephesians." The lectures are not restricted to members of the Temple.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS For the Week ending Friday, May 10, 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, MAY 4.

Gen. Com. Boys' School, at 4.
Lodge 142, St. Thomas, Cannon-street Hot.
" 1194, Villiers, Grotto Hot., Twickenham.
" 1559, New Cross, New Cross Hall, S.E.
Chap. 1185, Lewis, King's Arms Hot., Wood Green.

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, MAY 6.

Bro. Hedges's Committee Morning, F.M. Tav. at 12.
Lodge 16, Royal Alpha, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.
" 25, Robert Burns, F.M.H.
" 188, Joppa, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 256, Unions, F.M.H.
" 1319, Asaph, F.M.H.
" 1670, Adelphi, 4, Adelphi-terrace, Strand.
Mark 139, Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham.

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.
Tredgar, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st.
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, MAY 7.

Colonial Board.
Steward's Visit R.M.B.I. at Croydon, 12 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Lodge 171, Amity, Ship Hot., Greenwich.
" 765, St. James's, Old White Hart Hot., Boro.
" 1257, Grosvenor, F.M.H.
" 1261, Golden Rule, Regent M.H., Regent-st., W.
" 1298, Royal Std, Wellington Cb, Wellington-st., N.
" 1472, Henley, Three Crowns Hot., Woolwich.
" 1668, Samson, F.M.H.
Chap. 507, United Pilgrims, Horns Tav., Kennington.
Mark 1, St. Marks, F. M. Tavern, Gt. Queen-st.
Sanc. K.H.S. 1, Mount Carmel, F. M. Tavern.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.
Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
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 Edgcombe, 19, Jermyn-st., St. James's.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8.

Com. R.M.B.I., at 3.
Lodge 3, Fidelity, F.M.H.
" 13, Union Waterloo, M.H., Woolwich.
" 15, Kent, F.M.H.
" 238, Pilgrim, 101, Queen Victoria-street.
" 708, Carnarvon, Mitre Inn, Hampton Court.
" 781, Merchant Navy, Silver Tav., Burdett-rd., E.
" 820, Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond.
" 1228, Beacontree, Private Room, Leytonstone.
" 1306, St. John of Wapping, Gun Tav., Wapping.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

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

THURSDAY, MAY 9.

Lodge 19, R. Athelstan, Bridge House Hot.
" 223, Bank of England, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 657, Canonbury, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 879, Southwark, Southwark Park Tav.

Lodge 1076, Capper, Marine Hot., Victoria Docks.
" 1216, Macdonald, Hd.-qrs., 1st Surrey Rifles.
" 1288, Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav.
" 1321, Emblematic, Tulse-hill Hot., Tulse-hill.
" 1471, Islington, Cock Tav., Highbury.
" 1528, St. Mary Magdalen, Ship Hot., Greenwich.
" 1558, Duke of Connaught, S.M.H.
" 1642, Earl of Carnarvon, Ladbroke H., Notting-hill.
Encamp. 45, Temple Cressing, Bridge House Hot.
" 117, New Temple, The Inner Temple, London.

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.
Isbury, 12, Ponsoby-st., Millbank.
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, MAY 10.

Anniversary Festival, R.M.I. for Girls, F.M.H.
Lodge 33, Britannic, F.M.H.
" 134, Caledonian, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 157, Bedford, F.M.H.
Chap. 6, Friendship, Willis's Rooms, King-st., W.
Encamp. 26, Faith and Fidelity, Cannon-st Hot.
P.G.C. and R.O. of Scotland, 33, Golden-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Harp Tav., Jermyn-st., W.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st, at 7.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Westbourne, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, 79, Whitechapel-road, at 8.
Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
St. Luke's, White Hart, King's-rd., Chelsea.
Chigwell, Prince's Hall, Buckhurst-hill.
Royal Standard, The 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, May 11, 1878.

MONDAY, MAY 6.

Lodge 113, Unanimity, Bull Hot., Preston.
" 1045, Stamford, T.H., Altrincham.
" 1051, Rowley, M.R., Lancaster.
" 1264, Neptune, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1380, Skelmersdale, Queen's Hot., Waterloo.
Everton L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, MAY 7.

Lodge 673 St. John's, M.H., Liverpool.
" 995, Furness, M.T., Ulverston.
" 1476, Blackpool, Clifton Arms, Blackpool.
Chap. 203, St. John of Jerusalem, M.H., Liverpool.
Bootle L. of I., 146, Berry-st., Bootle.
Merchants L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8.

Lodge 281, Fortitude, Athenæum, Lancaster.
" 1091, Temple, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1356, De Grey and Ripon, M.H., N. Hill-st., L'pool.
" 1547, Liverpool, M.H., Liverpool.
Chap. 178, Harmony, M.H., Wigan.
" 1345, Victoria, Cross Keys, Eccles.
Neptune L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, MAY 9.

Lodge 216, Harmonic, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.
" 333, Royal Preston, Royal Hot., Preston.
" 477, Mersey, M.R., Birkenhead.
" 786, Croxeth, United Service, M.H., Liverpool.
" 950, Hesketh, Royal Hot., Fleetwood.
" 1032, Townley Parker, Howards Arms, Whittle.
" 1035, Prince of Wales, M.H., Kirkham.
" 1070, Starkie, Black Horse Hot., Kirkham.
" 1182, Duke of Edinburgh, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1213, Bridgewater, Cross Keys, Eccles.
" 1384, Equity, Alford Chambers, Widnes.
" 1576, Dee, Union Hot., Park Gate.

Chap. 220, Harmony, Garston.

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

FRIDAY, MAY 10.

Lodge 1289, Rock, Bedford House, Rock Ferry.

For Masonic Meetings throughout Scotland see *Scottish Freemason*, which can be obtained at the Office of this journal, 198, Fleet-street, London.

The following stand over:—Reports of Lodges 131, 148, 205, 540, 809, 1609; Instruction 198, 248, 548; Mark Lodge 211 Cumberland (T.I.); Prov. Grand Lodge of Cumberland; Prov. Grand Chapter of East Lancashire; Freemasonry in Jamaica.