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

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

**WOOLWICH.**—Union Waterloo Lodge (No. 13).—The installation meeting of this lodge took place on Wednesday, 10th inst., at the Masonic Hall, William-street, when Bro. J. P. Moore, W.M. elect, was placed in the chair with the usual ceremonies. Bro. G. Davies, P.M., was the Installing Officer, and admirably fulfilled the duties appertaining to that position. The new W.M. then invested his officers as follows: T. Hutton, S.W.; N. Brown, J.W.; H. Syer, Sec.; G. Davies, P.M., Treas.; Coltar, S.D.; T. Hosgood, J.D.; A. Dean, I.G.; and B. Norman, Tyler. A vote of thanks was recorded unanimously to Bro. Davies for his services as Installing Officer, and a P.M.'s jewel was presented to Bro. Reed, the I.P.M., for his services to the lodge during his year of office. The banquet took place at the Lord Raglan, Plumstead, and was highly commended by the brethren. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and the harmony was well sustained throughout the evening.

**SIDCUP.**—Sydney Lodge (No. 829).—This excellent little lodge, which has been so ably presided over during the last year by Bro. L. Etheridge, installed its new Master, Bro. Sidney Gore, into the chair on Tuesday, the 9th inst., and was the occasion of a gathering of Masons, many of whom are not only eminent by virtue of their official rank, but by the more distinguished positions they have made for themselves in the splendid charities of the Order, through their untiring zeal and benevolence in the cause of those Institutions, that any Master might be proud of; and we need only mention the names of Bros. Coupland, P.M. 913, and P.P.G.J.W. Kent; Dr. Flaxman Spurrell, P.M., and P.P.G.J.W. Kent; W. Russell, W.M. 77, and P.P.G.S.D. Kent; W. T. Birts, P.P.D.C. Kent; T. Smith, P.M. 829, and P.P.G.P. Kent; T. Hastings, P.M. 829, and P.P.G.P. Kent; T. D. Hayes, W.M. 913; and L. Etheridge, now I.P.M. of the lodge, most of whom have repeatedly stood as Stewards, and all are Life Governors of all the charities, to claim for this gathering a distinction second to none for its love of the highest and most honoured attributes of good old Craft Masonry. The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. Etheridge, at 1 a.m., and after the minutes of the last meeting had been confirmed, Bros. Etheridge, Luck, and Clarence were, after the usual questions, passed to the Second Degree. Bros. Carlyon, Parsons, and Lee were then raised to the Sublime Degree, both ceremonies being worked by the W.M. Bro. Gore, S.W., was then presented to the Installing Officer, Bro. T. Hastings, and was with due formality placed in the chair of K.S., and saluted in the three degrees. He then proceeded to invest his officers as follows: Bros. F. Spurrell, M.A., S.W.; Moulder, J.W.; T. Smith, P.M., Sec.; T. Birt, P.M., Treas.; R. Hanson, S.D.; J. Jacobs, J.D.; W. Hawkins, I.G.; Ilton, D.C.; Gates, P.M., W.S. On the completion of the ceremony, a cordial vote of thanks was passed, and ordered to be inscribed on the minutes of the lodge, to Bro. Hastings, for the manner in which he had carried out the ceremony of installation that day, and to Bro. Etheridge a handsome and valuable Past Master's jewel was presented in the name of the lodge, for his services rendered to it during his year of office; and in pinning it on his breast, Bro. Gore, in felicitous terms, wished him long life to wear it. Suitable replies having been made by these brethren, it was then unanimously resolved that Bro. T. Smith should again (for the fifth time) represent the lodge on the Charity Committee of the Province of Kent. "Hearty good wishes" having been given, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet, the manner and service of which reflected great credit upon Bro. Carlyon, the host. Forty-eight sat down, and upon its completion, the W.M. gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts in good style. To that of R.W. Lord Holmesdale, Prov. G.M. for Kent, a hearty

reception was given, and "Bro. Eastes, D.P.G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," toasted with enthusiasm. Bros. Coupland and Spurrell replied, and in the course of excellent addresses bore testimony to the ability with which the Grand Officers fulfilled the duties of their important positions. "The Health of the W.M." was, in the unavoidable absence of the I.P.M., proposed by Bro. Hastings, in glowing terms; and the cordial reception of it by the brethren showed unmistakably the high estimation in which their W.M. is held by them. Bro. Gore briefly and feelingly returned thanks, assuring the brethren of his determination to support the honour of and add to the prosperity of the lodge by every means in his power, and upon shortly afterwards retiring was cheered lustily. Bro. Hastings then took the chair, and proposed the remainder of the toasts. "The Visitors," for whom Bro. Hayes eloquently replied. "The Past Masters of and belonging to the Lodge" was responded to by Bros. Birts and Smith. The latter in the course of an admirable speech on behalf of the "Officers of the Lodge," spoke of his endeavours in the cause of charity, saying that for many years past he had stood Steward, and the last was the seventh time he had done so; not only himself, but the members of his family, in the person of his wife and four of his children, were Life Governors of the Charities; and while God gives me strength, said our worthy and esteemed brother, I shall always do my best to support our charities and make them a sine qua non in all my transactions with my brethren in Masonry. A special toast was, by the permission of the chair, proposed by Bro. Hayes, in honour of Bro. Past Master Birt, and in the course of his remarks, Bro. Hayes spoke of the many years of intercourse, both Masonically and privately, he had had with Bro. Birt, and of the pleasure it afforded him as W.M. of a sister lodge in the province, the Pattison, to have the opportunity of visiting, in that capacity, a lodge in which Bro. Birt's name was so honoured and respected, and finding him still aiding it onward in its path of progress. He spoke of Bro. Birt's efforts in the cause of the Charities, and concluded by wishing him all the happiness and distinction he so justly deserved. Bro. Smith as well bore testimony to Bro. Birt's untiring zeal, and attributed to him the present proud position they stood in both numerically and financially. The toast was drunk with enthusiasm. Bro. Birt, in the course of a telling reply, thanked them for their unremitting kindness and support, and in powerful language advocated further, and still further support of the Masonic Charities, pledging himself to support the name acquired by the Sydney Lodge for its constant support of those grand Institutions, the Masonic Charities, by every means in his power. The Tyler's toast concluded one of the most pleasant meetings we have had the pleasure this year of assisting at. Amongst the visitors present, beside those already named, were Bros. Brown, P.M. 169; J. R. Dussee, W.M. 79; W. B. Lloyd, S.W. 913; Gibson, 1107; W. McCrow, P.M. 879; F. Freeland, 879; Topps, 879; J. C. Reynolds, P.M. 1329; J. H. Field, P.M. 558; and C. Jolly, 913 (Freemason.)

**BATH.**—Royal Albert Edward Lodge (No. 909).—The annual installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Crown and Anchor, Weston, on Wednesday, July 10th. The chair was taken at 2 o'clock by the W.M., Bro. W. Williamson, who opened the lodge in the First Degree, assisted by the following officers, P. C. Young, S.W.; L. Howes, J.W.; J. Hayward, S.D.; J. Stuckey, J.D.; J. Dudfield, Sec.; T. B. Moutrie, P.M., Treas.; E. L. Hill, D.C.; J. Freeman, I.G. The business having been completed the W.M. opened the lodge in the Second Degree, and the chair was then taken by the W. Bro. R. C. Else, D.P.G.M. Somerset, who administered the obligation to the W.M. elect, Bro. P. G. Young. Lodge was then opened in Third Degree, and those below the rank of Installed Master having retired, the Board of Installed Masters was formed, and Bro. Young was duly installed by the D.P.G. Master in his usual impressive and effective manner. On the return of the brethren the processions, salutations, and greetings took place, and Bro. Else concluded the ceremony with the prescribed addresses to the Master, Wardens, and brethren. The W.M. having thanked the lodge for the honour conferred upon him, and expressing his determination to deserve it, proceeded to appoint his officers as follows: W. Williamson, I.P.M.; T. B. Moutrie, Treas.; J. Dudfield, Sec.; E. L. Hill, D.C.; L. Howes, S.W.; J. Stuckey, J.W.; J. Hayward, S.D.; J. Davies, J.D.; J. Freeman, I.G.; J. Knight, Organist; Braham and Glover, Stewards; J. Pinkett, Tyler. The lodge was closed in perfect harmony, and the brethren then adjourned for an hour preparatory to the banquet. Amongst the visiting brethren were J. Brown, P.M. 41, Prov. G.S.W. Somerset; J. Edwards, P.M. 53; Dr. Hopkins, P.M. 43, P.P.G.S.W. Warwickshire; Ridges, W.M.; H. Brumby, P.M. Lodge Steuben, New York, and others. The following brethren of 906 were also present: Lieut.-Gen. Doherty, P.M., P.P. G.S.W.; W. Reeves, P.M., P.P.G.O.; J. Beckett, P.M.; W. Sparrow, J. Brooks, T. Greenman, Jones, W. Bright, G. Neate, H. Banks. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and duly honoured. The character of the Albert Edward Lodge for musical proficiency was fully maintained, and a most enjoyable evening was spent.

**LIVERPOOL.**—De Grey and Ripon Lodge (No. 1356).—The members of this large and rapidly increasing lodge celebrated their annual festival of St. John at their room, No. 80, North Hill-street, Toxteth Park, Liverpool, on Wednesday afternoon, the 10th inst., and the interesting ceremony, as usual, attracted a very large and highly influential gathering of the fraternity. Bro. T. Nickson, W.M., presided at the opening of the lodge, and amongst the numerous assembly were Bros. Thos. Horne, P.M.; B. B. Marson, P.M., P.G.S.B.; Sam E. Ibbis, P.M., P.P.G.S.D.; J. Williams, S.W.; A. Woolrich, J.W.; Edward Paul, Treas.; Charles Arden, Sec.; James Keet, S.D.; Edward George, J.D.; William Evans, I.G.;

H. Squire, Steward; R. Fairclough, Org.; P. M. Larsen, P.M., Tyler. There were also a large attendance of other members present, numbering no less than 46. The list of visitors included Bros. W. J. Chapman, W.M. 1609; S. Holden, 1182; W. Williams, P.M. 1182; J. W. R. Brown, 1609; W. E. Coxon, 1675; E. S. Griffiths; B. D. Share, 1502; Robert Ing, P.M. 594; John Ellis, W.M. 662; S. H. Run, 1182; H. Burrows, P.M. 673; J. Hughes, 1675; H. E. Squire, 231; Richard Burgess, Org., 1609; O. W. Sanderson, 1609; J. Johnson, Sec. 1675; Joseph Booth; J. Davaynes, P.M. 667; J. E. Jackson, P.M., 667, P.G.S.; Joseph Skeaf, P.G. Org.; A. Morison, W.M. 1570; James C. Fask, 1264; J. R. Bottomley, 1675; John Hill, 1609; James Bolton, P.M. 667; W. May, P.M. 673; J. B. Myers, Past Master 1182; Jos. Wood, Treas., 1094. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and unanimously confirmed, the retiring Worshipful Master most effectively performed the ceremony of installation, as the crowning and closing act of his official year. The chair was then taken by Bro. B. B. Marson, P.M. 1356, P.M. 1609, P.G.S.B., who proceeded to instal Bro. J. W. Williams, jun., as the W.M. for the ensuing year. In carrying out the whole of the ceremony Bro. Marson displayed an amount of efficiency which has rarely, if ever, been equalled, and the really impressive style in which the whole of the work was done elicited the heartiest approbation and appreciation of even the oldest Mason who had the privilege of being present. The officers of the lodge were invested as follows: Bros. T. Horne, P.M., D.C.; Thomas Nickson, I.P.M.; A. Woolrich, S.W.; Charles Arden, J.W.; James Keet, Sec.; Edward Paul, Treas.; Robert Fairclough, Org.; Edward George S.D.; W. Evans, J.D.; H. P. Squire, I.G.; William Parrington, H. Mytton, and John Ashley, Stewards; and P. Larsen, P.M., Tyler. At the installation banquet which followed, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and in the course of the proceedings a valuable P.M.'s jewel was presented to Bro. T. Nickson, I.P.M., in recognition of his services to the lodge. The after banquet proceedings were greatly enlivened by a number of songs, and amongst the "chief singers" must be named Bro. John Hill, of the Dramatic Lodge, No. 1609, whose contributions were of the most artistic and delightful character, and, as the saying goes, "worth any money." Bros. P. M. Myers and Fairclough were also amongst the vocalists. The brethren separated at an early hour, and on the following day (Thursday) the members of the De Grey and Ripon Lodge held their annual picnic at a new watering place, St. Ann's-on-the-Sea, between Lytham and Blackpool. About 170 ladies and gentlemen dined at the hotel, and then went into the St. George's Gardens, adjoining the hotel, where the arrangements for varied enjoyments were excellent, leading to a general desire for an early return to the charming place. The ladies and gentlemen joined in various games, and Bro. Martin's quadrille band, as usual, added much to the enjoyment. A special train was engaged to convey the brethren, but owing to the great demonstration at Blackpool on the same day considerable delay was caused; every one, however, thoroughly enjoyed the "out."

**HAMPTON.**—Hemming Lodge (No. 1512).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held at the Sun Hotel, on the 4th inst., and was well attended. Amongst those present were Bros. J. Hammond, P.G.S. of Middx., W.M.; Fox, S.W., W.M. elect; Hunt, D.C., acting J.W.; W. Hammond, P.P.G.D. of Middlesex, Secretary; Ocken-den, S.D.; Walls, P.P.G.O. of Middlesex, J.D.; Dakey, acting I.G.; Gilbert, P.G.T. of Middlesex, Tyler. Bro. Morris, of No. 177, was a visitor. The W.M. initiated Messrs. Cox and Carpenter, passed Bros. Cole and Patey, and raised Bros. Passworth and Beauchamp, the three arduous ceremonies being most ably performed. The W.M. proposed, and Bro. Walls seconded, the following resolution, which was carried nem. con., "That the sum of three guineas be taken from the fund of the lodge and added to those being raised for the purposes of the Burdett Testimonial." The lodge was then closed, and the resident brethren partook of a collation, presided over by Bro. W. Hammond, P.M., &c. The next regular meeting of the lodge will be held on the third Thursday in October next.

**LIVERPOOL.**—Fermor Hesketh Lodge (No. 1350).—The brethren of this lodge met on Monday evening, the 8th inst., to celebrate the festival of St. John, at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, when and where there was a goodly gathering of members and visitors. The chair at the opening of the proceedings was taken by Bro. W. H. Cooper, the W.M., and amongst those present were Bros. R. Collinson, P.M.; J. Higston Johnston, P.M.; Dr. A. Samuels, P.M.; T. A. Collinson, P.M., Treas.; T. F. Cooper, Sec.; C. P. Titherley, S.D.; R. Thomas, I.G. The minutes of the previous meeting having been unanimously confirmed, Bro. Cooper, the retiring W.M., closed his year's work by most effectively installing Bro. W. P. Evans as his successor in the chair for the coming year. A full Board of Installed Masters was held, and on the re-admission of the brethren the newly-chaired W.M. was saluted and proclaimed in proper form in the Three Degrees. The following were the officers invested:—Bros. W. H. Cooper, I.P.M., Dir. Cer.; T. F. Cooper, S.W.; C. P. Titherley, J.W.; T. A. Collinson, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., Treas. (re-elected); J. W. Shaw, Sec.; Robert Carruthers and George Gordon, S.D. and J.D.; Robert Montgomery, I.G.; Charles Leighton, E. G. Grundy, and W. Yallop, Stwds.; John Hodgson, Org.; Rev. C. F. Mermagen, Chap.; P. Ball (re-elected), Tyler. The concluding addresses were given by Bros. T. A. Collinson and A. Samuels, P.M.'s. The brethren afterwards sat down to dinner, provided in the banqueting room by Bro. Ball, House Steward, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given. In responding for the Provincial Grand Officers, Bro. H. S. Alpass, P.G.

Sec., thanked the brethren on their behalf. He stated that the Masonic avocations of their P.G.M., Lord Skelmersdale, were increasing daily, or he would otherwise be oftener with them. His popularity in this province was only exceeded by the cordial esteem manifested for him in London. Their D.G.M., Bro. the Hon. F. A. Stanley, though quite as much occupied politically as well as Masonically, was ever ready to help them. He (Bro. Alpass) must direct their attention to the example set them by these, their superior officers. With regard to the Masonic charities, he feared that the claims of the metropolitan charities, more especially, were not fully recognised here; and he wished to impress upon the brethren the fact that these noble institutions were really deserving of support, and in some cases necessitous. Their institutions in West Lancashire were excellent, and not so likely to be neglected, being at their own doors. He earnestly exhorted them to bring some of the energy they expended upon these to bear upon their great metropolitan charities, more especially the asylums for aged men and women and the schools for boys and girls; and eloquently appealed to the eighty lodges of this province to support them in a fitting manner. "The Worshipful Master" was proposed by Bro. W. H. Cooper, I.P.M., who said Bro. Evans had filled the various offices in the lodge with credit, and he had great pleasure in seeing him in his present proud position. The W.M. thanked the brethren, and promised his best efforts to promote the interests of the lodge. In conclusion, he had great pleasure in presenting their esteemed I.P.M. with a handsome P.M. jewel on behalf of the lodge, and in asking them to drink his health. The toast was most enthusiastically received, and Bro. Cooper responded in suitable terms. "The Past Masters" was coupled with the names of Bros. J. Higson Johnson, P.M., and Dr. Samuels, P.M. The former expressed the pleasure he felt in seeing so many promising young members joining them, while Bro. Samuels said it gave him great satisfaction to see the respected father of the lodge, Bro. Johnson, again restored to health and present among them. Bros. R. Collinson, P.M., and T. A. Collinson also replied. Other toasts of a complimentary character followed. A very enjoyable musical programme was provided by Bro. Hodgson, assisted by Bros. J. S. Watson, T. H. Cooke, and E. J. Grundy.

**TWICKENHAM.**—Francis Burdett Lodge (No. 1503).—The last meeting of this lodge was held at the Albany Hotel on Wednesday, the 10th inst., when there were present Bros. W. Wigginton, P.P.G.S. of W. Middx., acting W.M.; Court, S.W.; Taylor, J.W.; Ashley, J.D.; Palmer, I.G.; Tomlinson, P.P.G.D. of Norfolk; Treas.; Walls, P.P.G.O. of Middx., D.C. (*Freemason*); Court, jun., Asst. Org.; Richnoll, S.; and Clark, P.M. (hon. member.) The visitors were Bros. Jefferies, Canon-gate, Killwinning; and Kerr, Downpatrick, Ireland. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. Wigginton announced that in consequence of severe indisposition Bro. S. H. Knaggs, their W.M., was unable to be present. The ceremony of raising Bro. Taylor to the degree of a M.M. was then performed. Previously to the lodge being closed, a vote of sympathy to Bro. Knaggs was passed. A collation followed, at which the customary toasts were duly honoured. The next meeting of the lodge will be held on the second Wednesday in October next.

**LIVERPOOL.**—Liverpool Lodge (No. 1547).—On Wednesday evening, the 10th inst., the members of this lodge met at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, for the purpose of assisting at the installation of the W.M. The chair was taken by Bro. J. Marshall, W.M., who was supported by Bros. Councillor J. Forrest, I.P.M.; W. T. Lunt, P.M., D.C.; Jno. H. Parker, S.W.; R. Warriner, Sec.; Jno. Duncan, jun., S.D.; J. C. McGuire, I.G., and others. The W.M. elect was duly presented, and installed by Bro. Richd. Roberts, 1547, in a very impressive manner. After the usual honours had been paid, the following were invested as officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. J. Marshall, I.P.M.; R. Warriner, S.W.; Jno. Duncan, J.W.; Councillor J. A. Forrest, P.M., Treas. (re-elected); Wm. Ladyman, Sec.; J. C. McGuire, S.D.; Chas. J. Caddock, J.D.; Wm. J. Lunt, P.M., D.C.; Thos. J. Farrell, Organist; H. Hignett, I.G.; Wm. Stonier, Robt. D. Hewetson, and F. W. A. Soldat, Stewards; W. H. Ball was re-elected Tyler. The concluding address was given by Bro. Roberts, in a style worthy of Masonry, and the brethren afterwards adjourned to the banqueting room, where dinner was excellently served by Bro. Ball. After the usual loyal toasts, "Our Masonic Rulers, Supreme and Subordinate," was proposed by the W.M. in suitable terms, and coupled with it Bros. Muldrow, P.G.D.C.; W. J. Thurley, P.P.G.J.D.; and S. Ibbes, P.P.G.B. Bro. Jas. A. Forrest proposed the "West Lancashire Educational Institute," and stated he need not say that he had great pleasure in proposing a toast connected with the keystone of Masonry, charity. More especially was that the case when it was to such a noble object as that which they had before them, viz., education. He urged them to imitate the example of their Royal brother, the Duke of Connaught, who had sat at the head of the Festival of their great Masonic Boys' Institution, and thereby shown his appreciation of its value. Bro. Cottrell, P.M. 823, replied, and spoke of the benefits conferred by the "West Lancashire," in not only forwarding the education, but also in putting out into the world those children who experienced its benefits. To meet these demands extra efforts would be required, and he hoped the brethren would do their utmost to support them. "The Visiting Brethren" was coupled with the names of Bros. Winkup, P.M. 667, and Callow, P.M. 1,505. The toast of the evening, "The Worshipful Master," was proposed by Bro. Marshall, I.P.M., in flattering terms, and he expressed a

hope that the W.M. would have a prosperous year of office, which he was sure he deserved. Bro. Parker, in responding, thanked the brethren for the confidence reposed in him in giving him the highest office in their power. He would do his best to deserve their kindness, and, supported by his officers, he had every hope to be able to carry out their Masonic principles with credit to the Order and the lodge. The W.M. next proposed "The Installing Master," which was cordially received. Bro. Roberts replied, and thanked the brethren. "The I.P.M." was duly honoured, and a handsome Past Master's jewel presented to him by the W.M. on behalf of the brethren of the Liverpool Lodge, with their best wishes. Bro. Marshall replied in feeling terms, and said he should certainly not abate the interest he had taken in the lodge now that he had passed the chair. Bro. Warriner proposed "The Past Masters," and the "The Musical Brethren" and "The Officers" followed. A capital selection of songs and glees was provided by Bro. Skeaf, P.G.O., assisted by Bros. A. Child, J. P. Bryan, Busfield, C. Waterson, and T. J. Hughes.

### Royal Arch.

**HAMPTON.**—Era Lodge (No. 1423).—The installation convocation of this chapter was held at the Island Hotel, on the 13th instant, when there were present amongst others Comps. Thiellay, P.P.G.D.C. of Middlesex, H., M.E.Z. elect; F. Walters, P.P.G. Assist. S., &c., S.E.; Walls, P.G.O. Middlesex, 1st Assistant; Faulkner, 2nd Assistant; W. Hammond, P.P.G. Assist. S., D.C.; Baldwin, W.S.; T. Ockenden, Faija, Johnson, Gilbert, P.G.J. of Middlesex, Janitor. Comp. Haslett, P.S. Prudent Brethren, was the only visitor. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, and letters of apology for non-attendance having been read from Comps. Sabine and Wilkins, Comps. Thiellay and Walters were duly installed as First and Second Principals by Comps. Baldwin and Hammond. In consequence of indisposition Comp. J. Mason, Third Principal elect, was prevented from being present to be installed. The other officers elected for the present year are Comps. E. Wilkins, S.E.; T. C. Walls, S.N.; Sabine, I.P.Z., Treasurer; Faulkner, P.S.; W. Hammond, 1st. Assist.; Ockenden, 2nd. Assist.; Johnson, D.C.; Faija, W.S. The ceremony of exalting Bro. Ryley, Era Lodge, to the Sublime Degree was well performed by the M.E.Z., assisted by his officers and Comp. Haslett. The latter companion's services were acknowledged by a vote of thanks. Comps. Buss, P.G. Treasurer, and H. C. Levander, P.G.S.E., were elected honorary members. The services of the out going First Principal, Comp. Sabine, having been handsomely recognised, and a vote of thanks passed to Comp. Dubois for the manner in which he had discharged the duties of Treasurer for the past year, the accounts were duly audited, and the chapter was closed. There was no banquet, but the companions partook of a collation previously to their return to town. The next meeting of the chapter will be held on the second Saturday in September next.

### Mark Masonry.

**BATH.**—Royal Cumberland Lodge (T.I.).—On Thursday, June 27, the first regular meeting, under the new W.M., was held. The lodge was opened at 8.30 by Bro. John Dutton, W.M., supported by the following:—Dr. Hopkins, P.G.J.W. and Chaplain, as I.P.M.; Rubie, S.W.; C. Wilkinson, J.W.; Braham, Sec.; Murliss, M.O.; Peach, S.O.; Dingle, J.O.; Hayward, S.D.; Mercer, J.D.; Penley, I.G.; Bigwood, Tyler. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed; letters of apology for absence were read from Bros. Carey, P.M., and Howes. On the proposition of the Chaplain, seconded by the J.W., a vote of thanks was passed to Bro. T. Wilkinson for a handsome box, in compartments, to preserve the officer's jewels. New collars and leather aprons were ordered. A ballot was taken for Bros. Holmes and Ames as candidates for advancement, and this proving unanimous in their favour, they were admitted to the privileges of the Order by Bro. James J. Dutton, P.M., who performed the ceremony for his brother, the W.M. No other business offering, the lodge was closed by the W.M. at 10 o'clock.

**GIBRALTAR.**—Inhabitants' Lodge (No. 43).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on the 31st May last, when Bro. J. R. Morgan, P.M., occupied the chair, in the absence through sickness of the W.M., supported by Bros. Beal and Franceri, P.M.'s. A large number of the brethren were present, and after Bro. W. Davis, 153, E.C., had been advanced in Bro. Morgan's usually impressive manner, the other business of the evening commenced, which was to elect Treasurer and instal the W.M. Master elect, and the appointment by him of his officers. The result of the ballot for Treasurer was the election of Bro. Bacon. Bro. J. Cunningham, J.W., the W.M. elect, was presented to the W.M. by P. Masters Beal and Franceri, and after answering the usual questions, the brethren, except Installed Masters' retired. On re-admission, Bro. Cunningham proceeded to appoint and invest his officers for the ensuing year as follows:—Bros. J. Conroy, S.W.; B. White, J.W.; W. Briggs, M.O.; J. King, S.O.; J. Button, J.O.; E. Bacon, Treasurer and Secretary; J. Robson, R. of M.; J. Batchelor, S.D.; O. Latham, J.D.; W. McGrath, M.C.; W. Cockburn, I.G.; Ghio, Tyler. The following brethren were then duly proposed and seconded for advancement: Bros. Penno and Hunter, 278, E.C., and Bros. Bellion, Wilkinson, Way, and Lowry, 153, E.C. After the usual routine business the lodge was closed in due and ancient form, with solemn prayer, and

the brethren retired in peace and harmony to the refreshment room. The usual Masonic toasts having been given by the W.M., Past Master Morgan proposed "The Health of the Newly-installed W. Master, Bro. Cunningham," speaking in high terms of the W. Master's Masonic career, and predicting a prosperous year for the lodge, as well as a highly creditable performance of duty. Bro. Cunningham, in responding, was sensible of the great honour bestowed upon him by the brethren in placing him at their head, and in heartily thanking them for this proof of their confidence, assured them that nothing would be wanting on his part to work the lodge in such a manner as he hoped would give satisfaction to the members and be beneficial to the Craft in general. "The Health of the Past and Present Officers" was then given, and after the Tyler's toast the brethren dispersed.

### ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The July Quarterly Court of the supporters of this Institution was held on Monday in the Board Room, Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Col. J. Creation, V.P., presided, the other brethren present being Bros. F. Adlard, Henry Muggeridge, Charles J. Percival, James Terry, H. Browse, F. Binckes, Sec., and H. Massey (*Freemason*).

After the reading and confirmation of the minutes, Bro. Binckes read the letter of condolence with the widow and family of Bro. Bentley Shaw, which he had written by direction of the Committee of the Institution to Bro. J. Lancaster Shaw. Bro. Binckes also read the letter he had received in reply, acknowledging the kindness of the Committee sympathising with the family of the late brother in their bereavement.

On the motion of Bro. H. Browse, seconded by Bro. J. Terry, both these letters were ordered to be entered on the minutes.

The brethren then approved and adopted the recommendation from the General Committee that eleven boys be elected at the Quarterly General Court to be held on Monday, 14th October, 1878, from an approved list of sixty-seven candidates, one having been withdrawn since the advertisement was issued.

Bro. Jesse Turner's motion was the next on the paper of business—to alter Law 70 (confining the power of the Committee to make grants in aid of deserving boys on leaving the Institution) by erasing the word "twenty" before the word "pounds," and inserting in lieu thereof the word "forty."

Bro. Turner not being present, the Chairman said he did not think so large a question could be considered.

Bro. H. Browse said it was a very wide question and the meeting was very small, and he also did not think such an important question should be settled when so few brethren were present, especially as the mover of the alteration had not attended. For himself, he did not consider it would be right to make the proposed alteration, as the brethren would by altering the rule be helping those who were really able to help themselves. He held that such a question should be considered by a full meeting.

The Chairman concurred, and the motion dropped.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman closed the proceedings.

### ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The July Quarterly Court of the Governors and Subscribers of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls was held last Saturday at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Col. Creation, V.P. and Trustee, presided; and there were also present Bros. Capt. J. Wordsworth, H. Browse, H. A. Dubois, Thos. Massa, A. H. Tattershall, J. Terry, T. R. Eames, W. Ashwell, C. G. Rushworth, H. G. Warren, F. R. W. Hedges (Sec.), and H. Massey (*Freemason*).

After the minutes had been read and confirmed, the brethren settled the list of candidates for the October election, placing twenty-nine children on, and declaring vacancies in the school for three.

The following motion, of which notice had been given by Bro. H. G. Warren, P.G.S., was brought forward and agreed to:—

"In Rule LXXIV., page 17, to omit the words 'in the sum of three hundred pounds,' and insert in lieu thereof, 'in such sum as the Committee shall from time to time deem fit.' Also to omit the word 'two' in the first line, and add in line four, after the word him, 'by guarantee society or otherwise.'"

The Chairman said that £300 had been the amount hitherto required as security for the Secretary, but as the sums now coming to the Secretary's hands were very much larger than they used to be, Bro. Warren thought (and a great many other brethren thought with him) that the amount of security should be greater.

Bro. H. A. Dubois asked the Chairman whether the Guarantee Society should be the surety, because if so he thought the Institution should pay the premium.

Bro. James Terry said that that matter might be brought on when the subject of security was being discussed by the brethren who would have to decide on the amount.

The proceedings closed with the customary vote of thanks to the Chairman.

On dit that the Prince of Wales has purchased "Hazlemere," on Norwood-hill. The house stands in grounds of thirty acres, commands a splendid view of the Penge Valley, Beckenham, and Shirley, with Shooters-hill and Bromley in the distance. It was built by a Dr. Butler, who received therein a number of Indian Princes, and it is probably the most attractive residence on the south side of London.—*Whitehall Review*.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF SURREY.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Surrey was held on Friday at the Public Hall, Dorking, Bro. General J. Studholme Brownrigg, C.B., Provincial Grand Master, presiding.

After the formal opening of the Provincial Grand Lodge the roll of lodges in the province was read over by Bro. Greenwood, Prov. Grand Secretary, when it was found that every lodge in the province was represented by Masters, Wardens, and brethren. This list contains eighteen lodges, viz., St. George's, 370, Chertsey; Grove, 410, Ewell; Surrey, 416, Reigate; Frederick Lodge of Unity, 452, Croydon; East Surrey Lodge of Concord, 463, Croydon; Royal Alfred, 777, Guildford; Dobie, 886, Kingston-on-Thames; St. Andrew's, 1046, Farnham; Dorking, 1149, Dorking; Lorne, 1347, Sutton; Royal Albert Edward, 1362, Red Hill; Way Side, 1325, Woking; Addiscombe, 1556, West Croydon; St. John's, 1564, Knaphill; Studholme, 1591, Surbiton; Friendship and Harmony, 1616, Walton-on-Thames; Brownrigg, 1638, Ditton; and Albert Edward, 1714, York Town.

The minutes of the last meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge were then read, put, and confirmed. The reading of the balance sheet, which was the next business, disclosed receipts £214 2s. 11d., and expenses £67 5s. 6d., leaving a balance in the hands of the Provincial Grand Treasurer, Bro. George Price, of £146 17s. 5d. This announcement was received with loud cheers, and on the motion of Bro. H. J. P. Dumas, seconded by the Rev. C. W. Arnold, the balance sheet was ordered to be received, adopted, and entered on the minutes.

Gen. Brownrigg then rose and said, these funds enabled the Grand Lodge to do a little more than usual, and it had been suggested to him that they should contribute something to the Earlswood Asylum for Idiots, and also beyond the contributions which would be made by the brethren after Divine service, a sum to the Dorking National Schools. He was always very glad when the brethren had funds to make such grants, because it was too much the custom of the outer world to represent Masons as very selfish, and as confining their subscriptions to the Masonic Institutions. Now that the Provincial Grand Lodge was in possession of such large funds, he was happy to say they could contribute something to charities beyond the Masonic body. General Brownrigg then explained that when he appointed the Rev. C. W. Arnold as Deputy Provincial Grand Master he had neglected to obligate him, and he would now therefore call upon the Rev. Brother to take the obligation for the due performance of the duties of his office.

This form having been gone through, Bro. George Price was unanimously re-elected for the 22nd time as Provincial Grand Treasurer, for which compliment Bro. Price expressed his thanks to the brethren.

General Brownrigg then invested the following brethren as Provincial Grand Officers for the ensuing year:—

Rev. C. W. Arnold, M.A., P.G.C.,	Prov. D.G.M.
Dr. Brushfield, 1395 ... ..	Prov. G.S.W.
Dr. Spence, 1149... ..	Prov. G.J.W.
Rev. Ambrose W. Hall, ... ..	Prov. G.Chap.
George Price, 463 ... ..	Prov. G. Treas.
Milner, 1616 ... ..	Prov. G. Reg.
Charles Greenwood, ... ..	Prov. G. Sec.
A. T. Jeffery, P.M. 452 ... ..	Prov. G.S.D.
Wells, W.M. 1638 ... ..	Prov. G.J.D.
Street, P.M. 1395 ... ..	Prov. G.S. of W.
Owens, 1347 ... ..	Prov. G.D. of C.
Capt. Ormsby, 1616 ... ..	Prov. G.S.B.
E. M. Lott, ... ..	Prov. G. Org.
Stacey, W.M. ... ..	Prov. G. Purst.
C. T. Speight, ... ..	Prov. G. Tyler.

All the Grand Officers were then saluted in Masonic form.

At the conclusion of this ceremony General Brownrigg said: Brethren, it is usual on these occasions for the Provincial Grand Master to address a few words to the brethren assembled respecting Masonry in the province in general, but I shall cut it short to-day, because we have been very late in beginning our work, the trains having been much delayed. Altogether I think Masonry in the province is extremely satisfactory. Most fortunate for me I have a most zealous and indefatigable Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and I believe that he has visited every lodge in the province since we last met. Of course, the reports that he sends to me touching those visits are confidential, and must remain confidential to me; but, altogether I am very well satisfied with his report. He has found fault—he has pointed out deficiencies among some lodges, and I certainly shall not particularise those. I give only my advice to them—I do not say "censure," because I hope it will never come to that. I think it much better to advise quietly and without fuss, and I shall take the opportunity of calling the attention of the brethren of the province to what are certainly deficiencies. I think it cannot be too strongly impressed upon you all that no brother should undertake work that he cannot perform. I do not like to be thought for a moment to interfere with the right of selection by the brethren of those who are to rule over them; but I do think it very important that the Worshipful Master of a lodge should be able to do his work thoroughly well, and not only the Worshipful Master but all the brethren who are placed in office. Therefore, I suggest to the brethren that it is not because a brother is popular and charming that he should be chosen as Master; that is not the only recommendation for the Master of a lodge. He ought to be up to his work. Now, a man must have a very defective and bad memory if he cannot with the assistance he can obtain get up his work properly, and, therefore, I hope and trust in this province, wherever I may go, that I may see the work properly performed. I make it a point of never announcing when I am coming, and I

think the Deputy Provincial Grand Master does just the same. We drop in unawares, and I think that is the proper way. However, I repeat that altogether I am satisfied with the way in which the duties of the province are performed, and I need not say how happy and glad I always am to meet you. General Brownrigg added that he would now appoint the Provincial Grand Stewards; whereupon

Bro. H. E. Frances remarked that there was a difficulty in getting Grand Stewards, because when a brother took the office it carried with it no past grand rank. He thought if a representation was made upon the matter to United Grand Lodge, and some pressure brought to bear, the Grand Master would make an alteration in this respect. He did not see why it should not be properly brought before Grand Lodge.

General Brownrigg said he had not failed to mention it, but he did not think it was the intention of Grand Lodge to make any alteration. However there was a rule adopted in some provinces which he did not think a bad one, that no brother should be appointed to Provincial Grand Lodge Office if he had not first served the office of Steward. He should not be at all indisposed for the future to adopt some rule of that sort in the Province of Surrey. That would be, at all events, an inducement. Brethren must know how extremely difficult it was to select brethren for the provincial purple. There were only fourteen offices to be given away in a large province, and it was the most difficult task he had to distribute the purple. Not adopting any hard and fast rule, he would, however, be much disposed for the future to give preference when conferring the purple to those brethren who had served the office of Provincial Grand Steward.

Bro. Greenwood said that if the brethren served the office of Steward it was one indication that they did attend Grand Lodge and the duties of office. There were only six Stewardships to be given, would it not be better to select them from the lodges according to the seniority of the lodges.

Bro. General Brownrigg said there would be a difficulty about that. It would be hardly fair to take the first six lodges, because in that case those lodges would always retain the Stewardships.

A brother asked whether it would not be better that the Stewards should be balloted for.

Bro. George Price said he thought it would be well not to arrive at a decision at once, but to give notice to all the lodges before the next meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge.

Bro. General Brownrigg said he was much obliged for the suggestion. *Ceteris paribus*, he would rather give Grand Office to brethren who had been Grand Stewards than to those who had not. Another plan might be adopted; they might start with the youngest six lodges.

Bro. Greenwood suggested that Masters of lodges might claim the privilege of being Grand Stewards. If six Masters were present and ready to take the rank, it might be better to take them than the rank and file.

The following brethren then volunteered, and were accepted and appointed as Provincial Grand Stewards for the year: Bros. Browse, W.M. 410; Taylor, W.M. 1046; Streeter, J.W. 1714; Honeywell, P.M. 889; Lendrim, S.W. 1616; and Aldridge, W.M. elect 1347.

Bros. H. E. Frances, George White, Woodward, H.J.P. Dumas, and Dr. H. J. Strong, were appointed the Audit Committee, and the brethren then voted five guineas to the Dorking National Schools; ten guineas to the Asylum for Idiots, Earlswood; ten guineas to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls; ten guineas to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys; and ten guineas to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and the Widows of Freemasons.

Letters of apology for inability to attend were read by Bro. Greenwood, from Bros. H. Hacker, Col. Shadwell Clerke, Lees, Wainwright, Col. Burdett, and several other brethren.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed, and the brethren repaired to the Parish Church to evening service, which was performed by the Rev. P. Ralph Atkinson, the vicar, who had kindly placed his church at the disposal of the brethren.

The Rev. Ambrose W. Hall preached the sermon. The offertory after the sermon amounted to £7 11s. 10d., and was devoted to the Dorking National Schools.

The proceedings of the day were concluded by a banquet in the public hall, after which the usual toasts were honoured.

After the toast of "The Queen and the Craft," General Brownrigg, in giving the toast of "The Grand Master and the other Grand Officers," said it had been no doubt an immense advantage to the Craft (to the Craft of England at all events) that they were honoured by having the Heir Apparent to the throne as their Grand Master. Not only had he taken a prominent position in Masonry, but last year two of his brothers filled the offices of Senior and Junior Grand Wardens. He (General Brownrigg) had on several occasions been associated with the Duke of Connaught in Masonry, and it certainly charmed his heart as an old Mason to see how His Royal Highness had taken to it, and what a warm interest he felt in everything that concerned Freemasonry. He augured from this very favourably for the continuance of the prosperity of the Craft. True, the Craft was so well founded and was so grounded in the hearts of Englishmen generally, that it did not absolutely require the attachment of members of the Royal Family, but still he should be very sorry to see that connection of Masonry lost. Longer than any of the brethren could recollect members of the Royal Family had been members of the Craft, and he hoped that our children's children might see that connection continued.

The Rev. C. W. Arnold, P.G.C., replied, and after thanking the Grand Master and the brethren, proposed "The Health of the P.G.M." In the P.G.M.'s absence he might say perhaps far more than he could in his presence. All the brethren knew Gen. Brownrigg, and how willing he was to come forward in every matter connected with

Freemasonry. The brethren knew how he was always ready to go to every provincial gathering to which he might be invited. Without any breach of confidence he might tell the brethren that in a private letter Gen. Brownrigg wrote to him to say that his engagements were such that if he were to die he thought upon his tomb would be inscribed, "Killed by Freemasonry." (Laughter.) He (Bro. Arnold) hoped that the Masons of Surrey would never work their P.G.M. to that extent. From his knowledge of the P.G.M., he might safely assure the brethren that whenever anything was addressed to him in the way of a call for Masonic purposes there he would be found, if it was really possible for him, to be present.

Gen. Brownrigg in reply said: Brethren, I regret extremely that I am obliged to run away, but I have people staying in my house, and carriages are waiting for certain trains and must go. If I could have anticipated that we should have been here as late as we have been I should have made other arrangements. I am very much flattered by what my excellent friend and brother on my right has said about me. I can assure you that any labour I have in connection with the province of Surrey is really a labour of love. I suppose no P.G.M. had ever more kind and fraternal spirit shown him from every part than I have had. It is now my eighth year of being your P.G.M. During that time the lodges have nearly doubled in number, and with one solitary exception I have never had anything that has been really unpleasant; that has passed, and certainly is forgiven by me, and I have no doubt will very soon be forgotten. I do my best always to forget anything unpleasant. There is one thing I omitted to mention in Grand Lodge to-day which I may do now, as it may suit the convenience of brethren to know it. I propose (I do not actually fix it as a fact, in the same way as I did not fix as a fact the matter about the Provincial Grand Stewardships; but I think it would be a very good beginning) that we should hold the Provincial Grand Lodge on the second Tuesday in July. The third Tuesday is a meeting of the Frederick Lodge of Unity, and many of those brethren, I regret to say, were obliged to go away to attend the duties of their own lodge. This circumstance makes me the more thankful to them for their zeal in attending the Provincial Grand Lodge; but I would wish you to bear in mind that if nothing unforeseen happens to prevent it, we will for the future, as long as God preserves me to do my work as your Provincial Grand Master, have our Provincial Grand Lodge on the second Tuesday in July. I thank you from all my heart for the kind and hearty way in which you have always received me, and in which you have drunk the toast which has just been proposed.

General Brownrigg next proposed "The Deputy Provincial Grand Master and the rest of the Provincial Grand Officers, Present and Past." He said that holding the position he did he was most fortunate in having a very valuable Deputy Provincial Grand Master. He had already said how highly he appreciated that brother, and he had the happiness of knowing that wherever he himself went among Surrey Freemasons he found a kind word said about Bro. Arnold. Repeating Bro. Arnold's words with respect to himself (Gen. Brownrigg) it was difficult to say all one wished to say of a man in his presence; but he did not hesitate to say that Bro. Arnold had a thorough practical knowledge of his work, besides which, there was a charm of manner about him which ingratiated him in the brethren's favour wherever he went. He could not descant on the excellences of the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, but he hoped in the selection of him he had given satisfaction to the brethren. If he had not, all he could say was that in appointing Bro. Arnold he had acted conscientiously. Bro. Arnold was thoroughly deserving of it. As he had said before, it was a very difficult task to select Grand Officers, but in selecting them that day he trusted he had pleased all the brethren of the province. (General Brownrigg then left, and deputed the holding of the chair to Bro. Arnold.)

Bro. C. W. Arnold, answering to the toast, observed that when the Provincial Grand Master was in lodge he made certain remarks with regard to his (Bro. Arnold's) reports of the different lodges. It had been his greatest pleasure to visit the lodges of the province, and wherever he had gone he had been entertained most hospitably, and received in a truly Masonic manner. Although there had been cases in which he had not been able to say that lodges were working in the very best manner, yet he could say that, on the whole, the Province of Surrey was in thorough working order. He believed that everywhere there was a desire in the Province of Surrey to carry out the duties of Freemasonry as they should be carried out. If in any case the duties of different officers had not been properly carried out, he felt certain that there had been a disposition on the part of the lodge that those offices should be carried out properly, and if any representation was made to them as to rectifying anything they would do it. He believed it was the duty of the Deputy Provincial Grand Master to report to the Provincial Grand Master the actual state of every lodge in the province. He must, of course, make a truthful report, and if he found that the duties were not carried out efficiently he must report to that effect. He was quite sure that the lodges would adopt any recommendation that might be made to them. The rev. brother then mentioned the subject of the support of the charities and the organisation of this province and that of Berks and Bucks for carrying candidates. He also recommended a junction with another neighbouring county—say Essex or Middlesex for that purpose.

Bro. F. Binckes responded to the toast of "The Visitors," and Bros. George Price and Charles Greenwood to that of "The Treasurer and Secretary."

Bro. Dr. Spence responded to the toast of "The Master of the Dorking Lodge," and thanked the Provincial Grand Lodge for the support given to the local charities, the Dorking National School and the Earlswood Asylum.

Bro. Browse, W.M. of the Grove Lodge, 410, replied

or "The other Lodges of the Province," and after drinking the Tyler's toast, the brethren separated.

Bros. Chaplin Henry and Montem Smith entertained the brethren with some charming singing during the evening.

#### ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF THE MARK BENEVOLENT FUND.

The Mark Master's Benevolent Festival was held at the Alexandra Palace on Wednesday, when Lord Skelmersdale, Deputy Grand Master of Craft Masons, and Grand Mark Master, presided, supported by Bro. Dr. Ace, D.D.; the Rev. Bro. Hatch, Bros. Dewar, Asst. Grand Mark Secretary; Roebuck, Matier, P.G.W.; Cubitt, Collins, Verry, Brighton, P.G.S. Middx.; J. L. Thomas, Asst. G.D.C.; Levander, Spencer, Goepel, and others. A large number of ladies also graced the party. It is needless to say that Bros. Bertram and Roberts did full justice to their reputation as caterers by the dinner which they placed before their patrons, and by the manner in which it was served.

At the conclusion of the dinner the Chairman rose and said: We have not very much time before us, as I am obliged to leave somewhat early, which I hope you will excuse, I shall, therefore, propose without comment "The Health of Her Majesty the Queen, and Success to Mark Masonry."

A portion of the National Anthem was then sung by Bro. Matier.

The Chairman: Ladies and brethren, the next toast I have to give you this evening is "His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family." I believe I am right in saying that His Royal Highness is not a member of our Order, neither is the Duke of Connaught, but I think that Prince Leopold is, and as so good an example has been set by one member of the Royal family, I am in hopes that the Grand Master of Craft Masonry will become a member of this Order. I need not allude to all the good that has been done in Masonry by H.R.H.; the mere fact of his having taken the Grand Mastership upon him has given a great impetus to the cause, not in England only but throughout the world, I give you "The Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family."

The Rev. Bro. Hatch then sang a song of considerable merit, in honour of our Masonic Grand Master, which he had himself written, and which was received with much applause.

Bro. Matier: The next toast I may call the toast of the evening, and I must express the great pleasure it gives me that it has fallen to my lot to propose it. It is not the first time that I have had the honour to propose the health of our Most Worshipful Grand Master. I have on many occasions had the honour to propose his health, but never I think under such distinguished auspices as to-day, when I have to do so as the Chairman of a Mark Benevolent Festival, who has just been installed in the chair of the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Mark Masons, and in asking you to drink his health I am sure I am asking you to do that which is most pleasant to you all.

The Chairman: Ladies and brethren, I thank you all most heartily, and you, Bro. Matier, in particular, for the way in which you have proposed and responded to the toast of my health. I assure you it gives me great pleasure to be here on this occasion. I hope that the result of the Festival will be much larger than the contents of this room. I think that these Festival dinners are rather overdone, and I think it would be much better if we could get the fund subscribed to as a rule without them, and then have a Festival biennially or triennially. I do not suppose you will all agree with me, but as I have said before, I think that where charities are concerned it is a mistake for brethren to meet to eat and drink. I know it is an English fashion, that nothing can be done without a dinner, but I think the thing could be better done without a dinner, and then we should have the dinner's price into the charity. I have before alluded in other places to the dining that goes on amongst brethren, and I believe that many of you already know that I think there is too much of it. But before breaking down the dining system, I think we should break down the talking system. I think we have a great deal too many toasts on these occasions. This, however, is not the case among Freemasons only. I remember that on one occasion I was invited to lunch with a mayor and corporation. We had a most excellent lurchon, and then we set to work and got through fourteen toasts. That is a fact, and there were only fourteen of us. However, ladies and gentlemen, I have a list to get through to-night, and I have now to propose "The Health of the Most Worshipful Past Grand Mark Masters and Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Masters," and I have great pleasure in this as I understand that all these brethren are alive and well at this moment and I hope that they may be for many years. I hope it is an omen of the way in which Mark Masonry will flourish in this country. I hope that I may be able to do the duties of the office as well as they. The original Master, Lord Leigh, told me there was a time when he thought the Mark Degree might be incorporated with Craft Masonry. I think it would be for the benefit of both if they could be incorporated. Lord Donoughmore was expected to be present this evening, but he had appointed this day for installing Lord Ellesmere in his own chair, and is therefore unavoidably absent. Lord Henniker promised me to be present, but he has failed to appear. I have no doubt that he has a very good reason for his absence. I give you the toast of "The Past Grand Masters and Deputy Grand Masters," coupled with the name of Bro. Roebuck.

Bro. Roebuck having said a few words in acknowledgement of the toast, the Chairman again rose and said: Ladies and brethren, Bro. Matier just now said he proposed the toast of the evening. He must allow me to contradict

him, as I consider the toast of the evening to be that which I am now about to propose, "Success to the Mark Benevolent Fund. It is only lately that I have taken any interest in Mark Masonry, and I have found that Mark Masonry stands on its own legs, it has its own Benevolent Fund. I have not the slightest idea what Bro. Binckes has to announce to us, but I hope it is something good, and that the Mark Benevolent Fund will prosper. I understand this is the tenth anniversary festival, and that it began with a donation of £50. Twenty-eight cases have been relieved in sums varying from £1 to £30. There is invested in Canada and New Zealand Bonds a sum of £800, and there is a balance in hand of £50. A balance in hand of £50 is not a large one, only you see there are many calls on this fund. There is certainly an invested sum, but a very small sum annually for interest. However, the cause is prospering step by step, I hope that brethren will show their interest in it by subscribing largely. I know that those who have the arrangement of it take a hearty interest in it, and I hope that this Mark Fund will rise to the level of the Boys' School Fund, and that the Mark Benevolent Fund may take its stand in the Order as one of the best funds of the craft.

Bro. Dewar, Assistant Grand Mark Secretary, then read the following Steward's list, showing a total of £325 5s. 6d., including a donation of £25 from the noble Chairman. There are seven lists yet to come in.

Rev. W. K. R. Redford, R.W.P.G.M. Stafford and Warwick ... ..	£14	10	0
John Wordsworth, R.W.P.G.M. W. Yorks.	10	10	0
James Gardner, Whitwell Lodge ... ..	17	5	0
James L. Thomas, Thistle Lodge ... ..	17	18	0
Wm. Nicholl, St. Andrews ... ..	10	10	0
Alfred Scargill, Britannia ... ..	5	5	0
Jno. Fawcett, Britannia ... ..	5	5	0
Francis Trickett, Britannia ... ..	5	5	0
E. G. Tattershall, Hiram ... ..	21	10	6
Capt. J. Ritchie, Excelsior ... ..	18	0	0
W. G. Brighton (P.G.S.), Grosvenor	25	13	0
H. T. Bazar, Furness ... ..	10	10	0
Richard Eve, Aldershot ... ..	21	0	0
C. Harding, Carnarvon ... ..	10	10	0
J. R. Geopl, West Lancashire ... ..	70	5	0
A. Gorton, Dover and Cinque Ports			
R. Bagot, Lincolnshire ... ..	20	0	0
A. T. Perkins, Keystone			
T. Cubitt, St. Mark's ... ..	10	10	0
J. C. Mason, Southwark, ... ..	12	12	0
Rev. J. Hatch, Southwark			
Col. J. Whitwell, D.P.G.M. Cumberland			
J. D. Sugden, D.P.G.M. West Yorks.			
Rev. David Ace, D.D., Remigius ... ..	5	15	0
J. Barker, Fearnley			
G. W. Verry, Macdonald ... ..	12	12	0
J. T. Robinson, Humber			
	£325	5	6

Bro. Binckes returned thanks for this toast, in doing which, he referred to the remarks made by the Chairman on the subject of the amount expended by Freemasons in making these charity festivals occasions for dining; and he said it was the experience of the Masonic Charities that the Institutions suffered by any attempt to introduce the reforms advocated by Lord Skelmersdale. He reminded his lordship that compared with the immense sums which were annually collected for the charities, the amount spent on the dinners provided on these occasions was infinitesimal. He added also that he had been asked over and over again to compare the amounts contributed by those lodges which do not with those that do spend large sums in social enjoyment, and as a rule he found that the latter are the larger contributors to the charities, contributing nearly double the amount given by the others. As regards the Mark Benevolent Fund he took a cheerful view of their position. He remembered the time when the Stewards of the Boys' School Festival numbered only thirty or thirty-five when they thought £600 collected an enormous success. Therefore, why should they despair? This evening's result would enable them to raise their fund to £1000.

Chairman. The next toast I have to propose is "The Health of the Stewards." You have just heard read the list of Steward's amounts handed in to night. That the stewards have nobly and well performed the duties they have undertaken, there can be no doubt. With the toast I beg to couple the name of Bro. Goepel, and I am sure that in naming him I am naming a very worthy brother.

Bro. Goepel: Ladies and brethren, on behalf of the Board of Stewards, allow me to thank you for the very kind manner in which you honoured us. Allow me to assure you that upon all occasions when we undertake that duty we shall think that we are in duty bound to make the result of the year more successful than the last; to outstrip all former years, and hope that next year will be beaten only by its successor. It gives me great pleasure to have brought up the largest amount this evening, especially as it comes from that lodge in which our noble Chairman was advanced. I assure you that there is no trouble I can take, and no distance that I would not travel in acknowledgement of the kindness that I have always received at his lordship's hands. In Lancashire we think very highly of our noble Chairman, and consider that our lives have fallen in pleasant places.

Bro. J. L. Thomas: Worshipful Sir, and brethren, there has been this evening rather a contention which was the toast of the evening. Bro. Matier thought his was; our noble Chairman thought it was the Mark Benevolent Fund. Now I decidedly think that the toast of the evening is that which has been entrusted to me. Our meeting is, in a certain measure, dwindled away to a small number, but we have still some ladies among us, and their health I propose. Their presence has enhanced very much the

pleasure this evening and given the meeting its most graceful charm. I propose their health, and I wish that in all our meetings, not within lodge, we might have the pleasure of greeting them.

Bro. Brighton returned thanks for the ladies in a very humorous speech, and the Chairman proposed "The Press coupled with the name of Bro. Massey (Freemason)," who returned thanks for the kind manner in which the benefits conferred on Freemasonry by the Press had been referred to by the Chairman.

#### Masonic and General Tidings.

We are requested to announce that Bro. Col. Francis Burdett, R.W. Grand Master of the province of Middlesex, will be away from home some little time. Due notice will be given of his return.

A Reuter's telegram from New York states that extraordinary heat prevails at present in the Western States; 150 cases of sunstroke occurred on Monday at Saint Louis, 50 of which proved fatal.

Her Majesty the Queen has contributed £100 to the fund in aid of the sufferers by the Haydock Colliery explosion.

Bro. the Earl of Hardwicke, R.W.G.M. Camb., laid the chief stone of a new district church in the Fens, near Littleport, on Tuesday last.

At the Bands of Hope fête at the Crystal Palace on Tuesday, 60,540 persons were present. Excursion trains ran from all the great towns. Ten thousand singers, of whom 1100 were life abstainers, gave two concerts. During the day meetings were held, at which Members of Parliament and others delivered addresses.

The Fifteen Sections will be worked in the West Smithfield Lodge of Instruction, No. 1623, held at the New Market Hotel, West Smithfield, on Monday next, at 7 o'clock precisely.

The members of the Mariners' Lodge (No. 249) left Lime-street Station Liverpool by special train for Overton Hills, Frodsham, on Thursday week and a'ter dinner contested for various prizes. A number of ladies accompanied the party. The pic-nic was a most enjoyable one, the arrangements being admirably carried out under the direction of Bros. Barnett, W.M.; Whalley, and Corbett. The prizes (all of which were given by Bro. John Pye) were distributed to the successful competitors by Bro. Barnett, W.M.

A large party of American Knights Templar belonging to the Allegheny Commandery, and headed by Sir Lees Smith, are doing the sights of Dublin to-day (Wednesday). Having arrived yesterday evening, they visited Lodge 35 of the Masonic Order last night; to-night they are received by the Grand Lodge, and tomorrow they proceed to Enniskillen on a northern tour. They will be followed in a few days by another party.—*Daily Chronicle.*

THE GROSVENOR GALLERY.—Mr. Charles Hill, Secretary of the Working Men's Lord's Day Rest Association, has written as follows to Sir Coutts Lindsay, under date July 11th, to the *Times*:—"Will you allow me respectfully to suggest that the Grosvenor Gallery should be opened free on the Saturday afternoon instead of on the Sunday? The Saturday half-holiday has been given to millions for the express purpose of affording time for recreation without trespassing on the day of holy rest. The opening of the gallery on Sunday is calculated to injure the religious character of the day and to impair it as a day of national rest from labour, and to teach the people that the Sunday is a day for mere sightseeing and amusement instead of a day for rest and religious exercises. The Sunday opening of the gallery must involve a certain amount of additional labour on the part of attendants, and increase the work of publichouses and refreshment-house keepers, who will be required to supply persons who come from a distance with liquors. It will also be a direct violation of the religious sentiments of the country, and of that command, read from 10,000 pulpits every Sunday, 'Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.' Mr. Gladstone once remarked that 'the religious observance of Sunday is a main prop of the religious character of the country.' The opening of the Grosvenor Gallery on the Sunday is intended by those who have asked for it as a demonstration against the religious observance of the day, and as such can only do injury to a noble institution." On the whole, we feel bound to say, that in the interest of the working classes, thousands will agree with Mr. Hill.

The following contributions have been made by some of the City Guilds to the fund now being collected by the Society of Arts for the purpose of sending artisan reporters to the Paris Exhibition:—The Clothworkers' Company, £100; the Drapers' Company, 50 guineas; the Mercers' Company, 50 guineas; the Fishmongers' Company, 25 guineas; the Cordwainers' Company, 25 guineas; the Salters' Company, 10 guineas; the Carpenters' Company, 10 guineas.

CLEOPATRA'S NEEDLE.—The Egyptian obelisk has at length reached its final resting place, and now lies stretched across the base on which it is to be erected. The process of raising it is steadily proceeding by means of powerful hydraulic presses placed under each end of the great monolith, and as these are worked every increase in the elevation is secured by wedges of timber driven in, and afterwards by building up blocks of timber, so as to maintain the height gained. It is now several inches above the pedestal, and when elevated to about 30 feet above it the machinery for suspending the obelisk by the centre will be brought into requisition.

Multum in Parvo; or Masonic Notes and Queries.

Sir Knight J. B. Macleod Moore, in his address to the Grand Priory of Canada, August, 1877, states that the "old English Templar ceremony differs very much from our present one, claiming a derivation from the ancient mysteries, as also a Rosycrucian origin. It was expressed in obscure language, evidently to disguise the design of the secret societies, entertained before the Reformation, to upset the Papal power." This is a very remarkable statement, on more grounds than one; and as a student of old Rituals I should like very much to know on what actual evidence it is founded. When I "worked up" the "Evidence of the Templars in England," I could find no old Ritual. The one in use is quite modern, and, I believe, does not date from much before 1851. Can any one give me a clue to an old Templar Ritual of the last century? I have reasons for asking this, though, (not being a Templar), I do not require to see the whole Ritual. A very little portion, especially of that part of it which conforms in any way to the description in our esteemed Grand Prior's speech, would be quite sufficient, that it claimed "a Rosycrucian origin," was "expressed in obscure language, evidently to disguise the design of the secret societies, entertained before the Reformation to upset the Papal power."

If the Grand Prior of Canada will kindly communicate with me through the Editor, I will tell him why I am interested in such statements.

MASONIC STUDENT.

THE "ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED RITE."

Our brother "Craftsman" has raised a very important question as to the "high degrees" (so called), which cannot, I think, be settled finally in ordinary correspondence in the *Freemason*. Though these degrees are often called the "Hautes Grades," it is from no feeling of antagonism to Craft Masonry, or to declare that the "Three Degrees" of Universal Freemasonry are lower in value than those of the "Ancient and Accepted Rite." The term has arisen doubtless from the fact that the Craft degrees are a prerequisite to the others, and hence the terms high or higher degrees mean simply beyond or after. Many of the degrees in question are so essentially different to Craft Masonry that no comparison can be made, and while we are free to admit that several beyond the first three mentioned by our brother are wholly unnecessary and undesirable, there are others, which for their beauty, Masonic symbolism, and general importance, have a claim upon our lasting regard and support. The gradual elimination of the first class and the prominent position of the second are in course of attainment. Our brother will doubtless see that all the degrees of which he speaks must not be placed in the same category, for the degrees of the "Ancient and Accepted Rite" have not always been, and are not now generally considered to be exclusively Christian. Whilst I cannot spare the time at present to discuss the matter at all as it deserves, there is one test we can all apply, viz., to test the subject in the light of facts. By their fruits let them be known. Is it not a fact that generally the best workers in the Craft are the heartiest supporters of the "Ancient and Accepted" and other Rites, from H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., and the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, Pro G. Master, downwards?

I have long noticed this to be a fact, as doubtless our brother "Craftsman" has. There are exceptions, of course, and honourable ones, for we all please ourselves as to what degrees we support. My own opinion is still, as from the beginning, that Masonic degrees date from early last century, and, therefore, the difference of age cannot be so much for one or more to be exalted at the expense of others equally worthy in other respects. Brother "Craftsman" is right as to the difficulties abroad through the actions of certain supporters of the "high degrees," but even then, often such foolish brethren have really been working under Grand Orients working all the Thirty-three or Ninety-six Degrees.

The great Masonic scholar, General Pike, has given many reasons for the statement that Frederick the Great was the supporter of the A. and A. Rite, the work being in the Grand Library at Golden-square. I also have a copy.

WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN.

I have seen the above admirable paper of my valued friend Bro. W. J. Hughan, and think it well to add the following remarks:

1. I quite agree with Bro. Hughan as to the real meaning of "Hautes Grades," though there always has been, and still is, a disposition in some grades to esteem the Christian Grades "more gentlemanly" than the Craft. This I, for one, think a grave mistake, and against any such theory I always have protested and always shall protest.

2. With regard to the antiquity of degrees, per se, I will admit, with Bro. Hughan, that the recognition of our present nomenclature dates from 1717. I am not quite prepared to concede that no evidence exists of three grades before 1717. The High Grades, and even if I allow an Hermetic Grade to have existed in 1717, are all subsequent to Ramsay's famous address, 1740. At least if Bro. Hughan does, I know of no evidence so far, barring an Hermetic Grade, of their existence. With regard to the Christianity of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, no doubt some of the grades are pre-Christian in their history, but the more modern degrees are, surely, essentially Christian. It may be that they are the sequel of the Royal Arch, which has its Triune teaching, and on this point I quite concede that much may be said.

3. As regards the connection of Frederick the Great with the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, I fear that I cannot go with Bro. Hughan. Statements, however ingenious, cannot alter facts, and some very serious facts

have to be got over by Bro. Albert Pike, which may be summed up as follows: 1. The unauthenticity and ungeniueness of the alleged charter of Frederick the Great, in that the names are either spurious or unknown. 2. The fact that no contemporary evidence of the fact can be found. 3. That no German writer of any credit has ever supported the charter as an historical document. 4. The internal evidence of the charter, betraying its own incorrectness and unreality, and in the fact, undoubtedly, that Frederick the Great never was known to have had anything to do with Masonry, except as a Craft system.

I have, like Bro. Hughan, studied the subject very carefully, (though I have not seen Bro. Pike's work), but I have before me all the available documents, and since I saw them and studied them I have always been persuaded of their unhistorical and mythic character. If Bro. Pike can bring forward any evidence as to such a meeting at Berlin, or that any of the alleged signatories ever attended such a meeting, I am open to conviction. As Bro. Hughan knows, Lenning and Findel, the Handbuch and Kloss, equally repudiate the charter, and it is not accepted by Mackay.

CRAFTSMAN.

Reviews.

TRANSACTIONS OF PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL OF DELIBERATION, ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE, PHILADELPHIA.

We have received this well printed record of an important body in America.

THE FREEMASONS' REPOSITORY. HENRY W. RUGG, Editor, Providence, Rhode Island, U.S.

We have read with pleasure this interesting and well edited magazine for June.

THE LIBERAL FREEMASON. ALFRED CHAPMAN, Boston.

This able magazine pursues the even tenour of its way alike with utility and effect.

MASONIC ADVOCATE. Indianapolis, U.S. We always receive and read an old friend with pleasure and profit.

PRACTICAL GUIDE TO NORTH WALES, by H. T. JENKINSON. Edward Stanford, 55, Charing Cross.

We have run through this "Practical Guide" with much satisfaction, as we have been struck with the amount of local and practical information which it supplies in a most convenient compass and at a very cheap rate. Whether for the sojourner at some pleasant seaside place, or the pedestrian climbing Welsh mountains; whether for the "gentleman tourist at ease," or a "reading party in the long vacation," this little work is just the sort of book to put into one's travelling bag, as it will afford to all a fund of information and direction, alike valuable and important. It is one of the best arranged and clearly written guide books we have seen for some time.

KENNINGS MASONIC CYCLOPEDIA.

This work in brief compass, embodies the main points of information required by the general outside student of Freemasonry. Planned in the form of a dictionary, and alphabetically arranged, it lacks the cohesion of a consecutive history, but possesses all the advantages of cyclopaedic treatment in detail, and misses nothing of material value to the inquirer. The doors of the great temple of the Masons are thrown almost wide open, and the forms of things usually deemed mysteries are partly discerned. The annals of Freemasonry are given in sufficient detail for a tolerably distinct comprehension of its past fortunes in different lands. Its principles, under divers headings, as they arise in order are explained and commended. The benefits of brotherhood which it has conferred on mankind in the various predicaments of travel, trade enterprise, and misfortune, are shown to be great; and the chief objections to Masonry, as a system of secrecy, puerile foibles, and false cosmopolitanism, are fairly met in effect, if not by formal argument. As a handbook of moderate price and much completeness within the limits, it bids fair to be of great service to the Guild and general inquirers. When we consider the vast proportions and diversified ramifications of Freemasonry, it must be confessed that its literature has been unaccountably limited. Its books have been large and rare rather than popular and well diffused. This "Cyclopaedia," judiciously edited by Mr. Woodford, is not likely, we think, to disappoint either publisher or purchasers.—*Echo*, July 16th.

Her Majesty has confirmed the nomination by the Master of the Rolls of Mr. William Hardy, F.S.A., as Deputy Keeper of the Public Records.

We understand, that with a view to afford greater accommodation, and to be in a more Central position, Messrs Felton and Sons (of Albemarle Street) the Proprietors of the Celebrated "Specialite" Sherry, "free from Acidity and Heat" have removed their City address to 126, Bishopsgate-street, E.C. Corner of Cornhill.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—In general debility, nervous tremor, and mental depression, these unrivalled Pills have a marvellous effect. They have won the confidence of millions in all parts of the civilised world. Constitutions shaken by sensual excesses, or by long residence in unwholesome climates, or by sedentary habits, are wonderfully renovated by a course of this extraordinary medicine, which, powerful as is its action on the whole system is perfectly harmless to the tenderest frame. The Pills are composed of rare balsams, without the admixture of a grain of any mineral whatever, or of any other deleterious substance. They operate directly, powerfully, and beneficially upon the whole mass of blood; nor can we question the fact when we see indigestion cured, liver complaints arrested, the oppressed lungs brought into healthful play, and every physical function renewed and strengthened by their agency.—[Advr.]

NOTES ON ART, &c.

A Museum of Decorative Art in Paris is being organised. Sir R. Wallace has subscribed £400 towards it, and upwards of £42,000 has already been collected from other sources.

In addition to the médailles d'honneur awarded at Paris to English Art to Mr. Herkomer and Mr. Millais, the medals proper have been awarded to the under-mentioned English artists:—Mr. G. F. Watts and Mr. Alma Tadema; these are "first medals." The following are of the second-class—Mr. Oulless and Mr. Calderon. The following are of the third-class—Sir J. Gilbert, Messrs. Orchardson, Pettie, Leslie Riviere, and Green. The other foreign medallists are M. Wanters of Belgium, Herr Mackart of Austria, and Herr Munkacsy of Hungary. The Frenchmen thus honoured are MM. Cabanel, Gérôme, Meissonnier, Français, and Bouguereau.

The Glasgow Fine Art Loan Exhibition appears to be a great success, the attendance up to last week being 45,000, and the amount to the credit in the bank being £3000. The Committee have now decided to keep the Exhibition open in August, in order to afford English and other tourists when passing through Glasgow to the Highlands an opportunity of seeing the art treasures of Glasgow.

A Scientific, Literary, and Artistic Expedition is about to be undertaken under the direction of Professors Panchich and Valtrovich, of Belgrade, through the newly-acquired districts of Old Servia, for the purpose of examining the old churches and monasteries there, taking sketches of the historical remains and collecting MSS., and whatever other literary curiosities are to be found.

The Royal Society of Musicians have given 20 guineas to a fund now being raised on behalf of Mr. John Parry, who is in distressed circumstances.

The Musical Scholarship in the Ladies' Division of the Crystal Palace School of Art, Science, and Literature was awarded on Saturday to Miss H. Blagden, of Sydenham. Mr. Brinley Richards and Mr. E. J. Hopkins were the examiners.

The monument, after the type of the Albert and Scott Memorials, to be erected to the memory of King Leopold I., in the park of Laeken, is to be the collective work of a number of artists. The general plan has been intrusted to M. de Curte, and M. G. Geefs will be responsible for the statue of the King, which is to be placed under a canopy in the shape of a Gothic tower, 40 metres in height, and surmounted by a work representing the Genius of the Nation. Around it will be placed allegorical statues of the nine provinces, which will be executed by the best sculptors in Belgium.—*Academy*.

At the meeting last week of the St. Paul's Completion Fund Committee it was decided to adorn the interior of the dome with mosaic, and in order to try the effect of the proposed treatment the whole surface of the dome will be at once covered with paper bearing representations in colour of the suggested designs.

Mr. Brock has been chosen to be the sculptor of the memorial of Sir Rowland Hill which is to be erected at Kidderminster.

The Australian Colonies, as a whole, are especially well represented at the Paris Exhibition, where each political division of the great island-continent possesses a small section to itself, in which it can display its own particular manufactures and products to the best advantage. Foremost of the groups comes the Victorian Court, which contains a very fair collection of the exhibits of that colony. One of the chief features of the Court is an obelisk, showing the amount of gold taken from each mine; while in the centre of the section is a grand trophy, around which stand figures of diggers, of stock-drivers, and of natives. There are minor trophies of cloth, bottles of wine, and biscuits; while wool, preserved meats, furs, models of the fruits grown in the colony, native-raised silk, and even chemicals, metal castors, carriages, and billiard-tables form a prominent part of the display. One of the prettiest exhibits is a case of emus' eggs, handsomely and tastefully set in silver. The mineral exhibit is exceedingly good, as might have been expected, the cases of auriferous quartz and "wash-dirt" being especially interesting. Altogether the whole Court, and the careful and thoughtful manner in which the exhibits have been arranged, reflect great credit upon the gentlemen in charge.

The Assyrian Explorer, M. Hormwzd Hassam, the successor of the late Mr. George Smith, is on his way home from Nineveh with relics which he has secured for the British Museum. The British Museum has also received for inspection a fossil lobster-like crustacean from the Wenlock shale. The oldest fossil of this type previously known was from the carboniferous strata found at Mons.

A new weekly journal, entitled the *Britannic*, to be devoted to the interests of British subjects in the United States, will shortly appear in New York. At present there is no English newspaper throughout the United States.

Some details have reached us concerning a large collection in entomology made by Henry Edwards, of San Francisco, during the last 25 years. Professor Davidson, president of the Academy of Sciences, states that this collection of insects is one of the largest ever made in the United States, and by far the most complete ever made on the Pacific coast. It consists of about 60,000 species, comprising more than 200,000 specimens. These include not only all the orders on the Pacific coast, but nearly or quite all in the United States, with a large representation of orders from all parts of the world. The collection is said to be really one of the most complete known in any country. It is valued at 12,000, dols. or rather, that is about the sum expended in freights, cabinets, and the purchase of rare specimens. The labour of 25 years is not estimated.

## 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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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.

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Further particulars may be obtained of the Publisher, 198, Fleet-street, London.

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

## Answers to Correspondents.

Letters from Bro. J. H. Neilson, and "A 33," will appear next week—proofs will be sent.

C. SAUNDERS.—The report shall appear next week. The following unavoidably stand over: Prov. G. Lodge of Suffolk; Provincial Grand Mark Lodge of Hants, and the Isle of Wight; The Grand Lodge of Scotland and the Grand Lodge of Quebec; Summer Excursion of the Lodge of Fidelity, No. 3; Reports of Lodges 1428, 1460, 1536, 1576, 1749; Chapters 129, 342, 1423.

## BOOKS, &amp;c., RECEIVED.

"Hull Packet;" "Medical Examiner;" "Broad Arrow;" "St. Christopher Advertiser;" "Voice of the People, (St. Kitts);" "Bulletin du Grand Orient de France;" "Words to be sung at the Annual Fête of the Village Home;" "Masonic Advocate;" "Du Bauhutte;" "Risorgimento;" "Keystone;" "Portsmouth Times and Naval Gazette;" "The Water Cure;" "Report of a Speech delivered by the Hon. Thos. Holt, Esq. M.L.C.; in the Legislative Council of New South Wales;" "Bundes-Presse;" Vol. I. of "Britf."

We shall be much obliged if Correspondents forwarding Newspapers will kindly mark the paragraphs to which they desire to call attention.

ERRATUM.—The Second Lecture by Bro. Hughan is entitled "Masonic Fees and Privileges," not "Grand Privileges."

## Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

## BIRTHS

FISHER.—On the 13th inst., at Reigate, the wife of S. T. Fisher, of the Grove, Streatham, of a son.

JUPP.—On the 11th inst., at Wellesley-road, West Croydon, the wife of Charles Jupp, solicitor, of a daughter.

## MARRIAGE.

CZARNECKI—BINCKES.—On the 17th inst., at St. Luke's Church, New Kentish Town, by the Rev. C. H. Andrews, Lieut. Czarniecki to Matilda Edith, eldest daughter of the late Mr. Henry Binckes.

STEPHENSON—TWIGGE.—On the 11th inst., at St. John's, Irlam, Manchester, by the Rev. Robert Martin, vicar, E. Stanley Stephenson, of Manchester, to Emily, widow of Henry Twigge, of Liverpool, and daughter of the late John Curtis, of Higher Broughton. No cards.

## DEATH.

BANKS.—On the 13th inst., at Pelham-villas, Salisbury-road, Dalston, of consumption, Frederick Charles, fifth son of the late Mr. Joseph Banks, of New-cross, Surrey, aged 48.

## THE FREEMASON,

SATURDAY, JULY 20, 1878.

## ELECTION OF SECRETARY TO THE GIRLS' SCHOOL.

We think, as we said, necessarily very hastily and briefly last week, that the election of Bro. Hedges to the post of Secretary for the Girls' School will be a satisfaction to the Craft and a gratification to all the subscribers. During the recent contest, the *Freemason* officially espoused no cause, and put forward no candidate, though proprietor and editor, like every one else, had their rightful opinions, as Life Governors of the School, on the subject. We believe that in the last struggle all had the interests of the Girls' School at heart, and certainly the wish of the great majority of voters was to secure a thoroughly efficient Secretary in the place of our lamented Bro. R. W. Little. In supporting Bro. Hedges, his very numerous friends, though many were unable to be present, thought conscientiously that they were attempting emphatically to place the "right man in the right place." And in this we hold that they were correct, inasmuch as they were only following out the now generally received axiom as regards similar posts, namely, that a candidate should possess distinct knowledge of the duties of the office he aspires to. Without introducing comparisons with Bro. Hedges' opponents, which would be alike undesirable and unmasonic, and conceding to them all proper qualifications for the Secretaryship, we yet venture humbly to conceive, 1st that Bro. Hedges was specially fitted for the vacant post, and secondly that in electing him, the Life Governors have, to use a common expression, done "the proper thing." Bro. Hedges had been five years in the office, he knew all its routine duties, whether as regards finance, committee meetings, or public festivals. For two years he had discharged the actual secretarial duties. Large sums of money had passed through his hands, and he had proved to the satisfaction of keen and competent observers, that he undoubtedly possessed all those qualifications which are so essential in a Secretary and so conducive to the best interests of an Institution. A good man of business, well versed in figures, a ready penman, obliging and courteous, respectful to superiors, and considerate of inferiors, he adds to these qualifications the goodwill and respect of all with whom he has been brought in contact, a goodwill and respect which have been fairly earned by his zealous discharge of his proper duties, and his unpretending but consistent demeanour, alike in public and in private. It is this feeling, thoroughly creditable to our Masonic body, which prompted the cheerful, hearty, and enthusiastic support which he has received at the election on the 11th, which polled for him a larger number of votes than any Secretary ever yet received for the Girls' School, and which rewarded the anxious labours of his Committee with so gratifying and so successful a result. Henceforth, Bro. Hedges is before our Masonic public, and the Masonic public a somewhat exacting body, will take note of his words and works, his proceedings, and his efforts. We have ourselves no fear for the result. We are quite sure that in the future, as in the past, Bro. Hedges will justify the confidence placed in him; that he will maintain a high character for usefulness, courtesy, and efficiency; and that he will labour most zealously to advance the best interests of the great charity of which he is now the Secretary, while he earns the unchanged approval of the House Committee, and merits the approbation and commendation of his numerous warmhearted patrons.

## THE RETURNS OF THE LAST FESTIVAL OF THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

We have gone through the Stewards' lists since our last issue, with the following results: The Metropolis has returned £4,778 4s. 11d., of

which the highest amount was made up by Lewis Lodge, No. 1185, Bro. Frederick Binckes Steward, £194 16s. The next to that is the Friends in Council Lodge, No. 1583, Bro. Raphael Costa, Steward, £158 11s. The next, Royal Naval Lodge, No. 59, Bro. C. Harrison, Steward, £112 7s. The next Orpheus Lodge, No. 1706, Bro. J. J. Murray, Steward, £110 5s., and the next Gihon Lodge, No. 49, Bro. Wm. Baily, Steward, £103 19s. These are the only lodges in the Metropolis returning three figures, though many lodges send up most liberal and commendable amounts, and the Tranquillity Lodge, No. 185, Bro. Parr, remits 96, and the Crystal Palace, No. 742, Bro. W. Land returns £90 6s. The provinces, and colonial, and other bodies have remitted £5321 16s. 4d., or about £600 more. Of these West Yorkshire, always in the van of a rightful cause, gallantly heads the list with £525. West Yorkshire is followed by the good province of Kent with £478, and Kent is succeeded by Dorsetshire with £401 12s. Gloucestershire appears next on the scene with £379 13s., and Lancashire, Eastern Division, sends up £315 15s., Norfolk has collected £279 6s., and Essex is not far behind with £233 5s. 7d., while Devonshire follows upon Essex with £220. Warwickshire next advances with £215 15s. 6d., and is almost touched by Surrey with £205 17s. Middlesex offers £194 7s., and North Wales is not far behind with £169; Monmouthshire remits £166 19s., and Durham £155; Cumberland and Westmorland are credited with £150; Suffolk with £120 15s., and Sussex with £118 13s. Smaller sums make up the amount previously specified. Though, as we said last week, we consider the amount, under the circumstances, most remarkable, yet certain considerations seem to crop up as regards the present position and future prospects of our charities, which not unimportant in themselves, demand careful treatment. We reserve, then until next week, the observations and suggestions which have occurred to us to make, and to offer on this most interesting topic to our many indulgent readers. In this hot weather, a very "little goes a great way," and we feel sure that we shall best consult their patience and our own space by stopping here today.

## CLACTON-ON-SEA.

The new and promising seaside town of Clacton-on-Sea, which is likely to become a favourite as it is a most refreshing place of rest, health, and resort, was, on Wednesday week, the scene of a great Masonic gathering to commemorate the establishment of a second Masonic Lifeboat, most slyly named the "Albert Edward." Our readers will remember that to commemorate the safe return of our Royal and beloved Grand Master from India the Grand Lodge, after much discussion, granted £4000 to establish two Lifeboats—one of which is placed on the Devonshire coast, the other at Clacton-on-Sea. We are among those, (and we beg pardon of our readers for reminding them of the fact), who have ever deeply regretted that our Grand Lodge, led away by mistaken sentiment and excitement, refused Bro. John Havers's admirable proposal of voting four thousand pounds to the restoration of the great and historic Minsters of St. Alban's and St. Paul's. The proof how wise was his suggestion, and how Masonically appropriate and useful it would have been, is to be seen in the fact, that both these national works are languishing for want of funds, and bound up as they were with the earlier and later historic souvenirs of Freemasonry, no better or more rightful appropriation of our money could have been possibly made. Failing, however, the best appropriation of our funds, and the most rational at the same time, we think the idea of the Lifeboats a very good one indeed, and on humanitarian grounds highly to be commended. It may be a satisfaction to some of our readers to learn, that already the "Albert Edward" has been instrumental in saving nine lives from the wreck of the "Garland." Like its genial and kind-hearted namesake—may it proceed happily and successfully on its

useful mission, and may all of prosperity and safety, under the protecting providence of T.G. A.O.T.U., attend its future career. The proceedings of Wednesday week at Clacton-on-Sea were most pleasant and practical, and we trust that Freemasonry has acquired a new impetus and increased prestige in that important and rising district. Our esteemed Deputy Grand Master spoke, as he always does speak, in a thoroughly manly, honest, and warm-hearted way, and gained, as he ever does gain, most deservedly, the attention and applause of his listeners. We shall as Freemasons, therefore, rejoice in the fact, that, thanks to the admirable interposition and eloquent words of Lord Carnarvon, the English Grand Lodge was extricated from a most false position, into which injudicious and unreasoning friends had placed it protempore, and was enabled to come to a conclusion alike sensible and useful, and to offer to the world a valuable proof of its kindly sympathies, and its own warm and unchanging desire to benefit our common humanity. As we often have observed before, in the great Providence of God, good comes out of evil, folly is overruled for wisdom here; and we, therefore, gladly commemorate to-day the completion of that vote of Grand Lodge, which, after many difficulties, has arrived at a most befitting resolution, to consecrate its means to the relief and rescue of perishing fellow mortals.

#### THE CHARITY VOTING REFORM ASSOCIATION.

We have read the proceedings of the meeting on Thursday week of this association with much interest, as we were very anxious to see what so great a speaker as Mr. Gladstone could conscientiously put forward in favour of reforms which, in our opinion, are, at any rate, "empirical," and in support of that wholesale condemnation of our charitable system, which, just now, is the "order of the day." We are among those who have always advocated the removal of proved abuses the needful and legitimate improvement as time runs on, of earthly systems, which are necessarily always incomplete and imperfect, liable to abuse, apt to get "out of order." But as we strongly object to unreality and false sentiment of every kind, the hyper-sensationalism and "high falutin" of the hour, we have never been able conscientiously to endorse the somewhat wild accusations which amiable would-be reformers have brought against the charities generally. We do not see that Mr. Gladstone, with all his acknowledged ability and eloquence, has pushed the matter any further or brought the charges home to our charitable associations. He has made "more suo," a very interesting and effective speech,—and there it rests. With the exception of a new inculpation, to which we will call attention later, his remarks mainly turn on that "vexata quæstio," the "voting system," which he denominates the "voting nuisance." But has Mr. Gladstone seriously considered to what his own argument fairly leads? He is somewhat in the position of the morbid individual to whom everything was a "nuisance." But, surely, that is not a sound, nor rational, nor healthy state of feeling? The voting system may be abused, but, surely, it has its use, and we doubt very much if, on calm reflection, Mr. Gladstone would say that, either abstractedly or in the concrete, it was absolutely an abuse, and incapable of honest and legitimate use. And if so, where is his actual argument? We are at one with Mr. Gladstone, when he eloquently dilates upon the excellency of the principle of "Love" as the ruling and controlling principle of all such associations. But Mr. Gladstone need not be reminded by us, that though we shall all, we hope, feel, alas! "that it should be so," it is almost impossible to seek to govern existing associations on abstract first principles of action. No doubt if we were all permeated by such high and well-expressed views, the state of society and the world would be wondrously ameliorated; but alas, we have to do with very common-place mortals indeed, who are governed, and can only be controlled by secondary, nay tertiary, principles of action. It is because human weakness and human selfishness have warped us from abstract right and goodness, and truth, and love,

that we have before us the ever mournful spectacle of conflicting interests, antagonizing sympathies, and contending passions. Mr. Gladstone condemns the voting system, on the ground that it fails in its object, and does not help the "most deserving case." As his whole argument bears truly on another matter, in which, as Masons, we have lately shown some interest, and as we accept Mr. Gladstone's view of the true responsibility of patronage, we give it fully: "Another point was, that when an appointment in any case was to be given away it was a received axiom that the person best qualified to fill it should receive it, and in like manner when charity was to be dispensed the persons who were the most fitted, or the most infirm, or the most distressed, as the case might be, or that person whose undeserved troubles were the most poignant, should receive the charity. But was the voting charity favourable to that? On the contrary, it went right against the principle of the most deserving and the most necessitous being made the recipients of the charity—the voting system did not aim at getting the best cases 'in,' but substituted for the most deserving those who could get the highest figures worked by careful machinery." Thus it will be seen that Mr. Gladstone asserts (what we should have thought his keen intellect would have discovered to be a fallacy), that it is possible for any body of men to agree upon what is "the most necessitous" or the "most deserving case." We hold, as we have just now said, this to be a hopeless and utter fallacy, and a most hurtful one, because, taking from it its actual speciousness. Let us test it in this way. Take any ten men you like, and ask them what are the "first principles" of necessitousness or "deserving" which they will lay down as descriptive of the most deserving case in respect of the reception and election of candidates, and you will find, especially as regards our orphan establishments, that no two will or can agree. It is impossible, on any known ground of argument that we are aware of, to lay down rules which shall clearly enable us to assert that this or that "case" is the "most necessitous" or the "most deserving." As absolute agreement is positively impossible, all we can positively do is to put forward a sufficiently distressing case, which accords with our rules, enlists our sympathies, and claims our votes. Curiously enough, even amid this outcry for reform, it would not be difficult to cite cases where those who most complain of the voting system as unfair to the "most distressing case" have come forward warmly to support a case which is clearly not the most distressing case in any sense, and only a distressing case, and was made more objectionable on every ground of fair play to others. Such an illustration demonstrates the tendency of favouritism, yes, and "jobbery," which is the inevitable result of all close and irresponsible bodies of men. The great argument in favour of the voting system is, that it is a counterpoise to private influence, deliberate jobs and unworthy partiality, and that it prevents any one body of men, or an unscrupulous official, or a busy, and noisy, and pretentious egotist from becoming the "Deus ex Machinâ," and for his self-glorification the "elector general" of candidates. That our charities may require overhauling from time to time who denies? That here and there abuses may have crept in we may all fairly admit. But that they are essentially corrupt or do more harm than good we do most absolutely and solemnly deny. And that the voting system is an actual evil we conceive to be only one more added to the numerous fallacies of the day. We are quite sure that the abolition of the voting system means, in nine cases out of ten, the abolition of the charity itself, and under proper direction, and with controlling safeguards, we believe it to be as fair a way of reaching "deserving cases" as any that can be devised. As regards our Masonic Charities, we are sure that it is so, and that any such proposed change would be mischievous in the highest degree, if not fatal to their progress and success. Mr. Gladstone mentioned, on the authority of our Past Grand Chaplain, Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, the existence of "middlemen," yea, and "middle women," who "trafficked in the votes" for the London Charities, and who were "paid for ob-

taining the election of candidates." As this is quite "new matter," and to say the truth we have never heard of this interesting species of humanity, where it exists or where it is to be found in operation, we should like to hear more about it. We should perhaps hardly have alluded to it, knowing well the habit, (though we doubt its morality), of making little sensational "hits" and "bits" for public meetings. But as the *Times* gravely repeats the story on the authority, not of Bro. Simpson, but of Mr. Gladstone, pace our worthy brother, a much higher authority, we shall feel obliged to any of our numerous good friends who will enlighten us as to those remarkable individuals, who so debase and so prostitute the "excelling grace of charity."

#### THE CONGRESS AND PEACE.

As Freemasons, lovers of peace (not "Peace at any Price," however, let it be noted and remembered), we rejoice to learn that the labours of the last distinguished and momentous Congress at Berlin, under the enlightened presidency of Prince Bismarck, have resulted in the prevention of war and the maintenance of peace. There are many topics in common with this great event, which we are prohibited necessarily and naturally from touching upon in consequence of our wise, decorous, and absolutely non-political position as Freemasons. But this, we think, we fairly may say, that Europe owes a great debt of gratitude to those eminent statesmen, (just as we in England gratefully recognize the honest efforts of the Queen's servants), who have laboured so zealously, despite conflicting interests and opposing clamours to vindicate on one hand the autonomy of nations, and on the other hand to prevent the continuance of a sad and hopeless war. That all interests are satisfied, all nationalities are conciliated, all animosities appeased, by the protocols of the Berlin Congress, is too much, owing to human weakness and perversity, to say or to expect. But, nevertheless, it appears to us that we ought to hail, whether as patriots or Freemasons, or citizens of the world, the deliberations and determinations of so able and dispassionate a body of men, some of them the most distinguished of contemporary statesmen, who, while they have clearly sought strenuously to uphold the sanctity of treaties and the honour of empires, have equally anxiously endeavoured to provide the elements of tranquillity and rest so much needed by Europe and mankind. Let us all hope that the pacific provisions of the treaty at Berlin will be alike durable and effective, and while relieving the anxieties of trade and soothing the agitations of commerce, will pave the way for the advance of liberty, civilization, and toleration, the progress and happiness of suffering peoples, and the onward and peaceful development of independent national life in the world.

#### CONGRATULATORY DINNER TO BRO. HEDGES.

We understand that a complimentary dinner will be offered to Bro. Hedges under distinguished auspices, on his recent election to the Secretaryship of the Girls' School at the opening of the next Masonic season, though we believe that the exact time is not yet fixed. We are informed that due notice will be given of it, when the committee appointed to manage it have finally settled their course of procedure. Such has been the interest manifested by Bro. Hedges's numerous supporters in town and country that it was at first intended to offer him this congratulatory dinner towards the end of this month, but it was considered advisable on account of the heat of the weather and the dispersion of so many brethren, to defer it to a later and more convenient season. There is little doubt, when it takes place, that it will be most numerous and influentially attended, and that it will be a fitting and friendly inauguration of Bro. Hedges's in the duties and responsibilities of his new and important office. We shall duly keep our readers "au courant" of all we hear on the subject, as we know well how much interest has been excited in the Craft by the successful and proper election of Bro. Hedges.

## 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.]

## ARE LADIES AND LEWISES (BEING MINORS) ENTITLED TO VOTE?

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

On the 6th inst. there appeared in the columns of your publication a letter from myself, commenting on the above question and arguing that the existing Bye-laws did not qualify ladies or lewises being minors to vote as members of the General Committee, and drawing particular attention to Bye-law XXXVII., which, as I conceived, limited the right to vote at an election to "initiated brethren."

In the same issue you also published a copy of the Grand Registrar's opinion upon the question, such opinion having been requested by the General Committee holden on the 27th ult. According to the Grand Registrar's ruling "ladies should be permitted to vote."

This opinion was preceded in the *Freemason* by a letter from Bro. Creton, who, as chairman of the last General Committee meeting, undertook to give publicity to the Grand Registrar's opinion through its pages. In that communication the subscribers are informed that "both ladies and lewises being minors, can legally vote on the 11th inst."

This opinion, although contrary to what, I am led to believe, was the general expectation of the Craft, is one which the Chairman of the day will doubtless act upon, and must be submitted to by the subscribers.

It may be considered as an act of presumption on my part to express dissent from the conclusion arrived at by the Grand Registrar; I nevertheless venture, with much respect, to maintain that the interpretation given to Law LXXI. by the Grand Registrar is not that which the framers intended when they prepared the bye-laws now in force, nor, I think, was it the idea entertained by the Committee when they accepted and confirmed them. It is true that much ambiguity is traceable in the Bye-laws, and such being the case, the keynote struck by their framers and acceptors should, in my view, have been the one guiding to their interpretation.

Is it absolutely certain that Bye-law LXXI. legalises the votes of ladies, &c.? The words quoted by the learned Grand Registrar are significant and contain a word which I venture to suggest scarcely warrants the conclusion he has arrived at. The voting by that bye-law is declared to be by balloting papers, to be distributed to every qualified Member present. To whom does this word qualified refer? Clearly not to the members generally then present, as without the pecuniary qualification they could not have taken part in the proceedings of the meeting. May it not refer to the extra and ultra qualification mentioned in Bye-law XXXVII., to which Bye-law LXXI. is a sequence, namely, that of being a brother; or, in other words, does it not specify the particular members of the General Committee, in whom the privilege of voting at the election or removal of a Secretary is vested?

Further, what meaning is to be put upon the words of the Grand Registrar—"I think therefore the ladies should be permitted to vote?" Is it intended to legalise the votes of ladies, being minors, and if so by whom are they to vote? It is a notion uncommonly prevalent, amongst the community at large, that minors are not by law enabled to vote; but this, after all, may be only a legal fiction. Still, it is very desirable to know the minimum age at which ladies may exercise the function of electors. Is it to be fixed at 3 years when they are supposed by omnibus authorities to cease to be "children in arms?" or at 7, when they are supposed to terminate childhood? or at 12, beyond which time they cannot travel at half fares? One would like to be made acquainted with this interesting detail, as much awkwardness might arise from a burly brother presenting himself, laden, mayhap, with twin voters (unable of themselves to retire gracefully from the scene) and being compelled to retrace his steps, thus burthened, from the presence of the Chairman owing to the infant voters being below the minimum age.

The letter of Bro. Creton is worthy of comment as expressing his reading of the Grand Registrar's opinion. He states boldly that the opinion justifies voting by "ladies and by lewises being minors." I do not myself gather so much from the opinion; but it is doubtless assumed from the conclusion arrived at by the Grand Registrar, viz., that "ladies should be permitted to vote," and as he does not limit the privilege to such ladies as have attained their majority or been married, so by parity of reasoning Bro. Creton takes it for granted that young lords of the creation are equally entitled.

But what a melancholy reflection does all this cast on Masonry. The Craft is known to be a matter of frequent comment by the outer world. It is oftentimes termed child's play, it is sometimes looked upon as but the cultivation of man-millinery, and not rarely Masons are supposed to be sadly addicted to gastronomical vices. These insinuations have hitherto been parried by a reference to the ultimate good effected by the Order through the agency of its charitable institutions, but who amongst us will hereafter be able to combat the firstly-named challenge when it can be alleged that an adult member of the General Committee, when attending a meeting, might be supported on the right and on the left by Life Governors of such tender years that guardians would become an absolute necessity.

The farcical aspect of the question may be thus portrayed. One donor, with 50 guineas at command, pays it to one or other of our charitable institutions, and becomes a Vice-President, with ten votes at each election

for children, and one vote as a General Committeeman. Another, with a similar plethora of cash, invests it by becoming himself a Life Governor at an expense of 10 guineas, with two votes at each election for children, and one vote as a Committeeman, the remainder he pays to the Institution in the names of eight ladies or lewises being minors, and obtains thereby sixteen votes at each election for children and eight votes at General Committee meetings. A Vice-Patron who pays one hundred guineas has one vote as a Committeeman; a child in petticoats, in whose name five guineas have been paid, has the same privilege. One brother has enriched our charities to an unexampled extent; his payments have been more than five hundred-fold the sum paid in the name of the juvenile Life Governor, and yet both donors are placed on the same level as regards their supposed capabilities of administering the affairs of the Institution.

I should indeed be grieved at this review were I not very hopeful that an altered series of bye-laws will be the outcome of this "race for office."

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

EDWARD COX.

102, Chancery-lane, July 10th, 1878.

## THE ELECTION OF SECRETARY ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In my former letter, published in your paper of the 6th inst., I neither suggested nor imputed a motive. Bro. Monckton's allegation that I had done so is, as he says, "scarcely nice," though I do not admire the euphony of the expression.

I derived my knowledge of the Grand Registrar's avowed interest in Bro. Storr's behalf from the printed list issued by that candidate. I was sorry to see the Masonic executive so paraded, and deemed the publication of their offices to be scarcely in accordance with good taste.

No one, I imagine, would think of doubting the sincerity of Bro. Monckton in "early supporting" the cause of Bro. Storr, the only dubious feeling engendered is whether Bro. Monckton, as the President of the Board of General Purposes, has not permitted his zeal to outrun his discretion. It is possible for a man to be a too "active partisan."

Faithfully and fraternally yours,

D. D.

July 15th, 1878.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

The excitement of the election being over, the calm that has supervened brings the proverbial wisdom that is at once the easiest and the most useless. *Beati possidentis*, remarked Bismarck on a recent occasion; possession is nine points in law, is an old English saying. Had the thought occurred to the defeated candidates or their friends and advisers much anxiety and considerable expense might have been spared. The overwhelming majority of Bro. Hedges is thus accounted for; the high influence and prestige of Bros. Storr and Matier no doubt account for the large number of votes polled for them; but then comes, *longus intervallus*, the comparatively few given for the other candidates. It is, however, remarkable, that (with one exception) the numbers polled for each are singularly uniform. So far, however, as my worthy Bro. Worrell is concerned, in whose candidature I took active interest, I have reason to know that a large number of his friends who promised their votes failed to enter an appearance—he had also considerable influence in the country, which would not have failed to have told on the result if voting papers had been issued. This probably to a certain extent might be the case with the other unsuccessful candidates; if so, they have the consolation I have tendered to my friend, that comparatively small though the numbers voting for them may be, it shows that, barring exceptional circumstances and influence, they uniformly possess the esteem of the Craft, and that the only difficulty appears to have been the *embarras du choix*.

So far as I could gather at the poll and elsewhere, your observations about the inadvisability of expecting the worthy Secretaries to our charities to wear themselves out by eating so many dinners appear to meet with general acceptance among the Craft, albeit the time may not have yet come when lodges and chapters will do their duty to the charities unaided by the eloquence of the Secretaries. It occurred to me while watching the excitement of the poll, and while using all my influence to catch votes for my much respected protégé, as affairs stand at present, and until some better order is taken in this matter, that a candidate will have to qualify as they do at the bar by eating so many dinners. Only fancy the time coming when "sandwich men" parade up and down at election time calling on electors to vote for Bro. Demosthenes Boanerges the eloquent, or for Bro. Hercules Bon Vivant warranted to dine from home every night, distance no object!

Seriously, I trust with you that the time may come when lodges and chapters will not require the stimulus that at present is deemed necessary, but let charity precede dining.

Yours fraternally,

G. J. KAIN.

United Service Institution, S.W.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Although myself a thorough supporter of the successful candidate at the recent election, I have no desire to sing a hymn of victory or to write a single word in disparagement of those who were defeated by Bro. Hedges.

I should like, however, to call the attention of my brother

Masons to the very great exertions displayed by a brother in connection with that event, and without which, in my opinion, the result might possibly (I had nearly written probably) been different. I allude to the Hon. Sec. of Bro. Hedges's Committee, Bro. Alfred Tisley, No. 8, and Sec. 1589. From first to last he worked with unflagging spirit and indomitable perseverance—sparing no labour—leaving absolutely no stone unturned—in order that the end he had so much at heart might be achieved. Many of your readers are aware of the important official position occupied by Bro. Tisley, and of the onerous and engrossing duties inseparable from such an appointment, but he managed, in spite of all, to find time for an almost incredible amount of labour. Forms and circulars were sent out in thousands. Letters at the rate of 50 a-day received and answered. Fresh Committeemen added day by day till that body had reached from 31 on May 6th, to 178 on July 11th. By these means the sterling merits of Bro. Hedges were brought well home to the electors; and Bro. Tisley had his reward at last in seeing him returned at the head of the poll.

Now that the heat of the battle is over I am sure those brethren who felt it their duty to support a rival candidate will most readily admit (I can hardly ask them to say the best, but) that a thoroughly good man has won.

I remain, dear Sir, yours very truly,

P.M. OF TWO LODGES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I am much pleased to note the fraternal spirit in which the election of Bro. Hedges as Secretary R.M.I. for Girls has been received, especially by Bro. Storr, and the other candidates for the office. I entirely concur with the spirit of the V.W. Bro. J. B. Monckton's letter, and trust with him that "we shall all loyally support" the new Secretary, and unite with him in the hope that "the best man for the Institution" has been chosen. In order that Bro. Hedges may have the hearty support of all concerned in the welfare of the "Royal Masonic Institution for Girls," with which our dear and lamented friend, Bro. Little, was connected, I think the most effective plan would be to join heartily in making the next festival a great success.

Yours fraternally,

WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN,

Truro, 13th July, 1878.

P.G.D.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In the hurry, I presume, and on account of the late hour at which my advertisement was received, two or three errors have crept in which I should feel obliged if you will rectify.

My short address should read as follows:

"I beg to tender to you my heartfelt thanks for the most honourable position in which your kind votes have placed me, and I beg also to assure you that the result of this day will never be erased from my memory. I trust by my earnest and assiduous labours to merit your continued confidence and to advance the best interests of a school so dear to us all.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

F. R. W. HEDGES.

Sec. R.M.I.G.

## MASONIC ELECTIONS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

A very important step has been taken in the right direction—thanks to the energy and determination of Bro. Colonel Creton—in the recent appointment of the Secretary to the Girls' School; which has satisfactorily proved, that a contested election—even in Freemasonry—may be honestly conducted; that the issue of ballot papers can be supervised; that tampering with the ballot boxes is preventable; that the destruction of adverse voting papers is not desirable; that the manufacture of fictitious votes is unnecessary; that the might of self-elected cliquism can be beaten by right; that a truthful scrutiny is more welcome and less troublesome than a false one; and that courtesy is more powerful than official arrogance.

So grand a result of the first attempt at reform will surely be sufficient to secure such an amendment of existing regulations as will effectually prevent a repetition of recent scandals.

Yours faithfully and fraternally;

H.

## VOYES FOR THE MASONIC INSTITUTIONS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I sincerely trust that neither you nor the brethren at large will think me presumptuous, or out of place if I venture to call their attention to the injustice and hardship which too often accrue by an indiscriminate promise of their votes, without sufficiently acquainting themselves with the merits of the case they are asked to support.

I would urge them not to give their votes blindfold and so abuse the privileges they have obtained by their liberal support of the Masonic Charities. If they are too indolent, or too much taken up with their daily avocations, let them hand their individual votes over to the lodge of their election, and they may rest assured, when a body of men are met together for that specific purpose, or that they have a special case brought before them which they will not have taken up without duly considering its merits, that their votes will obtain their legitimate use, viz., to help those whose claims, or the merits of their forbears or fathers, have justly secured for them.

It would be placing little reliance indeed upon the intelligence of those for whom these few remarks are intended, if I were to dilate upon the many cases of injustice caused by indiscriminate voting, but I will, if this meets with your approval, enter into further details, and show what the provinces have done by amalgamating and trusting to



their working bees to act for them, and how, consequently, London is so far behind them in the number of candidates they return at each election, and that because they have hitherto neglected to follow the motto of "In unity is strength."

I remain, dear Sir, yours fraternally,  
CHARLES JOHN PERCEVAL.

THE WORLD'S FAVOUR FOR FREEMASONRY.  
To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I have been waiting to see some reply to those excellent letters on the so-called superior degrees, or Christian Masonry; but I am led to believe from the arguments adduced and my own observation and research, that it is impossible to controvert or refute the opinions and facts which have been so fearlessly and ably expressed by "Craftsman," and I should like to see those letters embodied in the form of a lecture and placed in the hands of initiates, to enable them to understand more fully the theory of our authorised Masonic system, and to perceive that any dogmatic teaching is totally at variance with our Masonic professions and principles.

I am, fraternally yours,

E. S. M.

CHRISTIAN MASONRY AND THE SWEDENBORGIAN RITE.  
To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I notice in the *Freemason* of the 13th inst. a very able letter from "Craftsman," on the subject of Christian Masonry. In paragraph three of that letter he refers to "so-called Cryptic Masonry, to the rites of Misraim, Memphis, Swedenborg, &c." Now, I am rather concerned in the defence of the last-named degree or rite, and I beg permission to say a few words.

In the first place Swedenborgian Masonry cannot in any sense be called a Christian rite—that is to say, its ritual is as free from any sectarian bias as Craft Masonry itself, of which system it is a philosophical exposition. The ceremonies of Swedenborgian Masonry indeed point to very primitive times and very primitive practices. This your correspondent "Craftsman" could easily learn for himself if he thought proper. Nor is there anything trivial or childish in the Ritual of Swedenborgian Masonry. The whole system is massive, impressive, and eminently suggestive.

Every Craft Mason who attentively considers its solemn lessons will hail it as a desirable and interpretative addition to Masonic Science. Nor, it should be remembered, is the Swedenborgian system a modern rite. It is nearly as old as Royal Arch Masonry, and it is nowhere at variance with established Masonic truths.

"Craftsman" says he is always ready to be convinced by evidence and argument. As you may be aware, the forthcoming number of the *Rosicrucian* will contain a long account of the Swedenborgian rite, prepared by myself, and to that statement I will for the present refer your correspondent, our brother "Craftsman," but should he desire a better acquaintance with Swedenborgian Masonry I am always ready to confer with any brother on the subject.

I remain, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally and truly,

KENNETH R. H. MACKENZIE, IX<sup>o</sup>,  
Supreme Grand Secretary, Swedenborgian Rite.

A DISCLAIMER.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Through the medium of your widespread and valuable paper kindly allow me to thank the numerous friends who so readily expressed their willingness to support me for the Secretaryship of the Girls' School, and even voted for Bro. "Paul Storr."

I beg to inform them that I was not a candidate for the office, but am proud of the fraternal esteem of my brethren in the Craft.

I am, yours fraternally,

E. F. STORR,  
P.M. 22, S.W. 1670<sup>o</sup> P.S. Chap.  
192, and Life Governor of all  
the Masonic Institutions.

A DAY IN THE COUNTRY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir,—

Last year some of your readers were led generously to help us to provide for nearly 500 poor boys and girls who attend the Hackney Juvenile Mission a day's excursion into the country.

This year the manager hopes to be able to take some 300 children for a day in July or August, and I should be glad if your readers will again aid practically by sending donations to either Mr. John Newman, Hon. Manager, 117, Cheapside, E.C.; Mr. H. M. Heath, 4, St. Thomas's-road, Hackney; or to yours obediently,

ATHRO ALFRED KNIGHT.

71, King Edward's-street,  
South Hackney, London, E.

At a meeting of the Court of Common Council, at which the Lord Mayor presided, it was resolved to present the Freedom of the City in a gold box to the Earl of Beaconsfield and Lord Salisbury, as a testimony of the court's appreciation of their services at the Berlin Congress.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Suffolk was held at Colchester on Tuesday, 9th inst. A detailed report of the proceedings, kindly forwarded by a correspondent, unavoidably stands over until next week.

ENGLISH MASONRY IN NORTH AFRICA.

On the afternoon of Saturday, 22nd June, the Italian steamer "Caprera" anchored in the midst of the beautiful bay of Tunis, which washes the shores rendered famous in history as the site of the once flourishing city of Carthage. The arrival of the "Caprera" had been anxiously expected by the brethren of the Ancient Carthage Lodge, No. 1717, who had assembled at the seaport of the Goletta to receive their worthy D.G.M., R.W. Bro. William Kingston, of Malta, and several of his Grand Officers, who had with true Masonic zeal and a courageous disregard of the inconveniences of an Oriental summer travelled from Malta to pay an official visit to this young but prosperous lodge, and at the same time to inaugurate the Mark Lodge, Kingston, No. 222, and to consecrate the Royal Arch Chapter Ancient Carthage, No. 1717. The D.G.M., D.G.J.W., D.G. Reg., and others were met at the Goletta by the W.M., Bros. Broadley, the S.W., Rev. E. B. Frankel, the J.W.; Barker, C.E., the Chaplain; the Rev. E. H. Shepherd, B.A., the J.D., Pentecost, and others, and the party proceeded to Tunis by the evening train.

On the following day a great number of the brethren (including the D.G.M.) attended Divine service at the English Church, dedicated to St. Augustine, where an eloquent and appropriate sermon was preached by the D.G. Chaplain, Bro. E. B. Frankel, J.W. 1717.

On Monday, 24th June (by a happy coincidence, the feast of St. John the Baptist), a goodly number of English and foreign brethren assembled in the commodious Masonic Hall, situated in a street bearing the Oriental name of Strada Si Aly Azuz. The lodge-room has a peculiarly elegant appearance, and is furnished throughout in a complete and satisfactory manner. It is nearly 45 feet long, and will contain with ease about eighty brethren. The walls of the lodge are covered with appropriate fresco, almost elaborate in design, and the whole house is brilliantly lighted with gas. A refreshment room, waiting room, &c., are composed in the general arrangement.

The Ancient Carthage Lodge, No. 1717, was opened by W. Bro. Broadley at 4 p.m. The following W.M.'s and P.M.'s were present: W. Bros. N. Lenghi, 33<sup>o</sup>, P.M. of Lodge Caprera, at Alexandria, (P.M. 1717); P. Ghiani Mameli, 33<sup>o</sup>, P.M. and P.M.W.S. of the Lodge and Chapter Vittoria Fidelta, at Cagliari, and deputy for that city to the parliament of Italy; Vais, 33<sup>o</sup>, P.M., and P.M.W.S. at Leghorn; Dr. Maignani, P.M. of the Lodge Carthage and Utica, at Tunis; the Baron James Castellnuovo, W.M. of the Italian Lodge Risorgimento, at Tunis; P. Sulema, 180, P.M. of the Italian Lodge Concordia and Progresso, at Tunis. Amongst the brethren present were Bros. Rev. E. B. Frankel, S.W.; J. E. L. Barker, C.E., J.W.; A. Blanch, acting Treasurer; S. Souiller, Secretary; A. Perini, M.D., S.D.; G. Pentecost, J.D.; Rev. E. H. Shepherd, B.A., Chaplain; P. Palesologo, I.G.; V. C. Clement, D. of C.; M. Lombroso and M. Schembri, Stewards, and H. Haylock, Tyler, together with Bros. the Chevalier Tullia de la Tunisie, Consul General of the German Empire; J. J. Gardiner, C.E.; M. Cassanollo, M.D., and nearly fifty others, including the officers of the newly-founded Italian Lodge Il Risorgimento.

On an alarm being given that the District Grand Lodge of Malta sought admittance a procession entered the lodge in the following order: Bros. Beck, D.G. Purs., Paleologo, D.G. Steward, bearing the greater lights; Bro. Pentecost, D.G. Steward, bearing the D.G. Lodge banner; Bros. Rev. E. B. Frankel, D.G. Chaplain; Charles Riechelmann, D.G. J.W.; and the R.W. Bro. William Kingston, D.G.M.

The D.G.M. was received with the honours due to his exalted rank. The D.G.M. assumed the gavel, and the W.M., Bro. Broadley, his place as D.G.S.W. The other D.G. Officers assumed their posts, and D.G. Lodge was declared open in ample form.

The D.G. Chaplain having offered up a prayer, the W.M. tendered the books of the lodge for the inspection of the D.G.M., and addressed the D.G.M. as follows:—

R.W. Sir,—Allow me on behalf of myself and the officers and members of this lodge to bid you welcome to Ancient Carthage. We are deeply sensible of the honour you have done us in coming amongst us, and of the great sacrifices made by yourself and your Grand Officers to accomplish this visit, so important in the annals of my lodge, and I feel sure so much calculated to advance our prosperity. I feel almost justified in saying that your presence in Tunis to-day has a deep interest, not only for this lodge and this district in particular, but for the Masonic world in general. Few spots possess greater attraction to the historical student of Masonry than the site of that mighty city from which we derive our name, the ruins of which are almost visible from the place on which we now stand. Founded by the countrymen of our Grand Master, H. B., seven centuries before the Christian era, it was adorned and embellished by the "cunning workman" of the Phœnician race, and finally, when Tyre itself fell before a victorious foe, it afforded a refuge to the descendants of those great men who originated, as our traditions inform us, the secrets and mysteries of our honourable Order. The ruins of that once powerful city contain many a mark and many a symbol familiar to all workers of our Craft, and, strange to say, these marks and these symbols have been perpetuated by the Moslem conquerors, whose children now possess those beautiful hills sloping down to the Mediterranean, once crowned by the Mistress of the World. It is to a lodge and a country possessing these almost unrivalled associations that I welcome you to-day. You find in our midst many representatives of the G.O. of Italy, who join with us in thanking you for the honour you have done us to visit this distant part of your province. Italy and England have enjoyed a long and unbroken friendship, and I can truly state that the most cordial and fraternal

feelings exist between the Italian and English Masons in Tunis. We all of us are determined to overcome the difficulties engendered by diversities of race and creed, and unite together in upholding by example, as well as precept, the great doctrines upon which Freemasonry is based. The progress of our lodge up to the present time has surpassed all our expectations. We owe much to the encouragement afforded us by yourself and your excellent D.D.G.M., W. Bro. Rosenbush, and your presence amongst us to-night fills our cup of gratitude to the brim. Your visit will always form an important epoch in the history of this lodge, and will serve as an impetus to one and all of us to put forth fresh exertions in the Masonic cause. The Supreme Grand Chapter of England has lately given us a proof of its confidence in granting us a charter to open a R.A. Chapter in connection with our lodge, and we are fully determined to justify the trust so kindly reposed in us, that neither the Grand Lodge nor the Grand Chapter may ever regret extending their jurisdiction and that of your district to the shores of North Africa, and thus enable English Masons to work English Masonry in the country which will always be associated with the fame and glory of the mighty Tyrian nation, to which in all probability we owe the very existence of our Order.

The R.W.D.G.M. replied as follows:—

W. Bro. Broadley, W.P.M.'s, officers, and brethren—I thank you very much for the cordial reception accorded by you this evening to my grand officers and myself. In coming amongst you I have done nothing more than to fulfil my duty as D.G.M., and I must say that in the present instance my task has been a very pleasant one. I congratulate W. Bro. Broadley on the result of his great exertions in the cause of Masonry in Tunis, and particularly on the prosperity and increasing importance of the lodge over which he rules. I only hope that the fame of the Ancient Carthage Lodge will be lasting and that its future may be as satisfactory as its beginning.

The R.W.D.G.M. closed the D.G.L.

W. Bro. Broadley, at the request of the R.W.D.G.M., resumed the gavel and proceeded with the ordinary work of the lodge.

Mr. Joseph Allegro, an officer in the Turkish army, was then introduced and initiated into the secrets and mysteries of Ancient Freemasonry in the E.A. Degree, the ceremony being carried on in the French language. The W.M. then alluded to the presence of the W.M. and officers and of the recently established Italian Lodge, Il Risorgimento, and wished both them and their lodge every success.

W. Bro. Baron Castellnuovo, M.D. replied in appropriate terms, and expressed his high sense of W. Bro. Broadley's cordiality and good feeling towards the lodge over which he had been elected to govern, and hoped that both lodges would unite in forming a column of mutual defence and support.

The Chaplain of the lodge, Bro. E. H. Shepherd, having offered up an appropriate prayer, the lodge was then closed in peace and harmony at 6 p.m.

At 8 o'clock a banquet was given, under the presidency of the W.M., in the refreshment room, which was very numerously attended by the brethren and Masonic visitors.

The usual toasts of obligation were given and responded to, and that of the D.G.M. awakened peculiar enthusiasm.

W. Bro. Kingston in returning thanks expressed his gratification at the reception accorded to him and his officers, and proposed "The Health of the W.M. and principal Founders of the Lodge, Bro. Broadley" proposed "The Health of the Officers," coupling with the toast that of Bro. the Rev. E. A. Frankel, S.W., to whose Masonic zeal he rendered ample testimony.

Several other toasts were proposed and answered to, and amongst that of "The Grand Orient of Italy," responded to by W. Bro. Ghiani-Mameli, Deputy of the Italian Parliament; "W. Bro. J. M. P. Montagu, G.D. of England," hon. member of 1717; "The Former Masters of Lodges in Tunis," eloquently proposed by W. Bro. Lenghi, and responded to appropriately by W. Bros. D. Magnani and P. Sulema. The Tyler's toast brought the proceedings to a close at 11 p.m.

The next morning at 8 a.m., the brethren met to dedicate the newly-founded Mark Mason's Lodge, Kingston, No. 222, named after the popular and much esteemed D.G.M. of Malta.

The proceedings being opened according to ancient custom, R.W. Bro. Kingston, P.M., No. 109, installed the first W.M., Bro. Broadley.

The following brethren were then advanced, viz., Bros. Perini, W. Castellnuovo, C.E.; A. Blanch, Dr. Cassanollo, Schembri, Gardelle, Denti, Enriquez, and Barker, C.E.

Another meeting was held at 4 p.m., when six other brethren attained the Hon. Degree, viz., the Chevalier Tullia de la Tunisie, Felici, They, Macario, Cassar, and Bourepaux.

A third Mark Lodge was opened at 8 p.m., when seven brethren also sought advancement, i.e., Bros. J. J. Gardiner, C.E.; V. Fingi, Aniti, V.C. Clements, M. Le Gallais, S. Souiller, and E. Nurri.

The ceremonies being over, and the advancement of the twenty-two candidates efficiently carried out with the aid of the visiting brethren from Malta, a short address was delivered by the W.M. on the special interest of Mark Masonry for brethren in Tunis, who expressed his pleasure at the name of the lodge, No. 222, serving as a memorial of the visit of the Installing Officer, R.W.P.M.M. Kingston, and expressed a hope that it would ever continue as a memorial of his hard work and great popularity in the district over which he ruled.

The D.G.M. having returned thanks, the W.M. invited the following officers for the ensuing year:—Bro. Rev. E. B. Frankel, S.W.; G. Pentecost, J.W.; Dr. A. Perrini, M.O.; Dr. N. Cassanollo, S.O.; J. J. Gardiner,

J.O.; A. Blanch, Treasurer; S. Soullter, Secretary; P. M. Paleologo, Registrar of Marks; M. Le Gallais, S.D.; E. Nurri, J.D.; V. C. Clements D. of C.; V. Finzi and E. Gurdelle, Stewards; and H. Haylock, Tyler.

The Mark Lodge was then closed in ancient form at 10 p.m.

On Wednesday, the 6th June, at 4 p.m. the founders of the Ancient Carthage Royal Arch Chapter, No. 1717, assembled in the Masonic Hall, to witness its consecration and the installation of the First Principal elect, E. Comp. A. M. Broadley, W.M. 1717.

The warrant having been read by the Acting Scribe E, an elaborate address on the history, scope, and aim of R.A. Masonry was delivered by the Consecrating Officer, E. Comp. Kingston, P.Z., R.A.C. No. 349, which was listened to with marked attention and highly appreciated.

The Scribe E. elect, the Rev. E. B. Franket, offered up a prayer, during which the consecrating elements were poured out, and afterwards incensed the four corners of the building according to ancient custom.

The chapter being declared consecrated, E. Comp. Kingston proceeded to install in the first chair the principal Z. elect, E. Comp. A. M. Broadley, as designated in the charter signed by the Three Grand Principals of England, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Lord Skelmersdale, and Lord De Tabley, E. Comp. Reichelman, P.M. 515, in the third chair, while he himself, in conformity with the provisions of the warrant, assumed the chair of H. The following M.M.'s; were then introduced, to receive at their hands the benefits of exaltation, viz., W. Bros. Mugnaini, 32° Lenghi, 33°, and the Baron Castellnuovo, all P.M.'s of lodges under the G. O. of Italy, and Bros. the Chevalier Tulin de la Tunisie (Consul General for Germany), Chevalier J. Cubisol (Consul for Denmark and Belgium), J. J. Gardiner, C.E.; J. B. Bourepaux, E. Gardelle, A. Blanch, G. B. Cassar, J. E. L. Barker, C.E., and Dr. N. Gassanello. The chapter was then adjourned till 8 o'clock, when Bros. the Professors Soullier Clement and E. Nurri were exalted. Before the closing of the chapter the M.E.Z., Comp. Broadley, delivered a short address on the position and nature of the degree and its relation with foreign Masonry. The chapter being closed in ancient form, the companions adjourned to a banquet, where the usual Masonic and loyal toasts were honoured and enthusiastically received.

On the following day the R.W.D.G.M., accompanied by Bros. Broadley, D.G.S.W., W.M. of 1717, and W. Bro. Reichelman, D.G.J.W., and P.M. 515, together with all the officers of the "Ancient Carthage" Lodge, paid a visit to the newly established lodge "Il Risorgimento," working under the auspices of the G.O. of Italy. The W.M. of this lodge is Bro. the Baron J. Castellnuovo, M.D., surgeon to the late King of Italy, and who on the previous day was exalted in the Ancient Carthage Chapter, and the subordinate officers are as follows; Bros. Dr. Funaro, S.W.; Professor Vais, 33°, J.W.; Professor Ayra, Orator; G. Maltesopolo, Sec.; Pariente, Treasurer; Attia, D. of C.; and J. Enriquez, Almoner. The lodge being opened in due form, the D.G.M. was received under the Arch of Steel and with the great honours peculiar to Italian Masonry. A most cordial reception was accorded to W. Bro. Broadley and his officers and Bro. Broadley returned thanks in appropriate terms. The work of the evening was proceeded with, and two candidates, Messrs. G. Pariente and Sengallia satisfactorily initiated according to the peculiar ritual as practised in Italy. After the ceremony, an address of much real value and research was delivered by the Orator, Bro. Professor Ayra, and listened to with deep attention by all present. At 9.30. the members and visitors over sixty in number, adjourned to refreshment, and entered in order the beautiful and tastefully decorated banquetting room of the lodge, which is held in one of those ancient Moorish palaces which excite the warm admiration of all European visitors. The room and tables were most elaborately decorated with flowers, national flags, &c. While speaking on this head it would be difficult to accord too much praise to the courteous and hard working, Stewards, Bros. Catalanotti, Attia, Saunino, and Tedeschi, whose exertions added not a little to the perfect success of the entertainment, which can only be described as a dinner of an elaborate kind. The toasts of the King of Italy and the G. M. of the G.O. of Italy having been drunk, coupled with that of our own Royal M.W.G.M., the W.M. proposed "The Health of the D.G.M. of Malta" in felicitous terms, declaring that his visit to Tunis would be considered an epoch in the annals of Italian as well as English Masonry. The D.G.M. returned thanks, and W. Bro. Lenghi explained his remarks in Italian. The W.M. then proceeded to propose "The Health of W. Bro. Broadley," whom he characterised as his co-worker in the Masonic ranks, and to whom he attributed the credit of bringing about by indefatigable exertion and perseverance the great Masonic revival now taking place in Tunis. W. Bro. Broadley returned thanks, declaring that the evening they had spent was a full recompense for any effort of his, and expressed a hope that harmony, affection, and brotherly love would unite and cement the two sister lodges of Ancient Carthage and Risorgimento, which might be appropriately considered as typifying the mutual good-will and regard existing between the two nations to which they belonged. Several other toasts were proposed and drunk with enthusiasm, particularly that of an absent brother, J. H. Stevens, British Vice-Consul at Tunis, at present recovering from severe illness, to which W. Bro. Broadley responded, and appropriately answered by proposing "The Health of his able Medical Adviser, Dr. Funaro," the S.W. of Lodge "Risorgimento." The W.M. having to leave for Goletta by special train, placed W. Bro. Broadley in his place, and the harmony of the evening was continued till a late hour, when a burst of enthusiasm was awakened by the Chairman proposing and giving the parting toast according to our English usage. The brethren separated at midnight with but one feeling as to the reception accorded to them by our

Italian brethren, viz., one of complete and universal satisfaction.

After a visit to the ruins of Carthage and a few hours of needful repose on Friday, the R.W.D.G.M. and his officers proceeded to Goletta on Saturday, the 29th June, by the 10 a.m. train, accompanied by a large number of brethren belonging to both the Tunis lodges. Here the party was received by the respected agents of the Tunisian Railway, Messrs Williamson and Gardiner, and going on board the steam launch belonging to the company, soon reached the S.S. "Lancefield," on which they embarked. All being prepared for departure, the last adieus were exchanged and the Tunis brethren quitted the steamer, which soon left them and North Africa behind. Nothing more remains to be said but that the R.W.D.G.M. during his visit, by his patience, courtesy, and ability earned the hearty good-will of every Mason in Tunis, English or foreign, and that his sojourn amongst them will ever be pleasantly and gratefully remembered in the days to come.

#### DISTRICT GRAND LODGE OF TASMANIA.

The first annual communication of this District Grand Lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, Hobart Town, on Tuesday, the 7th May.

The following District Grand Officers were present:—Bros. William Simmons Hammond, Dist. G.M.; George Smith, Dep. Dist. G.M.; F. H. Wise, Dist. G.S.W.; L. Susman, Dist. G.J.W.; R. D. Poulett-Harris, Dist. G.C.; Charles Toby, Dist. G.S.; C. W. Rocher, Dist. G.S.D.; John Clark, Dist. G. Purs.; John Hamilton, Dist. G.S.; W. R. Davey, Dist. G.S.; W. G. Beaumont, Dist. G. Tyler.

There were also present, as representatives of lodges, Bros. J. G. Davies, W.M. 536; J. Coates, Acting S.W. 536; J. M. Clarke, J.W. 536; William Horne, S.W. 618; J. F. Hobkirk, P.M. 618; T. H. Macgrath, W.M. 801; George Richardson, S.W. 801.

The District Grand Lodge was opened in due form with solemn prayer at 7 o'clock, and the summons convening the meeting having been read, the minutes of the meeting held on the 27th of February were read and unanimously confirmed.

The following report of the District Grand Secretary was read:—

"This being the first meeting of District Grand Lodge since its formal opening and installation of the R.W. the D.G. Master, I have been directed to prepare a short report on the progress made towards placing the Masonic business of the District on a satisfactory and permanent basis.

"In carrying out my instructions I have to express my regret that so little demanding special comment has been accomplished, but I indulge in the hope that at the next annual communication a report of more substantial and practical results will be placed before you.

"Several causes have lately operated to retard the active prosecution of, and attention to, Masonic duties; amongst which may be specially named the rich and valuable auriferous, stanniferous, and coal deposits recently discovered and now in course of development in many portions of the colony, in which direction the attention of the capitalist and the trading portion of our community has been largely diverted. Another cause existed in the distance between Hobart Town and Launceston, rendering it very inconvenient for members of the Committee of General Purposes (who were selected from all the lodges) to meet to prepare a draft of laws and regulations for the government of the D.G. Lodge, and it was found requisite to appoint a sub-committee composed of members of the Hobart Town lodges for that purpose, which committee after due deliberation drew up and had printed a draft of laws, &c., a copy of which has been forwarded to each member of District Grand Lodge, and will be laid before you at this meeting for consideration.

"On the subject of finance, I can only report that in the absence of any power to demand or receive payment of any fees from the lodges until after the making, confirming, and subsequent approval of our laws and regulations, it has hitherto been necessary to meet all our disbursements from private sources. The only amount received has been £2 2s. from the D.D.G. Master for fee payable to the Grand Lodge on his appointment, which has been remitted to and acknowledged by the Grand Secretary. I may also add that the whole of the regalia and appointments for the D.G. Lodge were imported to the order of, and paid for by, the R.W. the D.G. Master, for which the D.G. Lodge is still indebted to him, less £10 10s., proposed optional fee payable to D.G. Lodge on his appointment, and which he has authorised to be deducted from the amount.

"I have to report that Lodge 536, Hobart Town, continues in active operation; the W. Master, Bro. J. G. Davies, reports 5 initiations and 1 joining member during the past year, and a list of 69 members. Lodge 618, Launceston, is also in active working; the W. Master, Bro. R. M. Johnstone, reports 13 initiations and 1 joining member during the past year, and a list of 57 members. Lodge 801, Hobart Town, is also in active working; the W. Master, Bro. T. H. Macgrath, reports 2 initiations and 3 joining members during the past year, and a list of 33 members. Lodge 691, Launceston, has not been working for many years, and the warrant has been surrendered to the R.W. the D.G. Master for safe keeping for the present. Lodge 719, Stanley.—No account received of the warrant for holding this lodge has reached me. The D.D. Grand Master has been requested to inquire who is its present custodian, and report thereon. It has not worked for a long period. No. 800.—A lodge at New Norfolk under this warrant has never been constituted. I have written to Bro. R. Thompson, the W. Master Designate, who, I believe, has custody of the warrant, to show cause why it

should not be surrendered, but am without any reply at present. No. 1517, at Sorell.—This lodge has not been constituted. Bro. J. T. Coram, the Worshipful Master Designate, reports under date 1st May, 1878, that the few remaining brethren in the district have determined to wait a short time longer before asking to have it constituted, hoping at no distant date to be in a position to avail themselves of the privilege of opening the lodge. Such, R.W. Sir and brethren, is the present position of the several warrants in the District, and I regret not having it in my power to report more favourably thereon, but I do confidently anticipate a reaction at no distant period, particularly as the Districts of New Norfolk, Sorell, and Stanley are all localities wherein reside many zealous, good working Masons of high standing, both socially and Masonically, and I sincerely hope that ere long the apathy and inactivity at present existing in these Districts may be followed by a compensating amount of energy in furtherance of the objects of the Craft.

"On the subjects of returns to Grand Lodge, and applications for certificates, I have to state that the W. Master of each lodge working at present makes his return to, and receives certificates for the brethren, direct from the Grand Secretary, in conformity with the Constitution.

"It affords me sincere pleasure to report that the letter of the V.W. the Grand Secretary addressed to the Worshipful Masters of the several lodges in the District, under date the 28th of August, 1876, explanatory of the circumstances connected with the appointment of Bro. Hammond, R.W. D.G. Master for Tasmania, has resulted in putting an end to any further complaints, which is evidenced by the spirit of truly Masonic unity at present existing amongst the Tasmanian brotherhood, and the fraternal greeting accorded to the R.W. the D.G. Master in all parts of the District.

"I have likewise to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of sundry reports of proceedings at the quarterly and other communications of several of the Sister District G. Lodges, amongst which are those of the North Island (New Zealand), New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Bombay, &c., and I would further suggest an interchange of copies of the laws and regulations of the several District lodges, as approved of by the M.W. the Grand Master, which compliment I shall at all times be happy to reciprocate.

"The 'Tasmanian Masonic Benevolent Fund' is the title of an institution established in Tasmania A.D. 1843, having for its object to assist aged and distressed worthy brethren of the ancient and honourable Order of Freemasonry and to afford relief to their widows and orphans, supported by annual subscriptions and voluntary contributions by members of the Order, its constitution being such as to invite subscriptions from and afford relief to all contributing members of lodges subscribing to the fund, without respect to the Constitution under which the lodge is held.

"The report of the Chairman and Honorary Secretary of the fund for the past year, and a copy of its rules, are appended hereto. I hope that such arrangements may be made by D.G. Lodge, relating to the collection of Masonic funds for the purpose of benevolence, as will not materially interfere with the constitution of this old-established and thoroughly effective Masonic organisation. I am informed there is also a Masonic fund for benevolent purposes in Launceston, but no account of its constitution or report of its proceedings has reached me.

"In concluding what may be justly termed merely an inaugural or progress report on the establishment of this District Grand Lodge, I would fain express a hope that the rulers of our great Craft in Tasmania will not permit the present Masonic inactivity long to continue, for permit me to remind them that the immense extension of the Order in all parts of the world will bring with it a corresponding demand on our benevolent resources; it therefore behoves those in authority in our lodges to be earnest in practising the principles they profess to admire, and on which our Order is mainly founded, viz., brotherly love, relief, and truth, and also to use all legitimate means at their disposal in disseminating the principles and more widely extending the influence of this time-honoured and truly benevolent institution, and thus render unnecessary any further reports on the existence of unconstituted or inoperative warrants in the District.

"CHARLES TOBY,

"District Grand Secretary."

It was moved by the W. Deputy District Grand Master, and seconded by the W. District Grand Junior Warden, that the report be received and adopted. Carried unanimously.

The Right Worshipful the District Grand Master then re-appointed the following officers of District Grand Lodge for the ensuing year, viz.:

F. H. Wise	...	...	Dist. G.S.W.
L. Susman	...	...	Dist. G.J.W.
R. D. Poulett-Harris	...	...	Dist. G. Chap.
Charles Toby	...	...	Dist. G. Sec.
W. A. B. Jamieson	...	...	Dist. G.S.D.
C. W. Rocher	...	...	Dist. G.J.D.
J. A. Ferguson	...	...	Dist. G.D. of C.
John Clark	...	...	Dist. G. Purs.
R. R. Davey, John Hamilton,	...	...	Dist. G. Stwd.
William George Beaumont	...	...	Dist. G. Tyler.

It was moved by W. Bro. D.G. Senior Warden, and seconded by W. Bro. Deputy District Grand Master, and carried unanimously, "That W. Bro. T. H. Macgrath be appointed District Grand Treasurer." R.W. the District Grand Master then invested the W. Bro. Macgrath with the jewel of office and installed him as Treasurer.

The following brethren were elected as the Committee of General Purposes: Bros. Hobkirk, Sadler, W. A. B. Jamieson, John Clark, and Poulett-Harris. The draft of rules and regulations provides that the District Grand Mas-

ter, the D.D. Grand Master, the D.G. Wardens, Treasurer, Secretary, W. Masters, and two Past Masters from each lodge (five to form a quorum) shall be members of the Committee, the Chairman to be annually appointed by the R.W. the D.G. Master.

Bros. John Hamilton and Thomas May Evans were appointed Auditors.

The draft copy of laws and regulations for the government of the District Grand Lodge was then considered, and the clauses read seriatim, and with a few alterations passed, and ordered to be printed and distributed amongst the members of District Grand Lodge, with a view to their confirmation at a subsequent meeting.

Apologies for non-attendance were read from the following members of D.G. Lodge: W. Bros. R. M. Johnstone, W.M. 618; F. C. H. Dean, J.W. 618; W. A. B. Jamieson, and F. H. Huston, P.M.'s 536.

There not being any further business, the District Grand Lodge was closed in due form, after solemn prayer, the R.W. the District Grand Master intimating that he would hold the next annual communication at Launceston.

**GRAND COUNCIL OF ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS.**

A meeting of the Grand Masters' Council (No. 1) was held at the new lodge rooms, No. 2, Red Lion-square, on Thursday, 27th Junc. Present: M.P. Bro. the Rev. G. R. Portal, M.P.G.M.; F. Davison, Grand Treasurer; H. C. Levander; S. C. Dibdin; H. Court; D. M. Dewar; and Ill. Comp. A. G. Goodall, 33°, of New York. Bro. the Rev. E. Y. Nepean and the Rev. P. M. Holden were received and admitted to the degrees of Most Excellent Master, Royal Master, Select Master, and Super-Excellent Master.

Several brethren having been proposed for admission to the Order, and the other business of the Council concluded, the Council was closed in ancient form and adjourned to Tuesday, the 30th of July, at 5 o'clock.

**DRAMATIC NOTES.**

"Abstract and brief chronicles of the time."—Hamlet.

ADELPHI.—"Proof," at this theatre continues to give proof that a good sensational, emotional drama is sure to go down, especially with an Adelphi audience, who never enquire too nicely into the construction, the diction, or the character painting, as long as there is plenty of incident, and that incident, sensational. There is some talk of a burlesque on this piece; the title at any rate is happy—"Over Proof, or our celebrated guinea case."

ALHAMBRA.—"Fatinitza" is by no means a good comic opera, the book is exceedingly poor, even worse than Reece's last—the music, except here and there but sadly indifferent. The audience generally, however, truly not a critical one, seems to tolerate it, if not enjoy it. Albery's ballet "The Golden Wreath," at this house still bears the bay leaf. By the way, he should have consulted some "old Indian" before he selected his meaningless, crackjaw names. The main idea of "The Golden Wreath" is not original as most critics seem to imagine. It is taken from Schiller's "Diver."

CRITERION.—"Pink Dominoes" still reigns here in its gay and festive immorality. Personally, I do not consider this very clever play immoral, but then perhaps I am no index, for I am not a hypocrite. It shows up married men as they are, especially your quiet men of business; they are the men who, as Albery said to me, more than any other class of men go, in for scoring. Shows them up certainly. "Ignorance is bliss where tis folly to be wise." Nonsense, let knowledge cost what it will, ignorance is dearer.

COURT.—Wills's last great success "Olivia," continues to draw crowded houses. Chapel-goers may see "Olivia" and enjoy it, there is a real hymn in it. I don't like the play myself, but then I never go to chapel, which may account for my dislike. The fact, however, must be recorded, the piece is a great success.

FOLLY.—"Les Cloches de Corneville" will yet rival its Paris original in the number of productions. The music is charming, the book is rather silly. Shiel Barry's acting as the old miser is alone worth seeing, in fact he made the piece; without him it would never have held the boards a month.

GAIETY.—Closed for repairs. Open in a month.

LYCEUM.—"The Bells" and "Jingle." In the former Mr. Irving is always worth seeing, in "Jingle" he reminds us of the days when he played the clown in the provinces. In good comedy Mr. Irving is seen to better advantage than in tragedy or heavy drama, but I don't admire him as a buffoon.

A report of the proceedings at the Consecration of the Metropolitan Chapter, No. 1507, unavoidably stands over.

Royal Savoy Lodge, No. 1744.—This lodge will hold its first summer festival at Lewis's Hotel, Maidenhead on Thursday, July 25th, under the presidency of the W.M., Bro. J. Willing, assisted by his Wardens, Bros. J. Douglass (Standard Theatre), and F. H. Clemow (Anderston's Hotel), and the indefatigable Secretary, Bro. Stiles. These brethren being so well known in the Craft, and the place designated affording such delightful scenery, it only wants a continuance of the present splendid weather to render the meeting a very pleasant one to the brethren. The Banquet is fixed for 5s. Special arrangements have been made with the Great Western Railway, who have acted with their customary liberality.

**LAUNCH OF THE LIFEBOAT "ALBERT EDWARD" AT CLACTON-ON-SEA.**

(From our Woolwich Correspondent.)

As the columns of the *Freemason* have for some time shown, Woolwich and its vicinity take no small interest in things Masonic, particularly that portion of its divine principle that relates to charity, or why should some three hundred of its people assemble at Kiff's Pier, as they did on Wednesday morning week, anxiously awaiting the arrival of the "Queen of the Thames," Captain Kirby, which superb vessel had been chartered by a few of the leading Masons of Woolwich and Clacton for the especial purpose of a trip to that "Queen of the Eastern Coast," to see the "Albert Edward" launched by loving hands into the sea, from whose insatiable maw it is, by God's blessing, destined to rescue many a priceless life, and the charity comes in here, that every farthing of the surplus proceeds will be devoted to the Masonic institutions. And so at 9 a.m. precisely on that day the gallant ship steamed away with a cargo of such youth, beauty, and quality, that no Plim-soll mark could have for one moment prevented the keen eyes of H.M. inspectors from seeing the state we were in, and placing us all ashore at, say, Long Reach or Rainham Ferry; but thanks to the speed of the magnificent vessel, the Thames police were left behind, and we presume did their duty by running down in the Queen's name some two or three recalcitrant barges, as is not their wont. Well, we looked in at Gravesend, and missed some two or three of our brethren, simply because they were not on the pier when the ship arrived, but were there when the ship left, only on the wrong end of it, and so on to Clacton.

The weather was most delightfully cool, and tempered down by the cloud masses that hid the sun, and screened us from his too ardent gaze. There could be no doubt that Clacton had thoroughly made up her mind to enjoy the good the gods had sent her, for before our boat came fully into range we could see through our binoculars a clustering mass of humanity upon the beach, awaiting, as we poor mortals thought, our arrival, but "alas for the vanity of frail humanity," e'er we could make the pier, we, through those excellent optical arrangements above mentioned, saw the procession converge upon the shore, and the Lifeboat, manned by its "gallant, gallant crew," drawn down the beach by a team of horses, and placed in position for launching.

Our band on board started "See the conquering hero comes," and "God bless the Prince of Wales," and we fervently wished it might have the effect of staying the proceedings until the arrival of us, "the distinguished visitors," but

"Then and there was heard the thundry tread Of many thousands on the shingled shore,"

And when we, after tearing like madmen through the clustering masses on the long pier, and in our progress receiving the maledictions of some unfortunate people with toes, crept as close as we possibly could, we heard our D.G.M., in a most eloquent and appropriate speech, commend the gallant boat and its crew to the care of Him "whose hand alone can save when mighty tempests sweep the angry wave."

Many years ago, more, perhaps, than my readers care perhaps to acknowledge, who remember the circumstance, and when H.M. Dockyard at Woolwich was in its palmiest days, one of the mothers of the present generation, then a blushing and lovely girl, christened a ship there, and before she threw the bottle of old port at its stern, said in clear and ringing tones, "Into the deep I commit thee, thou 'Niger,' and long mayst thou prosper," and so, while memory brought me back to that event, I seemed to feel thirty years younger, as I saw through the crowd of up-turned faces a lovely girl throw a bottle of wine against the white bow of the beautiful Lifeboat, as it laid on its cradle ready for the sea. "God bless the Prince of Wales and the Lifeboat," was the prayer of many a heart in Clacton that day, and the beautiful and eloquent address of Lord Skelmersdale was listened to by the multitude with quiet but earnest reverence, as he spoke of the great good likely to result from the establishment of a Lifeboat on that coast, and when he had finished, from the port side arose a melody replete with devotion and praise, and down many a rough cheek poured the tears as the sweet strain and beautiful words broke upon the air, telling how solemn and grand was the work of that ark, that waited but the cry of distress to go forth on its mission to succour and save. Then came a prayer, listened to by all with bare heads, and then amid the shouts of the thousands assembled, away went the beautiful boat from its carriage into the blue sea, and all was over.

But Clacton, nestled like a bird upon the bosom of our genial eastern coast, rose from her nest with shout and song, and her streets were lined "with purple and fine gold," and the voice of the people waxed great, for never in our remembrance have we seen this eastern queen of all watering places so full of the elite as upon that occasion, and there can be no doubt that, as our D.G.M., Lord Skelmersdale, said, "she must become e'er long the 'Brighton of the eastern coast,' and while her inhabitants enjoyed the health borne to her by the breath of the sea, they would never forget that her coast was adorned with a Lifeboat, perpetually dedicated to the G.A.O.T.U. as a thankoffering for the safe return of our beloved G.M. from his Indian expedition."

Well, then, with the inner man refreshed, and the heart thankful, the joyous company gathered on board the "Queen of the Thames," and soon that ship was ploughing her way home through the waters, now glowing 'neath the rays of the descending sun, and after a quick and enjoyable run Woolwich was reached in safety. Too much praise cannot be given to the Stewards for their courtesy and endeavours for the comfort of all; they were Bros. Hayes, Webster, Jessup, Pryce, Haggett, Turrell, Iron, Reed, Topp, Ellis, Baker, and Watt.

We heard afterwards that the sports in front of Bros. Hayes, Haggett, and Penfold's houses, and the pyrotechnical display opposite the hotel, were all that could be desired to fill up the measure of a most unbounded and liberal day's enjoyment.

**Obituary.**

BRO. F. W. THIEL.

It is with very great regret that we have to record the decease of Bro. F. W. Thiel, who has for many years been connected with Canterbury, N.Z. Bro. Thiel was a prominent member of the Masonic body, having been indentified for many years with the Craft both in Australia and New Zealand; indeed, in Christchurch he was the father of one lodge—the Canterbury—and he lived to see the small slip of the great tree of Masonry which he had planted blossom into goodly proportions. As a Mason Bro. Thiel was energetic and zealous to a degree; no trouble or expense was spared by him to advance the cause of the Craft. To his endeavours in no small degree the present flourishing condition of Masonry in Canterbury is due. The Canterbury Lodge, 1048, E.C., which now holds a high position amongst Craft lodges in N. Zealand, was established by him, and through many vicissitudes of fortune was safely piloted by him to the haven of prosperity. Bro. F. W. Thiel had the rare gift of organisation in a high degree, which stood him in good stead in the work of re-organising and building up the Canterbury Lodge, in which he held several offices, and of which he was Treasurer at the time of his decease. Beloved and respected in no ordinary degree by his Masonic brethren as well as by the outer world, the decease of Bro. Thiel will, we feel sure, be widely regretted.

It may be interesting to the Craft to give the Masonic biography of Bro. Thiel. He was originally initiated in a lodge working under the Irish Constitution, and his Craft career may be briefly traced as follows:—In Australia, member of the Australia Felix and Golden Lodges, Bendigo; founder of the Aurora Lodge, E.C., Inglewood, in 1861. In 1862 Bro. Thiel went to New Zealand, and threw in his lot with the Lodge of Dunedin, E.C., of which he was P.M., and he was also a member of the St. Andrew's Lodge, S.C. Going to Christchurch, Bro. Thiel joined the St. Augustine Lodge, 609, E.C., and afterwards became identified with the Canterbury Lodge, 1048, of which he was the founder, and with which his name will long be remembered in the Masonic annals of Canterbury. The lodge, in the day of small things, met in the room over the store of Messrs Thiel, Mytton, and Co., and Bro. Thiel's fidelity to his Masonic child never wavered to the hour of his death. The lodge was founded in 1864, and, as we have said, passed through great vicissitudes, in all of which Bro. Thiel never relaxed the hope, which he saw realised, of seeing his lodge take a prominent position amongst the Craft lodges here. He was Mark Master S.C. and E.C., Master of Instruction of the Canterbury Lodge, Master and honorary member of the Canterbury Kilwinning Lodge, S.C. (Lyttelton), honorary member of the Somerset Lodge, E.C., Ashburton. In the Grand Lodge he was P.D.D.G.M.

Passing upward into the Sublime Degree of Royal Arch, Bro. Thiel was a companion of the Golden Royal Arch Chapter, Bendigo. He was also founder in Christchurch of the Canterbury Killwinning Royal Arch Chapter 136, S.C., of which he was P.Z., and Treasurer of St. Augustine Royal Arch Chapter. He was P.G.H. for New Zealand under the Supreme Chapter of Scotland, and with Comps. A. A. Dobbs (since deceased) and Booth went to Nelson to open the Trafalgar Royal Arch Chapter, where his admirable rendering of the ritual was the theme of much admiration from his Masonic brethren. He was also an Ark Mariner and Knight of East and West and Red Cross. Going still higher to the 18°, Bro. Thiel was M.W.S. of the Memphis Chapter No. 2, Sovereign Prince Rose Croix 18°. He was also a member of the Supreme Council of Nine of the 33° of the Valley of New Zealand, holding under the Grand Orient of Egypt. It will thus be seen that the deceased brother held all degrees from 1 to 33, and in all of them he evinced the same zeal and sincere devotion to the interests of the Craft which marked his career in the Craft degrees.

At the funeral the Masonic gathering was one of the most imposing that has ever been witnessed in Canterbury, or, indeed, in New Zealand. Shortly after half-past one the brethren assembled at the Canterbury Masonic Hall, and, after some preliminary ceremonies, formed a procession. Some 600 Masons took part in the procession, every Lodge in the district being represented. The onerous duty of marshalling the brethren was entrusted to P.M. Bro. Coleman, who had for his assistants Bros. P.M. T. Stapleton, S. P. Craig, Kerr, Walker, M. Sandstein, and Bergh, D.C. of Canterbury Lodge. Those brethren discharged their duties most satisfactorily.

The usual Church of England service, chorally rendered, was performed in the Mortuary Chapel, and at the grave, by Revs. De Berdt Hovell and W. E. Paige. At the conclusion of this the Masonic service was performed by Bro. the Rev. W. E. Paige. The choral portion of the Masonic service was rendered by a choir led by Bro. H. F. Towle, organist St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, who presided at the harmonium. The choir comprised Bros. John Marshall, F. Hobbs, Ellisdon, Funston, Comerford, Walton, &c. At the conclusion of the service, the brethren formed round the grave, throwing in evergreens. The procession then re-formed, and returned to the Canterbury Lodge.

Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales has intimated her intention of accompanying the Prince on the occasion of his laying the memorial stone of the new church at St. Mary's, Southampton, in August next. Prince Leopold also purposes visiting the Horticultural Society's annual show at Southampton on the 3rd of next month.

### METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS

For the Week ending Friday, July 26, 1878.

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

#### SATURDAY, JULY 20.

Lodge 1185, Lewis, King's Arms Hot., Wood Green.  
 " 1326, Lebanon, Red Lion Hot., Hampton.  
 " 1329, Sphinx, S.M.H.  
 " 1597, Musgrave, Angel and Crown Hot., Staines.  
 Chap. 1194, Royal Middlesex, Mitre Hot., Hampton Ct.  
**LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.**  
 Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.  
 Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-sq.  
 Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-rd.  
 Eccleston, St. George's Club, Victoria Station.  
 Percy, 113, Southgate-road, N.

#### MONDAY, JULY 22.

**LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.**  
 Wellington, White Swan Hot., High-st., Deptford.  
 Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.  
 Strong Man, Old Rodney's Head, Old-st., E.  
 Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.  
 Camden, 174, High-st., Camden Town, at 8.  
 Tredegar, 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, JULY 23.

Audit Com. Girls' School, at 4.  
**LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.**  
 Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.  
 Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.  
 Domatic, 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 Edgcumbe, 19, Jermyn-st., St. James's.  
 Sir Hugh Myddelton, 162, St. John's-st.-rd.

#### WEDNESDAY, JULY 24.

Lodge of Benevolence.  
 " 753, Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's W.  
 " 754, High Cross, Seven Sisters Tav., Page Green.  
 " 778, Bard of Avon, Greyhound Hot., Hampton Ct.  
 Chap. 753, Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's W.  
**LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.**  
 Mt. Lebanon, Horse Shoe Tav., Stones-End, E.  
 Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London-st., Greenwich.  
 New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.  
 La Tolerance, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxfrd-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, Hope and Anchor, Crowndale-rd, N.W.  
 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.  
 Temperance in the East, George the 4th, Ida-st., Poplar, 7.30.

#### THURSDAY, JULY 25.

Gen. Com. Girls' School, at 4  
 Lodge 871, Royal Oak, White Swan Tav., Deptford.  
 " 1524, Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., E.  
 Mark Lodge 13, Hiram, Greyhound Hot., Richmond.  
**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.  
 Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Milbank.  
 Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.  
 The Great City, M.H., Masons' Avenue.  
 High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.  
 Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.  
 Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.  
 Great Northern, Berwick Arms, Berners-st., Oxford-st.  
 Rose, Walmer Castle Hot., Peckham-road, at 8.  
 Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.

#### FRIDAY, JULY 26.

Lodge 780, Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge.  
 " 1602, Sir Hugh Myddelton, Agricultural Hall, N.  
 Chap. 134, Caledonian, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.  
 Mark Lodge 223, West Smithfield, New Market Hot.,  
 King-st., Snow-Hill (Consecration.)  
**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, Gregorian Arms, Jamaica-road, S.E.  
 Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.  
 Doric, 79, Whitechapel-road, at 8.  
 Burgoyne, The Red Cap, Camden Town, 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., Goulborne-rd., Notting-hill.  
 Pythagorean Chapter, Portland Hot. London-st., Greenwich.

### MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, July 27, 1878.

#### MONDAY, JULY 22.

Derby L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.  
**TUESDAY, JULY 23.**  
 Lodge 1609, Dramatic, M.H., Liverpool.  
 " 1675, Antient Briton, M.H., Liverpool.  
 Chap. 1094, Temple, M.H., Liverpool.  
 Merchants L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.  
 Prince Arthur L. of I., 80, N. Hill-st., Liverpool.  
**WEDNESDAY, JULY 24.**  
 Lodge 220, Harmony, Wellington Hot., Garston.  
 " 724, Derby M.H., Liverpool.  
 Chap. 1052, Callender, Public H., Rusholme.  
 Neptune L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.  
**THURSDAY, JULY 25.**  
 Lodge 594, Downshire, M.H., Liverpool.  
 " 1505, Emulation, M.H., Liverpool.  
 Chap. 292, Liverpool, M.H., Liverpool.  
 Stanley L. of I., 214, Great Homer-st., Liverpool.  
**FRIDAY, JULY 28.**  
 Lodge 1393, Hamer, M.H., Liverpool.

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

### ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The Votes of the Governors and Subscribers are earnestly solicited on behalf of

META BELL BRASIER.

The following letter, which appeared in the *Freemason* of the 20th July, will fully explain the merits of the case.

To the Editor of the "*Freemason*."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I trust that you will give space for the following letter, in aid of a girl named "Meta Bell Brasier," whose case is so unique and exceptional that no words from me would be needed to draw attention to it, as any body thoroughly reading the details cannot fail to understand and appreciate; but as a rule, the circulars are only carelessly glanced at and then thrown into the fire or waste paper basket; I wish to attract the notice of your readers to a case whose claims only require to be known to receive the support of those whose votes are disengaged. Indeed, so great is the claim, that in my opinion, other claims which have one or more chances, might fairly lay in abeyance to secure her election. I know, or rather feel, that as a rule, you might reasonably decline a letter for any particular case, but I do believe that you could afford to insert this on behalf of a candidate whose position stands almost if not quite alone. I beg to state that I was, and am, unacquainted with any of the family, but when the case was pointed out to me by one who had known the father and family well and for many years, I at once saw the great need of every exertion, as there are only three vacancies at the ensuing election, so I temporarily gave up a case which could better afford to wait.

The case is as follows: The girl's father was initiated into Freemasonry in 1853, died in May, 1878, leaving six daughters unprovided for, the youngest of whom is the subject of my letter, and should she not succeed in the ensuing election, her age will preclude her from another attempt; now, the great claim consists in these facts, that our brother was a subscribing member for over twenty-five years, that he was a constant subscriber to, and took an active interest in all the Institutions, and, brethren, this is the only chance we have of showing in a small way our appreciation of one who so ably performed his work and assisted the Craft during his life, let it not be said that the Craft generally failed to render so small a tribute to one so worthy of our remembrance.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,  
 CHARLES JOHN PERCEVAL,  
 V.P. of all the Institutions.

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