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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 first meeting of the members of the above lodge since the installation of Bro. John Moore, W.M., took place on Wednesday, the 13th inst., at the Masonic Hall, William-street. Bro. G. Davies, P.M., in the chair, assisted by the following officers: Bros. Thos. Hutton, S.W.; N. Brown, J.W.; H. Syer, Sec.; G. W. Coltar, S.D.; T. Hosgood, J.D.; A. Deans, I.G.; H. Harding, Org.; and B. Norman, O.G. Amongst visitors were H. Wetherhill, P.M., Leinster, I.G.; B. Green, 1077; G. W. King 77; W. Lacey, 700; W. Tucker, 813; S. Jones, 511; and C. Jolly, 913. (*Freemason*.) The only business before the lodge after the confirming of the minutes of the previous meeting, was the raising of a brother to the Sublime Degree, which was happily effected. The lodge was then resumed to First Degree and B. Moore having arrived and taken the chair, introduced the subject of our unfortunate brother (Capt. Grinstead's) children, and the petition of the widow for the reception of them into the Masonic Schools was duly signed, as was the petition of the late Past Master John Henderson's widow to become an annuitant on the funds of the Order.

WHITTINGTON LODGE (No. 862).—This lodge met on Monday last for, amongst other business, the installation of a new Worshipful Master. Bro. Alfred Moore, W.M., presided, and there were also present:—Bros. W. J. H. Jones, P.M.; James Weaver, P.M., Sec.; Thomas Kingston, P.M., Treasurer; C. Walker, P.M.; W. A. Blakemore, S.W.; J. Fairbrother, S. Golden, S.D.; A. Bolton, I.G.; W. Knell, D.C.; R. P. Pate, J.D.; E. Sedgwick, C. Brothers, J. S. Brown, T. Richardson, W. Devine, J. Collison, D. J. Ross, T. F. Lee, R. Evens, W. W. Coates, J. E. Thompson, C. H. Pike, A. C. More, J. Stabler, J. Guignard, J. Irving, W. Jones, J. Gilbert, Tyler. The visitors were Bros. J. F. West, 753; Thos. Gates, 1599; J. W. Collier, 1366; Howard W. J. Vaughan, 1503; D. R. Wise, 452; A. Henry Gellbody, 1045; John Soaper, 55; W. F. Rogers, J.D. 704; W. A. Finney, P.M. 1319; A. W. Surr, J.W. 1612; Jas. Kew, 179; Samuel T. Kingston, Augustus Walton, 1257; J. A. Bayley, 180; J. Canham, 199; and H. Massey, P.M. 619; (*Freemason*.) After the lodge had been opened, the report of the Audit Committee was read and adopted. The balance sheet of the Benevolent Fund, of which Bro. James Weaver is the Treasurer, showed a balance in hand of £22 18s. 6d. The W.M. passed to the Second Degree Bro. William Jones, and initiated Mr. Richard Thomas Rosenberg. This work having been completed, the W.M. then installed Bro. W. A. Blakemore as Master of the lodge for the ensuing year, and did the whole of the work in a most efficient manner. After Bro. Alfred Moore had been invested as I.P.M., the following brethren were appointed as officers of the lodge to assist the W.M.:—Bro. Packer, S.W. (Bro. Jones, P.M., was invested for him in his unavoidable absence); Godden, J.W.; Thomas Kingston, P.M., Secretary; Tate, S.D.; Foulton, J.D.; Knell, I.G.; Sedgwick, D.C.; Brothers, W.S.; Gilbert, T. Bro. Alfred Moore then delivered the addresses, and was heartily cheered when he resumed his seat. Bro. W. J. H. Jones, P.M., proposed a vote of ten guineas to be placed on the list of Bro. Kingston, who is to be the Steward of the lodge for the next festival of the Benevolent Institution. The vote was seconded by Bro. C. Walker, P.M., and carried unanimously. A gift of five guineas was also made to a brother, who is now bed-ridden in the Benevolent Institution. The vote was moved by Bro. W. J. H. Jones, P.M., and seconded by Bro. Godden, J.W. Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet at Freemasons' Tavern. After dinner the loyal toasts having been disposed of, Bro. Alfred Moore, I.P.M., in proposing "The Health of the W.M.," said the majority of the brethren present had known the W.M. from his babyhood in Masonry, and they could not but have observed the assiduity and zeal with which he had carried out every duty in the various posts

to which he had been appointed in the Craft. Even before his appointment he (Bro. Moore) found very frequently that Bro. Blakemore was ready to take office when officers were absent, and that was a very good and pleasing evidence of what they might expect of him in the future. His anticipations had not proved incorrect, for when Bro. Blakemore was appointed to office, and during the whole time he had been in office, there could be no doubt he had met with the approbation of all the brethren. He (Bro. Moore) had every confidence that as Bro. Blakemore had conducted himself before, so would he conduct himself in the future, and continue to make himself regarded and loved by all the members of the lodge. He trusted that Bro. Blakemore would be long spared to be associated with the Whittington Lodge and to do good for Freemasonry. The W.M. said, in response to Bro. Moore's speech, he could say that he had always exerted himself ever since he had been in the lodge to obtain the promotion he had had conferred on him that evening. He was very gratified at having attained that position, and he hoped that he should always have the same good feeling of the brethren that had raised him to that position. The W.M. then said that he had hoped to place a P.M. jewel on Bro. Moore's breast, which had been voted by the lodge, but the manufacturer had not sent it in time to be done now. Bro. Rosenberg responded to "The Initiator's" toast, and Bros. Kew, Wuest, Collier, Rogers, Tinney, and Kingston, to that of "The Visitors." Bro. Alfred Moore, I.P.M., in responding to the toast proposed in his honour, said, that many years ago, long before he was a Mason, he was invited to a most enjoyable ball at Freemasons' Tavern, which was given by a lodge of Freemasons. He had not been in the room long before he came to the conclusion that Masons' daughters were very nice girls. He then thought that if the daughters were nice girls the fathers must be good too. He therefore resolved that sooner or later he should like to join the fraternity. Many years afterwards he did so. He need hardly say he enjoyed his dance very much, and the only peculiarity about it was that some of the gentlemen wore funny little aprons, which appeared to him to be very much in the way. As ladies told him he was not an indifferent waltzer, it seemed that one could dance more freely when the muscles were not encumbered by aprons. The dance was right, and everything went happily as a marriage bell. But when they went to supper he was surprised to see at various little tables the names of different gentlemen, with curious cabalistic initials after their names, and he thought the printer had made a mistake, and meant it for M.P., but looking at the brethren entitled to the initials P.M., he was certain they were not Members of Parliament, and he suggested that the P.M. was meant for Past Meridian. He was again wrong, and asked a gentleman, who had five or six eligible unmarried daughters. He was at last told it was Past Master, and he was as wise as he had been before. He thought it should be for Toast Master, for every one was toasting the others round the table, more or less, generally more, and making certain signs. He little thought at that time he would ever have the letters P.M. placed after his name. They were, however, now so placed, and he considered it a great honour, more especially when he was a P.M. of such a lodge as the Whittington, because the Whittington Lodge partook of the name of that man who was a really working man, and this lodge was a lodge of working Masons. Nobody could aspire to the chair of this lodge unless he was prepared to do his duty thoroughly, properly and satisfactorily. He felt very much pleased at having arrived at that state, wherein he might call himself a P.M., but, at the same time, he felt that as a P.M. he had with other P.M.s, a responsibility. There could be no doubt that no office could be filled in a lodge by a brother without his feeling that if he was to do the duties properly responsibility fell upon him. There was no more important office than that of P.M. It might be assumed by some brethren, that when a brother had passed the chair he was getting into the sere and yellow leaf, that he was indeed Past Meridian, that he was not wanted. But the brethren might believe him, the P.M.s of this lodge were worthy P.M.s. The whole of the the Masonic structure was made up of parts. They had the foundation stone in their initiates; they had a higher part of the building in their Fellow Crafts, the main part of the building composed of Master Masons; they had the pillars, either Doric, Corinthian or Ionic, with capitals, corner and other beauties represented by the higher orders of officers; and with such parts the structure could be no ordinary structure. Without them, however beautiful the structure was, it could not be said to be complete without windows. He ventured to think the P.M.s. were the windows, because it was through them the light of Freemasonry was shown through the body of the lodge. Therefore, he said, they had a responsibility as P.M.s. to keep their windows clean, and he hoped that the light of Freemasonry which shone through them would recommend itself to all who came after them. He sincerely thanked the brethren, and he trusted to meet them very very frequently in future. Bro. Godden, J.W., responded to the toast of "The Officers," speaking for all the officers, and having a personal acquaintance with them, they would do their best to bring the W.M.'s year of office to a successful issue. Every officer of the lodge would do his utmost to carry out the proper working of the lodge, they had hitherto assisted as well as they could, they had done their best with the other Master, and the W.M. might rest assured that they would continue to do so. Bros. Weaver, W. J. Jones, Kingston, and Walker responded for the "P.M.s.," and the other toasts having been honoured, the Tyler's toast was given, and the brethren separated after spending a delightful evening.

WANDSWORTH LODGE (No. 1044).—A meeting of this lodge was held at the Spread Eagle Hotel, Wandsworth, on Wednesday, the 20th inst., Bro. J. G.

Carter, P.M.; (in the absence of the W.M. Bro. W. A. Morgan) being in the chair. There were also present: Bros. Beddy, S.W.; A. B. Walker, J.W.; H. Francis, S.D.; F. Wardroper, J.D.; J. J. Holland, I.G.; H. R. Jones, P.M.; P. V. Denham, J. Tucker, F. Reid, H. Wilson, J. Frost, H. F. Goodchild, M. Marshall, Field, Chamberlain (Corinth, 1122, Nagpur, Bombay). Bro. Tucker, was raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M. and Bros. Marshall and Field passed, Bro. J. Frost, the Secretary, was presented with a jewel and a purse of five guineas for his past efficient services as Secretary.

SOUTHERN STAR LODGE (No. 1158).—The usual half-yearly meeting of this very popular lodge was held at the Surrey Masonic Hall on Tuesday, 12th inst., when a large muster of the brethren of the Mystic tie assembled to do honour to the occasion. The members were Bros. Vant Veer, Green, Block, Hoskins, Cannon, Edis, Austin, Cole, Davis, Pritchard, Beecroft, Garman, Webb, A. Wright, Fowler, Clayton, Durdell, Horsely, Kincey, Russell, and others. The visitors were Bros. Noad, 237; Jordan, 141; Stewart, 141; Wilton, 169; Whitely, P.M. 946, P.Z., &c., Aylin, 975; Everett, 177; Prolymi, 11; Phillips, 11; Goddard, 116; Wells, 51, and others. The officers were Bros. Allen, W.M.; Smith, S.W.; Harris, J.W.; Wicks, J.D.; Fortune, S.D.; Holloway, I.G.; Bro. Stewart, the S.D., being absent from illness. The Past Masters were Bros. T. Pulsford, Sec. (who was obliged to leave early through ill-health); G. Macdonald, C. Wise, A. Wright, J. Wright, H. Potter, and J. Walter, I.P.M. The lodge was opened at 4.30 p.m., in the Three Degrees, and the W.M. proceeded to pass Bro. Denford to the Second Degree, and on the lodge being resumed to the First Degree, Mr. Henry Firmin and Mr. David Whybro were duly initiated into the mystic of the Order, and a word of passing praise is due to Bro. Allen for the very masterly way in which he performed that ever beautiful ceremony, as well as to those two gentlemen for the admirable manner in which they had gone through the trying ordeal. The Master, on rising for the third time, was then informed that one petition from a suffering brother was ready for his signature, and Bro. Walter, in a few appropriate remarks, proposed that it should be recommended to Grand Lodge, which, being seconded by Bro. A. Wright, was referred to the Master for his signature, and to be forwarded to the proper quarter. The Master then closed his lodge, and the brethren adjourned to banquet in the large hall, Bro. Oliver, Masonic Hall, being caterer. Having done ample justice to the good things provided, the cloth was cleared, and the usual toasts were given. The Master, in giving the toast of the Queen, took occasion to say he should be very brief in what he had to say, time being short. It is needless to say that the toast was received with enthusiasm, a verse of the national Anthem following, sang by Bro. Edis. "The Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M." following, the same brother sang one verse of "God Bless the Prince of Wales," which was heartily joined in by the brethren. "The R.W. Earl of Carnarvon, M.W.G.P.M." following, Bro. Fowler sang "The Village Blacksmith," and his fine voice was heard to good advantage in the large hall. "The Initiates" were then given, and Bro. Walter sang "Welcome, ever Welcome, Friends," and gave great satisfaction. On the newly-made brother replying, Bro. Edis charmed the brethren by his spirited rendering of the "Rhine Wine." The W.M. coming next, Bro. Walter said you are all aware for what purpose the I.P.M. once more resumes the gavel, it is to give the toast of "The W.M." and I do it this evening with a deal of pleasure. You are all aware how well he has discharged the duty of his high office, both in the lodge and at the festive board, and I know that a hearty response will be given to the toast of "Bro. Allen, our W.M." The manner in which the toast was received was very flattering indeed to the Master, who, in a few well chosen words (after a recitation from a visiting brother, called "The Bashful Man") expressed his thanks for the kind feeling expressed towards him. The toast of "The Visitors" was given, and after Bro. Whitely had amused the brethren with his adventures as "Sarah's Young Man," he also responded for them. "The Past Masters" toast being given, Bro. Walter Wise, A. Wright, and J. Wright, responded, the latter in his usual graceful and eloquent manner. "The Officers" toast being given, and responded to by Bro. Smith, S.W., "The Tyler's" toast brought the proceedings to a close.

ECLECTIC LODGE (No. 1201).—On Thursday, the 14th inst., at two p.m., an emergency meeting of this lodge was called for the purpose of initiating the following gentlemen: Messrs. Richard Bradshaw, Charles Ireland, James Parr, and Alfred W. Field, the three latter being in attendance, were duly initiated by the W.M., Bro. Arthur E. Taylor, who subsequently passed to the Second Degree Bro. A. J. Mash and R. Mash.

SPHINX LODGE (No. 1329).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday last at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, under the presidency of Bro. H. Martin, W.M. The brethren present were Bros. Bickerton, Sugden, P. A. Nairne, Bickerstaff, Britten, White, Gross, Robins, Rev. R. J. Simpson, Strong, Smallman, Reynolds, Andrews, Wells, Godson, Goss, Stubling, Asman, Voisey, Walker, G. A. Smith, Hook, Angus, E. H. Turner, Triman, Jas. Turner, Irvine, Yaxley, Walliteer, Bryant, Stevens, Canton, R. White, Stride, C. Browne, Gadston, Clough, Wright, Chapman, Wradgham, Alexander, Sawyer, Goldschmidt, Thue, J. Smith, Ball, Luck, Allen, Robinson, Grammond, Tonkins, Forbes, Collins, Clark, Turney, G. W. Marsden, Stokoe, Wilson, Purmewan, Edmonston, Bridges, Larham, Lekorsignol, Brown, Heller, Tyrell, Bradley, Hastie, A. Mid-dlemass, D. Rose, Allworth, Colvin, Hilton, Payne, Richards, Vickery, Garner, Whitby, Wingham, Kynaston, Copeland, Cornes, Farmer, Grafton

Carpenter, Cave, Simpson, Knox, Herrmann, Legg, Duckett, Thornhill, Marr, Reynolds, Temple, Longhurst, Rowan, Woodward, Kitson, Hutchings, Bristow, Greenwood, Mercer, J. A. Smith, Cowley, Brinsley, Scholefield, Devereux, Mansell, Welch, J. White, Fairer, Moore, A. Legg, Barsdorf, Stuart Baker, Black, T. E. Webb, T. E. Webb, jun., Baldry, and H. Massey (*Freemason*.) After the opening of the lodge, and the termination of some formal business, Bro. P. A. Nairne, P.M., installed Bro. Bickerton as Master of the lodge. The brethren appointed to office were Bros. Martin, I.P.M.; Lyon, S.W.; Bryant, J.W.; Reynolds, Treas.; Andrews, Sec.; J. R. Richards, S.D.; A. Goulston, J.D.; P. A. Nairne, P.M., D.C.; A. Stabbing, Org.; Andrew Middlemass, I.G.; H. Forbes and J. J. Bristow, Stewards; and Harrison, Tyler. The new W.M. then commenced his year of office by initiating the following gentlemen: Mr. Charles Hollingworth, jun., Mr. Charles Lye, Mr. Charles John Bradley, Mr. George Plumbly, and Mr. Edmund Bickerton. In consequence of the lamented death of a much respected member of the lodge, Bro. Salter, the brethren appeared in mourning, and the following motion of Bro. Andrew Middlemass was unanimously adopted: "That the lodge, deeply sympathizing with Mrs. Salter and her five children in their bereavement, resolve to support her petition to Grand Lodge and the Board of Benevolence, and that the sum of ten pounds be voted for her present relief." A vote couched in such sympathetic terms was nothing more than might have been expected from the brethren of the Sphinx Lodge, whose tender feelings on all occasions of distress are well-known among members of the Order. In addition to this vote several brethren have warmly taken up the case of a son of the late Bro. Salter, who will be a candidate for the next election of the Boys' School, we hope with success. The business of the lodge being over, the W.M. closed down, and the brethren adjourned to the large hall, where a banquet, which did the highest credit to the purveyors, Bro. Oliver and Bro. Oliver, jun., was partaken of. When the toasts were proposed, Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C., responded for "The Grand Officers," and in doing so said he was sorry there were no other Grand Officers present, because if Bro. Hervey had been there he would have responded to the toast far better than he (Bro. Simpson), whose remarks would be very brief. He wished that Lord Carnarvon and Lord Skelmersdale had been present, for they would have seen in the first place a most flourishing lodge, attended by a number of sympathetic visitors, ruled over by a Master who had for the first time gone through his duties in a style that even seven-and-twenty year's experience he (Bro. Simpson) had seldom if ever seen exceeded, and on a trying occasion, not before thirty or forty brethren but before 129, many of whom were old and experienced Masons. They would also have heard the other officers of the lodge perform their duties in a manner worthy of Masonry, and they would likewise have heard a touching and beautiful speech from Bro. Middlemass in a cause which always elicited all the tender emotions of Freemasons. Lord Carnarvon represented three great positions; he was a great statesman, a great Mason, and a good man; Lord Skelmersdale was a distinguished nobleman, a good Mason, and a good man; and when either of these noblemen presided in Grand Lodge they acted in a business-like way which must satisfy all Freemasons. He (Bro. Simpson) had been much impressed with the old initiation ceremony that evening and seeing five of our fellow men introduced into the fraternity. He remembered well the occasion when he went through the ceremony himself, and he might fairly say to the initiates that they had entered among a body of whom they would never be ashamed, for if they carried out the noble principles and the grand precepts which had been handed down to them they would never regret it. He had ventured to say to them in private what he would again say in public, and what he was sure would be endorsed by all Masons, that the social gatherings of Masons, though they hailed them and were happy to have them, that their insignia, whatever they might be in their different grades, valuable as they might be as symbols of authority and power, were all of them mere figments compared with the grand true principles which as men and Masons they professed to hold and carry out in their actions. They were but the sign of the thing signified; and surely in the present day, when we found profession and practice in the commercial world so unhappily divorced, it was well for us to bear in mind that Masonry proposed to men a high standard, and if the initiates had been a little taken aback on hearing the high standard which Masonry proposed to them, he ventured most humbly and kindly to say that it was well for men to aim at a high ideal, though that ideal be very much above their practice, rather than a low standard. He was bound to say that long as he had been a Mason—and he was older than many of the brethren present—he never heard the principles of Masonry, especially well enumerated as they had been that evening, without himself being in thought and mind carried to the reflection of what we might become on this earth. In that respect they had had a very great pleasure that evening. They had seen five brethren admitted into Masonry, and not the least interesting characteristic of the ceremony had been that the W.M. of a lodge had initiated his own son, and his own very intimate friend, perhaps possibly a future relation. Without going too pointedly into the degrees of consanguinity, they found that one man was both a son and a brother. He (Bro. Simpson) felt deeply grateful to the W.M., and to Bro. Nairne, and to the brethren of the Sphinx Lodge, for giving him the great pleasure, and privilege, and honour of being present, and an opportunity of spending his half-holiday in so pleasant a way among many brethren. Every one present could join him in saying, without anticipating the toast which would be presently given, that he hoped the W.M. and officers of the Sphinx Lodge would have a most happy and prosperous year, and that the new initiates might find in their first year of ac-

cession to Freemasonry those happy precepts which they had heard that night carried out into action, not only in the lodge, but in general life itself. Bro. H. Martin, I.P.M., having proposed "The Health of the W.M.," Bro. G. T. Bickerton, in reply, said he had had very many heavy weights upon him from time to time, but undertaking the post of Master of the Sphinx Lodge was the heaviest. The brethren, however, told him to take it quietly, and he would get on all right. The brethren would all rejoice, as he did himself, on such a large number being present. He would ask the brethren for their sympathy, and his brother officers for all the assistance they could possibly give him. Working together, he and the officers would endeavour to make the year 1878-79 a prosperous year. He was very glad it had fallen to his lot to initiate five gentlemen, especially as some of them were near and dear to himself. It seemed strange no doubt that a son should be a brother, still he had told his boy this—that if he made him a brother he must not lose sight of this fact, that he (the W.M.) was his father. All the initiates responded to the toast given in their honour, and Bros. Alworth, Ross, and Duckett, replied on behalf of "The Charities," and in very feeling terms referred to the death of Bro. Salter, and the vote on Bro. Middlemass's motion. He then advocated the cause of the Masonic Institutions, and begged the brethren to support them. From time to time it filled him with pride and satisfaction to think that the body to which he had the honour to belong maintained such institutions. The Boys' and Girls' Schools were not by any means pauper schools, but exactly what the members of the Masonic Order would wish them to be. Bro. P. A. Nairne replied for "The P.Ms.," Bro. Lyon, S.W., for "The Officers," Bro. Goss for "The Musical Brethren," and Bro. Forbes, Brinton, and Middlemass, for "The Stewards." The Tyler's toast brought the proceedings to a close. The enjoyment of the brethren was greatly enhanced by some excellent singing, given by Bros. W. M. Goss, J. H. Walker, J. H. Asman, R. S. Godson, A. Stribling, and R. J. Voysey, all of whom are members of the lodge.

[The above report is necessarily imperfect, on account of the disadvantageous position in which our reporter was placed. Before the banquet, Bro. Goldschmidt drew the attention of the Secretary to the fact that our representative's name did not appear on the plan of the tables, and the Secretary's answer was, "Oh, no, he's a reporter," in a tone which left the inference to be drawn that a reporter was not entitled to the courtesy usually displayed to a visitor. This may be the prevailing view of Vestries and Boards of Guardians, but during many years' experience of Masonic lodges the Sphinx Lodge is the first we have found, that by the mouth of one of its invested officers, has given expression to it. With this exception the hospitality of the lodge was unbounded, and our reporter was treated with the same hearty welcome as the other visitors.]

ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE LODGE (No. 1593).—The installation meeting of the above lodge was held at the Ship Hotel, Greenwich, on Tuesday week, the 12th inst. There was a numerous attendance of the members, and a goodly assembly of visitors, which augurs well for the success of the young lodge. The brethren present included the following distinguished officers of the Craft: Bros. J. A. Rucker, P.G.D.; C. A. Murton, P.G.D.; Nettleship, P.G. Sword Bearer; Ralph Gooding, M.D., W.M. of the Grand Master's Lodge No. 1; W. Bristow, P.M. 14; A. J. Bristow, W.M. 14. A. Southwall, Southern Cross, 393; Douglas H. Granie, Loyalty, Bermuda, 358; Alfred W. Warry, St. John and St. Paul; J. G. Loughborough, St. Georges, 140; G. Brown, St. Georges, 140; Stieble, Ravensbourne; Alfred Hendricks' Unity, 1637; William Heckley, 660; D. Walter Burney, St. Patricks, 50, Dublin; Robert C. Grand, Emulation, 21; W. G. Barnes, Grenadiers, 66; S. Dibbin, Universal, 181; Lees, United Service, 1428. The lodge was opened in due form at 5.15, and on the minutes being confirmed the W.M., Bro. R. Kalley Miller, requested Bro. Blakey, P.M., to initiate four candidates for Freemasonry. Soon after 6 p.m. the chief business of the evening was opened by Bro. Kalley Miller, who proceeded to instal Bro. Captain V. F. Johnston, R.N., as W.M. of the lodge for the ensuing year. This having been accomplished in the presence of a full board of Installed Masters, the brethren were called in and they saluted with the usual formalities the second Installed Master of the lodge. Bro. Johnston proved himself a worthy successor to the able Installing Master, his careful and spirited working giving promise of a good year of office. The W.M. immediately appointed his officers for the year. Bros. G. W. Armstrong, S.W.; Albert Escott, J.W.; George C. Pulsford, S.D.; George A. Warleigh, J.D.; Rees, I.G. The Treasurer, Bro. Pink, had been re-elected and was duly invested. Bro. E. M. Roe, was also re-appointed Secretary and invested amidst many signs of approbation. At the rising of the W.M. Bro. Kalley Miller, P.M. 1593, proposed a vote of £10 10s. to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, which was duly passed. Bro. Miller also requested the lodge to accept from him a cheque for twenty guineas, to be devoted to the other charities. Bro. Miller's generosity was warmly acknowledged by the brethren present. These first contributions to the Masonic Charities from the R.N. College Lodge may be considered as an earnest of future endeavours to do more in that direction. A sum was also voted to relieve a distressed brother. About forty brethren next sat down to a grand banquet. The customary Royal and Masonic toasts were given and received with marked enthusiasm. The highest pitch of feeling was however attained when the worthy Treasurer, Bro. W. Pink, proceeded to invest Bro. R. Kalley Miller with a Past Master's Jewel. Bro. Pink performed his task with great tact and ability, and the worthy P.M. suitably acknowledged the gift, assuring the brethren of the high honour he esteemed it to have

been the first W.M. of a lodge which might include the whole Navy of England amongst its members, and declaring that the jewel now presented would be ever valued above all others. "The Initiates," "The Visitors," and "The Officers," were duly honoured with toasts. An important and agreeable evening was brought to a close at 11 p.m.

EARL OF CARNARVON LODGE (No. 1642).—A meeting of the above lodge was held at the Labroke Hall, Notting-hill, on Thursday, the 14th of November. The business being unusually heavy for the day of installation. Bro. William Stephens, P.M., performed the ceremonies of passing and raising three candidates to these degrees, Bro. P. M. Murlis initiated a candidate to the mysteries, and Bro. George Penn then installed his successor, Bro. P. Parkhouse, in a most impressive manner, when the following officers were appointed and invested, Bros. E. M. Lander, S.W.; S. Smout, sen., J.W.; the Rev. P.M. Holden, Chaplain; G. Penn, Treas.; W. J. Murlis, Secretary; the Rev. Darby Reade, S.D.; Smout, jun., J.D.; Fry, I.G.; Schofield, Tyler. Bro. P. M. Stephens gave the addresses to the W.M. and Wardens, and the brethren adjourned to banquet, at which the Worshipful Master presided. Upon the removal of the cloth, the usual loyal and Craft toasts were duly honoured. Bros. of the Kensington Lodge, and spoken to in most flattering terms. The principal toast of the evening was that of "The Retiring Master," Bro. George Penn, who was presented with a valuable Past Master's jewel, also an elegant drawing-room clock, and a pair of vases, accompanied by a vote of thanks, engrossed on vellum, in acknowledgement of the valuable services he had rendered to the lodge, and the courtesy evinced at all times by him, especially during the year in which he had presided as Worshipful Master. Before the brethren separated a large list was announced for the Boys' School, fifty guineas having been voted by the lodge to be placed in Bro. Penn's list, who is acting as Steward at the forthcoming festival. Jno. Boyd and Cubitt, returned thanks for the Grand Lodge of England. Bro. Binckes, Past Grand Steward, and Secretary of the Boys' School, for "The Charities." An unusually large number of visitors being present, the duty of responding to that toast was given to Bro. Harding,

KENSINGTON LODGE (No. 1767).—On the 16th inst. the members of this lodge met for the first time after the consecration, at the Courtfield Hotel, Earl's Court. Bro. Read, W.M. presided, and after the minutes of the consecration meeting had been read and confirmed, a ballot was taken for sixteen joining members, and for Mr. William Dunstan and Mr. Arthur Joseph Barclay, for initiation. These gentlemen were thereupon initiated by the W.M. in his usual correct and masterly style, the impressiveness of which ceremony, and the pleasure of assisting at it, were considerably enhanced by the introduction of harmonium solos by Bro. Oliver, the Organist, and parts of the musical service composed by Bro. James C. Baker, No. 241, sung by the brethren. Three propositions for initiation were afterwards made, and Bros. Barfield, P.M. and Treas., and Cole were made Hon. Members of the lodge, as by their own personal exertions they contributed much to the obtaining of the Warrant of Constitution, as well as assisting in the necessary preliminaries connected therewith. After the lodge was closed, the brethren adjourned to a *récherché* banquet, provided by Bro. Silcock, the proprietor of the Courtfield Hotel. Bro. Cruttenden, P.M. Hyde Park Lodge, 1425, and P.P.G.D.C. Kent, in responding for "The Visitors," congratulated the members of the lodge on the very successful manner in which they had commenced their career, and expressed the pleasure that he had experienced in listening to the musical part of the service, an entirely new feature to him, and which he had been informed by the Organist was a mere trifle to what was intended hereafter to be done. Other visitors expressed themselves in similar felicitous terms, and we have every reason to believe that the Kensington Lodge, now fairly launched, will continue to prosper, and prove an ornament to the Craft.

BATH.—Royal Cumberland Lodge (No. 41) A regular meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday evening, 7th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Bath, at which the following brethren were present: Bros. F. Wilkinson, W.M.; F. J. Brown, P.P.G.S.W. Somerset, I.P.M.; John Rubie, P.M.; acting S.W.; P. Braham, J.W. and T. P. Ashley, P.M., Chaplain, and acting Treasurer; W. Hunt, Sec. pro tem, Thos. Ames, acting S.D.; C. W. Radway, J.D.; J. S. Turner, P.M., acting D.C.; W. Baldwin, Org.; Cap. Robinson, I.G.; Holmes and Mercer, Stewards; Bigwood, Tyler. Past Masters: Thos. B. Moutrie, Robt. Carey, S. Geo. Mitchell. Members: John Brewer, Sydney S. Paxton, Thos. Edwd. Wilson, John Clewers, H. B. Smith, Edwd. C. Davies, R. B. Cater, Wm. E. Peach, E. Stiles. Visitors: W. H. Dill, P.M. 906, P.P.G.P. Somerset; J. A. Innes, 639 E.C.; F. D. Gardiner, 53; Wm. E. Reeves, P.M. 906, P.P.G.O. Somerset; H. J. Walker, P.M. 53. The lodge was opened at 7.45, and the minutes of last regular lodge were read and confirmed. Ballot was taken for Wm. Fredk. Willis and Mr. Henry Lane Brown, successfully. A letter read from R.M.B.I. as to the appointment of Stewards to attend the festival to be held in February next. A petition for relief was presented from the widow of a deceased brother, and the sum of one guinea was voted from the funds. The candidate, Mr. W. E. Smith, being present, was duly initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry, the ceremony being impressively performed by the W.M. The Working Tools were presented by Bro. Braham, the charge was delivered by Bro. Moutrie, and he newly initiated returned thanks in suitable terms. The E.As. having retired, the W.M. announced there would be a P.G.L. of Wilts, held on Friday, 8th, at Swindon Old Town, for the purpose of presenting a testimonial to the Prov. G. Master, Lord Methuen, on his having held the dis-

tinguished office twenty-five years. The brethren were invited to attend. A letter was read from Mr. H. S. Cooper of London of a private nature; Bro. Carey, kindly undertook to attend to it. Bros. Parton and Chivers were raised to the Sublime Degree by Bros. Ashley and Moutrie, the Working Tools being presented by Bro. Braham. Bro. R. B. Cater proposed and Bro. J. S. Turner seconded Bro. J. Robinson as joining member. Bro. Caray proposed a vote of thanks to the visiting brethren, coupling the names of Bro. Gardiner and Bro. Dice, which was carried with acclamation. Both the brethren suitably responded. Bro. Gardiner, W.M. of Lodge Rectitude, Corsham, cordially invited the brethren from Bath to visit his lodge in May or June. There being no further business, the lodge was closed in perfect harmony and solemn prayer at 10. 15.

HERTFORD.—Hertford Lodge (No. 403).—The 50th installation meeting was held on the 12th inst. at the Town Hall, Hertford. Among the brethren present were Bros. S. Austin, P.M., P.P.G. Sup. of Works, W.M. elect; J. Terry, P.M., P.G.J.W.; J. R. Cocks, P.M., P.P.G.J.W.; R. T. Andrews, P.M., P.P.G.J.W.; C. Drummond, P.M., P.P.G. Sup. of Works; E. A. Simpson, P.M., P.P.G. Sup. of Works; J. D. Medcalf, P.M., P.P.G.J. Deacon; T. S. Carter, P.P.G.S. Deacon; H. Campkin, P.M., P.P.G.S. Deacon; W. P. Willson, P.M., P.P.G.A. Dir. of Cer.; C. C. Diet, P.M., P.G.D. Devon; W. Warrenner, M.D., S.W.; J. E. Cussans, P.M. The visitors were Bros. J. Waller, P.M. 449, P.P.G.D.; R. Freer Austin, and others. This being the 50th installation meeting the brethren of the lodge thought it advisable to place the oldest P.M., Bro. Austin, in the chair of K.S. Bro. Terry, installed the W.M. in his usual effective manner, and called the attention of the brethren that Bro. Austin had been nearly fifty years a member of the lodge, having been initiated in October 1829, a fact unparalleled in the history of Freemasonry. It is proposed to celebrate the jubilee about October next, when a large gathering is expected. The W.M. appointed as his officers Bros. the Rev. Lewis Deedes, P.P.G. Chaplain, S.W.; the Hon. Baron Dimsdale, J.W.; R. B. Craft, S.D.; J. Harrington, J.D.; J. R. Cocks, Treasurer; R. T. Andrews, Sec.; J. E. Burnard, I.G.; F. Taylor and R. Harrison, Stewards; T. Wright, Tyler. The brethren afterwards partook of a capital banquet at the Shire Hall, supplied by Mr. E. W. Davis, of the Salisbury Arms Hotel, and which gave great satisfaction. The W.M., who is in his 74th year, presided. The usual Masonic toasts followed. Bro. G. T. Carter, P.M. undertook the musical arrangements.

GREAT GRIMSBY.—Pelham Pillar Lodge (No. 792).—The following is a list of the officers of this lodge for 1878-9:—Bros. William Horatio Roberts, P.G. D.C., W.M.; James Cook, S.W.; A. S. Steffenson, J.W.; William Marshall, P.M., Chap.; Mark Dawson, Treas.; Henry Barker, Sec.; Thos. McMurchie, S.D.; W. F. Turner, J.D.; Geo. Jarvis, D.C.; Geo. Nutt, I.G.; C. Coulbick, M. Martin, M. Lavenster, Stewards.

PLUMSTEAD.—Pattison Lodge (No. 913).—The first meeting of the above lodge since the installation of its new Master, Bro. T. D. Hayes, took place on Thursday, the 7th inst., at Bro. Tucker's, the Lord Raglan, Burage-road, when Mr. W. H. Winter was, after ballot, initiated into the mysteries of the Craft, and Bro. C. J. Clapham was passed to the Second Degree. The lodge was then closed, and a superb banquet having been prepared by Bro. Tucker, the brethren partook of it, and afterwards drank the usual loyal and Masonic toasts right loyally. The following officers were present beside the W.M., Past Masters Butter, Coupland, Vincent, and Penfold; Bros. Lloyd, S.W.; Denton, P.M. and Sec.; Jessup, Treas.; R. J. Cook, S.W.; T. Mason, S.D.; Edwards, J.D.; H. Peice, D.C.; C. Cooke, Org.; and R. Lester, Tyler. The following visitors were present:—Bros. Finis, 1526; G. Gould, 1685; W. J. Harris, 700; G. Spinks, P.M. 1536; R. Hanson, S.D. 820; A. Hiscock, 13; J. Ellis, 700; D. Cook, 687; and C. White, 1536.

TWICKENHAM.—Francis Burdett Lodge (No. 1503).—The installation meeting of this provincial lodge was held at the Albany Hotel, on the 13th inst., when there were present a very goodly gathering of brethren, amongst whom were Bros. S. H. Knaggs, W.M.; H. Court, S.W., W.M. elect; W. Taylor, J.W.; Tomlinson, P.P.G.S. of Works Middlesex, P.M., Secretary; Saunders, P.G.D. of Middlesex, I.P.M.; Vaughan, S.D.; Ashley, J.D.; Palmer, I.G.; Walls, P.P.G.O. of Middlesex, D.C.; Court, jun., Assist. Org.; Briggs, Steward; Richnell, Assist. Steward; C. Horsley, P.P.G.R., of Middlesex, P.M.; Dr. Clark, P.M.; Harrison, Tyler. The visitors were Bros. Rushworth, P.M. 1309, P.G.R. of Middlesex; Thrupp, P.M., P.G.S. of Middlesex; Fisher, P.M., 814; Martin, S.W. 1539; Stebbing, 26; Powell, 165. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the ceremony of installation was carried out by Bro. W. Wigginton, who appointed as his assistants Bros. Horsley, as S.W.; Tomlinson as J.W.; and Knaggs, as I.G. The entire ceremonial was performed by the Installing Officer in so excellent a manner that it left nothing to be desired, the delivery of the addresses being particularly good. The appointment and investment of the officers then took place as follows: Bros. W. Taylor, S.W.; Vaughan, J.W.; Tomlinson, Treasurer; Wigginton, Sec. the Rev. Dr. Orsey, Chaplain (by deputy); Ashley, S.D.; Palmer, J.D.; A. Taylor, I.G.; Walls, D.; Court, jun. Organist; Richnell, W.S.; Clarke, A.W.S.; Harrison, Tyler. Previously to the lodge being closed the retiring W.M. was presented with a very elegant P.M.'s jewel, suitably inscribed. The banquet was well served. The usual routine of toasts followed in due course and were duly responded to. Bro. Charles Horsley replied on behalf of "The Provincial Grand Officers Present and past" and

Bros. Rushworth and Thrupp, for "The Visitors." The proceedings terminated at an early hour.

HAMPTON.—Hemming Lodge (No. 1512).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held at the Lion Hotel, on Tuesday, the 11th inst. Amongst those present were Bros. W. Hammond, P.M., P.P.G.D. of Middlesex, acting W.M.; Raw, P.M., acting I.P.M.; E. Hopwood, P.M., P.P.G.S.B. of Middlesex, Treas.; J. Hurst, P.M.; Jessett, S.W.; T. Ockenden, J.W.; T. Walls, P.P.G.O. of Middlesex, S.D.; Crunden, acting J.D.; Hiscock, I.G.; Day, A.W.S.; Rawles, Tyler. The acting W.M. stated that in consequence of urgent private matters, Bro. Fox, the W.M., could not attend, but had requested him to perform the ceremony of initiation. The candidate, Mr. Prime, being in attendance, was then duly and most ably inducted into the mysteries of Craft Masonry. The lodge was shortly afterwards closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment. Bro. McNaught, Thistle Lodge (Scotland), was a visitor. It being only a meeting of emergency the toasts were necessarily few, and were but formally given. "The Initiate" having been proposed and warmly drunk, Bro. Prime, in response, said: Worshipful Master and worthy brethren, standing on the very threshold of—may I not say it?—almost another life, and with the experiences and recollections of that most beautiful ritual of Masonic faith impressed upon my heart of hearts, thoughts crowd so fast upon me that I can find but few poor words to tell you what I would. Brethren, I am sure you would first remind me that I record with feelings of deepest reverence my expressions of gratitude to our Master of all, for the privilege he has permitted me to assume, and for the necessary strength given. Oh, would I had the eloquence to clothe my words as others have done, but I cannot, my heart is so full, and my lips almost refuse to help me. Worshipful Master, permit me, with deepest respect, to tender you my heartfelt thanks for all advice given me, toned down, as it has been, with truest eloquence. You know I am just like a little child treading for the first time the pathway it has so long, so longingly looked for. With your assistance, and through you, I have pushed the gate aside and passing over the pathway threshold, I, the youngest Mason brother of you all, place my foot upon the road, and as I gaze, a great black cloud of mystery seems to enwrap me, before, behind, on every side, yet, as I look, a flash of brilliancy comes over it to me. I can only liken it to the kindly helpful friends I have around me, and as I take another step or two, warm hands touch mine, clasp mine as a friend will clasp a friend, grasp mine as a man will grasp a man, but far better still, grip mine as a Mason will grip his brother, and then I know with your help all will be well with me. May I beg just another minute of your time, and add a graceful word, coupled with a respected brother's name; he and I have lately been visiting some of the world's wonders together, and peculiar circumstances forced me to ask Bro. Crunden's help and sympathy; both were given to me without measure; surprised, I turned to him and said, "are you a Mason?" I got no answer, again I passed the question, again no answer, and a day or two went on, and once again receiving help through illness, I said, in the fullness of my heart, "if you are a Mason make me one too," this is how it is I stand as one of you now. I thank you so much for the way you have honoured me by drinking to my health. The remainder of the evening having been agreeably spent, the brethren separated.

LYMM.—Earl of Chester Lodge (No. 1565).—The installation meeting of the above lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, Church Green, on Thursday, the 7th inst. In addition to the members of the lodge several representatives of Provincial Grand Lodge, and numerous other brethren from neighbouring lodges, attended for the purpose of witnessing the installation of Bro. J. H. Evans, who had been unanimously elected by the brethren as W.M. for the ensuing year. The brethren were summoned to attend to other Masonic duties at three p.m., and shortly after that hour the lodge was opened by Bro. Bolton, assisted by Bros. J. H. Evans, S.W.; E. G. Parker, J.W., and other officers. After the minutes of the last lodge had been read and confirmed, and the Treasurer's accounts had been received and passed, shewing the lodge to be in a very healthy financial position, the Installing Master, Bro. East, P.M. 163, P.P.G.D.C., assisted by Bros. Hind, P.M. 1665, P.G.R., as S.W.; and Siddley, P.P. 1045, as J.W., took the chair, and in a most impressive and beautiful manner performed the interesting ceremony of installing Bro. J. H. Evans in the chair of the W.M. for the ensuing year. The officers appointed and invested by the W.M. were Bros. E. G. Parker, S.W.; G. Richardson, J.W.; J. Browning, Treasurer; H. Bulshaw, Secretary; J. Sudlow, S.D.; J. Kenworthy, J.D.; G. Barker, I.G. (pro tem.); W. Groves, Tyler. The brethren subsequently sat down to an excellent banquet, provided by Mr. H. Voysey, of the Church Hotel. The W.M. in proposing the toast of "The Queen," said he felt sure in such company he need say nothing to recommend this toast to their hearty acceptance, as it ever evoked a hearty response wherever Masons were assembled, it being the toast of their Order, that throughout the vast domains over which our beloved sovereign swayed her sceptre none of her subjects were more loyal than were Freemasons, and the Earl of Chester Lodge yielded to none, either in the province of Chester or in any other province, in their admiration, devotion, and loyalty to their beloved sovereign, whose many virtues had endeared her to them all and enhanced the brilliancy of her diadem. He would, therefore, give them the health of the Queen of these realms, long might she be spared to rule over them. Drank with enthusiasm. The next toast, proposed by the W.M., was "The Earl of Chester." In proposing this toast the W.M. said: The intimate relations which existed between H.R.H. and Freemasonry were so close that no remarks of his could increase the enthusiasm

with which the toast was ever received amongst Masons. His genial qualities, his kindly presence, and the personal interest which he constantly manifested in the Order, over which he so ably presided, had endeared him to all. As well abroad as at home, he had won golden opinions for the zealous discharge of his Masonic duties, and his kind consideration for the interests of the Craft, and the brethren of the Earl of Chester Lodge felt they had a specially close connection with him, bearing the name of one of his titles. He felt sure they would cordially wish with him, in drinking the health of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales and Earl of Chester, that their highly esteemed G.M.; long might he live to rule over the Craft. Drank with great enthusiasm. The next toast proposed by the W.M. was "The Countess of Chester and the rest of the Royal Family," which, he felt sure, would be responded to not a whit less enthusiastically than those which had preceded it. He felt sure that any attempt to recount the virtues possessed by the wife of our illustrious G.M. would be a work of supererogation, being familiar in their mouths as household words, and the example she constantly sets worthy the imitation of every lady in the land. So closely allied to Masonry on every side was she, that there could be no doubt that when ladies are admitted into the Craft she would be the first to be initiated. He would invite the brethren to drink, with him, to the health of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Countess of Chester, and the rest of the Royal Family. The toast was received most enthusiastically. The next toast, which was "The P.G.M., the Earl of Carnarvon," was proposed by Bro. Hind, P.M., P.G.R., in a most felicitous speech, in which he eulogised the P.G.M. for the many excellent qualities he possessed as a man and a Mason, was heartily responded to. The toast of "The D.G.M., Lord Skelmersdale," was proposed by Bro. E. G. Parker; in a very complimentary manner, and received a hearty response. The toast of "The P.G.M., Lord de Tabley," was next proposed by Bro. E. Simpson, P.M., P.G.S.D., who very warmly eulogised his lordship for his truly Masonic spirit, referring specially to the interest he took in the welfare of the Earl of Chester Lodge, ever shewing the greatest anxiety for its prosperity by the friendly enquiries he made respecting it. The toast was most cordially received. The toast of "The D.P.G.M., the Hon. Willbraham Egerton," was proposed by Bro. Richardson, in a very creditable manner, and elicited a hearty response. The next toast, "The W.M.," was proposed by Bro. Simpson, P.M., P.G.S.D., who very warmly commended the W.M. for the zeal he ever manifested in Freemasonry, complimenting him on his regular and punctual attendance upon his Masonic duties, which, he remarked, was an example to the brethren of the Earl of Chester Lodge, not only for punctuality and regularity, but for the manner in which every duty assigned to him was performed, whilst his modest and unassuming manner had earned for him the confidence and esteem of every one connected with the lodge, amongst whom, he ventured to say, Bro. Evans had not a single enemy, and he felt sure he never would have, and he had not the slightest doubt but he would fulfil the duties of the office to which they had elected him with credit to himself and with satisfaction to the brethren. The toast was received most enthusiastically. In replying to the toast, the W.M. said: He scarcely knew how to reply to the very flattering and complimentary manner in which Bro. Simpson had spoken of him. He thanked him very sincerely for the kind way in which he had proposed the toast, and the brethren for the very hearty manner in which they had responded to it, and whilst he felt deeply grateful to them all for the manifestations of their kind feelings towards him, he felt also that he was not entitled to the eulogiums Bro. Simpson had heaped upon him, as in his endeavour to perform his Masonic duties faithfully, he had done nothing more than his duty (and this he feared at times very imperfectly), inasmuch, as he conceived it to be the duty of every brother, on associating himself with any lodge, faithfully to perform his duties to the best of his abilities, and suffer nothing but sheer necessity to interfere with them in any way, and he could only say, in reply, that if spared in health and strength through the year in which they had just entered, he purposed, with the assistance of the G.A.O.T.U., so to fulfil the duties pertaining to the high office to which they had done him the honour to elect him, as to convince them that merit had been his title to their privileges, and that upon him their favours had not been undeservedly bestowed. He felt, however, that in following such skilful brethren as those who had preceded him in this chair, that this would be no easy task, as he could scarcely hope to perform those duties so efficiently as they had done, but he pledged them his Masonic honour that no effort should be wanting on his part to maintain unsullied the prestige which the Earl of Chester Lodge had earned for itself in the province, and would earnestly solicit the hearty co-operation of his brother officers and the brethren individually and collectively (without which, he felt, he must signally fail) to assist him in accomplishing this, and if, at any time, he might be found wanting in the due performance of his duties he would ask them one and all to

"Be to his faults a little blind,
And to his virtues ever kind."

Again he thanked them most cordially for the manifestations of those good feelings towards him, and he sincerely trusted that the year upon which they had now entered might be one of uninterrupted harmony and prosperity, and that for the Earl of Chester Lodge a bright and happy future was in store. The toast of the "I.P.M." was very creditably proposed by Bro. J. Kinworthy, who paid a well-merited tribute of respect to Bro. Wotton for the zeal with which he had performed his Masonic duties, and the interest he ever manifested in the well-being of the lodge. The toast was very cordially responded to. In replying, Bro. Wotton thanked the brethren for their kindness in so warmly responding to the toast, and assured them his zeal for Freemasonry would never flag, and that his interest in the

Earl of Chester Lodge would continue unabated. He then proposed "The Installing Master," Bro. East, P.M., P.G. D.C. E. Lane, extolling his abilities, which he described as being such as few could hope to equal and none surpass. In proposing the toast of "The Visiting Brethren," which the W.M. said was really the toast of the evening, he remarked that hospitality was one of the cardinal virtues of Freemasonry, and in no society was it more preserved than amongst Freemasons, the very name being significant of the character, and he ventured to say that notwithstanding the smallness of the Earl of Chester Lodge, that in no lodge in the province was it surpassed in this trait, it being always a source of unmixed pleasure to the brethren to see visitors from other lodges present amongst them, not only at their annual meetings, but at the ordinary business meetings of the lodge, feeling satisfied that in this social intercourse lay the very essence and strength of Freemasonry. The remaining toasts having been given and responded to, this very enjoyable evening, which during its course had been enlivened by a variety of songs, was brought to a close.

BRIDGNORTH.—Castle Lodge (No. 1621).—The installation meeting of the above lodge was held on Friday, the 31st ult., at the Crown Hotel, Bridgnorth. From many causes there was not so good an attendance as at the previous installation. Bro. E. Jones Chitney, W.M., presided, and was supported by all his officers, and a goodly number of visitors, amongst whom were Bros. Sir Offey Wakeman, Barr., W.M. 478, P.G.S.W. Oxon; E. M. Wakeman, W.M. 262, P.G.S.W. Shropshire and North Wales; Joseph Stokes, I.P.M. and P.M. 252, 1621, P.P. G.S.W. Worcestershire; George Taylor, P.M. 377, P.G.P. Worcestershire; J. W. Chadwick, 377; Adkins, J.D. 1261; F. C. Chitney, 1551, Birmingham; T. H. Horton, and others. An emergency meeting was held previous to the installation for the purpose of initiating Mr. T. Dowell into the mysteries of Freemasonry, which ceremony was performed by the W.M., Bro. E. Jones Chitney. The lodge was then closed. The regular meeting of the above lodge was then opened by Bro. E. Jones Chitney, W.M., supported by his officers as follows: Bros. H. B. Southwell, S.W. and W.M. Elect; Dr. A. Colles, J.W.; Thos. Whitefoot, Sec.; Hubert Smith, Treasurer; F. F. Foxall, S.D.; C. Deighton, J.D.; E. Price, I.G. pro tem; and the following brethren: J. Stokes, I.P.M.; T. Sewell, O.; T. M. Deighton, E. M. Southwell, W. L. Southwell, A. S. Trevor, T. Whitefoot, jun, B. Perry, C. Edkins, T. F. Nock, Cooper, and others. The minutes of the last lodge and lodge of emergency having been read and confirmed, the lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the W.M., Bro. E. Jones Chitney, presented his gavel to Bro. P.M. Stokes, who proceeded to install Bro. Southwell into the chair of K.S., in the usual manner. The brethren having retired, and a board of Installed Masters having been formed, Bro. E. B. Southwell, was installed into the chair of K.S. by Bro. P.M. Stokes, in his usual impressive manner, which gave general satisfaction to the brethren. The brethren were then readmitted, when the W. M. having received the customary salutes, proceeded to invest his officers as follows:—Bros. Dr. A. Colles, S.W.; F. F. Foxwell, J.W.; Thos. Whitefoot, Sec.; Hubert Smith, Treas.; Thos. Pratt, S.D.; Sergeant-Major Simms, J.D.; E. Jones Chitney, P. of C.; John Sewell, Organist; A. S. Trevor, I.G.; F. M. Southwell, Thos. Whitefoot, jun., and Cooper, Stewards, T. Tyler, Tyler. Bro. J. Stokes, then delivered the addresses to the W.M., Wardens, and brethren, in his usual impressive manner, and which were very attentively listened to by all present. The W. Master rose and in a few well chosen remarks, said the first duty he had to perform was to decorate the retiring Master with a P.M. jewel. This was to him a great pleasure, for he was sure no brother more deserved the thanks and kind consideration of the members of the Castle Lodge, than did Bro. Chitney, for without him the Castle Lodge would never have been formed, and he felt proud he had the present opportunity of publicly expressing his thanks to Bro. Chitney, for all his trouble and the patience he had endured in bringing the Castle Lodge to its present perfect state, and it gave him great pleasure to present to Bro. P.M. Chitney, the very handsome jewel awarded to him for his zeal and perseverance on behalf of the Castle Lodge, and trusted he would long live to wear it. Bro. P.M. Chitney in reply said, he felt deeply the kindness shown to him by the brethren of the Castle Lodge, and assured them he should always feel happy to do anything that would help to raise the lodge second to none in the province of North Wales and Shropshire. The lodge was closed in due form and in perfect harmony, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet, provided by Bro. J. S. Vince, of the Crown Hotel, which gave universal satisfaction. The W.M. presiding, gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, which were duly responded to, as usual that of the "Visiting Brethren." The train leaving at 8 p.m. was the signal for an early departure of those who had come some distance to honour the newly installed Worshipful Master. The Tyler's toast having been given and duly honored, the third installation meeting was brought to a close with hearty good wishes for the Castle Lodge.

INSTRUCTION.

WANDSWORTH LODGE (No. 1044).—A meeting of the brethren of the above lodge of instruction was held at the Spread Eagle Hotel, Wandsworth, on Wednesday, the 13th inst., Bro. J. Frost being the W.M. There were also present:—Bros. J. Featherstone, S.W.; A. B. Walker, J.W.; J. J. Holland, S.D.; F. Reed, J.D.; M. J. Huntley, I.G.; J. G. Carter, P.M.; A. Mason, P. V. Denham, W. A. Blackmore (No. 1485), and A. A. Denham, Sec. The Three Degrees were well worked, Bro. Blackmore being the candidate in each. At the conclusion of the business, Bro. Blackmore was unanimously elected a member of the lodge of instruction. Bro. Featherstone will be the W.M. at the next meeting.

Royal Arch.

METROPOLITAN CHAPTER (No. 1507).—A convocation of this chapter was held at the Metropolitan Club, King's Cross, on Thursday, 7th November. Present: E. Comps, J. Willing, M.E.Z.; J. R. Stacey, H.; W. J. Ferguson, J.; T. A. Adams, I.P.Z.; Wm. Stiles, Scribe E; C. W. Hudson, Scribe N; J. Douglass, P.S.; H. Stiles, 1st Asst. S.; Barnes, Janitor; W. Cook, S. Beattie, T. C. Edmonds, F. J. Clare, and others. Visitor:—Comp. J. G. Michael, High Cross Chapter, 829. The chapter was opened in due form and the minutes of previous convocation were read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for Comp. W. Cook, United Strength Chapter, 228, for joining and for Bro. T. J. Hyland, J.D. Royal Savoy Lodge, 1744, and Bro. R. Tuck, Metropolitan Lodge 1507, for exaltation, which was unanimous. Bros. Hyland and Tuck, were introduced and regularly exalted into Royal Arch Masonry. Three brethren were proposed and seconded for exaltation at next convocation and the chapter closed in ancient form and adjourned. The business being over, the companions sat down to an excellent banquet, provided in Bro. Cox's best style, and the usual toasts were afterwards honoured.

Mark Masonry.

HAMMERSMITH LODGE (No. 211).—The first regular meeting, since the recess, of this new but flourishing lodge was held at the Windsor Castle Hotel, Hammersmith, on the 16th inst., when there were present Bros. Colonel Burdett, P.G.M. of Middlesex and Surrey; J. Mason, W.M.; Baldwin, S.W.; T. C. Walls, J.W. (Freemason); Poore, P.G.I.G., P.M. 234; F. Walters, P.G.I.G., Secretary; Dunham, M.O.; Haynes, S.D.; J. Austin, Reg.; Goodall, I.G.; Pearson, D.C.; Page, W.S.; Woodstock, Tyler. Bro. Johnson, P.G.S. of Surrey and Middlesex, was a visitor. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. Poore, by the W.M.'s permission, advanced Bros. Hayes and Green, P.M. Zealand, &c., to the degree of a M.M.M., the ceremony being well performed. The bye-laws having been read, the election of W.M. took place, and resulted in favour of Bro. Baldwin, S.W., who returned thanks. Bro. Walters was elected Treasurer, and Bro. Potter Tyler, the Audit Committee having been fixed to be held on the 14th prox. A Past Master's jewel, of the value of five guineas, was unanimously voted to Bro. J. Mason, W.M., as a slight recognition for his valuable services rendered to the lodge during his year of office. There being no other business before the lodge it was duly closed, and the brethren adjourned to a well served collation. The cloth having been removed, the customary Royal and Mark toasts were proposed, and done full justice to. "The Health of the R.W. P.G.M. of Middlesex and Surrey," having been proposed, and most warmly received, Bro. Colonel Burdett, in reply, stated that he felt gratified, honoured, and flattered at holding the position of an honorary Past Master of the Hammersmith Lodge of Mark Masons. He had witnessed with a great deal of pleasure the "working" of the degree that afternoon. It augured well for the future prosperity of the lodge when the members holding office were so painstaking in the discharge of their respective responsibilities. He believed that no Mark Lodge had ever made greater progress, considering the very short time that it had been established, than No. 211. He was sincerely of opinion, that if the members of some of the lodges in the province were to visit the Hammersmith Lodge they would be so well pleased with the good working of its officers, that they would endeavour to emulate their example. In conclusion, he stated that he personally was so well pleased with what he had seen that he should take the very first opportunity of visiting them again. "The Health of the W.M." was proposed in very flattering terms by the R.W.P.G.M., and responded to, in Bro. Mason's unavoidable absence, by Bro. Poore, his "locum tenens." "The newly advanced Brethren" having been proposed, Bro. Game responded, by briefly stating that he thought the ceremony highly impressive and instructive, and he took that opportunity of respectfully thanking Bro. Poore for the very able way in which he had inducted him to the degree. In concluding his remarks, he said that he was so delighted with the degree that should the members at any future time think him worthy of holding office he would endeavour to zealously and efficiently discharge the duties of any position he might be called upon to fill. "The Visitors" followed, and in acknowledgement Bro. Johnson said that he could bear out the remarks of their R.W.P.G.M., that the Hammersmith Lodge in its working could challenge comparison with any in the province and out of it. He had visited many lodges and had never seen the ceremony better performed, and he hoped that the lodge would continue to maintain its high state of efficiency. "The Officers" came next, and was acknowledged by Bro. Walls for himself and colleagues present and absent. "The Tyler's" toast having been given the brethren separated.

MARGATE SEA BATHING INFIRMARY.

This excellent institution, of which our late Bro. Tomkins was the Treasurer, and of which our esteemed Bros. Lieut.-Col. Creton and Clabon are respectively Treasurer and Secretary, is now in want of funds, and as there are many and special reasons why Freemasons should support it, Bro. Woodford, P.G.C., by the kind permission of Rev. E. H. Gray, (shortly to be made a Mason), preaches on its behalf, at the Church of St. Michael and All Angels, Ladbrooke Grove-road, Notting-hill, on Sunday, November 24th. The service begins at eleven o'clock, and provision is made for seating such of the brethren as kindly attend.

LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

The monthly meeting of the Lodge of Benevolence was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall. The Board of Masters was first held, and the agenda paper for next Grand Lodge was settled. Bros. J. M. Clabon, President; Joshua Nunn, Senior Vice President; and James Brett, Junior Vice President; occupied their respective positions. The other brethren present were Bros. James Glaisher, S. Rawson, Thomas Fenn, John Hervey, H. G. Buss, A. A. Pendlebury, Thos. Cubitt, E. P. Albert, C. A. Cottebrune, W. T. Howe, W. Stephens, W. Mann, John Constable, Andrew Middlemass, Charles Atkins, T. J. Sabine, Geo. Phythian, W. Bartlett, H. Garrod, George Bolton, J. M. Dosell, Dr. Rhys William, A. J. Ircton, Griffiths Smith, Chas. Fredk. Hogard, Hugh Cotter, W. Alfred Dawson, James Eberall, A. J. Hawkes, J. Nicholson, G. P. Britten, E. H. Hewett, Charles Davey, John Dixon, W. Christian, H. Potter, W. Meadbury, H. C. Reeves, Rev. Dr. P. H. Ernest Bratte, J. Yeoman, John D. Carter, Edw. B. Grabham, Daniel Nicholson, W. H. Cohen, C. Breden, George Plucknett, jun., C. F. May, H. Stephens, John R. Sherwill, George W. Skeggs, L. Cornelissen, J. J. Shakell, W. Spooner, E. M. Haigh, Douglass Matthews, Allen Norman, R. G. Tormie, A. Wing, Henry Legge, J. Stretton Thompson, W. H. Fletcher, D. J. Robinson, Jas. Spilling, C. B. Payne, G.T., and H. Massey, (Freemason).

The brethren first confirmed grants to the amount of £200 made at last meeting of the Lodge of Benevolence. They afterwards proceeded with the new cases, of which there were thirty on the list. These were relieved with a total sum of £582, which was made up of two grants of £100 each (£200), three of £40 (£120), one £30 (£30), one £25 (£25), four of £20 (£80), one £15 (£15), nine £10 (£90), four £5 (£20), and one £2 (£2). There were thirty cases on the list, three of which were adjourned, and two dismissed.

After the business had been concluded, the Lodge of Benevolence was duly closed.

Obituary.

BRO. FRANCIS FELLOWS.

The mortal remains of Bro. Francis Fellows were consigned to the bosom of Mother Earth on Monday, the 18th of November, at Abney Park Cemetery, Stoke Newington. Amongst the mourners we noticed two of his sons, his old friend, Major Dowdell, and Bro. J. H. Weedon, P.M. of the Panmure Lodge, No. 715.

There were present at the grave a goodly number of the staff of the firm he managed (Clarke and Co., No. 51, Threadneedle-street), by whom he was much respected, for his kindness and great zeal and energy in promoting the prosperity of that business. No doubt, many gentlemen and men of business in the city will miss him very much. Mr. Robert Clarke, eldest son of the late Bro. Robert Clarke, P.M., and one of the founders of the Panmure Lodge, No. 715, attended, together with Messrs. Metherell, Wood, A. Metcalf, and others engaged in the business.

There were also on the ground Bros. Crichton, Henry John Painter, and Henry Mugeridge, with, perhaps, others whom we did not recognise.

Bro. Francis Fellows was initiated into Freemasonry in the year 1872, in the Lion and Lamb Lodge, No. 192, of which he was the Senior Warden for the present year, he was exalted in the Lion and Lamb Chapter, No. 192, and has discharged the duties of S.W. for some time past.

With the assistance of a few friends, but chiefly by his own exertions, he obtained, about two years ago, a warrant for a new lodge, No. 1679, at Dalston, of which he was Master at the time of his death. He was very energetic in Masonry, and we understood he has served one or two Stewardships to the Masonic Charities.

He leaves a widow and four children to lament the loss of a good and kind husband, and a loving father. We know that some of his friends have advised the widow to endeavour to get two of his children into the Girls' and Boys' Schools. He was only forty-seven years of age.

DRAMATIC NOTES.

NELSON DRAMATIC CLUB.—The announcement of a performance by this well-known Amateur Club drew together a large and fashionable audience, at St. George's Hall, Langham-place, on Saturday evening last. The proceeds were to be devoted to the funds of the St. John's Hospital for Diseases of the Skin, and the esteemed president, the Right Hon. W. N. Massey, M.P., and the energetic treasurer, Bro. Captain Charles Mercier, honoured the performance with their patronage and presence. The comedy "Faint Heart Did Win Fair Lady," Mr. H. T. Craven's admirable Drama "The Post Boy," and the most popular farce "The Spitalfields Weaver," were each placed on the boards in a manner that would do no discredit to a professional company. In an amateur performance we always think it invidious to select particular individuals for commendation, but the merits of one gentleman were so apparent that we must make him the one exception. We refer to Mr. Walter Martin, who, if indeed he be an amateur, exhibits all the fine qualities of a finished actor. His clever personation of the Post Boy was a thing to be remembered, and drew from the audience repeated expressions of approval. Amongst the audience we noticed several members of the Chinese Legation, who appeared to enjoy the entertainment most thoroughly, no point of merit appearing to escape their notice. We trust that Bro. Captain Charles Mercier, who keeps watch and ward over the funds of this excellent institution, is as satisfied with the pecuniary result as the audience most certainly was with the performance.

Reviews.

ADAMS'S SYNCHRONOLOGICAL CHART, OR MAP OF HISTORY. Walker Brothers, London.

We have seen and studied this very interesting and remarkable chart with some care, and no little astonishment. It is said to have taken fifteen years in compilation, and we can quite understand it, as the labour to produce so complicated, and yet so clear a panoramic view of history must have been intense. The object of this chart, we are told, is to "assist the mind in clearly fixing along down the stream of time, the time when the events of the world's history took place. The time when (chronology) and the place where, (geography), are the two great eyes of history." Accordingly, we have a synchronous collection of dates, persons, and events, from the creation to the reign of H.M. Queen Victoria, (the present epoch in short), depicted before the mind's eye of the youthful student. The idea is novel, and has been carried out in a most masterly and effective way; indeed, the care bestowed upon this chronological chart deserves all praise, inasmuch as it is most striking and unsurpassed in itself. We are told that Adams's map is now in use in many thousand schools, &c., in the United States, and we are inclined to think that it will be found to be both attractive and helpful in scholastic establishments in this country.

We have, let us note, in this admirably executed work of Mr. Adams, (we believe he is the Hon. Sebastian Adams, Salem, Oregon), a synchronous chart of ancient, biblical, and modern history, for 5882 years, in a panoramic map or chart, measuring twenty-two feet by twenty-six, (we are told), and which can be used in one large chart or carried in a portfolio or cover.

The stream of time, which dominates the chart, is marked by a black wavy line running horizontally throughout the chart, divided by transverses and intersecting lines, into centuries, which are again reduced to decades. Thus, by a little care, the student can discover the contemporaneous history of mankind, and realize it at a glance. We could quite understand that at first sight, the chart might appear to some intricate and difficult to master in its countless details, but a little careful attention will meet that difficulty, like a good many more, and the young especially will be interested with a picture chart which places the world's history vividly, and yet lucidly before them, and enables them, so to say, to gather up into "one focus," the conflicting scenes of cosmopolitan history.

When we first saw the chart, through the obliging recommendation of Bro. Walker, we felt "dazed" at such a mass of "instructive details" in such "narrow limits," but subsequent study has shown us, how this, like everything here which is arduous, can be mastered by industry and attention, and we, therefore, recommend some of our young friends to pore over the chart, as their's will be both an intellectual and improving method of spending time. We wish the chart all success. Since we wrote the above we are informed, by unquestionable authority. The chart is now in use, and greatly appreciated, in one of our large public schools, and that a distinguished brother of ours, so greatly appreciates its use, that he has sent six copies to six schools, in which he is interested.

BJORN AND BERA. A Norse Legend. By B. MONTGOMERIE RANKING. Remington and Co., 5, Arundel-street, Strand.

We have received this "Norse Legend," and have read it; and like it much, and recommend our worthy patrons to read it too. We wish that our space permitted a longer review of a pleasant little book, but as a friendly "collaborateur" of ours proposes to review it in the December Masonic Magazine, were refer our readers to that more elaborate account of a striking little poem.

THE SECRET OF SUCCESS, HOW TO GET ON IN THE WORLD. By W. H. DAVENPORT ADAMS. Bro. John Hogg, Paternoster Row.

We can conscientiously commend the idea and execution of this work, and think that all will be struck, both by its monitorial cautions and cheery encouragements. We are inclined to think that the author has taken the right view of success in life, not merely as the *To Kalon and To Agathon*, in itself, but as the result of duty to God and utility to man. From a temporal point of view more success might be sought for as a means of earthly pleasure and wealth, or material enjoyment and comfort. But the truer view, as Mr. Adams well puts it, after all, is the religious view, which makes human success dependant on a Divine Providence, and places man in his efforts and proposals, and purposes, subservient ever to Him, T.G.A.O.T.U., who overrules and disposes all things and all men. But as means under God to a great end—industry, thrift, moderation, sobriety, honesty, and simple-minded discharge of duty are needful, and though the "race is not to the swift" always here, as a matter of certain consequence, yet without such qualities no one has a right to hope to succeed in business, or in life. The great end of success is not personal advantage, but the honour of God and the good of man. We think the book will be much appreciated and, we hope, extensively read.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—The sudden changes, frequent fogs, and pervading dampness sorely impede the vital functions and conduce to ill-health. The remedy for these disasters lies in some purifying medicine, like these Pills, which is competent to grapple with the mischief at its source, and stamp it out without fretting the nerves or weakening the system. Holloway's Pills extract from the blood all noxious matters, regulate the action of every disordered organ, stimulate the liver and kidneys, and relax the bowels. In curing chest complaints these pills are remarkably effective, especially when aided by friction of the Ointment on its walls. This double treatment will ensure a certain, steady, and efficient progress, and sound health will soon be re-established. [Adv.]

WILLIAMS MASONIC MEMORIAL.

The following communication has been addressed by the Prov. Grand Master of Cornwall to the various lodges, through Bro. E. T. Carlyon, P.G.S. :—

Mount Edgcombe, Devonport, November 7th, 1878.

Dear Brother Carlyon,—Having received the accompanying letter from the W.M. of the Cornubian Lodge, No. 450, and believing, after consideration and inquiry, that the proposal, which has my cordial approval, is likely to be acceptable to the brethren of the Province generally, I shall be much obliged if you will transmit a copy of Bro. Husband's letter (and of this one) to the W.M's. of all the lodges, the First Principals of the various chapters, and the chief officers of the other Masonic bodies, of which Bro. Sir Frederick Williams was a member, and request them to lay the proposal before the brethren at their next meeting, and to inform you what support they are willing to give to it.

Believe me, yours fraternally,

MOUNT-EDGCOMBE.

Hayle, October 10th, 1878.

Cornubian Lodge of Freemasons, No. 450.

To the Right Hon. Earl of Mount-Edgcombe, Prov. G. Master of Cornwall.

My Lord and Right Worshipful Sir,—The circular issued by your Lordship's desire to the several lodges of your province, in which your lordship referred most appropriately to the death of our deeply lamented and much respected brother, Sir Frederick M. Williams, Deputy Prov. G.M. of Cornwall, was duly received by us, and your Lordship's instruction to place our lodge in mourning received the necessary attention at our hands. At the regular meeting of our lodge, held on the 10th inst., it was suggested that a Memorial of our late lamented brother should be raised in the form of a united contribution from the several lodges in this province to the funds of the various Charitable Institutions (the Boys' and Girls' Schools and others), the votes for such "Memorial" contribution to be vested in the Prov. Grand Master of Cornwall for the time being, and seeing that our late esteemed brother evinced so great an appreciation of those institutions (as he unmistakably showed by his noble and generous support of them), the opinion was expressed that in no equally beneficial a manner could the Freemasons of this province exhibit their lasting respect for one whose virtues had endeared him to the whole fraternity. Having thus very briefly set before your Lordship our suggested movement to raise a "Williams Memorial Fund," we beg most respectfully to enquire if your Lordship will give it your sanction and approval, and, if so, will your Lordship be pleased to indicate in what manner it may best be brought under the notice of the brethren; or to give such directions as shall secure this end. We would further beg to be permitted to say, that in our humble opinion a properly organised movement, such as we have indicated, will be so successful as to retain to your province a large number of the votes so generously made available for the noble purposes of Masonic Charity by our late distinguished brother, the memory of whose goodness we would hope always to have before us in a "Memorial Fund" for this province.—On behalf of the Cornubian Lodge, No. 459.

I have the honour to remain, your Lordship's most obedient servant,

WM. HUSBAND, W.M.

PATHETIC INCIDENT OF THE YELLOW FEVER EPIDEMIC.

Last week, says a recent edition of the *Chicago News*, a bright-eyed, pretty little fellow, of four years of age, was taken by the conductor of a train to the Palmer House. The child was quiet and obedient, but occasionally the tears would stream down his cheeks, and though he did not cry aloud, the heavy sobs shook him while the tiny hands tried vainly to hide the baby face. He was all alone in the world, and the love and kindness was all that comforted him. About his neck was a ribbon, to which was attached a card with the following inscription:—"To the Masonic Fraternity—Forward the orphan to San Francisco; Howard Association, New Orleans." Very tenderly did the ladies at the hotel care for the child, petting and caressing him until he forgot his sorrow. He was the last survivor of the family of Henry E. Wilcox, of New Orleans. In the past three weeks his father, mother, four sisters and brothers, had died of yellow fever. The association learning that he had relations in San Francisco telegraphed as to the disposal of the child. The answer was prompt. He would be fondly loved by friends in that city, and they wanted him at once. There was but one way to send him, so the poor little fellow was committed to strangers for the long trip of nearly 4000 miles. Everywhere he had met with the greatest attention, passengers on the various cars taking entire charge of him and attending to all his wants. Ladies in Chicago took him to the west bound train, and after giving him a bountiful supply of toys and dainties, left him to the kindly care of the conductor.—*Liverpool Weekly Courant*, Nov. 16th, 1878.

Sir Henry Rawlinson will contribute an article on "The Afghan Crisis" to the December number of the "Nineteenth Century."

We are requested to state that the meetings of La Tolerance Lodge of Instruction, No. 538, are now held at the Green Dragon, Maddox-street, Regent-st., W., every Wednesday evening, from 8.15 to 10 o'clock. The room in which the lodge is held is capable of seating sixty brethren.

NOTES ON ART, &c.

An effort is being made among "Old Carthusians" to purchase for the library of the Charterhouse School a large collection of the original sketches of John Leech, who was himself a Carthusian. His family have offered to his old School for purchase at a fair and reasonable price a considerable number of his original sketches, including those of the "Comic History of Rome," the "Comic History of England," &c., which would find an appropriate home in the library of the school in which John Leech received his first lessons in history. The managing committee of the library have given £50 towards the purchase, and about £100 more has been raised already among the masters and former scholars of the Charterhouse.

Electric lighting appears to have taken another step in advance—namely, the possibility of adjusting the brilliancy of any particular light in the circuit without waste of current by so doing. I understand that a telegraphic confirmation of this fact has been received from Mr. Edison, and is communicated to *Saunders's News Letter*, Dublin. The telegram states on Mr. Edison's authority that each electric burner can independently be raised and lowered. The utility of this achievement is obvious.

German Artists are complaining bitterly of the hard times, and scarcely any pictures have been bought by private persons at the Annual Exhibition of the Berlin Art Academy. Indeed the Council of the Academy have petitioned Government to devote 150,000 marks (£7500) to the purchase of pictures in order to support art under such unfavourable circumstances.

A very good Map of Afghanistan and the adjoining countries has been published by Mr. E. Stanford, of Charing Cross. The respective boundaries are clearly delineated, the names are plainly printed, and the various roads and passes are distinctly marked. Such a map will be exceedingly useful to any one wishing to follow out the forthcoming military operations.

M. Lais, director of the Rio de Janeiro Observatory, has written to the Paris Geographical Society, intimating that owing to the liberality of the Emperor of Brazil he had been enabled to begin the great work of determining by electric telegraph the longitude of Rio in comparison with Greenwich. When the operation shall have been completed the geographical position of every city in Southern America will be known with exactitude.—*Nature*.

"A Woman" writes:—The following extract from 'Maurice's Indian Antiquities,' vol. 1, who in his turn quotes from the 'Ayeen Akbory,' by Abul Fazil, the learned secretary of Akbar, in the 16th century, may contain some interest, as showing the importance which was attached to the possession of Cabul as early as that period:—"It (Cabul) is the gate of Hindustan towards Tartary, as Kandahar is towards Persia, and if both places be properly guarded that extensive empire is safe from the irruption of foreigners." Similar to this observation, which is taken from the 'Ayeen Arkbory,' is a remark in the short description of Asia, p. 7, 'that according to the Indians no man can be called the ruler of India who has not taken possession of Cabul.'

A Valuable Soporific for Railway Travellers has been invented by a French physician—a concoction which sends a person to sleep for a given time. The doctor can calculate the effect of his discovery within about ten minutes, and will give a dose ensuring sleep during a journey of twenty, fifty, a hundred, or two hundred miles, according to taste. The restless traveller is thus spared the weariness of a long night journey, while sleepily-disposed people can indulge in a good nap without fear of passing their destination. The invention—which, by the way, is said to taste like Chartreuse—might surely prove valuable to persons afflicted with sea-sickness.

A Telegraphic Museum was inaugurated at Berlin on the 1st inst. The collection is intended for the instruction of the people, and includes over two hundred objects connected with telegraphy, and some historic instruments, while submarine and military telegraphy are specially well represented.

British Art in India does not seem to reach a high pitch of excellence, to judge from the criticism of a correspondent of the *Times of India* who had visited the annual Fine Art Exhibition at Simla. "Most of the pictures," says the critic, "were atrocious daubs. There were skies, such skies that the blue heavens outside, could they have witnessed what an outrage had been committed on their azure purity, would have blushed crimson. There were foliage, and jungle, and seas displayed on canvas, and all as unlike nature as the ingenuity of man or woman could contrive. I saw a tiger with such a head and neck that the royal beast would have been perfectly justified in gobbling up the artist. There was an elephant knock-kneed, and such an infinity of caricatures of nature that it was a relief to look at the clear sky above after the fearful azures and blood-reds to which we had been exposed."

THE LIVERPOOL AUTUMN EXHIBITION OF PICTURES.—The sales and admissions to this exhibition at the Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool, which has now been open sixty-three days, ending Tuesday week, were as follows: Pictures sold, 185, realizing £4386 3s.; against 230 pictures, representing £7563 14s. in the same time last year; the morning admissions at 1s. numbered 32,867, against 31,185 last year; evening admissions at 6d. numbered 13,212; and those at 3d. 7716, against 13,528 last year. The season tickets sold numbered 7229 this year, and 2294 last year. The total receipts, exclusive of sales, and including catalogues sold, were £3063 12s. 6d. this year, against £2688 14s. 3d. in 1877.

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 rejected MSS. cannot be guaranteed.

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TO ADVERTISERS.

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

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

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

Answers to Correspondents.

Z.—H.R.H. became Grand Master upon the resignation of the Marquis of Ripon, on the 2nd of Sept., 1874, though he was not installed into that office until the 28th of April of the following year.

P.M.—Yes, the Hon. Mrs. Aldworth, of Newmarket, County Cork. It is said that she was initiated in the year 1739, at about the age of 19.

OXFORD.—No report had reached us.

ENQUIRER.—The Christmas number of the *Masonic Magazine* will be published Dec. 15. You can order it of any bookseller, or a copy may be obtained direct from the office for 14 penny stamps.

ELEVICH.—Letter and reply in our next.

W. W. AUSTIN (Indiana).—The *Freemason* has been sent from the office regularly each week. If you will send to the publisher a list of those that have failed to reach you, duplicate copies shall be sent at once.

BOOKS &c., RECEIVED.

"Hull Packet;" "House Surgeon or the Doctor at Home;" "Hornet;" "Citizen;" "London Express;" "Broad Arrow;" "City Press;" "Risorgimento;" "Corner Stone;" "Masonic Monthly;" "Cincinnati Commercial;" "Bauhutte;" "La Voz de Hiram;" "Touchstone;" "Grand Lodge of New South Wales, Manifesto;" "New York Dispatch;" "Spalding Free Press;" "Hebrew Leader;" "Loomis' Musical and Masonic Journal;" "Mix't with Magic;" "Masonic Review."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

CHILD.—On the 18th inst., at Holland-villas-road, W., the wife of J. Child, of a daughter.

LIMERICK.—On the 16th inst., at Queen's-gate-terrace, South Kensington, the Countess of Limerick, of a daughter.

LOCKYER.—On the 17th inst., at Deptford, the wife of G. Lockyer, solicitor, of a son.

VAUGHAN.—On the 19th inst., at Wilton-crescent, the wife of E. M. Vaughan, Esq., of a son.

DEATHS.

BURROW.—On the 19th inst., at Southwark-bridge-road, Ellen, daughter of Edmund and Emma Burrow, aged six years.

CALDWELL.—On the 17th inst., at Audley-square, Charlotte Louisa, daughter of the late C. A. Caldwell, Esq., New Grange, county Meath.

COULSON.—On the 18th inst., Alfred Harvest Coulson, late of Mildmay-road, in his 61st year.

THOMAS.—10th inst., at Grove Park, Lee, Kent, Edith Constance, wife of L. W. Thomas.

THE FREEMASON,

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1878.

FREEMASONRY IN FRANCE.

Bro. Dowson asked us a question in our last impression, we venture to seek to reply to it to-day. We can only say in response to his invitation and query combined, that true Cosmopolitan Freemasonry requires absolutely a reverential acknowledgement of T.G.A.O.T.U. Without such acknowledgement any profession of so-called Masonry ceases to be Freemasonry true and Freemasonry proper, and is nothing but a secret association, a bastard imitation of a legitimate and benevolent Fraternity. French Freemasonry,—which drew its "vital breath" from England,—until late years, always professed openly and systematically, theoretically and practically, belief in T.G.A.O.T.U. In fact its dogmata and its ceremonies were offshoots of English Craft Masonry, "pur et simple," nothing more and nothing less. The innovations of Ramsay and Co., and the fantastic developments of countless and childish "Hautes Grades" affected, no doubt, the better, truer teachings of original Craft Masonry about 130 years ago in France, and what was called "Adonhiramite Masonry," at one time greatly infected, and still infects, more or less, the theory and practice of French Freemasonry. The French Revolution closed the doors of the French lodges, and when they revived after the "Reign of Terror," and the "Grande Loge" of France and the "Grand Orient" became one body, the teaching was still undoubtedly, practically on the whole, with some national differences, identical with that of English Craft Masonry. This state of affairs continued until 1830, when the "old order of things" appears to have changed, and from that time downwards, French Freemasonry has passed through many and fiery vicissitudes, has oscillated between contending parties, has been made the sport of "factions," and even the "tool" of the "Commune," until it has now placed itself almost out of the acknowledgement and fraternity of all loyal Freemasons. There is, however, this difference theoretically, as between the Grand Orient of France, and the Grand Conseil of the "Rite Ecossais," that whereas in the former Freemasonry is utterly revolutionized and transformed from its old religious, peaceful, non-political character, under the "Rite Ecossais" T.G.A.O.T.U. is still acknowledged, though as "invocations" are not admitted, and the "Bible" has disappeared, we fear that, as the Congress of Geneva made too plain, its acknowledgement of God, as we understand such acknowledgement, is a form without life and reality, and nothing more. They only mean a "Principe Createur," not a personal God. We are not surprized that Bro. Dowson finds little difference between the two systems, and passing over the great anomaly of a High Grade Conseil granting warrants for Craft Degrees, we will merely add, for Bro. Dowson's information, that the whole of the earlier French Masonic literature abounds in agreement, practically and consistently, nay, almost entirely with our English teaching, and that there is no one French writer of any Masonic authority or repute who supports the views of those who would denude French Masonic teaching and French Masonic ritual, of the reverent acknowledgement of T.G.A.O.T.U.

THE LITERARY WANTS OF FREEMASONRY.

We pointed out in our last impression, as is undoubtedly the case, that Masonic literature did not, unfortunately, receive the support it merited in England, but yet it may be well to remind ourselves that such a condition of things is not peculiar to English Masonry. In other jurisdictions the complaint is the same, and the support received, and the sympathy expressed have been even less. In America, for instance, with its 600,000 Masons, we hardly take up a Masonic periodical without a somewhat similar lamenting allegation, and we fancy, that the same state of things exists alike in France and Germany, Ireland and Scot-

land. Indeed, we know that it is so. Whence, then, this lukewarmness? this backwardness? this want of appreciation of the utility and benefit of Masonic literature? If, (as we fear it must be conceded to the critical and caustic), a good deal of this apathy may be directly traceable to the want of thorough high-class Masonic literature, to that reckless personality, which too often marks Masonic columns, and, perhaps, to the unavoidable and pressing competition of profane serial literature, yet, we cannot help thinking that much may be not unjustly ascribed to our brethren and our lodges. For we think it not too much to say, that as a rule, Masonic literature is, after all, discountenanced and discouraged. Much of this state of things, this fact of neglect, is caused by so many lodges meeting in rooms and taverns, where no provision is made for keeping a lodge library, and where such a useful appendage to a lodge is an utter impossibility. But we fear that beyond this there lies, so to say, a great "undiscovered country" of Masonic indifference, "fallow ground," which we should like to "break up" and bring into cultivation. We feel sure that much good would accrue to Masonry if lodges were more extensively to create and keep up lodge libraries, and if our brethren would sometimes bear in mind that Masonic literature, like all other literature, needs encouragement, and as we believe, merits patronage. We have often felt that our lodge meetings might be made all the more intellectual and more attractive to all, if all good brethren knew as much of the archæology, and history, and philosophy of Freemasonry as they do of its ceremonial, and we are certain that we do not err when we press on our readers the advisability and duty, as educated Masons, cultivated members of our Order, as well as of society, to pay some little attention to the long neglected study of Masonic literature. If Kloss's invaluable "Bibliographie" were continued to 1878, instead of 6000 works, it would, we think, be close upon 7000, or even more, and as the subject is interesting in itself, we shall recur to the history of Masonic Bibliography next week, as suggestive of much that may instruct, inform, and edify our many friendly readers. Let us hope to see a more general appreciation Masonically of Masonic literature.

A NEW JOKE.

That eminent statesman, Mr. Gladstone, has been delivering himself of a new, though harmless, little joke, about our Order, in a speech he delivered at Chester on November 11th. The *Morning Post* of November 12th thus reports his words, when speaking about "Secret Societies." "He rejoiced that in our own case there were no such things as secret societies in this country, or if there were they were only societies with a little harmless executive secrecy like the Freemasons, merely to tickle people's curiosity, to enable them to imagine that there is something very great and very interesting and very wonderful, the knowledge of which they would gain if they were admitted into the society. (Hear, hear, and laughter.) He did not anticipate much mischief from them." (A laugh). Passing over the joke, which certainly seems of the mildest, and people must, we think, be very ready to laugh, if they can laugh at it, we should like to know why Mr. Gladstone should expect any "mischief" from us Freemasons or from Freemasonry. It is quite clear that Mr. Gladstone knows nothing about English Freemasonry, or he would be aware, that a more loyal order does not exist, or one that more deliberately and distinctly disavows, all "secret conspiracies" against the government of the country. Indeed in all lands, if Freemasonry is true to its teaching and its mission, it is the friend of order and law and peace, and the opponent of revolution, anarchy and tumults of every kind. Perhaps Mr. Gladstone does not know that by the "Seditious Societies Act" of 1799, Section 5, "nothing in the act" is to "extend" to "Lodges of Freemasons." The Masonic body is thus fully recognized, and meets legally and peacefully and loyally ever, under the great Ægis of the good constitutional laws of England! At this moment, the Prince of Wales is at its head, two of his royal brothers are high in

office, and as since 1717, three Princes of Wales, and a large proportion of the Royal Family have belonged to it, and it includes within its pale today, some of the noblest, and the most cultivated, and most distinguished in the law, to say nothing of its phalanx of excellent men and law-abiding citizens, we do not profess to understand what "mischief" Mr. Gladstone thinks English Freemasonry can do! The truth is that Mr. Gladstone, like all frequent speakers, (and he certainly does seek to improve the occasion), was in want of a little variety, and so he lighted upon our friendly Order. So far, from his charge, if it be a charge, being valid, much less his joke, if it be a joke, being a good joke, as Freemasons we do not seek to attract, nor do we wish even to invite candidates to join our fraternity. It will be seen by this little "faux pas," that great orators are not exempt from the minor prejudices of common mortals, like all of us, and that this stale little joke, of "affected mystery" and a "pretended secret" can find an exponent in so great a speaker as Mr. Gladstone, and cause a laugh amid the good citizens of Chester, is a fact really amusingly to wonder at. Some of our readers may remember how Mr. Pickwick admired hugely the readiness with which the friends of Mr. Peter Magnus were amused with his signing himself "afternoon," and we can only enjoy the extreme complacency with which Mr. Gladstone's harmless little jest at the expense of Freemasonry, (of which, as we said before, he clearly knows nothing at all), was greeted and responded to by admiring listeners at Chester. We do not think that it is calculated to do any harm to English Masons or to English Masonry, and as for the "mischief" about which Mr. Gladstone seems to be in doubt, as "possible though not probable," we can safely assert to day, on the contrary, that English Freemasonry never does "mischief" to anything or anybody, but is ever alike of value and reality to its brotherhood, and of utility and blessing to mankind.

BRO. CREMIEUX'S SPEECH AT THE FETE OF THE TROCA-DERO.

Bro. Hubert, in the "Chaine d'Union" for November, gives us what is a sketch of this speech, incomplete, however, because, as he says, it was impossible to hear the orator. Such as it is, we give a literal translation of it to our readers—see p. 487, "Chaine d'Union," for November. "The eminent orator," Bro. Hubert says, "then represented to us what might have been the cradle of Freemasonry, its first sanctuary, its hearth and its element, when the people were still plunged in barbarism, in superstition in the mid-day of civilization and progress, and placed us in presence of the mysteries whence all the right-thinking men of antiquity derived their doctrines, so pure, so moral, so enlightened, so humanitarian, by the self-illumination of the idea of a God, and fortifying themselves with the perspective of a future life. It is, thanks to these sages of antiquity, that the notions of civilization spread and penetrated through the entirety of nations, augmenting the sum of their well-being, adding to their intellectual, moral, and physical knowledge. But, how not, in this work, in this travail to compare the heaven and the earth? how not to be affected and seduced by the serenity and splendour of the one, and the immense operations which mark every storehouse of the other? Then naturally appeared as the Grand Workman, Regulator, and Pacificator, in this contrast between heaven and earth, in this common existence of heaven and earth, in this harmony, in this superior Order, which dominated, regulated, directed, the affairs of earth and heaven, T.G.A.O.T.U. He was then properly in his place T.G.A.O.T.U., the frontispiece of the ancient mysteries. He was logically in the essence, and the result of their teaching, their doctrines, their belief in the absolute path in which the adept were to walk and to believe. But the ages succeed, and behold us in mediæval times. The historians profess to deduce from certain facts which they put forward, that ancient Freemasonry was perpetuated, was preserved by those numerous and powerful organized associations, under the title of operative Masons, who covered Europe with their grand and splendid

monuments, which constitute to-day our admiration and our astonishment. Those cathedrals, unique in their kind, and which reproduce in their architecture and their sculptures so many of the symbols and working tools which belong to our ritualistic and didactic ceremonies. T.G.A.O.T.U. was again there. And its idea became still more striking and necessary when an element more preoccupied with building up, and constituting the moral human edifice, than in building these monuments of stone, penetrated the confederations of operative Masons. From that moment all the efforts, all the concern, all the labours, of the Society of Freemasons was the development in the man of the moral, intellectual, and physical faculties, that is to say, to make him good, just, and healthy in mind and body; that is to say, to teach him that which is good, beautiful, and true, to place him in the condition the most conformable to his aspirations, to his wants, his well-being, to the enlightened expansion of his intelligence. Behold our secret, behold our science, behold our mystery. To form man who will love his family, and will devote himself to the happiness of his family; to form the citizen, who will know all that relates to his country, and all that he can expect from his country, to enlighten him sufficiently in order that he may understand that all the peoples are reciprocally united to each other, that all men are brethren of humanity, and that if we owe a duty to our family we owe it more to our country, and much more to humanity. Mutual esteem, personal honesty, virtue are the means; Freemasonry ought not to depart from them. Justice is its safeguard, the Freemason ought to adhere to it. But as side by side with teaching it is needful to bring example, it is necessary to gain practice, Masons enlighten themselves mutually, treat each other mutually as brethren, without distinction of race, nationalities, religions; Masons, in one word, from one end of the world to the other, form but one and the same family, united in all the members which compose it. This is the reason that on this auspicious day, in the solemnity of which every one will preserve a happy and comfortable recollection, we are all here, although of all countries, receiving each other, greeting each other, *considering each other, mingling with each other*, better even than friends, as cordially, as sympathetically, as joyously, as brethren would do belonging to the same one family.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even 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.]

AN APPEAL TO THE LONDON SUBSCRIBERS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason"

Dear Sir and Brother,—

While bowing with all due deference to your decision, I venture to lay before you facts which may heretofore have been unknown to, or unheeded by, many, viz., that year by year the number of London candidates, hopelessly rejected by the pre-concerted and well executed action of the provinces, is becoming annually stronger and more disheartening to the brethren among whom the applicants dwell. I will only refer as far back as the October election, and call your attention to the fact, that whereas individual provinces were able to bring forward, and successfully elect, candidates on their first application, with an average of three to eight more chances, London, with three candidates on their final chance, was only able to secure one, and that a combined London and provincial case.

I would now call your attention to the ensuing April election, on which occasion, singularly, precisely similar cases will be laid before you, viz., four London cases, Frost with ten votes, Giles with three, and a combined London and Essex, Nicholls with 1013, to bring forward. Recall to mind one of Æsop's Fables, "the old man who gave his sons a bundle of sticks to break, impossible 'en masse,' but perfectly easy singly." So, dear sir and brother, if the London subscribers are but true to themselves, they will, by the combination of the proxies they possess, in the privileges they have purchased, always be enabled to secure the return of every urgent London case presented to them, and at the same time have a large amount of votes in hand to successfully aid any candidates from the provinces whom the London brethren individually and collectively deem most worthy of support; but if the London subscribers keep aloof from each other, and either from jealousy or indifference deem themselves self-sufficient, then they will, like those separated sticks, be broken, and become the victims, not of the provinces or others, who wisely make use of their wantonly wasted power, but of their own self-importance in thinking that they are wiser or stronger than their neighbours, whose strength and wisdom is proved by their uni-

form success. I do not ask you to join the London Masonic Charity Association, of which I have the honour to be Treasurer, unless you are at issue with the principles on which it is established, like Freemasonry, perfect freedom of inclination, but I have a scheme, which under correction and revision, would render the catholicity of Freemasonry as nearly perfect as anything human can be.

I remain, dear Sir and Brother, yours most fraternally,
CHARLES JOHN PERCEVAL.

THE LONDON MASONIC CHARITY ASSOCIATION.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother.

Perhaps some member of the London Masonic Charity Association will kindly answer a few simple questions which I wish in your columns to propound.

(1) Is it not the fact that the London Masonic Charity Association has been established with a view to defeating the rival organisations in the provinces?

(2) Has it not been avowed by the leading members of the London Association that this object is to secure a greater amount of patronage in the Masonic Charities for London votes, and, of course, for London candidates?

(3) Has not the disparity between the amount of London subscriptions, and the number of successful London candidates, been shewn by elaborately compiled figures, and adduced as a most powerful reason for the establishment of a London Association?

(4) Is it not a fact that the London Association is intended to be an exact copy, in all respects, of the various provincial societies?

(5) Can it be shewn that in any single case the united votes of any province have ever been given in support of a candidate from another province, unless in the form of loans to be returned at a future election?

(6) Has the London Association avowed its intention of dealing with each individual case on the list on its merits alone, and irrespective altogether of accidents of locality?

(7) In the event of a candidate from some distant province coming up for the last time, with only a few votes to his or her credit, will the London Association support that candidate without making a bargain for a return of votes at a subsequent election?

(8) Has not the legislature been appealed to times without number to amend the laws regulating admission to various charitable institutions, with a view to stopping the pernicious system of charity electioneering?

(9) Does not the establishment of local Masonic Charity Associations tend to foster and increase this vicious principle of charity jobbing, which has been already widely condemned by the great majority of thinking men?

(10) Can it be shown that the patronage exercised by London Masons is really less than it ought to be, when regard is had to the many provincial brethren resident in London, whose votes are naturally given to their respective provinces?

And, finally, is it not the fact that London Masons receive far more money from the central Board of Benevolence than do the indigent brethren of the provinces? This last question may appear to be irrelevant, but I do not think it is so when the question is one of London versus Provinces, in re the benefits derived from the Craft as a whole.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, faithfully and fraternally yours,
QUERIST.

THE MARK DEGREE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

If I have refrained from troubling you with a communication on this subject it is not because I have been an idle reader, or an inattentive observer of the comments and statements which have appeared in your paper of some weeks past, but because I am of opinion that the important questions involved cannot be discussed in print without introducing allusions which it is neither right nor prudent to submit to public scrutiny.

Your correspondent, "Masonic Student," however, render it impossible for me longer to remain silent, reviving as he does the absurd idea (he must pardon me if he please) of the association of this degree with "St. Mark" an idea I have known only to emanate from one of the bitterest opponents of the degree in the years gone by; and for which there cannot be found the slightest authority.

I may be ask why decry as "absurd" the attempted association of the Mark Degree with the name of one Evangelist, while Craft Masonry is—or was—proud of its association with the name of another, still being widely known in many districts by the familiar appellation of "St. John's Masonry?" I make no specific reply, but simply enquire what became of "St. John's Masonry" when the two "Grand Parallels" of the New Testament were removed, and two of the Old Testament substituted? In those days of mutual concession, of so much giving and taking for the purpose of reconciliation between two rival bodies, how much of old Masonry "went by the board" I am not in a position to state, either with accuracy or authority, but I do not suppose it will be seriously disputed that a great deal of what was once held to belong to "pure and ancient Masonry" was eliminated, and many things embodied which had but little of antiquity, or received tradition, to recommend them.

That the Mark Degree was in the catalogue of eliminations I have every reason to believe, the prestige of old usage not being able to save it when there was offered in exchange the more elaborate ceremonial of the comparative innovation, the Royal Arch. But it is not necessary to attempt to depreciate one portion of Freemasonry for the sake of endeavouring to give importance to another, and I earnestly wish that those who do not feel disposed to acknowledge the authenticity of the Mark Degree would content themselves with such abstention, and not go out of their way to attack an organisation, the ends and aims

of which are as legitimate as, if not identical with, those of Craft Masonry.

If Craft Masonry derives its origin from the building of the Temple and from K.S., then Mark Masonry must be allowed an equally good—nay, an exactly similar—foundation. And why should this claim mar the enjoyment, or disturb the equanimity, of the most enthusiastically devoted member of the Craft? In what respect is the Mark antagonistic to the Craft? In what sense—from what point of view—can it be so regarded?

The same rulers hold high rank in both!

Both bodies are perfectly unsectarian!

Both inculcate, and demand from every candidate, a belief in a Supreme Being, though under slightly differing titles!

In many parts of England the tradition of the one have as remote an antiquity as the other.

As to the "teachings;" passing over the ordinary lessons, and the various objects of research submitted for consideration, in both systems Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth have prominent places, while it cannot be denied that, as a whole, the Mark, to a greater extent than any other degree, unites the operative with the speculative, and if in that which is held to be the most impressive and important of the three Craft Degrees we are taught to feel that there is no stain equal to that of falsehood and dishonour, and we receive the final instruction how to comport ourselves in the inevitable hour, we are taught in the Mark Degree how to demean ourselves under disappointment, how to accept unmerited rejection and reproof, to comfort ourselves under the frowns of fortune, having regard to the consoling assurance that God seeth not as man seeth, and to find compensation for neglect in this present sphere by encouraging aspirations for adjustment and reward in that higher and better world to which our attention is directed.

If the "present system of Mark Masonry must be pronounced absolutely modern," what is to be said of the present system of Craft Masonry? While yielding a cheerful acquiescence in the "time immemorial" theory of Freemasonry, and claiming for it a far more remote antiquity and higher connection than many are willing to concede, though unable satisfactorily to trace its development, a great deal in our present system must be held to be of modern introduction. But this does not lead me to undervalue it as an institution. In an age of progress why should Masonry be unprogressive? If the present system, the result of the labours of learned and earnest thinkers and writers, albeit with a turn for "improvement," be considered as that best adapted for present requirements, I accept it as a goodly structure, erected on strong, well-laid foundations. For all this I may be allowed to regret a departure, to some extent from the old lines, and to indulge my partiality for a structure still more complete. But let me be more practical! Is it beyond the power of demonstration;—

1. That the Third Degree is a modern formation.
2. That the old lodges practised the Two Degrees only of E.A. and F.C.
3. That the ruler of a lodge was inducted into office as the "Overseer," with a ceremony closely resembling that of the Mark Degree in many points, and was known as the "Chair-Master's Degree."

I am not without bases on which to ground this hypothesis (if more than this is denied me), but it is impossible for me to explain them in public.

Under any circumstances it is gratifying to know that the Mark Degree is recognised as part of pure and ancient Masonry by every known supreme jurisdiction—that of England excepted. I, for one, do not fear, though I do not desire, controversy. Bro. Bedolfe may denounce me as a "traitor," and may throw as much mud as he pleases on the degree and its members, Masonic Students may formulate their theories, diseased imaginations may run riot in their indulgence in diatribe and contempt, this Masonic degree will, I am convinced, bear as close and scrutinising an examination as any degree belonging to an institution, which beyond a certain ascertained period in its history has to rely upon more or less valuable well-authenticated tradition. In the words of "Ecce Signum," whose admirable reply to Bro. Bedolfe is worthy all praise, "I deem this 'connection' much more sensible than impassioned argument upon unknown matters" and am content.

Remaining, dear Sir and Brother, yours faithfully and fraternally,

FREDERICK BINCKES.

London, 11th November, 1871.

FREEMASONRY IN FRANCE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

As the writer of the remarks on English and French Freemasonry, may I be allowed, in reply to Bro. De Renzy, to remark that my call on the Grand Orient of France was of the character of an interview, rather than of a fraternal visit, and, I think, it attained the object in view. Thus by bringing out prominently the fact of the erasure of the Sacred Symbol from the Book of Constitutions, whilst doing justice to the amiable bearing of the W.M., pointed out the restless nature of the leading spirit, and the fact that the candidates were selected as men of advanced opinions and socialistic ideas. I am not aware that any one else has so clearly pointed out the facts. Having thus obtained the information desired, I went on my way, and saw them no more.

As to the Scottish Rite, the idea I wished to express was that they were not of the movement party, but that, like legitimists, with whom I have conversed, and other reasonable men, they were satisfied "if France were well governed and at peace."

Three candidates were selected in one of the lodges I

visited. Two, if not all three, were stated to be "Catholic," simply as matter of character, but no allusion was made to politics. This fact at once points out the great difference between the two Grand Lodges.

In another of the lodges a brother delivered a good lecture on the marriage customs of nations and tribes, and his summing up left nothing to be desired as to orthodoxy or propriety.

I would further remark, as there seems to be some confusion, that on the Masonic fête day there were two meetings; firstly, the concert at the Trocadero Palace, of probably 4000 people, leaving some hundreds outside, of whom I was one, and where M. Cremieux and Bro. Montagu spoke; and, secondly, the banquet at the Continental Hotel in the evening, at which I should estimate at not less than 400 were present.

Two rooms were filled, everything was in good order and taste, but for myself I found the heat overpowering, and fainted soon after the dinner had begun. A brother very kindly led me out, and I returned, not indeed to the dinner, but to hear M. Jules Simon. M. Jules Simon's speech was moderate, he spoke of the pleasure of being surrounded by so large a gathering of the brethren and visitors, which spoke so powerfully of the revival of France after its late fearful trials. He spoke highly of England, and especially of the Prince of Wales, but in no way did he allude to politics. He then referred to his satisfaction at the visit there of Lord Skelmersdale, whom he certainly described as the representative of English Masonry.

Lord Skelmersdale made an excellent speech in English, which was translated and much applauded.

I do not think French Freemasonry ought to be neglected, or to be shown the cold shoulder. The brother who sat next to me was a Roumanian, the next to him was from Algiers, and whatever form French Freemasonry may take, it will prevail over the rest of Europe. Had the Reformation succeeded (as it nearly did) in France, the Papacy, as a power, had ceased to be, and I repeat that the influence of French ideas on the world is not to be despised. A brother said to me, "We like Freemasonry, but we want simplicity."

Yours fraternally,

W. VINER BEDOLFE.

GRAND MARK LODGE.

The following report of the General Board will be presented at the meeting of Grand Lodge, on Tuesday, the 3rd December:

The number of certificates issued in the six months to 30th September, 1878, was 695, bringing the number of brethren advanced under this Grand Lodge, as per register of members, 11,773.

The amount received for fees, &c., in the six months to 30th September, 1878, was £812 5 6

The balance to credit of the General Fund on 30th September, 1878, was £230 4 6

The balance to credit of the Benevolent Fund on 30th September, 1878, was £78 17 11
 Since paid 46 15 0
 Subscriptions still due 87 9 0

Showing a balance divisible between the Benevolent and Education Funds of £213 1 11

In the same period there were granted Warrants for thirteen new lodges, viz:

- No. 222, Kingston, Tunis, North Africa.
- " 223, West Smithfield, London.
- " 224, Menatschim, London.
- " 225, Abbey, Abingdon.
- " 226, Excelsior, Plumstead.
- " 227, Hereward, Bourne.
- " 228, Garnet, Dinapore, Bengal.
- " 229, Faithfull, Cocker mouth.
- " 230, Clifton Mount Keystone, Kingston, Jamaica.
- " 231, Union, Demerara.
- " 232, Cyprus, Benares, Bengal.
- " 233, Headstone of the Corner, Lucknow, Bengal.
- " 234, Brixton, London.

It is with extreme regret that the Board records the death of R.W. Bro. Sir Frederick Martin Williams, Bart., M.P., who since the year 1867 ruled over the Province of Cornwall with marked ability and success.

The tenth annual festival in aid of the Benevolent Fund was held on Wednesday, 17th July, at the Alexandra Palace, under the presidency of the M.W. Grand Master, the Rt. Hon. Lord Skelmersdale. The festival resulted in an unprecedented success, the total of the lists of twenty-six Stewards having reached £371 4s. This has enabled the Board to increase the invested fund to £1000, in consequence of which there is submitted for consideration by Grand Lodge, a draft of the Rules and Regulations suggested by the Board for the management and disposal of the amount apportioned to the educational branch of the Benevolent Fund.

A moveable Grand Lodge was held at Keswick in June last, presided over by the M.W. Past Grand Master, the Rev. George Raymond Portal, at which Lodges Fletcher, No. 213, and Henry, 216 (the latter of which had been formerly held under the Scotch Constitution) were consecrated and their respective Worshipful Masters duly installed. The arrangements made for the accommodation of visitors and for the transaction of business reflected the greatest credit on R.W. Bro. Col. Whitwell, M.P., Deputy Grand Master of the province, the Provincial Grand Secretary, and the Executive generally.

The Board recommends grants of £15 to Bro. H., late of Sunderland, and £10 to the widow of Bro. H., late of East Stonehouse, County Devon.

The Board also recommends £25 from the General Fund to be granted to certain brethren of the Mark Degree in the Island of Curaçoa, West Indies, who have been reduced to a state of great destitution by the hurricane of September, 1877. Such grant to be entrusted to the W.M. of the Mark Lodge Perseverance, No. 184, at Curaçoa.

The Board has ordered the investment of £300 on account of the General Fund, making that Fund £1,000.

Certain Orders having expressed a desire that the Grand Mark Master for the time being should take charge of the said Orders (with a view to obviate the necessity of establishing other Supreme Bodies for that purpose), the Board recommends that the Grand Mark Master be authorised to take charge of such Orders and under such conditions as the General Board may from time to time recommend, and the Grand Mark Master may approve.

The Board has the gratification to announce that the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the District of Columbia, U.S.A., has requested the M.W. Grand Master to accept the appointment of Grand Representative of that Grand Chapter near this Grand Lodge, and that his lordship has signified his acceptance of the appointment, and requested Ill. Comp. Joseph S. McCoy, the Grand High Priest, to represent this Grand Lodge near his Grand Chapter, with the rank of Past Grand Warden.

The Grand Chapter of West Virginia, U.S.A., has also requested the Grand Secretary to act as its Representative near this Grand Lodge, which has been approved by the M.W.G.M., and having expressed a desire for an exchange of Representatives, the M.W.G.M. has appointed Ill. Comp. Charles M. Davison as Representative of this G.L. near the Grand Chapter of West Virginia—also with the rank of Past Grand Warden. The Board cordially welcomes this exchange of Representatives, evidencing as it does the fraternal relations existing amongst the various Grand Bodies having charge of the Mark Degree.

An appeal has been received from the W.M. of Fidelity Lodge, No. 98, at Lahore, in the Province of Bengal, against the ruling of the P.G.M., which has been dealt with by the Board. The papers relative thereto are open to the inspection of the brethren at the office of Grand Lodge.

The Grand Treasurer's accounts for the six months to 30th September, 1878, are subjoined, which show:—

GENERAL FUND.	
Balance from 31st March, 1878	£152 5 2
Half-year's receipts	797 11 8
Dividends	14 13 10
	£964 10 8
Half-year's disbursements:	
Purchase of Stock	£210 5 6
Expenditure, &c.	524 1 0
Balance 30th September, 1878	£230 4 2
FUND OF BENEVOLENCE.	
Balance from 31st March, 1878	£ 69 4 8
Receipts for half year	£282 13 6
Dividends	1 0 11 9
	302 5 3
Disbursements, &c.	£90 6 9
Purchase of Stock	202 5 3
	292 12 0
Balance, 30th September, 1878	£78 17 11

INVESTED FUNDS.	
GENERAL FUND.	
Canadian 5 per cent. Debenture Bonds	£ 200 0
New Zealand 5 per cent. Consols	800 0 0
	£1000
BENEVOLENT FUND.	
Canadian 5 per cent. Debenture Bonds	£600 0 0
New Zealand 5 per cent. Consols	400 0 0
	1000 0 0
Total	£2000 0 0

The following are the bye-laws of the Educational Branch of the Mark Benevolent Fund, a scheme for which will be submitted to Grand Mark Lodge, on the 3rd December, as announced by the *Freemason* last week:—

- I. The object of the branch is to assist in the education of the children of recessitous Mark Master Masons.
- II. It consists of a Patron or Patrons, President, Vice-Presidents, Trustees, Treasurer, Secretary, and an unlimited number of Life Governors and Annual Subscribers.
- III. The General Board will hold special meetings on the third Tuesday in April and October, and at such other times as they may deem necessary, for the purpose of considering applications.
- IV. The mode of election is by ballot, by means of voting papers issued by the Board.
- V. Every sum of five shillings per annum subscribed to the Mark Benevolent Fund, gives the subscriber one vote at a single election.
- VI. A donation of five guineas, in one or more payments within twelve months, gives five votes for life at every election, and constitutes the donor a life subscriber.
- VII. A donation of ten guineas, in one or more payments within twelve months, gives twelve votes for life at every election, and constitutes the donor a life governor.
- VIII. A donation of twenty guineas, in one or more payments within twelve months, gives twenty-five votes for life at every election, and constitutes the donor a Vice-President.

IX. Similar privileges are acquired by lodges on payment of double the above amounts.

X. No applicant shall be eligible for election unless the father has been for at least three years a subscribing member of some Mark Lodge under the English Constitution.

XI. No child shall be admitted to the benefits of this Institution who is under eight or above thirteen years of age, nor continue a recipient after the age of sixteen.

XII. No candidate shall be placed on the list until approved of by the Board.

XIII. Every petitioner shall produce a certificate signed by the Master and Secretary of the Mark Lodge in which the father was advanced, or of which he has been a subscribing member for at least three years, together with a certificate or satisfactory proof of the date of the birth of the applicant.

XIV. A list of all approved candidates shall be sent by the Secretary to every subscriber at least fourteen days before the day of election.

XV. A quarterly report of the progress, conduct, and health of every child assisted by this Institution shall be required from the head of the educational establishment where the child is placed, and the General Board shall take such other steps as may be practicable for ascertaining the progress made by the child.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF LANCASHIRE.

The Provincial Grand Mark Master Masons' Lodge, of the county Palatine of Lancaster, was held in the Town Hall, Bury, on Monday, the 4th inst., when a large number of Mark Masons assembled, under the presidency of the M.W. Grand Mark Master, Bro. Lord Skelmersdale, Prov. G.M. of Lancashire; assisted by his deputy the R.W. Bro. Le Gendre Nicholas Starkie, and the following officers of Prov. Grand Lodge:—

Bros. Geo. P. Brockbank, S.G.W.; Edward Haywood, J.G.W. Thomas Wilson, G.M.O.; Henry Lees Hollingworth, G.S.O.; Frederick Dean, G.J.O.; Augustus A. Bagshawe, G. Chap; John Duffield, G. Treas.; John Heap, G. Reg.; John Chadwick, G. Sec.; John Ranciliffe, G.S.D.; John Harwood, G.J.D.; James Tayler, G.I. of W.; C. M. Jones, G.D. of Cir.; R. W. Waterson, G.D. of C.; Julius Armsberg, G. Swd. B.; James Huartson, G. Std. B.; Thomas Horsfall, G. Org.; G. E. Hanmer, G. Purs., together with about 120 brethren from all parts of the province.

The Prov. G. Lodge was opened in form, and with solemn prayer, about 3 10 p.m.

The minutes of Prov. G. Lodge, held in Bolton, Oct. 22nd, 1877, were submitted for confirmation.

The Treasurer's accounts, duly audited, were presented and showed the very gratifying balance of £117 in favour of Prov. Grand Lodge.

Bro. Charles F. Woodall, W.M. elect, Union Lodge, 32, was then unanimously elected Prov. Grand Treasurer, in the place of Bro. John Duffield, who, for his valuable services in that capacity for nearly eight years, and to show the Prov. Grand Master's appreciation of the same, was appointed Prov. Grand Senior Warden for the year.

The Prov. Grand Master then proceeded to appoint and invest the Prov. Grand Officers as follows:—

- John Duffield... .. Prov. S.G.W.
- James Shaw Prov. J.G.W.
- E. C. Milligan Prov. G.M.O.
- James Huatson Prov. G.S.O.
- Edward Diggle Prov. G.J.O.
- Augustus A. Bagshawe Prov. G.C.
- Joseph Harrison Prov. A.G.C.
- Henry J. Jackson Prov. G.R.
- C. F. Woodall Prov. G.T.
- John Chadwick Prov. G.S.
- George E. Hanmer Prov. S.G.D.
- John Davison... .. Prov. J.G.D.
- Samuel Porritt Prov. G.I. of W.
- R. W. Waterson Prov. G.D. of C.
- T. W. Probert Prov. G.A.D. of C.
- Joseph Wood... .. Prov. G.S.B.
- James Horrocks Prov. G.S.B.
- George Lamb Campbell Prov. G.O.
- J. L. Thorpe Prov. G.P.

Bro. Brockbank rose, and in an eloquent speech, proposed "that the sum of fifty guineas be given in the name of the Prov. Grand Mark Master to the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows." This was ably seconded by Bro. Matier, and carried unanimously.

The Deputy Prov. Grand Master gave his best thanks to the brethren for their promise of fifty guineas to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, at the next Annual Festival, of which Institution he would have the honour to preside, and he hoped to be well supported by his Lancashire brethren.

The G. Secretary announced that every lodge in the province was represented, and all returns from lodges had been received, showing a great improvement on previous years, indicating an amount of attention and good work, and reflecting favourably upon the W.M. and officers of the various lodges, who he (the P.G. Secretary) believed were now in better working order than in any previous year.

The P.G. Sec. was now asked by the Prov. G.M. to withdraw from the lodge, and when this had been done, Bro. C. F. Matier, P.G.J.W., rose, and proposed that the sum of £25 be given each year for his services as P.G. Sec., one year's payment to date from October, 1877. Bro. Matier spoke in the highest terms of the most satisfactory manner in which Bro. Chadwick had performed his Secretarial duties during the last nine years.

Bro. J. R. Goepel, P.G.S.O. of England, seconded the proposition, which was supported by the P.G. Chaplain (Bro. Bagshawe). Bro. J. Duffield, P.G.S.W. (Past P.G.

Treas.), also referred to the great pleasure it had given him to work with Bro. Chadwick, and several other brethren spoke in very complimentary terms of the P.G. Secretary's indefatigable services, and of the great advantage which these had been to P.G. Lodge.

The proposition was carried by acclamation.

On the P.G. Secretary's re-entrance into the P.G. Lodge the Prov. G. Master said he had great pleasure in informing him that Prov. G. Lodge had thought it right to pass a resolution giving to him, the Grand Secretary, twenty-five pounds per annum, and to date retrospectively from Oct., 1877, and that he felt very proud to think that under these circumstances Bro. Chadwick's services could be secured, at least, for a time. He had served Prov. G. Lodge well for nine years in that capacity, gratuitously, and thought Prov. G. Lodge was well justified in what it had done.

Requests were made from brethren from Rose and Thistle Lodge, Wigan, and also from Skelmersdale Lodge, Ashton-under-Lyne, to have next meeting of Prov. Grand Lodge held in their towns.

"Hearty Good Wishes" were expressed from brethren hailing from Yorkshire, Cheshire, Middlesex, and Surrey, and the Prov. Grand Lodge was closed at 4.30 p.m.

The banquet was held at the Derby Hotel, at 5 o'clock, the M.W.G. Master, Bro. Lord Skelmersdale, presiding, when about sixty brethren sat down to a most excellent banquet, provided by Bro. Wm. Hadley.

ECLECTIC LODGE, No. 1201, LADIES' BANQUET.

Subsequent to the emergency meeting on Thursday, the 14th inst., of which we have elsewhere given a report, the brethren, accompanied by their wives, lady friends, and a number of Masonic visitors, to whom special invitations had been given, assembled at the Holborn Restaurant, to a banquet and soiree musicale.

The arrangements had been planned and carried out by the W.M. and a committee of officers, and their efforts were ably seconded by Bro. Hamp, the enterprising manager of the Restaurant, a member of the lodge.

On arriving, the brethren and guests were conducted to the "Duke's Saloon," elegantly fitted up for the nonce as a drawing room, where the necessary presentations to the W.M. and principal officers took place.

At seven o'clock an adjournment was made to the banquetting-room, where a most elegant and recherché dinner was served, covers being laid for ninety-nine, and every seat being occupied. A pleasing feature at the table was a list of toasts, interspersed with Shakesperian quotations, edited and arranged by the W.M., Bro. Arthur F. Taylor.

On the conclusion of dinner grace was sung by Bros. R. Taylor, Bannister, Clegg, and Evans, and the usual toasts of "The Queen," "The M.W. Grand Master," and "The Grand Officers," were proposed by the W.M., and drunk with enthusiasm, but, of course, without the honours usual at tyled Masonic banquets.

Bro. E. J. Hartly, I.P.M., in a few felicitous remarks, proposed "The Health of the W.M. and Mrs. Taylor," assuring the ladies that the arduous duties of the lodge itself were carried out by Bro. Taylor with the same thoroughness and affability as they had seen him exhibit in the presidency at the banquet-table. With regard to having a ladies' banquet he (Bro. Hartly) had, when the thing was first mooted, almost doubted of its advisability, but on mature consideration, had given the idea his unqualified support, and he trusted that the initiative taken, and so ably carried out by the W.M., and which had this evening proved so signally successful, would be made an annual institution.

The W.M., in reply, said that even had the applause he had just heard not been given, he should have felt amply rewarded by the presence of the brilliant assembly before him. He felt it an exceeding honour to have been enabled to welcome and preside over a more distinguished and numerous company than had ever before graced the banquet table of the Eclectic Lodge.

After the toast of "The Initiates" had been proposed by the W.M., and responded to by Bro. Parr, who stated how much he had been impressed by the ceremonies he had passed through, Bro. Dr. Pearce was delegated to propose the toast of the evening, "The Ladies." He said, this toast is one which, above all others, will be responded to, not only in the glass but in the heart of every brother here. The initiation, Worshipful Master, by you, of this new order of things, is worthy of your head and heart. Above all other things woman stands highest in our Masonic history. We are reminded in it of that period of the world's history when, after the Great Architect of the Universe had created man, He brought before him woman as His last and best work. Thus she stands and will remain in the heart of every Mason throughout not only all Christendom but of every country in the world of civilization. The ladies often tell us how selfish Masonry is—why not have us with you? they say, what are your secrets, your signs? But we forget them not; we allude to them not only in our ceremonies, but in our affections as expressed in those ceremonies. Masonry consists not in a mere convivial regaling, not in the mere banquetting of brethren, but in the principles which are founded on the purest piety and virtue." Bro. Pearce then concluded an eloquent oration with an allusion to the religious element in Masonry.

The J.W., Bro. W. S. Lee, on rising to respond, was greeted with loud applause, upon which he said, I am afraid the applause with which you have greeted me must be taken as a truthful commentary on the fact of my having been appointed to reply to this toast, and which may be expressed by a famous N.B. "This is sarcasm," because it really requires a brother of iron nerve, resolute determination, and magnificent eloquence, to reply to this by far the most important toast of the evening, whilst I, unfortunately, as the brethren well know, am the most

modest man in the Eclectic Lodge. (Ironical Cheers.) I have, however one qualification perhaps for the important position where I have been placed. Like Artemus Ward, I like little boys, I like little girls, that is, when they are very nice, but, oh! the big girls immensely. (Laughter.) It is really superfluous that it should be thought necessary for any one to speak on behalf of the ladies, not only like good wine do they need no praise or bush, but they are intertwined with the foundations, the corner stones, if we ever had any, our mothers, if we ever had any (loud laughter), and being so intimately connected with Masonry it is really a shame that they should ever be thrust out into the cold when we can always find room for them at our tables, as we always do in our hearts. (Cheers.) I am glad the Eclectic Lodge is beginning to realise its responsibilities in this respect. I am glad that a certain ancient classic, Mr. Paris, is not here to night. You will remember that a few thousand years ago he was a good deal troubled to decide which of three young ladies was most engaging, he would certainly be driven crazy were he compelled to decide which is the most elegant, graceful, and beautiful of those whom the brethren by some occult means best known to themselves,—that is one of the secrets of Freemasonry—have gathered together to honour us this evening with their presence. Not but that each brother could easily decide for himself which he would prefer, but that is rather a delicate matter and had better be passed. [I know our sisters will think kinder of Masonry for what they have seen of its working to night, they will not grow cross if it takes away now and then a husband or a sweetheart temporarily from their sides, and I know that their presence here to night will influence and bless the Eclectic Lodge long after the memory of this pleasant evening shall have passed away. (Loud Applause.)

Bro. Reid Canon Harford, P.M., in replying for the visiting brethren, said the presence of ladies was hardly an innovation, it was carrying out the law of nature. In the French lodges of the last century brethren and sisters met there together regularly.

Bro. J. Stevens P.M., in response to the same toast, made some capital remarks, some of which were lost to our reporter in the hearty bursts of laughter with which they were greeted. He said he never knew such a remarkable contrast as the Eclectic Lodge of a few years ago and at the present moment. The Eclectic Lodge never fed, never met but upon Barmecide feast days. Dark, dreary, and comfortless were those days, when civilization had not laid a line or extended a compass. Compare the present occasion. Then the Eclectic Lodge did not dine, but a "Harty" good fellow took hold of them as W.M., and made them dine. He, with the co-operation of his officers, pulled them through a very difficult year, and now another brother, the present W.M., had still further pushed ahead this extraordinary correct lodge. He always enjoyed his visits to the Eclectic Lodge, but never more than on the present occasion. He only wished his wife had been present, as he should have been able to convince her what he had during the whole period of his married life failed to do, that there was some good in Freemasonry. Bro. Stevens concluded with complimenting the W.M. for his selection of Shakesperian quotations on the toast list.

Bro. Hartly, I.P.M., responded for the Past Masters, and Bro. Saul, S.W., for the officers.

An excellent concert was then given by several brethren and ladies, the most noticeable feature being a duet for piano and harmonium, by Miss Hamp, a young lady of some nine or ten years, and Bro. A. L. Tamplin, the well-known organist, who also subsequently treated the company to a solo on the latter instrument, which perfectly entranced his hearers. A pianoforte solo by Miss Bolton, songs by Mr. Mander, Bros. R. Taylor, G. S. Graham, Knight Smith, and a wonderful performance by Bro. Graham, of the natural whistle, accompanied by the band, which was greatly applauded. The company separated about 12 o'clock, with mutual congratulations as to the success of the meeting.

Celebrated as the Emerald Isle is for its whisky, it promises to achieve an equally enviable notoriety for its tobacco, if we may judge from the growing demand made for that manufactured by Messrs. Murray, Sons and Co., at their extensive factories in Belfast and Dublin. The favour with which the various tobaccos of this particular firm have been received is, to a great extent, due to the measures they have taken to ensure deliveries to them of the finest qualities only. All their special brands sent out to the retail dealers are encased in sealed packets, with the name and trade mark (a pine), so that purchasers may rely upon obtaining the genuine article. This guarantee, coupled with the acknowledged purity of Messrs. Murray's tobaccos, has an important signification for smokers; it is, therefore, hardly surprising that Messrs. Murray should have contributed so materially to obtain for the sister Isle, a reputation for tobacco second only to that which she enjoys for whiskey. The "mellow" smoking mixture, recently sent us from Belfast, well deserves the appellation with which its introducers have designated it, and will be welcomed by all pipe smokers; a tribute equally merited by Messrs. Murray's other brands, most of which can now be obtained of tobacconists in this country.

An Evening Entertainment for the pupils of the Royal Normal College and Academy of Music for the Blind will be given by Bro. Magnus Ohren, on Friday next, at 8 o'clock, at the College, Upper Norwood. Bro. Ohren will be assisted by members of his family, and the Misses Mahood. The entertainment will consist of Readings, Songs, Duets, etc.

Bro. Sir Albert Woods, G. Dir. of Cer., Garter King at Arms, went to Windsor Castle on Thursday, for the purpose of placing the banners of the Earl of Beaconsfield and the Marquis of Salisbury in St. George's Chapel.

Masonic and General Tidings.

THE LIVERPOOL MASONIC HALL.—On the 20th December the members of the Dramatic Lodge No. 1609, will give a grand special performance at the Royal Amphitheatre, Liverpool (the use of which has been generously granted by Bro. L. Courtenay, W.M., and Bro. Leslie, the lessees), in aid of the decoration of the Masonic Hall. The members of the "Dramatic" intend to realize as much money as will decorate the banqueting room in an artistic manner, and there seems to be little doubt that this object will be attained, judging from almost universal Masonic enthusiasm shown in connection with this effort. Our D.G.M., Bro. Lord Skelmersdale, P.G.M. of the province, has given his patronage and promised his presence, and nearly all the P.G.L. Officers, as well as the principal municipal lights of Liverpool will also be found amongst the number of patrons. Bro. P. Lowndes, 1609, has been appointed Treasurer; Br. J. Atkinson, Sec. 1609, Secretary; and the W.M. Chairman. Already the tickets are being sold like wildfire, and ready help has been offered by many professional brethren.

Bro. John E. Shand has resigned the Secretaryship of the London Masonic Club Lodge of Instruction.

Bro. J. Caldwell, of Starcross, has given £100 to the funds of the Western Counties Idiot Asylum. The committee are in urgent need of funds to complete the buildings necessary for carrying out fully the objects of the institution, which is founded, not only for the care and maintenance of poor idiot children, but also for the instruction, of and training such pupils as are found capable of learning industrial pursuits. The above-named gentleman has also generously given £100 to each of the following institutions:—viz., The Boys' Masonic School, The Girls' Masonic School, and The National Life-boat Institution, and the sum of £200 to The Licensed Victuallers' School.

Bro. Edward Swanborough's (S.W. 1319) benefit takes place this (Saturday) afternoon at the Strand Theatre. A very good entertainment is offered.

The directors of the Bank of England met on Thursday, and reduced the rate of discount from 6 to 5 per cent.

The proprietors of the *City Press* have contradicted the statement that they have an intention of bringing out that paper daily. The bi-weekly edition is declared to be a success.

The annual installation meeting of the Lodge of Israel No. 1502, was held last Monday, the 11th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Hope-st., Liverpool. Bro. S. Schönstadt was duly installed W.M., for the ensuing year. A report of the proceedings will appear in due course.

LODGE LIBRARIES AND MASONIC BOOKS.—It is right to mention that a very favourable opportunity occurs just now of forming and increasing lodge collections of Masonic Books and for brethren to "set up" or add to their private Masonic libraries. Bro. Kenning is forming a large Masonic library, and is about to issue a Catalogue of Ancient and Modern Masonic Works at reasonable prices. Among them may be noticed D. Murray Lyon's History of the Lodge of Edinburgh, Findel's History of Freemasonry, Fort's Antiquities of Freemasonry, Kenning's Cyclopædia, Woodford's Defence of Masonry, and Steinbrenner's History of Freemasonry.

The Fifteen Sections will be worked in the Tredegar Lodge of Instruction, No. 1625, held at the Royal Hotel, Bow-road, E., on Monday, 25th of November, at seven o'clock. Bro. J. Berry, P.M. 554, will preside.

The Mayor of Montreal and the Aldermen in their full dress robes of office intend presenting to the Marquis and the Princess Louise on their arrival with a sumptuously engrossed and illuminated address in Jacques Carter-square, the sides of which will be lined with troops and Freemasons, the latter in full craft clothing.

The Special Correspondent of a contemporary at Halifax telegraphs that the Duke of Edinburgh was received with Royal honours there on Wednesday. The fleet left on Friday to cruise about in search of the Sarmatian and escort her into harbour.

The *Builder* learns that there is every probability of Horsemonger-lane Gaol being very shortly demolished, and that the site will before long be covered with residential buildings. The site is said to cover an area of about ten acres.

ST. PATRICK'S LODGE, No. 295 (I.C.), which is attached to the 4th Royal Irish Dragoon Regiment, held its meeting at York on Wednesday, when Bro. Captain Hanly, nominated at the last meeting, was unanimously elected as W.M. The J.W., Bro. Captain Murphy, was elected as S.W., and the S.D., Bro. Captain Tynte, was elected as J.W. The installation takes place on the second Wednesday in January.

The "Cosmopolitan Masonic Calendar, Diary, and Pocket Book" for 1879, is now ready, price, post free, 2s. 2d. Copies may be had direct from the office by addressing the publisher, 198, Fleet-street, London.

It is stated that the system of tickets adopted by the London General Omnibus Company on one of their lines have proved so successful that it will soon be in operation all over London.

The Consecration of the Leopold Lodge of Mark Master Masons takes place on Monday next at the Masonic Hall, Reading, at 1 o'clock precisely. The banquet will be given at the Ship Hotel, at 4 o'clock. A report will appear in our next.

Thursday was the 38th anniversary of the birth of her Imperial Highness Victoria Adelaide Mary Louisa, Princess Royal of Great Britain and Crown Princess of Germany, who was born at Buckingham Palace, on Nov. 21, 1840. The Crown Princess is the eldest daughter and first child of her Majesty Queen Victoria.

ANTHONY TROLLOPE'S new tale, Catherine Carmichael, will appear in the extra Christmas Number of the "Masonic Magazine," price 1/, ready on December the 15th, at all booksellers and railway bookstalls.

The Fifteen Sections will be worked by members of the Great Northern Lodge of Instruction, at the Berwick Arms, Berners-street, Oxford-street, W., on the first Thursday in December, commencing at 7 o'clock.

A grand Masonic Ball will be held at the Subscription-rooms, Exeter, on Wednesday the 22nd of January next.

The following reports stand over: Lodges 1076, 1085, 1167, 1544, 1557, 1560; Mark Lodges, York, T.I., and 175; Prov. G. Mark Lodge of Somerset.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, November 29, 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, day, or months of meeting.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23.

Lodge 1563, City of Westminster, 68, Regent-st., W.

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, NOVEMBER 25.

Lodge 4, Royal Somerset Ho. and Inverness, F.M.H.
" 26, Castle of Harmony, Willis's R., St. James's.
" 28, Old King's Arms, F.M.H.
" 79, Pythagorean, Ship Hot., Greenwich.
" 183, Unity, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 902, Burgoyne, Anderson's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 905, De Grey and Ripon, F.M.H.
" 1608, Kilburn, Queen's Arms Hot., Kilburn Gate.
" 1615, Bayard, 33, Golden-sq., W.
" 1632, Stuart, S.M.H., Camberwell.
Chap. 188, Joppa, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
Mark Lodge 5, Mallet and Chisel, Bridge House Hot.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Wellington, White Swan Hot., High-st., Deptford.
St. John, Gun Hot., Wapping, 8 till 10.
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.
Doric Chapter, 248, Globe-rd., Mile End-rd., at 8.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26.

Lodge 14, Tuscan, F.M.H.
" 92, Moira, the Criterion, Piccadilly.
" 141, Faith, Anderson's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 145, Prudent Brethren, F.M.H.
" 186, Industry, Westminster Chmbrs., Vic.-st., S.W.
" 205, Israel, Cannon-st. Hot.
" 259, Prince of Wales's, Willis's Rms., St. James's.
" 1158, Southern Star, Montpellier Tav., Walworth.
" 1196, Urban, Old Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
" 1348, Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank.
" 1441, Ivy, Surrey M.H., Camberwell.
" 1744, Royal Savoy, Ashley's Hot., Covent Garden.
Chap. 21, Cyrus, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 180, St. James's Union, F.M.H.
" 890, Hornsey, Anderson's Hot., Fleet-st.
Rose Croix Chap. Palestine, 33, Golden-sq., W.

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.
Prosperity, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Dalhousie, The Sisters' Tav., Pownall-rd., E.
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, Three Bucks, 23, Gresham-st., at 7 p.m.
Leopold, Woolpack Tavern, Bermondsey-st.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
Mount Edgumbe, 19, Jermyn-st., St. James's.
Sir Hugh Myddelton, 162, St. John's-st.-rd.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27.

Gen. Com. Grand Lodge.
London Masonic Charity Association, 1, Clifford's Inn, E.C.
Lodge 2, Antiquity, F.M.H.
" 212, Euphrates, M.H., Masons' Avenue.
" 507, United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H.
" 754, High Cross, Seven Sisters' Tav., Tottenham.
" 778, Bard of Avon, Greyhound Hot., Hampton Ct.
" 898, Temperance in the East, 6, Newby-place, E.
" 1017, Montefiore, Regent M.H.
" 1056, Victoria, Anderson's Hot., Fleet-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Confidence, Railway Tavern, Fenchurch-st., at 7 till 9.

Urban, 23, Gresham-street, City, E.C., at 6.30.
New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-rd., N.
Mt. Lebanon, Horse Shoe Tav., Stones-End, E.
Pythagorean, Portland Hot., London-st., Greenwich.
New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-rd.
La Tolerance, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford st.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, 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, NOVEMBER 28.

Gen. Com. Girls' School, at 4.
Lodge 22, Neptune, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
" 34, Mount Moriah, F.M.H.
" 65, Prosperity, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
" 66, Grenadiers', F.M.H.
" 858, South Middlesex, Beaufort House, Fulham.
" 871, Royal Oak, White Swan, High-st., Deptford.
" 1421, Langthorne, Swan Hot., Stratford.
" 1524, Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., E.
" 1658, Skelmersdale, Surrey Masonic Hall.
Chap. 5, St. George's, F.M.H.
" 177, Domatic, Anderson's Hot., F.M.H.
" 538, Vanc, F.M.H.
" 657, Canonbury, M.H., Basinghall-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Chatham Arms, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Angiers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, M.H., Masons' Avenue.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.
Great Northern, Berwick Arms, Berners-st., Oxford-st.
Rose, Walmer Castle Hot., Peckham-road, at 8.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.
Crusaders, St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, at 9.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29.

K.T. Encam. 26, Faith and Fidelity, Cannon-st. Hot.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

London Masonic Club, 101, Queen Victoria-st., E.C.
Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st., 6 to 8 p.m.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st
Belgrave, Harp Tav., Jermyn-st., W
Unions Emulation (for M.M.s), F.M.H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st., at 7.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Westbourne, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, 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., Goulbourne-rd., Notting-hill
Pythagorean Chapter, Portland Hot. London-st., Greenwich

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, November 30, 1878.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25.

Lodge 148, Lights, M.R., Warrington.
Chap. 241, Friendship, M.H., Liverpool.
Derby L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26.

Lodge 1609, Dramatic, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1675, Antient Briton, M.H., Liverpool.
Chap. 721, Grosvenor, M.R., Chester.
" 1094, Temple, M.H., Liverpool.

Merchants L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
Prince Arthur L. of I., 80, N. Hill-st., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27.

Lodge 32, St. George's, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.
" 220, Harmony, Wellington Hot., Garston.
" 461, Fortitude, Highland Laddie H., Hyde, Cheshire.
" 724, Derby, M.H., Liverpool.
" 730, Ellesmere, Royal Oak, Chorley.
" 1756, Kirkdale, Skelmersdale H., Liverpool.
Chap. 1052, Callender, Public Hot., Rusholme.
Neptune L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28.

Lodge 594, Downshire, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1313, Fermor, M.H., Southport.
" 1505, Emulation, M.H., Liverpool.
Chap. 292, Liverpool, M.H., Liverpool.
Stanley L. of I., 214, Gr. Homer-st., Liverpool.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30.

Chap. 178, Harmony, Royal Hot., Wigan.
" 1086, Walton, Skelmersdale Hot., Liverpool.

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